

BX 8956 .A5 1850
Presbyterian Church in the
U.S.A. General Assembly.
A digest of the acts of th

THE DIGEST

OF THE

PRINCIPAL DELIVERANCES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF THE

✓
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF NORTH AMERICA

COMPILED BY

THE REV. O. H. MILLIGAN, D.D., LL.D.

Clerk of the General Assembly



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION
AND BIBLE SCHOOL WORK
PITTSBURGH, PA.

1942

SECTIONS

	Page
SECTION I. THE CONFSSIONAL STATEMENT	5
SECTION II. THE BOOK OF GOVERNMENT AND WORSHIP	19
SECTION III. THE MANUAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.....	91
SECTION IV. THE DIGEST OF THE PRINCIPAL DELIVERANCES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	106

Copyrighted 1942

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF
PUBLICATION AND BIBLE SCHOOL WORK

THE PREFACE

What for years back has been urgently needed is supplied in this volume. It is a digest of the principal acts and deliverances of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America down to the present day. The only similar publication dates back to 1903. In the forty years that have followed there have been many actions taken, some of them significant enough, but they are buried in the quadrennial volumes of the Assembly's Minutes beyond any readiness of access. One can think of the adoption of the Confessional Statement in 1925, when the old-time Testimony of the Church was repealed, thereby providing for the introduction of hymns in worship and the lifting of the ban on secret orders and restricted communion. The multiplied differences related to Baptism remain of constant interest. The successive renewals of agitation regarding Church Union are here traced. The steady witness borne in the broad field of Social Reform is challenging. The marked advances in Home and Foreign Missions merit close review. The development of the various schemes of Budget Control, culminating in the present Board of Administration, is informing. Synodical Superintendents of Missions have emerged into a definite office among us. Our Young People's Movement and the claims of our educational institutions have been moving from stage to stage. In addition to these sample enumerations now recited there are marshaled in this Digest decisions on scores of subjects, some of primary importance and others of lesser moment. Everything in fact that has entered into the course of the Church's history, the whole mass of General Assembly legislation and executive action, is here analyzed, systematized, and brought within immediate reach. It should be noted that the contents of the first Digest, from 1859 to 1902, have been absorbed into an organic unity with the subsequent transactions of the Supreme Court of the Church, so that the record on any given topic is complete.

The editor of this new Digest is the Clerk of the General Assembly, the Reverend O. H. Milligan, D.D., LL.D., than whom no better choice for the position could have been made by the Board of Publication and Bible School Work. Of a judicial, conservative type of mind, conversant with the design and plan of a digest, and with a full measure of ability to sift out and arrange all that was germane to the task assigned to him, Dr. Milligan has fulfilled all expectations by the thoroughness of his work.

A necessary feature of the book is an exhaustive index, placing everything sought for at easy command. The volume will prove eminently serviceable in the library of pastors and ruling elders who would be versed in the doings of the United Presbyterian Church since its origin.

JOHN MCNAUGHER, *Corresponding Secretary of
The Board of Publication and Bible School Work*

SECTION I. THE CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT

INDEX OF ARTICLES

	Page
I. OF GOD	7
II. OF DIVINE REVELATION	7
III. OF HOLY SCRIPTURE	8
IV. OF THE DIVINE PURPOSE	8
V. OF CREATION	8
VI. OF PROVIDENCE	8
VII. OF ANGELS	8
VIII. OF THE SIN OF MAN	8
IX. OF SALVATION	9
X. OF ELECTION	9
XI. OF GOD THE FATHER	9
XII. OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST	10
XIII. OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	10
XIV. OF THE ATONEMENT	11
XV. OF THE GOSPEL CALL	11
XVI. OF REGENERATION	11
XVII. OF SAVING FAITH	11
XVIII. OF REPENTANCE	11
XIX. OF JUSTIFICATION	12
XX. OF ADOPTION	12
XXI. OF SANCTIFICATION	12
XXII. OF UNION WITH CHRIST	12
XXIII. OF THE SECURITY OF BELIEVERS	12
XXIV. OF ASSURANCE	13
XXV. OF THE LAW OF GOD	13
XXVI. OF THE STUDY OF GOD'S WORD	13
XXVII. OF PRAYER	13
XXVIII. OF PRAISE	14
XXIX. OF SABBATH OBSERVANCE	14
XXX. OF THE SACRAMENTS	14
XXXI. OF LAWFUL OATHS AND VOWS	15
XXXII. OF THE CHURCH	15
XXXIII. OF CHURCH ORDER	15
XXXIV. OF THE MINISTRY	15
XXXV. OF CHURCH FELLOWSHIP	16
XXXVI. OF THE FAMILY	16
XXXVII. OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT	16
XXXVIII. OF THE SOCIAL ORDER	16
XXXIX. OF THE INTERMEDIATE STATE	17
XL. OF THE SECOND ADVENT	17
XLI. OF THE RESURRECTION	17
XLII. OF THE JUDGMENT	17
XLIII. OF THE LIFE EVERLASTING	17
XLIV. OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND FINAL TRIUMPH	18

THE CONFSSIONAL STATEMENT
OF THE
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF
NORTH AMERICA

PREAMBLE

The United Presbyterian Church of North America declares afresh its adherence to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, Larger and Shorter, as setting forth the system of doctrine taught in the Scriptures, which are the only infallible and final rule of faith and practice. Along with this it affirms the right and duty of a living Church to restate its faith from time to time so as to display any additional attainments in truth it may have made under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Accordingly, by constitutional action consummated June 2, 1925, it adopted the following Confessional Statement. This Statement contains the substance of the Westminster symbols, together with certain present-day convictions of the United Presbyterian Church. It takes the place of the Testimony of 1858, and wherever it deviates from the Westminster Standards its declarations are to prevail.

Subscription to the foregoing Subordinate Standards is subject to the principle maintained by our fathers, that the forbearance in love which is required by the law of God is to be exercised toward any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe to the Standards of the Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace and things wherewith one may edify another.

In keeping with its creedal declaration of truth, the United Presbyterian Church believes that among the evangelical communions of the world there is "one Lord, one faith, one baptism," and therefore, shunning sectarian temper, it cherishes brotherly love toward all branches of the Church Universal and seeks to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

ARTICLE I

OF GOD

We believe that there is one living and true God, a self-existent, personal Spirit, eternal and unchangeable, the creator, upholder, and ruler of the universe, a God of infinite love, mercy, holiness, righteousness, justice, truth, wisdom, and might. We believe that the one God exists as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and that these three Persons are the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

ARTICLE II

OF DIVINE REVELATION

We believe that the works of nature, the mind and heart of man, and the history of nations are sources of knowledge concerning God and His will, though insufficient for human need; that a clearer revelation came through men who spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit; and that in the fullness of the time God perfectly revealed Himself in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

ARTICLE III

OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and are inspired throughout, in language as well as thought; that their writers, though moved by the Holy Spirit, wrought in accordance with the laws of the human mind; that they faithfully record God's gracious revelation of Himself and bear witness of Christ; and that they are an infallible rule of faith and practice and the supreme source of authority in spiritual truth.

ARTICLE IV

OF THE DIVINE PURPOSE

We believe that all things which have come to pass, or are yet to come to pass, lie within the eternal and sovereign purpose of God, either positively or permissively, and are ordained for the manifestation of His glory; yet is God not the author of sin, nor is the free agency of moral beings taken away.

ARTICLE V

OF CREATION

We believe that God, for His own wise ends, was pleased in the beginning to create by His infinite power the universe of worlds, and that all intelligent beings, human and superhuman, are the product of His will; that through progressive stages He fashioned and ordered this world in which we dwell, giving life to every creature; and that He created man with a material body and with an immortal spirit made in His own image, with intelligence, feeling, and will, possessed of holiness and happiness, capable of fellowship with Him, free and able to choose between good and evil, and therefore morally responsible.

ARTICLE VI

OF PROVIDENCE

We believe that God is above all His works and in them all; that He upholds all things by His own supreme will and energy, providing for and preserving His creatures according to the laws of their being; and that He directs and governs all events to the praise of His glory. We believe that, while in relation to the eternal purpose of God, the First Cause, all things are fixed immutably, they are accomplished through the operation of second causes, although, as an extraordinary proof of His presence, God may dispense with natural means and instrumentalities.

ARTICLE VII

OF ANGELS

We believe that God created a superhuman order of intelligent and immortal beings, mighty in strength, to be the servants of His will; that these are of various ranks; that, having been placed under probation, some kept their original holiness and were confirmed therein, while some fell into sin, and remain fallen; that holy angels are the ministers of God's providence in the interests of His kingdom and the human race; and that the apostate angels, led by Satan, their personal head, are seeking to establish a dominion of evil by the temptation and corruption of men.

ARTICLE VIII

OF THE SIN OF MAN

We believe that our first father Adam was created sinless and that there was held out to him a promise of eternal life dependent on perfect obedience

for a season, while the penalty of disobedience was to be death, bodily and spiritual; that Adam, as the common ancestor of the race, was constituted the representative head of the human family; that he broke the Divine command through temptation of the devil, by which transgression he fell from his original state of holiness and communion with God and came into bondage to sin; that in consequence all men descending from him by ordinary generation have come under condemnation and are born with a sinful nature which is alienated from God and from which proceed all actual transgressions; and that out of this condition of guilt and depravity none are able to deliver themselves.

ARTICLE IX

OF SALVATION

We believe that God, Who is rich in mercy, out of His infinite love for the world, entered from all eternity into a covenant of grace with His Only-begotten Son, wherein the Son, standing as the representative of sinners and their mediator with God, freely consented to secure for them a full salvation by taking their humanity and through a life of obedience and a vicarious death satisfying the Divine law and providing a perfect righteousness for all who believe on Him; that because of this covenant there was held forth from the first, immediately after the Fall, a promise of redemption, in fulfillment of which, when the time of preparation was ended, Christ Jesus came into the world and brought out a salvation sufficient for all and adapted to all; and that they who accept this salvation, being born anew, are restored to the fellowship of God, given a desire to forsake sin and live unto righteousness, and made heirs of eternal life.

ARTICLE X

OF ELECTION

We believe that the Eternal Father, before the foundation of the world, in His own good pleasure gave to His Son a people, an innumerable multitude, chosen in Christ unto salvation, holiness, and service; that all of these who come to years of discretion receive this salvation through faith and repentance; and that all who die in infancy, and all others who are given by the Father to the Son and are beyond the reach of the outward means of grace, are regenerated and saved by Christ through the Holy Spirit, Who works when and where and how He pleases.

ARTICLE XI

OF GOD THE FATHER

We believe that within the Godhead the Father is the First Person in the order of office and operation; that in some inconceivable manner, by eternal generation, He is the Father of the Only-begotten Son; that from Him and from the Son the Holy Spirit proceeds; that with the Son and the Holy Spirit He abides in mutual union and fellowship; and that He is the originating source in creation and redemption. We believe that He is the Father of all men as His rational and moral creatures, made after His likeness; that, beyond His universal benevolence, He so loved the world of humanity as to provide a common salvation at the cost of immeasurable self-sacrifice; and that though men as sinners have lost the privilege of sonship and denied its obligations, they still retain traces of their heavenly Father's image and share in His providential care and bounty. We believe in the fatherhood of God in a pre-eminent sense with reference to those who become His children by regeneration and adoption, and who yield a filial response to His love; that in His parental relationships with these He attains to the satisfaction of His desires

for men; that He welcomes them into communion with Himself, makes them partakers of His holiness, and works out for them His gracious purpose in all that pertains to their present and eternal well-being.

ARTICLE XII

OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Eternal Son of God, having a Sonship that is natural and necessary, inhering in the very constitution of the Godhead; that, freely laying aside His Divine glory and majesty, He became man by taking to Himself a true body and soul, yet without sin, being conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary; that thus He is very God and very man, two whole and distinct natures, the Divine and the human, being joined together in His one Person, never to be divided; and that He, the God-man, is the sole mediator between God and men, by Whom alone we must be saved. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ was anointed by the Holy Spirit to be our perfect and eternal prophet, priest, and king; that He has revealed the will and counsel of God; that for our redemption He fulfilled all righteousness by His holy obedience and His propitiatory sacrifice for the sin of the world; that, having died upon the cross and been buried, He rose from the dead by a physical resurrection and ascended into heaven, where as their advocate He makes continual intercession for His people; that He abides in believers as an indwelling presence, communicating newness of life and power, and making them sharers of what He has and is; that He sits at the right hand of God as the Head of His Church and Kingdom, with dominion over all created persons and things; and that He will come again in glory for the vanquishing of evil and the restoration of all things.

ARTICLE XIII

OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a real personality, the Third Person within the Divine Being, proceeding from the Father and the Son, and together with the Father and the Son is to be believed in, loved, and obeyed, and worshiped; that He shared in the work of creation, and is the Lord and Giver of all life; that He is everywhere present with men, inclining them unto good and restraining them from evil; that He spoke by the prophets and apostles and inspired all writers of the Holy Scriptures to record infallibly the mind and will of God; that He had peculiar relations with the Lord Jesus Christ, enabling the Son of God to assume our nature without being defiled by sin, and guiding, animating, and supporting the Saviour in His mediatorial work; that the dispensation of the gospel is especially committed to Him, in that He accompanies it with His persuasive power and urges its message upon the reason and conscience of men, so that they who refuse its merciful offer are without excuse. We believe that the Holy Spirit is the only efficient agent in the application of redemption, convicting men of sin, enlightening them in the knowledge of spiritual realities, moving them to heed the call of the gospel, uniting them to Christ, and dwelling in them as the source of faith, of power, of holiness, of comfort, and of love; that He abides in the Church as a living Presence, giving efficacy to its ordinances, imparting various gifts and graces to its members, calling and anointing its ministers for their holy service and qualifying all other officers for their special work; and that by Him the Church will be preserved, edified, extended throughout the world, and at last be glorified in the heavenly places with Christ.

ARTICLE XIV

OF THE ATONEMENT

We believe that our Lord Jesus Christ, by the appointment of the Father, and by His own gracious and voluntary act, gave Himself a ransom for all; that as a substitute for sinful man His death was a propitiatory sacrifice of infinite value, satisfying Divine justice and holiness, and giving free access to God for pardon and restoration; and that this atonement, though made for the sin of the world, becomes efficacious to those only who are led by the Holy Spirit to believe in Christ as their Saviour.

ARTICLE XV

OF THE GOSPEL CALL

We believe that the gospel is a revelation of grace to sinners as such, and that it contains a free and unconditional offer of salvation through Christ to all who hear it, whatever may be their character or condition; that the offer is in itself a proper motive to obedience; and that nothing but a sinful unwillingness prevents its acceptance.

ARTICLE XVI

OF REGENERATION

We believe in the necessity of regeneration, whereby we who by nature are spiritually dead are made new creatures, established in union with Christ, released from bondage to sin, and made alive unto God; that this is the immediate act of the Holy Spirit, Who changes the governing disposition of the soul by a secret and direct operation of His power; and that ordinarily, where years of understanding have been reached, regeneration is wrought in connection with the use of Divine truth as a means.

ARTICLE XVII

OF SAVING FAITH

We believe that saving faith is the gift of God, that in it there is not merely an assent to the truth that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Saviour of sinners, but also a cordial acceptance and appropriation of Him, and a fixed reliance upon Him, as our Saviour; that this faith, which involves the conviction of the mind, the trust of the heart, and the obedience of the will, rests solely upon the free and unlimited offer of Christ made in the gospel to sinners of mankind; and that such faith is the necessary and all-sufficient condition and channel for the communication of every spiritual gift and the progressive realization of salvation.

ARTICLE XVIII

OF REPENTANCE

We believe that saving faith issues in repentance, which is essentially a turning away from sin unto God, accompanied not only with sorrow over sin, but with hatred of sin and with an earnest desire and sincere purpose to obey God's righteous law; that, while repentance is produced in the believing sinner by the Holy Spirit, it springs from a sense of sin as involving guilt and defilement and from an apprehension of God's mercy in Christ; that it is not to be rested in as any satisfaction for sin, or any ground of the pardon thereof, and yet it is of such necessity that none are saved without it; and that it is evidenced by humble confession of sin before God and by reparation for wrongs done to men.

ARTICLE XIX

OF JUSTIFICATION

We believe that justification is a judicial act of God by which in His free grace He places sinners in a new relation to Himself and His law, so that henceforth they are forgiven and accepted as righteous in His sight; that the procuring cause or ground of this is not anything wrought in them, or done by them, but only the perfect righteousness of Christ, embracing all that He did in the way of obedience and all that He suffered in their stead while on earth, a righteousness imputed to them, and received by faith alone; and that the evidence of justification is holy living.

ARTICLE XX

OF ADOPTION

We believe that adoption is an act of the free grace of God whereby those that are justified are received into the number of His saved children, have His Name put upon them, have the Spirit of His Son given them, are the objects of His fatherly care and discipline, are admitted to the liberties and privileges of the family of God, and are made heirs of all the promises and fellow-heirs with Christ in glory.

ARTICLE XXI

OF SANCTIFICATION

We believe that sanctification is the carrying on to completion of the great change effected in regeneration, being a progressive deliverance from the dominion and defilement of sin and a corresponding growth in holy character; that it is wrought by the power of the indwelling Spirit, whereby union with Christ is maintained and holy dispositions are fostered; that in sanctification believers are fellow-workers with the Holy Spirit, being called to faith and repentance, to true obedience in motive and act, to dedication of themselves to the will of God, and to a diligent use of the outward means of grace; and that, while because of defective faith and human frailty, perfection never can be reached in the present life, it is nevertheless the duty of believers to aim at entire conformity to the will of God, to which, with advancing experience and fuller appropriation of Christ, they may increasingly approach.

ARTICLE XXII

OF UNION WITH CHRIST

We believe that all who receive Christ by saving faith are made one with Him in a mystical union through the Holy Spirit; that thereby they become vitally related to Him as the Sin-bearer and the Life-giver, insuring their acceptance with God, their renewal of nature, and their growth in holiness and fruitfulness; and that believers thus joined to Christ as their Head, and nourished by His life communicated to them, are bound together in one spiritual organism, which is called the Body of Christ.

ARTICLE XXIII

OF THE SECURITY OF BELIEVERS

We believe that, because of the original purpose, the unchanging love, and the constant operation of God, all who are brought into vital union with Christ, and are members of His mystical body, abide permanently in a state of grace and finally are made perfect in glory; that, while such fall into sin, and come under God's fatherly displeasure, until they humble themselves and

make confession, they never become utterly apostate; and that this continuance on the part of believers is accomplished by the Holy Spirit in harmony with their rational nature, the warnings, cautions, and exhortations of Scripture addressed to them being used to foster self-examination, watching, prayer, and the faithful observance of all sacred ordinances.

ARTICLE XXIV

OF ASSURANCE

We believe that from the first the believer has a persuasion, proportioned to the strength of his faith, that he is saved, this initial confidence resting on the promise and power and faithfulness of God; that, in addition there is the assurance of sense or feeling, to which he attains through his conscious possession of the graces of the children of God and through the inner witness of the Holy Spirit; and that it is the privilege and duty of every believer to give diligence to attain this conscious assurance of salvation whereby he may live in joy and peace, may be moved the more by love and thanksgiving to God, and may be led to a fuller obedience and service.

ARTICLE XXV

OF THE LAW OF GOD

We believe that the moral law of God summarized in the Ten Commandments, proclaimed by the prophets, and unfolded in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, is of perpetual obligation; that it demands not only right acts and words, but also right dispositions and states of mind; that it is of use to all men in setting before them the inflexibly holy will of God, in discovering to them sin in its true light, and in preparing the way of the gospel of grace; and that although believers, because of their justification, are not subject to it as a condition of salvation, they are required to obey it as a rule of action and standard of character.

ARTICLE XXVI

OF THE STUDY OF GOD'S WORD

We believe that Holy Scripture, as God's written Word, is adapted to the spiritual needs of man, containing whatever doctrine is necessary to salvation and all things that pertain to life and godliness; that, therefore, it deserves and demands our reverent attention and our deepest thought; and that the reading and study of the Word, when entered upon with a mind illumined by the Holy Spirit and with prayerful reflection, will always prove an efficacious means of grace, transforming life and character.

ARTICLE XXVII

OF PRAYER

We believe that prayer is an indispensable condition of fellowship with God and a vital requirement in spiritual growth and the obtaining of promised mercies; that it must be offered in the name of Christ, in reliance on His merits, and by the help of the Holy Spirit; that it includes adoration, thanksgiving, aspiration, the outpouring of the soul in converse with God, confession of sin and shortcomings, supplication for pardon and all blessings promised in the gospel, and petition for such temporal benefits as may be agreeable to the Divine will; that remembrance of others at the throne of grace is an obligation without which the life of prayer cannot be fully realized; and that God has given the intercession of His children an essential place in bringing about the salvation of men and in promoting the advance of His Kingdom and the doing of His will on earth.

ARTICLE XXVIII

OF PRAISE

We believe that God is worthy of all praise and adoration because of His glorious perfections as unfolded in creation, providence, and redemption; that praise as a definite ordinance of worship is expressed in words joined to music; and that in this ordinance the Psalms of the Bible, by reason of their Divine inspiration, their excellence, and their evident design, are accredited for permanent use.

ARTICLE XXIX

OF SABBATH OBSERVANCE

We believe that the holy Sabbath, originally a memorial of creation, is an institution which has its foundation in the revealed will of God, which was established for the physical, moral, and spiritual well-being of man, and which was designed for all ages and nations; that its transfer from the last day of the week to the first, commemorating the resurrection of the Redeemer of mankind, was effected by Christ's own example and by Apostolic sanction; that, in the spirit of gratitude for the blessings it conveys, the Sabbath, or the Lord's Day, should be hallowed by refraining from worldly employments and recreations and, aside from the duties of necessity and mercy, by devoting the day to public and private worship, spiritual culture, and Christian activities; and that the civil Sabbath of legally protected rest, because of its great and manifold benefits to human society, should be maintained and defended against desecration.

ARTICLE XXX

OF THE SACRAMENTS

We believe that the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper were instituted by Christ and are of perpetual validity and obligation; that they are signs and seals of the new covenant and channels of a real communication of grace to those receiving them in faith; and that through their observance the Church of Christ confesses her Lord and is visibly distinguished from the world.

We believe that baptism with water into the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is the sacrament that recognizes membership within the Church, in which are set forth union to Christ, regeneration and cleansing by the Spirit, the remission of sins, and our engagement to be the Lord's; that it is rightly administered by the pouring or sprinkling of water upon the person, but the mode is not essential; that not only are adult believers to be baptized, but also the children of believers before reaching the age of accountability, on the faith of the parents, who appropriate for their children the benefits which the sacrament offers and promise to rear them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

We believe that the Lord's Supper is the sacrament of communion with Christ, in which bread and wine are given and received in thankful remembrance of Him and of His sacrifice on the cross, and they who in faith receive the same partake of the body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, after a spiritual manner, to their building up in grace; that it should never be engaged in without previous self-examination as to a sincere desire to be cleansed from all sin, a true and living faith in the Lord Christ, and brotherly love toward all; and that all are to be invited to the Lord's Supper who have confessed their faith in Christ and are leading a Christian life.

ARTICLE XXXI

OF LAWFUL OATHS AND VOWS

We believe that an oath is an act of religious worship in which we solemnly call upon the only true and living God to witness the truth of what we affirm or our voluntary assumption of an obligation to do something in the future, with an implied imprecation of God's judgment if we lie or prove false to our engagements; that the proper circumstances under which an oath may be taken are those in which serious and perfectly lawful interests are involved, in which an appeal to God is necessary to secure confidence and end strife, and where the oath is imposed by the duly constituted authority of Church or State.

We believe that a vow is a promise formally made to God, in the way of thankfulness for mercy received, or for the obtaining of what we desire; that it is of like sacred nature with an oath, because it is God to Whom the promise is made; that a vow cannot bind to do that which is unlawful or impossible, nor where its continued observance is inconsistent with our spiritual interests; and that to vow on a trifling occasion, or, having rightly vowed, to fail in performance, is to be guilty of profanity.

ARTICLE XXXII

OF THE CHURCH

We believe that there is one holy Catholic or Universal Church, consisting of the whole number of those of every age and nation who have been chosen of God unto salvation and redeemed by the Lord Jesus, and who, being united by the Holy Spirit to Christ their living Head, are one spiritual body in Him; that it is the will of Christ that His Church on earth should exist as a visible brotherhood, composed of all those who profess faith in Him and obedience to His laws, together with their children, organized for the confession of His Name, the public worship of God, the preaching and teaching of the Word, the administration of the sacraments, the nurture and fellowship of the children of God, the propagation of the gospel, and the promotion of social righteousness; and that all particular Churches or ecclesiastical denominations throughout the world which hold the fundamental truths of evangelical religion and own allegiance to Jesus Christ as Divine Lord and Saviour are to be regarded as within the one visible Church.

ARTICLE XXXIII

OF CHURCH ORDER

We believe that the supreme and only Head of the Church is the Lord Jesus Christ, under Whose authority and according to Whose will the worship, teaching, discipline, and government of the Church are to be administered; that through those who serve lawfully in the offices of the Church Christ exercises mediately His own power and enforces His own laws; and that the Presbyterian form of church polity is in accordance with the Scriptures.

ARTICLE XXXIV

OF THE MINISTRY

We believe that Jesus Christ as the Head of the Church has appointed therein the official ministry of reconciliation; that He calls men to this ministry through the working of the Holy Spirit in their hearts and by the orderings of providence; and that those thus called are to be set apart by ordination, whereby they are solemnly invested with the authority, powers, and duties of their sacred office.

ARTICLE XXXV

OF CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

We believe that all who have accepted Christ as their Redeemer should unite themselves with some branch of the visible Church, in order to share in the privileges and responsibilities of its members and confess Christ before men; that under Christ they should yield the Church their supreme loyalty, honoring its ordinances and seeking its welfare in season and out of season; and that with this they should forsake all associations, whether secret or open, that they find prejudicial to their Church allegiance and a hindrance to the fulfillment of Christian duties.

ARTICLE XXXVI

OF THE FAMILY

We believe that the family is the unit of society and is fundamental to human welfare; that marriage is ordained of God, and is therefore an institution which involves a religious as well as a civil contract; that the law of marriage, requiring monogamy, governing the prohibited degrees of consanguinity or affinity, and establishing the permanence of the tie, is laid down in the Word of God, upon which the enactments of the State may not transgress rightfully; that the true Christian home is built on the Divine ideal of marriage, is sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and is observant of family religion; and that it is the duty of parents to dedicate their children to God and give them a moral and spiritual training for the making of character. We believe that, since the standard of marriage is a lifelong union of one man and one woman, its dissolution is not to be lightly regarded; that, where warrantable, this can be effected only by competent civil authority; and that the remarriage of divorced persons is permissible, while both parties are living, only when the divorce has been obtained on the ground of adultery, and then for the innocent party alone.

ARTICLE XXXVII

OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT

We believe that civil government is an ordinance of God, instituted for His glory and the welfare of society, and that the sovereign authority of the Lord Jesus Christ extends over this province of human life, so that States and their rulers are responsible to Him and are bound to render Him obedience and to seek the furtherance of His Kingdom upon earth, not, however, in any way constraining religious belief, imposing religious disabilities, or invading the rights of conscience; that it is binding on all to yield willing submission to constituted authorities, except where this very clearly conflicts with the still higher duty of obedience to God; and that the due fulfillment of our duties as citizens includes a loyal consent to taxation for the necessities of the State and the lesser civic communities, the giving of aid to all worthy public causes, and faithful participation in the government of the country.

ARTICLE XXXVIII

OF THE SOCIAL ORDER

We believe that the Divine plan for mankind includes a social order in harmony with the ideals and spirit of Jesus Christ; that the triumph of the Kingdom of God in its present aspect would mean not only its establishment in the hearts of men individually, but a world in which righteousness and brotherhood should prevail; and that a primary duty of the Church is to give

positive witness that the Christian principles of justice and love should have full expression in all relationships whatsoever—personal, industrial, business, civic, national, and international.

ARTICLE XXXIX

OF THE INTERMEDIATE STATE

We believe that the souls of the righteous dead are immediately made perfect in holiness, and during the interval until the resurrection, though separated from the body, continue conscious, active, and at peace in the presence and fellowship of Christ, Who, after His ascension, sat down on the right hand of God; that in the abode of woe the souls of the impenitent wicked also continue conscious and active, enduring punishment for their sins; and that this intermediate state is one of incompleteness; the supreme blessedness of the saints and the utter wretchedness of the lost beginning only with their resurrection and the judgment.

ARTICLE XL

OF THE SECOND ADVENT

We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, Who at His ascension was received up into heaven, will come again to earth in person, visibly, with power and great glory; that His coming marks the consummation of the Kingdom of God; that the time thereof is reserved in the Divine counsels; and that this blessed hope is to be cherished as an incentive to watchful living and faithful witness-bearing on the part of Christ's followers.

ARTICLE XLI

OF THE RESURRECTION

We believe that through the power of Almighty God there will be a bodily resurrection of all the dead, both of the just and of the unjust; that to the just it will be a resurrection unto life and to the unjust a resurrection unto condemnation; and that the mortal bodies of those who are fallen asleep in Jesus, as well as of the faithful who are alive at His coming, will be fashioned anew and conformed to the body of His glory.

ARTICLE XLII

OF THE JUDGMENT

We believe that, at the resurrection, He Who alone can read the heart will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ; that the wicked, being condemned for their inexcusable sin and depravity, will go away into eternal punishment; and that the righteous, although made manifest before the judgment-seat of Christ, will be acquitted and eternally accepted, and of God's grace rewarded according to their deeds.

ARTICLE XLIII

OF THE LIFE EVERLASTING

We believe in, and with glad and solemn hearts look for, the consummation and bliss of the life everlasting, wherein the people of God, freed from sin and sorrow, shall receive their inheritance of glory in the Kingdom of their Father, and, with capacities and powers exalted and enlarged, shall be made fully blessed in the fellowship of Christ, in the perfected communion of saints, and in the service of God, Whom they shall enjoy forever and ever.

ARTICLE XLIV

OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND THE FINAL TRIUMPH

We believe that, as disciples and servants of Christ, we are bound to further the extension of His Kingdom by our prayers, gifts, and personal efforts, to defend the truth, to do good to all men, to maintain the public worship of God, to hallow the Sabbath, to preserve the inviolability of marriage and the sanctity of the family, to uphold the just authority of the State, and to live in all honesty, purity, and charity. We obediently receive the word of Christ bidding His people go into all the world and make disciples of the nations, declaring unto them that God is in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, and that He will have all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. We confidently believe in the ultimate and complete triumph of our Saviour King, that by His grace and power all His enemies shall finally be overthrown, and the Kingdom of the world shall become the Kingdom of our Lord and His Christ.

THE BOOK OF GOVERNMENT AND WORSHIP

CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHURCH ORGANIZATION	23
I. OF THE CHURCH	23
II. OF THE CHURCH'S KING AND HEAD	23
III. OF THE ENDS OF THE CHURCH	23
IV. OF CHURCH POWER	24
V. OF CHURCH MEMBERS	24
VI. OF THE FORM OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT	24
VII. OF VOCATION TO OFFICE AND OF ORDINATION	25
VIII. OF THE OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH	25
IX. OF MINISTERS OF THE WORD	25
X. OF RULING ELDERS	26
XI. OF DEACONS	26
XII. OF THE COURTS OF THE CHURCH	27
XIII. OF THE OFFICERS OF CHURCH COURTS	27
XIV. OF THE SESSION	28
XV. OF THE PRESBYTERY	29
XVI. OF THE SYNOD	31
XVII. OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	33
XVIII. OF OVERTURES	34
XIX. OF COMMISSIONS	35
XX. OF PROVISIONAL SESSIONS	36
XXI. OF BOARDS OR EXECUTIVE AGENCIES	36
XXII. OF SUBORDINATE ORGANIZATIONS	37
XXIII. OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES	37
XXIV. OF TRUSTEES OF A CONGREGATION	38
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	39
I. OF THE ORGANIZATION OF SYNODS	39
II. OF THE ORGANIZATION OF PRESBYTERIES	39
III. OF THE ORGANIZATION, LOCATION, AND DISSOLUTION OF CONGREGATIONS	40
IV. OF THE ADMISSION OF MEMBERS	41
V. OF THE DISMISSION OF MEMBERS	43
VI. OF STUDENTS OF THEOLOGY	43
VII. OF LICENSING PROBATIONERS FOR THE MINISTRY	44
VIII. OF THE ELECTION OF PASTORS	45
IX. OF THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF MINISTERS	46
X. OF REMOVING A MINISTER FROM ONE CHARGE TO ANOTHER	49
XI. OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE PASTORAL RELATION	50
XII. OF THE DISMISSION OF MINISTERS	51
XIII. OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF MINISTERIAL ORDINATION	51
XIV. OF THE ADMISSION OF MINISTERS AND PROBATIONERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES	51
XV. OF EVANGELISTS	52
XVI. OF THE ELECTION OF RULING ELDERS	53
XVII. OF THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS	53
XVIII. OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE OFFICIAL RELATION OF RULING ELDERS	55
XIX. OF THE ELECTION OF DEACONS	56
XX. OF THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF DEACONS	56
XXI. OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE OFFICIAL RELATION OF DEACONS	57
XXII. OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS	58

	PAGE
DISCIPLINE	59
I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES	59
II. OF OFFENSES	59
III. OF JURISDICTION	60
IV. OF WHEN PROCESS MAY BE COMMENCED	60
V. OF THE PARTIES IN CASES OF PROCESS	61
VI. OF THE ISSUING OF PROCESS	61
VII. OF THE TRIAL IN GENERAL	62
VIII. OF PROCESS AGAINST MINISTERS	63
IX. OF CHALLENGING MEMBERS OF A COURT	64
X. OF EXCEPTIONAL CASES	64
XI. OF EVIDENCE	65
XII. OF SENTENCES	66
XIII. OF THE RESTORATION OF OFFENDERS	68
XIV. OF DISSENTS AND PROTESTS	68
XV. OF THE REMOVAL OF A CASE FROM A LOWER TO A HIGHER COURT	68
 WORSHIP	 73
I. INTRODUCTORY	73
II. OF THE SEASONS OF WORSHIP	73
III. OF PLACES OF WORSHIP	73
IV. OF THE ORDINANCES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP	74
V. OF THE ORDER OF WORSHIP	74
VI. OF THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURES	74
VII. OF THE SINGING OF PRAISE	74
VIII. OF THE OFFERING OF PRAYER	75
IX. OF THE BENEDICTION	75
X. OF PREACHING THE WORD	76
XI. OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF BAPTISM	76
XII. OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER	77
XIII. OF PRAYER MEETINGS	78
XIV. OF FAMILY WORSHIP	78
XV. OF PRIVATE WORSHIP	78
XVI. OF THANKSGIVING	78
XVII. OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL	79
XVIII. OF PASTORAL VISITATION	79
XIX. OF SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE	79
XX. OF THE SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGE	80
XXI. OF MINISTERING TO THE SICK	80
XXII. OF THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD	81
ORDER OF BUSINESS	82
FORMS	82
RULES OF ORDER	99
GENERAL INDEX	533

PART I

CHURCH ORGANIZATION

CHAPTER I

OF THE CHURCH

1. **The Church Invisible.** The invisible Church, which is catholic, or universal, consists of the whole number of those who have been chosen of God unto salvation and redeemed by the Lord Jesus.

2. **The Church Visible.** The visible Church is a formal organization which consists of all those throughout the world who profess publicly their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and obedience to His laws, together with their children.

3. **Particular Churches.** According to Scripture example, and by necessity, the visible Church consists of many particular churches or congregations. Each of these is composed of a company of professing Christians, together with their children, voluntarily associated in a given locality for worship, instruction, fellowship, and work, and submitting to a certain form of government.

4. **The Unity of the Visible Church.** The visible unity of the Christian Church, though obscured, is not destroyed by its division into different bodies or denominations. All of these unions or associations of particular Churches which maintain the essential laws and ordinances of Christ are to be regarded as true branches of the catholic or universal Church.

CHAPTER II

OF THE CHURCH'S KING AND HEAD

5. **The Kingship of Christ.** The visible Church, which is one and the same in all ages, owes its organization and maintenance to the Lord Jesus Christ, and is subject to Him as its living Head and its reigning King. It belongs to Him alone to rule and teach the Church, and in employing the ministry of men in such offices He exercises mediately His own authority and enforces His own laws.

6. **The Revelation of His Will.** Christ, the King and Head of the Church, has given the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as an infallible and authoritative revelation of Himself and His holy will to His people.

7. **His Appointments.** Christ, as King and Head, has given to His Church its constitution, laws, ordinances, and offices. These are set forth in Scripture, and they are to be administered solely under His authority.

8. **His Abiding Presence Through the Spirit.** Since the ascension of Jesus Christ He abides in His Church by the Holy Spirit Whom He has sent, Who exerts His saving and governing power through the teaching of the Word of Christ and the administration of His laws and ordinances.

CHAPTER III

OF THE ENDS OF THE CHURCH

9. **The Importance of the Church.** The Church fulfils an essential mission in the economy of grace that Christ is carrying forward, and through it the manifold wisdom of God is made known unto the principalities and powers in the heavenly places.

10. **The Ends of the Church Defined.** The great ends of the Church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of men, the shelter, nurture, and holy fellowship of the children of God, the maintenance of Divine worship, the preservation of the truth and appointments of pure religion, the promotion of social righteousness, and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

CHAPTER IV

OF CHURCH POWER

11. **The Bestowal of Church Power.** Christ has clothed His Church and its officers with spiritual authority. This authority vests in the whole body, constituting it a spiritual Kingdom distinct from the civil power.

12. **The Exercise of Power.** The power which Christ, the ever present King, has given to His Church is exercised in the selection and ordination of officers and the constituting of courts for the administration of His laws and ordinances and the establishment and control of any subordinate agencies designed for the extension of His Kingdom in the world.

13. **The Ministerial Nature of Church Power.** The power of the Church is only ministerial and declarative. The Holy Scriptures determine all legislation and procedure which are warrantable.

14. **Jurisdiction of the Church.** The jurisdiction of the Church extends to those only who are within its membership, and is limited to their spiritual interests and duties as the disciples of Christ.

CHAPTER V

OF CHURCH MEMBERS

15. **Requisites to Church Membership.** All who profess faith in Christ and obedience to His laws and ordinances are members of the visible Church, and are entitled to all its rights and privileges.

16. **The Children of Professed Believers.** Through the covenant of God with His people the infant children of professed believers are within the Church. By reason of this they are entitled to baptism and pastoral care, and, when a responsible age is reached, they are under peculiar obligations to make a personal profession of their faith in Christ.

17. **Baptized Adults.** Even though they are adults, and have made no profession of their faith in Christ, baptized persons are entitled to the watchful care and instruction of the Church.

CHAPTER VI

OF THE FORM OF CHURCH GOVERNMENT

18. **Necessity of Government.** No society can exist, or further the ends of its existence, without some form of government. The Church has always existed under a government of Divine authority.

19. **Presbyterian Church Government.** Government by elders, or presbyters, is a New Testament ordinance. This form of organization is according to the plan of government developed under the Old Testament and brought to completion in the synagogue system. The first congregations of the New Testament Church were, by apostolic authority, organized after the model of the synagogue, and by the same authority the principle of government by elders was applied to the organization of the Church at large.

20. **Presbyterianism as Distinguished from Episcopacy and Independency.** The Presbyterian system in distinction from the Episcopalian, or more properly Prelatic, recognizes the teaching and the ruling elders as the only officers of spiritual authority in the Church, and the former of these as of equal rank,

and as invested with the highest official powers which are permanent in the Church. In distinction from the Congregational, or Independent, order, Presbyterianism recognizes the organic unity of the Church, the subordination of courts, and the derivation of official authority not from the membership, but from Christ the Divine Head of the Church.

CHAPTER VII

OF VOCATION TO OFFICE AND OF ORDINATION

21. **What Constitutes a Call.** A call from God to a certain office is a conviction wrought in the heart of a person by the Holy Spirit, through the Word and providence of God, that he is required by the Divine will to serve the Lord in that position, together with the election thereto of God's people, and the concurring judgment of a lawful court of the Church.

22. **Qualifications for Office.** Besides possessing the necessary gifts and abilities, natural and acquired, it is indispensable that every one admitted to an office shall be sound in the faith, and that his life be according to godliness.

23. **Admission to Office.** Those who have been lawfully called are to be set apart to their respective offices by the ordination of a court of the Church.

24. **Nature of Ordination.** Ordination is the official recognition of a Divine call to an office or work in the Church, a dedication thereto, and solemn investiture in the name of Christ with its authority, powers, and duties. The formal act of ordination consists in prayer and the laying on of hands, to which there should be added the giving of the right hand of fellowship.

CHAPTER VIII

OF THE OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

25. **Extraordinary Officers.** Among the various classes of office-bearers mentioned in the New Testament some were extraordinary and have no successors. These were such as the peculiar needs of the apostolic age required—apostles, prophets, and others. Each of these possessed his own supernatural gift, and each had an official calling in correspondence with that gift. When these distinguishing gifts were withdrawn, the offices ceased.

26. **Ordinary and Permanent Officers.** The ordinary and permanent Church officers enumerated in the New Testament are ministers of the Word, or teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons.

CHAPTER IX

OF MINISTERS OF THE WORD

27. **Nature of the Office.** The ministers of the Word are the highest ordinary officers in the New Testament Church. They are called by different names in Scripture to express the different relations and duties of their office. As they are commissioned to declare the Divine will and in Christ's stead to beseech men to be reconciled to God, they are termed ambassadors. As they make public proclamation of the gospel, they are termed preachers. As they expound the Word and exhort and convince gainsayers, they are termed teachers. As they dispense the manifold grace of God and the ordinances instituted by Christ, they are termed stewards of the mysteries of God. As they serve Christ and His people, they are termed ministers. As they have oversight of souls and of the activities of the Church, they are termed bishops. As they feed the flock of Christ with spiritual food, they are termed pastors. As it is their duty to be grave and prudent, and to govern well in the Church of Christ, they are termed presbyters or elders.

28. **Duties of the Office.** (1) *Peculiar Duties.* The peculiar duties of

the minister of the Word are to make authoritative proclamation of the gospel of Christ, expound the Word of God, administer the sacraments, instruct and lead the people in holy things, bless the people in the name of God, and minister the manifold grace of God to the wants of all men. (2) *Associate Duties.* Together with the ruling elders it is the duty of the ministers of the Word, or teaching elders, to exercise the power of oversight, government, and ordination.

29. **Qualifications for the Office.** They who occupy this office should possess such a competency of human learning and be so enlightened by the Spirit of God that they may be capable teachers of Divine truth, so fashioned in character and life by the Spirit that they may stand before the people as fit representatives of the Lord Jesus Christ, and so endowed with wisdom that they may efficiently conduct the affairs of the Kingdom which are committed to their charge.

30. **Special Appointments.** (1) *The Minister as a Teacher.* A minister of the Word, having suitable gifts, may be called to be a teacher in a theological seminary or other school. In such case it pertains to the duties of his office not only to be an instructor, but to take a pastoral oversight of those under his charge. (2) *The Minister as an Evangelist or Missionary.* A minister of the gospel may be called and commissioned by the proper court of the Church as an evangelist without a pastoral charge or as a missionary to preach the Word and administer the sacraments in remote places beyond the reach of immediate presbyterial oversight, and to organize congregations and ordain officers therein. (3) *Ministers in Other Special Positions.* When a minister is appointed to labor in any other special work, it shall be incumbent on him to make full proof of his ministry by seeking the edification of the Church.

CHAPTER X

OF RULING ELDERS

31. **Authorization of the Office.** It appears from the New Testament that the organization of a local church required a body of ruling elders, chosen by the people, to be associated with the pastor, or teaching elder, in the government and oversight of the congregation.

32. **Powers of the Office.** Ruling elders are the second in rank of the ordinary officers of the Church. Their official power is of government and administration alone, and in this they are the equal of ministers of the Word. They are eligible to all offices in the courts of the Church.

33. **Duties of the Office.** It belongs to ruling elders to have an oversight of the spiritual interests of the congregation, to be a help to the pastor by instructing the ignorant, encouraging the weak, reproving and reclaiming the erring, and visiting and comforting the sick, and in the courts to exercise the power of ordination and government.

34. **Qualifications for the Office.** They who occupy this office should have such correct views of the truth of Christ, such godliness of character, and such soundness of judgment as will fit them for being safe and efficient leaders and governors of the people.

35. **Ministers Eligible to the Office.** A minister without charge, residing within the bounds of a congregation and worshipping stately with it, may be elected as a ruling elder. Being installed, he shall perform all the functions of that office, except that he may not be a delegate from the session to a higher court. His ministerial rights and duties in the higher courts shall remain unimpaired.

CHAPTER XI

OF DEACONS

36. **Authorization of the Office.** The office of the deacon is set forth in

the New Testament as one of perpetual appointment in the Christian Church.

37. **Nature of the Office.** The office of deacon is one of service, without the power of ordination or government.

38. **Duties of the Office.** Deacons are helpers to the pastor and the elders of a congregation in the work of the Lord as visitors to the sick, ministers to the poor, succorers to those in trial, and messengers of the gospel in the homes of the people.

39. **Qualifications for the Office.** Deacons should be possessed of such piety, judgment, sympathy, and tenderness of the spirit as will qualify them for the ministries of their office. In addition, they should be persons of such liberality of spirit in honoring the Lord with their substance that they may be leaders of the people in the right use of the talents which the Lord has placed in their hands.

40. **The Board of Deacons.** The deacons shall be organized as a board by the election of a president, vice-president, secretary, and, if necessary, a treasurer. The board of deacons is specially charged with the collection and distribution of the offerings of the people for charitable and missionary purposes, under the advice and direction of the session. To the board of deacons may also be committed the management of the temporal affairs of the congregation.

41. **Women Eligible.** Women may be elected to the office of deacon, but they may not be constituted into an order or separate body.

CHAPTER XII

OF THE COURTS OF THE CHURCH

42. **Names and Authorization.** The Churches of Christ of the Presbyterian order are governed by various courts in regular gradation. These are the session, the presbytery, the synod, and the General Assembly. The Divine authority for these courts appears from the whole history of the church organization recorded in the New Testament.

43. **Nature and Relations.** These courts are all alike presbyterial as being composed exclusively of presbyters, and are possessed inherently of the same kind of rights and powers, differing only as the constitution of the Church may prescribe. The session exercises jurisdiction over a single church; the presbytery over what belongs in common to the ministers, sessions, and congregations within a prescribed district; the synod over what belongs in common to a group of presbyteries, and their ministers, sessions, and congregations; and the General Assembly over such matters as concern the whole Church.

44. **How Constituted.** Each of these courts, when convened, shall be formally constituted with prayer in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and each particular session shall be opened and closed with prayer.

CHAPTER XIII

OF THE OFFICERS OF CHURCH COURTS

45. **Officers.** Every court of the Church must have a moderator and a clerk. To these a vice-moderator and a treasurer may be added. In case the moderator is a ruling elder, his alternate, or the vice-moderator, shall be a minister.

46. **Duties of Officers.** (1) *The Moderator.* The moderator of a court is its head and presiding officer. It belongs to him to direct the proceedings of the court according to the rules of the Church, perform all the duties usually belonging to the president of a deliberative body, and, with the clerk, sign the minutes when sustained, and all other documents which require to be

authenticated. In addition to these powers as the head of a court of the Church, a moderator is empowered to constitute and announce the adjournment of the court in the name of the Head of the Church, and to voice its decisions and execute its judgments in all judicial and other proceedings. In the intervals between the meetings of the court he is the embodiment of its authority, and is authorized to act for it executively in all matters that lie within the scope of its previous acts and decisions. The moderator shall vote with the other members of the court when the vote is taken by ballot or by yeas and nays. In any other case, if the court is equally divided, he shall have the casting vote.

A moderator pro tempore has all the powers and responsibilities of the office.

(2) *The Vice-Moderator.* In the absence of the moderator the vice-moderator, if there be such, shall perform all the duties of the office.

(3) *The Clerk.* The clerk of a court shall keep an exact minute of its proceedings, which shall stand as the official record when adopted, and shall be signed by him in conjunction with the moderator. He shall keep a roll of the members, preserve all papers belonging to the court, give certified extracts from the minutes when instructed, or upon proper application made, and perform all other duties which may be required by the court.

(4) *The Treasurer.* The treasurer of a court shall receive and disburse its funds according to the directions of the court, keep a full and accurate account of the same, and make due report thereof.

CHAPTER XIV

OF THE SESSION

47. **The Members.** The lowest court of the Church is the congregational presbytery, commonly designated the session. It consists of the pastor, or pastors, and the ruling elders of a particular congregation. Where the congregation is without a pastor, or in case of the disability or prolonged absence of the pastor, the court is legitimate when composed of ruling elders alone.

48. **The Moderator.** The pastor of the congregation is the standing moderator of the session. When there are two pastors, the senior pastor shall be the moderator and the associate pastor the vice-moderator.

When for prudential reasons it may appear advisable that some other minister be invited to preside as moderator, the pastor may, with the concurrence of the session, invite one, belonging to the same presbytery, to preside in that case. The same expedient may be adopted in case of the sickness or absence of the pastor. Where the congregation is without a pastor, the presbytery shall appoint a minister to preside during the vacancy; but in exceptional cases, where such an appointment cannot be made without injurious delay, it is competent for the ruling elders to invite a minister, or choose one of their own number to preside. Where judicial cases arise during a vacancy, the moderator shall always be a minister, and shall be a member of the same presbytery to which the congregation belongs.

49. **Powers and Duties.** The session is charged with the government and spiritual nurture of the congregation, including all baptized persons. It belongs to it to order the election of ruling elders and deacons, to judge of the qualifications of those elected, and, if approved, to ordain and install them in their respective offices; to decide upon the qualifications of applicants for membership in the church, and to certify departing members to other congregations; to watch over the deportment of the members of the congregation; to counsel parents in training up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; to administer the ordinances of the Lord's house and judicially enforce His laws governing the lives of His people; to devise and direct ways

and means of leading the people to honor the Lord with their substance; to determine the uses to be made of the church edifice or other attached buildings; to appoint a ruling elder from its number to act as a member of the presbytery and of the synod; to exercise control over the Sabbath school and supervise all other organizations and agencies in the congregation; to direct the service of praise and other ordinances of worship, and to attend to all other matters which, in its judgment, pertain to the spiritual welfare of the congregation. For greater efficiency in caring for the religious interests of the people the session should apportion the congregation among its members. Each elder should keep a list of the communicants and adherents assigned to him, and should cultivate special acquaintance with them, visiting, counseling, and encouraging or warning, as may be required.

The session, being in subordination to the higher courts, shall take measures to have all the orders of these courts carried out by the congregation.

50. How Convened. The session should have stated meetings for the transaction of business and for prayer and religious conference. It may also be convened by the moderator, when he may judge it necessary. It shall always be convened when request for this is made by two elders. It may meet on its own adjournment and, if there is no pastor, by an agreement among the members. It shall always meet when ordered by the presbytery.

51. Quorum. Two elders, with a minister, or three elders in the absence of a minister, shall constitute a quorum. In a vacancy, where the number of elders in a session does not exceed two, it shall be competent for these to transact business. When from any cause the number of elders is not sufficient to form a quorum, application shall be made to the presbytery for the appointment of elders to act with the session until additional elders shall have been elected and installed.

52. Records. Every session shall keep an exact record of its proceedings and a roll of the members of the congregation in full communion, together with a register of all deaths, removals, or other changes in the membership, of all baptisms, and of all contributions of the congregation. The roll of communicants shall be revised at least once a year, and especially before application is made for a call to a minister. The records shall, at least once a year, be submitted to the presbytery for revision, and annually there shall be made to the presbytery a report of the membership and the changes therein, of baptisms and contributions, and whatever else may be necessary for a full record of the work of the congregation.

CHAPTER XV

OF THE PRESBYTERY

53. The Members. The presbytery is the next court of the Church above the session. It consists of the pastors and all other ministers within a defined district and of a ruling elder from each session. In special cases in connection with the mission work of the Church among diverse races in the home field the General Assembly may authorize synods having jurisdiction to organize presbyteries without regard to existing boundaries of other presbyteries, as, in their judgment, may best serve the interests of the Church.

54. Corresponding Members. Ministers in good standing in sister presbyteries or in other evangelical Churches, being present, may be invited to sit with the presbytery, and may take part in the deliberations of the court, but they shall not have the right of voting. In all these cases it is proper for the moderator to introduce these brethren to the presbytery and give them the right hand of fellowship.

55. The Moderator. The presbytery shall elect one of its members as

moderator. He shall serve for such time as the presbytery may determine, but ordinarily the term of his office should never be longer than one year.

As the general executive officer of the presbytery, it devolves on him during the intervals between the meetings of the court to carry out its instructions in matters relating to the welfare of the congregations and the promotion of the work of the Church. On the invitation of pastors or sessions he may visit congregations in the interest of harmony and brotherly love, and he may appear as the representative of the presbytery in conference with similar representatives of other presbyteries or Churches. Of all such action he shall make report to the presbytery at its next meeting.

56. Powers and Duties. The presbytery is charged with the government and spiritual oversight of its ministers and of the congregations within its bounds. It belongs to the presbytery to receive and act upon issues coming before it by complaint, review, appeal, or reference; to assume original jurisdiction in cases in which it judges that a session cannot with propriety act; to take knowledge of erroneous teaching; to determine questions of doctrine or order proposed; to admit and have the care of students of theology; to license candidates for the ministry; to moderate in calls to the pastorate, and sustain or set aside the same; to receive, dismiss, ordain, and release from ordination, install, remove, judge, suspend, and depose ministers of the gospel; to set apart evangelists for their peculiar work; to examine and approve or censure the records of sessions, and, where necessary, direct the acts of sessions by injunction; to remove elders and deacons when in its judgment the interests of religion demand it; to organize, receive, unite, divide, and disorganize congregations; to adopt measures for promoting the religious life of the congregations within its bounds; to visit them for the purpose of inquiring into their state and redressing evils which may have arisen, and in general to do whatever pertains to their welfare; to concert measures for the extension of the Church within its own territory; to promote the general work of the Church at large; to propose to the higher courts by memorial such action or measures as may be for the advantage of the whole Church; to appoint commissioners to the General Assembly; and to deal with matters sent down by the superior courts.

57. Meetings. (1) The Presbytery shall meet at stated intervals, and at other times as its business demands. It is the duty of every member to attend the meetings, and absentees may be called to account. No meeting of presbytery should be held during the necessary absence of commissioners to the General Assembly.

(2) If a presbytery has neglected to appoint its next stated meeting, or if no meeting has been held on the day appointed, it shall be the duty of the moderator, or, in his necessary absence, of the clerk, to convene a meeting for the resumption of business by letter addressed to every member on the roll of the presbytery at the time of the last meeting, and dispatched at least ten days before the time fixed for the meeting. If a quorum of members is present on the day named, it shall be competent for them to proceed to business as at a stated meeting. If there be no quorum, the court shall adjourn from time to time until a quorum be obtained.

(3) A special meeting of presbytery is a meeting appointed for the transaction of special business. The particular business to be attended to and the time and place of meeting shall be recorded in the minute of the meeting which appointed it. No business shall be transacted at a special meeting except that for which the meeting was appointed.

(4) A called meeting is a meeting called during the interval between one stated meeting and another to consider business demanding immediate attention. Such a meeting shall be called by the moderator, either on his own motion, or upon requisition of three or more members of the court, or by two

or more sessions. The meeting shall be called by letter giving ample notice to all members of the court, issued either by the moderator, or by the clerk on the moderator's authority, and the specific business for which it is called shall be stated in the letter. When the presbytery meets it shall first consider the action of the moderator in appointing the meeting, and, if that is approved, proceed to business, entering the letter of convocation in the minutes. No business other than that specified in the letter may be taken up. In the event of the death or disability of the moderator, and until a successor is elected, his rights and duties in connection with the calling of meetings shall devolve upon the clerk.

(5) Special and called meetings may be adjourned, if necessary, to complete the business for which they have been called; but it is not competent to adjourn to a date beyond that of the next stated meeting of the court.

(6) A ruling elder elected as delegate to a stated meeting, or his alternate, shall represent the congregation in all special and called meetings until the next stated meeting.

(7) Stated, special, or called meetings may be held at the meeting of synod, with leave of that court, provided that the synod is not sitting at the same time, and that due notice of the meeting has been given in open synod. At these meetings the ruling elders representing the congregations of the presbytery in the synod shall serve as members of the presbytery.

(8) No meeting of presbytery shall be held outside its own territorial bounds, except such as may be held at the synod.

58. **Quorum.** One-fourth of the ministerial members, provided that number be not less than two, together with at least one ruling elder duly appointed, shall be a quorum competent to proceed to business.

59. **Opening and Closing.** Inasmuch as the presbytery is a court of the Church, there shall be a devotional service at the opening of every meeting. In connection with this service a sermon should be delivered, if convenient. Each particular session shall be opened and closed with prayer. At the final adjournment the moderator, in addition to prayer, may have an appropriate Psalm sung, and the meeting shall be closed with the benediction.

60. **Records and Reports.** The presbytery shall keep an accurate record of its proceedings and transmit the same annually to the synod for review. It shall also make a report to synod every year, giving details in reference to students of theology, licensures, ordinations, installations, dissolutions of pastoral relations, the organization, disorganization, union, or division of congregations, and noting whatever other important proceedings may have taken place within its bounds during the year.

CHAPTER XVI

OF THE SYNOD

61. **The Members.** The synod is the next court of the Church above the presbytery. It consists of all the ministers on the rolls of its constituent presbyteries, together with a duly commissioned elder from each congregation or pastoral charge within its bounds. If the territory included is large, the General Assembly may authorize a synod of delegates from the constituent presbyteries and determine the ratio in which such delegates shall be chosen.

62. **Corresponding Members.** Ministers of good standing in other United Presbyterian synods, or of other evangelical Churches, being present, may be invited to the floor of synod as visiting brethren, and may take part in the deliberations, but they shall not vote. In such cases it is proper that the visitors be given the right hand of fellowship by the moderator and be introduced to the synod.

63. **The Moderator.** At each regular meeting the synod shall elect one

of its members moderator, and he shall hold his office until the next regular meeting. In addition to the duties belonging to moderators in general, the moderator of a synod shall call special meetings of the synod, as provided for hereafter. As the general executive officer of the synod during the interval between the regular meetings, he is vested with the power to make such appointments for conference or advisory purposes as emergencies may require, to correspond with the moderators of the presbyteries in matters relating to overtures or instructions from the General Assembly, and to represent the synod and its institutions in the presbyteries. He may also appear as the representative of the synod in conference with like representatives of other synods and other Christian bodies regarding general evangelistic and Christian reform movements. He shall make report of what he has done to the synod at its next regular meeting.

64. Powers and Duties. It belongs to the synod to receive and act upon issues coming before it by complaint, appeal, or reference, its decisions being final in all cases which do not affect the doctrine of the Church, the regularity of proceedings, or the interpretation of law; to review the records of its constituent presbyteries; to receive reports from the presbyteries concerning all important changes and proceedings that have taken place; to exercise the power of control over the presbyteries with reference to matters of doctrine and discipline, or the orders of the General Assembly; to organize, disorganize, unite, or divide presbyteries; to appoint ministers to such work, proper to their office, as may fall under its own particular jurisdiction; to have the care, singly or jointly with other synods, of theological seminaries, subject to such supervision of the General Assembly as is hereinafter provided for, and to maintain and control colleges and other literary institutions for general Christian education; to take measures for the promotion of vital piety and the support and enlargement of mission work within its bounds; to propose to the General Assembly any action that may be deemed for the welfare of the whole Church; and, in general, to take such order with respect to the presbyteries, sessions, and congregations under its care as may tend to further the edification, purity, peace, and prosperity of the Church and advance the Kingdom of God in the world.

65. Stated and Called Meetings. The synod, unless otherwise authorized by the General Assembly by a two-thirds vote, shall convene at least once every year, meeting on its own adjournment. In a special emergency it may be convened by the call of the moderator or, in case of his inability to act, by the clerk, on the application of a presbytery. In this case the call shall be made and the business limited as in a called meeting of the presbytery.

66. Quorum. One-fourth of the ministers of a synod, if from two or more presbyteries, convened at the time and place appointed, together with at least four commissioned ruling elders, shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. A smaller number may adjourn from time to time until a quorum is obtained. In the exceptional case where a synod is constituted a delegated body, its quorum shall be determined by the General Assembly.

67. Opening and Closing. Every meeting of the synod shall open with a devotional service. In connection with this, at the opening of every regular meeting of synod there shall be a sermon by the moderator or his alternate, or, in case of the absence or inability of both, by the clerk, who shall constitute the synod and occupy the chair until the permanent moderator is chosen. When the clerk is thus called to act as the presiding officer, he shall, with the consent of the synod, designate some member of the court to act temporarily as clerk. Every particular session of the court shall be opened and closed with prayer. The business of the synod having been finished, and a motion for adjournment having prevailed, the meeting shall be closed with prayer, the singing of praise, and the benediction.

68. **Records.** The synod shall keep an accurate record of its proceedings, and shall submit this annually, attested by the stated clerk, to the General Assembly for review. The minutes of synod in printed form, when duly certified by the clerk, shall be recognized as the official record.

CHAPTER XVII

OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

69. **Its Rank and Designation.** The General Assembly is the highest court of the Church, being the great presbytery in which the entire Church is represented. It bears the title of "THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA," and constitutes the bond of union and co-operation among all the congregations and courts of the Church.

70. **Its Members and Their Credentials.** The General Assembly shall consist of a delegation from each presbytery composed of ministers and ruling elders in equal number. Until otherwise ordered by overture, the following proportion shall be observed: Each presbytery which consists of not more than seven ministers shall be entitled to one minister and one ruling elder. Larger presbyteries shall be entitled to send one additional minister and ruling elder for each additional seven ministers or major fraction of that number. The number of delegates from a presbytery shall be determined by the number of ministers on the roll at the last stated meeting preceding the date of the General Assembly.

The clerk of each presbytery shall certify to the clerk of the General Assembly the names of the persons chosen as commissioners, and also the names of their alternates. In ordinary cases no one shall be seated as a member of the General Assembly without such certificate.

The granting of a certificate of dismission to a commissioner either by a presbytery or session shall vacate the appointment, and his alternate shall take his place.

71. **Delegates from Other Bodies.** Delegates from other evangelical bodies, or from organizations auxiliary to the Church, may be invited to a seat in the General Assembly and given a hearing on behalf of the interests they represent.

72. **The Moderator.** The General Assembly being the highest court of the Church, the moderator sustains an official relation to the entire body. Besides the performance of such functions as may be assigned him by the General Assembly, it belongs to him to keep himself informed of the whole work of the Church, to correspond, as far as he may deem it advisable, with the boards, agencies, and institutions under the control of the General Assembly and also with the moderators of the synods with reference to the state of religion within the bounds of their respective synods and the measures proper to be taken to promote the cause of Christ, and to fill vacancies that may occur in the committees and commissions appointed by the General Assembly which are not otherwise provided for. He may appear as the representative of the General Assembly in the meetings of presbyteries and synods to encourage and strengthen them in their work. He may also meet with delegates from other bodies in conference regarding the promotion of ecclesiastical comity and co-operation in the advancement of the Kingdom of God, and he may appoint delegates to such conferences. He shall make report to the next General Assembly.

73. **Powers and Duties.** The General Assembly shall have power to receive and decide all appeals, references, and complaints regularly brought before it from the lower courts; to review the records of synods; to determine questions of doctrine and discipline and give formal interpretation of the law, which shall stand until reversed by a subsequent General Assembly or by

overture; to warn and testify against any error in doctrine or against prevailing immoralities; to transmit overtures to presbyteries and enact regulations founded thereon; to organize, unite, divide, or change the boundaries of synods; to organize presbyteries in remote mission fields; to establish theological seminaries, and regulate those under the control of synods so far as to secure uniformity in the course and term of study; to confirm or veto the election or transfer of professors in all theological seminaries, and to remove for immorality or unsoundness in doctrine, when determined by regular judicial process, any theological professor; to conduct the missionary operations of the Church either by committees or boards duly chosen and organized, and to supervise and instruct the same and recommend to them such measures as may tend to secure the most liberal support and the largest possible dissemination of the gospel; to appoint commissions for the determination of questions of doctrine, the interpretation of law, or the transaction of such other business as it may direct; to correspond with similar courts of other Churches for the purpose of promoting harmony, brotherly love, and co-operation in the cause of religion and morals; and, in general, to adopt measures for the promotion of truth and holiness and to be a bond of union, concord, and mutual confidence among the congregations and courts of the Church. The General Assembly, being the supreme judicial, legislative, and administrative court of the Church, may deal with, and dispose of, any matter which may arise, and which is not provided for in the rules of the Church or its forms of procedure.

74. **Meetings.** The General Assembly shall meet once every year. Each General Assembly shall fix the date and place of the succeeding General Assembly. The General Assembly shall cease to exist as soon as it is dissolved.

75. **Quorum.** One-third of the delegates duly commissioned, being assembled at the time and place appointed, shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. A smaller number may adjourn from time to time until a quorum is obtained.

76. **Opening and Closing.** At the time appointed for the meeting of the General Assembly the moderator of the last General Assembly, or his alternate, or, in their absence, the clerk, shall open the meeting with a devotional service and a sermon, constitute the General Assembly, and preside until a new moderator is chosen. When the business is finished, and a vote to dissolve the General Assembly has prevailed, the moderator shall say, "By virtue of the authority to me delegated I do hereby dissolve this General Assembly, and require another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at, on the day of, A. D. . . ." After this he shall close the General Assembly by prayer, praise, and the benediction.

77. **Records.** The records of the proceedings of the General Assembly shall be kept in printed form, and each copy duly certified by the signature of the clerk shall be received as the official record.

CHAPTER XVIII

OF OVERTURES

78. **Change of Standards.** The standards of the Church may be changed when they fail to express fully and clearly the faith of the Church, or with a view to a greater efficiency in administration.

Any proposal which involves alteration or innovation in doctrine, worship, discipline, or government can become law only by being submitted as an overture to the presbyteries of the Church. A two-thirds vote of the General Assembly shall be necessary to transmit such an overture. Action thereon in each presbytery shall be taken at a time agreed upon at a previous meeting of the presbytery, or determined by the General Assembly. No absent mem-

ber of the presbytery shall be entitled to vote. The vote shall be taken by the calling of the roll, and only the ayes and nays shall be counted. The vote shall then be carefully recorded and certified by the clerk to the General Assembly. For the information of the General Assembly the whole number of members present at the meeting of presbytery when the vote was taken shall also be reported. When a majority of the votes cast, and representing not less than two-thirds of the presbyteries, shall be in the affirmative, the General Assembly shall enact such amendment or regulation, and incorporate the same in the constitutional law of the Church, unless, in the view of two-thirds of the whole enrolled delegation to the General Assembly, peculiar circumstances shall render it inexpedient.

79. **Information.** To guard against premature legislation the General Assembly may submit to the presbyteries an informal overture on a question or proposed measure, in order to ascertain the sentiment of the Church thereon before proceeding to further action. The vote shall be taken and reported as in a formal overture, or as may be directed by the General Assembly.

CHAPTER XIX

OF COMMISSIONS

80. **Definition.** A commission is an agency invested with the power of the court appointing it, and authorized to deliberate upon and conclude the business committed to it. Such commissions may be appointed by any court to act in matters to which the full court cannot, without great inconvenience, attend, or in which the ends of government may be attained more judiciously by a smaller selected body than by the full court.

81. **Objects for Which Appointed.** In general, commissions may be appointed in delicate or difficult matters requiring much deliberation; as courts of conciliation; for the investigation and adjustment of offenses and irregularities; for the taking of testimony in judicial cases; for the trial of cases; and for the adjudication of appeals, complaints, and references.

In addition to the general powers conferred by the foregoing, commissions may be appointed by presbytery for the organization of congregations; as provisional sessions; for the ordination and installation of ministers; for the visitation of congregations; and for special missionary work within presbyterial bounds. Likewise commissions may be appointed by a synod or by the General Assembly for the prosecution of some particular work; for the transaction of some special business; and for carrying into effect the acts and decrees of the court.

82. **Members Constituting a Commission.** Except for the organization of a congregation, or for a provisional session, a commission of presbytery shall consist of not less than two ministers and an elder; a commission of synod of not less than five ministers and four elders; and a commission of the General Assembly of not less than eight ministers and seven elders. In each case two-thirds shall constitute a quorum.

83. **Appointment of Officers.** The court appointing a commission shall designate the moderator thereof, but the commission shall elect its own clerk.

84. **Duties to Be Defined by the Court.** The court appointing a commission shall designate the time and place of its meeting for organization, define the nature of the business committed to it, and the extent of the power delegated. The clerk of the appointing court shall give the moderator of the commission a copy of the record of such action, with all the papers, if any, relating to the business intrusted to the commission.

85. **Proceedings and Records.** The proceedings of a commission shall be according to the rules of the court appointing it. It shall submit a full record of its proceedings and findings to the court appointing it, which, if the pro-

ceedings have been regular, and the commission has not exceeded its powers, shall be entered upon and become a part of the records of that court.

The finding of a judicial commission of the General Assembly affecting in any way the doctrine, government, or worship of the Church shall be reviewed by the General Assembly.

CHAPTER XX

OF PROVISIONAL SESSIONS

86. When Appointed. If, for any reason, it appears to be inexpedient to complete the organization of a congregation by the election and installation of elders, or if a congregation, by the death, the resignation, or the removal of elders is left without a session, the presbytery shall appoint a minister and two or more ruling elders to constitute a provisional session, to have the care of the congregation until such time as elders may be elected. In like manner a provisional session may be appointed to have charge of a mission until it may be prepared for organization. The presbytery may also appoint a provisional session for a congregation in which, for the time being, delicate and difficult matters render it inexpedient for the session to act. In this case the provisional session may either displace the session of the congregation entirely, or include it, in whole or in part, according to the order of the presbytery.

87. Powers. The authority of a provisional session is such as may be defined in its appointment. If there is no such definition, it has the ordinary powers of a session, except that only such of its members as may belong to the congregation or mission have a right to vote in the congregational meetings.

88. Not Represented in Presbytery. The provisional session is not a part of the congregation or mission, and may not be represented in presbytery, except that in case of a partially disorganized congregation, an elder duly installed in it, who is a member of the provisional session, may be admitted as a delegate from a pastoral charge. Otherwise the congregation may appear in presbytery by a commissioner

89. Responsibility to Presbytery. The provisional session is especially responsible to the presbytery, shall exercise its powers in such manner, and for such time, as the presbytery shall direct, shall from time to time report its proceedings and minutes for review, and, when discharged from its appointment, shall place its records in the hands of the presbytery to be transmitted to the session of the congregation to become a part of its records.

CHAPTER XXI

OF BOARDS OR EXECUTIVE AGENCIES

90. Necessity. The efficient administration of the power of the General Assembly for the enlargement of the Kingdom of God requires the appointment of boards, as executive agencies, vested with the powers of the General Assembly for specific purposes, and responsible to the General Assembly for the prosecution of the missionary, educational, or other work of the Church.

91. Powers. The General Assembly shall adopt for each board a constitution and regulations defining its sphere of action, and vesting in it the power to devise plans and methods for the prosecution of the work committed to it, to handle all funds given for the maintenance of the same, to transact all business connected therewith, and to meet emergencies as they arise. Unless otherwise ordered for mission fields, a board shall have no judicial or presbyterial power.

92. Incorporation. Inasmuch as the boards have the administration of the funds of the Church, and may be called upon to hold property, it is necessary that they become incorporated, under the liabilities and with the powers

defined by their charters and the laws of the state where they are located, but subject always to the authority and instructions of the General Assembly. The articles of incorporation shall not be effective until approved by the General Assembly.

93. **Reports.** The boards shall present to the General Assembly each year a full report of their work and a statement of their financial condition and needs, together with such recommendations as may be timely.

CHAPTER XXII

OF SUBORDINATE ORGANIZATIONS

94. **The Sabbath School.** (1) *Under the control of the Session.* As the session is responsible for the Christian nurture of those under its care, it has control of the Sabbath school. It should appoint the officers and teachers, or exercise a veto power over such appointments made by others. By virtue of his office as moderator of the session the pastor has the supervision of the whole school, and may give such instruction to the officers and teachers as he deems necessary.

(2) *Purpose of the Sabbath School.* The purpose of the Sabbath school is to supplement the work of parents in bringing the children of the Church to Christ through the teaching of His truth, and training them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and to furnish advanced Christian training to all the older members and adherents of the Church. It is also a special object of the Sabbath school to extend a knowledge of the Word of God to those, both old and young, who are not connected in any way with the Church. All the officers and teachers, and all literature provided for the scholars, should be selected with these ends in view.

95. **Other Organizations.** (1) *Their Permitted Range and Design.* The members of a particular church or churches may associate themselves under regular forms of organization for the conduct of special work for missionary or other benevolent purposes, or for instruction in religion and development in Christian character.

(2) *Their Ecclesiastical Control and Oversight.* When special organizations of the character above indicated exist in a particular church, they shall be under the control and oversight of the session of said church; when they cover the territory included within a presbytery or synod, they shall be responsible to the judicatory having jurisdiction; and where they cover a territory greater than a synod, they shall be responsible to the General Assembly.

(3) *Names and Powers.* The names or titles of special organizations may be chosen by themselves, and the organizations shall have power to adopt each its own constitution and elect its own officers, subject always to the powers of review and control vested in the proper judicatories of the Church.

CHAPTER XXIII

OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES

96. **Necessity for Schools of Theology.** Inasmuch as the Lord Jesus Christ has appointed a ministry to preach the gospel, it is incumbent on His Church to establish and maintain schools of theology in which those who are called to the sacred office may be instructed in the Holy Scriptures and qualified to expound the Word of God and preach the gospel.

97. **Their Government.** (1) *Powers of the Synods.* It is expedient that the theological seminaries shall be under the control, management, and support of the synods, subject only to the supervisory power of the General Assembly as hereinafter provided. Such control and management shall be exercised through a board of managers or directors elected by, and responsible to, the

synods in control, and according to such constitutional regulations as may be adopted by such synods. It belongs to the synods to elect professors, to transfer them from one chair to another, and to suspend or remove from office for adequate cause.

(2) *Powers of the General Assembly.* It belongs to the General Assembly to authorize the establishment of theological seminaries, to determine the term and course of study, to approve or veto the election of professors, or their transfer from one chair to another, and, if synods fail to act, to remove professors for unsoundness in the faith or improper conduct. If the General Assembly to which the election or transfer of a professor has been reported does not take action thereon, it shall be held as confirmed. No professor may be removed by the General Assembly without regular investigation and trial by the presbytery of which he is a member. In exceptional cases, as in mission fields, the General Assembly may make such provision for the training of ministers as may be found necessary.

98. **Who May Be Employed as Professors.** No person may be chosen as a stated professor in any established chair who is not an ordained minister in the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

99. **Removal of a Professor.** If a professor shall be reported as chargeable with unsoundness in the faith or improper conduct, or if a synod in control of the Seminary shall make such complaint, the presbytery of which he is a member shall make investigation, and, if necessity appears, shall enter judicial process against him. The right of appeal, as in other judicial cases, shall not be impaired. If on the final judgment the accusation is sustained, the chair shall thereupon become vacant, without further action. If the presbytery shall fail to take proper cognizance of reports affecting the standing of a professor, the synod having jurisdiction over that presbytery or, should the synod fail to act, the General Assembly shall issue an injunction for an investigation of the charge.

Pending the judicial process, the board of management shall determine whether or not the accused shall perform the duties of his office. Removal for incompetency or unsuitableness devolves on the board of management, but such action must be approved by a majority of the votes cast in the governing synods at the next regular meeting of these courts.

CHAPTER XXIV

OF TRUSTEES OF A CONGREGATION

100. **Incorporation.** The Church and the State are separate from, and independent of, each other, but both are ordained of God and are mutually helpful. It is, therefore, proper, and usually desirable, for a congregation to become incorporated under the laws of the State wherein it is located and to elect trustees as its legal representatives in its relation to the civil law.

101. **Powers and Duties.** The trustees of a congregation being its legal representatives in its civil relations, it belongs to them to conduct all the purely business affairs of the congregation, not including the uses to be made of its building or buildings, together with such other financial affairs as may be committed to them by the session or congregation.

102. **Trustees Not Ecclesiastical Officers.** The trustees of a congregation are not ecclesiastical officers, and have no spiritual authority.

103. **Trustees Members of the Church.** Ordinarily the trustees of a congregation shall be members in full communion of the Church, and a majority of them shall always be such.

PART II

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

CHAPTER I

OF THE ORGANIZATION OF SYNODS

104. **Authorization.** A new synod may be organized by the General Assembly on the petition, or with the consent, of the synod or synods that may be affected thereby, or on the petition of two or more presbyteries, after they have given notice of their purpose to the synod or synods having jurisdiction. The General Assembly may also on its own motion erect synods in fields wholly, or in part, beyond existing synods. In the formation of a synod regard should be had to the convenience of the members, and ordinarily the territory should include not less than three presbyteries.

105. **Method of Organization.** The General Assembly shall define the territory of the synod to be organized, determine the time and place of the first meeting, and appoint a minister, together with an alternate, to preside in the organization as moderator. If, at the time appointed, both the principal and his alternate are absent, those present may call one of their own number to the chair to preside. The moderator shall preach a sermon and constitute the synod by prayer. A temporary clerk having been chosen, and the roll of the presbyteries and members having been made out, the moderator shall say, "By virtue of the power vested in me by the General Assembly I declare that the Synod of has now been fully organized under the jurisdiction of the United Presbyterian Church of North America with all the powers of a synodical court of the Church of Christ, and is now prepared for the transaction of the business that may come before it."

The synod shall then elect its permanent officers and proceed with its proper business. A report of the organization shall be made by the minister presiding to the next General Assembly.

106. **Transfer of Jurisdiction.** Upon the erection of a new synod all proceedings and cases originally commenced in the territory from which it has been taken, but which after its formation belong to the territory embraced within its bounds, shall be under its jurisdiction. A certified copy of the record thereof, together with all papers connected therewith, shall be delivered by the clerk of the original synod to the clerk of the new synod, who shall enter the same of record and file respectively. Subsequent proceedings shall be had thereon as fully and completely as though said action had been commenced in the new synod.

CHAPTER II

OF THE ORGANIZATION OF PRESBYTERIES

107. **Authorization.** The several synods shall have power and authority within their respective bounds to erect new presbyteries, to divide any presbytery already existing, and to change the lines of two or more adjoining presbyteries so as to suit the convenience of the members thereof. A new presbytery may be organized, or the boundaries of existing presbyteries changed, by the synod having jurisdiction, on the motion of the synod itself, or on the petition of the ministers and congregations desiring it. If the congregations to be included in the new presbytery belong to two or more synods,

application shall be made to the General Assembly, after due notice to the synods that may be affected, for a change in the synodical boundaries. If the memorial is approved by the General Assembly, it shall determine the synod to which the new presbytery shall belong and give notice to the respective synods.

108. Method of Organization. If the application is granted, the synod shall define the territory to be included in the new presbytery, determine the name by which it shall be known, the time and place of the first meeting, and appoint a minister, with an alternate, to act as moderator in effecting the organization. If, at the time appointed, both the principal and his alternate are absent, those present may call one of their own number to the chair to preside. The moderator shall preach a sermon and constitute the presbytery by prayer. A temporary clerk having been chosen, and the roll of the members having been made, the moderator shall say,

“By virtue of the authority vested in me by the synod I declare that the Presbytery of has now been fully organized under the jurisdiction of the United Presbyterian Church of North America with all the powers of a presbyterial court of the Church of Christ, and is now prepared for the transaction of the business that may come before it.”

The presbytery shall then elect its permanent officers and proceed with its proper business. A report of the organization shall be made to the synod by the minister presiding.

CHAPTER III

OF THE ORGANIZATION, LOCATION, AND DISSOLUTION OF CONGREGATIONS

109. Congregations. A congregation is a society of professing Christians properly organized for mutual edification in the spiritual life, for fellowship in the ordinances of the gospel, for giving testimony to the truth, and for the extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom. A congregation of the United Presbyterian Church is organized on the basis of the standards of this Church and submission to its government and discipline.

110. New Congregations. When it seems desirable to organize a new congregation, the persons who wish to be connected with it shall make application to the presbytery within whose bounds it is proposed to locate the organization, setting forth the grounds on which the organization is asked. Whenever such application is made, and before the petition is granted, notice shall be given by the presbytery to the session of any congregation that may be affected by the new organization.

111. Organization. If the presbytery determines to grant the application, it may either organize the congregation itself or appoint a minister and, if practicable, two ruling elders as a commission to carry the object into effect. Having given due notice of the time and place of meeting, the presbytery or commission shall, after the usual exercises of public worship, proceed to receive members on certificate or the profession of their faith in Christ. The persons thus admitted shall, standing, enter into covenant by answering the following question affirmatively with the uplifted hand:

“Do you solemnly covenant with each other and with God that you will walk together as an organized congregation, on the principles of the faith and order of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and that you will seek the peace, purity, and enlargement of the whole body?”

The presiding minister shall then say:

“I now pronounce and declare that you are constituted a congregation according to the Word of God and the faith and order of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.”

The presbytery or commission shall then proceed to the election and, at the proper time, the ordination and installation of ruling elders.

112. Records and Proceedings. The proceedings, together with the names of the ruling elders, shall be entered on the records of the presbytery, and shall also become a part of the records of the session of the congregation.

113. Exceptional Cases. In exceptional cases, when the congregation to be organized is remote from any presbytery, a missionary or other minister may, without appointment, receive members and organize a congregation, and report his proceedings to the most convenient presbytery. On its approval of what has been done, that presbytery shall assume jurisdiction.

114. Relocation of Organized Congregations. When a congregation already organized desires to change the location of its house of worship, it shall present the subject to the presbytery, and shall obtain its consent both as to removal and the site of the new edifice. Before action is taken by the presbytery, notice of the proposed new location shall be given to the congregations that may be affected thereby.

115. Dissolution of Congregations. When a presbytery determines that a congregation shall be dissolved, the members of said congregation shall be granted certificates of standing and dismissal at the hand of the presbytery. The trustees of said congregation shall transfer immediately all property titles to the trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. All sessional and other records shall be placed in the keeping of the presbytery.

CHAPTER IV

OF THE ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

116. Necessity of Care. Inasmuch as the Church of God should be holy and without reproach, and to the end that the interests of immortal souls may not be imperiled by a false profession, great care should be exercised that those only who give credible evidence of being disciples of Christ be admitted to membership. It is the duty of the minister and the elders to give opportunity for religious conversation to all who desire to be received into the Church's fellowship, and to instruct them in the way of salvation, that they make an intelligent profession of their faith.

117. Instructions to Sessions. Sessions should carefully examine applicants as to their knowledge and belief of saving truth, their religious experience and purpose of life.

In this examination special attention should be given to the doctrine of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; the inspiration of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments; the atonement; the necessity of repentance and faith in Christ; the duty of separation from the world, of household religion, including family worship, of Christian giving and the evangelization of the world, of diligent attendance on the ordinances of Divine worship, public, private, and family, and of conformity to the laws and usages of the Church.

In the admission of members great charity should be shown toward those who manifest a regenerate state, but who are not fully instructed in the Scriptures and the doctrines of the United Presbyterian Church, and have but little experience in the Christian life.

118. The Covenant. Having satisfied the session respecting their faith and new obedience in Christ, the applicants shall be received on answering affirmatively the following questions in presence of the session:

(1) "Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the infallible and only rule of faith and practice?"

(2) Do you believe in the one living and true God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as revealed in the Scriptures?

(3) Do you confess your guilt and helplessness as a sinner against God; take Jesus Christ as your Saviour as He is offered in the gospel; own Him as your Lord; and dedicate yourself to His service? Do you covenant with Him that you will endeavor to forsake all sin and conform your life to His teaching and example?

(4) Do you promise, in order to such a life of holy obedience, that you will be diligent in your attendance upon all the appointed means of grace, in the performance of all duty as it may be made known to you; that you will give the Church of the Lord Jesus supreme loyalty, separating yourself from all associations you may find to be a hindrance to godliness and the performance of Christian duties?

(5) Do you make this profession of your faith and purpose in the presence of God, in humble reliance upon His grace, and as you desire to give in your account with joy at the great day?"

119. **Public Recognition.** It is important that persons received into membership by the session should be given public recognition and welcome into the fellowship of the congregation by the members of the church. For such public recognition the following form may be used:

The names of the persons received being announced, they shall present themselves before the congregation. The people standing, the minister shall say:

"You have made a profession of your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and of your purpose to live a Christian life, and have been admitted by the session into the membership of the Church. It is becoming that you confess your faith before the congregation and be publicly welcomed into the fellowship of its members.

Do you, now, in the presence of the congregation, make acknowledgment of your faith in Christ and your purpose to live a Christian life, and publicly declare your engagement to cultivate the spirit of Christian fellowship and brotherly love, and to seek the welfare of this congregation while you remain a member thereof?"

Answer. "We do."

The minister shall then address the congregation as follows:

"Do you, the members of this congregation, as those who are already under the obligations of this covenant, welcome into your fellowship these who have now professed their faith in Christ and their purpose as His disciples, and do you promise to encourage and help them in the Christian life?"

Answer. "We do."

The minister shall then say to the persons admitted:

"In the name of the Lord Jesus, the King and Head of the Church, we bid you welcome to the privileges of His Church, and the fellowship of His people, and we, the officers and members of this congregation, assure you of our sympathy, love, and assistance in the Christian life, and invite you to have part with us in all the services, labors, and benefits of the Church.

We also extend a like cordial welcome and assurance to you who have come to us from other congregations to enter our fellowship and make this your church home."

"Now unto Him that is able to guard you from stumbling, and to set you before the presence of His glory without blemish in exceeding joy, to the only God our Saviour, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and power, before all time, and now, and forever. Amen."

He shall then offer a prayer for the blessing of God on those thus received.

120. **On Certificate.** Members from other congregations of the United Presbyterian Church are to be admitted on certificate of such membership and dismissal. Members from other evangelical Churches may be admitted on

certificate and on their submission to the instruction and discipline of the United Presbyterian Church.

CHAPTER V

OF THE DISMISSION OF MEMBERS

121. **Testimonials.** Any member in good standing in the Church is entitled to a certificate of standing and dismission from the session of the congregation to which he belongs, and, when removing from the congregation, should always take such a testimonial of Christian character. Whenever practicable, notice of the granting of such certificate should be given to the session of the congregation within the bounds of which the person removing intends to locate.

If a congregation becomes extinct, the presbytery with which it was connected shall have jurisdiction over its members and grant them certificates of standing and dismission.

122. **Limitation of Time.** Members removing from a congregation without a certificate may afterwards be certified up to the time of their removal. A certificate of membership shall be considered valid for one year only from its date, unless its earlier presentation has been hindered by sufficient cause.

123. **Jurisdiction.** Until received into another congregation, members receiving certificates shall be held to be under the jurisdiction and, as far as practicable, the pastoral oversight of the session giving the certificate, but without the right to take part in the proceedings of the congregation or exercise the functions of any office. A certificate returned to the session by which it was issued does not entitle one to exercise the functions of any office previously held in the congregation.

124. **Removal of Names from the Roll.** The session may, at its discretion, remove from the register the name of any member who has been absent for one year from the congregation and beyond the knowledge of the session. It may also, in like manner, remove the name of a member who has practically withdrawn from the congregation, after all proper efforts to reclaim such a person have been made, and when formal suspension would not promote the spiritual interests of the person or the congregation.

CHAPTER VI

OF STUDENTS OF THEOLOGY

125. **Care in Receiving and Training Students.** As an able and godly ministry is of the utmost importance to the Church, presbyteries shall exercise great care in receiving and training young men therefor, having a tender and faithful supervision over them during their course of study, endeavoring to impress upon them worthy views of the office of the ministry, and the necessity of cultivating a spirit and life becoming those who are ambassadors for Christ.

126. **Qualifications.** Presbyteries shall receive as students of theology only such as are certified to be members of the Church in full communion and of unexceptionable Christian deportment, who give satisfactory evidence of a saving acquaintance with Divine things and of a call to the holy office, who manifest an intelligent attachment to their profession, who possess such talents and graces as will fit them to prosecute theological studies with success, and who give promise of acceptability and usefulness in the ministry. In all ordinary cases a full collegiate course of study, or its equivalent, shall be required of those entering on the study of theology.

127. **Under the Care of Presbytery.** Every student of theology shall at once place himself under the care of a presbytery, his own local presbytery

if practicable, and be subject to its authority. He shall declare to the presbytery his acceptance of the standards of the United Presbyterian Church and his resolution to maintain the same. He shall prosecute his studies in a theological seminary approved by the presbytery or otherwise as the presbytery may direct, and shall, from time to time, as he may be required, deliver sermons before the presbytery as specimens of progress, and give such other exercises as may exhibit his proficiency in study and his qualifications for the ministry. If at any time a student of theology is temporarily resident or laboring in the bounds of another presbytery, that presbytery shall have him under its oversight, rendering him such encouragement and help as may be in its power, and make report concerning him to his proper presbytery.

CHAPTER VII

OF LICENSING PROBATIONERS FOR THE MINISTRY

128. **Necessity of Licensure.** The presbyteries should make trial of those who are to be ordained to the gospel ministry, that this sacred office be not committed to weak and unworthy men, and it is right that the people should have opportunity to judge the qualifications of those by whom they are to be instructed and governed. To this end presbyteries shall license probationers to preach the gospel, who, after a competent trial of their gifts, and a good report from the congregation, may be ordained to the sacred office.

129. **Examination and Trials.** In ordinary cases a student of theology shall not be admitted to trials for licensure until he has prosecuted theological studies for two full years. He shall submit to the presbytery from the faculty of the theological seminary which he has attended a certificate of his proficiency in the studies of the seminary course and of his uprightness of deportment. In addition to this, the presbytery shall examine him in regard to his experience of grace, the evidences of his call to the ministry, and his attachment to the principles of the United Presbyterian Church. The presbytery shall require him to present the following exercises: a textual sermon and an expository lecture. The subjects for these exercises shall be assigned by the presbytery.

130. **Mode of Licensure.** The presbytery being satisfied with the examination and trials of the candidate, and having sustained them and decided to license him, the moderator shall propose to him the following questions, the members of presbytery standing:

(1) "Do you believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?"

(2) Do you believe and acknowledge the doctrines of the United Presbyterian Church, set forth in the Confession of Faith, the Larger and the Shorter Catechisms, and the Confessional Statement, as agreeable to, and founded on, the Word of God, and do you promise to adhere to and maintain the same against all opposing errors?"

(3) Do you approve the form of church government and the system of worship set forth in the Book of Government and Worship of this Church as agreeable to, and founded on, the Word of God, and do you engage to maintain and defend the same?"

(4) Are zeal for the glory of God, love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and a desire of saving souls, your chief motives for seeking the office of the holy ministry?"

(5) Do you promise, in the strength of the grace that is in Jesus Christ, to preach the gospel in its simplicity, to expound the Word of God for the conversion of sinners and the edification of saints, to submit to the authority of the Church in its several courts, to seek the peace, purity, and prosperity of the Church, and to pursue a life of charity, godliness, and holy service?"

(6) Do you make this profession and these promises as you would give in your account with joy at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, with all His saints, and have an entrance ministered to you abundantly into His everlasting Kingdom?"

If these questions are answered satisfactorily, the moderator shall then say:

"In the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the authority vested in His Church, we, constituted as a presbytery, do now license you to preach the gospel of Christ and to exercise your gifts as a probationer for the holy ministry; and we commend you to the grace of God in the discharge of all your duties."

The moderator shall then lead the presbytery in an appropriate prayer and close the act of licensure with a suitable word of exhortation. A certificate of licensure, signed by the moderator and clerk, shall be given to the probationer.

131. Oversight of Probationers. A probationer shall be under the supervision of the presbytery to which he belongs as to all that relates to his public and ministerial department, and shall be under its direction and fulfil its appointments, or the direction and appointments of the presbytery into which he may be sent. He shall continue, however, to be a member of his congregation and be subject to the oversight and discipline of its session until ordination, when he becomes a member of presbytery. A notice of such ordination shall be given by presbytery to the session.

132. Limitation of Licensure. A probationer shall be licensed for three years. If not ordained at the end of this time, the license may, at the discretion of presbytery, be renewed for two years more; if not ordained at the end of this time, it may be renewed for one year more; if at the end of this time his services do not appear to be edifying to the Church, the presbytery shall recall his license.

133. Release from Licensure. If a probationer becomes unable to prosecute his course toward the ministry, or is no longer convinced of his call to the office, the presbytery shall withdraw his license, without prejudice to his character, and shall make a record of the same with the reasons therefor.

CHAPTER VIII

OF THE ELECTION OF PASTORS

134. Pastors Chosen by the Congregation. The authority by which ministers of the gospel hold their office is conferred by the Head of the Church through ordination, but in order to the exercise of their office stately in any congregation there shall first be an election thereto by the people.

135. Pastors Necessary. Every congregation should be under the pastoral care of a minister, and therefore every vacant charge should seek without delay, by earnest prayer and the use of the appointed methods, to secure a pastor of the Lord's choosing.

136. Preparatory Steps. When a congregation desires a pastor, the session shall petition the presbytery to appoint a minister to preside in the making of a call, and shall give such information as may be required concerning the readiness of the congregation for taking that step.

137. Time of Election. If the petition is granted, the presbytery shall appoint a minister to preach on a week-day convenient to the parties and preside in the election of a pastor. Ten days' notice of this meeting shall be given to the congregation. If unexpected circumstances make it desirable, the minister appointed to preside may defer the election to another time.

138. Order of Election. At the time appointed, after public worship, the minister shall state the object of the meeting. He shall then offer prayer

for Divine direction, and shall proceed to call for nominations. The name or names presented shall be distinctly announced. The voting shall always be by ballot, and need not be confined to those nominated. No votes by proxy shall be allowed.

139. **Electors and Elected.** None are entitled to vote in the election of a pastor but such as are in full communion at the time of the election, and no one shall be declared elected who has not a majority of all the votes cast.

140. **Call Signed and Transmitted.** After the election the result shall be announced and the blanks in the official form of call filled by the name of the person elected. The electors shall then be called upon to sign the call. The names of the elders should stand first, then those of the deacons and trustees, and after them those of the other members. Adherents of the congregation, being of the age of discretion, may be allowed to sign the call as such. The call thus subscribed shall be properly attested by the presiding minister and transmitted to the presbytery by a committee of the congregation. Pending its presentation to the presbytery, the call may be intrusted to the elders, that other members and adherents, who have not had the opportunity, may add their signatures. The number of signatures, both of members and adherents, should be noted on the call.

141. **When There Is Opposition.** If a majority is opposed to the person elected, and refuses to acquiesce, the minister presiding shall report the facts to the presbytery. Thereupon the presbytery shall decide what is best for the interests and peace of the congregation. If it is judged not expedient to prosecute the call, it shall be returned to the congregation, and a new election shall be held.

142. **Call Sustained and Presented.** A call must be sustained by the presbytery as regular before it is presented to the pastor-elect. Even if regular, the presbytery may, for good reasons, refuse to present the call. In this event the reasons shall be entered upon the minutes. If the call is declined, the presbytery shall so notify the congregation, that steps for a new election may be taken. If the call is addressed to a probationer or a minister of another presbytery, and it is the will of the presbytery having jurisdiction over the congregation that the call be presented, it shall be transmitted for presentation, duly certified as regular, to the presbytery to which the pastor-elect belongs. No minister or probationer shall receive a call except through the hands of the presbytery in which he is enrolled. In the act of presentation the moderator shall make announcement of the call and shall ask the pastor-elect the question, "Do you accept or decline this call?" On acceptance the call shall be placed in the hands of the pastor-elect.

143. **Associate Pastors.** When from any cause the pastoral duties in a congregation become too great for one minister, the congregation may elect an associate, who, when duly installed, shall sustain a proper pastoral relation to the congregation. In the event of the disability, death, or retirement of the senior pastor, the associate pastor may, by the action of the congregation at a meeting duly called, become the senior pastor. In the election of an associate pastor all the regular steps shall be taken.

144. **Pastoral Assistants.** The session may, with the approval of the pastor, engage the services of a minister or probationer as an assistant to the pastor, who shall perform such duties, and for such time, as may be agreed upon, but without investiture with pastoral powers other than those common to his position as a minister or probationer.

CHAPTER IX

OF THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF MINISTERS

145. **Trials and Examinations.** When a call has been accepted by a probationer, the presbytery shall place him on trial for ordination. Unless the

case is clearly exceptional, he shall be required to present a certificate from the faculty of the theological seminary which he has attended that he has completed the full course of study and passed satisfactory examinations. He shall be required to present the following exercises: two sermons—one of which shall be a lecture—on passages of Scripture assigned to him, a critical exegesis of a passage of Scripture, and a doctrinal thesis. He shall also be examined on personal religion, his motives for entering the ministry, and his knowledge of, and adherence to, the doctrines, government, and discipline of the United Presbyterian Church.

146. **Edict.** The foregoing trials having been approved, and a day for the ordination and installation having been appointed, the presbytery shall cause an edict to be read to the congregation, at least ten days before the day of installation, to the effect that the presbytery will proceed with the ordination and installation at the time appointed, if no valid objections be offered. At the time of the installation the edict shall be returned to the presbytery duly certified that it has been read to the congregation.

147. **Objections.** The presbytery, having met in the church at the time appointed in the edict, shall make proclamation that it is now constituted for the ordination and installation service, and is ready to hear any objections that may be offered against further proceedings. If no objections are offered, the presbytery shall proceed with the appointed service. If any objections are offered, presbytery shall either sustain or overrule them, as its wisdom may direct. Should they be sustained, all proceedings shall be stayed until they are disposed of.

148. **Ordination and Installation Service.** In connection with a devotional service a minister of the presbytery, previously appointed, shall preach a sermon adapted to the occasion. Then the minister appointed to preside shall briefly narrate the proceedings of the presbytery in reference to the call, and shall endeavor to impress all present with a proper sense of the solemnity of the ordination act.

The candidate shall then present himself and give answer to the following questions proposed by the presiding minister:

(1) "Do you believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of the living God, the infallible and only rule of faith and practice?"

(2) Do you believe and acknowledge the doctrines professed by the United Presbyterian Church, contained in the Confession of Faith, the Larger and the Shorter Catechisms, and the Confessional Statement, as agreeable to, and founded on, the Word of God, and do you engage to adhere to and maintain them against all opposing errors?

(3) Do you approve the form of church government and the system of worship set forth in the Book of Government and Worship of this Church as agreeable to, and founded on, the Word of God, and do you promise to maintain and defend them?

(4) Do you promise to be diligent in the cultivation of personal piety, endeavoring to adorn your profession by a course of life becoming the gospel and the ministry of Christ?

(5) Do you promise to be a faithful student of the Word of God, and to preach the gospel of the Lord Jesus in its simplicity and fullness, beseeching men to be reconciled to God, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, seeking to present every man perfect in Christ Jesus?

(6) Do you promise to give a dutiful attendance upon the courts of the Church, to submit yourself in the spirit of meekness to the authority of this presbytery and the superior courts, and to follow no divisive courses, but to maintain according to your ability the unity and peace of the Church?

(7) Are zeal for the glory of God, love for the Lord Jesus Christ, and

a desire to save sinners and edify the Church your great motives in entering upon the duties and the privileges of the office of the ministry?

(8) Do you consent to take charge of this congregation agreeably to your declaration on accepting this call, and do you promise to perform all the duties of a pastor, administering the ordinances and laws of the Church, visiting and exhorting from house to house, ministering to the sick, caring for the young, seeking to reclaim sinners and build up the disciples of Christ in Christian faith and life, and doing whatever else is incumbent on you as a minister of the gospel?

(9) And these things you profess and promise through grace, as you would give in your account with joy at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints, and have an entrance ministered to you abundantly into His everlasting Kingdom?"

Satisfactory answers to the foregoing questions having been given by the candidate, the moderator shall propose the following questions to the people while they stand, an affirmative answer being given by holding up the right hand:

(1) "Do you, the members of this congregation, still profess your readiness to receive to be your pastor, according to the terms of your call?"

(2) Do you promise to receive the Word of truth from his mouth and submit to him in the exercise of his office?

(3) Do you promise to encourage and co-operate with him in his labors for the upbuilding of the Redeemer's Kingdom, and do you engage to give him a competent financial support and do whatever else you may see to be needful for his comfort and usefulness among you?"

The people having answered these questions in the affirmative, the candidate shall kneel. The moderator shall then, by prayer and the laying on of the hands of the presbytery, solemnly ordain him to the holy office of the gospel ministry. Prayer having ended, he shall rise from his knees, and the moderator first, and the other ministers in order, shall take him by the right hand, saying, "We give you the right hand of fellowship to take part in this ministry with us." The moderator shall then say:

"I now pronounce and declare that has been regularly elected, ordained, and installed pastor of this congregation, agreeably to the Word of God, and according to the constitution of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and that as such he is entitled to all support, encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord."

Appropriate charges, by members of the presbytery previously appointed, shall then be delivered to both pastor and people, wherein they shall be exhorted to persevere in the performance of their mutual duties. After prayer and praise the newly inducted pastor shall pronounce the benediction. Following this, he shall take his place in front of the pulpit, and the people shall be invited to come forward and give him their right hand in token of cordial reception and affectionate regard. His name shall then be entered on the roll of the presbytery.

149. **Ordination and Installation to Be Conjoined.** Ordinarily, when a call has been accepted, a probationer should be ordained in connection with his installation in his pastoral charge, not at an earlier time and separate service.

A presbytery may not ordain a probationer to the gospel ministry with a view to his settlement in another presbytery unless with the consent of that presbytery.

150. **Ordination Without a Pastoral Charge.** There are cases in which it is desirable and necessary that a probationer be ordained to the ministry without reference to a particular pastoral charge—as when he is appointed an evangelist, or a teacher, or a foreign missionary, or a home missionary in

frontier or destitute settlements. In such cases, so far as trials and the order of the ordination exercises are concerned, the usual steps shall be taken. Public notice of the presbytery's intention shall be given to give sufficient opportunity for objections to be presented, if there are any, to the life or doctrine of the candidate. Of the preceding questions to be used at ordination, the eighth shall be omitted, and the following substituted for it, viz:

"Do you now undertake the special work of (here name the office or work) to which you have been chosen, dedicating yourself to it without reserve, and do you promise to perform all the duties pertaining to it with faithfulness and singleness of heart, as becomes a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ?"

151. Installation of an Ordained Minister. In the case of an ordained minister installation shall be performed by the presbytery in the following manner:

A day shall be appointed for the installation, and an edict such as is provided for in section 146 shall be read to the congregation. The presbytery, having met at the time and place appointed, shall proceed as provided for in the first paragraph of section 148. The minister to be installed shall then present himself and give answer to the following questions proposed by the presiding minister:

(1) "Are you willing to take charge of this congregation according to your declaration in accepting its call?"

(2) Do you engage to be diligent in the cultivation of personal piety and to live a holy and circumspect life, so as to adorn your office and be an example to the flock?

(3) Do you promise to perform all the duties of a pastor, preaching the gospel, administering the ordinances and laws of the Church, visiting and exhorting from house to house, ministering to the sick, caring for the young, seeking to reclaim sinners and to build up the disciples of Christ in their faith and life, and doing whatever else is incumbent on you as a minister and pastor?

(4) Do you promise to submit yourself to the authority of the presbytery and the superior courts, and to represent faithfully the interests of this congregation in the presbytery?

(5) Do you make these promises agreeably to your ordination engagements, and in the presence of God, in reliance on His grace, and as you desire to give in your account with joy at the Redeemer's appearance and receive the crown of glory that fadeth not away?"

Satisfactory answers to these questions having been given, the presiding minister shall propose to the people while they stand the questions prescribed in section 148. These questions having been answered in the affirmative by holding up their right hands, he shall say:

"I now pronounce and declare that _____ has been regularly elected and installed pastor of this congregation, agreeably to the Word of God, and according to the constitution of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and that as such he is entitled to all support, encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord."

The subsequent procedure shall be the same as that provided for in section 148.

CHAPTER X

OF REMOVING A MINISTER FROM ONE CHARGE TO ANOTHER

152. Call for a Settled Minister. A call for a settled minister shall be prepared and prosecuted in the same manner as one for a probationer or for a minister without charge, but before the call is presented due notice shall be given by the presbytery to his congregation, that it may, by committee or

letter, make known its objection or its acquiescence. If the congregation fails to take action, it shall be held as consenting to the translation of its pastor. If objection is made, the presbytery shall carefully consider the same. If the presbytery is satisfied with the reasons for the proposed change, it shall present the call, and, if this be accepted, shall dissolve the existing relation and arrange for the installation in the new settlement.

When the congregation calling and the minister called belong to different presbyteries, the presbytery which has sustained the call shall transmit it, duly certified, to the presbytery of which the minister is a member, and authorize the congregation to prosecute its call before that presbytery by committee or letter. If the call is presented and accepted, the presbytery having jurisdiction over the minister called shall dissolve the existing pastoral relation and give the departing minister proper testimonials. On the receipt of such testimonials the presbytery in charge of the congregation making the call shall enroll the pastor-elect and give order for his installation.

153. Translation by Act of Presbytery. A pastor may, for sufficient reason, be removed from one pastoral charge to another, or to a mission, but not without his consent and the consent of the charge to which he is transferred. Such translation should always be made with great caution and careful reference to the interests of the whole Church. The reason for the translation shall be entered on the minutes of the presbytery, and a copy shall be sent to the congregation from which the pastor has been removed, for entry on its records.

154. When a Minister Is Called to Other Work. A minister who is a pastor may be elected or appointed by the presbytery or the higher courts of the Church to some special office of work. On his acceptance of the office or appointment he shall give notice to his congregation, and the presbytery may then, if necessary, dissolve the pastoral relation without further notice to the congregation.

CHAPTER XI

OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE PASTORAL RELATION

155. Authority of Presbytery Necessary. As the authority of the presbytery is necessary to the formation of the pastoral relation, so it shall be to its dissolution. This authority may be exercised on the petition of the pastor or the people, or on the judgment of the presbytery, without petition.

156. Dissolution on Petition. When application for the dissolution of the pastoral relation is made by the pastor or the people, or by both unitedly, it shall in all cases be accompanied with a statement of the reasons for which it is asked. Whether the application is made by the pastor or the people, the other party shall be given due notice and an opportunity to be heard before the presbytery. If due notice of such intention has already been given by the pastor prior to the meeting of the presbytery at which his application is presented, the presbytery may proceed without further delay. The dissolution of the relation shall not be made without serious deliberation.

157. Dissolution Without Petition. When in the judgment of the presbytery the continuance of a pastoral relation is not for the edification of the congregation, it may, without petition, take steps towards the dissolution thereof. Ordinarily, final action should not be taken at the meeting at which the proposition is made, and in no case may it be taken without both parties having been duly notified and opportunity given to be heard. The reasons for the action shall be entered on the minutes of the presbytery.

158. Procedure Attendant Upon Dissolution. When the pastoral relation has been dissolved, official notice shall be given the congregation and the pulpit

declared vacant by a minister designated by the presbytery. The presbytery shall appoint a moderator of the session until a new pastor is installed.

159. **A Pastor Emeritus.** When a pastor resigns his charge on account of age or physical infirmity, the congregation, out of affectionate regard for him, may, at a meeting regularly called, elect him to continue as pastor emeritus, subject to the approval of the presbytery. The relation shall be entirely honorary, without pastoral authority or duty.

CHAPTER XII

OF THE DISMISSION OF MINISTERS

160. **Testimonials.** A minister in good standing who desires to remove from his presbytery is entitled to a certificate of standing and dismission. This certificate shall be issued on the order of the presbytery, and shall be signed by the moderator and the clerk.

If a minister has been absent from his presbytery for one year or more, and beyond its knowledge, he shall give a satisfactory account of himself before a certificate is granted.

If a presbytery becomes extinct, the synod with which it was connected shall have jurisdiction over its ministers and give them testimonials of standing.

161. **Limitation of Time.** A certificate of standing and dismission shall be considered valid for one year only from its date.

CHAPTER XIII

OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF MINISTERIAL ORDINATION

162. **By the Action of the Presbytery.** It is possible that a minister may have erred in the judgment that he was called of God to the office which he occupies, and that the presbytery likewise may have erred in his ordination. When such a mistake becomes apparent, the presbytery having jurisdiction may, after due hearing, revoke the ordination of the minister, leaving him a private member in the Church. His name shall then be removed from the roll of the presbytery, and he shall be given a letter to any congregation with which he may desire to connect himself. This grave action shall be taken only after the most mature deliberation.

163. **On the Motion of the Minister Himself.** If a minister in good standing shall make application to be released from the office of the ministry, his application shall be held under advisement for a sufficient length of time to ascertain his motives and reasons for asking such release. When the presbytery is satisfied that his application is justifiable, and that he cannot be useful in the exercise of the ministry, it may release him from his ordination vows and remove his name from its roll. He should then be given a letter to any congregation with which he may desire to connect himself.

There may be cases where such an application is made by a minister whose previous character and record show that he has been called to the ministry by the will of God, but who, through neglect to cultivate his talents, or by yielding to worldliness, has grown weary of his office. It is the duty of the presbytery under such circumstances to endeavor to reclaim the minister to the path of duty, or, failing in that, to inflict upon him the censures of the Church.

CHAPTER XIV

OF THE ADMISSION OF MINISTERS AND PROBATIONERS FROM OTHER CHURCHES

164. **From Churches Holding the Same Doctrine and Order.** Any minister or probationer belonging to a Church which holds the same doctrine,

government, and discipline as the United Presbyterian Church may be received by a presbytery on presenting proper presbyterial certificate of standing and dismissal.

165. **From Evangelical Churches Differing in Doctrine or Order.** In cases where the Church from which the applicant comes is an evangelical Church, but one differing from the United Presbyterian Church in doctrine or in usage, the applicant shall present documentary evidence of his good standing in that Church, shall give the presbytery his reasons for seeking admission to the United Presbyterian Church, and shall declare himself as to his acceptance of its principles. It shall be discretionary with the presbytery to examine him touching his Christian character, his literary attainments, his qualifications for the ministry, and other particulars. If the presbytery is satisfied, it shall receive him on his answering satisfactorily the following questions: if a minister, questions 1, 2, 3, and 6 in section 148; if a probationer, all the questions in section 130.

166. **From Non-Evangelical Churches.** In cases where the Church from which the applicant comes is a non-evangelical Church, he shall not only satisfy the requirements of the foregoing section, but shall be subjected to a probation of not less than six months. If in ministerial station, and seeking recognition as a minister, he shall be ordained, his former ordination being deemed invalid.

CHAPTER XV

OF EVANGELISTS

167. **Ministerial Evangelists.** There are cases in which it is desirable and necessary that a probationer be ordained to the gospel ministry as an evangelist, who shall have no pastoral charge, but who shall preach the gospel with special reference to the awakening of the Church and the conversion of sinners. In such cases question eight (8) in the formula of ordination shall be omitted and the special question found in section 150 used instead. A minister thus ordained as an evangelist shall be competent to become a regular pastor whenever, in the judgment of his presbytery, he has been called of the Lord to that new service.

No minister shall undertake the work of an evangelist until he has secured definite authorization therefor from his presbytery. This authorization may be withdrawn at any time at the discretion of the presbytery.

Every ministerial evangelist is responsible to his presbytery. If he is called to assist a pastor in special meetings, he shall be subject to the direction of that pastor; if he is called to labor in vacant congregations, he shall be under the immediate control of the presbytery in charge; if he takes up work beyond the bounds of any presbytery, he shall be under the control of the court which assigned him his duties.

168. **Evangelists Who Are Not Ministers.** After careful examination as to personal piety, well-balanced judgment, soundness in the faith, knowledge of the Scriptures, and ability to teach the gospel publicly, it shall be lawful for a presbytery to authorize any member of the Church to serve as an evangelist who is ready to perform such service under the direction of presbytery.

Such evangelists shall not undertake any of the distinctive duties of the ministry. Their authorization shall require annual renewal, and may be withdrawn at any time. They shall report their faithfulness at least twice every year to their respective presbyteries.

169. **Responsibility of Congregations.** Congregations shall not employ evangelists who do not have definite presbyterial endorsement for such service, or an equivalent endorsement from the evangelical bodies to which they belong.

CHAPTER XVI

OF THE ELECTION OF RULING ELDERS

170. **When an Election May Be Held.** An election of ruling elders shall be held when the session decides that this is necessary, or when a majority of the congregation petitions, or at the expiration of appointed terms of office, or when the presbytery so directs.

171. **Previous Notice.** When an election of ruling elders is to be held, ten days' notice shall be given to the congregation.

172. **Officers of the Meeting.** At the election of ruling elders the moderator and clerk of the session shall be the officers of the meeting of the congregation. When there is no pastor the moderator appointed by the presbytery shall preside.

173. **Voters.** In such election none shall be entitled to vote but members of the congregation who are in full communion. No votes by proxy shall be allowed.

174. **Manner of Election.** On the day appointed for the election, after public worship, the moderator of the session shall state the object of the meeting. He shall then offer prayer for Divine direction, and shall proceed to call for nominations. Nominations may be made by the session, by any member of the congregation, or by an informal ballot. The voting need not be restricted to the nominees.

The names of the nominees having been distinctly announced, the vote shall be taken by ballot. No person shall be considered elected who has not a majority of the whole number of votes cast. The result of the election shall be publicly announced and duly recorded in the minutes of the congregational meeting and the minutes of the session.

175. **Term of Office.** Ruling elders continue ruling elders for life, unless deposed in process of discipline. As regards the exercise of their office in any particular congregation, they may be elected either for life or for a limited term as hereinafter provided.

If any congregation in which hitherto the term of office for the eldership has been for life desires that the ruling elders now in office and any to be elected shall in the future serve for a limited term as members of the session, this shall be decided upon, at a meeting regularly called, by a majority of the votes of members present who are in full communion, provided (a) that the term of office is not less than four years, and does not expire for all the members of the session at the same time, and (b) that ruling elders whose term expires shall be eligible to re-election. This congregational action shall become operative upon the approval of the presbytery. Ruling elders in office when the change is decided upon shall resign, in order that all may be elected upon the same basis, though these resignations shall not become operative until the newly elected elders have been ordained and installed.

The same procedure and conditions as above shall hold in the case of newly organized congregations where it is desired that the ruling elders shall serve for a limited term.

So, likewise, when it is proposed that a congregation shall change its procedure in regard to the eldership from a limited term of active service to a life term, this shall be decided at a congregational meeting, as above, subject to the approval of the presbytery.

CHAPTER XVII

OF THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS

176. **Examination.** At an early date after the election the session shall meet with the elders-elect and inquire as to their acceptance of office. If they express their willingness to accept, the session shall proceed to examine them

in regard to their Christian character, their acquaintance with Divine truth, their knowledge of, and adherence to, the doctrines, government, and discipline of the United Presbyterian Church, and their adaptation to the duties of the eldership. If not approved on examination, their election shall be set aside.

177. **Edict.** The persons elected having been approved by the session, and a day for their ordination and installation having been appointed, the session shall cause an edict to be read to the congregation at least ten days before the day of installation, to the effect that the session will proceed with their ordination and installation at the time appointed, if no valid objection shall be given in by a specified time.

178. **Objections.** If objections are presented, the session shall either sustain or overrule them, as its wisdom may direct. Should they be sustained, the election of such person or persons shall be set aside.

179. **Ordination and Installation Service.** In connection with a devotional service the moderator of the session shall preach a sermon adapted to the occasion. He shall then briefly narrate the previous proceedings, and shall endeavor to impress all present with a proper sense of the solemnity of the ordination act.

The elders-elect shall then present themselves and give answer to the following questions proposed by the moderator:

(1) "Do you believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?"

(2) Do you believe and acknowledge the doctrines professed by the United Presbyterian Church, contained in the Confession of Faith, the Larger and the Shorter Catechisms, and the Confessional Statement, as agreeable to, and founded on, the Word of God?

(3) Do you approve the form of church government and the system of worship set forth in the Book of Government and Worship of this Church as agreeable to, and founded on, the Word of God?

(4) Do you promise to be faithful in maintaining the truths of the Holy Scriptures and the ordinances of the Church of God, and to be diligent in the cultivation of personal piety, endeavoring to adorn your profession by a course of life becoming the gospel and the office to which you have been called?

(5) Do you promise to cultivate the spirit of brotherly love and submission to the authority of the Church and to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace?

(6) Are a conviction of duty, love for God, and a desire to promote His glory and to be useful in edifying the Church of the Lord Jesus the motives which govern you in accepting the office to which you have been called?

(7) Do you now accept the call to the office of ruling elder in this congregation?

(8) Do you promise to be diligent in the discharge of the duties of the office, having an oversight of the flock, helping the weak, visiting the sick, caring for the children and youth, seeking to reclaim the erring, and taking an active part in all the work of the congregation?

(9) Do you promise to be faithful and impartial in the exercise of discipline, and to be punctual in attending the meetings of the session and the superior courts as you may be required?

(10) And these things you profess and promise through grace, as you would give in your account with joy at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints, and have an entrance ministered to you abundantly into His everlasting Kingdom?"

Satisfactory answers to the foregoing questions having been given by the elders-elect, the moderator shall propose the following questions to the people while they stand, an affirmative answer being given by holding up the right hand:

(1) "Do you, the members of this congregation, acknowledge and receive these brethren as ruling elders?"

(2) Do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which their office, according to the Word of God, and the constitution of this Church, entitles them?"

The people having answered these questions in the affirmative, the elders-elect shall kneel. The moderator shall then, by prayer and the laying on of the hands of the session, solemnly ordain them to the office of ruling elder. Prayer having ended, those ordained shall rise from their knees, and the moderator first, and the other members of the session in order, shall take them by the right hand, saying, "We give you the right hand of fellowship, to take part in this office with us." The moderator shall then say:

"I now pronounce and declare that have been regularly elected, ordained, and installed ruling elders in this congregation, agreeably to the Word of God, and according to the constitution of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and that as such they are entitled to all encouragement, honor, and obedience in the Lord."

He shall then address an appropriate charge to the newly installed elders and the people, wherein they shall be exhorted to persevere in the performance of their mutual duties. After prayer and praise, the service shall close with the benediction.

180. Record of Proceedings and Enrollment. A record of the ordination and installation shall be inserted in the minutes of the session, and the names of the newly ordained and installed elders shall be added to its roll. Every ordination of ruling elders shall be reported to the presbytery at its next stated meeting.

181. Ordination Not to Be Repeated. A ruling elder removing from his own congregation into another, or returning to a congregation after having been dismissed by certificate, or whose term of official duty has expired, shall, if elected again by the congregation, be installed without a new ordination.

182. Installation of an Ordained Ruling Elder. In the case of an ordained ruling elder installation shall proceed as in sections 176, 177, 178 and 179, excepting the ordination act. The same questions as above shall be asked the elder-elect and the people respectively. The record, enrollment, and report to presbytery shall be the same as in section 180.

CHAPTER XVIII

OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE OFFICIAL RELATION OF RULING ELDERS

183. By the Expiration of Term of Office. When a ruling elder holds his membership in the session for a specified term, the expiration of that term shall dissolve his official relation to the congregation, excepting that this relation shall continue until his successor has been duly installed. When a ruling elder, serving for a specified term, succeeds himself without interval, he shall continue the exercise of his office without installation.

184. By Removal. The removal of a ruling elder from a congregation, on certificate or otherwise, shall dissolve his official relation to the congregation, and the session shall make record of the fact.

185. By the Session or Presbytery. The session may dissolve the relation between a ruling elder and a congregation upon the petition of the congregation, or upon its own judgment that the continuance of the relation is not for the edification of the congregation; but such action shall not be taken without due notice to the parties and an opportunity being given to appear and be heard. In such cases the session should act with great deliberation and under a sense of the responsibility involved. Of such action and the reasons therefor report shall be made to the presbytery.

The presbytery, also, as the superior court, and as having the oversight of congregations, may, after due hearing, dissolve the relation between a ruling elder and a congregation when in its judgment such action is necessary for the spiritual welfare and prosperity of the congregation. But such action shall not be taken without due notice to the parties, and an opportunity shall be given to appear and be heard.

186. **By Resignation.** When a ruling elder desires to resign his office, such resignation shall be presented to the session. But no such resignation shall be acted upon until the congregation has been duly notified and given opportunity of making known its objection or its acquiescence.

CHAPTER XIX

OF THE ELECTION OF DEACONS

187. **When an Election May Be Held.** The governing regulations shall be the same as in the case of ruling elders. See section 170.

188. **Previous Notice.** This shall be the same as in the election of ruling elders. See section 171.

189. **Officers of the Meeting.** These shall be the same as in the election of ruling elders. See section 172.

190. **Voters.** The requirement shall be as in section 173.

191. **Manner of Election.** The procedure shall be the same as in section 174, except, first, that the session shall not have the right of nomination, and, second, that the result of the election shall be recorded in the minutes of the board of deacons as well as in the minutes of the session.

192. **Term of Office.** Deacons shall be elected to serve for three years, and shall not be eligible for re-election until one year after the expiration of their term of office.

At the introduction of the diaconate into a congregation one-third of the whole number of deacons shall be elected to serve one year, one-third two years, and one-third three years. Thereafter one-third of the whole number shall be elected annually for the full term.

CHAPTER XX

OF THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF DEACONS

193. **Examination.** At an early date after the election the session shall meet with the deacons-elect and inquire as to their acceptance of office. If they express their willingness to accept, the session shall proceed to examine them as to their Christian character, their adaptation to the duties of the diaconate, their approval of the presbyterian form of church government, and their devotion to the interests of the United Presbyterian Church.

194. **Edict.** The procedure shall be the same as in section 177.

195. **Objections.** The procedure shall be the same as in section 178.

196. **Ordination and Installation Service.** In connection with a devotional service the moderator of the session shall preach a sermon adapted to the occasion. He shall then briefly narrate the previous proceedings, and shall endeavor to impress all present with a proper sense of the solemnity of the ordination act.

The deacons-elect shall then present themselves and give answer to the following questions proposed by the moderator:

(1) "Do you believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of the living God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?"

(2) Do you approve the form of church government set forth in the Book of Government and Worship of this Church as agreeable to, and founded on, the Word of God?

(3) Are a conviction of duty, love for God, and a desire to promote His glory and to be useful in edifying the Church of the Lord Jesus the motives which govern you in accepting the office to which you have been called?

(4) Do you now accept the office of deacon in this congregation, and do you promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof, subject to the advice and direction of the session?

(5) Do you promise to study the peace, unity, and purity of the Church?

(6) And these things you profess and promise through grace, as you would give in your account with joy at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints, and have an entrance ministered to you abundantly into His everlasting Kingdom?"

The deacons-elect having answered these questions in the affirmative, the moderator shall propose the following questions to the people while they stand, an affirmative answer being given by holding up the right hand:

(1) "Do you, the members of this congregation, acknowledge and receive as deacons these whom you have elected to that office?"

(2) Do you promise to yield them all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which their office, according to the Word of God and the constitution of this Church, entitles them?"

The people having answered these questions in the affirmative, the deacons-elect shall kneel. The moderator shall then, by prayer and the laying on of the hands of the session, solemnly ordain them to the office of deacon. Prayer having ended, the newly ordained deacons shall rise from their knees, and the moderator, the members of the session, and the members of the board of deacons shall take them by the right hand, saying, "We give you the right hand of fellowship, to take part in the Lord's work with us." The moderator shall then say, "I now pronounce and declare that . . . have been regularly elected, ordained, and installed deacons in this congregation, agreeably to the Word of God, and according to the constitution of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and that as such they are entitled to all honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord." The service shall then proceed as in section 179.

197. Record of Proceedings and Enrollment. A record of the ordination and installation shall be inserted in the minutes of the session and of the board of deacons, and the names of the newly ordained and installed deacons shall be added to the roll of the board of deacons.

198. Ordination Not to Be Repeated. The same rule shall hold as in the case of ruling elders. See section 181.

199. Installation of an Ordained Deacon. In the case of an ordained deacon installation shall proceed as in sections 193, 194, 195 and 196, excepting the ordination act. The same questions as above shall be asked the deacon-elect and the people respectively. The record and enrollment shall be the same as in section 197.

CHAPTER XXI

OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE OFFICIAL RELATION OF DEACONS

200. By the Expiration of Term of Office. The expiration of the term of office shall dissolve the official relation of deacons to the congregation.

201. By Removal. The removal of deacons from a congregation, on certificate or otherwise, shall dissolve their official relation to the congregation, and the session and the board of deacons shall make record of the fact.

202. By the Session. The session may dissolve the relation between a deacon and a congregation, upon the petition of the congregation, or upon its own judgment that the continuance of the relation is not for the edification of the congregation; but such action shall not be taken without due notice to the

parties and an opportunity being given to appear and be heard. In such cases the session should act with great deliberation and under a sense of the responsibility involved.

203. **By Resignation.** The procedure shall be the same as in the case of the ruling elder. See section 186.

CHAPTER XXII

OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

204. **Notice of Meetings.** Notice of all congregational meetings shall be given from the pulpit on the two Sabbaths preceding the meeting. If Sabbath services are not held weekly, but at longer intervals, notice of a congregational meeting shall be given from the pulpit on a Sabbath at least ten days before the meeting.

205. **Limitation of Business.** The purpose or purposes of the meeting shall be distinctly stated in the notice. No business other than that announced shall be transacted at any meeting except stated meetings.

206. **Quorum.** If the membership of a congregation numbers one hundred or less, one-sixth of the members shall be required as a quorum for the transaction of business. If the membership is more than one hundred, one-tenth shall be sufficient.

207. Meetings for Ecclesiastical Purposes.

(1) All matters other than those which concern the ordinary financial affairs of the congregation shall be dealt with at meetings held for ecclesiastical purposes.

(2) Such meetings shall be called by the session. The moderator shall preside and the clerk of the session shall act as secretary. In the absence of the moderator any member of the session may be called to preside.

(3) Correct minutes of the proceedings shall be kept and shall become part of the records of the congregation and of the records of the session.

(4) Any member present at such a congregational meeting may dissent from any part of the proceedings. His dissent shall be entered on the record, and he shall have the right to bring the matter dissented from under the review of presbytery by a complaint transmitted through the session.

(5) The presbytery or other superior court may, when it sees cause, summon a meeting of the congregation by giving notice as above. It shall appoint one of its own members to preside.

208. **Meetings for Business Purposes.** When a congregation is incorporated, which ordinarily should be the case, its meetings must be held and its business transacted according to the provision of its charter and by-laws. Care, therefore, should be taken that these shall be so framed as not to conflict with the powers and duties belonging to the session or the board of deacons, if such board exists.

When a congregation is not incorporated it shall hold such meetings for business purposes, under the supervision of the session, as its interests may require. It shall choose its own chairman and secretary, and be governed by its own by-laws.

PART III

DISCIPLINE

CHAPTER I

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

209. **Definition.** Discipline is the exercise of that authority and the application of that system of laws which the Lord Jesus Christ has given to His Church for the edification of its members and for its work in the world. In general it embraces the instruction, training, and control of the members and their children for their growth in grace, and the orderly exercise of authority by the officers and courts for the maintenance of the truth and the promotion of the spiritual life of the Church.

210. **How Exercised.** This discipline is exercised by general pastoral oversight and through established courts. When exercised by the courts it is either administrative or judicial.

211. **Administrative Discipline.** Administrative discipline has to do with the courts of the Church, and has for its object the preservation of the order of the Church and the proper exercise of its authority, the protection of the rights of members, officers, congregations, and courts of the Church, and, in general, the maintenance of the purity, growth, and spiritual influence of the Church.

212. **Judicial Discipline.** Judicial discipline relates to persons charged with offense. It is the exercise of that authority which the Lord Jesus has vested in His Church to deal with offenses against truth and righteousness or the peace and good order of the Church. Discipline is hereafter used in this book in the more limited sense of administrative and judicial discipline.

213. **Necessity and Objects.** Discipline in this limited sense is necessary because of the imperfection of the members and officers of the Church, and their liability to depart from the truth and fall into sin, and the possibility that the constituted courts may err in judgment and violate established rules of procedure. Its object is to vindicate the honor and authority of Jesus Christ and advance the glory of God by removing offenses, reclaiming the erring, and advancing the purity and peace of the Church.

214. **Grounds of Discipline.** Anything in the avowed belief or the life of a minister or member of the Church, or in the proceedings and judgments of a court, which is contrary to the Word of God and to the doctrines and regulations of the Church is a ground of discipline.

CHAPTER II

OF OFFENSES

215. **Different Kinds.** Offenses which call for judicial proceedings are either personal or general, either private or public, and the procedure will vary accordingly. Some offenses, from their nature and circumstances, are vital in their relation to religion and morality, and should be treated decisively. Others may arise from the weakness of the human understanding, or from personal infirmities, and should be handled accordingly.

216. **Definitions.** A personal offense is an injury done to a person or persons. A general offense is any heresy or immorality having no personal

relation. Private offenses are such as are known only to a few persons. Public offenses are such as are notorious.

CHAPTER III

OF JURISDICTION

217. **Original Jurisdiction.** The several courts exercise original jurisdiction within their respective spheres, but in the case of the failure of a lower court to exercise proper discipline, or of its inability from any cause to take action, the superior court shall correct the failure by giving instructions to the lower court, or by taking up the case for adjudication.

Original jurisdiction in relation to ministers belongs to the presbytery, and in relation to members, including elders and deacons, to the session.

218. **Dismissed Members.** A member dismissed from the congregation shall be considered under its jurisdiction until actually received by another.

219. **Dismissed Ministers.** A minister, in like manner, shall be considered as under the jurisdiction of the presbytery by which he has been dismissed until he has been received by another.

220. **When a Congregation Becomes Extinct.** If a congregation becomes extinct, the presbytery with which it was connected shall determine any case of discipline begun by the session and not concluded.

221. **When a Presbytery Becomes Extinct.** If a presbytery becomes extinct, the synod with which it was connected shall determine any case of discipline begun by the presbytery and not concluded.

CHAPTER IV

OF WHEN PROCESS MAY BE COMMENCED

222. **Preventive Measures.** Before issuing formal process in any case the court shall seek by private conference with the accused to avoid, if possible, the necessity of judicial proceedings. Only when such a course proves ineffectual shall process issue.

223. **Basis of Process.** Process against one accused may be commenced only when a responsible person presents a charge or the court is convinced after careful investigation that the interests of religion require judicial proceedings.

When an offense has been committed under such circumstances that it is impossible for the offender to be prosecuted to conviction, process should not be commenced.

224. **Personal Offenses.** In all cases of personal offenses the injured party, whether the offense be public or private, must use the means prescribed by our Lord in Matthew 18:15, 16 for effecting a reconciliation before he can be admitted as an accuser. If, however, the nature and circumstances of the offense are such that the interests of religion require a judicial investigation, the settlement of the matter between the parties shall not preclude a church court from investigating it.

225. **General Offenses.** General offenses may be brought before a court by a formal charge, by written information, or by common fame.

226. **Prosecution on Common Fame.** Great prudence should be exercised by the court in taking up a charge on the ground of common fame. Ordinarily a committee of inquiry should be appointed to ascertain whether the charge is such as calls for judicial proceedings, and whether it is so widely spread and accompanied with such a presumption of truth as to be injurious to the interests of religion.

A person who may consider himself injured by a rumor, more or less current, may request a judicial investigation for his own vindication, and the court shall exercise its discretion in granting the request.

227. **Time Limit.** Prosecution for an alleged offense shall commence within one year from the time of its alleged commission. But where the offense has not become known until after the expiration of the year, or has not become known a sufficient length of time prior to the expiration of the year to permit of proceedings being begun within the year, process may issue at any time within three months from the time the alleged offense became known.

228. **But One Trial for the Same Offense.** A person who has been tried and acquitted, or convicted, cannot be subjected to another trial for the same offense.

CHAPTER V

OF THE PARTIES IN CASES OF PROCESS

229. **Prosecution on Information or Common Fame.** In cases of process on the ground of common fame, or by written information, where the informer refuses to appear, the court shall appoint one or more persons under its jurisdiction to conduct the prosecution. The person, or persons, thus appointed shall represent and act in the name of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

230. **Original Parties.** The original and only parties to a trial are the accuser and the accused. In cases where the court appoints the prosecutor he shall exercise all the rights of an original party.

These parties shall be known in the appellate courts as appellant and appellee.

In administrative cases, where the final decision of a court is made the basis of an appeal, complaint, or reference, the court becomes an original party, and shall appoint one or more of its members, or other persons under its jurisdiction, to act in its name, and it shall not otherwise appear in the superior courts.

231. **Responsibility of an Accuser.** If in the trial of a case it shall appear that the accuser has presented his charge in a litigious spirit, or without reasonable grounds for belief that the charge was true, he shall be liable to censure.

CHAPTER VI

OF THE ISSUING OF PROCESS

232. **Form of Charge.** Every charge must be presented in writing, and must contain a definite statement of the offense, and, as far as practicable, a specification of the time, place, and circumstances of its commission. It shall also be accompanied with the names of the persons who may be called as witnesses and the titles of the records and documents that may be offered.

233. **When More Than One Charge.** If several charges against a person are presented at the same time, the court may, at its discretion, try all together, but in giving judgment the vote shall be taken on each separately.

234. **Charge Presented and Citations Issued.** When all other means of removing an offense have failed, the court shall take up the charge for judicial consideration.

At the meeting of the court when a formal charge is presented, no other proceedings shall be had, unless by consent of the parties, than to furnish the accused with a copy of the charge, the names of all the witnesses then known, and the titles of the records and documents that may be offered, and to cite all concerned to appear at a subsequent meeting to be held not less than ten days after the service of the citations.

The citation shall be signed in the name of the court by the moderator or clerk, who shall also issue citations to such witnesses as either party may

desire. Citations shall be issued only to members of the Church; other persons can only be requested to attend. The accused shall not be required to disclose the names of his witnesses.

235. Service of Citations. Citations shall be served personally, unless the person to be cited cannot be found, in which case the citation shall be left at his residence. Before proceeding to trial it must appear that the citations have been served.

If the accused party is absent when the charge is received, and trial appointed, the citation shall be accompanied with notification of time and place of trial. In addition, a copy of the charge, a list of witnesses, and the titles of the records and documents that may be offered shall be put into his hands, or left at his residence, by some suitable person appointed for the purpose.

236. Second Citation. If an accused person or a witness who is a member of the Church fails to obey a citation, a second shall be issued, with a notice that if he does not appear he will be censured for his contumacy. If the accused does not then appear, the court may proceed to trial and judgment, in which case it shall appoint someone to represent him as counsel. The time allowed for appearance on a second citation shall be determined by the court, with due regard to the circumstances of the case.

CHAPTER VII

OF THE TRIAL IN GENERAL

237. Charge of the Moderator. When the trial is about to begin, the moderator shall remind the members of the court of the solemn duty in which they are about to engage and their responsibility as judges of a court of the Lord Jesus, and enjoin them to dismiss from their minds all prejudice and personal considerations.

238. Objections and Pleas. At the time appointed for hearing the case the accused may file objections and be heard on the regularity of the proceedings, on the jurisdiction of the court, on the right of any member to sit in the trial of the case, or on the sufficiency of the charge, to wit, that the charge, if proved, is not censurable. The court shall pass upon the objections, and may dismiss the case or permit amendments to the charge without change in its general nature. If the proceedings are found regular and the charge sufficient, the accused shall be called upon to plead "guilty" or "not guilty." If the plea be "guilty" the court shall proceed to judgment; but if the plea be "not guilty" the court shall proceed with the trial. If the accused decline to answer, a plea of "not guilty" shall be entered of record and the trial shall proceed.

239. Presenting Evidence. Each party shall have the right to cross-examine the witnesses of the other side. The witnesses shall be examined in presence of the accused, except in cases where the accused fails to appear after due citation.

When all the evidence has been taken in confirmation of the charge, the accused shall introduce whatever evidence he has to offer, after which the prosecutor shall have the opportunity to offer evidence in rebuttal. Evidence discovered during the trial may be admitted in behalf of either party under such restrictions as the court may deem just.

240. Arguments Heard and Judgment Given. When the testimony is closed, the accused shall be heard first, and then the prosecutor. The court shall decide whether either party shall have an opportunity of being further heard in argument. The parties, their counsel, and all other persons not members of the body being removed, the court shall proceed to examine and weigh the evidence and give judgment accordingly.

241. **Burden of Proof.** It shall rest upon the prosecutor to establish the charge beyond a reasonable doubt.

242. **Who May Vote.** No member of the court shall be qualified to vote upon any question arising out of the evidence or upon the final judgment who has not been present during the whole of the trial. A record of the attendance of the members of the court shall be kept for the enforcement of this rule.

243. **Records and Copies.** The charge and specifications, the plea and the judgment, shall be entered on the records of the court. The record shall also contain the evidence, the exceptions taken, the decisions and orders of the court relating to the case, with the reasons therefor and all the circumstances which had an influence on the judgment. In the case of the removal of a cause to a higher court, the lower court shall send up a complete authenticated copy of the whole record, and nothing shall be taken into consideration in the higher court which is not contained in the record.

The parties shall be allowed copies of the whole proceedings at their own expense.

244. **Counsel.** Each of the parties in proceedings in any court shall be entitled to appear and be represented by counsel. No person shall be permitted to act as counsel who is not a member of the Church and subject to the jurisdiction of the court before which he appears, and no person having acted as counsel shall be allowed to sit in judgment on the case.

245. **Questions and Exceptions.** All questions as to order or evidence, or otherwise, arising in the course of a trial shall be decided by the moderator after the parties have been heard, subject to an appeal to the court, to be determined without debate. All such decisions shall be entered upon the record of the case. Except in the court of final jurisdiction, exceptions to the rulings of the court may be taken and shall be entered on the record.

When an exception is taken to the ruling of the court because of its refusal to admit certain evidence, an offer of what is proposed to be proved shall be made, and the offer, the objections to the admissibility of the facts contained in the offer, and the decision of the court shall be fully entered on the record.

246. **Private Sessions.** In all cases of judicial proceedings the court may, at any stage thereof, determine to sit with closed doors.

247. **An Offense Not Charged, But Proved.** If the testimony taken during the trial proves a sin properly denominated by another name than that designated in the charge, while the specific charge must be found not proved, the accused may be found guilty of that which appears in proof; but sentence shall not be passed until further time shall be given him for defense, if he demands it and justice requires it.

248. **Temporary Suspension.** When deemed necessary, the court may withhold the privileges of the Church from the accused until the case shall be tried, provided there is no unreasonable delay in the prosecution.

CHAPTER VIII

OF PROCESS AGAINST MINISTERS

249. **Necessity of Faithfulness.** As the honor and success of the gospel depend in great measure on the character of its ministers, presbytery ought not on account of their office to screen them from justice or deal lightly with their offenses. On the other hand, charges against them should not be received on slight grounds.

250. **Process Commenced.** Process against a minister shall be entered before the presbytery to which he belongs, and the rules of procedure laid down in chapters VI and VII shall be observed.

251. **Offense Committed Beyond His Own Presbytery.** If a minister is charged with an offense committed outside the bounds of his own presbytery,

his presbytery shall send a copy of the charge to the presbytery within whose bounds the offense is said to have been committed, and request it either to cite the witnesses to appear at the place of trial, if within convenient distance, or to examine the witnesses and transmit an authenticated record of the testimony, always giving due notice to the accused person of the time and place of such examination.

252. Offenses Unknown to His Presbytery. When a minister is accused of an offense committed at such a distance from his presbytery that it is not likely to become known to that presbytery, it shall be the duty of the presbytery within whose bounds the alleged offense was committed, after being satisfied that there is sufficient ground for accusation, to send notice thereof to the former, which shall proceed against him, and shall either request the latter to take the testimony, as provided for in the preceding section, or shall send a commissioner or commissioners for this purpose. In either case due notice must be given to the accused party.

253. Contumacy. A minister who has been accused of an offense, having been twice duly cited and refusing to appear, shall be immediately suspended from the exercise of his office.

254. Rights of an Accused Minister. A minister under process shall retain unimpaired his right to deliberate and vote in other matters, unless the offense charged is of such a nature that the presbytery considers it necessary to suspend him from the exercise of his ministry until the charge is investigated.

255. Charges Against a Probationer. In case of a charge of heresy, or of conduct unbecoming a minister, the presbytery shall make a careful investigation. If the charge is sustained, the presbytery shall take such steps for the removal of the offense as may be found prudent. If the offense is not removed, his license shall be withdrawn. If the charge is of a personal offense, or of immorality, the session of the congregation to which he belongs shall adjudicate the case without delay.

CHAPTER IX

OF CHALLENGING MEMBERS OF A COURT

256. Grounds of Challenge. No member of a court shall take part in the trial of a case who is personally interested in the issue thereof, or who is closely related to either party, or who has been active for or against either party in the matter embraced in the charge, or who is at personal variance with either party, or who has prejudged the case. Any member so disqualified may be challenged by either party, and the question thus raised shall be determined by the remaining qualified members.

257. Want of a Qualified Quorum. Should it appear that so many members of the court are thus disqualified to try the case as to leave less than a quorum, the court shall adjourn until a qualified quorum can be obtained, and if it is found that a qualified quorum of said court cannot be obtained, the case shall be certified for trial to the next higher court, which shall then adjudicate the case.

CHAPTER X

OF EXCEPTIONAL CASES

258. Judgment Without Process. There are cases in which the guilt of an individual is manifest, the offense being committed in the presence of the court, or in which a trial is rendered unnecessary by the confession of the party. In such cases judgment may be given without process, but the record must show the nature of the offense, together with the judgment and the reasons therefor, and an appeal may be taken from the judgment as in other cases.

259. **Appeal.** If an appeal be taken, the court becomes an original party, and shall appoint one or more of its members, or other persons under its jurisdiction, to defend its action in the superior court.

260. **Withdrawal from the Jurisdiction of the Court.** If a minister or member under process withdraw from the jurisdiction of the court in an irregular manner, on proper evidence thereof the court may erase his name from the roll.

CHAPTER XI

OF EVIDENCE

261. **Admissibility.** Evidence to be admissible must be competent and logically relevant to the charge at issue. What a witness has heard is not to be received as evidence except statements made by the accused or by some one in the presence and hearing of the accused.

262. **Kinds of Evidence.** Evidence may be direct or circumstantial. Great caution is always to be exercised by the court in admitting circumstantial evidence, especially in the absence of the positive testimony of at least one credible witness.

263. **Proof of Charge.** A charge may be established by oral testimony, by matters of record, or by other documents duly proved. When the proof of a charge depends entirely upon the testimony of witnesses, two credible witnesses shall be required to establish it, or one credible witness accompanied with proof of corroborating circumstances equal to a second witness.

264. **Competency of Witnesses.** All persons, including the parties, are competent witnesses except such as do not believe in the existence of God and His dispensation of future rewards and punishments, and such as have not sufficient intelligence to understand the obligation of an oath.

A husband or wife shall be a competent witness for or against the other, but shall not be compelled to testify.

265. **Credibility of Witnesses.** The credibility of a witness may be affected by the relationship to either of the parties, by interest in the result, by want of proper age, by weakness of understanding, by infamy of character, by enmity to the accused, by being under censure, by general rashness, indiscretion, or malignity of character, and by various other circumstances to which courts should carefully attend, and for which they should make due allowance in their decision.

266. **Right of Challenge.** Either party may challenge a witness on the ground of incompetency, and the court shall decide the question.

267. **Witnesses to Be Sworn.** All witnesses shall be sworn in the following form: "Do you solemnly swear in the presence of the omniscient and heart-searching God that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the matter in which you are called to testify, as you shall answer to the Great Judge of the quick and dead?" If a witness has conscientious scruples against taking an oath, he shall be affirmed in the following form: "Do you solemnly affirm that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the matter in which you are called to testify, and so you affirm?"

268. **Separate Examination.** Witnesses to be examined, except members of the court, shall not be present during the examination of other witnesses if either party demands their exclusion.

269. **A Member of the Court as a Witness.** A member of the court may be called upon to bear testimony in a case which comes before it, but he shall not thereafter act as a member of the court if objected to by either party.

270. **Examination of Witnesses.** After a witness has qualified he shall be examined by the party introducing him, and may then be cross-examined by the opposite party. After this any member of the court, or either party,

may put additional questions. Leading questions by the party introducing a witness shall not be permitted except by consent of the court when necessary to elicit the truth.

271. **Record of Testimony.** The testimony given by the witnesses shall be faithfully recorded in question and answer form, read to them for correction and approval, and subscribed by them and attested by the moderator or clerk.

272. **Duty of the Court.** It shall be the duty of the court to weigh the evidence with care and impartiality. No member of a court shall reveal any private knowledge he may have in a matter involved in a trial before the court save as a witness testifying openly, as above provided; neither shall a member of the court, having private knowledge of such matter, allow himself to be influenced thereby in his decision.

273. **Records of a Church Court.** The records of a church court, or any part of them, whether original or transcribed, attested by the moderator and clerk, or either of them, shall, when relevant, be admitted as evidence in every other court. Testimony taken by one church court at the request of another shall be received by the latter as though it had been taken by itself.

274. **Witnesses from Other Jurisdictions.** When witnesses are needed in the trial of a case who belong to a jurisdiction of other co-ordinate courts of the United Presbyterian Church, those courts shall, on the application of the court trying the case, issue citations to such witnesses to appear at the place of trial and give evidence as may be required by the trial court. Witnesses so cited shall be entitled to receive from the party calling them all necessary expenses incurred in their attendance at the trial.

275. **Testimony Taken by Commissioners.** In cases where, from distance or any other cause, it is impossible for witnesses to be present, the court may appoint a commissioner or commissioners to take the testimony, giving both parties in the case an opportunity to be present and examine the witnesses. Testimony so taken may be read at the trial, subject to the same objections as might be made if the witnesses were personally present and so testifying before the court.

276. **New Evidence in Appeal.** If in the prosecution of an appeal new evidence is offered which in the judgment of the appellate court has an important bearing on the case, it may refer the case back to the lower court for a new trial, or, with the consent of the parties, it may admit the evidence and proceed to determine the case. When, however, such evidence, either alone or in connection with other considerations, induces a reversal of the decision of the lower court, this fact should be distinctly stated in the decision of the superior court.

277. **Evidence Discovered After Judgment.** Any person convicted of an offense may afterwards apply for a new trial on the ground of newly discovered evidence, and the court, if satisfied that the evidence proffered is material, and could not with reasonable diligence have been offered sooner, may grant the application. When the new evidence has been taken, the court using the whole evidence in the case shall proceed to judgment as if no former judgment had been given, and the later judgment shall supersede the former.

CHAPTER XII

OF SENTENCES

278. **Definition.** A sentence is the declaration by a court of the degree of censure to be imposed on a person found guilty of an offense, and shall be reduced to writing. If the charge or complaint contains different specifications, the sentence must be founded only on such as are duly proved or confessed.

279. **Execution of Sentence.** When sentence has been pronounced and reduced to writing, the court shall proceed at once to the execution thereof, unless in its judgment delay should be granted until such a time as the court may fix.

280. **Degrees of Church Censure.** There are five degrees of Church censure, namely: admonition, rebuke, suspension, deposition, and excommunication, all of which shall be pronounced by the moderator in the name of the court.

281. **Admonition.** Admonition is the lowest degree of censure. It consists in tenderly reproving an offender, warning him of his guilt and danger, and exhorting him to be more watchful in the future. Ordinarily it shall be administered in private.

282. **Rebuke.** Rebuke is a higher degree of censure for an aggravated offense, and consists in setting forth the character of the offense, with a sharp reproof for it. Where the offense is private, or where the public interests of religion will not be injured thereby, the rebuke shall be administered in presence of the court alone. But where the offense is public, or has become a scandal, the rebuke shall be public.

283. **Suspension.** Suspension is a censure which may be inflicted on either a private member or an officer of the Church. In respect to the former, it is temporary exclusion from sealing ordinances; in respect to the latter, it is a temporary exclusion from the exercise of office, and in ordinary cases from sealing ordinances also. In the case of a pastor it may also include the dissolution of the pastoral relation.

This censure becomes necessary when very gross offenses have been committed, or when, notwithstanding admonition or rebuke, an offense is repeated or persisted in, or when probation is necessary to attest repentance and reformation.

Suspension may be for a definite time, but generally it must be indefinite in duration, and its removal must depend upon evidence of repentance.

Suspension may be administered in the absence of the offender, and either in public or in private, at the discretion of the court.

284. **Deposition.** Deposition is a sentence depriving a church officer of his office, and shall be accompanied with exclusion from sealing ordinances.

The sentence of deposition shall be publicly read to the congregation. In the case of deposition of a pastor, the pastoral relation shall thereby be dissolved, and the congregation shall be declared vacant.

When deposition from the ministry has taken place, the presbytery shall immediately send notice thereof to all the presbyteries of the Church.

285. **Excommunication.** Excommunication is the judicial excision of an offender from the visible Church.

This sentence should not be passed except for such errors or violation of the law of God as are grossly inconsistent with the Christian profession, or for obstinate persistence in grave offenses, and not even then until all proper measures have failed to reclaim the offender.

A session, if shut up to this step, may refer the matter to the presbytery for advice. A presbytery, also, before excommunicating a minister, may consult the synod.

In every case, before this action is taken, due notice must be given to the offender. Thereafter the sentence may be passed by the court, whether he is present or absent.

In the passing of the sentence, which shall be public, the officiating minister shall recount the steps which have been taken in the case, and explain the necessity of the sentence, and, having prayed for the Lord's blessing on His own ordinance, he shall solemnly pronounce the sentence in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHAPTER XIII

OF THE RESTORATION OF OFFENDERS

286. **Conditions.** No degree of guilt precludes restoration to church privilege on satisfactory evidence of repentance and reformation.

287. **Jurisdiction.** The restoration of offenders shall be made by the court which imposed the sentence or by a co-ordinate court to which it may transfer the case.

288. **How Restored.** When the court having jurisdiction shall be fully satisfied of the reality of the repentance of one under sentence, he shall be restored, either in the presence of the court alone or publicly; but when the sentence was a public one, the restoration also should in ordinary cases be public.

289. **Restoration of Officers.** When a minister, elder, or deacon has been deposed, he may be restored to church privileges on evidence of repentance, but in no case shall he be restored to the exercise of his office until it shall appear that the restoration can be effected without injury to the cause of religion.

CHAPTER XIV

OF DISSENTS AND PROTESTS

290. **Dissent.** A dissent is a declaration of disagreement with the decision of a court by one or more members thereof. A dissent must be made immediately after the action dissented from is taken, and it shall be entered on the record.

291. **Protest.** A protest is a more formal declaration made by one or more members of a court against what is believed to be an irregular proceeding or an erroneous and injurious decision or judgment, accompanied with reasons therefor. A protest shall be entered immediately after the action protested against is taken, and the reasons on which it is founded shall be transmitted to the clerk of the court within ten days, except in the court of last resort, when reasons shall be presented before the final adjournment of the court. If a protest is couched in respectful language it shall be entered on the record.

292. **Right to Dissent or Protest.** No one may join in a dissent or protest who has not a right to vote on the question decided and who did not vote in the negative.

293. **Answer to Protest.** The court may prepare an answer, which shall be entered on the record, to any protest which imputes to it principles or reasonings which its action does not import. Leave may then be given to the person or persons protesting, if they desire it, to modify their protest, and the answer of the court may also, in consequence, be modified. This shall end the matter.

294. **What It Implies.** The admission of a protest by a court implies no more than a recognition of the right of the person protesting to satisfy his conscience; but such protest does not justify the protestor in disobedience and non-submission.

CHAPTER XV

OF THE REMOVAL OF A CASE FROM A LOWER TO A HIGHER COURT

295. **Modes.** Every decision of any court or commission of a court below the General Assembly shall be subject to the review of a superior court, and it may be brought before it in one or other of the following ways, viz., by review and control, by complaint, or appeal. Also a case may be transferred by reference for advice or judgment.

An appeal, complaint, or reference shall always be in writing, and shall contain a clear statement of the question involved. The court of appeal shall

enter upon its records the appeal, complaint, or reference as presented from the lower court, a clear statement of its own decision, and the grounds upon which it is made.

296. Jurisdiction. In all cases of appeal, complaint, or reference the synod shall be the court of final jurisdiction for the determination of all matters except questions involving doctrine, the regularity of proceedings, or the interpretation of law, which question may be carried on appeal, complaint, or reference to the General Assembly as the court of final jurisdiction, and may be carried direct from the presbytery to the General Assembly, whose judgment shall be for the guidance of the lower court to which the case may be carried on other grounds.

When an appeal, complaint, or reference has been made to the General Assembly on questions involving doctrine, the regularity of proceedings, or the interpretation of law, and made to a lower appellate court on other grounds, the lower appellate court shall defer action on the case until the General Assembly has decided the questions carried to it.

297. Rights of the Inferior Court. When a matter is transferred in any of these ways from an inferior to a superior court, except in cases of reference, the members of the inferior court shall not have the right to take part in the proceedings.

298. In Cases Before a Commission. The right of dissent, protest, appeal, and complaint, and the rules of procedure therein, shall be the same in a commission as in the full court. Notice of appeal or complaint shall be given to the commission before its adjournment, and the reasons therefor shall be lodged within ten days with the moderator or clerk of the court appointing it. The commission shall not appear in any subsequent proceedings.

ARTICLE I

OF REVIEW AND CONTROL

299. General Review. It is the duty of every court above a session to review the records of the proceedings of the court next below at least once a year. If any lower court shall neglect to send up its records for this purpose, the higher court may issue an order to produce them, either immediately, or at some specified time.

A higher court may also, at any time, require the next lower court to produce its registers, rolls, or other official documents.

300. Matters of Review. In reviewing the records of an inferior court, the higher court shall examine, first, whether the proceedings have been constitutional and regular; second, whether they have been equitable and prudent; third, whether they have been correctly recorded.

301. Mode of Review. The review may be conducted by a committee, which shall report to the meeting at which it was appointed.

If censure appears necessary, the members of the inferior court present shall be heard in defense, and the judgment of the court reviewing and the reasons therefor shall be entered on the minutes of the superior court and on the book reviewed.

302. Irregular Proceedings. If in the review irregular proceedings are found so injurious as to require correction, the inferior court may be directed to take such action and to report the correction as soon as practicable. No judicial decision, however, shall be reversed by the court reviewing, unless it is regularly brought up by appeal or complaint.

If at any time after such review it comes to the knowledge of the higher court that the lower court under its jurisdiction has neglected its duty, or has committed grave irregularities, it may take such cognizance thereof as is deemed necessary.

ARTICLE II

OF REFERENCES

303. **Definition.** A reference is a judicial representation, made in writing by an inferior court to a superior court having jurisdiction, for advice or judgment in a matter not yet decided.

304. **Proper Subjects.** Proper subjects of reference are cases that are new or peculiarly delicate or difficult, and the decision of which may establish a precedent of extensive influence, cases on which the members of the court are much divided, and questions of the interpretation of law for the guidance of the lower court.

305. **Objects.** References are either for advice or for trial and decision of the case by the superior court having jurisdiction.

306. **Effects.** In case of reference for advice, the effect of the reference is merely to suspend the decision of the court making it; in the case of reference for trial and decision, the effect of the reference is to relinquish the decision and submit the whole case to the judgment of the superior court.

A reference for judgment brings up all the parties before the higher court, and they must be duly notified by the clerk of the lower court of the time and place for hearing the case.

307. **Manner of Reference.** A reference, as to form, consists of a copy of the resolution to refer, accompanied by so much of the record of the proceedings in the case as shall be necessary for the proper consideration of the matter referred. The reference shall be presented in the superior court by commissioners appointed for the purpose.

308. **Duty of a Superior Court.** Although a superior court ought generally to give advice, yet it is not bound to give a final judgment in a case referred, even when requested to do so, but it may remit the whole case with or without advice to the court referring.

ARTICLE III

OF COMPLAINTS

309. **Definition.** A complaint is a written representation made to a superior court by one or more members of an inferior court, or parties in interest, respecting a final decision of the inferior court because of some particular delinquency or error, or as being unjust or injurious to the purity of the Church or the interests of truth and righteousness.

In judicial cases a party declining to appeal shall not be allowed to complain.

310. **Notice of Complaint.** Notice of complaint shall be given to the court during the session at which the action complained of is taken, and the reasons therefor shall be filed with the moderator or clerk within ten days.

311. **Complaint Presented to the Superior Court.** The complainant shall lodge his complaint and the reasons therefor with the superior court at its first stated meeting, or at such times as the court may appoint, and not later than the second session thereof. If the complaint is not presented within the time specified, it shall be considered as abandoned, and the judgment of the lower court shall stand, unless the delay is shown to have been unavoidable.

312. **Duty of the Lower Court.** The court against whose decision a complaint is made shall likewise lodge with the superior court, within the time specified above, the records and all papers pertaining to the case. If it fails to do this and such delay would work injustice, the superior court may stop further proceedings on the decision of the lower court, or may at its discretion take up and try the case *de novo*.

313. **Parties.** In a complaint the court complained against is an original

party, and shall be represented in the higher court by one or more of its members or other persons under its jurisdiction, but shall not otherwise appear in the proceedings. The parties shall be known in the higher courts as the complainant and the respondent.

314. Effect of Complaint. If a complaint is sustained, the superior court may, at its discretion, annul, in whole or in part, the action or decision complained of, and shall, if necessary, give instructions to the lower court as to further proceedings in the case.

The operation of a complaint in cases of administration is to suspend all further proceedings, except in cases where the court complained against deems it advisable or necessary to proceed.

315. Rules of Procedure. The rules of procedure in complaints shall be the same as in appeals.

ARTICLE IV

OF APPEALS

316. Definition. An appeal is the removal from an inferior to a superior court of a judicial case finally decided, or of a final decision rendered in administrative proceedings.

317. Grounds. In judicial cases an appeal may be taken from the final judgment of the court on the following grounds: mistake or injustice in the decision; refusal of reasonable indulgence to the party on trial; receiving improper, or declining to receive proper evidence; hurrying to a decision before the testimony is all taken; and manifestation of prejudice in the case. An appeal may also be taken from the severity of the sentence.

In administrative cases an appeal may be taken from the final decision of the court as irregular, unconstitutional, or injurious to the cause of truth and righteousness.

318. Right of Appeal. In a judicial case the right of appeal belongs only to the original parties; in administrative cases, to any member of the court who was present when the action was taken.

319. Notice of Appeal. Notice of appeal shall be given to the court before it rises, and the reasons therefor shall be filed with the moderator or clerk within ten days.

320. Operation of an Appeal. The operation of an appeal in a judicial case is to suspend all further proceedings on the judgment appealed from, except that a sentence of suspension or excommunication from church privileges, or deposition from office, shall be in force until the appeal is decided.

The operation of an appeal in cases of administration is to suspend all further proceedings on the decision, except in cases where the court appealed from deems it advisable or necessary to proceed.

321. Appeal Presented to the Superior Court. The appellant shall lodge his appeal and the specifications of error with the court appealed to at its first stated meeting, or at such time as the court may appoint, and not later than the second session thereof, and either party may appear in person or in writing or by a representative. If the appeal is not presented within the time specified, it shall be considered as abandoned, and the judgment of the lower court shall stand, unless the delay is shown to have been unavoidable.

322. Duty of Lower Court. The court from whose judgment an appeal is taken shall likewise lodge with the court appealed to, within the time specified above, the records and all papers pertaining to the case. If it fails to do this, and such delay would work injustice, the superior court may suspend the sentence, or, in administrative cases, stop further proceedings on the decision of the lower court, or may at its discretion take up and try the case *de novo*.

323. Procedure in Superior Court. In taking up an appeal, after ascer-

taining that it is within the province of the court, and that it has been regularly conducted, the court shall proceed as follows: first, the appeal and specifications of error shall be read; second, the records and papers in the case shall be read, except so much as may be omitted by consent of the parties; third, the parties shall be heard, the appellant having the opening and closing argument; fourth, opportunity shall be given the members of the appellate court to be heard; fifth, the vote shall be taken without further debate on each specification in this form: "Shall this specification of error be sustained?"

324. **Action of the Appellate Court.** The decision may be to confirm or to reverse, in whole or in part, the decision of the lower court, or to remit the case for the purpose of amending the record, should it appear incorrect or defective, or for a new trial. In every case a full record shall be made.

If an appeal is sustained, the judgment of the inferior court is reversed; but if not sustained, the judgment is affirmed. If an appeal is sustained, the superior court may close the case, if further proceedings are deemed unnecessary, or try it, or direct the court below how to proceed. But if on appeal a decision of an appellate court affirming a judgment is reversed by a higher appellate court, the case shall be tried by the higher court.

325. **Troublesome Appellants.** If an appellant manifests a litigious or otherwise unchristian spirit in the prosecution of his appeal, he shall be censured according to the degree of his offense.

PART IV

WORSHIP

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTORY

326. **Definition of Worship.** Christian worship is a sincere and reverent outgoing of the spirit to God in silent communion or outward expression.

327. **Object of Worship.** Worship is due to God alone as He is revealed to us in the Scriptures as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and is to be offered in the way of His appointment.

328. **Medium of Worship.** The Lord Jesus Christ being the only Mediator between God and man, all worship must be offered to God through Him and is acceptable only in His Name.

329. **Necessity and Duty of Worship.** Inasmuch as the worship of God is essential to the Christian life and to growth in grace, it should be carefully and habitually observed, and the spirit of worship should be cultivated by the study of the Word of God, meditation, and prayer.

330. **Outward and Visible Worship.** Worship as treated in this book consists in the performance of those acts, rites, and ceremonies appointed of God in which men engage for the honor of God, the enjoyment of His favor, and the edification of His people.

331. **Kinds of Worship.** Worship in this outward form may be divided into public, private, and family worship.

332. **A Directory for Worship.** In order to uniformity in worship and for the comfort of the worshippers, a directory for worship is necessary, to set forth the seasons, ordinances, and order of worship as they are appointed in the Holy Scriptures or authorized by the Church in accordance therewith.

CHAPTER II

OF THE SEASONS OF WORSHIP

333. **Set Times of Worship.** While a devotional frame of mind should always be maintained, yet set times for Divine worship are specifically recognized in the Word of God.

334. **The Sabbath.** Under the gospel dispensation God has appointed the first day of the week as the Christian Sabbath, the Lord's Day, to be kept holy and specially devoted to His worship.

335. **Other Times of Worship.** In addition to the Sabbath, special days of worship may be appointed by the Church or State when circumstances make such an appointment proper or necessary. Congregations and companies of disciples should have stated times other than the Sabbath for prayer and the study of the Scriptures.

336. **Morning and Evening Worship.** It is especially appropriate that the morning and evening be observed as seasons for private and family worship.

CHAPTER III

OF PLACES OF WORSHIP

337. **Meeting Places Necessary.** True and acceptable worship may be rendered to God in whatever place offered, but as God has made special prom-

ises of His blessings to His people when they unite in His worship, it is necessary that suitable places should be provided where they may gather together in His presence.

338. **Such Places Sacred.** Buildings set apart to the worship of God should be regarded as His sanctuaries, and nothing should be admitted into them which will tend to destroy that thought in the minds of the people, or beget associations hurtful to spiritual worship.

339. **Suitable.** The sanctuaries of God should be made as beautiful and suitable as the simplicity of New Testament worship and the circumstances of the people will permit.

340. **Location.** Houses of worship should be so placed, as to location and surroundings, that they will serve the greatest comfort and convenience of all the people.

CHAPTER IV

OF THE ORDINANCES OF PUBLIC WORSHIP

341. **Ordinances of Public Worship.** The stated ordinances of public worship as set forth in the Holy Scriptures are: prayer and praise; the reading, preaching, and hearing of the Word of God; the administration of the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's supper; Christian giving; and the benediction. To these a formal declaration of Christian faith may be added. Special ordinances are fasting and thanksgiving.

CHAPTER V

OF THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

342. **Order of Worship.** To maintain the dignity of worship, and that it may be of profit, an order of exercises is usually necessary; but to secure liberty also in worship this order should be subject to such variations as the circumstances of the occasion and the promptings of the Spirit may suggest to the officiating minister. The following order may be observed: doxology, invocation, singing praise, reading the Scriptures, prayer, singing praise, presentation of offerings, preaching the Word, prayer, singing praise, the benediction. To these exercises may be added, if the session so elects, at a suitable point in the service, responsive reading, a formal declaration of belief, and silent prayer by all the people after the benediction.

CHAPTER VI

OF THE READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

343. **Manner of Reading.** The reading of the Scriptures is an integral part of public worship, and should have a place in every service. The importance of this ordinance demands studious and prayerful preparation on the part of the minister. With due reverence and thoughtfulness he should so read the Word that the message of the Spirit may be clearly expressed.

344. **Responsive Reading.** Responsive Scripture reading may be introduced into the devotional part of public worship with profit to the people.

CHAPTER VII

OF THE SINGING OF PRAISE

345. **Matter of Praise.** Praise as a definite ordinance of worship is expressed in words joined to music. In this ordinance the Psalms of the Bible, by reason of their Divine inspiration, their excellence, and their evident design, are accredited for permanent use. The poetical versions of the Psalms used in praise shall be such as may be authorized from time to time by the Church.

346. **Manner of Praise.** In praising God we should sing thoughtfully, reverently, fervently, with grace in the heart, as becometh the worship of the High and Holy One. That this service may be rendered in a proper manner, the congregation should carefully cultivate a knowledge of music.

347. **All Should Sing.** The whole congregation should join in this part of worship. Some suitable person or persons should be employed to lead in the singing, but none should be appointed to this service who are not of known Christian character.

348. **Regulation of Praise.** It belongs to the session to regulate the singing of praise in the congregation and to see that this important part of public worship is rendered for edification and in the best possible manner.

CHAPTER VIII

OF THE OFFERING OF PRAYER

349. **Manner of Prayer.** Prayer, being a near approach to God and an essential channel of blessing, should have a prominent place in every service, and should be offered with the utmost reverence of thought, language, and manner, and with the humility that becomes a worshiper in the presence of the Most Holy God.

350. **Number of Prayers.** The number of prayers in a service should be governed by the order of worship approved by the Church and the enlightened judgment of the minister. Each prayer should be adapted to its place in the service, and repetitions and injudicious length should be avoided.

351. **Preparation for Prayer.** The minister should make a careful study of the subjects of prayer for each service and prepare his own heart and mind to lead the people in a manner profitable to them and acceptable to God.

352. **Invocation.** The introductory prayer should be brief, consisting of adoration and petitions for due preparation of heart on the part of the people, for the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit, and for His blessing on every part of the service.

353. **Prayer Before the Sermon.** The prayer before the sermon should be comprehensive, consisting of adoration, thanksgiving, confession, supplication, and intercession. It should be adapted to the circumstances and needs of the worshipers, and should include petitions for our own Church, for the Church of God in all its branches, for the extension of the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world, for our own country and for all in places of authority and trust, for all classes and conditions of men, and for the nations of the earth.

354. **The Prayer After the Sermon.** The prayer after the sermon should be fitted to the close of the service, beseeching God to impress the truth on the hearts of the hearers, to accept the worship that has been offered in the name of Christ, and to bless all with the fulness of grace.

355. **Department of Worshipers.** During all the services the people should maintain a reverent attitude, should avoid all distraction of mind, and should devoutly join with the minister as he leads them in their devotions.

CHAPTER IX

OF THE BENEDICTION

356. **The Benediction.** The minister should conclude the services of worship with a solemn benediction.

357. **Form.** The following form of benediction may be used: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."

358. **Occasion.** The benediction should be employed only in connection with and as a part of worship.

CHAPTER X

OF PREACHING THE WORD

359. **Importance of Preaching.** As the preaching of the Word is of chief importance as a means of salvation, it should receive special attention, and every minister should prepare for this service with much study, meditation, and prayer.

360. **The Sermon.** Every sermon should be the unfolding of the truth taught in some portion of Scripture and a close application to the heart and conscience of the hearer.

361. **Purpose and Preparation.** The minister should seek the aid of the Holy Spirit that he may be enabled to declare all the counsel of God, to present the Word in its variety and application to the different relations of life, and clearly and fully present the Lord Jesus as the Saviour of men.

CHAPTER XI

OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF BAPTISM

362. **Administrator.** Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament Church, and, therefore, may be administered only by an ordained minister of the gospel.

363. **Subjects.** Baptism, being a seal of the New Covenant, is to be administered to those who make a credible profession of their faith in Christ and to their children.

364. **Mode.** Baptism is administered by the application of water to the person by sprinkling or pouring. The Church recognizes the validity of baptism by immersion.

365. **Obligations.** Baptism involves solemn obligations on the part of parents and those to whom the ordinance is administered. These obligations shall be acknowledged by an affirmative answer to the following questions:

BAPTISM OF CHILDREN

Parents presenting their children shall answer the following questions:

(1) "Do you now take God as your God in covenant, and as the God of your children?"

(2) Do you renew the profession you made when you were admitted to the Church?

(3) Do you solemnly promise, if God shall spare your life and that of your children, to train them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; to instruct them in regard to their lost condition by nature, and to lead them to the Saviour; to pray with them and for them; to worship God regularly in your family; to set before them an example of piety; and to use all the appointed means for their salvation?"

BAPTISM OF ADULTS

Unbaptized adults, having been received by the session, are to be baptized on the public profession of their faith in Christ and their obedience to Him. The form of question for the public recognition of church members may be used, viz.:

"Do you now in the presence of the congregation make acknowledgment of your faith in Christ and your purpose to live a Christian life, and publicly declare your engagement to cultivate the spirit of Christian fellowship and brotherly love, and to seek the welfare of this congregation while you remain a member thereof?"

366. **Order of Service.** After a suitable exposition of the ordinance, and the vows having been taken by the parents, the congregation standing, prayer

shall be offered for the presence of God in the administration of the ordinance. The minister, pronouncing the name, shall sprinkle water on the head of the child, saying: "I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen." He shall then conclude the service with prayer. The same order shall be observed in the baptism of adults.

367. Place of Administration. Baptism should, ordinarily, be administered in the church, or stated place of meeting, in connection with public worship. When administered in any other place it should be with the approval of the session, and in connection with religious exercises.

CHAPTER XII

OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

368. Administrator and Communicants. The Lord's supper, being a sacrament of the New Testament Church, is to be administered under the direction of the session by an ordained minister, and only to those who have confessed their faith in Christ and are leading a Christian life.

369. Time and Place. The Lord's supper should be observed frequently, but how often the session of each congregation must determine. Ordinarily there should be stated times for this sacrament, and notice thereof should be given to the congregation at least two Sabbaths before the time appointed.

The ordinance should, ordinarily, be administered in the stated place of worship. Being a service for the communion of saints, it may not be administered privately by the minister; but in case of sickness or long-continued inability to attend upon the public service, it may be administered in a private house under the direction of the session.

370. Preparation. The minister should be careful to instruct his people from time to time in the nature and purposes of the sacrament and the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ to observe it regularly. As those who receive the sacrament are required to examine themselves as to their fitness for the solemn act, the ordinance should be preceded by preparatory services carefully arranged to aid them in their preparation for coming to the Lord's table, to commune with one another, to commemorate the Lord's death, and enter into the New Covenant in His blood.

371. Introductory Services. All services in connection with the administration of the Lord's supper should be of great solemnity, as becomes the nature of the ordinance, and should so present the Lord Jesus and His redemption that all will be strengthened in their faith and love, and be inspired to more holy living.

372. The Administration. After the introductory services, the communicants shall reverently take their places for the communion during the singing of an appropriate Psalm. The minister shall then read the words of institution, and, after the example of the Lord, give thanks to God and ask His blessing.

He shall then take the bread, break it, and give it to the communicants, saying: "The Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; and, when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said: This is My body, which is for you; this do in remembrance of Me."

He shall also take the cup and give it to the communicants, saying: "In like manner also the cup, after supper, saying: This cup is the New Covenant in My blood: this do, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink the cup, ye proclaim the Lord's death till He come."

While the elements are being passed by the elders the communicants may be left to their own reflections.

373. Concluding the Service. After all have received the sacrament the

minister may appropriately remind the communicants of the grace of God and the love of Christ as exhibited in this ordinance, and of their obligation to live a consistent Christian life. He shall conclude the service with thanksgiving, praise, and the benediction.

374. **Subsequent Services.** It may be profitable to follow the communion with one or more sermons adapted to the deepening of the impressions of the occasion and the instruction of the people in the obligations and privileges of the Christian life.

CHAPTER XIII

OF PRAYER MEETINGS

375. **Congregational Prayer Meeting.** A meeting of the congregation for prayer should be held, if possible, at least once during the week. This service being an important means of grace, every member should make earnest effort to be present and have part in it.

376. **Control and Order.** This service shall be under the control of the session, and shall consist of prayer, praise, reading the Scriptures, exposition, exhortation, and testimony, in such order as shall conduce to edification.

A like service should be held on any Sabbath when there is no stated preaching of the gospel.

377. **Sessional Prayer Meetings.** Sessions should frequently meet for conference and prayer, when they should consider the spiritual condition of their congregations, and implore Divine guidance in all that pertains to their office.

CHAPTER XIV

OF FAMILY WORSHIP

378. **Time.** Family worship is essential to the development of household religion, and its daily observance should be faithfully maintained in every Christian home. Parents, and children, and servants should be present at this service.

379. **Leader.** The head of the family should ordinarily conduct the service. If the husband is absent or disqualified, the believing wife or other competent person should perform the duty.

380. **Order.** Family worship should consist of praise, reading the Scriptures, prayer and such exercises as may be conducive to spiritual life in the home.

CHAPTER XV

OF PRIVATE WORSHIP

381. **Its Necessity.** In private worship the believing soul is alone with God. This is essential to growth in grace and the realization of holiness in character and life. Because of the tendency of the human heart to depart from God, and the constant temptations of the world, private worship should be a daily practice.

CHAPTER XVI

OF THANKSGIVING

382. **Occasion.** When God gives special tokens of His favor to a nation or the Church, men should unite in public thanksgiving. An annual thanksgiving day by the nation in recognition of Divine mercies bestowed is highly appropriate, and should be observed.

383. **Observance.** A convenient portion of the day appointed for thanksgiving should be spent in the exercises of ordinary public worship; the mercies of the past and present should specially be remembered, and all the services should tend to develop a grateful spirit. It is recommended that an offering

be made for some benevolent object and that a portion of the day be spent in the works of Christian charity.

CHAPTER XVII

OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL

384. **A Service for All.** The Sabbath school is distinctively a teaching service of the Church, and, because of its importance as an evangelizing and training agency, it should have the recognized place of a church service—all the members of the church being connected with it as scholars, teachers, or officers. For those who may be unable to attend the exercises of the school a home department should be maintained.

385. **The Superintendent and His Duties.** The superintendent shall be a person of known piety, and, if practicable, a member of the session. Under the direction of the session, he is the executive officer of the school, and should do whatever is necessary for its good order, efficiency, and success. He should also make provision for teachers' meetings, as may be found practicable.

386. **Teachers.** The teachers should be members of the church, of earnest piety, and qualified to teach. They should make careful preparation for their work, be regular in their attendance, diligent in securing the attendance of the scholars and in instructing them, faithful in their efforts to lead them to a knowledge of the truth and to a personal faith in Christ, and should visit them in their homes.

387. **Devotional Exercises.** The singing of appropriate Psalms should have prominence in the devotional services. These services should be so directed and conducted as to inspire reverence and the spirit of worship, fittingly introduce the exercises of the lesson period, and in the closing part impress the lessons taught.

388. **Offerings.** Instruction should be given on the subject of beneficence and the school trained in the practice of giving to the Lord for the support of the Church and for the evangelization of the world, as a part of worship. The offerings, so far as practicable, should be devoted to these purposes.

389. **Mission Schools.** In destitute neighborhoods mission Sabbath schools should be organized. In such cases established congregations should aid in furnishing teachers and necessary appliances for the work.

CHAPTER XVIII

OF PASTORAL VISITATION

390. **Duty of Pastors and Elders.** Ministers and elders of the Church should frequently visit the families and members of the flock over which the Holy Spirit has made them overseers; to pray with, instruct, comfort, encourage, and admonish the people, especially in times of unusual affliction or temptation, to assist them in the study of the Scriptures and doctrinal standards of the Church, and to stimulate them to family religion and fidelity in all Christian duty.

391. **Duty of the People.** The people should receive the minister and elders with due recognition of their official station and authority and give good heed to their counsels.

CHAPTER XIX

OF SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE

392. **A Christian Obligation.** The Scriptures make it an imperative duty to give a portion of our worldly substance to the Lord. Every member of the Church should reduce the duty of beneficence to a system.

393. **Spirit and Measure.** The Word of God requires all to give cheerfully, regularly, liberally, and according as God has prospered them.

394. **Duty of Instruction.** Ministers and elders should frequently instruct their people in regard to the important duty and privilege of supporting the ordinances of the Church and general Christian charities. They should particularly explain the design of the different missionary agencies and educational institutions of the Church, and the character and necessity of the work which they have in charge.

395. **Neglect of the Duty.** If any person of known pecuniary ability fails in this duty, the session should point out his obligation as revealed in the Word of God, the importance of the duty, and the reward attending its faithful discharge. If he still withholds from the treasury of the Lord, it is the duty of the session to deal with him as an offender.

CHAPTER XX

OF THE SOLEMNIZATION OF MARRIAGE

396. **Marriage.** Marriage is a solemn contract between one man and one woman, instituted by God, and sanctioned and acknowledged by the civil law. Marriage is not peculiar to the Church of Christ; yet it is the duty of Christians to marry only in the Lord, and it is becoming to have the marriage solemnized with a religious service and by an ordained minister of the gospel.

397. **Parties in Marriage.** The parties in marriage must not be within the degrees of consanguinity or affinity prohibited by the Word of God, nor persons divorced on unscriptural grounds. They must be of years of discretion and capable of making their own choice. If they are under age, the consent of their parents or guardians should be obtained by the minister before solemnizing the marriage.

398. **Ceremony.** The minister, having satisfied himself that the parties have complied with the forms required by the laws of the State, shall cause the parties to stand together in the presence of a proper number of witnesses, and shall briefly address them in regard to the institution of marriage and the obligations they are about to assume. They having joined their right hands, he shall address this marriage vow to the man: "Do you, A. B., take this woman whom you now hold by the hand to be your wedded wife; and do you solemnly promise, in the presence of God and these witnesses, to be a loving and faithful husband unto her till God shall separate you by death?" When this question is answered in the affirmative, he shall address this similar vow to the woman: "Do you, C. D., take this man, whom you now hold by the hand, to be your wedded husband; and do you solemnly promise, in the presence of God and these witnesses, to be a loving and faithful wife unto him till God shall separate you by death?" When this question is answered in the affirmative, the minister shall say: "I pronounce you husband and wife; what, therefore, God hath joined together, let no man put asunder." He shall then conclude the ceremony with a prayer for the Divine blessing to rest upon the newly-constituted family.

399. **When Solemnized.** Ordinarily marriage should not be solemnized on the Sabbath.

CHAPTER XXI

OF MINISTERING TO THE SICK

400. **Duty.** Attention to the sick is an important part of pastoral service, and should be faithfully discharged by ministers and elders.

401. **Manner.** All the tender and delicate proprieties of the sick room should be discreetly observed, and the conversation and devotional services

of the occasion should be so conducted as to instruct, comfort, and inspire faith and hope in Jesus Christ, and resignation to God's will.

402. **Private Conversation.** As the presence of friends and strangers may prevent a full statement of feelings and views, conversations with the sick should, when practicable, be in private.

403. **Information.** When sickness occurs of such a nature as to call for the services of a minister or an elder, information thereof should be immediately given by the family or friends of the sick.

CHAPTER XXII

OF THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

404. **Time.** No funeral should take place on the Sabbath except in cases of absolute necessity.

405. **Simplicity.** Everything which savors of vain display or fulsome eulogy should be avoided.

406. **Service.** Before removing the body to the grave the minister should conduct brief and suitable religious exercises. After interment appropriate words of Scripture may be spoken, followed by prayer and the benediction.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE SYNODS, AND THE PRESBYTERIES

The order of business at every session, unless suspended by a vote of two-thirds, shall be as follows:

1. Calling the roll and marking absentees.
2. Reading and approving the minutes.
3. The presentation of letters, papers, petitions, or matters requiring reference.
4. The presentation of reports from standing and select committees.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New Business, in the order in which it was put on the docket.

FORMS

1. CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP AND DISMISSAL

It is hereby certified that is a member in full communion of the United Presbyterian Church of, and is, at own request, dismissed to unite with the United Presbyterian Church of, or any other Church of Christ where God in His providence may direct, and when so received all responsibility to this Session shall cease.

By order of Session,

Given at Moderator
this day of, 19... Clerk

2. CERTIFICATE FOR A MEMBER WHO HAS BEEN SOME TIME ABSENT

It is hereby certified that was a member in full communion of the United Presbyterian Church of up to, 19..., when removed from the bounds thereof, and that, as far as known to this Session, may be received into the membership of any Church of Christ.

By order of Session,

Given at Moderator
this day of, 19... Clerk

3. CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP FOR ONE ABSENT FROM HOME

I hereby certify that is a member in full communion in the United Presbyterian Church of, and is entitled to Christian fellowship wherever may be during absence from us.

Given at
this day of, 19... Pastor

4. CERTIFICATE FOR A MEMBER WHO HAS NEGLECTED THE ORDINANCES

It is hereby certified that was a member in full communion of the United Presbyterian Church of up to, 19..., when ceased attendance upon the ordinances of worship.

Given at Moderator
this day of, 19... Clerk

5. FORM OF APPLICATION FOR THE MODERATION OF A CALL

The United Presbyterian congregation of being at present without a pastor, the Session hereby petitions the presbytery of for the appointment of a minister to preside in the moderation of a call at a convenient date.

Done at the day of, 19....
 Moderator
 Clerk

6. FORM OF A CALL FOR A MINISTER

We, the elders, members, and adherents of the United Presbyterian congregation of, taking into consideration the great loss we suffer through the want of a fixed gospel ministry among us, and being satisfied, from opportunities of enjoying your public ministrations, that the Great Head of the Church has bestowed upon you, A. B., such ministerial gifts as, through the Divine blessing, may be profitable for our edification, do hereby call and beseech you to take the charge and oversight of this congregation, to labor in it, and watch over it, as our fixed pastor; and on your acceptance of this our call we promise you all due respect, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord, and an annual salary of Dollars and the payment of an amount equal to seven and one-half per cent of the salary in monthly or quarterly payments to the Pension Fund.

In testimony whereof we have subscribed this our call this day of, 19...., before these witnesses.

Witness:

.....

Note. The call should be signed first by the elders, and then by the members of the congregation. Adherents, also, properly designated as such, may sign the call.

7. FORM OF ATTESTATION OF A CALL

I hereby certify that, under presbyterial appointment, I preached on the day of, 19...., in the congregation of, under the jurisdiction of the presbytery of, and presided in the moderation of a call for a pastor, which was made out for, under the jurisdiction of the presbytery of Minister

8. FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF LICENSURE

The Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, having taken A. B., a student of theology, on trial for licensure, and having sustained him in his trials and examinations, did, at its meeting at, State of, on the day of, 19...., license him to preach the gospel of Christ as a probationer for the holy ministry, and does hereby certify that he is authorized to preach the gospel wherever in the providence of God he may be called.

By order of Presbytery,

Given at this day of, 19....
 Moderator
 Clerk

9. FORM OF EDICT FOR THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF A PROBATIONER

The Presbytery of, of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, having received a call from the congregation of to A. B., a probationer, to be its minister, and having

sustained the same, and the said A. B. having accepted the call and undergone trials for ordination, and the Presbytery judging him qualified for the ministry of the gospel and the pastoral care of this congregation, has resolved to proceed to his ordination and installation on the day of, 19 .., unless somewhat may appear which would lawfully impede this action. Notice is therefore hereby given to all concerned that if reasons exist why the said A. B. should not be installed as pastor of this congregation, they should be presented to the Presbytery, which is to meet at, on the day of, 19..... If no objection is then made, the Presbytery will proceed without further delay.

By order of Presbytery,

..... Moderator
 Clerk

....., 19....

10. FORM OF EDICT FOR THE INSTALLATION OF AN ORDAINED MINISTER

The Presbytery of, of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, having received and sustained a call from the congregation of for A. B., a member of the Presbytery of, and this call having been accepted by him, has resolved to proceed to his installation as pastor of the said congregation on the day of, 19 .., unless something may appear which would lawfully impede it. Notice is therefore hereby given to all concerned that if reasons exist why the said A. B. should not be installed as pastor of this congregation, they should be presented to the Presbytery, which will meet at the time above mentioned for the installation. If no objection is then made, the Presbytery will proceed without further delay.

By order of Presbytery,

..... Moderator,
 Clerk

....., 19....

11. FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF A PROBATIONER

The Presbytery of, of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, having received a call from the congregation of to A. B., probationer, to be its minister, which it sustained and which he accepted, and having sustained his examination and trials for ordination, and having judged him qualified for the office of the gospel ministry and for the pastoral care of said congregation, did, on the day of, 19..., solemnly set him apart to, and invest him with the authority and powers of, the holy ministry, install him as pastor of said congregation, and receive him into ministerial fellowship as a member of the Presbytery.

By order of Presbytery,

..... Moderator
 Clerk

Given on the day of, 19....

12. FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF INSTALLATION OF AN ORDAINED MINISTER

The Presbytery of, of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, having received a call from the congregation of for A. B., a member of the Presbytery of which it sustained and presented, and which he accepted, did on the day of, 19.., meet with the said congregation and formally install

A. B. as its pastor, according to the regulations of the United Presbyterian Church.

By order of Presbytery,

..... Moderator
 Clerk

Given on the day of, 19....

13. FORM OF TRANSFER IN CASE OF A CALL FROM ONE PRESBYTERY TO ANOTHER

The Presbytery of, of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, having received from the Presbytery of a call, duly sustained, for A. B., a member (or probationer under the care) of this Presbytery, to the pastoral charge of the congregation of, and said call having been presented to him and accepted by him, does hereby dismiss and transfer A. B. to the said Presbytery of for installation (or ordination and installation) as pastor of the said congregation, and commends him to the fellowship of the said Presbytery.

By order of Presbytery,

..... Moderator
 Clerk

Given on the day of, 19....

14. FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF STANDING AND DISMISSAL FOR A MINISTER REMOVING FROM HIS PRESBYTERY

It is hereby certified that is a minister of the United Presbyterian Church in good standing and a member of the Presbytery of, and that he is, at his own request, dismissed to unite with the Presbytery of, to the Christian fellowship of which he is cordially commended. When received by that Presbytery all responsibility to this court shall cease.

By order of Presbytery,

..... Moderator
 Clerk

Given on the day of, 19....

15. FORM OF EDICT FOR THE ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF RULING ELDERS AND DEACONS

The congregation of, having elected A. B., C. D., and E. F., to the office of ruling elder (or deacon) in the congregation, and the Session having judged them qualified and adapted to the duties of the office, notice is hereby given to all concerned that the Session will meet on the day of, 19 .., for their ordination and installation. If any one has objection thereto, it shall be presented to the Session in writing on or before that date. If no objection is made, the Session will proceed without delay.

By order of Session,

..... Moderator
 Clerk

Given on the day of, 19....

16. FORM OF CHARGE AGAINST A MINISTER OR PROBATIONER

TO THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN PRESBYTERY OF

Your informant respectfully represents that, a minister (or probationer) under your jurisdiction, in violation of his Christian profession and official vows, has been guilty of a heinous sin and scandal, contrary to the Word of God and the profession of this Church, and injurious to

the religion of Christ, and ought to be censured in this, that the said on or about the day of, 19..., was guilty of the sin of and ought to be proceeded against and tried by your court to determine whether or not the said charge is true.

Date..... Name.....

17. FORM OF CHARGE AGAINST A CHURCH MEMBER

TO THE SESSION OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION OF.....

Your informant respectfully represents that....., a member of the United Presbyterian Congregation of, in violation of his Christian profession, has been guilty of a heinous sin and scandal, contrary to the Word of God and to the profession of this Church, and injurious to the religion of Christ, and ought to be censured in this, that the said, on or about the day of, 19..., was guilty of the sin of and ought to be proceeded against and tried by your court to determine whether or not the said charge is true.

Date..... Name.....

18. FORM OF CITATION TO ACCUSED

By order of the United Presbyterian of, you, A. B., are summoned to appear before said and answer to the charge herewith presented, at....., on the day of, 19..., at o'clock ... M., and bring any witnesses with you which you may have.

By order of the.....of..... Moderator
Given on the day of, 19.... Clerk

19. FORM OF CITATION FOR A WITNESS

Mr..... You are hereby summoned by the..... of to appear at on the day of, 19..., to give testimony in the case pending between and Lay aside all excuses and fail not to attend.

By order of the.....of..... Moderator
Given on the day of, 19.... Clerk

20. FORM OF CITATION FROM ONE COURT TO A WITNESS UNDER ITS JURISDICTION TO APPEAR IN A CAUSE BEFORE ANOTHER COURT OF CO-ORDINATE JURISDICTION

Mr..... You are hereby summoned by the (Session, Presbytery, or Synod) of, on application of the (Session, Presbytery, or Synod) of, made to this court, to appear at on the day of, 19..., to give testimony in the cause pending between and.....

By order of the.....of..... Moderator
Given on the day of, 19.... Clerk

21. FORM OF OATH TO BE ADMINISTERED TO A WITNESS

Do you solemnly swear in the presence of the omniscient and heart-searching God that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the matter in which you are called to testify, as you shall answer to the Great Judge of the quick and the dead?

22. FORM OF AFFIRMATION

Do you solemnly affirm that you will declare the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in the matter in which you are called to testify, and so you affirm?

23. FORM OF PRONOUNCING JUDGMENT

Whereas, you, A. B., have, after due process of trial, been convicted by this court of Christ's House of the sin of, the judgment of the court is that you are deserving of the penalty of Now, therefore, for the good of your own soul and the purity and peace of the Church of Christ, you are required to stand up and receive the pronouncement of this penalty.

24. FORM OF ADMONITION

You, A. B., by this sin which you have committed have made yourself a disturber of the peace and purity of the Church of Christ, and have exposed yourself to the danger of being led still further into sin. This court, therefore, solemnly admonishes you to put away from you the evil of your doings, to watch and pray that you enter not into temptation, and to avoid the very appearance of evil. As your strongest safeguard against future transgression, you are also admonished to be so steadfast and earnest in the service of your Lord that there will be no opportunity for sin to have dominion over you.

25. FORM OF REBUKE

You, A. B., by this great sin which you have committed have broken your solemn vows to Christ, brought reproach on your Christian profession, and provoked the enemies of your Master to scoff at His holy religion. With sadness this court of Christ's House expresses its unsparing condemnation of your sin and rebukes you therefor. As one overtaken in a trespass you are enjoined to be more watchful in the future against departing from the path of faithfulness to your Divine Lord, to use diligently the means of grace as your safeguard, and to give the Church proofs of your unfeigned repentance.

26. FORM OF SUSPENSION FOR A MEMBER

You, A. B., by the great sin which you have committed have shown yourself unworthy of the fellowship of the people of God and of participation in the holy sacraments of the Church of Christ. You are therefore hereby suspended and excluded from these privileges until by your contrition of heart and reformation of conduct you have given sufficient evidence of your true repentance and have been restored to regular standing by this Session.

27. FORM OF SUSPENSION FOR A RULING ELDER OR DEACON

You, A. B., by the great sin you have committed have shown yourself unworthy to exercise the office of Ruling Elder (or Deacon) and to participate in the sealing ordinances of the Church of Christ. You are therefore forbidden the performance of all official duties as a Ruling Elder (or Deacon), in this congregation or elsewhere, and are excluded from the sealing ordinances of the Church until by your contrition of heart and reformation of conduct you have given sufficient evidence of your true repentance and have been restored by this Session.

28. FORM OF SUSPENSION FOR A MINISTER

You, A. B., by the great sin which you have committed have shown yourself unworthy to exercise the office of the ministry and to participate in the sealing ordinances of the Church of Christ. You are therefore forbidden the performance of all official duties as a minister of the gospel and are excluded from the sealing ordinances of the Church until by your contrition of heart and reformation of conduct you have given sufficient evidence of your true repentance and have been restored by this court.

29. FORM OF DEPOSITION OF A RULING ELDER OR A DEACON

You, A. B., having been convicted of a great sin, and having been adjudged

deserving of the penalty of deposition from your office, now, therefore, in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who by His Spirit has said, "Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord," you are hereby deposed and excluded from the office of, which you have held in this congregation, and you are forbidden to exercise any of the powers or duties of that office anywhere in the Church of Christ. You are also excluded from the sacraments of the Church until such time as by your penitence and new obedience you have shown your fitness for membership in the Church of Christ and have been restored by this Session.

30. FORM OF DEPOSITION OF A MINISTER

You, A. B., on the day of your ordination to the gospel ministry, were placed under the holy vows of an ambassador of Jesus Christ, but by your sin and unfaithfulness you have brought reproach on the cause of your Master, and caused His holy Name to be blasphemed by His enemies. Now, therefore, this Presbytery, acting under the authority of Jesus Christ, does hereby depose and exclude you from the office of a minister of the gospel, and forbids you to exercise henceforth any of the powers and duties of that office anywhere in the Church of Christ. You are also excluded from the sacraments of the Church until such time as you have given sufficient proof of your sincere repentance and reformation of life and of your fitness for those privileges.

31. FORM OF EXCOMMUNICATION

You, A. B., having been convicted of such sins as were adjudged to be deserving of the extreme penalty of excommunication, now, therefore, this Court, constituted in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, and acting under His authority, hereby excommunicates you by cutting you off from the fellowship of the people of God and the sacraments of the visible Church, and reckoning you as belonging to those who are the enemies of God and strangers from the covenants of the promise. May God have mercy upon you by awakening you to righteousness and bringing you to repentance, so that your spirit may be saved in the Day of the Lord Jesus.

32. FORM OF PUBLIC NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

Notice is hereby given that A. B., a member of this congregation, has been found guilty of the sin of As a vindication of the holiness of the gospel and of the ordinances of Christ, and in order to impress upon the offender a due sense of his sin, the penalty of suspension from sealing ordinances has been laid upon him. He is tenderly commended to your pity, and your prayers are besought on his behalf that grace may be speedily given whereby he may be brought back to the paths of Christian faithfulness and to the privileges of the House of God.

33. FORM OF PUBLIC NOTICE OF EXCOMMUNICATION

Notice is hereby given that A. B., once a member of this congregation, has been found guilty of sins so great and so persistent that the Session has been compelled to inflict upon him the extreme penalty of excommunication from membership in the visible Church of Jesus Christ. This action has been taken with the earnest hope that the subject of this deplorable sentence may yet, by the infinite mercy of God, be brought to that repentance which is unto salvation.

34. FORM OF COMMISSION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

It is hereby certified that the United Presbyterian Presbytery of, in the State of, at a meeting on the day of,

appointed a commissioner to the next General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, to meet at on the day of , or when and where it shall happen to meet, enjoining him to repair thither, and attend all the sittings thereof, and there to consult, vote, and determine in all matters that come before the Assembly, according to the Word of God and the standards of this Church, as he will be answerable, and that he report diligence herein on his return.

By order of Presbytery,

..... Moderator

..... Clerk

Given at this day of , 19

MANUAL OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA

PREFACE

The preparation of this Manual is ordered by the General Assembly. It is intended as an aid to Commissioners, and others connected with the General Assembly in the transaction of business, and contains the constitutional provisions, the law, and the usages and regulations of the United Presbyterian Church so far as connected with the character, organization and work of its Supreme Judicatory.

O. H. Milligan, Clerk.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. **Rank and Designation.** The General Assembly is the highest Court of the Church, being the great Presbytery in which the entire Church is represented. It bears the title of "The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and constitutes the bond of union and co-operation among all the congregations and Courts of the Church.

2. **Members.** The General Assembly shall consist of a delegation from each Presbytery composed of Ministers and Ruling Elders in equal number. Until otherwise ordered by overture, the following proportion shall be observed: Each Presbytery which consists of not more than seven ministers shall be entitled to one Minister and one Ruling Elder. Large Presbyteries shall be entitled to send one additional Minister and Ruling Elder for each additional seven Ministers or major fraction of that number. The number of delegates from a Presbytery shall be determined by the number of Ministers on the roll at the last stated meeting preceding the date of the General Assembly.

3. **Credentials.** The Clerk of each Presbytery shall certify to the Clerk of the General Assembly the names of the persons chosen as Commissioners, and also the names of their alternates. In ordinary cases no one shall be seated as a member of the General Assembly without such certificate.

The granting of a certificate of dismissal to a Commissioner either by a Presbytery or Session shall vacate the appointment, and his alternate shall take his place.

4. **Powers and Duties.** The General Assembly shall have power to receive and decide all Appeals, References, and Complaints regularly brought before it from the lower Courts; to review the records of Synods; to determine questions of doctrine and discipline and give formal interpretation of law, which shall stand until reversed by a subsequent General Assembly or by overture; to warn and testify against any error in doctrine or against prevailing immoralities; to transmit overtures to Presbyteries and enact regulations founded thereon; to organize, unite, divide, or change the boundaries of Synods, to organize Presbyteries in remote mission fields; to establish Theological Seminaries, and regulate those under the control of Synods so far as to secure uniformity in the course and term of study; to confirm or veto the election or transfer of Professors in all Theological Seminaries, and to remove for immorality or unsoundness in doctrine, when determined by regular judicial process, any Theological Professor; to conduct the missionary operations of the Church either by committees or Boards duly chosen and organized, and to supervise and instruct the same and recommend to them such measures as may tend to secure the most liberal support and the largest possible dissemination of the gospel; to appoint Commissions for the determination of questions of doctrine, the interpretation of law, or the transaction of such other business as it may direct; to correspond with similar Courts of other Churches for the purpose of promoting harmony, brotherly love, and co-operation in the cause of religion and morals; and, in general, to adopt measures for the promotion of truth and holiness and to be a bond of union, concord, and mutual confidence among the congregations and Courts of the Church. The General Assembly, being the supreme judicial, legislative, and administrative Court of the Church, may deal with, and dispose of any matter which may arise, and which is not provided for in the rules of the Church or its forms of procedure.

In all cases of Appeal, Complaint, or Reference, the Synod shall be the

Court of final jurisdiction for the determination of all matters except questions involving doctrine, the regularity of proceedings, or the interpretation of law, which questions may be carried on Appeal, Complaint, or Reference to the General Assembly as the Court of final jurisdiction, and may be carried direct from the Presbytery to the General Assembly, whose judgment shall be for the guidance of the lower court to which the case may be carried on other grounds.

5. **Meetings.** The General Assembly shall meet once every year. Each General Assembly shall fix the date and place of the succeeding General Assembly. The General Assembly shall cease to exist as soon as it is dissolved.

6. **Quorum.** One-third of the delegates duly commissioned, being assembled at the time and place appointed, shall be a quorum for the transaction of business. A smaller number may adjourn from time to time until a quorum is obtained.

7. **Opening and Closing.** At the time appointed for the meeting of the General Assembly the Moderator of the last General Assembly, or his alternate, or, in their absence, the Clerk, shall open the meeting with a devotional service and a sermon, constitute the General Assembly, and preside until a new Moderator is chosen. When the business is finished, and a vote to dissolve the General Assembly has prevailed, the Moderator shall say, "By virtue of the authority to me delegated, I do hereby dissolve this General Assembly, and require another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet at on the day of A.D." After this he shall close the General Assembly by prayer, praise, and the benediction.

8. **Records.** The records of the proceedings of the General Assembly shall be kept in printed form, and each copy duly certified by the signature of the Clerk shall be received as the official record.

9. **Overtures.** Any proposal which involves alteration or innovation in doctrine, worship, discipline, or government can become law only by being submitted as an overture to the Presbyteries of the Church. A two-thirds vote of the General Assembly shall be necessary to transmit such an overture. Action thereon in each Presbytery shall be taken at a time agreed upon at a previous meeting of the Presbytery, or determined by the General Assembly. No absent member of the Presbytery shall be entitled to vote. The vote shall be taken by the calling of the roll, and only the ayes and nays shall be counted. The vote shall then be carefully recorded and certified by the Clerk to the General Assembly. For the information of the General Assembly the whole number of members present at the meeting of Presbytery when the vote was taken shall also be reported. When a majority of the votes cast, and representing not less than two-thirds of the Presbyteries, shall be in the affirmative, the General Assembly shall enact such amendment or regulation, and incorporate the same in the constitutional law of the Church, unless, in the view of two-thirds of the whole delegation to the General Assembly, peculiar circumstances shall render it inexpedient.

To guard against premature legislation the General Assembly may submit to the Presbyteries an informal overture on a question or proposed measure, in order to ascertain the sentiment of the Church thereon before proceeding to further action. The vote shall be taken and reported as in a formal overture, or as may be directed by the General Assembly.

10. **Alternates of Commissioners.** The General Assembly of 1884 decided that an alternate, but not of the absentee in the order of their names as reported by the Clerk of Presbytery, was not entitled to a seat.

Unless otherwise instructed by the Presbytery, it is assumed that in case of the absence of a principal the person whose name is opposite will be enrolled as a Commissioner.

In the failure of a Presbytery to appoint an alternate, the General Assembly cannot admit one to a seat as a Commissioner.

11. The General Assembly Incorporated. The General Assembly is a Corporate Body under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, with the title of "The Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America." Three Trustees are elected by the General Assembly each year, to serve for three years.

OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THEIR DUTIES

1. Officers. The officers of the Assembly shall be a Moderator, and a Clerk. The Treasurer of the Trustees of the General Assembly is the Treasurer of the General Assembly. A Vice-Moderator may also be chosen.

2. Election of Moderator. Immediately after the constitution of the Assembly, the Commissioners shall, by ballot, choose one of their number to act as Moderator for the ensuing year.

3. Election of Clerk. The Clerk shall be elected by ballot, and his term of office shall be for four years. He may be a member of the Assembly or not, as may be deemed expedient.

4. Assistant Clerk. At the request of the Clerk the Assembly may choose an Assistant Clerk to serve during the sessions of the Assembly.

5. Majority Necessary to Elect. It shall require a majority of all the votes cast to elect. In case there is no election on the first ballot, the Assembly shall proceed to ballot for the two candidates having the highest number of votes.

DUTIES OF THE MODERATOR

6. Official Relation. The General Assembly being the highest Court of the Church, the Moderator sustains an official relation to the entire body. Besides the performance of such functions as may be assigned him by the General Assembly, it belongs to him to keep himself informed of the whole work of the Church, to correspond, as far as he may deem it advisable, with the Boards, agencies, and institutions under the control of the General Assembly and with the Moderators of the Synods with reference to the state of religion within the bounds of their respective Synods and the measures proper to be taken to promote the cause of Christ, and to fill vacancies that may occur in the committees and the commissions appointed by the General Assembly which are not otherwise provided for. He may appear as the representative of the General Assembly in the meetings of Presbyteries and Synods to encourage and strengthen them in their work. He may also meet with delegates from other bodies in conference regarding the promotion of ecclesiastical comity and co-operation in the advancement of the Kingdom of God, and he may appoint delegates to such conferences. He shall make report to the next General Assembly.

7. Enforcing the Rules. The Moderator shall preside over the Assembly, and enforce its rules of order.

8. Taking the Vote. When the deliberations on a particular subject are closed, the Moderator shall give a concise and clear statement of the question, take the vote, and announce the result from the chair.

9. Casting Vote. The Moderator shall vote with the other members of the Assembly when the vote is taken by ballot. In any other case, if the Assembly is equally divided, he shall have the casting vote; but if he does not choose to vote, he may put the question a second time, and if the result is the same, the question shall be lost.

10. Deciding Questions of Order. The Moderator shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Assembly by any two members; or he may, in the first instance, submit the questions to the Assembly.

11. **Speaking from the Chair.** The Moderator may, without leaving the chair, speak to questions of order. But when he would express his views on any business before the Assembly, he must call some member to occupy the chair until he has concluded his remarks.

12. **Nominating Committees.** Unless otherwise determined by a special motion, the Moderator shall nominate all standing and special committees, subject to the confirmation of the Assembly.

13. **Filling Vacancies.** The Moderator shall fill all vacancies in permanent and special committees that may occur after the meeting of the General Assembly.

14. **Devotional Exercises.** The Moderator shall have control of the devotional exercises during the sessions of the General Assembly.

15. **Duties of the Clerk.** The Clerk shall keep a roll of the members of the Assembly; call it as often as may be necessary; record the transactions of the Assembly; preserve the records and all papers not otherwise disposed of, and sign all orders and official papers. He is the Treasurer of the General Assembly pro tem, when the Treasurer is absent. He shall have charge of all papers relating to statistics; prepare the forms and take the necessary measures for the collection of full and accurate statistical information.

16. **The Docket.** The Clerk shall prepare and present to the Assembly, immediately after the election of the Moderator, a docket of the business to come before the Assembly, and during the meeting shall keep an exact entry upon the docket in the order presented and accepted for the consideration of the Assembly. All papers not referred and reports shall be put upon the docket in the order in which they are read, unless otherwise ordered by a vote.

17. **Order of Business.** The Clerk shall prepare an order of business for the General Assembly, and refer all papers and reports requiring reference to the proper committees without reading.

18. **Revision and Correction of Reports.** The Clerk shall revise, correct, arrange, and combine reports and resolutions in the interest of consistency.

19. **Committee on Credentials.** The Clerk is a Committee on Credentials; and a certified list of the Commissioners from each Presbytery, with the post Office address of each, shall be sent by the Clerk of each Presbytery to him not later than April 20.

COMMITTEES

1. **Standing Committees.** At the next sitting after the election of Moderator, or as soon thereafter as possible, the following standing committees shall be appointed, namely:

1. Bills and Overtures.
2. Judiciary.
3. Foreign Missions.
4. American Missions.
5. Education.
6. Ministerial Pensions and Relief.
7. Publication and Bible Schools.
8. Women's Board.
9. Finance.
10. Statistics.
11. Correspondence.
12. Revision.
13. Nominations.
14. Theological Seminaries.
15. Councils.

16. Reform.
17. Administration.
18. Resolutions.

The usage is to appoint a majority of the members of the Committees from the Ministry, except in the case of the Committee on Finance.

2. **Bills and Overtures.** The Committee on Bills and Overtures shall consist of seven members, and be charged with the consideration of all such proposals for public acts, or other measures of general interest, as shall be referred to it.

3. **Judiciary.** The Judiciary Committee shall consist of seven members, and to it shall be referred all questions involving the interpretation of the existing laws and doctrines of the Church.

4. **Boards of the Church.** The Committees on the Boards of the Church shall consist of five members each, and it shall be the duty of each to review the transactions of its board and suggest new measures.

5. **Finance.** The Committee on Finance shall consist of five members, and to it shall be referred the reports of the Treasurers of the Assembly, and of the Boards, and all papers and resolutions relating to Finances, except appropriations to the Boards.

6. **Statistics.** The Committee on Statistics shall consist of five members, and to it shall be referred all papers and reports concerning statistics, and it shall propose any action necessary to secure full and correct statistical information.

7. **Correspondence.** The Committee on Correspondence shall consist of five members, and to it shall be referred all matters relating to intercourse with other Churches.

8. **Revision.** The Committee on Revision shall consist of five members, and to it shall be referred the Minutes of the Assembly and of the Synods, and it shall report on the manner in which the Minutes have been recorded, and whether the proceedings of the Synods have been according to Presbyterial order.

9. **Nominations.** The Committee on Nominations shall consist of one member from each Synod in America, the Chairman not to be chosen from the same Synod two years in succession, and shall nominate to the Assembly persons to fill the vacancies occurring in all the Boards and Permanent Committees, and on such Special Committees as may be referred to it by the General Assembly for this purpose. It shall also nominate the Moderator's alternate.

10. **Theological Seminaries.** The Committee on Theological Seminaries shall consist of five members, and to it shall be referred all matters relating to Theological Seminaries.

11. **Councils.** The Committee on Councils shall consist of five members, and to it shall be referred the reports of the two Federal Bodies with which our Church is connected; and it shall prepare such action as may be called for.

12. **Administration.** The Committee on Administration shall consist of five members, and to it shall be referred the report of the Board of Administration, and it shall prepare such action as may be called for.

13. **Resolutions.** The Committee on Resolutions shall consist of five members, and to it may be referred resolutions introduced on the floor of the Assembly, and it shall submit appropriate appreciation of services rendered the Assembly.

14. **Notification of Committees.** The chairman of each committee shall be furnished with a list of its members and a copy of the minutes of their appointment, when it contains any specification of their duty, together with all papers referred to them.

15. **Reports of Committees.** The report of a committee, presented at the regular time in order of business, may be accepted without a motion, unless it contains something objectionable to the Assembly. But at any other time it may be accepted only on motion.

16. **Discharge of Committees.** The acceptance of a report discharges the committee from the further consideration of the business, unless by vote recommitted to it.

17. **Permanent Committees.** The following Permanent Committees shall be appointed, which shall report to the next General Assembly.

(1) A Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence.

(2) A Committee on Historical Records.

(3) A Committee on State of Religion.

18. **Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence.** The Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence shall consist of two members who shall serve for two years, one to be elected by each Assembly, whose duty it shall be to see that bills rendered by the delegates for railroad transportation are reasonable and not excessive. To it shall also be referred all applications for leave of absence.

19. **Historical Records.** The Committee on Historical Records shall consist of nine members, and shall report annually to the General Assembly.

20. **State of Religion.** The Committee on State of Religion shall consist of two members and it shall report to the next General Assembly.

21. **Printed Reports.** Permanent Committees are expected to have their reports in the hands of the Principal Clerk twenty days before the meeting of the General Assembly.

22. **Committee of the Whole.** As it may sometimes answer valuable ends for the members of the Assembly to confer together on certain subjects in a manner which would not consist with the strict rules of the Court, the Assembly may resolve itself into a "Committee of the Whole," or extra-judicial conference.

23. **Rules for Committee of the Whole.** The Moderator of the Assembly shall appoint a chairman to preside, whose duty it shall be to report to the Assembly the business thus extra-judicially transacted. The rules of the Assembly shall be observed as far as they are applicable in the Committee of the Whole, excepting that the previous question cannot be called, the ayes and nays required, nor can there be an appeal from the decision of the chair.

24. **Report.** The Committee of the Whole cannot adjourn; it must always rise and report to the Assembly. If the business referred thereto is not finished, the committee, through the chairman, reports progress, and asks leave to sit again, which the Assembly may grant or refuse at its discretion.

25. **Committee on Credentials.** The Clerk of the Assembly shall be a Committee on Credentials, whose duty it shall be to prepare the roll for the next Assembly.

26. **Directions for Standing Committees.** The Standing Committees are committees on the subject named in their title, and are not restricted to the reports referred to them.

A Committee may not report on any subject not referred to it by the General Assembly.

Standing Committees are discharged by order of the Moderator during the final session of the General Assembly.

Standing Committees should have their reports to the Assembly type-written, double spaced, on one side only, of the paper furnished by the Assembly. Use no abbreviations. Number the pages. Fold from the foot of the page, into size convenient for the Committee envelope. Endorse on the

back the subject of the paper. The report and all papers referred to the Committee are to be returned to the Clerk.

27. Special Committees. The General Assembly appoints, from time to time, committees for the consideration of special matters and topics. They are called Special Committees to distinguish them from the Permanent and Standing Committees, and are directed to report either to the sitting or the next ensuing Assembly.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Each session of the Assembly shall be opened and closed with prayer.

The order of business at every session, unless suspended by a vote of two-thirds, shall be as follows:

1. Calling the roll and marking absentees.
2. Reading and approving the minutes.
3. The presentation of letters, papers, petitions, or matters requiring reference.
4. The presentation of reports from Standing and Select Committees.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business, in the order in which it was put on the docket.
7. A portion of each session shall be spent in devotional exercises under the direction of the Moderator.

RULES OF ORDER

MOTIONS

1. No Action or Speaking Without a Motion. The Assembly cannot act but in virtue of a motion regularly in its possession; and no speaking shall be allowed without a formal motion, unless it is for explanation, or on questions of privilege.

2. Motion Must Be Seconded and Announced. No motion shall be in possession of the Assembly until it is seconded and announced by the Moderator in the words of the motion.

3. Motions Reduced to Writing. Every motion and amendment shall be reduced to writing if the Moderator or any member desires it.

4. Names of Mover, etc., Recorded. The names of the person who moves and of the person who seconds a motion may be entered upon the minutes at the discretion of the Principal Clerk.

5. Withdrawing a Motion. Any member who makes a motion shall have the liberty to withdraw it, with the consent of his second, before any debate has taken place thereon, but not afterwards, without the leave of the Assembly.

6. Privileged Question. When a question is under consideration, no motion shall be received except "to adjourn," "to lay on the table," for "the previous question," "to postpone indefinitely," "to postpone to a time certain," "to commit," or "to amend"; and these motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged.

7. Use to Be Made of Privileged Questions. These privileged questions are not designed to separate amendments or appendages from the main question, and consequently cannot be moved on each other, but upon the main question; except "to adjourn," and "to postpone to a time certain," may be amended as to the time; and "to commit" may be amended in the question of the Committee, and instructions.

8. Motion to Adjourn. A motion to adjourn is always in order, except when the Assembly is taking a vote, or when a member is speaking.

9. **Previous Question.** Any two members may call for the Previous Question, which shall be put in this form: "Shall the main question now be put?" If seconded by a majority of the members present, all debate shall cease, and the Assembly shall vote, first on pending amendments, if any, and then upon the main question.

10. **No Debate After Previous Question Is Called.** All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the Previous Question, and pending such, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

11. **Motion to Lay on the Table.** The motion, "to lay on the table," has for its object the temporary removal of business from the consideration of the Assembly, and if decided in the affirmative, on the main question or on the amendment, removes the whole subject from before the Assembly until it is taken up again.

12. **Indefinite Postponement.** When any question is postponed indefinitely the same shall not be acted upon again during the entire meeting of the Assembly, except by a vote of two-thirds of the Assembly.

13. **Order of the Day.** When a question is postponed to a "time certain," it becomes the "order of the day" for that time, and takes precedence of all other business.

14. **Amendments.** Motions are always open to amendment, even to the complete alteration of the motion.

15. **Number of Amendments.** An amendment may itself be amended, but no further complication in this way shall be permitted; and this last amendment shall be considered first.

16. **Substitutes.** Substitutes for motions or resolutions may, with the consent of the Assembly, be admitted instead of the original motion and its appendages, but the effect of a substitute is to supersede the original motion altogether.

17. **Division of Question.** If the question in debate contain several points, any two members may have the same divided, provided the division called for embodies a distinct principle, or statement of fact.

18. **Questions Not Debatable.** All motions "to put on the docket," "to adjourn," "for the previous question," "to lay on the table," "to take up business," in relation to the priority of business, and the admission of substitutes, shall be decided without debate.

19. **Reconsideration.** A motion for reconsideration can be made only by a member who voted with the majority, and unless by consent of two-thirds of the members present, can be entertained only when offered at the same, or next subsequent sitting of the Assembly.

20. **Notice of Motion.** A motion on any subject connected with the doctrine, discipline, government, or order of the Church, shall not be considered until the second sitting after the one at which it is offered.

DEBATE

21. **Obtaining the Floor.** When a member desires to address the Assembly, he must rise and address the Moderator, and he may not proceed until the Moderator recognizes him and announces his name. The Moderator shall always give the floor to the member who first addresses him, or to the one farthest from the chair when two or more address him at the same time.

22. **Decorum of Members.** Every member when speaking shall address himself to the Moderator, and to no other person, except through the Moderator; he shall treat his fellow members, and especially the Moderator, with decorum and respect, and shall attend closely in his speech to the question under consideration.

23. **Calls to Order.** If any speaker acts in any respect in a disorderly manner, it shall be the privilege of any member, and the duty of the Moderator, to call him to order; and a member thus called to order shall immediately take his seat, until it is determined whether he was out of order or not, or until leave is given him by the Assembly to proceed.

24. **Number of Speeches.** On questions of order, postponement, commitment, or matters which have been discussed in Committee of the Whole, no member shall speak more than once, without the express leave of the Assembly. On all other questions, each member may speak twice.

25. **End of Debate.** When the Moderator has risen to take the vote, no further debate or remark shall be admitted, unless there has evidently been a mistake; in this case, the mistake shall be rectified and he shall recommence taking the vote.

VOTING

26. **Taking the Vote.** Before taking the vote, the motion shall be repeated by the Moderator, who shall put the question in the following form: "As many as are in favor of the motion will say, Aye." After the affirmative is expressed: "As many as are opposed will say, No."

27. **Division.** If there is any doubt as to the result of the vote, the Moderator, or any member may call for a division of the house; the Moderator shall then repeat the motion, and shall require the Ayes to rise and be counted, and the Nays to rise and be counted in like manner, and shall pronounce accordingly.

28. **Ayes and Nays.** One-fourth of the members present may demand the Ayes and the Nays on any question; the roll shall then be called, and the vote of each member recorded in the minutes.

29. **Non-Voters.** Members, without weighty reasons, are not to decline voting. Silent members, unless excused from voting, are reckoned with the majority.

30. **Interested Parties.** No member shall have the privilege of voting on a question in which he is personally interested, or in any case where he was not present when the question was put, unless with the consent of the Assembly.

31. **Filling Blanks.** When various propositions are made with respect to filling blanks with particular numbers, sums, or times, the question shall always be on the highest number, the largest sum, and the longest or remotest time.

32. **Appeals.** Any two members feeling aggrieved by a decision of the Moderator may appeal to the Assembly, whose determination of the matter shall be final. The question shall be put in this form: "Shall the decision of the Moderator be sustained?"

MISCELLANEOUS

33. **Leave of Absence.** No member may absent himself from the sessions of the Assembly without its consent.

34. **Private Sessions.** The Assembly has the right to sit with closed doors on business which, in its judgment, ought not to be made a matter of public notoriety.

35. **Final Adjournment.** The Assembly shall close its meeting with prayer, singing, and the benediction.

36. **Printing Minutes.** The Minutes of the Assembly shall be published by the Board of Publication and Bible School Work, under the direction of the Clerk, as soon as possible after the adjournment.

37. **Amendments.** These rules of order may be suspended or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Assembly.

REGULATIONS FOR THE ASSEMBLY
AND DELEGATE FUND

1. The responsibility of handling the funds of the Assembly and Delegate Fund is placed by the General Assembly with the Board of Administration. (G. A. Minutes, 1928, p. 31.)

2. The traveling expenses of Commissioners to the General Assembly and of Delegates to the annual meeting of Synods in America are to be paid from the Assembly and Delegate Fund, according to rules provided by the General Assembly. (G. A. Minutes, 1922, pp. 584-5.)

3. Payments from the Assembly and Delegate Fund to Commissioners to the General Assembly for their expenses shall be determined as follows:

When a Presbytery has paid its assessment to the Assembly and Delegate Fund in full, the commissioners from that Presbytery shall be paid their approved expenses in full.

If the Presbytery has not paid its assessment in full, then the commissioners shall be paid such a portion of their expenses as the contributions of the Presbytery to the Assembly and Delegate Fund bear to the assessment.

4. The Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence shall receive, on blanks provided, a detailed statement of the amount of railroad fare and sleeper fare, or automobile and necessary hotel expense en route which each Commissioner has paid, and shall give its approval to such items in such statements as come within the Assembly's rules.

(Note. Each commissioner submits to the Committee on the Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence a statement of expenses paid coming to the General Assembly and an estimate of the expense of the return trip. This statement is made on a blank prepared by the Committee, and must be given in early in the sessions of the Assembly.)

5. All the commissioners in attendance on the sessions of the General Assembly are entitled to the benefits of this fund, conditional on the payments of his Presbytery to this Fund. The roll of the Assembly, as certified by the Clerk, shall be accepted as evidence of the attendance required. The expenses to be provided for shall be limited to railroad fare and sleeper fare when such is necessary, and that by the shortest route to and from the place of meeting of the Assembly, the delegates availing themselves of any clergy or special rates that may be offered. (Commissioners from presbyteries in foreign lands shall be allowed mileage from their place of residence in this country. It is understood that no one will charge for return expenses unless he intends to return to his field of labor.)

6. Commissioners to the General Assembly and Delegates to the Synods traveling to the place of meeting by automobile instead of by rail shall be allowed expense of travel as follows: one commissioner traveling by automobile, 2 cents per mile, coming and returning by the shortest available route; two commissioners traveling together by automobile, 4 cents per mile to the driver; three commissioners traveling by automobile, 5 cents per mile to the driver, four or more delegates traveling by automobile, 6 cents per mile to the driver. Cost of hotel room en route, where lodging is necessary, shall be allowed all commissioners traveling by automobile.

7. The Clerk, not later than the close of the morning session of the last day of the General Assembly, shall certify to the Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence the attendance of the commissioners on the sessions of the Assembly.

8. The Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence, during the last session of the Assembly, shall submit its report which, upon adoption by the Assembly, shall carry the approval of the expense statements of Commissioners

submitted by the Committee. These expense statements shall then be presented to the Treasurer of the Assembly and Delegate Fund for payment. The Treasurer, or his representative, shall be in attendance upon the General Assembly and shall, upon receiving the expense statements from the Committee on Delegate Fund, pay the Commissioners by cash or check and take their receipts. Endorsement of said Commissioners' checks shall be considered receipts in full for the amount approved in the expense statements.

9. The Board of Administration shall submit to the General Assembly an estimate of the amount required for the Delegate Fund for the following year.

The General Assembly also adopted the following:

Resolved, That, while we concede the right of a presbytery to provide for the expenses of its own delegates, yet in view of the fact that the establishment of a General Delegate Fund is the act of the highest court of our Church, whose authority we recognize and that the principle on which it is based is scriptural, as well as fraternal, viz., that the strong should bear the infirmities of the weak and not please themselves, and that the success of the plan depends on the co-operation of all our presbyteries and congregations, we urge all the presbyteries to contribute their full quota to the Assembly and Delegate Fund. Minutes General Assembly, Vol. X, p. 269, 1901; p. 594, 1902. Vol. XI, pp. 22, 40, 1904.

RULES FOR PAYMENT OF EXPENSES

"The expenses of all permanent committees appointed by the Assembly shall be reported to and paid by it. This does not include the traveling expenses of a member of the committee to report to the Assembly, except in cases where this is definitely authorized by the Assembly.

"The expenses of fraternal delegates to other bodies shall be paid by the Assembly. This rule shall not be applied to delegates to churches in foreign countries, or to general conventions.

"The traveling expenses of delegates to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America shall be paid by the Assembly.

"The expenses of other special delegates and committees shall be allowed only when definitely authorized by the Assembly."

The Clerk is authorized to give warrants for the payment of bills for printing, stationery and other expenses necessary to the work of the General Assembly.

To secure uniformity and insure equity, all persons traveling, by appointment of the General Assembly, such as delegates to other Churches, committees, conferences or alliances, shall be paid on the same mileage basis as the delegates to the General Assembly. Min. G. A., Vol. XI, p. 295.

RULES RELATING TO THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY AND DELEGATE FUND

ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I. Rules Governing Distribution of the Assembly and Delegate Fund.

Commissioners are expected to secure the best railroad rates possible to and from the General Assembly and will be allowed railroad expenses on this basis. Commissioners traveling by automobile shall be allowed mileage expense according to Section 6 of Regulations for the Assembly and Delegate Fund. Commissioners making stops on account of business or social visit will not be allowed the additional expenses incurred by such stops.

Sleeping car expenses will be allowed on the basis of one person to a berth.

Railroad and sleeper fares will be allowed in proportion as the Commissioner's Presbytery has contributed to the Assembly and Delegate Fund.

In case of special or reduced rates, notice will be given in the Church papers by the Committee on Railroad Transportation. Commissioners should study such notices carefully and comply with the instructions given therein. Failure to observe the notices will not be considered a valid reason for deviating from these regulations.

Every Commissioner is required to file promptly with the Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence on arrival at the Assembly or as soon thereafter as possible, and not later than the second day of the Assembly, on blanks provided for the purpose, a statement of his railroad or automobile expenses. On the last day of the Assembly he will receive cash or a check from the Treasurer of the Assembly and Delegate Fund for proportion of expenses due him.

No warrant shall be drawn on the Assembly and Delegate Fund for railroad or automobile expenses for a less amount than two dollars.

No provision has been made in the Assembly and Delegate Fund for meals on the way to, or from, or at the Assembly.

In order to participate in the Assembly and Delegate Fund, Commissioners are required to attend all the sessions of the Assembly unless excused by the proper Committee or by the Assembly.

Each Presbytery should see that its quota to the Assembly and Delegate Fund is paid in full in order that Commissioners may receive from this fund the full amount paid by them for railroad or automobile expenses.

II. Excuses Considered Acceptable for Presentation for Absence from the Sessions of the Assembly.

1. Sickness of the Commissioner or sickness in his family.
2. Serious illness or death of a member of the congregation requiring the presence of the pastor.
3. Unforeseen business emergency.

III. Excuses Not Considered Acceptable for Presentation for Absence from the Sessions of the Assembly.

1. Social visits to friends and relatives during sessions of the Assembly.
2. Absence to attend to business matters which could have been provided for by taking proper foresight.
3. Engagements to preach requiring absence from more than the Monday morning session of the Assembly.
4. Other similar excuses.

IV. Rules Governing Attendance of Commissioners.

A Commissioner accepting appointment to the Assembly should arrange to give the work of the Church all the time needed and should, therefore, so arrange his business that he can be at every session of the Assembly.

Commissioners should not, except under very special circumstances, make arrangements which would take them away from the Sabbath exercises held in connection with the Assembly.

THE ALLIANCE OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

The United Presbyterian Church is a member of the Alliance of the Reformed Churches Throughout the World Holding the Presbyterian System, and is entitled to a representation of sixteen delegates in the Council.

THE FEDERAL COUNCIL OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AMERICA

The United Presbyterian Church is a member of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, and is entitled to a representation of seven delegates. Three representatives are appointed. (G. A. Minutes, 1931, p. 954.)

CORPORATE NAMES OF THE BOARDS

The following are the corporate names of the several Boards, with the location of each one. The respective charters are under the laws of the State in which the Board is located:

The Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Board of Administration of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Board of American Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, Chicago, Ill.

The Board of Ministerial Pensions and Relief of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Board of Directors of the Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, Pittsburgh, Pa.

SECTION IV. THE DIGEST

CONTENTS

	Page
I. ACCOUNTS	109
II. ADMINISTRATION	109
III. ALIENS	118
IV. AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY	118
V. AMERICAN INDIANS	118
VI. AMERICAN MISSIONS, BOARD OF	120
VII. AMUSEMENTS	146
VIII. ANDERSON, W. B., MEMORIAL	147
IX. ANNIVERSARIES	148
X. ANNUITIES	158
XI. APPROPRIATIONS	159
XII. ARMY AND NAVY	160
XIII. ASSOCIATE CHURCH AND ASSOCIATE REFORMED CHURCH	162
XIV. ASSOCIATE REFORMED SYNOD OF THE SOUTH	162
XV. BAPTISM	167
XVI. BIBLE, THE	169
XVII. BOARDS OF THE CHURCH	170
XVIII. BOOK OF GOVERNMENT AND DIRECTORY OF WORSHIP	186
XIX. BUDGET	189
XX. CATECHISM	190
XXI. CHARTER OF THE CHURCH	190
XXII. CHINESE MISSION	192
XXIII. CHRISTIAN GIVING	193
XXIV. CHRIST'S SECOND COMING	197
XXV. CHURCH MUSIC	197
XXVI. CHURCH PAPERS	209
XXVII. CHURCH PROPERTY	213
XXVIII. CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS	216
XXIX. CLERKS OF THE ASSEMBLY	216
XXX. COLLEGES OF THE CHURCH	217
XXXI. COMMISSIONS	219
XXXII. COMMITTEES	220
XXXIII. CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT	221
XXXIV. CONGREGATIONS	222
XXXV. CORRESPONDING CHURCHES	225
XXXVI. CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES	227
XXXVII. COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	228
XXXVIII. GENERAL COUNCIL	228
XXXIX. GENERAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES	228
XL. COVENANTING	239
XLI. DEACONS	240
XLII. DECLINATURE	242
XLIII. DIGEST	242
XLIV. DIRECTORY OF WORSHIP	243
XLV. DIVINE HEALING	245
XLVI. DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE	245
XLVII. EDUCATION, BOARD OF	246
XLVIII. ELECTIVE FRANCHISE	257
XLIX. EVANGELISM	257
L. EVANGELISTS	258
LI. FINANCE	259

	Page
LII. FINANCIAL AGENTS	259
LIII. FORBEARANCE IN LOVE	262
LIV. FOREIGN MISSIONS, BOARD OF	263
LV. GAMBLING	277
LVI. GENERAL ASSEMBLY	277
LVII. HISTORICAL RECORDS	296
LVIII. HOME RELIGION	300
LIX. INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS	301
LX. INTERCHURCH WORLD MOVEMENT	302
LXI. INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS	303
LXII. JEWS	304
LXIII. JUDICIAL CASES AND DECISIONS	306
LXIV. LEGACIES	324
LXV. LICENSURE	325
LXVI. MARRIAGE	327
LXVII. MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH	331
LXVIII. MEMORIAL, THE LIMIT OF	333
LXIX. MEN'S MOVEMENT	333
LXX. MINISTERIAL PENSIONS AND RELIEF, BOARD OF	333
LXXI. MINISTERS	350
LXXII. MISSIONARY AND EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE	356
LXXIII. MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	356
LXXIV. MOUNTAIN WORK	357
LXXV. NATIONAL REFORM	358
LXXVI. NEGROES	359
LXXXVII. NEW WORLD MOVEMENT	359
LXXXVIII. OREGON, PRESBYTERY OF	361
LXXXIX. OVERTURES	361
LXXX. PARSONAGES	363
LXXXI. PASTORS	365
LXXXII. PEACE	370
LXXXIII. PER DIEM	372
LXXXIV. PRAISE BOOKS	373
LXXXV. PRAYER, DAY OF	376
LXXXVI. PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY	377
LXXXVII. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN INDIA	377
LXXXVIII. PRESBYTERIES	378
LXXXIX. PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH	383
XC. PSALMODY	386
XCI. PUBLICATION AND BIBLE SCHOOL WORK	397
XCII. QUOTA OR GOAL	415
XCI. REED ESTATE	416
XCIV. REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES	419
XCV. REPORTS OF PRESBYTERIES	422
XCVI. RESTORATION OF OFFENDERS	422
XCVII. RULING ELDERS	423
XCVIII. SABBATH	428
XCIX. SALARIES	434
C. SECRET SOCIETIES	436
CI. SHORT STATEMENT OF DOCTRINE	441
CII. SLAVERY	441
CIII. SOCIAL SERVICE	442
CIV. SPEER ESTATE	444
CV. STANDARDS OF THE CHURCH	451
CVI. STATE OF THE COUNTRY	451

	Page
CVII. STATISTICS	453
CVIII. STEWARDSHIP	456
CIX. STUDENTS OF THEOLOGY	456
CX. SUPERINTENDENTS OF MISSIONS	459
CXI. SYNODS	465
CXII. TEMPERANCE	471
CXIII. TERMS OF COMMUNION	481
CXIV. THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION	485
CXV. THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES	486
CXVI. TOBACCO	498
CXVII. TREASURERS	500
CXVIII. TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY	501
CXIX. UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA	502
CXX. UNION OF CHURCHES	512
CXXI. WAR	516
CXXII. WEEK OF PRAYER	517
CXXIII. WHITE GIFT	517
CXXIV. WOMEN'S GENERAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY	518
CXXV. WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION	524
CXXVI. YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK	524

DIGEST
OF THE
PRINCIPAL ACTS AND DELIVERANCES OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I. ACCOUNTS

1. General Instructions

We recommend that the Boards of the Church adopt a uniform system of keeping their accounts and having them audited; and with this in view the several Boards are hereby instructed to deposit all moneys received to the credit of their respective Boards, in some safe and reliable bank to be selected by such Board, and to be drawn out only by warrants issued by the Boards in pursuance of resolutions authorizing the same; said warrants to be signed by the President and Secretary of such Board, and when authorized by the Treasurer, paid by said depository; that hereafter all Treasurers be required to furnish, with their audited account to the General Assembly, a certificate of the bank or banks where the funds are deposited, that the balance shown by the account was on deposit to the credit of such Board on the date of the settlement, and that moneys appropriated by the General Assembly be paid on the warrant of the principal clerk. Vol. VIII, p. 730, 1895.

2. Auditors Include Schedules

The Assembly adopted the following recommendation: That auditors be required to include such schedules as are necessary, both for the protection of the auditor himself and of the treasurer of the fund audited, in order that the records of the respective funds be at all times complete within themselves, as well as definite and conclusive. Vol. XIX, p. 791, 1939.

3. Endowment Funds, Reporting

The Assembly granted a memorial from the Presbytery of Cleveland that an order be issued, requiring all endowment holding institutions in reporting to the General Assembly, to make detailed statements concerning permanent investments, as to amount, costs, annual income, and present values as of April 1, preceding the meeting of the Assembly. Vol. XVII, p. 955, 1935.

4. Securities, Stocks and Bonds, Mortgages

The following regulations were adopted:

(1) That in reporting investments sufficient information should be given to properly identify the securities.

(2) In the matter of stocks and bonds, in addition to the purchase or book value, the market and defaulted interest should be given as of date of report.

(3) In the case of mortgages, unpaid taxes and defaulted interest should be given. Vol. XVIII, p. 954, 1935.

II. ADMINISTRATION

1. Board of Administration

1. There shall be created The Board of Administration, which shall succeed the General Council, and which shall be incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania, and have its headquarters in Pittsburgh, Pa.

2. This Board shall be composed of twelve (12) members, three being chosen from the membership of each of the Budget Boards. (The General Secretary of a Budget Board may not be a member of this Board.) Also,

the Board of Publication and Bible School Work and the Women's Board shall each designate two members from year to year to sit as consultative members of this Board

3. For the membership of the Board of Administration for the ensuing year the following persons are nominated: (These names to be presented to the General Assembly). Each year following, each of the Budget Boards shall nominate to the General Assembly a person to serve for a term of three years.

4. In case a vacancy should occur in the course of any year, the Board suffering such vacancy may appoint to the Board of Administration a person to serve on the Board of Administration until the next meeting of the General Assembly.

5. The Board of Administration shall be regarded as the Boards themselves, studying the needs and activities of all the Budget Boards, and seeking to lead the Church to meet its entire obligation. The members of this Board shall function as representatives of the Church as a whole, and not merely as representatives of different phases of the work of the Church.

6. The Board of Administration shall receive all the Budget Funds of the Church and shall distribute the same to the Budget Boards, according to the ratio designated by the General Assembly; except that it shall reserve so much as shall be necessary to provide for its own expense fund as allowed by the General Assembly. It shall receive and distribute other benevolent funds, as authorized, directed or designated. It shall receive and disburse the Assembly and Delegate Fund. It shall, with the approval of the General Assembly, appoint an Executive, who shall be the unanimous choice of the Board, and who shall be a consultative member of the Board. It shall provide the necessary assistants and expense budget. It shall appoint a Treasurer (who may not be the Executive) and such other Officers as may be found necessary, subject to the approval of the General Assembly. It shall fix the salaries of all its employees.

7. The Board of Administration shall meet quarterly, and, when deemed necessary, at the call of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall consist of four members, one from each of the Budget Boards. The Executive, and the General Secretary of each of the Budget Boards shall be consultative members of the Executive Committee. It shall hold stated meetings at such place and at such time as the Board may determine. The Executive Committee shall be clothed with such power as the Board may delegate to it.

8. This Board shall have representatives present at the meeting of the General Assembly (not more than two, in addition to the Executive) so that the Assembly shall be fully informed concerning work in hand, and all proposed movements. These representatives shall have the privilege of the floor in matters pertaining to the Board of Administration, or the Budget Boards, or their work.

9. Should controversies arise among the Boards, the Board of Administration shall be regarded as giving final judgment in the case, unless and until reversed by the General Assembly in case of appeal. Vol. XVII, p. 30, 1928.

2. Responsibility Defined

1. The Board of Administration shall be the responsible agency for coordinating, stimulating, and promoting the general work of the Church, including spiritual life, evangelism, stewardship, and missions.

2. The members of this Board shall study the needs and activities of all the Budget Boards and shall plan and promote a balanced and properly coordinated program.

3. This Board shall be charged also with the responsibility of studying

the fundamental work of the Church as carried on in the local congregations, and of discovering, developing, and promoting the best methods for strengthening the spiritual life, winning souls to Christ, teaching the scriptural principles of stewardship, arousing interest in missions, and securing adequate financial support for local congregational needs and the work carried on by the Budget Boards.

4. This Board shall, when necessary, authorize special or emergency campaigns for funds, and assist the Budget Boards in bringing them to a successful issue.

5. The Board of Administration shall appoint a Committee on Finance. This Committee shall formulate rules and regulations which shall govern the character of investments permissible to be made by the Budget Boards. No investments shall be made by any of the Boards except in conformity with the rules and regulations established by this Committee. (The purpose of this provision is to provide uniformity and safety in the matter of the investment of the Church's permanent funds.)

6. The Board of Administration shall nominate three persons to serve on the Board of Trustees of the "United Presbyterian."

7. Each Budget Board shall remain free in initiative, promotion, and service, but it shall undertake no special campaign, or appeal for funds without the consent of the Board of Administration.

8. Each of the Budget Boards, in selection of its Secretary, and in the prosecution of its work, shall, through consultation with the Board of Administration, make sure that there shall be harmonious co-operation with all the Boards and Agencies, to the end that the interests of the whole Church may be served.

9. In order that the foregoing enactment may become operative, your Committee would suggest the appointment of a Commission which shall be charged with the responsibility of putting it into effect.

10. All enactments heretofore made by order of the General Assembly, or by any Board, which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed. Vol. XVII, p. 33, 1928.

3. Board of Administration Chartered

The Board of Administration was chartered by the State of Pennsylvania, August 3, 1928. Vol. XVII, p. 342, 1929.

4. Meetings of the Board of Administration

Resolved, 14. That the Board of Administration be authorized to change the regulations for its time of meetings from "quarterly meetings," to "four times a year." Vol. XVII, p. 345, 1929.

5. Change in the Membership of the Board of Administration

Memorials from four Presbyteries, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Lake, and Beaver Valley, asked that a change be made in the membership of the Board of Administration. This matter was referred to a special committee to report to the next Assembly. Vol. XVII, p. 657, 1930.

During the past forty years the United Presbyterian Church has had four different organizations working under the direction of the General Assembly, for the purpose of securing adequate financial support for our educational and missionary work. These organizations have all worked in co-operation more or less with the so-called Budget Boards of the Church, which have been the beneficiaries of the monies contributed by the Church. They are as follows:

1. The Ways and Means Committee. Organized about 1882 or 1883. Composed in the beginning of non-board members. When discontinued in 1912, it contained two Board members. Secured its own expenses for the work done and was very successful, leading our Church to a per capita giving to the General Assembly Budget in 1913 of \$4.38. When the difference in the

value of the dollar is taken into consideration, that is a much higher per capita giving to the General Assembly Budget than in 1930 when it was \$4.93 per member.

The work of the committee was entirely voluntary until 1902, when Dr. J. Campbell White was secured as Secretary, but the money for the expenses of the work of the committee, as well as the salary of the secretary, was raised by private subscriptions. Dr. White continued as Secretary until 1906. Dr. G. E. Raitt became Secretary in 1911.

II. The Missionary and Efficiency Committee. The Ways and Means Committee was succeeded by the Missionary and Efficiency Committee, the change being made by the 1913 General Assembly that met in Atlanta, Ga.

The change in the committee was occasioned by the demand that the Boards should be enabled to share more largely in the plans and activities of the work of raising the finances on which they depended for their success. The membership was enlarged to sixteen members and all of the Boards were given representatives, as follows: Foreign, four members; Home, three members; Church Extension, Freedmen's Education and Ministerial Relief, one each. Then there were added three members from the Church-at-Large and one member from the Appropriation Committee.

The expenses of this committee, when it was first appointed, were limited to \$5,000 a year. The money was furnished by the Boards participating in the General Assembly Budget, in proportion to their participation.

After the appointment of this committee by the Atlanta Assembly, a controversy arose among the members regarding the plan of organization for work. The representatives of the Foreign Board were united in their opposition to the plan proposed by the other members of the committee. As a result the organization of the committee was delayed and the controversy referred to the next General Assembly.

There is a significant statement in the action of the General Assembly of 1914, to which the controversy over the Missionary and Efficiency Committee was referred. It is found on page 727 of the General Assembly Minutes of 1914, near the bottom of the page, and is as follows: "*If the members of the Boards had not been appointed on this committee, these differences would never have arisen.*" Then on page 728, under number four of the recommendations of the Assembly, are these words: "*That vacancies on the committee be so filled that at the expiration of two years there shall be no representative of any Board in the membership.*"

During the existence of the Missionary and Efficiency Committee, there was a special Appropriation Committee, appointed by the General Assembly, and composed of non-board members. This committee determined the amount of the General Assembly Budget and its pro rata of division. The Missionary and Efficiency Committee contained one member from the Appropriation Committee.

III. The General Council. In 1923 the Missionary and Efficiency Committee was superseded by the General Council. The principal differences between the Council and its predecessor, the Missionary and Efficiency Committee, were:

1. The membership was increased from 16 to 21. This gave the Church at Large a wider representation and was in accordance with a growing demand. Every Synod was represented with the exception that there was one representative from the two Synods of the Pacific Coast.

2. The old Appropriation Committee was merged in the General Council so that the size and division of the General Assembly Budget was determined by the Council. It was necessary for the General Assembly to pass on the Budget as suggested by the Council.

Soon after the formation of the General Council criticism of its work

began to appear here and there in the Church. This culminated in eight memorials being sent to the 1927 General Assembly, asking for changes in the organization of the Council.

The nature of these memorials will appear in the following quotations, taken from them and found in the 1927 Assembly Minutes, page 906:

"Memorials from the Presbyteries of Chartiers and Westmoreland asking the General Assembly to discontinue the General Council as now constituted and to create in its stead a Committee on Appropriation and Canvass, no member of which shall at any time be a member of any Budget Board."

"Memorials from the Presbyteries of Cleveland and Lake, asking that the composition of the Council be changed so as to exclude as members all secretaries and members of participating Boards."

"Memorials from the Presbyteries of Xenia, Indiana, First Ohio, and Ohio Northwestern, asking the Assembly to direct the Boards to keep their expenditures within their expected income, based on the results of the Every Member Canvass. Also asking that the membership of the General Council be so changed as to eliminate participating Boards and secure a wider representation of the Church."

The eight Presbyteries sending up memorials, mentioned above, are from three of our largest and most influential Synods and the Presbyteries from which they were sent contained 20 per cent of the entire membership in America. All of the eight memorials agree on one point, namely, *that all members of the Budget Boards be eliminated from membership on the General Council.*

A study of the conditions prevailing in the Church during the years preceding the formation of the Board of Administration reveals the fact that there was dissatisfaction throughout the Church in regard to our missionary work. The memorials quoted above are just one proof of this. There are many others.

Among the reasons for this dissatisfaction two principal ones may be mentioned:

1. Many believed that the Missionary Budgets suggested to the Assembly by the General Council and adopted by it were far too large. The Budget adopted for Church-year of 1926-7 was \$1,084,000. Of this amount only \$950,000 was paid, leaving a deficit of \$134,000. The Budget suggested for the following year was \$1,200,000. Of this, only \$870,651 was paid. That left a deficit of \$329,349, or a deficit for the two succeeding years of \$463,349. There were many in the Church who thought and said that the General Council was asking unreasonable things from the Church and demanded a change in its membership.

2. Another cause of dissatisfaction with the General Council was due to the distribution of the missionary contributions. Many thought that the fundamental character of our Home Mission Work entitled it to a much larger proportion of these contributions, especially in view of the fact that this work was given so meager a share of the New World Movement funds. Of the \$8,017,365 contributed through the New World Movement, only \$893,749 or just about 11 per cent was given to our Boards of Home Missions and Church Extension, as they were constituted at that time. The growing feeling that our Home Mission work was not being supported in a way its importance to the work of the whole Church demanded, found, at least, a partial expression in the memorials to which reference has been made.

In reply to the eight memorials presented to the 1927 General Assembly, meeting at Washington, D. C., the Assembly appointed a committee of investigation, known as "The Committee of Seven," with the following instructions, namely: "A Committee of Seven who shall give to the entire subject of Board and Council organizations careful and exhaustive study, taking into their

consideration all reports, recommendations and memorials referred to your committee; and in case they find a change or changes desirable, feasible and practical, they shall report a definite plan to the next General Assembly for its consideration."

This "Committee of Seven" reported to the 1928 General Assembly, meeting at St. Louis, a plan creating and setting up "The Board of Administration," defining its membership duties and responsibilities. (See Minutes of 1928 General Assembly, page 29.)

It is to be understood, of course, that this "Committee of Seven" looked carefully into all the memorials and recommendations referred to it; and yet, it is most interesting to note that in regard to the one point on which the eight memorials agreed, namely, that all members of the Budget Boards should be eliminated from the General Council, the Committee went to the opposite extreme and recommended a Board of Administration, to take the place of the General Council, every one of whose members is also a member of one of our Budget Boards.

It is against this basis of representation on the Board of Administration that the four memorials that were before the Des Moines Assembly contend. They ask that a change be made in the constitution of the Board of Administration, making it more representative and democratic in the service of the Church.

The memorial from the Presbytery of Beaver Valley asks that the Board be composed of one representative from each Synod, and that the "Budget Board" members be consultative members only. Lake Presbytery would have the Board of Administration increased to fifteen members, each of the "four budget boards" represented by one member and a pastor from each of the Synods. The Presbytery of Los Angeles and also the Presbytery of San Francisco want the Board of Administration increased to fifteen members: each board being represented by one member and each Synod in America represented by one member; the Assembly to appoint all fifteen members, five to serve for one year, five to serve for two years, and five to serve for three years, succeeding members to be nominated by the respective Boards and Synods and confirmed by the General Assembly.

The Des Moines Assembly referred the whole matter to your "Committee" for solution. We were directed to consider proposed changes and to report to the next General Assembly the advisability of making the proposed or other changes in the number, location, and appointment of the members of the Board of Administration.

Your Committee has made a thorough study of the whole subject referred to it by the last General Assembly and in view of the facts discovered recommends the following amendments and additions to the act creating the Board of Administration.

The Board of Administration shall be composed of fifteen members, as follows: one member from each Synod in America having 12,000 communicant members or less and two members from each Synod in America having more than 12,000 communicant members. No officer, member or employee of any Budget Board shall be eligible to membership in the Board of Administration. The newly constituted Board of Administration shall supersede the present Board of Administration and shall have all the powers and duties of the present Board except as modified by these amendments and additions.

For the ensuing year, membership in the Board of Administration shall be chosen in the following manner:

Each Synod in America, at its next annual meeting, shall nominate the representative or representatives to which it is entitled and shall report same, for confirmation, to a commission of eight ministers and seven elders, to be appointed by this General Assembly. This commission shall be convened by

its moderator, shall meet in Pittsburgh, Pa., November 2, 1931, shall transact the business for which it is appointed, and its action shall be reported to the Clerk of the General Assembly.

The newly appointed Board of Administration shall be convened for its first meeting and organization, by the Clerk of the General Assembly, during the month of November, 1931, as soon after November 2, 1931, as may seem advisable.

At the first meeting of the new Board the members shall be divided into three classes by lot, whose terms of office shall be one, two, and three years, respectively. Succeeding members shall be nominated by their respective Synods, at the annual meeting preceding the expiration of their terms of office, and shall be reported to the next General Assembly for confirmation.

In case a vacancy should occur in the membership of the Board of Administration in the course of any year, it shall be filled, until the next meeting of the Synod concerned, by an appointment by the Moderator of said Synod.

The Board of Administration shall hold at least one annual meeting not later than December 1. Special meetings may be called by the Executive Committee or at the request of five members. Eight members shall constitute a quorum.

At the annual meeting in November the Board shall frame a tentative Budget exhibiting the needs of the Budget Boards, to be used as a goal of effort in the Every Member Canvass. Each of the Budget Boards shall be invited to send its secretary and such other representatives as it may desire to this meeting. These representatives shall present written reports on the condition of the work of their respective Boards, their needs and opportunities for the ensuing Church year and shall also be entitled to make such recommendations as they may desire. They shall give such information regarding the work of their respective Boards as the Board of Administration may request.

The Board of Administration shall be charged with the responsibility of promoting and directing an annual Every Member Canvass, during the month of March, for congregational expenses and missions. In this canvass, the General Missionary Budget, prepared at the November meeting, shall be used for information.

On the basis of the results of this canvass the Board of Administration shall recommend the General Missionary Budget, with its pro rata of division, to the General Assembly for adoption. Other assured sources of income, such as the net proceeds from invested trust funds, bequests, annuities, etc., in addition to the results of the Every Member Canvass, shall be considered in the final adoption of the amount and pro rata of the General Missionary Budget.

In deciding on the pro rata of divisions of the General Missionary Budget, the Board of Administration shall keep in mind the whole work of the Church and shall consider the total income of each Board, including "Specials" (meaning all contributions not reckoned in the General Missionary Budget), undesignated and designated contributions, and shall endeavor to apportion the undesignated contributions in such manner as to permit the Church to carry out a well-balanced program in which each Board will receive the proportion of income its importance in the work of the entire Church would seem to justify.

The Board of Administration shall receive all of the Budget Funds of the Church. It shall reserve from the undesignated portion of these, for its own expenses, such an amount as shall be designated for this purpose by the General Assembly, the Board of Administration having submitted to the General Assembly an itemized budget of its expenses for the ensuing year. These shall not exceed \$20,000. It shall distribute the balance of Budget Funds in

accordance with the pro rata adopted by the General Assembly. It shall receive and distribute other benevolent funds, as authorized, directed, or designated. It shall receive and disburse the Assembly and Delegate Fund. It shall elect an Executive Secretary, who shall also be the Treasurer. Or it may elect an Executive Secretary and also a Treasurer if, in the interest of efficiency and economy, the Board thinks best. The election of the executive officer or officers shall be reported to the next General Assembly for confirmation, the salary shall be fixed by the Board of Administration and the term of office shall be three years. The Board shall appoint such office assistants as, in its judgment, the work demands. The annual financial report to the General Assembly shall be in detail and shall include office rent, traveling expenses, literature, salary paid to each secretary and employee, etc.

The Board of Administration shall appoint five of its members, residing within a reasonable distance of its headquarters, who shall constitute its Executive Committee. The Executive Secretary shall be a consultative member. This Committee shall hold meetings as the Board may determine, and shall care for such business as may require attention between the meetings of the Board, and shall report its actions to the Board for ratification.

The Executive Secretary of the Board of Administration, together with the General Secretaries of the four Budget Boards, shall constitute an Executive Council. It shall meet at least quarterly at the call of the Executive Secretary of the Board of Administration for mutual helpfulness and for the discussion of the work of the Board of Administration.

As is the custom with respect to other Boards of the Church, the Board of Administration shall be entitled to representation on the floor of the General Assembly by its Executive Secretary when matters pertaining to its work are being considered.

Amend Article III—9, page 31, General Assembly Minutes, 1928, by eliminating the entire article.

Amend Article VII—8, page 33, General Assembly Minutes, 1928, by eliminating entire article.

Additional Recommendations:

1. The Board of Administration is hereby authorized to have its charter changed to conform to the changes made by this General Assembly.

2. All previous enactments of the General Assembly that may be inconsistent with the foregoing amendments and recommendations are hereby repealed.

3. The Clerk of the General Assembly is hereby instructed to notify the Clerk of each Synod of our Church in this country of the foregoing action in so far as it requires the attention of his Synod.

4. The present Board of Administration is requested to continue in office until the new Board of Administration is constituted. Vol. XVII, p. 944, 1931.

6. Reorganization of the Board of Administration

The election of the members of the Board of Administration, nominated by their respective Synods, was confirmed by a Commission November 2, 1931. Vol. XVIII, p. 10, 1932.

The Board of Administration was reorganized November 24, 1931, as directed by the General Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 11, 1932.

7. The Beginning of the Term of Office of Members of the Board of Administration

The term of office (of members of the Board of Administration) shall begin with their confirmation by the General Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 36, 1932.

8. Advisory Council of the Board of Administration

Resolved, 11. That the Constitution of the Board of Administration be amended so that the name of the "Executive Council" shall be changed to the "Advisory Council of the Board of Administration," and that

(1) Its membership shall include all Secretaries of the Budget Boards and the Board of Administration and two representatives chosen by the Women's Board;

(2) The purpose of the Council shall be for mutual helpfulness and for discussion of the work of the Budget Boards and the Board of Administration;

(3) The Council shall elect a permanent Chairman and Secretary to serve for one year;

(4) The Council shall hold two regular meetings each year, one just prior to the Fall meeting of the Board of Administration, and the other prior to the meeting of the General Assembly, and the call to be issued by the officers of the Council. Vol. XVIII, p. 634, 1934.

9. Designated Gifts and Special Appeals

Resolved, That the time has arrived when special appeals should be allowed a degree of latitude to be determined from time to time by the Board of Administration. Vol. XIX, p. 338, 1937.

Recommendations from a Committee of the Advisory Council were approved by the General Assembly.

(1) *Whereas* designations as now made within the missionary budget of the Church may, and sometimes do, fail to observe the need for well-balanced proportionate giving on the part of the congregation to the work of all the Boards, we suggest that, in the adoption of specific projects in America or abroad and the designation of budget contributions therefor, congregations and Sabbath Schools be requested and instructed to keep such designations within the limits of the percentages of the total Missionary Dollar annually established by the General Assembly for participation of the various Boards in the missionary budget.

(2) *Whereas* we believe that the support which a congregation and Sabbath School give to the missionary budget of the Church can often be stimulated and vitalized by means of giving to specific projects in missionary work, we suggest that congregations and Sabbath Schools be urged to make the fullest possible use of specific projects in America and abroad whenever such can be beneficial in the instruction of the Church concerning our missionary work and in securing more adequate support for the same.

(3) *Whereas* every kind of legitimate giving to the work of missions should be facilitated and fostered within our own denomination, we suggest that, aside from regular congregational and Sabbath School gifts which shall all conform to the balance among participating boards as determined annually by the General Assembly, provision be made for the receipt by the boards of gifts from individuals and groups who seek specific objects for giving, in addition to their sharing in the local church and general missionary budgets; that discreet appeals to individuals, which will have the approval of the boards concerned and of the Board of Administration and which will guard against injury to local church and missionary budgets, be permitted that degree of publicity which will insure reaching potential givers; and that the missionary boards seek the closest possible understanding and mutual sympathy in the solicitation of such gifts.

Should these suggestions be adopted and given the wholehearted support of the Church and her Boards, we believe there will be demonstrated an essential unity in our missionary endeavor which will lead to greater progress in the accomplishment of our common purpose—the coming of God's Kingdom on earth. Vol. XIX, p. 943, 1939.

10. Charges for Handling Certain Funds

Resolved, 7. That the Board of Administration be directed to charge five per cent of the amount handled for the administration and promotion of the Assembly and Delegate Fund, the Assembly Certificate Fund, and the White Gift Fund. Vol. XX, p. 27, 1940.

11. Alternates to Be Appointed

Resolved, 9. That, in case the representative of a Synod cannot be present at the annual meeting of the Board of Administration, the Moderator of that Synod be directed to appoint an alternate for the meeting. Vol. XX, p. 329, 1941.

III. ALIENS

Resolved, 3. In reply to the request of the Women's Board and the Board of Home Missions as to the meaning of the action of the last Assembly "that the work among our alien population be committed to the Board of Home Missions, with power to make it a special department with regulations adapted to the work; and that congregations carrying on such missions be instructed to report to the Board," it is proposed that the action had immediate reference to the work of the Assembly's Committee. But inasmuch as the work is one and the unity of it should be carefully maintained and as there might arise a situation that would involve misunderstanding, the Assembly directs that the Board of Home Missions by conference with the Women's Board provide for a wise adjustment of the work carried on by them among foreigners and in all the fields in which they are mutually interested, so as to secure the utmost harmony and efficiency in this growing enterprise. Vol. XII, p. 646. 1910.

IV. AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

Resolved, 1. That the American Bible Society be made a participant this year in the White Gift offerings for such a percentage of the undesignated gifts as will, with its designated gifts received through this Council, make a total of \$10,000. Vol. XV, p. 897, 1923.

(Participation in the White Gift has been continued from year to year to the American Bible Society.)

V. AMERICAN INDIANS

1. **Missions among the Indians.** [A committee appointed by the Fifth General Assembly, on the propriety of establishing a mission among the aborigines of our country, reported]: From the disturbed condition of the tribes on our northern and southwestern borders, from the means needed to carry on our missionary enterprises in other quarters, and the provision already made by other churches for the religious instruction of tribes in the peaceful parts of our land, we are prepared to recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That there is not, at present, sufficient encouragement to justify the Assembly in establishing a mission among the aborigines. Vol. II, p. 4, 1864.

Resolved, 16. That the Executive Committee of the Board of Home Missions be instructed to inquire into the practicability and desirableness of establishing a mission in connection with our Church among the American Indians; and should the Executive Committee deem it best, it is hereby authorized to begin work at once, it being the understanding that all the expenses will be borne by the United States Government, and that we shall only be expected to furnish the missionaries. Vol. III, p. 264, 1871.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the Board of Home Missions be directed to consider the wants of the Indians, and, if they deem it advisable, that they establish a mission among our North American Indians. Vol. III, p. 405, 1872.

Resolved, 7. That this General Assembly take whatever steps are necessary to secure from the General Government the transfer of the superintendency of the Warm Springs Indians, in Oregon, to the United Presbyterian Church, and that the Secretary of the Board, in conjunction with Rev. S. G.

Irvine, D.D., of Albany, Oregon, be appointed to secure, if possible, such transfer. Vol. IV, p. 339, 1876.

[The assignment of the Warm Springs Indians to the United Presbyterian Church was secured, and the mission was undertaken. The missionary was appointed in 1877, and arrived at the field early in May, 1878. In 1879 there were 63 members. Vol. IV, p. 604, 1878; Vol. V, p. 52, 1879. The missionary resigned, and it was found difficult to obtain another, and therefore the Assembly gave the Board discretionary power as to the continuance of the mission. Vol. V, p. 766, 1883. The following Assembly directed further effort to secure a missionary, but in case of failure to secure a missionary within a reasonable time, the Board was empowered and instructed to relinquish the charge of the mission. Vol. VI, pp. 67, 68, 1884. A missionary was obtained, and the work prosecuted. Vol. VI, p. 259, 1885.]

2. **Mission Buildings.** [The General Assembly requested the Board of Church Extension to erect the necessary premises. Vol. VI, 1885. The Board reported that the buildings had been erected. The Assembly took the following action]:

Resolved, 4. That we now commit this property to the care of the Board of Home Missions. Vol. VI, p. 669, 1887.

3. **Contract for the Schools.** *Resolved*, That the Board be directed to prosecute the endeavor to get the management of the school work under contract with the Government. Vol. VI, p. 710, 1887. [The following Assembly authorized the Board to perfect its contract with the Government, and provided for the expenses involved. Vol. VII, p. 58, 1888. In consequence of the change of policy in the management of the schools by the Government, no further effort was made in regard to the control of the schools.]

4. **Transfer of the Mission to the Women's Board.** [The Board was authorized to complete the negotiations for the transfer of the mission to the care of the Women's Auxiliary Board, to be prosecuted as a special work, under the primary jurisdiction of the Oregon Presbytery. Vol VII, pp. 451, 460, 1890. This transfer was made under the following regulations]:

"Resolved, That this work is hereby transferred to the Women's Board, with the following understanding:

"1. This action takes effect from July 1, 1890.

"2. In the management of the work the Women's Board shall sustain to the Presbytery of Oregon, to which the primary control and supervision of the Warm Springs Indian Mission belongs, the same relation now sustained by the Board of Home Missions.

"3. The house erected at Warm Springs Agency as a home for the missionary shall be held by the Board of Home Missions in trust for the Women's Board; the free use of said house to be given to the missionary as heretofore, and in case of sale the proceeds of the entire property to be paid to the Women's Board.

"4. All stated reports from the missionaries and all applications on behalf of the mission shall be made to the Women's Board, through the Presbytery of Oregon, and payments shall be made and accounts kept by the Women's Board.

"5. The Women's Board shall annually, in the month of April, make to the Board of Home Missions a general statement of the condition of the mission and of the cost of its support during the year ending with the 31st of March preceding.

"6. When missionaries are to be appointed or removed, and in all other cases involving changes in the mission work or in the methods of its management, the Women's Board shall not take final action until the matter has been submitted to the Board of Home Missions for counsel and advice.

"7. The Board of Home Missions agrees to give advice and assistance, when called upon, in the management of the work." Vol. VII, p. 670, 1891.

"8. Work among Indians in Oklahoma."

Resolved, With reference to the special request of the Board that it be authorized to begin work among the Indians in Eastern Oklahoma, we recommend that the Assembly approve this project. Vol. XX, p. 357, 1941.

VI. AMERICAN MISSIONS, BOARD OF

1. Original Boards

(1) Board of Home Missions

1. **Charter of the Board of Home Missions.** [Ordered by the Assembly, Vol. III, p. 405, 1872; granted by the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, March 21, 1874, and recorded in the office for the recording of deeds, etc., in said county, on the 10th day of April, 1874, in charter book Vol. IV, p. 511.]

Article I. Be it remembered that John G. Brown, William J. Reid, A. G. Wallace, William J. Robinson, J. W. Witherspoon, W. S. Owens, R. A. Cunningham, James McCutcheon, S. Mahood and G. M. Reed, and their successors, elected and appointed as hereinafter directed, being citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are hereby associated under the name and title of the Board of Home Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and by said name and title shall have succession, and be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court or courts, and in all causes and matters whatsoever; to make and use a common seal, and to alter and renew the same at pleasure; to purchase, receive, acquire, hold, use and dispose of, for the purpose and objects herein named, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, franchises, moneys, goods, chattels and hereditaments; to make rules, by-laws and ordinances not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or to this instrument.

Article II. The object of this corporation shall be the publication and extension of the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the continent of North America, subject to the authority and direction of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and in accordance with the authorized standards and usages of said United Presbyterian Church, by the employment and support of ministers and missionaries, and by other lawful and appropriate means.

Article III. The officers of the corporation shall be a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and such other officers and agents as may be from time to time required.

Article IV. The corporation shall consist of the following persons and their successors, viz.: Rev. J. W. Witherspoon, S. Mahood and James McCutcheon, who have been elected and appointed members of said Board to serve until their successors shall be elected in the year 1874, as provided in Article V of this instrument; Rev. A. G. Wallace, Rev. William J. Robinson and G. M. Reed, who have been appointed to serve until their successors shall be elected in like manner, in the year 1875; Rev. William J. Reid, W. S. Owens and R. A. Cunningham, who have been appointed to serve until their successors shall be elected in like manner, in the year 1876; and the corresponding secretary elected by the General Assembly of said United Presbyterian Church (now being the Rev. John G. Brown) and his successor in office shall be ex-officio a member of said Board, and five of said members or their successors in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Said Board shall once in each year exhibit to the General Assembly of said United Presbyterian Church an exact statement of its accounts, funds and property.

Article V. The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America shall, in the year 1874, and annually thereafter, elect three persons as members of this corporation, to serve for a period of three years; and in case of a vacancy in the membership thereof by reason of death, resignation or other cause, the remaining members of said Board shall elect a person to fill the unexpired term, *provided*, however, that such election shall be reported to the next General Assembly.

Article VI. The officers and agents of this corporation shall be elected or appointed from time to time in such manner and for such term as shall be prescribed in the by-laws.

2. **Constitution of the Board of Home Missions.** [A constitution for the Board of Home Missions was adopted, Vol. I, p. 45, 1859, but it was superseded by the general constitution of the Boards, and the following constitution, adopted, 1892.]

1. **Name and Location.** This Board shall be styled "The Board of Home Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and shall be located in Pittsburgh, Penn'a.

2. **The General Committee.** There shall be a General Committee of Home Missions, which shall be composed of one delegate from each Presbytery of the Church, elected annually by the Presbytery; one member of the Board of Home Missions and one member of the Board of Church Extension, appointed annually by these Boards respectively.

3. **Powers of the General Committee.** The General Committee of Home Missions, under the direction and control of the General Assembly, shall have general supervision of the whole work of home missions. It shall annually take action upon applications of Presbyteries for grants of money, and shall have power, at its discretion, to appoint missionaries for special missions or special work, and to act upon any other matters affecting the cause of home missions; being governed in its proceedings by the Regulations for Home Mission Work.

4. **Powers of the Board.** The Board of Home Missions shall have executive charge and oversight of the work of home missions; shall have power to meet emergencies arising during the interval between meetings of the General Committee; and in general shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as are entrusted to it by the Regulations for Home Mission Work, or by special action of the General Assembly.

2. **Regulations of Presbyteries**

1. **Delegates to General Committee.** Each Presbytery shall appoint annually one delegate to represent it in the General Committee of Home Missions. If it is possible to avoid it, no person expecting aid for his congregation from the home mission funds shall be appointed a delegate.

2. **Annual Reports.** Presbyteries shall report annually, not later than the 20th of April, to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions:

- (1) The names of stations for which aid is needed, and the amount which, in the judgment of the Presbytery, should be granted to each one.
- (2) The names of delegates to the General Committee.
- (3) Answers to any questions which the General Assembly or the Board may authorize to be addressed to them.

3. **Application for Aid** shall be made upon blank forms approved by the General Assembly and furnished by the Board. These papers, when filled up and approved by the Presbytery, shall be forwarded to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board not later than April 20th in each year. The vote of the Presbytery upon each application (that is, the number voting for and the

number voting against), together with the number of members present, shall be reported in connection with the certificate of approval.

4. Care in Certifying Applications. Aid shall not be asked for any station beyond what, in the judgment of the Presbytery, after careful examination, is really necessary and justified by the prospects of the field.

5. Contributions for Home Support. Presbyteries shall require all congregations asking aid to contribute liberally, according to their ability, for the support of their ministers; and ordinarily the regular payment of the amount promised in the application, or fixed by the Presbytery, for this purpose, shall be a condition applying to every grant.

6. Contributions and Security to Boards. No station or congregation shall receive aid which does not contribute to the Boards of the Church, or which refuses to give the required security for aid granted by the Board of Church Extension.

7. Property Must Be Secured. As a condition of aid from the home mission fund the property of congregations must be secured to the United Presbyterian Church, as required by action of the General Assembly in 1873, 1883 and 1889. Either in the deed, or in a separate Declaration of Trust, the following clause must appear: "That the said land and premises, herein above described, shall be and are held IN TRUST as and for a place of divine worship, subject to the standards and acts of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, as from time to time authorized by the General Assembly of said Church and that in case the said United Presbyterian of shall cease to exist, be dissolved, or cease to be connected with and subject to the jurisdiction of the said General Assembly or shall lose its corporate existence, the trust shall terminate and the title shall vest absolutely in the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, who shall then have the right to sell and convert the same into money without any liability of the purchaser of the property to see to the application of the proceeds of such sale; and whenever, in the judgment of the said Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, it shall be proper or right, for any cause, to terminate such trust, and sell or otherwise dispose of the said property, the said Trustees may, in their discretion, act accordingly." Presbyteries are required to give assurance to the Board that this condition is fulfilled.

8. Grouping into Pastoral Charges. So far as practicable, mission stations shall be grouped together, or united with self-supporting congregations, in convenient pastoral charges; and no station shall be recommended for aid which can be united with a neighboring station or congregation in one charge, for which no help, or a smaller amount, would be necessary.

9. Superintendent of Missions. Each Presbytery shall nominate annually to the General Assembly one of the ministers connected with it, for appointment as Superintendent of Missions for the Presbytery. It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Missions, subject to the direction and control of the Presbytery, to superintend its mission work; to see that all necessary action is taken upon applications for aid and annual reports to the Board; to obtain a quarterly report from missionaries laboring in stations receiving aid; to make a quarterly report, in the form approved by the General Assembly, to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions; to receive from the Treasurer of the Board, receipt for and distribute the money appropriated to aid congregations and mission stations; and in general to act as the organ of communication between the Presbytery and the Board, and perform such duties as the Assembly may direct. His accounts shall be audited annually by the Presbytery.

10. Presbyterial Committee on Home Missions. It is recommended that

each Presbytery appoint a Committee on Home Missions, with the Superintendent of Missions as chairman. It should be the duty of the members of this Committee to advise with the Superintendent of Missions and assist him in his work. The Committee may also be given power to act for the Presbytery, during the intervals of its meetings, upon any matters affecting the interests of the mission work in its bounds.

3. Regulations for the General Committee

11. Meeting and Quorum. The General Committee of Home Missions shall meet annually, at the place appointed by the General Assembly, seven working days before the sessions of the General Assembly begin. A majority of delegates, duly appointed by Presbyteries, shall be a quorum.

12. The Secretary and His Duties. The Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions shall be, ex-officio, Secretary of the General Committee. He shall prepare a roll of the members from the official reports of Presbyteries, and shall have charge of all records and papers.

13. Organization. When assembled, the General Committee shall be called to order by the Corresponding Secretary of the Board, who shall preside temporarily. He shall call the roll, and, if a quorum be found present, the organization shall be completed by the election of a chairman and one or more assistant secretaries.

14. Committees. Not later than the second day of the meeting three committees shall be appointed, each of five members, who shall be nominated by the chairman, namely:

(1) A Committee on Special Missions and Special Work, to which shall be referred cases which have been for a time in the special care of the Board; requests to Presbyteries to have stations placed in the list of special missions; applications for the appointment or support of special missionaries; and any other requests which the General Committee may direct them to consider.

(2) A Committee on New Work to which shall be referred the applications for fields in which work is not yet begun, and of congregations which have not before received aid.

(3) A Committee on Resolutions and Recommendations to the General Assembly. This Committee shall consider all papers referred to them, and may in their discretion, propose action on any matter affecting the Home Mission work.

15. Order of Business. The business of the General Committee shall be taken up in the following order:

(1) Consideration of the Annual Report of the Board.

(2) Appropriation of money in cases not referred to the Committees.

(3) Reports of the Committees on Special Missions and New Work.

(4) Miscellaneous business.

16. Appropriation of Money. In the appropriation of money the General Committee shall keep in view the interests of the whole field, and the relative importance and necessities of the different parts. The following order of procedure may be observed:

(1) Consider what limit, if any, should be placed upon the whole amount to be granted.

(2) Take up the applications for aid in such classified order as may be found best.

(3) As each case is taken up, hear the papers read; hear the delegate from the Presbytery making the application, taking care to ascertain that the rules relating to recommendations for aid have been observed; give opportunity for questions and discussion by other delegates.

- (4) Without any motion, the question to be put by the Chairman shall be: "Shall the request be granted?" But any delegate may offer an amendment or substitute.

17. Majority Necessary to Make Grant. No grant shall be made in the absence of a quorum, or by any number of votes less than a majority of all the members present when the vote is taken.

18. Stated Supply or Settlement a Condition of Grants. All grants shall be on condition of stated supply or settlement, unless the work in view is of an experimental or temporary character. By stated supply shall be understood continuous service by the same man, for whatever proportion of time is taken by the station, during three months or more.

19. Referring Cases to the Board. Cases in which all necessary information is before the General Committee, shall not be referred to the Board; but the condition "At the discretion of the Board" may be attached to any grant, and should generally be attached to all grants for work not yet begun.

20. Referring Back to Presbytery. When doubt arises as to the advisability of any proposed grant because the success of the work seems to be hindered by circumstances which it may be in the power of the Presbytery to change, the case may be referred back to the Presbytery. In any such instance the Presbytery may, after careful consideration, bring the case before the Board.

21. That the following amendment be made to the regulations of the Board of Home Missions, namely, the addition of a regulation under "Regulations for the General Committee," as follows: In cases other than Special Missions which are already provided for in the regulations, the General Committee shall refer the appointment of missionaries to the Board subject to the approval of Presbytery. Vol. X, p. 31, 1900.

22. No Increase of Grant in Certain Cases. No grant greater than the sliding scale allows shall be made to stations that have not been brought before the Board, prior to the meeting of the General Committee, as required by the rules; but exceptional cases may, if a majority of all the delegates present agree, be referred to the Board for consideration of their claims, when duly presented by the Presbyteries concerned, to exemption and an increase.

23. Miscellaneous Business. Under this head the General Committee shall consider the report of the Committee on Resolutions and Recommendations to the General Assembly, and may take action upon any other matter relating to the Home Mission work.

24. Report to the Assembly. When all business is thus transacted, a full report shall be prepared, printed and submitted to the General Assembly.

4. Regulations for the Board

25. Meetings and Officers. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Monday of each month; special meetings at its own discretion. At the regular meeting in July of each year the members shall elect from their own number a president, a vice-president and a recording secretary, and, without restriction to their own number, a treasurer, from whom they shall require such security as may be judged necessary.

26. Duties and Powers. The Board shall carry out the measures adopted by the General Assembly from year to year; take general supervision and control of the Home Mission work; assign missionaries to their fields of labor as provided for in these regulations; make proper and safe investment of all funds intended by the donors, or ordered by the General Assembly, to be thus used; and meet all emergencies as they may arise during the year.

27. Rejected Applications for Aid. The Board is forbidden, except in cases of extreme necessity, to grant appropriations of money to any station whose application for the current year has been considered and rejected by the General Committee or the General Assembly.

28. Quarterly Reports and Accounts. Near the close of each quarter the Corresponding Secretary shall forward to Superintendents of Missions blanks, in forms approved by the General Assembly, for quarterly reports. When the reports are received, he shall number them in the order of dates of mailing, giving preference, when dates are the same, to the Presbyteries to which the larger amounts are found due, and counting as of the same date all reports mailed within the week succeeding the last Sabbath of the quarter; and shall draw warrants on the Treasurer, numbered in the same order, for the amounts due to the several Presbyteries. In determining the amount due, those stations only shall be included which are certified by Superintendents of Missions as having fulfilled the conditions on which aid was granted.

29. Payments of Warrants. The Treasurer shall pay the warrants drawn by the Corresponding Secretary in the order of their numbers. He shall pay the whole amount due to each Presbytery to the Superintendent of Missions. He shall not pay out any of the funds in his hands without a warrant from the Board.

30. Unfulfilled Conditions. No warrant shall be given for the payment of money upon any appropriation the conditions of which are unfulfilled, without special authorization from the Board. The Board is required to exercise great caution in removing or changing conditions attached to grants of money, and shall in no case do so without a specific request of the proper Presbytery, accompanied by a statement of reasons entirely satisfactory to the Board. But in cases where it is found impossible to fulfil the condition of stated supply, the Board may, upon a statement of the facts by a Superintendent of Missions, allow some part of the grant to be used for occasional supplies.

31. Annual Report. Before the meeting of the General Committee of Home Missions, in each year, a full report to the General Assembly shall be prepared and adopted by the Board, detailing its operations during the year, the condition, prospects and necessities of the work entrusted to its care, and the applications from Presbyteries for aid for the ensuing year, together with such recommendations as may be thought proper. This report shall be printed, laid before the General Committee, and submitted to the General Assembly.

32. Auditing Treasurer's Account. The Board shall see that the accounts of its Treasurer are audited at the close of each financial year, and that this is properly certified upon his annual report.

5. Sliding Scale Appropriations

33. The Rule. Appropriations of money for stations that have received aid for five years or more shall be reduced annually not less than one-fifth of the grant upon which the reduction begins.

34. Exceptional Cases. If any Presbytery shall conclude that a station under its care ought to be exempted from the operation of the foregoing rule, it shall, not later than the 20th of April, report to the Board of Home Missions the facts in the case, and the Board shall report these facts, with its judgment thereon, to the General Committee.

35. Effect of Exemption. When a station is exempted from the operation of the rule, it shall be but for one year, and the appropriation made under such exemption shall be the basis on which subsequent reductions shall be determined.

36. Congregations that have been organized fifteen years or more shall not receive aid unless extraordinary circumstances are clearly shown. Applications made for such congregations must be submitted by Presbyteries to the Board of Home Missions with a special statement of the facts, not later than April 20, and grants made by the General Committee shall be subject to all the restrictions that apply to cases affected by the sliding scale.

37. When the Board has refused to recommend an application for ex-

emption from the rule of the sliding scale, the case may be opened in the General Committee only by a majority of all the members in attendance. Vol. IX, p. 280, 1897.

6. Home Missionaries

38. Enrollment. All ministers and licentiates who, upon their own request, shall be recommended by the Presbyteries to which they belong, for service in the Home Mission field, shall be enrolled by the Board as Home Missionaries.

39. Selection by Presbyteries. Lists of all the missionaries thus enrolled, so long as they remain unassigned to regular work, shall be furnished by the Board quarterly, and at any time, upon request from a Superintendent of Missions. From these lists Presbyteries shall indicate to the Board the men preferred by them to be employed in their bounds, and, if possible, shall state to what station they wish to assign them.

40. Choice of Missionaries and Appointment by the Board. The men thus selected shall be notified by the Board of all the work thus offered to them, and may choose their fields of labor. On the acceptance by a missionary of any charge thus offered, he shall be assigned to it as stated supply by the Board, ordinarily for one year. All such appointments shall be published.

41. Recruits for Home Missionary Service. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions to visit the theological seminaries of the Church annually, if possible, and present to the young men the claims of the Home Mission service upon them.

42. Minimum Salary. To secure regular and permanent supply for mission stations, and the settlement over them of pastors, as contemplated in the preceding regulations, it is recommended to Presbyteries that the minimum salary in mission charges shall be eight hundred dollars (\$800), including estimated rent of parsonage if there is one.

(In response to Memorials from the Presbyteries of Puget Sound, Albany, Delaware, and Cleveland, the following action was taken, that the matter of the payment of Home Missionaries' salaries monthly rather than quarterly, as at present, be referred to the Home Board and that they be requested, if possible, to formulate and put into operation a plan of monthly payments to the Home Missionaries.

In response to Memorials from the Presbyteries of Albany, and Caledonia, the following action was taken,

Resolved, That congregations requiring a salary of more than \$1,200 must have the approval both of the Board and the General Committee.) Vol. XI, p. 871, 1907.

(*Resolved*, That in response to the Cleveland Memorial calling attention to the inadequacy of the salaries of Home Missionaries for their support especially those serving the Church in the missions of our large cities where living expenses are exorbitant, the Assembly urges on the Church the absolute necessity of making provision to increase the compensation to such an extent as to meet at least the actual necessities of our faithful missionaries, and that Missions and the Board of Home Missions raise the limit, if possible, to at least \$1,300.) Vol. XII, p. 646, 1910.

43. Secular Employment Forbidden. Ministers employed in mission stations are required to give their entire time and attention to ministerial duties. If engaged in any secular employment, no part of the grants made to aid congregations shall be paid them.

44. Pastoral Work Required. All missionaries, whether serving as pastors and stated supplies, or as occasional supplies, are earnestly exhorted to the performance of pastoral duties, and to remember that the success of the mission work depends very largely upon active and constant labor to win men,

by personal contact and influence as well as by the public preaching of the Gospel.

45. **Quarterly Reports.** At the end of each quarter, missionaries laboring in stations that receive aid shall report promptly to the Superintendent of Missions, using the blank forms furnished through the Superintendent by the Board.

46. **Special Appointments Not Restricted.** In the appointment of missionaries for special work or to special missions, neither the General Committee nor the Board of Home Missions shall be restricted to the enrolled list of home missionaries.

47. **Unenrolled Ministers.** Unemployed ministers and licentiates, not enrolled as home missionaries, may report their names to the Board of Home Missions, stating, if they so desire, where and how they wish to be employed; and the Board shall, at least quarterly, send the list of all such names, and the requests made, to all the Presbyteries.

7. **Special Missionaries**

48. **Applications for their Appointment.** When the interests of the mission work are believed by any Presbytery to require the services of a special missionary to labor at large in its bounds and under its direction, application may be made to the General Committee or to the Board of Home Missions for the appointment of a minister to such service. In making the application, the Presbytery shall state the work to be done, the plan proposed for it, the time during which it is thought to be necessary, the salary required, and any other facts that will enable the General Committee of the Board to reach a proper conclusion; and shall also, if possible, nominate the minister whose appointment is desired.

49. **What the Board May Do.** The Board shall have power, in the interval of meetings of the General Committee, to decide upon such applications; to make the appointments as may be required; to fix the salary to be paid during the year then current, and to grant money for the payment thereof. But the Board shall not appoint anyone as a special missionary who is not approved by the Presbytery in which he is to labor.

50. **Duties of Special Missionaries.** Under the direction of the Presbyteries to which they are appointed, special missionaries shall preach and do pastoral and missionary work in stations which are without pastors and stated supplies; aid in securing regular supplies for such stations; and give needed assistance, occasionally, to other missionaries in their work. They shall especially endeavor to instruct and encourage mission congregations in the duty of liberal giving for the support of the ordinances of the Gospel; to awaken and direct among them a zealous missionary spirit and an intelligent devotion to the principles of the Church of which they are members; and to promote among them united and persistent efforts, by all means approved in the Word of God, for the conversion of souls and for their own growth to self-supporting strength.

51. **Their Quarterly Reports.** At the end of each quarter, special missionaries shall make reports, in the usual form, for all the mission stations supplied by them, if such reports are not made by others. In addition, they shall report fully their own work during the quarter, the condition of the station visited, the needs of the field, the amount in detail paid to them by congregations, and anything else that may seem to them important. These personal reports shall be forwarded by Superintendents of Missions, in connection with their quarterly reports, to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board.

52. **To Be Paid as Other Missionaries.** Stations supplied by a special missionary shall pay him not less than the amount they would be expected or required to pay another supply. The missionary shall account for all such

payments quarterly to the Superintendent of Missions, as part of his salary. The due proportion of the grants to such stations shall also be counted as part of his salary.

53. Exploring Work. No Presbytery shall employ the special missionary laboring in its bounds in exploring unoccupied fields, with the view to new organizations, without first laying the subject before the Board and obtaining its consent to the work proposed.

54. Renewal of Appointments and Grants. If the labors of a special missionary are desired by any Presbytery for more than the year current at the time of the first appointment, all subsequent requests for the appropriation of money for his support must be presented to the General Committee of Home Missions, as in the case of other applications for aid.

8. Special Missions

55. How Constituted. Upon the request of a Presbytery, the General Committee of Home Missions may place a particular station in the special care of the Board for a specified term of years; but this action shall not be taken save in exceptional cases, such as missions in large cities, or in isolated places, where effective Presbyterian supervision is difficult or impracticable.

56. Appropriations and Appointments. For such special missions appropriations of money and, if they have not settled pastors, appointments of missionaries shall be made by the Board during the prescribed term of years, and reported to the General Assembly.

57. Appointments Must Be Acceptable to Presbyteries. In the appointment of missionaries for such stations, the Board shall not act finally, unless assured that the appointment proposed will be satisfactory to the Presbytery concerned.

58. Applications and Reports. All applications to the Board on behalf of special missions must be made through the Presbytery, as in other cases. The quarterly reports and payments shall be in the usual manner, through the Superintendent of Missions; but the Board may receive, in addition, direct reports from the missionary or the session of the congregation.

59. Reappointment of Missionaries. The Presbytery to which any special mission belongs, when it is served by a stated supply, shall annually ascertain the wishes of the congregation as to the reappointment of the missionary, and shall report the facts, with its judgment on the subject, to the Board, in connection with the annual application for aid.

60. Rights and Duties of Presbyteries Unaffected. These regulations in regard to special missions must not be understood as in any manner affecting the relations of mission stations to their Presbyteries, or the rights and responsibilities of Presbyteries towards the congregations and the missionaries. Vol. VIII, p. 116, 1892.

61. That Presbyteries be urged to make such arrangements as to their spring meetings as will permit the forwarding of reports and applications not later than April 20th, as required by the regulations, and that a failure to mail such papers in due time shall constitute a bar to the consideration of requests by the General Committee, unless such delay was clearly unavoidable.

62. That to facilitate the preparation of an accurate report by the Board to the General Committee of Home Missions, the Superintendents of Missions be and are hereby directed to observe the rule requiring all applications to be in the hands of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions by April 20 each year.

63. That while there is noticeable improvement in Presbyterian oversight in the matter of applications for aid, still there is an evident failure in some cases to exercise this authority; therefore we urge Presbyteries to use the utmost carefulness in this matter, believing that thus much of the unrest and dissatisfaction in respect to the distribution of ministers, and the supply of

vacancies would be removed, and many hindrances to the operation of the present system would disappear. Vol. X, p. 31, 1900.

Resolved, That the Board of Church Extension be required to furnish the Board of Home Missions with a statement of the congregations to which aid has been given by the Board of Church Extension, and the security given by each congregation receiving such aid, that its property shall not be alienated from the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. IV, p. 472, 1877.

16. **Per Diem of Home Missionaries.** *Resolved*, That eight dollars be allowed to missionaries for each Sabbath spent in missionary service. Vol. I, p. 37, 1859.

[In reply to a memorial for the reduction of the per diem, the Assembly refused to take action. Vol. I, p. 349, 1862.

Presbyteries were directed to recommend congregations, as far as possible, to pay ten dollars per week. Vol. II, p. 42, 1864.

The compensation was advanced from ten to twelve dollars per Sabbath. Vol. II, p. 314, 1866.

Two Presbyteries memorialized the Assembly to raise the per diem from twelve to fifteen dollars. The memorials were not granted. Vol. II, p. 495, 1868.]

The per diem of home missionaries should not be less than fifteen dollars. Vol. III, p. 534, 1873.

Resolved, That the per diem of home missionaries be fixed at twelve dollars. Vol. IV, p. 37, 1874. See Chapter LXXXIII, Per Diem.

32. **The Corresponding Secretary to Visit the Theological Seminaries.** *Resolved*, 3. That the Corresponding Secretary be requested to visit the Theological Seminaries and present the claims of Home Mission work to the students and urge upon them the duty of entering upon this work. Vol. VII, p. 258, 1889.

33. **Evangelization.** *Resolved*, That we urge upon our Church to occupy more fully the fields now open for the evangelization of our foreign speaking population.

Resolved, That our Church do her part in the inter-denominational effort to evangelize the Mountain Whites. Vol. XI, p. 290, 1905.

34. **Appropriations of Home Missions Fund.** Regarding the Memorial from Des Moines Presbytery asking the Clerk of the Assembly to have the appropriations of the General Committee of Home Missions printed each year in the Minutes of the Assembly, we recommend this Memorial be granted. Vol. XV, p. 568, 1922.

35. **Moving Expenses of Home Missionaries.** In Section II of "Regulations for Home Mission Work," we recommend that Article 5, on Moving Expense, be changed to read, "In all cases of our Home Missionaries changing their fields by regular appointment of the Board, the moving expense shall be borne, one-third by the Home Missionary Department, one-third by the missionary, one-third by the mission station." Vol. XVI, p. 36, 1924.

36. **Changes in the Home Missions System.** In answer to a Memorial of the Presbytery of Oklahoma, asking for radical changes in the Home Missions system, a special committee of seven was appointed to make such recommendations to the General Assembly of 1908, as the conditions of our Home Missions demand. Vol. XI, p. 870, 1907.

For the report of the above special committee, see Synodical Superintendent of Missions. Vol. XII, p. 41, 1908.

37. **Authority of The General Committee of Home Missions.** In reply to the question, "Is the General Committee of Home Missions in any sense a judicial body and subject to the judicial rules of the General Assembly, or is it a Committee subject only to the ordinary rules of parliamentary procedure?" the following answer was given, according to Chapter XII, of the

Book of Government and Worship. The various courts of the Church are the session, the Presbyterian order are by necessity Presbyterial and composed of both teaching and ruling elders. By the terms of its constitution as formulated by the General Assembly the General Committee of Missions is to act "Under the direction and control of the General Assembly." Its invariable practice has been to submit its decision to the General Assembly for final decision. Clearly, then, the General Committee of Missions is simply an administrative organization in which large trust is reposed; but in the technical sense of the term it is not a court but exactly as it is named—a Committee under the direction and control of the Assembly. Vol. XIII, p. 730, 1914.

38. **Co-operation with the Utah Gospel Mission.** Co-operation with the Utah Gospel Mission was authorized, and a representative on the Board was provided for. Vol. XI, p. 16, 1904.

(2) Board of Church Extension

1. **Charter of the Board of Church Extension.** [Granted by the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny county, in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, March 6, 1871; recorded in the office for the recording of deeds in said county, in Charter Book No. 3, page 306, March 10, 1871; and accepted and approved by the Assembly, Vol III, p. 277, 1871.]

Article I. Be it remembered that Rev. Robert Gracey, D.D., George McCague, John Dean, Rev. R. B. Ewing, Rev. Thomas H. Hanna, Samuel Dyer, Rev. John S. Sands, Rev. J. W. Witherspoon, and William Reed, and their successors, elected and appointed as hereinafter directed, being citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are hereby associated under the name and title of "The Board of Church Extension of the United Presbyterian Church of North America"; and by the said name and title shall have succession and be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any court or courts, and in all causes and matters whatsoever; to make and use a common seal, and to alter or renew the same at pleasure; to purchase, receive, acquire, hold, use and dispose of for the purpose and objects herein named, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, franchises, moneys, goods, chattels and hereditaments; to make rules, by-laws and ordinances, not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, to the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or to this instrument.

Article II. The object of said association shall be to promote the extension of the United Presbyterian Church of North America by the purchase and acquisition of real estate and the erection of church edifices, and by other lawful and appropriate means.

Article III. The officers of the association shall be a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, and such other officers and agents as may from time to time be appointed. The treasurer shall give bond to the corporation in such form, for such sum and with such sureties as may be determined and approved by a majority of the corporators, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties.

Article IV. The association shall consist of the following persons and their successors, namely: Rev. Robert Gracey, D.D., George McCague and John Dean, who have been elected and appointed members of said Board to serve until their successors shall be elected in the year 1871, as provided in Article VI, of this instrument; Rev. R. B. Ewing, Rev. Thomas H. Hanna, and Samuel Dyer, who have been appointed to serve until their successors shall be in like manner elected in the year 1872, and Rev. John S. Sands, Rev. J. W. Witherspoon and William Reed, who have been appointed to serve until their successors shall be elected in the year 1873, and the corresponding secretary of [i.e., appointed by] "the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," (now being Rev. A. G. Wallace,) and his successor

in office shall be ex-officio, a member of said Board; and six of said members or their successors in office, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and the said Board shall in its By-Laws determine the times and places of holding meetings, and the manner of giving notice of all meetings not appointed by adjournment. Said Board shall once in each year exhibit to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, an exact statement of the accounts, funds and property of the association.

Article V. Said corporation shall be situated and have its principal business transacted in the county of Allegheny in said commonwealth.

Article VI. The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America shall, in 1871, and annually thereafter elect three persons as members of this association to serve for a period of three years, and in case of a vacancy in the membership of said Board by reason of death, resignation or other cause, the remaining members of said Board shall elect a person to fill the unexpired term, provided that such election shall be reported to the next General Assembly.

Article VII. The officers and agents of this association shall be elected or appointed from time to time in the manner, and for such term, as shall be prescribed in the By-Laws.

2. **Constitution of the Board of Church Extension.** [A Constitution for the Board of Church Extension was adopted, Vol. I, p. 48, 1859, but it was superseded by the General Constitution of the Boards, and the following new Constitution with subsequent amendments.]

1. This Board shall be styled "The Board of Church Extension of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and shall be located in the city of Pittsburgh.

2. The special objects of this Board shall be to aid mission stations and congregations to obtain suitable houses of worship and parsonages. It shall have power to make appropriations of money, either as donations or as loans for a definite time; to authorize special contributions for particular parts of its work; to hold funds and property absolutely, or in trust for congregations; to institute legal proceedings in behalf of the United Presbyterian Church to prevent the alienation of, or to recover, funds and property for which contributions have been made by the Board, or by the Church at large, and to do such other things as may be necessary for the accomplishment of its object. But the appropriations of each year shall not exceed the amount authorized by the General Assembly for that year, and only such property shall be held as may be necessary for the legitimate purposes of the Board. Vol. IV, p. 24, 1874. Vol. IX, p. 33, 1896.

3. **Regulations of the Board of Church Extension.** [Regulations for the Board of Church Extension were adopted, Vol III, p. 227, 1871, and published, Vol. III, p. 311, 1871; but they were superseded by the following new regulations:]

1. No appropriation shall be made except on the application of a Presbytery for a place under its care, unless when a mission is outside of, and distant from any Presbytery.

2. Ordinarily the appropriations for a congregation may not exceed one-third of the cost of the house, and may not be made for any house costing over \$20,000. [Amended so as to read \$10,000. Vol. VII, p. 19, 1888.]

3. All appropriations shall be made on the following conditions:

1. The property shall be held in fee simple, and be secured to the Church according to the rule of the Assembly.

ii. A mortgage shall be given for the repayment of the loan, and a mortgage for the donation, securing the repayment of the money, with interest, in case the congregation shall fail, or shall cease to be connected with the United Presbyterian Church, or shall alienate or encumber the property

without the consent of the Board. The interest on loans made without interest shall be regarded as a donation, and with all moneys contributed directly by other congregations or members of the United Presbyterian Church, shall be included in the mortgage for a donation.

iii. Ordinarily the appropriation shall leave the property free from debt except to the Board.

iv. The congregation shall not solicit aid outside of its own community without the consent of the Board.

v. The congregation shall keep the property insured for the protection of the interests of the Board.

4. Appropriations not called for within two years shall be considered withdrawn, and may be renewed only on the application of the Presbytery.

5. Application for aid shall be made in the form approved by the Assembly. The vote in the Presbytery shall be taken by ballot, and the ayes and nays shall be reported with the application.

6. The Superintendent of Missions shall be the agent of the Board, through whom all appropriations shall be paid.

7. The appropriation may be paid only when a mortgage or satisfactory security shall be given by the congregation. All expenses involved in obtaining aid shall be borne by the congregation. Vol. IV, p. 24, 1874.

8. Congregations having money borrowed from the Board shall report annually to the Board their financial condition.

9. Ordinarily, aid shall not be given to establish congregations in enlarging or rebuilding churches.

10. Aid for the erection of parsonages shall be given only as a loan at such rate of interest as may be found expedient, repayment to be made in at least annual payments.

11. In every case of aid for parsonages the property shall be secured according to the rule of the General Assembly.

12. The Board shall have authority to accept contributions subject to annuity; such contributions to be securely invested.

13. The Board shall be authorized to keep as a distinct fund, the proceeds to be used for the current work, any contribution of \$5,000 or upwards, from one person, family, or congregation, the donor having the privilege of determining the name of the fund so created. Vol. IX, p. 33, 1896.

Resolved, That the two following regulations be added to those now in use in the Board, and that the corresponding secretary be instructed to prepare such blank forms as will be necessary to carry the first one into effect:

1. Congregations having money borrowed from the loan fund shall be required to report to the Board annually their financial condition.

2. In case loans are not repaid until six months after maturity, the Board will proceed to collect them, unless it should be made to appear that such action would work the permanent injury of the congregation, in which case they shall require the congregation to pay legal interest upon the loan until paid. Vol. IV, p. 302, 1876.

4. **Aid for Missions Beyond Presbyterial Bounds.** *Resolved*, 10. That when a mission is outside of and distant from any Presbytery, the Board may grant aid to the same without action by Presbytery, provided that the sanction of the nearest Presbytery be obtained as soon as practicable, and the mission placed under its care. Vol. VII, p. 641, 1891.

5. **Aid Not Given for Rebuilding in Established Congregations.** *Resolved*, 3. That it is not the design of this Board ordinarily to aid established congregations in enlarging or rebuilding churches, but to secure to new and needy congregations a suitable place of worship. Vol. VI, p. 420, 1886.

That except in extraordinary cases, churches which were assisted in building one church be not assisted a second time. Vol. IX, p. 534, 1898.

6. **Selections of Missions to Be Made with Care.** *Resolved*, 4. That while weak missions are to be helped, there is caution to be used in the selection of those that are to be beneficiaries of the Board. Vol. VII, p. 431, 1890.

7. **Rule as to the Title of Mission Property.** [The General Assembly amended the form of the trust clause to be inserted in the deeds for church property [see Church Property] and adopted the following:]

Resolved, That the form for a trust clause in deeds and declarations of trust, be adopted as a condition of all appropriations by the Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension. Vol. V, p. 741, 1883.

Resolved, 3. That the Board be instructed to insist upon conformity to the rule of the Assembly as to the tenure of church property, unless the direct claim of the Board be amply sufficient to cover all legal rights in the same. Vol. V, p. 739, 1883.

That the Board be authorized to exercise some discretion in the application of the rule requiring that the property of congregations receiving aid shall be secured in the particular form of the declaration of trust, but in every case in which the Board deems it inadvisable to insist upon such declaration of trust, the fact shall be made known to the Board of Home Missions. Vol. VIII, p. 253, 1893; 539, 1894.

8. **Churches for Which Aid Is Given to Be Insured.** *Resolved*, 2. That the Board be instructed to require churches, built by its aid, to be kept fully insured by their owners for the protection of its claims.

That the Board negotiate for the insurance through some reliable agency at the most favorable rates. Vol. V, p. 345, 1881. [This was found impracticable.]

9. **Securities to Be Given by Congregations for Aid Received Through the Board of Church Extension.** *Resolved*, That congregations in need of assistance to build houses for Divine worship, be directed to apply to the Board of Church Extension, receive from them a recommendation to the churches, return an account of the amount collected, and give to the Church, through the Board, the necessary bonds, to apply the funds as the directions of the Assembly require. Vol. I, p. 149, 1860. [Regulation 3, II.]

10. **Limitation of Grants.** The Board has restricted itself to \$5,000 as the extreme limit of grants. Vol. X, p. 88, 1900.

That the policy of the Board in making \$5,000 the maximum grant to any congregation, be approved. Vol. X, p. 38, 1900.

The rule of the Assembly setting the maximum of \$5,000 for a grant for building purposes and forbidding a grant to a congregation erecting a building at a cost of over \$10,000 was repealed. Vol. XV, p. 32, 1920.

11. **The Board to Take the Securities for Aid Granted by the Assembly.** *Resolved*, 7. That, in cases where aid has been granted to congregations under the direct authority of the Assembly, the Board is authorized by this Assembly to take the securities. Vol. VII, p. 213, 1889.

12. **Loan Fund of the Board of Church Extension.** *Resolved*, That the Board be and hereby is authorized to establish a "Loan Fund," to be used only in making loans, and to be refunded at such times and in such a manner as may be agreed upon in each case. The Board may make special appeals for donations and bequests to this fund, and shall each year so appropriate a part of the contributions, unless otherwise ordered by the Assembly. Vol. III, p. 277, 1871.

Resolved, That the Board be instructed to insist upon the recognition and strict observance of contracts on the part of congregations receiving aid from the Loan Fund, but at the same time to exercise a wise discretion as to the enforcement of these obligations.

4. That the Loan Fund be maintained at the sum of \$50,000.

5. That hereafter grants from the Loan Fund shall be without interest, unless there be special reasons to the contrary, and upon the condition of repayment of at least one-tenth of the whole amount annually—repayment in ordinary cases, to begin in two years, and interest to be charged on deferred payments after maturity. Vol. V, p. 182, 1880.

8. That the Board be instructed to make no loans in the future except for parsonages without a unanimous vote of all the members present at a regular meeting. Vol. VII, p. 640, 1891.

13. **The Loan Fund Discontinued.** [The Board reported that much difficulty had been found in collecting the loans made to congregations, and that it would be better to keep the fund invested and use only the proceeds for donations.] *Resolved*, 6. That what is known as the Loan Fund be merged in the Permanent Reserve Fund. That ordinarily the loans from this (the Permanent Reserve) fund to congregations for churches shall not exceed \$30,000 and that the Board shall from time to time add to the Reserve Fund as the money at its command may permit. Vol. IX, p. 71, 1899.

14. **Security for Loans.** A mortgage shall be given for the repayment of the loan. Regulation II.

Resolved, 2. That the course pursued by the Board in taking individual notes on small amounts loaned to congregations, whenever deemed advisable, be approved. Vol. V, p. 739, 1883.

15. **Special Loan Funds.** *Resolved*, That the Board be authorized to keep as a distinct loan fund any contribution of \$5,000 or upwards from one person, family or congregation, the donor having the privilege of determining the name of the fund so created. Vol. IV, p. 170, 1875.

16. **Daniel Speers Fund.** [The Board reported receipt of its proportion of the Daniel Speers Estate, \$18,110.62, and that] the whole amount is set apart as a special fund to be known as "The Daniel Speers Fund." The interest only to be used for current work. Vol. VIII, p. 78, 1902.

17. **James P. Hanna Fund.** 5. That his (James P. Hanna's) contributions to the Loan Fund be made a special Memorial Fund, bearing his name. Vol. IX, p. 771, 1899.

18. **James Law Fund.** The Board reported to the several funds, we now add the "James Law" Memorial Fund, \$6,000. Vol. X, p. 87, 1900.

19. **Temporary Loans.** *Resolved*, That the Board be authorized to receive temporary loans without interest, in order to meet particular emergencies which may arise. Vol. IV, p. 170, 1875.

20. **Contributions to the Board Subject to Annuity.** *Resolved*, That the Board be authorized to accept contributions subject to annuity, according to the plan proposed in its report, Vol. IV, p. 170, 1875, viz.: subject to such annuity and payable in such manner as may be agreed upon; such contributions to be securely invested, and the annuity never to exceed the annual interest received. Vol. IV, p. 210, 1875.

Resolved, 6. That the Board be instructed to keep the funds subject to annuity so invested as to produce an income at least equal to the annuity. Vol. V, p. 532, 1882.

21. **Special Contributions.** *Resolved*, 3. That special contributions received by the Treasurer, for places for which the Board has already made grants sufficiently large, shall be regarded by the Board as included in said grants. Vol. VII, p. 213, 1889.

Resolved, 4. That when special contributions are made by Sabbath-schools or Young People's Societies—for the erection of churches or parsonages—such contributions shall be made with the consent and under the direction of the Board. Vol. VII, p. 640, 1891.

22. **Presbyterial Agents of the Board.** *Resolved*, That the superin-

tendents of missions be constituted corresponding members of the Board and its agents. Vol. III, p. 277, 1871. Regulation VI.

23. **No Special Agents to Be Employed by the Board.** *Resolved*, That henceforth the whole work of aiding congregations in building houses of worship shall be under the control of the Board of Church Extension; that the Assembly will not authorize special agencies for any part of the work, and disapproves of any congregation appealing for help independently of the Board. Vol. III, p. 277, 1871.

24. **Guarantee of Congregational Bonds.** [The Board was authorized in certain cases to guarantee bonds of congregations when amply secured against loss. Vol. IV, p. 452, 1877. No use was made of this authority and it was repealed. Vol. IX, p. 33, 1896.]

25. **Presbyterial Supervision in Building Churches.** *Resolved*, 6. That Presbyteries be directed to look into the financial condition of every congregation in their bounds proposing to build a house of worship, to advise, and, so far as they can, to prevent the contracting of any debt in building, except to the Board of Church Extension, and that hereafter, in all ordinary cases, it be the rule where indebtedness is contracted without the knowledge or consent of the Board, no help is to be granted by the Board. Vol. IV, p. 452, 1877.

26. **Presbyterial Care in Disorganizing Churches.** That, as a rule, no Presbytery disorganize a congregation, in whose property the Boards have an interest, until the rights of the Boards have been protected. Vol. X, p. 38, 1900.

27. **Presbyterial Supervision over Extinct Churches.** *Resolved*, 5. That the Presbyteries be directed to guard carefully the rights and interests of our Church in all buildings and other property which may have been occupied or held by congregations now discontinued or withdrawn, and to dispose of all such property as soon as practicable, forwarding the proceeds to the treasurer of the Board of Church Extension. Vol. IV, p. 580, 1878.

28. **The Board to Take Measures to Secure and Retain Church Property.** *Resolved*, 7. That this Assembly direct the Board of Church Extension, or the Trustees of the General Assembly, when the Board of Church Extension is prevented by law from taking the necessary action, to act promptly in the name of the Church in all cases where, in their judgment, counsel and financial help are necessary to secure the use of and retain the property to the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. VII, p. 413, 1890.

29. **The Board Represented in the General Committee of Home Missions.** *Resolved*, 8. That the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, or some representative of that Board, be directed to meet each year with the General Committee of Home Missions. Vol. VII, p. 413, 1890.

[The Constitution of the Board of Home Missions (Sec. 2) adopted in 1892, provides that such representative shall be a member of the General Committee of Home Missions. Vol. VIII, p. 116, 1892.]

30. **Consolidation of the Boards of Church Extension, Home Missions and the Freedmen's Missions.** See "Boards of the Church," Sec. 3. Vol. XVII, p. 29, 1928.

31. **The Women's Auxiliary Board May Aid in Building Churches.** [The Women's General Missionary Society asked the General Assembly for power to assist in building Mission Churches. The Assembly adopted the following:]

Resolved, That the Board of Church Extension be authorized to arrange with the Women's Board to act as an auxiliary in the work of building churches for Mission congregations, as is already done in the case of parsonages. Vol. VIII, p. 253, 1893.

[The following regulations were adopted:]

1. The Board of Church Extension shall receive all applications for aid.
2. The Board of Church Extension shall transfer to the Women's Mis-

sionary Board such applications as may be arranged for by the Corresponding Secretary for that department of the work of the Women's Board.

3. The action of the Women's Board shall be final, and all responsibility of the Board of Church Extension shall end with the transfer of the application.

4. The grants made by the Women's Missionary Board shall be upon the conditions and under the regulations, approved by the General Assembly, which govern the Board of Church Extension. *Provided*, however, that no grant shall be made for a larger amount than may be recommended by the Board of Church Extension.

5. The securities for grants made by the Women's Missionary Board shall be taken in its corporate name. *Provided*, that if in any case it is thought proper to make a donation through the Board of Church Extension, it shall be on the condition that in the event of the sale of the property the proceeds shall be repaid to the Women's Missionary Board. If both Boards have given help the proceeds shall be divided *pro rata*.

6. The Women's Missionary Board shall report to the Board of Church Extension the action taken on each application. Vol. VIII, pp. 487, 540, 1894. (See also Regulations for the Parsonage Fund.)

32. **Presbyteries to Exercise Care in Recommending Congregations for Loans.** 3. That Presbyteries be directed to exercise the utmost care in recommending congregations for aid from this Board, and that they be especially careful in having it understood that every loan made to them by this Board is as sacred and obligatory as any debt which might be incurred; and we would urge congregations indebted to this Board to meet this obligation as soon as possible. Vol. IX, p. 286, 1897.

33. **Congregations Not to Make Appeals Outside Their Own Communities.** 4. That the practice of congregations in making appeals directly to individuals, societies, or congregations, outside their own communities be disapproved, and that the Board be directed to enforce, as far as possible, the condition, "That the congregation shall not solicit outside its own community without the consent of the Board." Vol. IX, p. 286, 1897.

34. **The Board to Require a Financial Statement.** 6. That the last payment on churches, assisted by the Board, be not made until a satisfactory statement of the financial obligations be made to the Board. The Board shall thus be made the deciding body in the question of indebtedness, and not the superintendent of missions. Vol. IX, p. 534, 1898.

35. **Congregational Indebtedness.** Hereafter, in all ordinary cases it shall be the rule where indebtedness is contracted without the knowledge or consent of the Board, no help is to be granted by the Board. Vol. IV, p. 452, 1877.

4. Since it appears that harm has resulted to some of our mission churches through debt, it is recommended that an investigation be made of this matter in connection with the gathering of next year's statistics, that data may be secured for the wise handling of this subject by the next General Assembly, Vol. X, p. 612, 1902.

36. **Co-operation with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South.** [The Board of Home Missions submitted a plan of co-operation with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South. These Boards were authorized to act on it, "after it shall have been approved by the Synod of the South."]

5. The property of missions in the South, jointly supported by the two Churches, shall be vested in the trustees of the Associate Reformed Church, in a manner similar to that embodied in the trust clause of deeds, or declaration of trust, used by the United Presbyterian Church. In case of incumbrance, alienation, failure, or other cause requiring cessation of the work and sale of the property, the proceeds shall be divided between the two

Churches in the ratio of the contributions made by each for the work, the cost of the house, as well as of the lot, and all aid given for the support of ordinances, to be included in the estimates.

6. In congregations supported jointly by the two Churches, the contributions of the people for missionary objects shall be divided between the two Churches in the ratio of the aid given by each for the work.

7. The Boards of Home Missions and Church Extension of the United Presbyterian Church shall have power to consent to any modification of minor details in these rules that may be found desirable. Vol. IX, p. 22, 1896.

37. **Salary of Corresponding Secretary.** That because of the increasing labors imposed upon the Corresponding Secretary through the growth of the work, and that the Board may feel no embarrassment in commanding his time, the salary of the Secretary to be increased to \$1,500. Vol. VII, p. 43, 1892.

38. **Presbyteries to Exercise Care.** That Presbyteries be directed to exercise the utmost care in recommending congregations for aid from this Board, and that they be especially careful in having it understood that every loan made to them by this Board is as sacred and obligatory as any debt which might be incurred; and we would urge congregations indebted to this Board to meet this obligation as soon as possible. Vol. IX, p. 286, 1897.

39. **Congregational Appeals Forbidden.** That the practice of congregations in making appeals directly to individuals, societies, or congregations, outside their own communities, be disapproved, and that the Board be directed to enforce, as far as possible, the condition, "That the congregation shall not solicit outside its own community without the consent of the Board." Vol. IX, p. 286, 1897.

40. **Declaration of Trust.** A form of declaration of trust for use in case of parsonages has been prepared by the Board which, it is believed, will be suitable for use under the laws of the various States. It is as follows: "In trust that the said premises shall be used and kept, maintained and disposed of, as a place of residence for the use of the minister of the United Presbyterian Church of _____, subject to the standards and acts of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Assembly of said Church; and in case the United Presbyterian congregation of _____ shall cease to exist, be dissolved, or cease to be connected with and subject to the jurisdiction of the General Assembly of said Church, or shall lose its corporate existence, the trust shall terminate and the title shall rest absolutely in the trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, who shall then have the right to sell and convert the same into money without any liability of the purchaser to see to the application of the proceeds of such sale. And when, in the judgment of said trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, it shall be proper or right, for any cause, to terminate such trust and sell or otherwise dispose of said property, the said trustees, with the concurrence of the said congregation, may, in their discretion, act accordingly." Therefore

Resolved, 1. That the report of the Board of Church Extension be approved.

2. That the form of Declaration of Trust for parsonages prepared by the Board be adopted.

41. **Presbyterial Committees on Church Extension.** *Resolved*, 5. That the Presbyteries which include the great cities of the country be authorized and recommended to appoint Standing Committees on Church Extension, to keep a careful supervision of the erection of churches and the payment of debts, to secure the co-operation of congregations, and to fully develop the local resources. Vol. V, p. 532, 1882.

42. **The Secretary to Visit the Mission Field.** *Resolved*, That the Boards of Home Missions, and Church Extension, and Foreign Missions, be authorized to send their Secretaries to any Synod, Presbytery, or congregation of the Church, when in their judgment the interests committed to these Boards may require such visits, and that they report the same to the Assembly. Vol. V, p. 36, 1879. [Similar action was taken, Vol. VI, p. 233, 1885.]

Resolved, 7. That the Corresponding Secretary be authorized to visit those stations and congregations in which there is special interest, when in the judgment of the Board it may be deemed necessary, and that his expenses be paid by the Treasurer. Vol. V, p. 739, 1883.

Resolved, 11. That the Corresponding Secretary of the Board be requested to visit that part of the Church in which its work is carried on, as frequently as in the judgment of the Board it may be advisable. Vol. VII, p. 213, 1889.

Resolved, 9. That the action of the Board in sending the Corresponding Secretary into the field, by times, to give his personal attention to the work, be approved, and that the same policy be continued, as far as it may be of advantage to the work, and at the same time economize the funds of the Church. Vol. VII, p. 640, 1891.

43. **Permanent Funds.** [The Board reported on the several funds in its possession and made recommendations concerning them. These funds are: 1. The Thomas Hanna; 2. The Quarter-Centennial Fund; 3. The Daniel Speers Fund; 4. The Mrs. Sarah J. Reed Fund; 5. The William H. Haney Fund; 6. The James P. Hanna Fund; 7. The Permanent Reserve Fund; 8. The Annuity Fund.] Vol. IX, p. 824, 1899.

[The Permanent Reserve Fund] is the growth of special gifts. The Quarter-Centennial Fund and other appropriations made to it under authority of the General Assembly. It is held as a trust fund which, as to the principal, cannot be used for current expenses. Vol. X, p. 88, 1900.

44. **Appropriation for Clerical Help.** The sum of \$250 per year was appropriated for the purpose of securing clerical aid for the Corresponding Secretary. Vol. XII, p. 30, 1908.

(3) Board of Missions to the Freedmen

1. **Charter of the Board of Missions to the Freedmen.** [Granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, approved by the Governor, March 25, 1868, accepted and adopted by the Assembly, Vol. II, p. 509, 1868.]

SECTION I. Be it enacted, etc., that John B. Clark, C. A. Dickey, A. Calhoun, Wm. J. Reid, S. B. Reed, W. H. Andrew, John Dean, James Mitchell, James Patterson, and their successors, duly chosen, as hereinafter specified, are hereby created a body politic and corporate in deed and in law, by the name, style and title of, The Board of Missions to the Freedmen of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

SEC. II. That the said corporation by that name shall have and enjoy perpetual succession, and be able to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in all courts of law and elsewhere, and shall be able and capable in law and equity to take, purchase, hold and receive to them and their successors any lands, tenements, goods, chattels, sum or sums of money, which are now, or shall or may at any time hereafter, become the property of said corporation by purchase, gift, grant, bargain, sale, conveyance, devise, bequest, or otherwise, from any person or persons whomsoever, and the same to grant, bargain, sell, mortgage, improve or dispose of for the use and benefit of the said corporation or body politic, and in general to do all things which may be lawful and necessary for the well being and proper management of the said corporation; *Provided*, that the net yearly income from the real estate of said corporation shall not exceed three thousand dollars.

SEC. III. That the said corporation shall have power to make and use a common and corporate seal, and to alter, destroy and renew the same at pleasure; and to make such by-laws, rules and regulations as shall be necessary for the government of the said corporation, and for the management and safe-keeping of the funds and other property thereto belonging, and their appropriation and use in accordance with the intent and purposes of its institution: *Provided* that no by-law, rule or regulation as aforesaid shall be valid, if inconsistent with the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, the constitution and laws of the United States, or the discipline of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

SEC. IV. That the object of the said corporation shall be to educate the freedmen of the South in secular and religious knowledge, by establishing and supporting schools and churches amongst them, and by such other means as are appropriate to missionary operations.

SEC. V. That the members of the said corporation shall be such as the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America shall choose and appoint, and shall consist of nine persons, who shall be divided into three classes, as at present constituted, three persons being in each class, whose term of membership shall be three years, so that one class of three persons shall be annually appointed, and one class of three persons shall annually go out.

SEC. VI. That the officers of said corporation shall be a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, who shall remain in office during a term of one year, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified, and shall be chosen by the corporation from its own membership, on the first Tuesday of July of each and every year; and that until an election shall be had under this act, William J. Reid shall be President, S. B. Reed, Vice-President, John B. Clark, Secretary, and John Dean, Treasurer, of the said corporation.

SEC. VII. That no misnomer of said corporation or their successors shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise, or bequest, to or from said corporation; *Provided*, that the intent of the party or parties shall sufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, grant, will, or other writing, whereby any estate or interest was intended to pass to or from the said corporation.

2. **Constitution of the Board of Missions to the Freedmen.** [A constitution for the Board of Missions to the Freedmen was adopted, Vol. I, p. 498, 1863, but it was superseded by the general constitution of the Boards and the following new constitution]:

i. This Board shall be styled "The Board of Missions to the Freedmen of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and shall be located in the city of Pittsburgh.

ii. To this Board shall be entrusted, under the direction and control of the General Assembly, the direction and oversight of Missions to the Freedmen. They shall have the right to select and recommend fields of labor; appoint missionaries and teachers; prepare, for the Assembly, estimates of all appropriations and expenditures of money, and take all action that may be necessary to secure the successful prosecution of the work committed to their care. Vol. IV, p. 23, 1874.

3. **History of the Board of Missions to the Freedmen.** [Missions among the freedmen were carried on under the direction of several Presbyteries previous to 1863, when the Board of Missions to the Freedmen was organized. With a view of transferring the work of this Board to other Boards of the Church, the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 2. That the school work in the literary department be discontinued at the end of the present year.

3. That the congregations at Nashville and Vicksburg be placed under the care of the Presbytery of Tennessee, and referred to the executive com-

mittee of the Board of Home Missions for aid, to whatever amount may be necessary to support the pastors of these congregations.

4. That the Board of Freedmen's Missions be directed to deed their property at Nashville, Vicksburg and Leavenworth to the Board of Church Extension, and transfer any funds that may be in their hands to the Board of Home Missions.

5. That they be directed to make careful inquiry for young men of piety and talent in these missions, having the Gospel ministry in view, and needing aid, and have these placed under the care of the Board of Education.

6. That the Board of Freedmen's Missions be directed to settle their business, if possible, by the end of the year, and as soon as their business is settled, discontinue their organization. Vol. III, p. 388, 1872.

[The next Assembly continued the Board by the following action]:

Resolved, 4. That the Board of Freedmen's Missions be continued as one of the regular Boards of the Church, and that said Board have a general supervision over our educational enterprises among the freedmen. Vol. III, p. 530, 1873.

[A resolution to consolidate the Boards of Freedmen's Missions and of Home Missions was introduced into the Assembly of 1874, but it was negatived. Vol. IV, p. 18, 1874. A plan for consolidating the Boards of Freedmen's Missions, Home Missions and Church Extension was overtured to the Presbyteries. Vol. IV, p. 570, 1878.

The vote on this overture was: Ayes, 97; nays, 543; not voting, 36.]

Resolved, That these Boards be not consolidated. Vol. V, p. 23, 1879.

4. **A Normal School Among the Freedmen.** *Resolved*, 4. That the Assembly regards with special favor the erection of a normal school, in which individuals may be trained up for missionaries and teachers among the people of their own color; and that it be left with the Board to adopt such measures as to them may seem best for the accomplishment of this object. Vol. II, p. 154, 1865.

Resolved, 4. That this Assembly do endorse the resolution of the last Assembly and the late report of the Board in recommending the erection of a normal school for the purpose of qualifying freedmen for missionaries and teachers. Vol. II, p. 310, 1866.

Resolved, 4. That the Board be instructed, as soon as the necessary funds can be obtained, to establish at such a place in the South as it may deem most advisable, a normal school for the training of colored teachers. Vol. III, p. 13, 1869.

Resolved, 3. That we recommend the Board to proceed, as soon as may be, with the establishment of a normal school somewhere in the South, and that they be authorized to draw upon the Church for the funds necessary for this purpose. Vol. III, p. 156, 1870.

Resolved, 1. That the Board be urged to secure funds and establish a normal school as soon as possible. Vol. III, p. 275, 1871.

Resolved, 1. That all efforts to establish a normal school among the freedmen be discontinued. Vol. III, p. 388, 1872.

Resolved, 1. That the matter of establishing a normal school among the freedmen of the South be referred to the Board of Missions to the Freedmen, with instructions to investigate the subject, and if the funds can be obtained and a suitable location can be secured, and if in their judgment the establishment of such an institution would be wise, that they be authorized to begin the work, and that they report their action to the next Assembly. Vol. III, p. 529, 1873.

The Assembly of last year revived this work, and instructed the Board to establish a normal school. These instructions have been carried out with

promptness. Knoxville has been selected as the location which promises the best results. . . . Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the conduct of the Board in this work be approved. Vol. IV, p. 18, 1874.

Resolved, 1. That the Board of Freedmen's Missions be directed to proceed immediately to erect the necessary buildings for a mission training school among the freedmen, and to open said school as soon as possible. Vol. IV, p. 176, 1875.

[The school was opened in September, 1875, and later became known as Knoxville College. A similar school was opened in Chase City, Va., in 1876, and one in Norfolk, Va., in 1882.]

5. **Dormitories.** *Resolved*, 1. That we recommend to the Board the propriety of providing dormitories and cheap boarding for pupils at Knoxville as soon as they may be able to do so. Vol. IV, p. 442, 1877.

6. **Students' Fund.** *Resolved*, 4. That we authorize the Board to establish a fund for the assistance of worthy students, which shall be permanently vested, and the interest used annually for the aforesaid purpose. Vol. IV, p. 442, 1877.

2. We recognize the importance of a students' fund, judiciously employed, to enable poor students to continue in school without interruption, and we commend this object to the special consideration of the benevolent as worthy of patronage. Vol. V, p. 741, 1883.

7. **A Home for Orphan Children.** [The Board reported the opening of a home for orphan girls from the age of five to fifteen years. The Assembly approved the action]: *Resolved*, 3. That the new department for orphan children, instituted and supported by private enterprise, should be continued, and the Board is authorized to draw from the general fund for its support. Vol. V, p. 741, 1883.

8. **Industrial Schools for the Freedmen.** *Resolved*, 4. That, as earnest and reasonable requests are made for the establishment of industrial schools in our missions in Virginia, attention be given to this branch of training, so far as practicable and the means will afford. Vol. VII, p. 217, 1889.

7. That the establishing of industrial schools is looked upon with favor by the Church, and that this special work is commended to the liberality of those of large means. Vol. VII, p. 425, 1890.

9. **Evangelistic Work Among the Freedmen.** *Resolved*, 3. We recommend to the consideration of this Board the propriety of making an advancement in this work, more especially in the direction of doing evangelistic work among the freedmen. Vol. VII, p. 217, 1889.

3. That promising and pious young men who have graduated from the schools and are looking to the ministry, be employed as missionaries among the colored people of the South. Vol. VII, p. 425, 1890.

10. **A Commission to License and Ordain Ministers Among the Freedmen.** *Resolved*, 6. That inasmuch as the Freedmen's Mission is far removed from any of the organized Presbyteries of our Church, and inasmuch as some exercise of Presbyterial control will be necessary in selecting and employing young men as missionaries, and in establishing stations and the organizing of congregations, it is hereby ordered that the ordained ministers in the South be constituted a commission with power, under the advice and approval of the Board, to employ missionaries, to license men to preach, to ordain ministers after completing their course of study, to organize congregations, and ordain elders; and the said commission shall report to the General Assembly through the Board. Vol. VII, p. 425, 1890. [No action has been taken under this appointment.]

45. The Joint Tenure of Property by the Board of Freedmen's Missions and the Women's Board

1. Where a donation is made by the Women's Board for the erection of buildings on the property of the Freedmen's Board, such donations shall be subject to the approval of the latter Board.

2. Where the Women's Board has made a donation according to the above regulation and buildings have been erected on the property of the Freedmen's Board, the Freedmen's Board shall recognize the amount of the donation as a first lien on so much of the premises as may be used for said building.

3. In case of the failure of a mission and the abandonment of the field where the Women's Board has expended money for buildings, the Freedmen's Board shall have a pro rata share in the proceeds of the sale of the property as the interests of each appear.

4. These regulations shall have the force of legal obligations without further legal papers. Vol. XI, p. 287, 1905.

46. **Work Among Colored People in the North.** It is well known that a number of those who have been trained in our missions in the South have removed to cities in the North, notably Indianapolis, Chicago, and Philadelphia. The Second Synod memorializes the Assembly to so amend the charter of the Board of Freedmen's Missions as to authorize it to organize and carry on missions to the colored people anywhere in the United States. In answer to this memorial, we recommend the following for adoption:

Inasmuch as our colored people have in the cities of the North educational privileges equal to the best, and since the needs of these children of United Presbyterian faith and training may best be subserved by the usual Church methods, mindful of the history and traditions of the United Presbyterian Church and its honored predecessors, it is the judgment of this Assembly that the shepherding of our colored people in the North should be referred to the presbyteries within whose bounds they may be located. Vol. XII, p. 32, 1908.

2. **Organization of the Board of American Missions.** Be it hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, in session in the city of St. Louis, Mo., this 26th day of May, 1928, as follows:

There shall be created the Board of American Missions, incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, with headquarters at Pittsburgh, Pa.

(1) Membership

This Board shall consist of fifteen (15) members. Five of whom shall be elected for one (1) year, five for two (2) years, and five for three (3) years. Thereafter the General Assembly shall appoint each year five members to serve for a period of three years.

The Board of American Missions shall be regarded as replacing the present Board known as the Board of Home Missions, with its constituent Boards, known as the Board of Home Missions, the Board of Church Extension and the Board of Freedmen's Missions.

(2) Organization

The Board of American Missions shall meet on the third Monday in June, 1928, elect its Chairman and Secretary, and proceed to outline its work, and as soon as the necessary Charter can be obtained, and changes made in existing Charters of the replaced Boards, not later than August 1, 1928, the replacement shall be regarded as complete.

The Board shall elect its General Secretary, subject to the approval of the General Assembly. It shall also appoint one or more Associate Secretaries.

Neither the General Secretary nor an Associate Secretary shall be a member of the said Board. It shall employ such assistants and clerical force as may be required for efficient and economic service. It shall determine and pay all salaries from the funds in its hands, also meet such overhead expense, traveling expense, etc., as may be incurred in performing efficient service, including the necessary expense of the holding Boards, hereinafter mentioned.

(3) Work

The work of the Board of American Missions, in a general way shall be along such lines of service as are provided and set forth in the charters of the Boards which it has replaced. It shall also distribute the funds which the Church places in its hands to the various mission stations under its care.

In this work of distribution, the Board shall, each year, in the week next preceding the meeting of the General Assembly, call together the Synodical Superintendents of Missions for information and counsel.

The Board of American Missions shall determine its own plan of work and provide for its own standing and special committees. Such committees shall not necessarily be identified in any way with the membership of the holding corporations mentioned below. All such committees shall be responsible only to the Board itself.

(4) Holding Boards

The Boards thus replaced, viz.: Home Missions, Church Extension and Freedmen's Missions, shall continue their charters, so amended as to reduce their membership to such a number as will merely continue their existence, in order to protect all their incomes from all sources, and all monies received from legacies, and do whatever may be legally required of them as such corporations. The Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension shall be reduced to three members each; the Board of Freedmen's Missions shall consist of nine members in order to fulfil the conditions imposed by the charter of Knoxville College. These members shall be appointed by the General Assembly from the membership of the Board of American Missions, a proportionate number each year, to serve for three years. These Boards, thus replaced, shall transfer to the Board of American Missions all gifts, incomes, trusts, investments, properties and legacies now in hand or that shall in the future come into their hands, to be used or distributed according to the terms specified in such gifts, trusts, or legacies.

Any vacancies occurring in these Boards shall be filled temporarily by the Boards themselves from the membership of the Board of American Missions. Should such vacancies at any time reduce the membership of the holding Boards to less than a quorum, the vacancies shall then be filled by the Board of American Missions.

* * * * *

Each of the Budget Boards, with the approval of the General Assembly, shall appoint its own General Secretary, who shall not be a member of any Board. Each Board shall determine the salary of such General Secretary, and shall provide such associate and clerical help as it may deem necessary.

Each Board shall be responsible for the disbursement of funds appropriated to it. It may call on the Board of Administration for information and advice.

9. In order that the foregoing enactment may become operative, your committee would suggest the appointment of a Commission which shall be charged with the responsibility of putting it into effect.

10. All enactments heretofore made by order of the General Assembly, or by any Board, which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed. Vol. XVII, p. 29, 1928.

On June 18, 1928, the Board of American Missions met as directed (Vol. XVII, p. 332, 1929) and elected officers. Vol. XVII, p. 399, 1929.

The Commission on readjustment of the Boards made the following modifications of the provisions for the Board of American Missions:

"The action of the St. Louis Assembly in reference to the Holding Boards was that 'the Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension be reduced to three members' (see Assembly Minutes, page 30-II, Paragraph 1). On motion the Commission amended this paragraph, making it read 'five members' instead of 'three' to conform to the requirements of the Pennsylvania statutes. It was further resolved that these five members hold office until their successors have been appointed."

"At the request of the Negro Department of the Board of American Missions the action of the General Assembly in reference to the Holding Boards (see Assembly Minutes, page 30, Article II, Paragraph 1), was amended so as to read as follows, viz.:

"The Board of Freedmen's Missions shall consist of nine members to fulfil the conditions imposed by the charter of Knoxville College. These members, a majority of whom shall be chosen from the membership of the Board of American Missions, shall be appointed by the General Assembly, a proportionate number each year, to serve for three years."

The charter for the Board of American Missions has been granted by the Court and the necessary changes have been made in the charters of the Holding Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension and Freedmen's Missions, thereby conforming to the requirements of the General Assembly. Vol. XVII, p. 332, 1929.

3. Departments of the Board of American Missions

A. Department of Home Missions

(1) **Aliens, Work Among.** We note with sadness the plan of the Board to eliminate its Alien work "at the earliest possible date." Although appreciative of the financial pressure which has seemed to create this as a necessity, we hereby direct the Board to continue to maintain this work. Vol. XVII, p. 356, 1929.

(2) **Appropriations for Parsonage Rent.** We believe it is not just to the Women's Board, which has been so generous in providing parsonage loans to Home Mission congregations, nor in keeping with fair practice, to divert to the pastor's salary appropriations made by the American Board for parsonage rent. Vol. XIX, p. 632, 1938.

(3) **Exemption From Sliding Scale.** *Resolved*, That when exemption from the application of the sliding scale is granted, it be for one year only, at the end of which time the basis for the previous year shall again prevail. Vol. XIX, p. 632, 1938.

(4) **Appointment of Home Missionaries.** *Resolved*, That the Board of American Missions shall be consulted in every case regarding the appointment of the missionary where salary aid is granted by the Board, and in all cases where 50% or over of the salary is paid by the Board, the Board shall have the deciding voice in the missionary's appointment. Vol. XIX, p. 336, 1937.

(5) **United Presbyterian Ministers to Be Called.** Since the number of ministers in our denomination exceeds the number of preaching places, and since men coming from other denominations into ours are not always in sympathy with our doctrines and methods, we recommend that S. M.'s and Home Mission congregations seeking settlement call men of United Presbyterian training and conviction. Vol. XIX, p. 632, 1938.

(6) **Contributions to Benevolences.** *Resolved*, 5. That congregations making application to the Board of American Missions for aid which give more than ten per cent of their total contributions to benevolences, including

all contributions to W. G. M. S., be reminded that their askings of this Board will be reduced by the amount of the excess benevolent payments. Vol. XIX, p. 41, 1936.

Resolved, 7. That in reply to a protest from the Women's Presbyterial of Nebraska Presbytery against the action of the 1936 General Assembly in regard to the action of the 1936 Committee on Appropriations limiting the sums promised to mission churches if their benevolent giving exceeds 10% of their total contributions—the committee reaffirms its conviction that 10% of the total budget of a mission congregation is a reasonable sum to devote to missionary and benevolent giving and that any amount above the said 10% should be applied to the support of the pastor of a congregation so long as it appeals for aid from the American Mission Board. Vol. XIX, p. 336, 1937.

Resolved, 3. The committee again affirms its conviction that 10 per cent of all contributions seems a reasonable standard for missionary contributions in Home Mission stations, including both Women's Work and Budget funds, and so recommend that when the total benevolent contributions exceed the 10 per cent, all such excess be designated as specials to the American Board and sent direct to the Treasurer thereof. Vol. XIX, p. 632, 1938.

A Memorial was before your Committee from Kansas City Presbytery asking that the General Assembly "remove its ruling that congregations receiving aid from the Board of American Missions shall not give more than ten per cent of their budget to missionary causes." Your Committee recommends that this memorial be granted. But it is further recommended that congregations receiving aid from the American Board should recognize that their primary obligation in missionary giving should be to the missionary budget of the denomination from which source the American Board receives the funds to furnish the aid requested. We further recommend that where congregations seeking aid from the American Board fail to recognize their primary obligation to the missionary budget of the denomination, the American Board be instructed to refuse aid. Vol. XX, p. 50, 1940.

(7) **Rent for Home Missionaries.** *Resolved, 3.* That in view of the increased rents necessary for home missionaries to pay, the Board be authorized to continue the paying of all necessary rent in excess of the original \$300 annual rent, except in cases of stations receiving more than \$1,800 and free house. In case of "Special Missions" the Board should fix a flat salary adequate to the needs of the field. Vol. XVII, p. 668, 1930.

(8) **Last Month's Aid Withheld.** *Resolved, 4.* That the Superintendents of Missions of the presbyteries be directed to remind the congregations receiving aid from the Board that the last month's salary payment to the missionary from the Board may be withheld until the congregation has paid in full their pledge to the pastor's salary. Vol. XIX, p. 335, 1937.

B. Department of Church Erection

(1) **Rules for Appropriations.** 1. That the initial grant for any new mission work be not more than the necessary land for a completed church, and parsonage and a donation of not over \$5,000 for a house of worship, which shall be built with a view to a later use as a parsonage if such is possible.

2. The maximum grant shall remain as at present—\$15,000—exclusive of the original grant, except in unusual circumstances where the Board, after careful personal investigation, concludes that more is needed; but no donation of more than \$20,000 shall be made to any congregation exclusive of the initial donation.

3. No distinction shall be made between established congregations and congregations not self-supporting, but each case shall be considered on its merits, viewing especially the possibilities of the future success of the work.

4. No grant shall be paid to any organized mission or congregation until there has been a canvass of the church and community for funds for the work. This canvass shall be made by a representative of the Board or by some outside firm secured or approved by the Board.

5. The Board shall erect some agency within the Board itself or secure some outside firm engaged in conducting finance campaigns, such service to be at the disposal of any congregation in the denomination planning a finance campaign for building purposes and shall require it in all congregations asking aid from the Board.

6. The Board shall create a parsonage department by the use of a sufficient amount of its Investment Funds, which are free to be used for such purpose.

7. That we approve the recommendations of the Committee on Appropriations that \$30,000 be transferred from the Department of Church Erection to the Home Department to reimburse the latter for parsonage rentals paid out, and that in the future parsonage rentals be paid by the Department of Church Erection. We would ask the Committee on Appropriations to make the necessary allowance to the Church Erection Department to take care of this charge. Vol. XVII, p. 42, 1928.

(2) **Temporary Financing of Building Projects.** *Resolved*, That the department of Church Erection be instructed to give its attention to the possibility of working out a plan for more adequate temporary financing of building projects for home mission churches. Vol. XVII, p. 667, 1930.

C. Department of Negro Work

(1) **Knoxville College.** We note the change in the charter of Knoxville College, which provides for the addition of two members from the alumni of the Board, and two citizens of Knoxville, and that two meetings of the Board are to be held each year, in January and June, in Knoxville, instead of in Pittsburgh, as formerly. We recommend the approval of this change.

(2) **Insurance on Buildings.** The Board has worked out a plan to carry its own insurance on buildings that would not be rebuilt in case of fire and to reduce the insurance on other buildings by one-half of that now carried. Excessive premium rates makes this seem wise to the Boards. We recommend its approval. Vol. XVII, p. 41, 1928.

VII. AMUSEMENTS

(1) **Dancing, Theatrical Exhibitions, Etc.** *Resolved*, That the members of the United Presbyterian Church be exhorted to avoid all association with men of the world in vain and ensnaring recreations, such as promiscuous dancing, theatrical exhibitions, and such like amusements as are adapted to alienate the affections from God, and expose the Christian character to reproach; and that pastors and Sessions be careful to warn those under their care in relation to the danger of having any fellowship with the world in any such practices. Vol. I, p. 120, 1860.

The question which this Assembly is asked to answer is the following, viz.: "Is the mingling of the sexes in the dance in a private house, where only the moral and respectable are permitted to participate, a violation of the law of the United Presbyterian Church, when the parties engaged in the dance are members of her communion?"

In the judgment of your committee the deliverance of the General Assembly in its action of the year 1860 was intended to define "promiscuous dancing" as one of the "vain and ensnaring recreations" of the men of the world, and that for members of the church to engage in the promiscuous dance, even with one another, is to have fellowship with the world in its sinful recrea-

tions. And that said deliverance of the Assembly upon this subject is a distinct and unequivocal disapproval of such practices.

We recommend for adoption the following:

Resolved, That the petitioners be referred to the deliverance of the Assembly in its action upon the subject of amusements in 1860, as giving a full and explicit answer to their question. Vol. V, p. 15, 1879.

(2) **Biblical Standard of Private Conduct.** *Resolved*, 2. That we exhort the ministers of our Church to keep constantly before their congregations the Biblical standard of private conduct and social and civil duty. Also that we urge upon all our people . . . the necessity of avoiding all practices and associations that are detrimental to the Christian life, and of exerting every influence in their power to encourage and promote efforts that are calculated to achieve these ends. Vol. XI, p. 286, 1905.

(3) **Games, Sports, and Shows, on the Sabbath.** *Resolved*, 2. That we declare our emphatic disapproval of all secular uses of the Sabbath Day, all games, sports, and shows. . . . Vol. XIV, p. 446, 1918; Vol. XVI, p. 34, 1924.

(4) **Amusements in Army and Navy Camps on the Sabbath.** *Resolved*, 1. That we urge the President to make provision for the elimination on the Sabbath of theatrical, vaudeville, and burlesque performances and other objectional activity, such as boxing exhibitions, and dancing, in the Army and Navy camps. Vol. XIV, p. 446, 1918.

(5) **Amusements in Church Colleges.** In answer to the Memorials from Des Moines Presbytery and Kansas City Presbytery, relative to certain social activities in student life, we recommend that the petition of the memorialists of the Presbytery of Kansas City be granted; viz.: "that the General Assembly through the governing Synods advise the Church Colleges to countenance nothing that even appears to be contrary to the primary purpose in the founding of these colleges" and that the petition of the memorialists of the Presbytery of Des Moines be not granted, viz.: "that the General Assembly forbid the Board of Education to pay any monies from any of its funds to any of our colleges where dancing or kindred evils are countenanced among its students." Vol. XVIII, p. 649, 1934.

VIII. DR. W. B. ANDERSON MEMORIAL

1. **The Board of Foreign Missions Recommends the Establishment of a Suitable Memorial to Dr. W. B. Anderson.** We recommend that the selection of this memorial be committed to the Board of Foreign Missions, who shall submit their plan to a Committee, composed of the Moderator, the Vice-Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly, for their approval. And when so approved, the Board of Foreign Missions shall make provisions for the collection of money for this memorial. Vol. XX, p. 37, 1940.

2. **Plan for W. B. Anderson Memorial.** *Resolved*, 1. That we propose raising a W. B. Anderson Memorial of \$50,000.

2. That because of Doctor Anderson's services in India the first \$10,000 be designated for the provision of a Memorial Chapel on the campus of Gordon College (Rawalpindi, India) which institution Doctor Anderson served as principal, and the provision of which Chapel has already been approved by the Indian Mission and the Board.

3. That the remainder (\$40,000) be a Memorial Fund to be expended for the support of a missionary, or missionaries, and for scholarships with the expectation that this entire amount, together with any accruing interest, be expended at the discretion of the Board within a period of twenty years.

4. That the appeal for this Memorial be presented to the Church during the ensuing year and that all United Presbyterian congregations be asked to receive an Easter offering for this purpose.

5. That we express to the Synod of the Punjab our appreciation of their purpose to join with the American Church by providing additional gifts to the Memorial.

6. That the Board of Foreign Missions be authorized to proceed at once with the plans for raising the funds for this Memorial. Vol. XX, p. 342, 1941.

IX. ANNIVERSARIES

1. Quarter Centennial

1. **A Memorial Fund.** [The Synod of New York presented to the General Assembly a petition that steps be taken to raise a special fund of \$500,000 for Church work, as a memorial of the union in which the Church was organized. In view of the effort necessary to meet the increased appropriations to the Boards, the Assembly regarded it inexpedient to undertake to raise the special fund. Vol. V, p. 533, 1882.

Subsequently a general convention, held in the First Church, Allegheny, Pa., on September 6, 1882, "endorsed the proposed movement to raise \$500,000 as an expression of gratitude to God for His grace; designated the objects to which contributions should be made; ordered that contributions should be made to no other objects except in certain specified cases; asked the Assembly to distribute all money not designated by the donors; appointed a committee, called the Quarter-Centennial Commission, to have charge of the movement, to use all necessary means to bring it to the attention of the Church, and to exercise all diligence to prosecute it to completion; and directed the Commission to report in full to the next General Assembly."

The Commission reported to the Assembly that their efforts had met with a most cordial response; that the subscriptions to the fund amounted to \$387,984.70, of which \$131,593.30 had been paid; and suggested that the work be continued during another year. Vol. V, p. 792, 1883.

In order to the better prosecution of its work, the Quarter-Centennial Commission became an incorporated body.

The General Assembly expressed its gratification at the work accomplished by the Commission; continued the Commission for another year, with instructions to complete the work of canvassing the entire Church, and to report its diligence to the next Assembly; instructed it to prepare and publish for free distribution a history of the Memorial Fund, and devoutly acknowledged the grace of God, and returned thanks to the donors. The General Assembly also set forth at length the principles governing it in the distribution of the fund, and gave the following orders]:

Resolved, 1. That all designated contributions of the Memorial Fund be applied strictly to the objects designated.

2. That the Boards of Publication and Education, and other objects not specified by the original Conference, yet subsequently admitted to shares of the Memorial Fund by designation of donors, and approved by the Commission, be granted the sums designated respectively to them, and no more.

3. That the Memorial Fund, less the sum of all these designations to such other objects, be ordered to be appropriated to objects, and according to a schedule of percentage, as follows: To Foreign Missions, 20 per cent; Home Missions, 5 per cent; Church Extension, 14 per cent; Freedmen's Mission, 4 per cent; Ministerial Relief, 4 per cent; Allegheny Theological Seminary, 9 per cent; Xenia Theological Seminary, 9 per cent; Westminster College, 12 per cent; Monmouth College, 12 per cent; Muskingum College, 8 per cent; Knoxville College, 3 per cent; *provided* the aggregate contributions designated to any of the above objects do not exceed the above percentage in its behalf; but if there should be such excess in the designations to any, or to several of the above-named objects, then, on such condition, all the above apportion-

ments not thus exceeded by such designations shall suffer corresponding diminution pro rata.

4. That of the undesignated money in the Memorial Fund, there be distributed to the objects specified in the third resolution respectively such sums as, with the designations to the same, will make up the percentages ordered.

[Also the following in relation to moneys now or hereafter coming into the hands of the Treasurer]:

Resolved, That the Treasurer be and hereafter is directed to make a quarterly disbursement of all moneys received and designated by donors to objects specified by the preliminary Conference, or approved by the Commission, to the objects designated, and that of the undesignated money received by him, he make disbursement according to the above schedule of apportionment; that he make the first disbursement the 15th of June, 1883, and quarterly disbursements thereafter until the accounts be closed and subscriptions to the Quarterly Centennial Fund be settled. Vol. V, pp. 792, 737, 1883.

[The Commission was continued from year to year for the completion of its work of collection and settlement, and made annual reports. Vol. VI, pp. 93, 1884; 294, 1885; 495, 1886; 737. 1887; Vol. VII, pp. 88, 1888; 289, 1889; 429, 492, 1890.]

[The final report gives the following summary]:

The total amounts received by the Boards, Institutions, etc., from the Quarter-Centennial Commission in cash, notes and property, or paid to them direct by the donors, and receipts sent to the Quarter-Centennial Commission, are as follows:

Board of Foreign Missions	\$71,760 00	
Board of Home Missions	21,594 08	
Board of Freedmen's Missions	14,352 00	
Board of Church Extension	50,232 00	
Ministerial Relief	14,352 00	
Allegheny Seminary	32,292 00	
Xenia Seminary	32,292 00	
Westminster College	43,056 00	
Muskingum College	28,704 00	
Monmouth College	43,056 00	
Knoxville College	10,764 00	
Orphans' Home	9,714 80	
Lincoln College	682 02	
Franklin College	3,079 00	
Indian School at Carlisle	16 00	
Assembly Fund	1 00	
Cooper Memorial College	363 85	
Chartiers Church, McKees Rocks	200 00	
Mount Washington Mission	100 00	
Richmond Congregation	250 00	
Portland Mission	25 00	
Oakland Chapel	182 50	
Board of Trustees of General Assembly	3,000 00	
		\$380,068 25

[Under the influence of the Quarter-Centennial movement many congregations were enabled to pay off old debts, while some others built churches and parsonages. So far as ascertained, the amount so raised was \$329,490, as a part of the memorial movement, making the total sum raised by the commission direct or under its influence, \$709,558.25. The auditing committee submitted the following report]:

We, the undersigned, appointed to audit the accounts of James J. Porter, Treasurer of the Quarter-Centennial Commission, do certify that we have examined the foregoing statement and compared the vouchers for the disbursements, and do find it to be correct. We find that the total amount collected (in cash and notes) is \$380,068.25, and that the expense attending the entire work has been \$1,873.66 (less than one-half per cent), and that the Fund has been so capably managed that the interest received in excess of that paid out, is \$1,049.54, which reduces the actual expense of the work done by the Commission to \$824.12, or less than one-fourth per cent on the sum collected. It is worthy of note that in the entire work no expense has been incurred by the officers of the commission for traveling expenses or clerical work. Vol. VII, pp. 493, 494, 1890.

[The General Assembly adopted the following]:

6th. In receiving the final report of the Quarter-Centennial Commission, properly audited and certified, we recommend its approval, and the discharge of the Commission with the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That great gratitude is due the King and Head of the Church for inspiring His servants to conceive the movement; for putting a spirit of liberality into the hearts of the members of the Church, whereby they were led to contribute to this fund; for the increased efficiency that has come to the Boards and educational institutions of the Church from the funds thus provided; for the increased liberality of the Church, aroused by this movement, and for its benign influence in unifying and centralizing the energies of the Church during a period of serious apprehension.

2. That the official and unofficial membership of the Church be commended for the generosity and hearty co-operation which characterized them in helping forward the enterprise, and attention be called to what the church can accomplish when her energies are aroused and properly directed.

3. That this Assembly recognizes the great burden and responsibility that rested upon the Commission, and that it hereby expresses its deep thankfulness to all the members for their fidelity, and for their unselfish expenditure of time, and means, and energies in the successful accomplishment of the enterprise committed to their supervision.

4. That inasmuch as the Commission suggests the appointment of some one to look after the collection of subscriptions not yet paid, and other business that may arise relative to this matter requiring attention, that Mr. J. J. Porter be appointed for this purpose. Vol. VII, p. 429, 1890.

2. **A Memorial Service.** [On the recommendation of the Quarter-Centennial Commission, the General Assembly held a memorial service in the Second Church, Allegheny, Pa., on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the United Presbyterian Church, Saturday, May 26, 1883, at 10 A.M. Vol. V, pp. 717, 795, 1883.]

3. **Later Contribution.** *Resolved*, VI. On the request of the treasurer of the Quarter-Centennial Commission, asking for direction in the disposal of a small sum of money in his hands, we recommend that it be made a nucleus for the proposed dormitory at Camden. Vol. X, p. 268, 1901.

2. Semi-Centennial

(1) **Celebration to Be Planned.** The following resolution on a fitting celebration of the semi-centennial of the Church was adopted:

Resolved, That the Nominating Committee be instructed to nominate to the assembly a special committee of seven, who shall present to the next General Assembly a plan looking toward the appropriate celebration, in 1908, of the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. X, p. 604, 1902.

A Committee of seven was appointed on the Semi-Centennial Celebration. Vol. X, p. 622, 1902.

(2) **Plans.** The Committee on the Semi-Centennial Celebration reported to the Assembly of 1903, outlining general plans and on their recommendation a Commission of ten (10) members—five (5) ministers, five (5) laymen—was appointed to further these plans. Vol. X, pp. 838, 945, 1903.

The Commission on Semi-Centennial Celebration reported to the Assembly of 1905, outlining further plans. Vol. XI, p. 406, 1905.

The Report was adopted with the following resolutions:

(a) That the Commission is hereby authorized to proceed with its work along the lines indicated in its present and previous reports.

(b) That the ministry and membership of the whole Church be urged to prompt and hearty co-operation with the commission, and that synodical and presbyterial committees zealously strive for the awakening of every congregation to a full sense of obligation and privilege.

(c) That ministers and sessions emphasize the fact that the financial aim of the commission depends for its realization upon the deepening of love toward God throughout the whole Church, and such infilling of the Spirit as shall cause the normal life of the Christian to fulfil the divine law of beneficence. Vol. XI, p. 286, 1905.

The Semi-Centennial Commission reported its endeavor to carry forward the plans for the celebration of the Semi-Centennial and the Assembly adopted the following resolutions:

(a) That all pastors shall recognize their God-given privilege of leadership in Christ's work, and so acquaint themselves with the plans and purposes of the Church as embodied in the literature of the Commission as to reach that point of faith and enthusiasm which shall kindle the thought of the whole Church into earnest semi-centennial effort.

(b) That pastors, Sessions and Board of Trustees shall meet in prayerful conference until a definite idea is obtained as to what should be the measure of congregational beneficence, and that the definite aim shall be placed before each congregation as the goal of consecrated self-sacrificing effort.

(c) That while methods of congregational canvass may vary, nothing should be attempted until after an earnest and patient setting forth of the claims of semi-centennial effort; while in the taking of offerings, effort should be made to reach every man, woman and child of the congregation, so that all may "take stock" in the spiritual enterprise of the Church and be prepared for sharing in the joy of the anniversary celebration.

(d) That the engagement of a congregation in the special work of erecting new buildings or raising congregational debts should not be considered as excuse for neglecting semi-centennial effort; since whatever may be the home claims, something can be done for the work of the Church at large, thus securing for the congregation bearing special burdens honorable mention in the Commission's Supplementary Report as to building funds and congregational debts.

(e) That in the interest of concerted action, congregations which fail to reach their offerings before the summer rest period, shall plan for aggressive action during October and November, the time of the Autumnal Harvest; and that Sabbath, October 14, be and hereby is appointed a day for the inauguration of general effort by a universal setting forth of the plans and purposes of the semi-centennial celebration in all our congregations.

(f) That the various Synods at their next meetings shall set apart one session for the consideration of semi-centennial interests, and that Synodical committees shall arrange for such reports and conferences as they shall deem helpful in the work.

(g) That each presbytery of the Church shall at its first meeting, subsequent to this Assembly, arrange for a conference on semi-centennial work;

giving practical direction to pastors and congregations, and that at each subsequent meeting until the culmination of the semi-centennial effort, reports shall be made as to the progress and fidelity of each congregation in executing the mandates and recommendations of the Assembly.

(h) That in June, or as soon thereafter as reports of this Assembly are obtained, pastors shall present such review of the Assembly's action on all the aggressive work of the Church as shall permit a special setting forth of semi-centennial purposes and the presentation of the action embodied in this report.

(i) That in taking and collecting offerings, the plans of the Commission as outlined in the booklet of information, shall be carefully followed by congregational treasurers and presbyterial financial agents; and that when possible, a cash payment shall be made at the time of the Autumnal subscription so as to permit two subsequent payments before the culmination of our semi-centennial celebration in the General Assembly of 1908. Vol. VI, p. 578, 1906.

The Semi-Centennial Commission reported to the Assembly of 1907, presenting recommendations for the guidance of pastors, congregations and committees. Vol. XI, p. 1001, 1907.

3. **Celebration.** The Fiftieth General Assembly met in the Sixth Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, May 27, to June 4, 1908, and carried out an elaborate program celebrating the Semi-Centennial of the Church as prepared by the Semi-Centennial Commission. Vol. XII, p. 8, 1908.

The following report of the Semi-Centennial Commission was adopted:

Your Semi-Centennial Commission would report as follows:

Your Commission appointed by the General Assembly of 1903 has continued its work until the present hour with earnest endeavor to attain the ends of its appointment, viz.: the raising of \$2,000,000 for the Boards and Institution of the Church; the enrollment of communicants in a covenant of systematic beneficence; and the deepening of the Church's life in prayer and faith for the fulfillment of her evangelistic mission at home and abroad.

Every step of the Commission's effort has been taken according to the direction of successive General Assemblies and with the endorsement of synods and presbyteries.

Failure to attain the fullness of the purposes cherished may be traced to several causes, notably the failure of pastors and sessions to promptly undertake the work at the dates designated by the Assembly, and the coming of a great financial depression at a time when many congregations were cherishing the purpose of liberal effort.

The final results, however, are far from discouraging, a large sum having been raised for direct Semi-Centennial beneficence, and still a larger sum being designated for special home debts and buildings, thus clearing the ground for future aggressive effort.

The following statement will present concisely the financial results of Semi-Centennial effort:

Total subscriptions for direct and indirect purposes up to May 25	\$1,323,846.61
Subscriptions to Boards and institutions	624,608.49
For debts and buildings, etc.	699,238.38

New subscriptions are coming in daily so that the sum total will pass much beyond the above figures.

The following is recommended as the action of the Assembly:

(a) That the Commission be relieved from further duty other than the collecting of subscriptions made, the payment of designated funds to the objects indicated, and the distributing of undesignated funds to the objects

indicated, and the distributing of undesignated funds according to the direction of the present Assembly.

(b) That this Assembly determine the scale or ratio upon which undesignated funds shall be distributed to the objects of Semi-Centennial beneficence.

(c) That the Commission be directed to secure in as far as possible copies of all Semi-Centennial addresses, and that these, together with other documents of interest, be placed in the archives of the Historical Society.

(d) That pastors and sessions be urged to make the aftermath of Semi-Centennial celebration an endeavor to enlist the members of their congregations in a covenant of beneficence with the tithe as a minimum, the following being furnished as a suitable form for said covenant:

A COVENANT AND A CALL

We, the members and adherents of the congregation of of the Presbytery of of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, desiring the fulness of God's presence and power in our individual, congregational, and denominational life; realizing that God has conditioned the bestowment of the Holy Spirit upon the full obedience of his people to his will; believing that God still challenges the faith of his people in the message of the prophet concerning the "whole tithe" and the "opened windows of heaven"; recognizing also that it is the province of grace to fulfil law through an imparted life and that therefore the beneficence of the Church in response to the command of Christ and the needs of the world should not fall below that of those who served God in the twilight of prophetic form and ceremony, we do hereby solemnly covenant with God and each other to contribute hereafter to religious and benevolent purposes not less than the one-tenth of our income, especially remembering the importance of the work carried on by the established agencies of our own Church, and that in so doing we issue our call to the throne of grace for the bestowment of the Holy Spirit in sanctifying power upon our lives and in convicting and converting power upon the world for the ushering in of Christ's kingdom.

(e) That the thanks of the Assembly are hereby tendered to all who have labored for the success of the Semi-Centennial celebration, especially to the Church papers which have so liberally granted space for the use of the Commission and to the speakers who have, with painstaking zeal, brought their messages of memory and hope. Vol. XII, p. 23, 1908.

4. **Distribution of Semi-Centennial Funds.** A special Committee to distribute the Semi-Centennial funds was appointed. Vol. XII, p. 29, 1908.

On the recommendation of the special Committee the following provisions for the distribution of the Semi-Centennial Fund were made:

Resolved, 1. That a general distribution be made of fifty per cent of the whole amount, to be distributed to the educational institutions under the care of the General Assembly, and fifty per cent to the missionary interests of the Church at home and abroad.

2. That the amount thus set apart to the five colleges and two theological seminaries be divided as follows: to Monmouth sixteen and one-half per cent; to Westminster sixteen per cent; to Tarkio thirteen per cent; to Muskingum thirteen per cent; to Cooper thirteen and one-half per cent; to Xenia Seminary fourteen per cent; to Allegheny fourteen per cent.

3. That the amount set apart to the Boards of the Church be divided as follows: To Foreign Missions thirty-five per cent; to Home Missions twenty per cent; to Church Extension ten; to Freedmen ten; to Education five; to Ministerial Relief five; Publication five; Women's Missionary Society five; Woman's Association Fund five.

4. That if any college or seminary should receive from the designated portion of the Semi-Centennial Funds more than the per cent to which this basis of distribution would entitle that institution, then the per cent to which that institution would be entitled shall be deducted from the whole amount and be distributed to the other institutions on the basis proposed above. If any institution should receive any amount from the designated fund that amount shall be counted in in making the distribution as provided for above.

5. That if it is found that any money has been designated to any of the Boards of Missionary Associations, that amount shall be deducted from the portion to which that Board of association would be entitled, on the basis of distribution proposed above in relation to the missionary interests of the Church. Vol. XII, p. 55, 1908.

3. The Fiftieth Anniversary of Our Mission Work in Egypt and in India

(1) **Celebration Planned.** *Resolved, 7.* That since the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of our mission work in Egypt and India occurs in 1904-5, and since these anniversaries may be so taken account of as to deepen the interest of the Church in the work of these fields, the Board of Foreign Missions be, and hereby is, appointed a committee to arrange for a fitting celebration of these anniversaries and that in so doing the interests of the Semi-Centennial Commission's work should be furthered.

8. That the Assembly approves the desire of the Board to have the semi-centennial of our missionary organizations made the time of raising a memorial fund for the educational and other needs of our mission fields, and that the Board is hereby authorized to co-operate with the Semi-Centennial Commission in securing this end. Vol. X, p. 843, 1903.

Resolved, 1. That December 4th to December 11th be chosen to be observed throughout our entire Church as a Foreign Missionary Week. At the services of these two Sabbaths, as also at the intervening midweek meetings, pastors shall bring into review the foreign missionary work of our Church in order to acquaint our people with the successes achieved, under the rich blessing of God upon us, during the past half century of missions. Especially shall this week be made a week of general intercession and prayer for foreign missions throughout our churches.

2. That during this week of December 4-11, a Foreign Missionary Convention be held at or near Pittsburgh. The aim of this convention shall be educational and inspirational—to present the conditions, the aim, the methods and especially the results of foreign missionary work in general, with special reference, however, to the work in our own foreign fields. To this convention, presbyteries shall be invited to send delegates, that the interest generated may spread as widely as possible.

3. In order to effectively prepare the way for a hearty observance of the Foreign Missionary Week, and in order to carry the educational and inspirational privileges of this Jubilee of Foreign Missions to as large a constituency as is possible, deputational work shall be arranged for such as will give to as many congregations as is practicable, an opportunity of hearing those qualified especially to present the inspiring record of our first half century of missions.

Sixth. That at the fall meetings, the synods be requested to give special prominence to the proposed Semi-Centennial of our Foreign Mission work, and to co-operate with the committee of the Board, in securing a general observance of the foreign missionary week throughout the Church. Vol. XI, p. 24, 1904.

(2) **Celebration Reported.** The Board of Foreign Missions reported to the General Assembly of 1905, that the Fiftieth Anniversary of our work in Egypt and India had been carried out as planned December 4-11, 1904. The

special feature of which was a convention, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The report was approved. Vol. XI, p. 322, 1905.

4. Seventy-Fifth Anniversary

(1) **Celebration to Be Planned.** The following recommendation was adopted: We recommend the appointment of a Committee of Fifteen whose duty it shall be to prepare a program of activity and service leading up to and including the celebration of our Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of denominational life, this committee to be known as the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Committee, and it shall have power to fill vacancies on the Committee subject to the approval of the General Assembly. Vol. XVII, p. 44, 1928.

(2) **Plans.** The Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Committee reported to the Assembly of 1929, and the following resolutions were adopted.

Be it Resolved, That the Assembly express its hearty appreciation of the presentation of these preliminary steps in what promises to be a celebration of special interest and definite service to our denomination and its missionary and educational enterprises; and

Be it further Resolved, That the Assembly urges strongly upon all our Boards and Agencies the importance of joining enthusiastically in this celebration with all that it involves, including the financial preparation in the creation of a Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Fund for the opening and developing of the proposed one hundred and fifty new congregations and all other numerical, financial and spiritual goals as outlined in the statement of the Committee as presented to this Assembly; and

Be it further Resolved, That the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Committee be hereby authorized and directed to enter into conference on this matter at the earliest possible date with the various educational, evangelistic and missionary Boards and Agencies of the Church, and complete financial and other arrangements for the carrying out of the program proposed in the Committee's statement; and

Be it further Resolved, That the Board of American Missions be and hereby is directed to continue its survey of the presbyteries for needy fields in the many rapidly growing cities and populous centers of our country. Vol. XVII, p. 364, 1929.

On further recommendation of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Committee, the Assembly of 1932 adopted the following:

(1) That the name of the Anniversary be "The Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

(2) That the Anniversary celebration be held in the Schenley District, Pittsburgh, Pa.—specific meeting places and entertainment to be in the hands of a Special Committee appointed by the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Committee.

(3) That this celebration be a joint and simultaneous celebration of the General Assembly, the Women's General Missionary Society and the Young People's National Convention.

(4) That the date of this celebration be Wednesday, June 28, 1933, continuing through Sabbath, July 2nd.

(5) That this General Assembly call the General Assembly of 1933 to meet in the Schenley District, Pittsburgh, at 2:30 P.M., Wednesday, June 28th.

(6) That each congregation be requested to take part in the celebration, using the special program prepared by the Committee for congregational use on Sabbath, June 18th.

(7) That the Assembly approve the action of the Committee in providing a Speakers' Help Book, consisting of information concerning The History, Creed and Activities of the United Presbyterian Church.

(8) That Presbyteries and Synods as such join in recognition of the Seventy-Five years of denominational life and service.

First, by each presbytery appointing one of its members to prepare and present at the last meeting of the presbytery preceding the Anniversary celebration of the Assembly a paper on the History and Work of that presbytery, said paper to be forwarded in typewritten form to the Chairman of the Anniversary Committee that, with other similar papers, it may be placed on file with the General Assembly's Committee on Historical Records. A copy of this paper should also be filed with the clerk of each presbytery. This paper should set forth as fully as possible and as briefly as consistent with the record of the presbytery, the number of congregations, both existing and disorganized, transferred or merged; the ministerial personnel, present and past; its missionary and evangelistic spirit and service; its Missionary societies and its Young People's and other organizations and such other facts, figures and its work.

Second, that the Moderator and Clerk of the General Assembly be requested to notify the program committee of each synod to appoint someone to prepare and present to the Fall meeting of each synod, 1932, a history of that Synod; this history, as in the case of the presbytery, to be forwarded to the Chairman of the Anniversary Committee that it, with others, may be placed on file with the General Assembly's Committee on Historical Records. In the event that any Synod meets too early for the preparation of this history, the history be presented to the Moderator and Clerk of Synod for approval and forwarded to the Chairman of the Anniversary Committee.

(9) That the Anniversary Committee be authorized to publish a report of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary, which would include a brief narrative of the Anniversary itself, the addresses delivered at the central celebration, possibly a brief history of the United Presbyterian Church, and such other information as might seem necessary to present a full report of the Anniversary, providing the cost of same can be met.

(10) That this General Assembly authorize its officers, Boards, and agencies to continue the work and activities of this year on the same budget and scale until the First of August, 1933; and that the Annual Reports of all Boards and agencies be made out covering the same period of time as heretofore, these reports to be submitted to the Assembly at its meeting in June.

(11) That the General Assembly appoint a Committee of laymen to provide finances for the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary celebration, this Committee to work in conjunction with Special Committee appointed by the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Committee.

Your Committee would further report to this Assembly:

The goal of 150 new churches for the five-year period, recommended by the General Assembly of 1928, not as a Home Mission endeavor, but as a denominational achievement, was undertaken vigorously, but like other advances was interrupted by the unavoidable depression. The last Assembly, however, recognizing this necessary interruption, adopted the following: "That we keep before us the former goal of 150 new congregations in five years; that while such goal may not be reached in that time, it is not to be abandoned."

Pursuant to the instructions of the General Assembly of 1928, an approach program of activities was prepared. This program consists of two general goals:

Numerical and financial goal:

- (a) The most earnest effort in evangelistic undertaking by each congregation in its own field;
- (b) A largely increased student attendance in our Theological Seminary, and a greater number of ministers in our presbyteries;

- (c) The largest possible missionary budget for the maintenance and extension of our mission fields in America and elsewhere;
 - (d) The largest possible endowment and equipment for our institutions.
- Spiritual goal:
- (a) The maximum number of family altars;
 - (b) The enlistment of the greatest number of individual intercessors;
 - (c) The tithe standard of money dedication;
 - (d) The Sabbath Day standard of time dedication;
 - (e) The strengthening and enriching of the individual's fellowship with God;
 - (f) A deeply spiritualized and enriched congregational worship in every church, or—as the Devotional Committee of a sister denomination urges—"The Order of Worship is to create spiritual atmosphere, to deepen the consciousness of God's presence, to stimulate religious feeling and to give free expression to the adoration and praise of the worshipper";
 - (g) The deepening of the spiritual life in our colleges and seminary.

This financial goal, like many other endeavors of the Church and State, suffered from the prevailing financial depression of the period, consequently, no special campaign was made toward increasing the endowment and equipment of our institutions, nor even of the missionary and educational budget of the Church, except that which was imperative to maintain the work of the Church already undertaken.

The spiritual goal was referred to the General Assembly's Committee on Evangelism, which Committee notified the Chairman of the Anniversary Committee that this goal would be followed as closely and earnestly as possible. Vol. XVIII, p. 22, 1932.

(3) **Celebration of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary.** The Seventy-Fifth General Assembly met in the First Church, Pittsburgh, Pa., June 28 to July 3, 1933, the Women's General Missionary Society and the Young People's National Convention meeting in the same city, together carried out an elaborate program celebrating the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. XVIII, p. 314, 1933.

The General Assembly adopted the following "findings":

As we have thus thought upon the great doctrines of our faith and have become conscious anew of the realities of the Omnipotent God, and the everlasting gospel of His Eternal Son, let us declare afresh our allegiance to these doctrines and these realities. Let us reaffirm our belief in those fundamental matters of our faith vital and triumphant. With the fires of the gospel burning anew in our hearts, let us determine that as a Church during the coming months we will give ourselves to those three definite lines of endeavor suggested by the Anniversary Committee in its initial report to this Assembly:

1. A revival of soul-saving, personal religion, deepening the spiritual life; a renewed loyalty to Christ; an awakened and reconsecrated Church; a revival in Bible study and prayer; a return of religion in the home; an increased emphasis upon training for Christian leadership.

2. The personal and corporate obligation to carry to all men the Gospel; an all-consuming passion and greater program for soul-winning; a church awakened and rededicated to missions at home and abroad, the great and chief business of the Church.

3. The application of Christianity to the solution of civic and social problems with a resolute devotion to the traditional principles and Christian ideals of our country.

It is our suggestion that the Anniversary Committee be continued for another year as a Continuation Committee charged to "carry on" along the lines

suggested that the results of this great gathering be not quickly dissipated but rather conserved. Vol. XVIII, p. 348, 1933.

The Seventy-Fifth Anniversary Committee presented its final report, embracing an accounting of funds expended, to the General Assembly of 1934. Vol. XVIII, p. 625, 1934.

5. Centennial of the Nation

Whereas, This is not only the centennial of our nation, but also, in a measure, of our Church, the original elements of it having been organized a little over one hundred years ago; and,

Whereas, Civil governments, as well as ecclesiastical, are the institutions of God; and,

Whereas, We recognize the hand of God in planting civil and religious liberty in our land, in establishing our government, and maintaining it through the first century of its existence; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we express our thanks to Almighty God for that enlightened civilization which the religion of Jesus alone can give, for his goodness to us as a nation, for our wonderful growth, for our freedom so firmly and so broadly established, for the advance of education and spread of learning, and for his hand so plainly guiding us through both peace and war during the first century of our national existence.

2. That we thankfully declare that ours is a Christian nation, and that it should support Christian institutions, the Christian Sabbath, the oath before Almighty God, the Bible in the common schools, and religious worship in our army and navy.

3. That believing governments should be a terror to evil doers, and a praise to them that do well; we deplore the existence in our government, and under its laws, of great national sins, corruption in high places, Sabbath desecration, intemperance, polygamy and such like; and we pledge ourselves to the work, and call upon all Christian citizens to join us in the great work of national reformation, so that during the next century righteousness may be decreed by law, and all sin, as ashamed, hide its head. Vol. IV, p. 321, 1876.

6. Centenary of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America

The General Assembly appointed a committee of three to represent the Assembly in the Centenary of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. The committee reported that marked Christian courtesy had been shown in the case. Vol. VI, p. 684, 1887; Vol. VII, p. 31, 1888.

7. The Temperance Centennial

Resolved, 2. We heartily approved the setting apart of the week commencing September 20, 1885, as a Centennial Temperance Week, and that ministers and Sabbath schools be recommended to hold suitable temperance services on Sabbath, September 20, and suggest that on that day a contribution be made to assist in distributing temperance literature, especially among the Freedmen.

3. We recommend that Presbyteries appoint one or more delegates to attend the Centennial Temperance Conference to be held in the City of Philadelphia, September 23 and 24, 1885. Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.

X. ANNUITIES

Contributions Subject to Annuity. [The Board of Church Extension was "authorized to accept contributions subject to such annuity, and payable in such manner, as may be agreed upon; such contributions to be securely invested and the annuity never to exceed the annual interest received. Vol. IV, p. 210, 1875.]

[The General Assembly appointed a Committee to prepare a plan for annuities. Vol. IX, p. 40, 1896.]

[On the report of this Committee the Assembly adopted the following:]

"*Resolved*, 1. That the General Assembly hereby authorizes all the boards to receive donations subject to such annuities and payable in such manner as may be agreed upon; such contributions to be securely invested, and the annuity never to exceed the annual interest received.

"2. That such securities shall be kept as a separate fund, not at any time to be used as collateral security, or in any other way that might imperil the income to be paid as annuity.

"3. That the Boards exercise special care in the preparation of the bonds they may give, that donations so made to them be free from every possible claim except the annuity." Vol. IX, p. 288, 1897.

"*Resolved*, That it is the judgment of this General Assembly that, in all ordinary cases, the action of the Assembly of 1897, namely, the General Assembly here authorizes all the Boards to receive donations subject to such annuities and payable in such manner as may be agreed upon, such contributions to be securely invested and the annuity never to exceed the annual interest received (Vol IX, p. 288), should be adhered to, yet in exceptional cases discretion be granted to the several Boards." Vol. X, p. 268, 1901.

Resolved, (1) That an annuity bond be prepared for the use of all the Boards. Vol. XI, p. 872, 1907.

NOTE: Further action on annuities will be found under the articles on the several Boards.

XI. APPROPRIATIONS

1. **Standing Rule on Appropriations.** *Resolved*, 5. That the following be adopted as a standing rule:

All resolutions offered in the General Assembly, and all propositions coming from others than Boards and Standing Committees, appropriating money, shall first be referred to the Committee of Finance, to be examined, and their judgment reported before final action. Vol. V, p. 358, 1881.

2. **A Committee on Appropriations.** [The representatives of the several Boards asked that there be added to the Standing Committees of the General Assembly a Committee on Appropriations, consisting of one member from each of the committees on the Boards, and one from the Committee on Finance, to which shall be referred all the estimates of the Boards and all other claims for money to support the general work of the Church, and whose duty it shall be to report the appropriations for the general work entrusted to the Boards or to special agencies, and to recommend proper measures to secure liberal and systematic contributions to the funds and institutions of the Church. Thereupon the General Assembly adopted the following:]

Resolved, That a committee on appropriations be appointed, in accordance with the request of the representatives of the Boards of the Church. Vol. VII, p. 33, 1888.

3. A committee was charged with the duty of reporting to the next General Assembly on an improved method for regulating the Assembly's annual appropriations. Vol. XI, p. 298, 1905.

4. **The following Method of Appropriations was adopted:**

1. A permanent Committee on Appropriations is hereby created, to consist of six members—two members to serve for a term of three years, two for a term of two years, and two for a term of one year. Annually hereafter two members, one minister and one layman, shall be elected for a term of three years.

2. It shall be the duty of this committee to make diligent study of all the departments of the Church's work and of their needs and of the probable

resources for meeting such needs, to receive and consider the annual requests of the respective Boards for appropriations, and to report to the General Assembly not later than the Monday of its meeting their recommendations as to the amount of the appropriation to each Board for the following year.

3. This Committee is instructed to meet at least twice a year—the first meeting to be in the first half of the ecclesiastical year, and the second to be in the month of May and in the same week the General Assembly convenes.

4. All the Boards of the Church asking appropriations from the General Assembly are instructed to present their requests to this Committee in time to be considered at its meeting in May.

5. This Committee is authorized to choose its own officers annually, to determine its place of meeting, and to fill temporarily vacancies in its number that may occur between the meetings of the Assembly.

7. The appointment of the Standing Committee on Appropriations is hereby discontinued. Vol. XI, p. 898, 1907.

5. The Permanent Committee on Appropriations was discontinued. Vol. XV, p. 41, 1920.

6. Appropriations were made by the General Assembly on recommendation of the Missionary and Efficiency Committee and by its successors. Vol. XV, p. 310, 1921.

XII. ARMY AND NAVY

1. Army Canteen

Resolved, That this Assembly earnestly protests against any legislation that would have for its object the reinstatement of the army canteen, and that the Principal Clerk of the Assembly be and is hereby authorized to forward to the proper authorities at Washington this protest as the action of the Assembly of 1907, at such time as in his judgment may seem best. Vol. XI, p. 892, 1907.

2. National Service

The following recommendations were adopted:

(1) We recommend that the General Assembly approve of the plan of sending ministers to the camps.

(2) That the Assembly instruct all the pastors to send the names of the young men entering the service, whether members or adherents of their churches, to our commission every four months during the coming year.

(3) We ask that the General Assembly set apart the White Christmas offering for the war work of our church.

(4) That the Assembly devise plans for encouraging the vacant churches to maintain their work at the highest possible efficiency during the long periods of vacancy caused by the war.

(5) That the session of each congregation be instructed to appoint a Committee on Correspondence to keep in personal touch with their absent soldiers, sending them cheering greetings and messages from time to time from the home church.

(6) That the Assembly appoint a committee of twelve, seven of whom shall be laymen, to call upon our President, and urge in the name of our Church the prohibition of the liquor traffic. We recommend that this committee be instructed to press the matter during the year and to make repeated trips to Washington to wait upon the proper officials whenever it is deemed necessary.

(7) That our pastors emphasize the subject of repentance for national sins and the forgiveness and blessing offered through the Saviour to repentant nations, that our country may win Christ, and so win the war for righteousness and humanity.

(8) We recommend the appointment of a National Service Commission

by this Assembly to consist of not less than eighteen members. Vol. XIV, p. 449, 1918.

3. Camp Pastors

Resolved, (1) In the judgment of this General Assembly the functions exercised by the Camp Pastor are necessary and should be continued.

(2) The Camp Pastor should be nominated by his denomination, through the proper channel, and commissioned by the Y.M.C.A. for the specific functions heretofore exercised by the camp pastor.

(3) The Camp Pastor having been commissioned by the Y.M.C.A., should represent his own denomination in the camp, with the understanding that he is to work in co-operation with the other camp pastors, under the direction of the Y.M.C.A., and in harmony with its discipline, to the end that all denominational interests shall be conserved and the entire religious activities unified.

(4) In case of the commission of camp pastors, the denominations which they represent should give proper consideration to the request of the Y.M.C.A. for transfer or dismissal.

(5) The National Service Commission of our Church is hereby authorized to nominate camp pastors on the basis of the foregoing arrangement. Vol. XIV, p. 481, 1918.

4. Army and Navy Chaplains

Resolved, (3) In the interest of strengthening the relation between the churches and the chaplains who serve the men in the Army and Navy, we recommend the adoption of the plan for reorganization of the General Committee on Army and Navy Chaplains that has been agreed upon by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. This new plan allows the United Presbyterian Church one representative on this Commission, with the Secretary of the Board of American Missions as an ex-officio Member. The representative shall be nominated by the Committee on Nominations. Vol. XX, p. 361, 1941.

5. Christian Commission

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly express its grateful recognition of the Divine agency in raising up the United States Christian Commission, and in directing their operations.

2. That this Commission be recommended to the sympathy and co-operation of all the congregations under the care of this General Assembly, and that all be invited to aid this association in the prosecution of its beneficent work. Vol. I, p. 476, 1863.

Resolved, That the General Assembly having heard with deep interest the statements of George H. Stuart, Esq., respecting the operations and purposes of the United States Christian Commission, hereby express devout thanksgiving to God for what has been accomplished by this association, in furnishing the soldiers of our army, and the marines and sailors of our navy, with the means of relief to their bodies and of salvation to their souls, and earnestly commend it to the continued confidence, the sympathy, the liberal contributions, and the fervent prayers of our people, in this hour of the pressing need of our noble army and navy. Vol. II, p. 10, 1864.

Resolved, 1. That we owe the highest gratitude to God for the great benefits that have been conferred upon our suffering soldiers, upon the church and the land, by His blessing upon the labor of the United States Christian Commission.

2. That we gratefully commend the labors of our ministers and the liberality of our people in their hearty co-operation with this society, and we earnestly recommend them to continue their labors of love so long as the condition of our army shall furnish them opportunity. Vol. II, p. 165, 1865.

6. Student Military Training

Whereas, our Government, along with other governments, has openly condemned recourse to war for the solution of international controversies, and further has agreed that the settlement of all disputes shall be sought only by pacific means—

Whereas, we believe this action to be in absolute harmony with the teachings of Jesus and the principles and ideals of the Church—

Resolved, That we, members of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, believe that compulsory military training in our public schools, colleges and universities should cease, and that we request the Presidents of all educational institutions having compulsory military training to abolish the compulsory feature of the system, believing that only by so doing can we observe the intent and spirit of the Peace Pact.

Resolved, That we favor the abolition of all military training in High Schools or for youth of High School age, as such training tends to foster the war spirit and to develop a wrong attitude toward life.

Resolved, That we request our Senators and Congressmen to work earnestly for substantial reductions in the enormous appropriations now being asked for army and navy expansion. Vol. XVII, p. 672, 1930.

XIII. ASSOCIATE CHURCH AND ASSOCIATE REFORMED CHURCH

(NOTE: SEE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHAPTER CXIX)

XIV. ASSOCIATE REFORMED SYNOD OF THE SOUTH

1. Correspondence With the Associate Reformed Synod of the South.

Resolved, That this Assembly appoint a deputation to carry our salutations to the Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church South, to meet in Winnsborough, South Carolina, and invite them to open a correspondence with this Assembly by delegation. Vol. II, p. 487, 1868. [The next Assembly received a communication from a committee of the Associate Reformed Synod, "setting forth that for the present it is not expedient that a correspondence be established between the churches," when the following action was taken:]

Resolved, That another commissioner to the Associate Reformed Synod of the South be not appointed until such time as we may be assured by that body of a readiness to enter into a friendly correspondence with us. Vol. III, p. 11, 1869.

[A delegate from the Associate Reformed Synod of the South presented credentials and was received by the Assembly in 1873, and the Assembly adopted the following:]

Resolved, That this Assembly will appoint a delegation to attend the next meeting of the Associate Reformed Synod of the South * * * Vol. III, p. 515, 1873. [Correspondence by delegates has been continued since that time.]

2. Co-operation With the Associate Reformed Synod of the South in Mission Work.

Resolved, That this Assembly will appoint a delegation to attend the next meeting of the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, and assuring its members of our fraternal regards, and of our desire for its prosperity in the maintenance and extension of the truth, invite them to co-operate with us in the Home and Foreign Mission work, and in mutual efforts to promote the cause of our common Lord. Vol. III, p. 515, 1873.

Resolved, That in view of the sympathy that it is believed there is between the Associate Reformed Synod of the South and the United Presbyterian Church, in their principles, faith and usages in the worship of God, and in view of the work that it is also believed is opening up for these Churches together, in home and foreign fields, the Assembly deem it entirely desirable, and indulge the hope that it is practicable that they should be brought into an organic union as soon as the providence of God shall indicate that the time has come for it. Vol. IV, p. 10, 1874.

Resolved, That [a committee] be appointed to confer with the committee appointed by the Associate Reformed Synod of the South in relation to co-operation in mission work. Vol. IV, p. 177, 1875. [This joint committee prepared the following basis of co-operation, which was approved by the Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 314, 1876.]

In view of the common origin and substantial unity of the Churches represented, the following resolutions were, after mature consideration, unanimously adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the Presbyteries of each body shall sustain the same relation to those of the other as they do to the co-ordinate courts of their own; and that the ministers and licentiates of each shall be eligible to appointments and settlements in the congregations of the other.

2. That the courts of each shall respect the discipline of the other.

3. That the ministers and members of the two bodies are recommended to cultivate friendly relations and Christian fellowship with each other as God, in his providence, may offer opportunity.

4. That the two bodies shall co-operate in the several departments of work on the following plan:

i. That the existing relations of the two Churches in regard to the work of Foreign Missions shall be continued.

ii. That in the Home field neither body shall interfere with the other; but that either may grant such aid in men and means as may be requested by the proper authorities of the other.

iii. That the two bodies shall co-operate in building up and sustaining the Normal or Training School of the United Presbyterian Church for the Freedmen, established at Knoxville, Tennessee, the great object of which is to furnish teachers and preachers for that class of people.

iv. That in the cause of Church Extension, we recommend the same co-operation as in the work of Home Missions.

v. That in the work of publication, the Associate Reformed Synod of the South co-operate in the support of the Board of the United Presbyterian Church; that the Synod shall have a claim on the Board to an amount in books, at wholesale value, equal to their contributions, and that the Board shall supply the churches and individuals of the Synod with such publications as they may need on the most favorable terms.

5. That in the judgment of the members of the Joint Committee, the providence of God seems to be opening the way for closer relations between the two Churches represented by them, and they recommend that the ministers and members of the Churches look forward to such event as one that promises much for the glory of God and the advancement of His cause.

6. That the foregoing action of the Conference be published in the periodicals of the two Churches, and recommended to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church and the Associate Reformed Synod of the South for their adoption. Vol. IV, p. 358, 1876.

4. That the Board [of Home Missions] be authorized to give assistance to the Associate Reformed Church of the South, if in its judgment the prospects of the field will justify it, in establishing Psalm-singing congregations in important centres in the South. Vol. VII, p. 16, 1888.

3. **Co-operation in Home Mission and Church Extension Work.** Vol. IX, p. 22, 1896.

4. **Union With the Associate Reformed Synod of the South.** *Resolved*, That in view of the sympathy that it is believed there is between the Associate Reformed Synod of the South and the United Presbyterian Church, in their principles, faith, and usages in the worship of God, and in view of the work that it is also believed is opening up for these Churches together, in home and foreign fields, the Assembly deem it entirely desirable, and indulge the hope

that it is practicable, that they should be brought into an organic union, as soon as the providence of God shall indicate that the time has come for it.

Resolved, That the Assembly will appoint delegates to attend the next meeting of the Synod of that Church, and that these delegates be instructed to act as divine Providence shall direct in regard to the propriety of proposing, or acceding to the appointment of a committee of Assembly, to confer with a similar committee appointed by the Synod, on the whole subject of co-operation or organic union. Vol. IV, p. 10, 1874.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by this Assembly to confer with any similar committee that may be appointed by the Associated Reformed Synod of the South, to which the general subject of union between the United Presbyterian Church and the Associate Reformed Synod shall be referred; said committee to report to the next General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 314, 1876.

[This committee was continued. Vol. IV, pp. 454, 1877; 575, 1878; Vol. V., pp. 32, 1879; 203, 1880; 363, 1881; 535, 1882; 715, 1883.]

Resolved, 2. That the negotiations be continued with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, with the earnest hope that such suggestions may be proposed by our brethren, or such methods adopted by the joint committee, as will direct all the issues in this case to the glory of God, the good of His cause, and the honor of our respective Churches. Vol. V, p. 203, 1880.

A committee was appointed to prepare and submit to the Assembly for its action, such propositions as express, in definite form, the proper course for this Assembly to pursue for the speedy consummation of the union with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South. [The committee reported, and the following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That the present Committee of Conference with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South be, and is hereby authorized to submit to said Synod the following terms, upon which the United Presbyterian Church of North America is willing and desirous to consummate without delay the union of these two bodies, viz.:

1. That in the negotiations that may be carried on, and in the United Church, if our two bodies are brought together, there shall not be any reference to past issues, and confessions of guilt or mistakes shall not be implied or expected or asked for by either party.

2. There shall not be prepared any formal new basis of union, but an agreement of the two Churches to come together, each accepting the other's standards, and the Churches thus united to be under the jurisdiction of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, with the same privilege of dissent as to particular articles always accorded to our own members, and with the understanding that the same forbearance in love be extended to any who may not be able to fully subscribe to these standards, so long as no determined opposition is made to them, and subject also to such revision of these standards as may be desirable to more perfectly harmonize the United Church.

Resolved, 2. That this Assembly empower the Committee of Conference with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South with all the powers of the Assembly to act as a commission in the submission of these propositions and in the acceptance of such action as may be taken by the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, and in the adoption of such other arrangements as may be deemed necessary for the consummation of this proposed union, and to report to the next Assembly for the ratification of the work thus done. Vol. V, pp. 344, 347, 1881.

Resolved. That the Committee of Conference be continued with instructions to act as directed in the proposition for union adopted at the last As-

sembly, in case there is occasion for it, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. V, p. 535, 1882.

[A "general plan of union" was prepared, at an informal conference of the delegates of the General Assembly and of the Associate Reformed Synod to the joint Committee of Conference of the Psalm-singing Churches, and submitted to the Assembly. It was adopted, and a Committee of Conference with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South was appointed. Vol. VI, pp. 296, 227, 243, 1885.]

[The Committee of Conference met with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South at its meeting at Due West, S. C., September 26, 1885, and reported to the Assembly a basis of union. The Assembly adopted the following:]

Whereas, The union of these churches, so closely allied in doctrine, government, worship and history, is highly desirable; Therefore,

Resolved, That the basis of union adopted by the Joint Conference be sent down in overture to the Presbyteries, according to and in the terms of its recommendation, the vote thereon to be taken during the year and reported to the next General Assembly.

The basis, as reported by the Joint Committee, is as follows:

1. The Confession of Faith and Catechism, as now received by both Churches, together with the testimony of the United Presbyterian Church, shall be the doctrinal standards of the united Church, with the explicit understanding that the forbearance in love, which the law of God requires, shall be exercised towards any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe to all the articles of the testimony, *provided* they shall not determinedly oppose them, and shall follow the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another.

2. The arrangement concerning details, until the interests of the united Church require a change, shall be as follows:

(1) The respective Presbyteries and Synods of the two Churches shall remain as at present constituted.

(2) The Supreme Court of the Church shall be a General Assembly, composed of delegates from the respective Presbyteries, the number of delegates to be according to the proportion of ministerial members constituting each Presbytery, as now fixed by the United Presbyterian Church.

(3) The different boards and institutions of the respective Churches shall not be affected by this union, but shall have control of their own funds and shall conduct their operations as heretofore; and the Associate Reformed Synod of the South shall retain its name and all its corporate rights and privileges, and be controlled by its Book of Government, Discipline and Worship, as at present. Vol. VI, p. 437, 1886.

[The following was adopted on the overture on union with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South:]

The reports show that all the Presbyteries in this country voted, except Argyle and Minnesota. The votes, as reported, stand as follows: Ayes, 743; noes, 117; excused, 18; whole number, 878. One Presbytery (Pawnee), while declining to vote in favor of the overture, "mainly because that Church has declined entering the union on the basis proposed," nevertheless gives it as their judgment "that such union, whenever it can be effected on terms satisfactory to both parties, is demanded by the interests of Christ's cause as committed to these Churches." Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the overwhelming majority of the Church have declared their desire and readiness for union with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South on the basis proposed, whenever that Church is ready to adopt it.

2. That no further action is required by the Assembly on this overture. Vol. VI, p. 659, 1887.

The correspondence of the Committee on Union with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South has been submitted to us. While this correspondence seems, at present, to be barren of results, so far as immediate union of the two Churches is concerned, we commend the wisdom and Christian prudence of the committee in the negotiations and approve its action. We offer the following resolution for your approval:

Resolved, That this committee be continued for the coming year with a view of continuing these negotiations. Vol. VIII, p. 254, 1893.

Resolved, 1. That we are still heartily in favor of the proposed union with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, and regret that any conditions exist rendering it unwise to further press the subject at the present time.

2. That the Committee on Union appointed last year be reappointed, with instructions to continue correspondence on the subject.

3. That we are heartily in favor of co-operation in mission work, so far as may be deemed wise and practicable by the different Boards of the Church. Vol. VIII, p. 495, 1894.

A Basis of Union with the Associate Reformed Synod of the South was sent in overture to the Presbyteries by the General Assembly of 1904. Vol. XI, page 36, 1904.

The General Assembly of 1905 adopted the following:

The Committee on Union with the Associate Reformed Church of the South has reported that the basis of union, submitted by the Synod of that Church to its presbyteries, was voted upon by the presbyteries of that Church early in the year and was by them rejected. In view of this fact the presbyteries of our Church were advised, through the Church papers, to defer any further action in the matter until after the meeting of this Assembly, awaiting your action.

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly greatly regrets the failure of the Associate Reformed Church of the South to adopt the proposed basis of union, but we have heard with great satisfaction the frank and friendly communication from Rev. J. S. Moffatt, D.D., explaining the reasons for the failure of the overture, and we still cherish the hope that the time may yet come when these two bodies, so nearly one in doctrine, discipline and worship, may be able to see eye to eye upon all the questions which are now apparently barring the way to their union, and in pursuance of that desire we hereby instruct our Committee on Nominations to present the name of a person to convey to them this cherished hope of the United Presbyterian Church.

2. That, in view of the facts just stated, concerning the failure of that Church to adopt the overture for union, this General Assembly hereby withdraws the basis of union sent down to the presbyteries last year.

3. That, in view of the apparent uselessness of the continuance of our Committee on Union, it is hereby discharged with the thanks of the Assembly for its faithfulness and efficiency in the work assigned to it. Vol. XI, p. 310, 1905.

The General Assembly of 1906 adopted the following:

Resolved, That a Committee on Union (with the Associate Reformed Church of the South) be again appointed. That a delegate be sent to meet with their Synod to represent this body in that Court. Vol. XI, p. 592, 1906.

The General Assembly of 1907 adopted the following:

The standing Committee on Union made report concerning a proposed Basis of Union submitted to the Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, in the hope that all difficulties may soon be removed and that a real union may be consummated in the near future.

While the United Presbyterian Church can now do little more than await the action of the Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, your Committee would recommend:

1. That the Committee on Union appointed last year be continued. Vol. XI, p. 895, 1907.

XV. BAPTISM

1. **Arian Baptism.** "Are sessions, in receiving persons from that denomination of Arians called 'Christians,' to require that they be rebaptized?" In our judgment such applicants for fellowship in the Church should be regarded as unbaptized persons, inasmuch as a community of Arians, denying the true and proper divinity of Jesus and His atonement, by whatever name they may be denominated, is not entitled to be considered as a part of the visible Church of Christ. Vol. I, p. 112, 1860.

2. **Papal Baptism.** [The question of the validity of Papal Baptism was, by the Assembly of 1869, referred to a special committee. This committee presented a report, Vol. III, p. 151, 1870, when the following resolution was passed by a vote of 77 to 19:]

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly, Papal Baptism should not be regarded as valid. Vol. III, p. 151, 1870.

[This resolution was afterwards reconsidered, when the following was adopted by a vote of two-thirds:]

Whereas, The subject of Papal Baptism is one of great importance, and one on which there is a diversity of opinion; therefore,

Resolved, That the Assembly overture to the Presbyteries the following question: Is Papal Baptism valid? Vol. III, p. 151, 1870.

[The vote on this overture was ayes, 41; nays, 494; not voting, 82. The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted:]

Resolved, 1. That we hereby declare that the question overtured on the validity of Papal Baptism is answered in the negative.

2. That while, as a general rule, Papal Baptism should be regarded as invalid, yet, as it is believed by many in the Church that there are important exceptions to this rule, therefore this Assembly judges it expedient to leave the question of rebaptizing persons from the Papal Church to the discretion of Sessions. Vol. VIII, p. 282, 1871.

3. **Baptism by Immersion.** To the question submitted by the Presbytery of Northern Indiana, "Whether it is lawful for a United Presbyterian minister to administer baptism by immersion?" we answer: The Confession of Faith, Chap. XXVIII, Section 3, teaches as follows, viz.: "Dipping of the person into the water is not necessary, but baptism is rightly administered by pouring or sprinkling water upon the person." The Directory for Worship, Chapter I, Article 5, Section 3, teaches as follows, viz.: "Immersion in water is not necessary to the validity of baptism. Baptism is rightfully administered when water is applied to the person by pouring or sprinkling." Hence, the position occupied by us as to immersion is, that whilst this method is a legal mode, yet its expediency in ordinary cases must be questioned if the request for its observance involves a failure to recognize also the scriptural validity of pouring and sprinkling. A United Presbyterian minister may, in the spirit of Christian forbearance, in extraordinary cases, baptize a person by immersion who does not make opposition to the general practice of the Church. Immersion is admissible, but pouring and sprinkling are preferable, because these modes are more in accordance with that which baptism is intended to signify and represent. Vol. VII, p. 34, 1888.

4. **Baptism May Not Be Repeated.** But in no case shall baptism be repeated. Vol. VII, p. 34, 1888.

5. **Duty of Christian Parents.** *Resolved,* 3. That * * * we urge pastors and Sessions to impress the duty of consecrating infants to God in baptism on the minds of Christian parents. Vol. VII, p. 653, 1891.

6. **Baptism of Infants; Parents and Members of Other Churches.** On the

question of reference of certain ministers and elders about "the baptizing by our ministers of a child whose parents are at the time members of another communion," the Committee on the Judiciary would respectfully report: The question asked is, "Is it in accord with the law of our Church for one of our ministers to baptize a child whose parents are at the time members of another communion?" The administration of the sealing ordinance of baptism in such a case would seem to be in contravention of the Article in our Testimony on the subject of Communion; would imply the imposing of religious vows and obligations without any oversight as to the performance of the duties assumed by the recipients; and would be a violation of the comity that should be observed between different denominations of Christians.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the above question be answered in the negative. Vol. X, p. 30, 1900.

The General Assembly of 1911 reversed the above judgment. Vol. XX, p. 354, 1941.

7. *Formula of Questions for Baptism.* *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Directory for Worship be instructed to prepare a formula of questions to be used in the administration of baptism, and that when adopted, said formula be inserted in the Directory for Worship and the Book of Discipline; and further, that in the application of this, and the formula in the case of admission of members, Sessions are affectionately recommended to use great tenderness towards the weak, or such as are earnestly inquiring after the truth. Vol. II, p. 31, 1864.

The General Assembly of 1911 declared that the amendment to Section 364 of the Book of Government and Discipline and Directory for Worship on the Baptism of Adults, submitted in overture, shall read as follows:

364. Administration—Parents presenting their children for this sacrament shall give an affirmative answer to the following questions:

(a) Do you now take God as your God in covenant and as the God of your children.

(b) Do you renew the profession you made when you were admitted to the Church?

(c) Do you solemnly promise if God shall spare your life and that of your children to train them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; to instruct them in regard to their lost condition by nature and to lead them to the Saviour; to pray with them and for them; to worship God regularly in your family; to set before them an example of piety and to use all the appointed means for their salvation?

Adults—Unbaptized adults, having been received by the session, are to be baptized on the public profession of their faith in Christ and their obedience to Him. The form of question for the public recognition of church members may be used, viz.:

Do you now in the presence of the congregation make acknowledgment of your faith in Christ and your purpose to live a Christian life, and publicly declare your engagement to cultivate the spirit of Christian fellowship and brotherly love, and to seek the welfare of this congregation while you remain a member thereof? Vol. XII, p. 949, 1911.

8. *Rebaptism.* In answer to certain questions the General Assembly took the following action:

3. Must adults, baptized in infancy, as children of non-professing parents, be rebaptized, at the time of their acceptance into full membership into the Church?

Our answer is "No," they do not need to be rebaptized, because our concern is with the fact only of the previous baptism of adults applying for Church membership.

4. Should adults baptized in infancy as children of believing parents be rebaptized when being received into full membership?

Our answer is rebaptism is not necessary but optional and at the discretion of the applicant for baptism and church membership. Vol. XX, p. 354, 1941.

XVI. THE BIBLE

1. **American Standard Revised Version of the Bible.** On a memorial received from the Presbytery of Los Angeles, the General Assembly of 1906 appointed a committee to report to the next Assembly on the American Standard Revised Version of the Bible. Vol. XI, p. 602, 1906.

The General Assembly took the following action on the recommendation of the Committee on the American Standard Revised Version of the Bible:

Resolved, That the use of the American Standard Revised Version of the Bible, in the worship of God, is hereby authorized and recommended. Vol. XI, pp. 866, 1005, 1907.

To a memorial received from Cleveland Presbytery asking "That the King James Version of the Holy Scriptures be brought back into its place as the English Bible of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," the General Assembly took action that the petition of the memorialists be not granted. This is accompanied with the explanation that individuals and congregations should be free to choose the version they prefer. Vol. XVI, p. 349, 1925.

2. **The Bible in Public Schools.** *Resolved*, That this General Assembly earnestly recommends to its members the diligent perusal of the Scriptures for their personal profit, and the use of such works as may lead them to a better understanding of the truth, and so be more successful in teaching their children; to carefully practice the truth, and to use all proper means to secure the use of the Bible in the schools of our land, so that the word of God may be glorified in the future even more than in the past. Vol. IV, p. 321, 1876.

Whereas, The Bible is the great *Magna Charta* of all that is highest and best in morality, and the most potent factor in promoting a true education; and,

Whereas, The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has affirmed that the Bible is a sectarian book and its use in the public schools unconstitutional; and,

Whereas, A foreign hierarchy, existing in our midst with tremendous influence, is seeking to have the Bible expelled from our common schools; therefore,

Resolved, That we see in all this not only a blow struck at the Bible, but also at our free school system, and therefore at the freedom of our Nation.

2. That it is of the utmost importance to the welfare of the Republic, as well as to the efficiency of our school system, that the Bible occupy a place in our educational institutions.

3. That we stand ready to join hands with all other Christians in the effort to keep and restore this book of God to its true and proper place in our public schools, so that they may not become nurseries of vice and crime rather than of virtue. Vol. VII, p. 422, 1890.

3. **The Shorter Bible.** On memorials received from Allegheny and Monongahela Presbyteries the Assembly adopted the following:

In view of the fact that a book has recently been published entitled "The Shorter Bible" and claiming to contain "those parts of the Bible which are of vital interest and practical value to the present age"; but which in reality is a Destructive Critic's Bible, and because of its omissions of those parts of the Bible pertaining to Christ's Sacrificial Death, His Virgin Birth, His Divine

Sonship, the Inspiration of the Bible and other like cardinal truths—a Christless Bible, therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly go on record as opposed to any alterations of the Bible which are not based strictly on manuscript evidence or historical proof.

2. That our ministers be asked to sound a note of warning, from their pulpits, against this rationalistic assault on the Bible. Vol. XV, p. 575, 1922.

4. **A Chair of English Bible in Each of Our Colleges.** *Resolved*, That the Assembly most heartily endorse the plan of the Board of Education whereby endowment funds are to be secured for the establishment and support of a Chair of English Bible in each of our colleges, and further, that the Assembly authorize the Board of Education to enlarge the scope of its charter as to enable it to receive and hold and administer endowment funds. Vol. XIII, p. 383, 1913.

VII. BOARDS OF THE CHURCH

1. **Relation of the Boards to Antecedent Boards.** [In the Adopting Act of Union it was agreed, (resolution 6th) that the different Boards should continue and have control of their funds and retain their corporate rights and privileges until the interests of the Church would require a change. A joint committee was appointed to "prepare and submit to the first General Synod of the United Church a plan for systematically carrying on the work of missions (home and foreign), education, book and tract publication, colportage, etc." Min. Asso. Synod, p. 77, Associate Reformed General Synod, 1858, p. 34. The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church recognized this committee as the Committee of the General Assembly, and it prepared the constitution of the several Boards. Vol. I, p. 29, 1859.]

The Associate Synod and the Associate Reformed Synod officially requested the General Assembly to take charge of their foreign mission work. The General Assembly thereupon,]

Resolved, That this tender be accepted, and that said missions be and hereby are formally received under the care of this Assembly, their stations, missionaries, funds and all their concerns, to be subject to its direction and control." Vol. I, pp. 29, 30, 1859.

2. **General Constitution of the Boards of the Church.** [General rules, touching the matters intrusted to the care of the Boards, were adopted, Vol. I, p. 49, 1859, but they were superseded by constitutions and regulations afterwards adopted. The constitutions and regulations of the several Boards will be found under the names of the Boards. The General Constitution is as follows:]

1. The several Boards now in existence, or that may be established hereafter, shall each be composed of nine members, one-third of whom shall be elected annually, by the General Assembly, for a term of three years. A majority of members of any Board shall be a quorum. Vacancies occurring between meetings of the Assembly may be filled temporarily by the Board in which they occur. [See amendments to the General Constitution, Sec. 2, below.]

2. There shall be, for each board, a corresponding secretary, elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years, who shall be ex-officio a member of the Board, and shall receive a salary, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Assembly. The corresponding secretaries of the Boards shall have the right to speak in the Assembly on all questions relating to the Boards with which they are severally connected. Vacancies occurring in this office, between meetings of the General Assembly, may be temporarily filled by the respective Boards in which they occur.

3. The several Boards shall elect, annually, all other necessary officers, and shall require such security of their treasurers as may, in each case, be

judged necessary. They shall meet at least quarterly, and shall have power to make all proper and necessary by-laws.

4. The Boards shall be responsible and amenable to the General Assembly for the exercise of all powers intrusted to them.

5. Each Board shall be incorporated under the laws of the State in which it may be located, and shall receive and hold all property, legacies and funds in the corporate name. Until a legal incorporation is obtained, all property, legacies and funds belonging to any Board shall be taken and held in the name of "The Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," in trust, for the use and benefit of the Board, but shall be legally transferred to the Board when incorporated.

6. Each Board shall make an annual report to the General Assembly, stating fully its proceedings, condition and needs, and shall submit for consideration and approval, such plans and measures as may be in contemplation, and make such recommendations as shall be judged advantageous to the cause entrusted to its care. The Board shall also submit a statement of their work, needs and plans to the several Synods, at their annual meetings.

7. The treasurers of the different Boards shall keep accounts in proper form of all moneys, whether for the general work, or special funds, and shall, through the Board, report, annually, to the General Assembly the exact condition of the several funds, giving a detailed and classified statement of all receipts and disbursements, which shall be published in the minutes of the General Assembly. It shall be the duty of each Board to audit its treasurer's accounts at the close of each year.

8. Each Board shall publish monthly or quarterly statements of its condition and work, and no Board shall appoint or employ any soliciting agent, without the direct authority of the Assembly.

9. The General Constitution, or the particular Constitution of any Board, may be altered or amended by a majority of all the commissioners to any General Assembly, *provided* the motion for such change shall be made at least one day before action is taken. Vol. IV, p. 22, 1874.

3. **Amendments to the General Constitution of the Boards.** *Resolved*, That Article 2 of the Constitution of the Boards be amended by the addition of the following clause, viz.: "Vacancies occurring in this office, between meetings of the General Assembly, may be temporarily filled by the respective Boards in which they occur." Vol. IV, p. 454, 1877.

Resolved, 2. That the General Constitution of the Boards of the Church be amended so as to read: "1. The several Boards now in existence shall each be composed of not less than nine members." Vol. V, p. 722, 1883.

NOTE: See Reorganization below.

4. **Regulations and Agreements Recognized as Legal Obligations.** In view of the comity existing between the several Boards.

Resolved, That in all matters involving legal obligations, the regulations of the General Assembly and the agreements and arrangements between any of the Boards should be recognized by the Trustees of the General Assembly and Boards affected as having the effect of legal obligations without the execution of legal papers. Vol. X, p. 615, 1902.

5. **Consolidation of the Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension, and Freedmen's Missions.** [The First Presbytery of Ohio memorialized the General Assembly, Vol. IV, p. 638, 1878, for the consolidation of the Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension and Freedmen's Missions. * * The following action was taken:]

Resolved, That the memorial of the First Presbytery of Ohio be published and that the several Presbyteries report their views on this subject to the next Assembly for final action. Vol. IV, p. 570, 1878.

[The vote on this overture is as follows: ayes, 97; nays, 543; not voting, 36. The General Assembly adopted the following:]

Resolved, That these Boards be not consolidated. Vol. V, p. 23, 1879.

The Synod of New York asks this Assembly to consider the propriety of appointing one Corresponding Secretary, and to give his entire time to the interests of the following Boards: Home Missions, Church Extension, and Freedmen's Missions. This request is founded on the grounds of economy and efficiency. * * *

Resolved, That it is inexpedient at present to make any change in the operations of these Boards. Vol. VI, p. 39, 1884.

In answer to a memorial of Frankfort Presbytery the Assembly of 1907 appointed a committee to consider the advisability of consolidating the Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension, and Freedmen's Missions. Vol. XI, p. 864, 1907.

This committee appointed and their recommendations that the Boards be not consolidated was adopted. Vol. XII, p. 54, 1908.

The General Assembly of 1912 appointed a committee to consider the wisdom of uniting the Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension. Vol. XIII, p. 28, 1912.

On recommendation of this committee, the Assembly of 1913 decided that it is not wise to unite the Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension. Vol. XIII, pp. 361, 552, 1913.

The General Assembly of 1915 appointed a committee to determine the feasibility and desirability of consolidating the Boards of Home Missions and Church Extension. Vol. XIII, p. 1090, 1915.

This committee reported to the 1916 Assembly recommending that a smaller committee be appointed. This recommendation was adopted and such a committee was appointed. XIII, p. 21, 1916.

On recommendation of this committee the Assembly of 1917 decided that "consolidation of the Boards is not desirable." But "in order to more fully co-ordinate the work of these Boards," it was decided "that the Secretary of the Board of Home Missions be made an ex-officio member of the Board of Church Extension, and the Secretary of the Board of Church Extension be made an ex-officio member of the Board of Home Missions." Vol. XIV, p. 203, 1917.

6. **Enlarged Service of the Boards.** On recommendation of the Central Committee of the New World Committee the General Assembly of 1920 took the following action:

It seems to us that as the Church enters upon the larger activities resulting from the New World Movement, the time is peculiarly opportune for some readjustment of the organization and operating agencies in the work of the Boards.

We therefore recommend to the General Assembly:

I. The appointment of a representative committee to be known as the Assembly's Committee on the enlarged service of the Boards and agencies of the Church to report to the Assembly of 1921 such changes in the organization of the Boards and their methods of work as are called for by present-day conditions.

II. That the committee shall be composed of eleven members, one from each Synod, five of whom shall be pastors and six laymen.

III. That this committee be clothed with authority to examine the composition of the Boards, their method of work, the co-relation of their activities with other agencies of the denomination and their financial systems, and to counsel with them regarding these matters.

IV. The expense incident to the effective prosecution of the committee's work shall be borne by the New World Movement expense budget.

This committee reported to the Assembly of 1921 and the following action was taken:

1. That the report of the Committee on Enlarged Service of the Boards be submitted to the Presbyteries in the form of an informal overture, to be acted upon not later than the January meetings of the same.

2. That the Committee shall receive this information and shall study and digest the same in order to formulate for the next General Assembly such action as seems to be desired by the Church. Vol. XV, p. 295, 1921.

The Committee on Enlarged Service of the Boards reported to the General Assembly of 1922 and its report was amended and adopted. The action contemplated was entrusted to a Committee on Adjustment and Reference, as follows:

Resolved, That a Committee of Adjustment and Reference be appointed with power and instruction to consider the work of the Church in reference and assignment for its administration by the Boards of the Church under their organization ordered by this Assembly.

This Committee shall recommend to the General Assembly assignments and transfers to the Boards of the items deserving the consideration and action of the General Assembly, and until the recommendations of this Committee are approved by the General Assembly the present Boards and agencies remain in *status quo*.

The Boards shall submit to this Committee for its advice and approval their plans and their proposals of details for completing their reorganization.

This Committee shall be composed of ten members together with its Chairman, all to be appointed by the General Assembly. The composition of the Committee should represent the Committee on Enlarged Service, the Boards, and three members of this Assembly who are not connected officially with any of the Boards. The first meeting of this Committee shall not be later than December 1st, 1922, at Chicago, Illinois, at the time and places designated by its Chairman.

The necessary expenses of this Committee and its members shall be paid on the order of the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly from the Assembly's Fund. Vol. XV, p. 573, 1922.

7. **Reorganization of the Boards of the Church.** On recommendation of the Committee of Adjustment and Reference, the General Assembly of 1923 adopted the following:

Resolved: First. That the agencies of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America be and are hereby declared to be as follows:

Organization

1. The Board of Education.
2. The Board of Home Missions.
3. The Board of Foreign Missions.
4. The Board of Publication and Bible School Work.
5. The Board of Ministerial Relief.
6. The General Council.
7. The Women's Board.

Resolved: Second. That the Boards shall have and are hereby declared to have a membership as follows:

The Board of Education, twelve (12) members.

The Board of Home Missions, twenty-seven (27) members.

The Board of Foreign Missions, fifteen (15) members.

The Board of Publication and Bible School Work, fifteen (15) members.

The Board of Ministerial Relief, fifteen (15) members.

The Board members shall be as representative as possible and as widely

distributed geographically as is consistent with a working organization. No member shall serve on more than one Board at the same time. The terms of office of members and agents of the Boards and the Council shall be three years, one-third of the members to be elected each year. The membership of the Board of Home Missions shall be chosen in the first instance from the membership of the Boards merged, where this can be done consistently with the foregoing provisions.

Resolved: Third. That the Boards shall and are hereby empowered to appoint their Secretaries, Treasurers, Editors, and Business Managers subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

Resolved: Fourth. That the Board of Education shall and is hereby authorized and directed to amend its charter to provide for the increase of the membership of its Board to twelve (12) members.

Resolved: Fifth. That the Board of Publication shall continue as at present constituted.

Resolved: Sixth. That the Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension and Freedmen's Missions shall be and are hereby declared to be merged into one organization and shall be named the Board of Home Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

The new organization shall be formed under the present charter of the Board of Home Missions, so modified as to include the other agencies. The present Board of Church Extension and the Board of Freedmen's Missions, each consisting of nine (9) members as at present, shall continue their corporate existence to safeguard property rights and trust funds. The members of the Board shall be chosen by the General Assembly.

Resolved: Seventh. That the Board of Foreign Missions shall and is hereby authorized and directed to amend its charter to provide for the increase of membership of its Board to fifteen (15) members.

Resolved: Eighth. That the Women's Board continue as at present constituted.

Resolved: Ninth. That the Board of Ministerial Relief shall and is hereby authorized and directed to amend its charter to provide for increase in membership of its Board to fifteen (15) members.

Resolved: Tenth. That there shall be and is hereby declared to be a General Council. This Council shall assume the duties of the former Missionary and Efficiency Committee, and such additional duties as shall be assigned hereafter. It shall be composed of twenty-one (21) members elected by the General Assembly as follows:

The Corresponding Secretary and one member of each of the Budget Boards, one representative each from the Board of Publication and the Women's Board, four ministers, four laymen and three women. None of the latter named eleven members shall be members of any other Board or Boards. The General Council shall constitute a permanent Committee on Appropriations.

Departments and Duties

Resolved: Eleventh. That the Departments and Duties of the Board of Education shall be and are hereby declared to be as follows:

1. Department of Educational Institutions.
2. Department of Young People's Work.

Department of Educational Institutions

The work now being done by the Board of Education shall be continued and in addition to this the Board shall have charge of Young People's Work and Recruiting for Service.

Department of Young People's Work

(a) There shall be a Committee of Directors of Young People's Work which shall consist of four members of the Board, who, together with three advisory members to be elected by the Young People's Annual Convention, each to serve for three years, shall, under the direction of the Board, be responsible for the work of this Department. The first three advisory members shall be elected for terms of 1, 2, and 3 years respectively.

(b) There shall be a full-time secretary for the Young People's Work.

(c) The Secretary of this department shall co-operate with the Corresponding Secretary of the Board in the work of Recruiting for Service.

(d) The work of the young people shall be encouraged by the suggestion of plans for Presbyterial and Sectional Conferences, for Mission Study Classes, and especially for the increase of interest and efficiency in the local organizations.

Resolved: Twelfth. That the Departments and Duties of the Board of Publication and Bible School Work shall be and are hereby declared to be as follows:

1. Department of Publication.
2. Department of Bible School Work.

Department of Publication

This Department shall continue the work now being done by the Board.

Department of Bible School

(a) There shall be a Committee of Directors which shall consist of six members who, under the direction of the Board, shall be responsible for the work of this Department.

(b) This Department shall have a full-time Secretary.

(c) Efforts shall be made to cultivate the religious life in the homes of the church.

(d) Plans shall be devised for increasing the interest in Bible Study through the organized Sabbath Schools, Vacation Schools, Week Day Schools of Religion, Teachers Training, and by such other methods as shall, in the judgment of this Department, be wise.

Resolved: Thirteenth. That the Departments and Duties of the Board of Home Missions shall be and are hereby declared to be as follows:

1. Department of Home Missions.
2. Department of Church Erection.
3. Department of Work Among Negroes.

Each of these Departments shall be under the direct supervision of a Committee of Directors, each member of which shall be appointed by the Board from its own number. No Director shall serve on more than one Department at the same time. Reports shall be made at regular meetings of the Board as the Board may direct.

There shall be a Corresponding Secretary and such Associate Secretaries as may be required.

Department of Home Missions

The Committee of Directors shall consist of nine members, who, under the supervision of the Board, shall be responsible for this Department.

The duties of this Department shall be:

1. To seek opportunity for starting and prosecuting new work either by Bible Schools or Preaching Stations.
2. To nurture Mission Stations and weak Congregations.
3. To assist Presbyterial and Synodical Superintendents of Missions in securing laborers for mission fields.

4. To conduct educational and evangelistic work among the mountain people of the south.

5. To foster evangelistic and educational work among foreign people in our country.

6. To promote evangelism throughout the church.

7. To keep the whole church enthusiastically active in advocating and promoting personal total abstinence from the use of intoxicating liquors, to educate the church and develop public opinion in favor of enforcement of all constitutional and statutory laws against intoxicating liquors and narcotics, to take all proper measures toward the election of officials who will enforce such laws, and to promote all proper movements of moral reform.

Department of Church Erection

(a) The Committee of Directors shall consist of nine members, who, under the supervision of the Board, shall be responsible for this Department.

(b) One of the Associate Secretaries shall have charge of this Department and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board.

(c) This Department shall continue the work now under the supervision of the Board of Church Extension. When requested by congregations and Presbyteries it shall furnish plans and counsel for church buildings. No grants exceeding \$1,000 shall be made to congregations or Mission Stations, until the Architect's plans for the proposed building, extension, or alterations shall have been examined and approved by the Board.

Department of Work Among Negroes

(a) The Committee of Directors shall consist of nine members, who, under the supervision of the Board, shall be responsible for this Department.

(b) One of the Associate Secretaries shall have charge of this Department and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board.

(c) The work now being done by the Freedmen's Board shall be continued and enlarged as the Board may direct.

Board of Ministerial Relief

(a) In addition to the Relief Work now being done this Board shall encourage adequate support for our ministers, missionaries, and teachers in our schools and colleges during their period of service.

(b) The Board shall be authorized to devise a plan under which the pension and relief system may be available for our missionaries and teachers in our church schools and colleges.

General Council

Departments and Duties

Resolved: Thirteenth. That the Departments and Duties of the General Council shall be and are hereby declared to be as follows:

(a) There shall be an Executive Secretary.

(b) This Council shall assume the duties as set forth in the enactment of the General Assembly constituting the former M. & E. Committee together with subsequent modifications of such enactment by said Assembly, and the additional duties as herein set forth.

Department of Contributions

This Department shall have charge of receiving and distributing all missionary monies contributed by the Church for the General Missionary Budget and other monies for specified missionary objects which may be placed in its care for distribution and all general benevolences and relief monies raised by the Church.

Department of Missionary Education

The object of this Department shall be to induce all congregations to conduct an effective Every Member Canvass for both local and missionary purposes, and to co-ordinate the missionary education and cultivation carried on by the Missionary Boards of the Church.

Department of Stewardship

The object of this Department shall be to cultivate the Church in the principles and practices of Christian stewardship, to induce throughout the Church a spirit of liberality, and to promote the regular and systematic payment of congregational and missionary contributions.

Department of Appropriations

It shall be the duty of the Permanent Committee on Appropriations to combine into one budget all the Assembly's appropriations to the various Boards and Agencies, excluding the Women's Board, and to recommend to the Assembly the distribution of the same upon a percentage basis according to the needs and importance of the work assigned to the respective agencies.

To the General Council shall be referred for advice and recommendations such matters of common interest to the Church as require adjustment, but the General Council shall have no authority to interfere with the management of any Board or Agency of the Church.

In addition to the report hereby presented the Committee on Adjustment and Reference would respectfully submit the following recommendation:

The provisions made for the convening of the General Committee of Home Missions are hereby repealed, and the work hitherto done by the General Committee of Home Missions shall be done by a committee consisting of the twenty-seven (27) members of the Board of Home Missions and the Synodical Superintendent of Missions. Any Synod not having a Synodical Superintendent of Missions may select one of its own members to represent it on this committee. All members of the committee shall have equal powers.

All acts of the General Assembly inconsistent with the provisions of the report of the Committee on Adjustment and Reference are hereby repealed.

Proposal to Repeal Part of the Reorganization Action.

On a Memorial from Hudson Presbytery that the legislation uniting the Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension, and Freedmen's Missions be repealed, the General Assembly of 1926 appointed a committee to consider the proposal. Vol. XVI, p. 625, 1926.

The 1927 General Assembly, considering the report of the committee referred to above and several memorials on the subject appointed a committee of seven on the entire subject of Board and Council organization. Vol. XVI, p. 907, 1927.

The 1928 General Assembly adopted the following:

Be it hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, in session in the City of St. Louis, Mo., this 26th day of May, 1928, as follows:

The Budget Boards

The Budget Boards of the United Presbyterian Church of North America shall be the following, viz.:

1. The Board of American Missions.
2. The Board of Foreign Missions.
3. The Board of Education.
4. The Board of Ministerial Relief.

Organization and Work

The Boards of Education, Ministerial Relief, and Foreign Missions shall continue as under their present organization.

I. THE BOARD OF AMERICAN MISSIONS

There shall be created The Board of American Missions, incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania, with headquarters at Pittsburgh, Pa.

(1) Membership

This Board shall consist of fifteen (15) members. Five of whom shall be elected for one (1) year, five for two (2) years, and five for three (3) years. Thereafter the General Assembly shall appoint each year five members to serve for a period of three years.

The Board of American Missions shall be regarded as replacing the present Board known as the Board of Home Missions, with its constituent Boards, known as the Board of Home Missions, the Board of Church Extension and the Board of Freedmen's Missions.

(2) Organization

The Board of American Missions shall meet on the third Monday in June, 1928, elect its Chairman and Secretary, and proceed to outline its work, and as soon as the necessary Charter can be obtained, and changes made in existing Charters of the replaced Boards, not later than August 1, 1928, the replacement shall be regarded as complete.

The Board shall elect its General Secretary, subject to the approval of the General Assembly. It shall also appoint one or more Associate Secretaries. Neither the General Secretary nor an Associate Secretary shall be a member of the said Board. It shall employ such assistants and clerical force as may be required for efficient and economic service. It shall determine and pay all salaries from the funds in its hands, also meet such overhead expense, traveling expense, etc., as may be incurred in performing efficient service, including the necessary expense of the holding Boards, hereinafter mentioned.

(3) Work

The work of the Board of American Missions, in a general way, shall be along such lines of service as are provided and set forth in the charters of the Boards which it has replaced. It shall also distribute the funds which the Church places in its hands to the various mission stations under its care.

In this work of distribution, the Board shall, each year, in the week next preceding the meeting of the General Assembly, call together the Synodical Superintendents of Missions for information and counsel.

The Board of American Missions shall determine its own plan of work and provide for its own standing and special committees. Such committees shall not necessarily be identified in any way with the membership of the holding corporations mentioned below. All such committees shall be responsible only to the Board itself.

II. HOLDING BOARDS

The Boards thus replaced, viz.: Home Missions, Church Extension and Freedmen's Missions, shall continue their charters, so amended as to reduce their membership to such a number as will merely continue their existence, in order to protect all their incomes from all sources, and all monies received from legacies, and do whatever may be legally required of them as such corporations. The Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension

shall be reduced to three members each; the Board of Freedmen's Missions shall consist of nine members in order to fulfil the conditions imposed by the charter of Knoxville College. These members shall be appointed by the General Assembly from the membership of the Board of American Missions, a proportionate number each year to serve for three years. These Boards, thus replaced, shall transfer to the Board of American Missions, all gifts, incomes, trusts, investments, properties and legacies now in hand or that shall in the future come into their hands, to be used or distributed according to the terms specified in such gifts, trusts or legacies.

Any vacancies occurring in these Boards shall be filled temporarily by the Boards themselves from the membership of the Board of American Missions. Should such vacancies at any time reduce the membership of the holding Boards to less than a quorum, the vacancies shall then be filled by the Board of American Missions.

III. THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

(1) There shall be created the Board of Administration, which shall succeed the General Council, and which shall be incorporated under the laws of Pennsylvania, and have its headquarters in Pittsburgh, Pa.

(2) This Board shall be composed of twelve (12) members, three being chosen from the membership of each of the Budget Boards. (The General Secretary of a Budget Board may not be a member of this Board.) Also, the Board of Publication and the Women's Board shall each designate two members from year to year to sit as consultative members of this Board.

(3) For the membership of the Board of Administration for the ensuing year the following persons are nominated: (These names to be presented to the General Assembly). Each year following, each of the Budget Boards shall nominate to the General Assembly a person to serve for a term of three years.

(4) In case a vacancy should occur in the course of any year, the Board suffering such vacancy may appoint to the Board of Administration a person to serve on the Board of Administration until the next meeting of the General Assembly.

(5) The Board of Administration shall be regarded as the Boards themselves, studying the needs and activities of all the Budget Boards, and seeking to lead the Church to meet its entire obligation. The members of this Board shall function as representatives of the Church as a whole, and not merely as representatives of different phases of the work of the Church.

(6) The Board of Administration shall receive all the Budget Funds of the Church and shall distribute the same to the Budget Boards, according to the ratio designated by the General Assembly; except that it shall reserve so much as shall be necessary to provide for its own expense fund as allowed by the General Assembly. It shall receive and distribute other benevolent funds, as authorized, directed or designated. It shall receive and disburse the Assembly and Delegate Fund. It shall, with the approval of the General Assembly, appoint an Executive, who shall be the unanimous choice of the Board, and who shall be a consultative member of the Board. It shall provide the necessary assistants and expense budget. It shall appoint a Treasurer (who may not be the Executive) and such other Officers as may be found necessary, subject to the approval of the General Assembly. It shall fix the salaries of all its employees.

(7) The Board of Administration shall meet quarterly, and, when deemed necessary, at the call of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall consist of four members, one from each of the Budget Boards. The Executive, and the General Secretary of each of the Budget Boards shall be consultative members of the Executive Commit-

tee. It shall hold stated meetings at such place and at such time as the Board may determine. The Executive Committee shall be clothed with such power as the Board may delegate to it.

(8) This Board shall have representatives present at the meeting of the General Assembly (not more than two, in addition to the Executive) so that the Assembly shall be fully informed concerning work in hand, and all proposed movements. These representatives shall have the privilege of the floor in matters pertaining to the Board of Administration, or the Budget Boards, or their work.

(9) Should controversies arise among the Boards, the Board of Administration shall be regarded as giving final judgment in the case, unless and until reversed by the General Assembly in case of appeal.

IV. BOARD SECRETARIES

Each of the Budget Boards, with the approval of the General Assembly, shall appoint its own General Secretary, who shall not be a member of any Board. Each Board shall determine the salary of such General Secretary, and shall provide such associate and clerical help as it may deem necessary.

V. DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Each Board shall be responsible for the disbursement of funds appropriated to it. It may call on the Board of Administration for information and advice.

VI. SYNODICAL SUPERINTENDENTS OF MISSIONS

1. Each Synod shall nominate a minister to act as a Synodical Superintendent of Missions for a term of five years, and this nomination shall be reported to the next succeeding General Assembly for confirmation. Upon confirmation by the General Assembly he shall assume office on July 1st following.

2. The following shall be the duties of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions, except as modified by Section 4 below:

(a) It shall be his duty, subject to the direction and control of the Synod, to have general oversight of the vacancies and of all of the Home Mission work within the bounds of the Synod.

(b) He shall consult with the Presbyterial Superintendents of Missions regarding the interests of the vacancies in their respective Presbyteries with a view to securing constant pastoral oversight and the earliest possible settlement of such fields; he shall also consult with them regarding fields for new work and, upon careful investigation, he shall report to the respective Presbyteries those fields which, in his judgment, ought to be occupied.

(c) He shall be the agent and representative of the Board of American Missions within the Synod, shall receive reports from all mission stations in the Synod, shall make such reports to the Board of American Missions as may be required, and shall receive, receipt for, and distribute the money appropriated by the above named Board to aid congregations or mission stations.

(d) It shall be the duty of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions to promote the entire program of the Board of Administration within the Synod. He shall also aim to secure, in monthly payments, from all congregations of his Synod the full amount of their pledge or the allotment made to the general Missionary and Educational work of the Church.

3. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall give his entire time to the work, and he shall receive a salary which shall not be less than \$3,000.00 per annum, and necessary traveling expenses. This salary shall be paid out of the Superintendent's Fund to be appropriated by the General Assembly to the Board of American Missions for this purpose.

The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall be expected to collect from congregations and mission stations where he may preach a proportionate amount of the salary ordinarily paid in those fields. All amounts so collected by him or paid to him for evangelistic services shall be paid into the treasury of the Board of American Missions and shall be credited to the Superintendent's Fund. He shall submit to the Board each month an itemized statement of his receipts and expenses.

4. In matters of Church-wide activities the paid personnel of the Budget Boards shall be under the control of the Board of Administration. The prior claim of such Budget Board upon the services of its own personnel is and shall be recognized in their ordinary functions. And, in case of the use of the personnel of any of the Budget Boards by the Board of Administration, it shall be done only after conference with the Board or Boards affected.

VII. RESPONSIBILITY DEFINED

1. The Board of Administration shall be the responsible agency for coordinating, stimulating and promoting the general work of the Church, including spiritual life, evangelism, stewardship and missions.

2. The members of this Board shall study the needs and activities of all the Budget Boards and shall plan and promote a balanced and properly coordinated program.

3. This Board shall be charged also with the responsibility of studying the fundamental work of the Church as carried on in the local congregations, and of discovering, developing and promoting the best methods for strengthening the spiritual life, winning souls to Christ, teaching the scriptural principles of stewardship, arousing interest in missions, and securing adequate financial support for local congregational needs and the work carried on by the Budget Boards.

4. This Board shall, when necessary, authorize special or emergency campaigns for funds, and assist the Budget Boards in bringing them to a successful issue.

5. The Board of Administration shall appoint a Committee on Finance. This Committee shall formulate rules and regulations which shall govern the character of investments permissible to be made by the Budget Boards. No investments shall be made by any of the Boards except in conformity with the rules and regulations established by this Committee. (The purpose of this provision is to provide uniformity and safety in the matter of the investment of the Church's permanent funds.)

6. The Board of Administration shall nominate three persons to serve on the Board of Trustees of the "United Presbyterian."

7. Each Budget Board shall remain free in initiative, promotion and service, but it shall undertake no special campaign or appeal for funds without the consent of the Board of Administration.

8. Each of the Budget Boards, in the selection of its Secretary, and in the prosecution of its work, shall, through consultation with the Board of Administration, make sure that there shall be harmonious co-operation with all the Boards and Agencies, to the end that the interests of the whole Church may be served.

9. In order that the foregoing enactment may become operative, your Committee would suggest the appointment of a Commission which shall be charged with the responsibility of putting it into effect.

10. All enactments heretofore made by order of the General Assembly, or by any Board, which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed. Vol. XVII, p. 29, 1928.

The General Assembly of 1929 approved the Minutes of the Commission on Adjustment in which are the following actions:

The action of the St. Louis Assembly in reference to the Holding Boards was that "the Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension be reduced to three members"—(See Assembly Minutes, Page 30—II Paragraph 1). On motion the Commission amended this paragraph, making it read "five members" instead of "three" to conform to the requirements of the Pennsylvania statutes. It was further resolved that these five members hold office until their successors have been appointed.

At the request of the Negro Department of the Board of American Missions the action of the General Assembly in reference to the Holding Boards (See Assembly Minutes, page 30, Article II, Paragraph 1), was amended so as to read as follows, viz.:

"The Board of Freedmen's Missions shall consist of nine members to fulfil the conditions imposed by the charter of Knoxville College. These members, a majority of whom shall be chosen from the membership of the Board of American Missions, shall be appointed by General Assembly, a proportionate number each year, to serve for three years."

It was reported that charters for the Board of Administration and the Board of American Missions have been granted by the Court and that the necessary changes had been made in the charters of the Holding Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension and Freedmen's Missions, thereby conforming to the requirements of the General Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 331, 1929.

8. **Funds for the Boards.** *Resolved*, 2. That the General Assembly reaffirm the rule adopted last year, namely,—That pledges reported to the Missionary and Efficiency Committee as undesignated shall not afterward be designated to any special purpose.

3. That Presbyteries taking their Presbyterial and Synodical funds out of the amount pledged for the budget be directed not to retain more than 3 per cent for such purposes.

4. That Sabbath School contributions, not included in the congregational pledge or otherwise designated, shall be divided among the four Mission Boards and the Board of Education in accordance with such arrangement for the assignment of the Sabbath School quarters in rotation as may be agreed upon by the Secretaries of these five Boards.

5. That the Delegate Fund be separated from the general budget and an assessment of ten cents per member for the Delegate Fund be made, that the Chairman of the Committee on Delegate Fund instruct Financial Agents throughout the Church of this action, and that a free copy of the minutes be furnished all ministers whose Presbyteries pay this assessment in full. Vol. XIII, p. 732, 1914.

War Emergency Fund for the Boards. *Resolved*, That a week in the coming autumn be fixed as War Emergency Week for the raising of a War Emergency Fund sufficient to meet these needs. That during this week, every member of the entire Church be asked to give to this object an amount of money at least equal to his income for one day. That this money be distributed by this Committee to the different Boards according to their needs, to be used in canceling the deficits of the Boards. Vol. XIV, p. 482, 1918.

The Distribution of Estates With Indefinite Designations. *Resolved*, "That the Board of Education hereby memorializes the General Assembly asking a ruling that when estates or gifts are left with indefinite designations as 'to the Boards of the Church,' or in similar language, that these shall be distributed equally among the following Boards: Foreign Missions, American Missions, Education, Ministerial Pensions and Relief—rather than pro-rated according to participation in the General Budget." Vol. XIX, p. 357, 1937.

9. **Administrative Expenses of the Boards.** The following recommendations were adopted:

I. General Recommendations

1. That the Corresponding Secretaries of the various Boards be not required to attend the meetings of the Synods, since this involves considerable expense in the matter of traveling, and the work of the various Boards can be presented by local representatives, or by delegates to the Synods if desired.

2. That the Boards be requested to furnish reports so itemized as to show clearly the amount of administrative expense.

3. That the Boards be advised to practice a greater economy in the matter of sending out literature for free distribution, which in too many cases has wearied rather than stimulated the membership of the Church.

II. Specific Recommendations

1. That the Board of Foreign Missions publish its general report triennially instead of annually. The "Hand Book," which is published annually, gives the vital statistics and other important matters sufficient for a review of the year's work.

2. We recommend that the Board of Church Extension be subject to the same limitations in the matter of publicity and advertising that are imposed upon other Boards.

3. If the Board of Education is to be the collector of and the depository for funds for the various colleges and seminaries, and a sort of clearing house for our educational institutions, as well as the promoter of special educational enterprises, such as the Bible Chair Fund, its administrative expenses will continue to be large. If it should return to its former policy, its expenses can be greatly reduced. The question of expense thus resolves itself into the question of policy, which must be decided by the General Assembly.

4. Your committee is constrained to say that in its opinion the very greatest sinner in the matter of extravagance has been the General Assembly itself; for the very Assembly that voted the appointment of this committee voted also to pay all the traveling expenses of its delegates, while the rule of the Assembly was and is that delegates be paid in proportion to the per cent of the Delegate Fund that has been paid by the Presbyteries which they represent. This action of the Assembly made it necessary for the Trustees of the Assembly to borrow \$2,500, which they have not yet been able to pay back. The Assembly of 1914 was equally extravagant. We recommend that hereafter the Assembly adhere to its own rule in all cases.

In reference to the matter of an audit of the accounts of the Treasurers of the Boards and of the Colleges and Theological Seminaries, under the direction of the Trustees of the Assembly, referred to your Committee by the last Assembly, we recommend in the interest of economy that the plan be rejected on the ground that it would involve much unnecessary expense. Vol. XIV, p. 20, 1916.

(1) **No Special Collections for the Boards.** *Resolved*, 4. That the recommendation of the Board in regard to special collections be adopted. It is as follows: "The Board very respectfully asks the Assembly not to give orders for special collections for any of the Boards, but to adopt such regulations as will secure uniformity in making the appropriations, and systematic effort for the collection in full of all grants so made." Vol. VII, p. 19, 1888.

(2) **The Boards to Make Itemized Statements of Receipts and Payments.** *Resolved*, 7. That the Boards of our Church, their treasurers and all who have the handling of the moneys of the Church, be and they hereby are directed hereafter to conform to the established rules of the Assembly, which require them to make *annual reports*, with *itemized statements therein*, of all their re-

ceipts and disbursements of money during the year, and that said reports shall be audited by at least two of the members of each Board before they are presentable to the General Assembly, and we recommend that said itemized reports be published for the information and encouragement of the Church. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

Resolved, That the several Boards be recommended to report the names of the congregations, Sabbath Schools and other contributors, and that they adopt a uniform plan for doing this. Vol. VI, p. 37, 1884.

(3) **The Reports of Treasurers to Be Audited and Certified.** *Resolved*, 7. That said reports (of Treasurers) be audited by at least two members of each Board before they are presentable to the General Assembly. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

Resolved, That the treasurers of all Boards and committees reporting to the General Assembly be instructed to furnish the General Assembly a copy of a report of an accredited firm of certified public accountants, certifying to the correctness of the accounts. Vol. XV, p. 314, 1921.

(4) **Conference on the Boards of the Church.** *Resolved*, That the first and second business evenings of the Assembly be spent in a conference upon the Boards, and that each Board be directed to appoint one of its members to represent it in the exercises of the meeting. Vol. III, p. 31, 1869.

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by the General Assembly of 1869, setting apart the first and second business evenings of the Assembly for a conference on the Boards, be and is hereby repealed. Vol. IV, p. 449, 1877.

[Later usage is to appoint a Committee on Conference for the next General Assembly. Vol. 8, p. 732, 1895.]

(5) **Reports of the Boards to Be Printed for the Use of the Assembly.** *Resolved*, That the different Boards of the Church and the Trustees of the General Assembly shall have their reports printed in uniform style, so that they may be filed and ready for use at the first session of the Assembly. Vol. III, p. 535, 1873.

(6) **The Boards to Make Itemized Statements of Receipts and Payments.** *Resolved*, 7. That the Boards of our Church, their treasurers, and all who have the handling of the moneys of the Church, be and they hereby are directed hereafter to conform to the established rules of the Assembly, which require them to make *annual reports*, with *itemized statements therein*, of all their receipts and disbursements of money during the year, and that said reports shall be audited by at least two of the members of each Board before they are presentable to the General Assembly.

(7) **Corresponding Secretaries of the Boards.** See Corresponding Secretaries.

(8) **Treasurers of the Boards.** See Treasurers.

(9) **Monthly Statements of the Boards.** [A memorial, asking that the Boards employ printed circulars for monthly statements, was disposed of as follows:]

Resolved, That no action in the direction indicated in the memorial appears to be practicable at present. Vol. IV, p. 447, 1877.

Resolved, 2. That the Boards be directed to issue, in some form, a statement of some of the most important facts touching their respective work and needs, appealing to the liberality of the people, and in such numbers as to supply, through Pastors and Sessions, all the homes in the Church at least once every quarter. Vol. VII, p. 233, 1889.

(10) **The Boards and Principles of the Church.** *Resolved*, That, while this Assembly urges upon our members and congregations the great importance of faithfully maintaining the principles of our Church, the agencies to which the distribution of funds belong must act on the presumption that Presbyteries will recommend for aid only those congregations which are faithful

to their profession, and active in their efforts to advance the interests of Christ's Kingdom. Vol. VII, p. 222, 1889.

(11) **Corresponding Secretaries to Visit Synods, etc.** *Resolved*, That the Boards of Home Missions, and Church Extension, and Foreign Missions be authorized to send their Secretaries to any Synod, Presbytery, or congregation of the Church, when in their judgment the interests committed to these Boards may require such visits, and that they report the same to the Assembly. Vol. V, p. 36, 1879. [Similar action was taken by several Assemblies with reference to the Mission Boards.]

(12) **Duties of Pastors and Sessions.** *Resolved*, 3. Pastors and Sessions are directed to instruct the people as to the importance and needs of these different departments of the work. This instruction should be by public discourse, and, as far as possible, by the introduction of the literature of the Church into all the homes. Vol. VII, p. 233, 1889.

10. **Representatives of the Boards to Visit Different Sections of the Church.** (1) In the interests of the Board of Home Missions was approved. Vol. XI, p. 584, 1906. (2) A real Cultivation by all the Boards.

Resolved, (8) That the General Council seek the co-operation of the Boards in an intensive cultivation of the whole Church in missionary knowledge and interest, by an organized plan for a consecutive approach to the different sections of the whole Church, by means and methods to be determined. Vol. XVI, p. 352, 1925.

11. **Vacancies in the Membership of the Boards.** *Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly directs all persons who for any reason are unable to meet the obligations of a director on a Board to membership in which they have been elected by this court, to promptly send their resignation to the Secretary of such Board.

2. That when a member of any Board of our Church shall fail in this requirement and shall be absent from three consecutive meetings without sufficient excuse, or for reasons unknown to the Board, that this fact shall be regarded as a resignation, and said Board shall thereupon proceed to fill the vacancy thus created and shall report their action to the next meeting of the Assembly for its approval. Vol. XIII, p. 738, 1914.

12. **Honorary Members of Boards.** The following recommendation was adopted:

3. In order to replenish the Boards with younger men as occasion arises, and at the same time retain the valued counsels of experienced members who have reached the age limit of active service, it is recommended that the General Assembly create the position of Honorary Board membership, and that tenure of this office be for life. Vol. XIX, p. 948, 1939.

13. **The Date at Which the Term of Office Begins.** *Resolved*, That unless otherwise determined by the charter regulations of a Board, persons elected to membership in Boards or to membership in Permanent Committees shall assume office at the first meeting which shall be held by a Board or a Permanent Committee subsequently to the adjournment of the General Assembly. Vol. XIII, p. 731, 1914.

14. **Tenure of Office.** *Resolved*, 1. That no arbitrary limit be placed on tenure of office.

2. That nominating committees be instructed to canvass the field of possibilities as thoroughly as circumstances may permit, and that they be at greater pains to predetermine the qualifications of nominees for vacancies, regardless of whether they are presented for re-election or chosen from the field at large.

3. In order to replenish the Boards with younger men as occasion arises, and at the same time retain the valued counsels of experienced members who have reached the age limit of active service, it is recommended that the Gen-

eral Assembly create the position of Honorary Board membership, and that tenure of this office be for life. Vol. XIX, p. 948, 1939.

XVIII. BOOK OF GOVERNMENT AND DIRECTORY OF WORSHIP

1. **Temporary Arrangement for the Government of the Church.** *Resolved*, That it be left to the discretion of each Presbytery to adopt for its use either the Associate or the Associate Reformed Book of Discipline until one shall be prepared by the United Church. Vol. I, p. 38, 1859.

2. **Preparation of a Book of Government and Discipline.** *Resolved*, That this Assembly appoint a committee to prepare a draft of a Book of Discipline, and present it to the next annual meeting of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 30, 1859.

(This committee presented a draft of a Book of Discipline, when the following action was taken:)

Resolved, That the Book of Discipline, submitted by the committee appointed by the last Assembly, be overtured to the Presbyteries for their consideration, and that they be instructed to report their judgment thereon to the next General Assembly. Vol. I, p. 121, 1860.

[The Presbyteries reported their judgment, when the following action was taken:]

Resolved, That the Book of Discipline, with all the reports of the Presbyteries thereon, and any amendments of Presbyteries, or of individuals, which may be sent into them, up to the first of November next, be committed to a select committee, who shall mature and publish the work that is hereby sent down to the Presbyteries in overture, and that they report on the book aye or no, to the next Assembly. Vol. I, p. 225, 1861.

[Only twenty-six Presbyteries reported on the Book of Discipline. Of this number, sixteen reported favorably. The following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly proceed to consider and pass on the amendments proposed.

2. That the Book of Discipline as thus amended be printed and published as early as November 1st, 1862, and overtured to Presbyteries and Sessions, with direction to vote aye or nay, and report to the next General Assembly.

3. That in the meanwhile Presbyteries and Sessions be recommended to conduct their business in conformity with its regulations. Vol. I, p. 350, 1862.

[The vote of the Presbyteries on the adoption of the Book of Government and Discipline was, ayes, 379; nays, 80; not voting, 19. But inasmuch as the Book was not published in time to afford opportunity for a thorough consideration of it by Presbyteries and Sessions, the following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly refer the Book to a committee for revision and improvement, and that it be considered as authoritative until the revised Book is adopted.

2. That this committee be instructed to receive suggestions from Presbyteries and individuals until the first of November, and that then the committee meet and devote as much time to the work as may be necessary to complete it, and that the Presbyteries be instructed to supply the pulpits of so many of them as may be pastors, while they are engaged in this work.

3. That when completed, the Book be published immediately by the Board of Publication, and sent up to the next Assembly for consideration. Vol. I, p. 491, 1863.

[This committee not having completed the revision, the following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That the work of revision be continued, and that it be intrusted to a committee composed of members who can conveniently meet and give it the proper attention.

2. That it be left discretionary with the committee to what extent the revision shall be carried. Vol. II, p. 22, 1864.

[This committee reported to next Assembly, Vol. II, p. 158, 1865, when the following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That the committee be directed to publish, without delay, the Draft of a Book of Government and Discipline submitted by them to this General Assembly, and that the expense of publication be defrayed by the sale of the Book.

2. That the Book be and hereby is overtured to the Presbyteries, with instructions to vote yea or nay on its adoption; also to suggest such amendments as they may deem necessary, and report to the next General Assembly. Vol. II, p. 158, 1865.

[The vote on this overture was, for the Book, 367; against, 45; not voting, 6. The following final action was taken:]

Resolved. That the Book of Government and Discipline now in overture before the church be, and the same is hereby adopted, and is to be regarded from and after this date as the organic law of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. Vol. II, p. 301, 1866.

[For Book of Government and Discipline, see Digest, p. 17.]

3. **Amendments to the Book of Government and Discipline.** [Part II, Chapter V, Section 4, first clause, "These trial exercises shall be heard at the time of licensure," was overtured to the Presbyteries when it was stricken out by the following vote: ayes, 549; nays, 52; not voting, 21. Vol. III, p. 150, 1870.]

[The amending of Article II, Chapter XII, "On Appeals," was indefinitely postponed. Vol. III, p. 287, 1871.]

[The following overture was submitted to the Presbyteries:] Shall part II, Chapter V, Section 2 of the Book of Government and Discipline be changed so that it shall read, "In ordinary cases, no student of theology shall be admitted for trials for license until he has completed a course of theological study of two full years after the time of his admission by the Presbytery, and produce testimonials of good conduct and proficiency in his studies, and he shall be required to spend a third session at the Seminary"? Vol. VIII, p. 225, 1889.

[On this overture the vote was: Ayes, 734, nays, 210.] Therefore,

Resolved, That the General Assembly does now enact that Part II, Chapter V, Section 2, of the Book of Government be so changed that it shall read as follows: "In ordinary cases no student of theology shall be admitted to trials for license until he has completed a course of theological study of two full years after the time of his admission by the Presbytery, and produce testimonials of good conduct and proficiency in his studies, and he shall be required to spend a third session at the Seminary." Vol. VII, p. 414, 1890.

4. **Rule on Meetings of Synods Suspended Temporarily.** See Synods.

5. **A New Book of Government and Directory of Worship Adopted.** *Resolved*, That the Book of Government has been legally approved by the Presbyteries and it is hereby declared to be the BOOK OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA.

The vote on the Book of Worship sent down in overture by the General Assembly of 1909 is as follows: Ayes, 1,011; nays, 62.

We, therefore, recommend the following for adoption:

Resolved, That the Book of Worship has been legally approved by the Presbyteries and is hereby declared to be the BOOK OF WORSHIP OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA. Vol. XII, pp. 651, 652, 1910.

6. **Various Changes Occasioned by the Adoption of the Confessional Statement.** Vol. XVI, pp. 349, 351, 1925.

7. **Amendments.** The following amendments, having been submitted to

the Presbyteries in overture by the Assembly of 1924, were enacted by the Assembly of 1925:

1. Section 78, page 32. In order to make the intention of the regulation on Overtures plainer, insert "enrolled" between the words "whole" and "delegation."

2. Following Section 114, page 48, insert a new Section as follows: "Dissolution of Congregations. When a Presbytery determines that a congregation shall be dissolved, the members of said congregation shall be granted certificates of standing and dismissal at the hand of the Presbytery. The Trustees of said congregation shall transfer immediately all property titles to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. All sessional and other records shall be placed in the keeping of the Presbytery."

3. Section 174, page 79. Add to paragraph now ending with the words "operative upon the approval of the Presbytery" the following additional instructions:

"Ruling elders in office when the change is decided upon shall resign, in order that all may be elected upon the same basis, though these resignations shall not become operative until the newly-elected Elders have been ordained and installed."

4. Section 182, page 84. Substitute for this Section the following: "When a Ruling Elder holds his membership in the Session for a specified term, his official relation to the congregation shall continue until his successor has been duly installed. When a Ruling Elder, serving for a specified term, succeeds himself without interval, he shall continue the exercise of his office without installation."

In Chapter 1, Article 53, substitute the word "session" for the word "congregation" in the phrase "of a ruling elder from each congregation," and strike out the words "or from each group of congregations which are united by Presbytery as a pastoral charge." Vol. XVI, p. 41, 1924; p. 349, 1925.

8. **Sabbath School Superintendents and Teachers.** The following addition to the Book of Government and Directory of Worship, having received a majority of the votes in the Presbytery was enacted by the General Assembly of 1911:

384. **SUPERINTENDENT AND HIS DUTIES.** The Superintendent shall be a person of known piety and, if practicable, a member of the Session. Under the direction of the Session, he is the executive officer of the school and should do whatever is necessary for its good order, efficiency and success. He should also make provision for teachers' meetings as may be found practicable.

385. **TEACHERS.** The teachers should be members of the church, of earnest piety and qualified to teach. They should make careful preparation for their work, be regular in their attendance, diligent in securing the attendance of the scholars and in instructing them, faithful in their efforts to lead them to a knowledge of the truth and to a personal faith in Christ, and should visit them in their homes.

In view of the duplication of the number of Section 385 which this involves we recommend that the Assembly direct the change of all section numbers commencing with "385—*Devotional Exercises*" to the next higher section number. Vol. XII, p. 950, 1911.

9. **Baptism of Adults.** An amendment to Section 364 was enacted by the General Assembly of 1911. (For the text see Baptism.) Vol. XII, p. 949, 1911.

10. **"Forms" to Appear in the Book of Government.** Resolved, That the "Forms" prepared and printed be adopted and placed in the Church's Manual. Vol. XII, p. 345, 1909.

Form Number 6, was amended by the votes of the Presbyteries and the

enactment of the General Assembly of 1939 by the addition of the clause providing for the payments to the Pension Fund. Vol. XIX, p. 961, 1939.

11. **Requirements for Licensure and Ordination.** The following amendments to the Book of Government were enacted by the General Assembly of 1936:

Chapter VII, Section 129, fourth sentence, shall henceforth read: "The Presbytery shall require him to present two exercises: a textual sermon and an expository lecture," and Chapter IX, Section 145, third sentence, shall in the future read: "He shall be required to present four exercises: two sermons—one of which shall be a lecture—on passages of Scripture assigned to him, and also a critical exegesis of a passage of Scripture and a doctrinal thesis."

12. **Quorum of a Congregation.** An overture on a Quorum of congregations submitted by the General Assembly of 1931 was favorably voted on by the Presbyteries, but the Assembly of 1932 did not enact it on account of confusing wording. Vol. XVIII, p. 54, 1932.

The General Assembly of 1938 enacted an amendment to the Book of Government as follows:

From this day forth Section 206 of Chapter XXII of the Book of Government and Worship shall read, "If the membership of a congregation numbers one hundred or less, one-sixth of the members shall be required as a quorum for the transaction of business. If the membership be more than one hundred, one-tenth of the membership shall be sufficient." Vol. XIX, p. 640, 1938.

XIX. THE BUDGET

1. **Provision for the designation "The Budget"** was made by the General Assembly of 1913 when it adopted a resolution changing the headings of the columns of the statistical tables. Vol. XIII, p. 373, 1913.

2. **Plan for the formation of the Missionary Budget.** *Resolved*, 5. That the following plan shall govern in the formation of the annual Missionary Budget of the Church and in the distribution of its funds:

(a) The General Missionary Budget for any succeeding year shall be adopted by the Board of Administration and be presented to the Church for pledges in the annual Every Member Canvass.

(b) The participating Boards shall share in the Budget according to the proportion which their respective Budgets approved by the Board of Administration shall bear to the whole General Budget.

(c) Designated funds shall go to the cause to which they are to be devoted without affecting the distribution of undesignated funds.

(d) At the end of each fiscal year all contributions received by the participating Boards, designated, undesignated and from outside sources, shall be reported to the Board of Administration and such readjustment in percentages for distribution of undesignated funds as may be necessary shall be made for the following year.

(e) No Board shall project work beyond the limits of its Budget approved by the General Assembly for any one year, without consultation with and approval of the Board of Administration.

(f) This action shall automatically rescind all previous enactments in conflict herewith and shall become operative as of the beginning of the financial year 1929-30. Vol. XVII, p. 343, 1929.

Resolved, 6. That each year at the time of the formation of the General Missionary Budget by the Board of Administration all contributions received by the participating Boards during the last preceding fiscal year, both designated and undesignated, and from outside sources, properly classified as such, shall be reported by said Boards to the Board of Administration for information. In the formation of the new General Missionary Budget due consideration shall be given to the amounts thus reported by the respective Boards in

order to preserve the proper balance of the various lines of the missionary work of the Church. The percentages for distribution of undesignated monies fixed at the time of the formation of the budget shall be maintained throughout the fiscal year for which the budget is built. Vol. XVII, 655, 1930.

3. **Minimum Goal for Individual Giving to the Budget.** *Resolved, 3.* That ten cents per week per member be set as a minimum goal for individual giving to the Missionary Budget. Vol. XIX, p. 943, 1939.

XX. CATECHISM

1. **Shorter Catechism Revised and Adopted.** *Resolved, 5.* That the revised edition of the Shorter Catechism, issued this year by the Board of Publication, be, and hereby is, adopted as the standard edition, to be recognized and used by the United Presbyterian Church in all its work. Vol. XI, p. 272, 1905.

2. **Short Catechism for Children.** The following resolution was adopted: *Resolved,* That there be referred to the Committee on Short Statement of Doctrine the consideration of a revision of the Short Catechism for children prepared about 1770 by Dr. John Brown of Haddington; and if in the judgment of the committee a revision is desirable, that they include in their report a revised catechism for children. Vol. XIV, p. 31, 1916.

XXI. THE CHARTER OF THE CHURCH

ACT OF INCORPORATION OF THE TRUSTEES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AN ACT

To Incorporate the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That James McCandless, Graham Scott, John Alexander, Thomas McCance, William Getty, William M. Bell and David Reed, and their successors in office, duly elected as hereinafter specified, be and they are hereby constituted and declared a body politic, and corporate in deed and in law by the name, style and title of Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

SEC. 2. That said corporation shall have perpetual succession, and the right to hold lands, tenements, rents, annuities, franchises and other hereditaments, and all personal property which heretofore have been conveyed, assigned, transferred, devised and bequeathed to the ministers and elders composing the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, or to any person or persons in trust for them; and the same is hereby vested in said corporation forever, for such uses and purpose as said conveyances, assignments, transfers, bequests and devises were respectively made or intended; and said corporation is hereby declared to be seized and possessed of such estates and interest therein as in and by said conveyances, assignments, transfers, bequests and devises thereof, is or are declared limited, expressed or intended; and, further, said corporation shall have all the rights, franchises and powers which by law pertain to corporations, the right to hold and possess real and personal property, yielding a net annual income not exceeding twenty thou-

sand dollars, and the same to dispose of at pleasure; but said limitation not to be construed as including the annual or periodical collections and voluntary contributions made in the churches under the care of said General Assembly, or contributions from any other source: Provided, that in cases where special instructions for the management and disposal thereof shall be given by the General Assembly, in writing, under the hand of their clerk, it shall be the duty of said corporation to act according to such instructions.

SEC. 3. That no misnomer of said corporation shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise or bequest to or from said corporation: Provided, that the intent of such gift, grant, devise or bequest shall sufficiently appear that the same was intended to pass to or from said corporation.

SEC. 4. That said corporation shall have power to adopt and use one common seal, and the same to break, alter, amend and renew at pleasure.

SEC. 5. That said corporation, by the name, style and title aforesaid, shall be able to sue and be sued, to plead and be impleaded in any court of law or equity, or before any alderman or justice of the peace, in all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, matters and demands of whatever nature, kind or form the same may be.

SEC. 6. That said corporation shall have full power to make, pass and establish by-laws for the proper administration of the funds and the due government of said corporation: Provided, that said by-laws be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, or the constitution or laws of this Commonwealth.

SEC. 7. That said corporators shall compose the Board of Trustees of said corporation until the next regular meeting of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, when two trustees in addition shall be elected by said General Assembly who, with said corporators, shall constitute thereafter a full board of trustees, who shall be divided into three classes, of three members each, in alphabetical order, and whose term of office shall expire as follows, to-wit: The term of office for the first class shall expire on the first Tuesday of July Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one; the term of office for the second class shall expire on the first Tuesday of July, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two; and the term of office for the third class shall expire on the first Tuesday of July, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three. Further, said General Assembly shall, at their regular meeting in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and annually thereafter, elect three persons to serve as trustees to supply the places of those whose term of office shall expire as aforesaid: Provided, however, That on failure to elect trustees as aforesaid, or in case of death, resignation or other inability, those remaining in office shall have full power to fill such vacancies until the next regular meeting of said General Assembly.

SEC. 8. That five members of this corporation shall constitute a quorum, and be a sufficient number to transact the business of said corporation, to make by-laws, rules and regulations, whose regular meetings shall be on the first Tuesday of July, October, January and April: Provided, That previous to any special meeting of said corporation not appointed by adjournments, it shall be the duty of the officer calling a meeting to cause notice to be sent by mail to each member ten days prior to such meeting; and said corporation may as often as shall be prescribed by the by-laws elect from said board of trustees a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer or other officers.

SEC. 9. That all questions before said corporation shall be decided by a majority of the trustees present; and said corporation shall keep regular and fair entries of their proceedings, and a just account of their receipts and disbursements, in a book or books kept for that purpose; and the treasurer shall

exhibit to said General Assembly, at each regular meeting, an exact state of the accounts of said corporation.

JOHN M. THOMPSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, pro tem.
WM. M. FRANCIS,
Speaker of the Senate.

APPROVED. The twenty-second day of March, Anno Domini, one thousand eight hundred and sixty.

WM. F. PACKER.

XXII. CHINESE MISSION

1. **China Mission.** [On memorials from the Synod of Illinois and from the Presbytery of Frankfort, asking for the consolidation of the foreign missions of the Church, it was]

Resolved, 3. That the Board be directed to dispose of our mission property in Canton, China, and that the proceeds be expended in the establishment of a Chinese mission on the Pacific coast, and that Brother Nevin be transferred to the new mission. Vol. IV, p. 444, 1877.

Resolved, 9. That the mission to the Chinese at Los Angeles be transferred from the care of the Board of Foreign Missions to the Presbytery of San Francisco, subject to the control of the Assembly, so soon as said Presbytery secure an act of incorporation; and that the Presbytery be required to report annually to the General Assembly specially as to this mission.

10. That the money received from the sale of the mission property in China be invested by the Presbytery of San Francisco, when incorporated, under the direction of the Trustees of the General Assembly, for the exclusive use and benefit of the mission to the Chinese, no part of the principal to be used except for needed permanent buildings for the use of the mission, and that the treasurer of the Presbytery be required to give bonds to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

11. That Rev. J. C. Nevin be directed to invest the funds arising from the sale of the China Mission buildings in such a way as the Board of Foreign Missions may direct, until the Presbytery of San Francisco becomes a corporate body and fully prepared to take charge of said funds. Vol. IV, p. 577, 1878.

[The Presbytery of San Francisco accepted the trust, became incorporated, received from Mr. Nevin the sum of \$12,510.26, and invested it, and reported to the Assembly. Vol. V, p. 83, 1879.]

2. **Name of the Mission Changed.** *Resolved*, 2. That according to the request of the Presbytery [of San Francisco], presented in their report, the name of this mission be changed from "The Mission to the Chinese at Los Angeles," to "The Mission Among the Chinese on the Pacific Coast," Vol. V, p. 30, 1879.

3. **Transferred to the Board of Home Missions.** *Resolved*, 1. That the Mission to the Chinese at Los Angeles be placed as a special mission under the care of the Board of Home Missions for one year. Vol. V, p. 355, 1881.

6. That the Chinese Mission at Los Angeles, Cal., be continued under the care of the Board of Home Missions, in connection with the Synod of the Pacific. Vol. V, p. 561, 1882.

4. **The Property of the Mission Transferred to the Board of Home Missions.** [The report of the General Committee of Home Missions, which was adopted by the Assembly, contains the following:]

3. That the General Assembly instruct the Board of Foreign Missions to transfer the Chinese Mission Property in California to the Board of Home Missions. Vol. V, p. 767, 1883.

5. **The Mission Made a Special Mission.** *Resolved*, [by the General Committee of Home Missions, and adopted by the Assembly,] That the Chinese Mission at Los Angeles, Cal., be constituted a special mission and placed under the care of the Board, without definite limitation. Vol. VI, p. 68, 1884.

6. **The Mission Discontinued.** *Resolved*, [by the General Committee of Home Missions and adopted by the Assembly.]

1. That the granting of aid from the Home Mission Fund be discontinued after September 30, 1890.

3. That the Board be directed to keep invested the principal of the Chinese Mission Fund (\$12,500) and to pay the net annual proceeds to the Rev. J. C. Nevin until otherwise ordered.

4. That the Rev. J. C. Nevin be recommended to continue his work for the Chinese, in connection with some other employment, if he so desires, under such arrangements as may be approved by the Presbytery and the Board. Vol. VII, p. 460, 1890.

Resolved, 6. That the action of the last Assembly, terminating the grant to the Chinese Mission, discontinued the mission itself and relieved Rev. J. C. Nevin from responsibility to the Board of Home Missions and the General Assembly for the work; and resolutions 3 and 4, page 460 of minutes of 1890, are hereby so modified as to make the payment of the proceeds of the Chinese Mission fund simply an annuity to Brother Nevin in recognition of his service to the Church in this mission. Vol. VII, p. 635, 1891.

XXIII. CHRISTIAN GIVING

1. **Christian Giving a Part of Worship.** *Resolved*, 2. That * * * pastors be affectionately urged to impress upon their people the importance and necessity of every one complying with the direction of the Apostle, I Cor., xvi. 2, "to lay by him in store, on the first day of the week, as the Lord hath prospered him," as a part of the worship of the Sabbath. Vol. V, p. 33, 1879.

2. **Giving Should Be Proportionate.** *Resolved*, 1. That the General Assembly most earnestly and affectionately urge on all pastors and elders to carefully and conscientiously consider the suggestions made by the Permanent Committee on Ways and Means, and on all members a hearty co-operation with them in devising some plan for proportionate giving, as the most efficient method of carrying on the work. Vol. VII, p. 410, 1890.

3. **One-tenth Should Be Given.** *Resolved*, 1. That in the judgment of this Assembly, Christians ought not in their contributions for benevolent and religious purposes, to fall below one-tenth of their yearly income. Vol. V, p. 33, 1879.

[On a memorial from the Presbytery of Westmoreland, a committee was appointed to investigate and report upon the tithe system. Vol. II, p. 169, 1865. This committee presented a report, Vol. II, p. 319, 1866, which was published by order of the Assembly, Vol. II, p. 347, 1866.]

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly, Christians ought not, in their contributions for benevolent and religious purposes, to fall below one-tenth of their yearly income. Vol. V, p. 33, 1879.

Resolved, 1. That all congregations give careful consideration to the Tithe Covenant Plan for financing the work. Vol. XI, p. 897, 1907.

4. **Thank-offerings Should Be Made.** *Resolved*, 4. That pastors and sessions * * * encourage them [their people] to present "thank-offerings" to the Lord frequently for his gracious benefits. Vol. VII, p. 641, 1891.

Resolved, 5. That we would certainly encourage "free-will" or "thank-offerings" on the part of congregations in addition to the making up of the "general average." Vol. VII, p. 644, 1891.

5. **Contributions in Proportion to the Appropriations of the General Assembly.** *Resolved*, 1. The Assembly having passed judgment as to the relative needs of the various departments of the Church work, Pastors and Sessions are urged to secure, as far as possible, an apportionment of the contributions of their respective congregations in proportion to the appropriations designated by the Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 233, 1889.

6. **Special Contributions.** *Resolved*, 4. That the Assembly has heard with interest the special work that has been undertaken, by congregations and individuals, to send out and support new missionaries. Vol. VII, p. 219, 1889.

4. That pastors and sessions be urged to educate the people up to a confidence in the Boards of the Church; that they be expected not to contribute to special mission work until they have contributed their full proportion to the support of the regular work of the Church; and that they encourage them to present "thank-offerings" to the Lord frequently for his gracious benefits.

4. We consider that the responsibility of our congregations and people, for support of our Boards, is precedent to duty in the direction of special missions; and that, as a rule, they should first discharge in full measure their duty to the Boards, and then, if the Lord has so prospered them that they are able to give more, their help in special lines will be properly in order. Vol. VII, pp. 641, 644, 1891.

7. **Doubtful Means to Be Avoided.** *Resolved*, 3. That this Assembly would express it as their judgment that there should be a careful avoidance of all indirect and questionable means of raising money for the Lord's cause. Vol. V, p. 33, 1879.

8. **Information for the People.** *Resolved*, 3 [by the General Committee of Home Missions and adopted by the Assembly], That since more widely extended information among the members concerning the condition and wants of the Church's work, and a fuller presentation of the Scripture truth concerning the duty of supporting this work with their offerings, would no doubt largely increase the liberality of our people therefore, we would respectfully recommend that the Board of Publication be instructed to adopt such measures as may be practicable to supply the homes of our people with this means of growth in the grace of Christian giving. Vol. V, p. 223, 1880.

5. That in view of the fact that our Home Mission work is extending, and increased means are needed for carrying it on, we request the General Assembly to instruct the Board of Publication to publish a tract on the subject of giving, and arrange for its gratuitous distribution, endeavoring to have a copy placed in the hands of every member of the Church. Vol. VI, p. 711, 1887.

9. **Duty of Pastors and Sessions.** *Resolved*, 2. That all our delinquent Sessions and congregations be recommended to adopt some measures by which the people shall have opportunity to contribute at stated periods to the respective funds of the Church. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

Resolved, 2. That ministers and Sessions be specially urged to keep the people under their care well informed as to the needs and progress of the Church's work, both by the circulation of literature, and holding conferences thereon.

4. That Pastors and Sessions be urged to educate their people up to confidence in the Boards of the Church; that they be expected not to contribute to special mission work until they have contributed their full proportion to the support of the regular work of the Church; and that they encourage them to present "thank-offerings" to the Lord frequently for his gracious benefits. Vol. VII, p. 641, 1891.

10. **Payment of Salaries.** *Resolved*, 4. That congregations be recommended to adopt the system of paying their pastors' salaries and their quotas to the Boards monthly, if possible, but not less than quarterly. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

11. **A Permanent Committee on Christian Giving.** The General Assembly appointed a Permanent Committee on Ways and Means to devise and execute proper measures for raising the money necessary for the support of the general work of the Church. Vol. VII, p. 33, 1888. This committee reported that Christian Giving had been brought before many Presbyteries, and that a large number of the pastors and elders are laboring earnestly to bring this subject properly before their people. Vol. VII, p. 495, 1890.

Resolved, 1. That a standing committee of five, to be called the Committee on Systematic Beneficence, be appointed.

2. That the duties of this committee shall be to examine Presbyterial reports, with a view to ascertain what system, if any, the Presbyteries have adopted for raising the benevolent funds of the Church, and to recommend such plans or measures as in their judgment are best adapted to secure system in our financial operations, and thus replenish the treasuries of the Church. Vol. I, p. 359, 1862. [This committee was abolished by the adoption of the amended Rules of Order in 1870. A special Committee on Systematic Beneficence was appointed. Vol. V, p. 9, 1879.]

12. **A Plan for Systematic Giving.** [The Assembly recommended a plan for systematic giving. Vol. III, p. 542, 1873.]

[The Committee on Ways and Means reported, and the Assembly approved the following]:

The raising of money should commence early in the year. Under no circumstances should it be postponed until the middle or end of the year. * * * In reference to the plan of raising money, we would strongly recommend the envelope system, or collections at the quarterly communion seasons, of a collection by subscription books in the hands of committees, or some other plan of systematic giving. It must be remembered, however, that the best system ever devised will partially or totally fail if the proper persons do not make the needed exertion to carry it out; and, on the other hand, that a very unpromising system can often be made to work successfully if judicious and enthusiastic persons are in charge of it. Vol. VII, p. 293, 1889.

1. That the Committee on Ways and Means be directed to continue to present to our congregations the "Five Suggestions"; and that in every case, where it is at all practicable, the contributions for the Boards of the Church be taken weekly.

2. That ministers and Sessions be specially urged to keep the people under their care well informed as to the needs and progress of the Church's work, both by the circulation of literature, and holding conferences thereon.

3. That the Committee on Ways and Means be empowered to secure in every Presbytery the help of one of more persons, specially interested in bringing before the people of all our congregations the claims and needs of the general work of the Church, who shall advise and co-operate with the financial agent in his work. Vol. VII, p. 641, 1891.

[The "Five Suggestions" referred to above are as follows]:

First, Let the pastor or stated supply call together the members of his Session for prayer and consultation. Speak to them of Christ's "Great Commission" and of their obligations to help carry it out, and that the *Boards of our Church are the chief agencies through which this commission is carried into effect by the Church.*

Second, At this same meeting speak of and discuss the New Testament rule of giving, I Cor. xvi. 2. Pray over it. Then, if not already done, let each member of the Session, knowing his privileges and feeling his obligations, resolve to *devote* at least the one-tenth of his income to the Lord, or to give "as God hath prospered him." If time is asked by any of the members of Session for further consideration of the subject, grant it, and call another meeting in one or two weeks.

Third, When this is done, present the whole subject of "Missions" and of "Christian Giving" to the members of the congregation. Let them know of the resolve taken by the members of the Session, and then earnestly ask them to join you in devoting at least one-tenth of their income to the Lord, or, to give "as God hath prospered them." Present the subject of giving, not only as a duty, but as a *high privilege*. Let giving be regarded as an act of worship.

Fourth, Commence the raising of mission money *early in the year*. Do not under any circumstances postpone the matter until the middle or close of the year.

Fifth, We desire to emphasize the fact that it is the regular, stated, systematic giving of the *many* that is of special benefit to the Church and to the individual. Every member should be encouraged to give something. All should have a part in carrying on the mission work of our Church. Vol. VII, p. 120, 1891.

13. **Weekly Contributions Recommended.** *Resolved*, 3. That each congregation be recommended to take collections weekly, where it is practicable, and if not weekly, at stated times, and as frequently as possible. Vol. II, p. 18, 1864.

Your committee has had presented to them by the Presbytery of Princeton the Bellefonte system of gospel support and church extension, and would commend it to the favorable consideration of the Church. Vol. III, p. 416, 1872.

Resolved, 5. That we recommend Presbyteries to urge upon our congregations the adoption of the "envelope," or "Bellefonte system," for taking contributions for the support of the gospel and the Boards of the Church. Vol. IV, p. 171, 1875.

7. That we recommend, with increased confidence, the adoption and use, in all our congregations, of the voluntary weekly plan for making contributions for the support of the gospel, at home and abroad. Vol. IV, p. 307, 1876.

3. That where found practicable, the weekly Sabbath offerings by the envelope system be earnestly recommended to all our congregations. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

2. That * * * we lay special stress on the weekly system of giving. Vol. VII, p. 410, 1890.

1. That in every case where it is at all practicable, the contributions for the Boards of the Church be taken weekly. Vol. VII, p. 641, 1891.

Resolved, 2. That we urge all our congregations to adopt the weekly envelope system of giving, and to use the "signed pledge card," pledging a fixed sum payable weekly.

3. That the Assembly send down each year a fixed sum per member, which shall be the minimum expected of these congregations for the educational and missionary work of the Church for that year. Vol. XI, p. 599, 1906.

Resolved, 8. That the Assembly with all the power at its command urge pastors, elders and trustees to adopt the weekly pledge card and envelope system, making a canvass at once, if it has not been done within the past twelve months, to secure a pledge of a fixed amount per week from every member and adherent. All monies so raised to go to the financial agent the first of each month, to be divided by him according to the appropriations of the Assembly, whatever that appropriation may be.

9. To avoid all the hurry, worry and almost agony about funds at the close of the year, to save the large amount lost by paying interest, to save embarrassment to worthy missionaries at home and abroad on account of de-

laid salaries, we urge that all pastors, elders and trustees so arrange their financial matters as to make a payment to the financial agent the first of each month and as much the first month as the last month of the year. Vol. XII, p. 657, 1910.

XXIV. CHRIST'S SECOND COMING

On this subject the memorialist assumes that the United Presbyterian Church practically accepts the theory of the post-millennial coming of Christ, and of the purely spiritual nature of his millennial kingdom, and asks in view of the importance of the subject, that the Assembly shall give a statement of the ground of the theory which he attributes to the Church. Also, he states that a refusal on the part of the Assembly to state the ground of the theory, will be accepted by him as an acknowledgment, on the part of the Church, that there is no ground for such a theory. In reply to the memorialist, your committee presents the following:

1. It may be true, that practically the mass of the members of the United Presbyterian Church accept the theory that Christ's coming will be post-millennial, and that His millennial kingdom will be purely spiritual, but the Church has never officially declared this to be her faith. To make any theory on this question an article of the faith of the Church, would necessitate the adoption of a system of interpretation, and a particular application of prophecy to that theory, which must not only be enforced by the teaching, but also by the discipline of the Church—things utterly impracticable.

2. A refusal by the Church, therefore, to adopt a theory respecting the time of Christ's second coming, and the particular nature of His millennial kingdom, and to give the ground of such theory, does not warrant the conclusion that the Church thus acknowledges that there is no ground for that theory.

We recommend for adoption the following:

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialist be not granted. Vol. IV, p. 446, 1877.

(See also Confessional Statement, *Article XL*.)

XXV. CHURCH MUSIC

1. **Church Music Is Under the Control of the Session.** *Resolved*, 2. That it devolves on Sessions to exercise a controlling supervision over this, as over the other parts of public worship.

3. That in the exercise of their official function in supervising this part of public worship, they be affectionately advised to keep in view the following objects:

i. Let them aim to secure the use of such music as is grave, sweet and solemn in its character, suitable to be employed in the praise of God, and calculated to excite and express the devotional sentiment contained in the particular psalm used at the time.

ii. Let them also take into consideration the circumstances of their congregations, and aim so to supervise the service as to promote their peace and edification, and let the people also regard charitably the rights and wishes of those whose tastes and prejudices and preferences differ from their own.

iii. Let them, in all discreetness, be earnest and unwearied in their efforts to foster the development of a musical taste and talent among their people, so that this part of public worship may become, continually, more and more pleasant and profitable to themselves, and more and more commend the inspired psalter to the whole body of the faithful. Vol. II, p. 33, 1864. [See also the Directory for Worship, Chap. II, Art. II, Sec. 4.]

2. **The Use of Repeating Tunes.** *Resolved*, That while your committee think there is sometimes much bad taste in the use of such tunes, yet they do not feel prepared to say that their use is, in itself, unscriptural and wrong. Vol. II, p. 33, 1864.

3. That this committee [on Psalms with Music,] be instructed to avoid such frequent repetitions and responses as are not clearly suggested by the language of the Psalms. Vol. V, p. 16, 1879.

3. **Chanting.** *Resolved*, 1. That our people be recommended to familiarize themselves with the art of chanting.

2. That the chanting of the psalms in the prose version be permitted in the worship of God, where the peace and harmony of the Church are not thereby disturbed. Vol. II, p. 35, 1864.

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of three persons, be appointed by this Assembly, to inquire into the practicability, the advantages and disadvantages of chanting, and, if deemed advisable, to prepare a collection of psalms arranged for the use of our Sabbath Schools and congregations, and report to the next General Assembly. Vol. III, p. 279, 1871. [This committee presented a report, which was laid on the table. Vol. III, p. 378, 1872.]

Resolved, 2. That a limited number of chants and anthems be inserted [in the psalter] as an appendix. Vol. IV, p. 590, 1878.

4. **Instrumental Church Music.** The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented, and the Assembly adopted, the following resolution in regard to the memorial from the Presbytery of Philadelphia on instrumental music in the worship of God: *Resolved*, That the petition of the memorialists be not granted. Vol. II, p. 309, 1866.

Resolved, That the conduct of the Session of the First United Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, in refusing to grant permission to the teachers in their Sabbath school to introduce a melodeon, be approved. Vol. II, p. 395, 1867.

Resolved, That the article on instrumental music in the present Directory for Worship is hereby made a special overture, and Presbyteries are directed to vote aye or nay upon it, and report the ayes and nays to the next General Assembly. Vol. II, p. 408, 1867.

[The vote on this overture was: for retaining the article, 385; against retaining it, 157; when the following action was taken:]

Resolved, That the article on instrumental music now in overture, be, and hereby is, approved and adopted. Vol. II, p. 498, 1868.

[A memorial from the Presbytery of Caledonia on the subject of instrumental music was disposed of as follows:]

Resolved, That this Assembly submits to her Presbyteries the following overture: "Shall Sec. 5, Art. II, Chap. III, of the Directory for Worship, be repealed?"

The resolution in this report was lost by a vote of 86 ayes to 74 nays, "a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Assembly present" being necessary to transmit any subject in overture to the Presbyteries. Vol. IV, p. 315, 1876.

[Memorials from the Presbyteries of Caledonia and Sidney, asking for the overturing of the article of the Directory for Worship on instrumental music, and remonstrating against the overturing from the Presbyteries of First New York and Neosho, were disposed of as follows:]

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialists be not granted. [Ayes, 110; noes, 51; not voting, 4. Vol. IV, p. 443, 1877.]

5. **Enforcement of the Law on Instrumental Music.** [A memorial was presented to the General Assembly stating "that in contravention of the provision of our Standards, several congregations under the jurisdiction of the Assembly have introduced instrumental music into their public worship or into the worship of their Sabbath schools," and asking the Assembly to "direct the Presbyteries, in whose bounds this palpable disregard of law exists, to take

steps to promptly have the disorder complained of corrected." The General Assembly adopted the following:]

Resolved, That in the case in question, the Presbyteries and Synods are competent, and are expected by the Assembly to apply the law. Vol. V, p. 356, 1881.

6. **Repeal of the Law on Instrumental Music.** [A memorial was presented to the Assembly asking that the article of the Directory for Worship on instrumental music be overtured. It was disposed of as follows:]

It was conceded by those who hold the various phases of belief on the subject of instrumental music in worship, that there is a deep and widespread dissatisfaction with our present law relating thereto. * * * *Resolved*, That the Assembly submits to the Presbyteries the following overture: Shall Sec. 5, Art. II, Chapter III, of the Directory for Worship be repealed? Vol. V, p. 356, 1881.

[The votes on the overture were referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures. The report of the committee was amended and adopted as follows:]

We find that the whole number of votes cast is 1,233. Nine persons are reported as not voting. Of the votes cast 620½ are in the affirmative, and 612½ in the negative, making a clear majority of 8 in the affirmative on the question overtured.

We, therefore, recommend the adoption by the Assembly of the following resolutions:

1st. That the overture to repeal the rule in our Directory touching instrumental music has received a clear constitutional majority of the votes of the Church, and, therefore, has been carried.

2d. That this Assembly hereby ratifies the decision of the Presbyteries, and declares Sec. 5, Art. 2, Chap. 3, of the Directory for Worship, repealed.

3d. That this decision is not to be considered as authorizing instrumental music in the worship of God, but simply as a declaration of the judgment of the Church that there is no sufficient Bible authority for an absolutely exclusive rule on the subject.

4th. That this Assembly hereby instructs and enjoins the lower courts to abstain, and have all under their authority abstain, from any action in this matter that would disturb the peace and harmony of congregations, or unreasonably disregard the conscientious convictions of members. Vol. V, p. 525; 1882.

[On the first resolution the vote was: Ayes—ministers, 74; elders, 51; total 125. Nays—ministers, 43; elders, 47; total, 90. Vol. V, p. 519. A protest was entered as follows:

The undersigned beg leave to protest against the action of the Assembly in declaring that the overture to repeal our law on instrumental music has received in the affirmative a clear majority of the votes of the whole Church.

This decision we regard as unwise and unjust on at least two grounds, which, for lack of time, we can do little more than indicate.

1. It proceeds upon a false interpretation of our constitutional law in regard to overtures. That law provides that before any proposal to change or modify, whether by addition or subtraction, the doctrine, worship or government of the Church, can be considered as carried, it must have received not only a majority, but also a clear majority of the vote of the whole Church. The intention manifestly of this provision is to guard against any change in respect to doctrine and order which would not be a fair and unmistakable expression of the judgment of the Church deliberately reached.

The votes of the whole Church can mean nothing less than the votes of the Church representative, convened in Presbytery; and all those who are present in Presbytery, whether they respond "Aye," "No," or "Not clear," may be said

to vote, that is, to express in brief and definite form their mind touching the matter voted upon.

Now, according to the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, the vote on the Overture on Instrumental Music stood thus: Affirmative, 620½; negative, 612½; not decided, or not clear, 9.

We contend that the 9 who declared that they were not clear to vote on either side must be reckoned as unprepared for the act of eliminating from our Standards the law on instrumental music. They virtually say that they cannot concur in such an act, and must, for the present, stand still. Hence, they are to be regarded as constructively opposing repeal. Had the proposition voted upon been to insert in our Standards a rule against instrumental music, those *non-liquet* votes would have been justly regarded as practically equivalent to negative votes.

2. This decision is in conflict with our sense of equity.

It was intimated in the Assembly by more than one member that not a few *non-liquet* votes given in the Presbytery had not been reported to the Assembly; and when a motion was made to inquire as to this point of the Second Clerk, and of any of the clerks of the Presbyteries present, the motion was abruptly laid upon the table.

Still further, it was repeatedly affirmed in the Assembly and denied by no one, that a considerable number, probably not less than twenty of the votes given in the Presbyteries in favor of repeal, proceeded from persons who at the time of voting were acting in violation of our law against instrumental music.

Now, are such votes to be regarded as valid votes? Was the Assembly powerless to protect the Church against the influence of such irregular votes? And can it in such circumstances be said that a *clear* majority of the votes of the whole Church has been given for repeal? Even if the Assembly had hesitated about casting out the votes referred to as proceeding from violators of the law voted upon, it might still more have hesitated to declare, as it has done, that a *clear* majority of the votes of the whole Church had been given for repeal. Would it not have been wise and equitable to have declared that, for various reasons, it was not clear that a majority of votes had been given for repeal, and that it would be better to have the vote taken again, so that assurance might be reached in a manner so weighty? Vol. V, p. 521, 1882.

The Assembly adopted the following answer to this protest:

The protest is against the action of the Assembly in deciding that the overture to repeal the law on instrumental music has been carried by a clear constitutional majority of the votes of the Presbyteries.

The first reason of protest is that the Assembly, in this decision, acted on "a false interpretation of our constitutional law in regard to overtures." The error specifically alleged is that the Assembly confined its count to the *yeas* and *nays* reported. The general remarks in the protest in regard to the intent of the law are not disputed. What we deny is that it was an error not to count as votes what was, in fact, the non-voting of persons reported as silent. The constitutional law requires simply a return of the *votes* given in the Presbyteries, and designates expressly the *yeas* and *nays*, as to what are to be returned. It makes no mention of anything else to be counted or even noted by the clerks of Presbyteries. The only recognition in any of our laws of silent members, or non-voters, is in a mere rule of order (66), and there they are directed to be counted with the majority.

Further this Assembly acted, in this matter, under an authoritative construction of the law adopted by the last Assembly, conclusive and binding until regularly repealed. That construction is in these words: "A vote is something different from not voting. One more than half the votes cast is evidently a clear majority. The majority vote settles the matter, without reference to

those not voting. They are then reckoned with the majority, according to rule of order No. 66."

It was under this construction of law by the supreme authority of the Church that the overture on instrumental music was sent down to the Presbyteries; under it the Presbyteries voted, and under it this Assembly was *bound* to count the returns of the votes; and so counting, it could not do otherwise than declare the overture carried by a clear constitutional majority.

But, aside from all this, the uniform practice of the Church in counting the votes on overtures made a common law on this subject, which this Assembly was bound to respect. It is the practical interpretation of the law given by the Church in her whole history of overtures. If, as is claimed in the protest, the votes of the whole Church can mean nothing less than the votes of all those who are present in the Presbytery, whether they cast their votes or not, then we have had no valid adoption of any overture, not even of our Book of Government or Directory for Worship, and especially not of the law on instrumental music.

The second general reason of protest is that the decision of the Assembly is in conflict with a "sense of equity," in that there was not given opportunity to make further inquiry for non-voters, and in counting the votes of alleged violators of the law.

As to the refusal of the Assembly to go into an irregular inquiry for non-voters other than were reported, it was justified by the uselessness of the inquiry to the count legally required, and the unnecessary waste of the time of the Assembly.

As to the votes alleged to have been given to violators of the law, it is sufficient to say that the Assembly did not have before it any formal complaints of the kind, and had no power to deprive of the right of voting persons never judicially condemned or even arraigned.

If the Assembly had been forced to go back of the returns and throw out all the irregular voting that appears to have been done, the majority for the overture would in all probability have been far in excess of the negative vote and all the silent and challenged votes together. Vol. V, p. 526, 1882.

During the discussion of the second resolution the following amendment was offered:

Whereas, Our Book of Discipline gives power to the General Assembly, even when a majority of the Presbyteries may be in favor of adopting an overture, to declare it inexpedient, under peculiar circumstances, to ratify the vote; and, whereas, in the overture now before the Assembly there is difference of opinion in regard to whether there is an actual majority in its favor; and, whereas, even if a majority be admitted, it is so meager as to show that a very large proportion of the Church, amounting at least to one-half, are opposed, and therefore its moral force as the deed of the Church is weakened, if not destroyed; and whereas, its adoption under the circumstances would be followed by serious, if not disastrous, consequences to our beloved Church, and thus such a contingency exists as is contemplated by our Book; therefore,

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly, it is inexpedient to ratify this vote, and, therefore, the law of the Church, on the use of musical instruments in the praise of God, remains unrepealed. Vol. V, p. 520, 1882.

The amendment was lost by the following vote: Ayes—ministers, 44; elders, 44; total, 88. Nays—ministers, 69; elders, 45; total, 114. A dissent was entered. P. 522.

The following amendment was offered to the third resolution:

Whereas, There is manifestly a decided difference of judgment in the minds of the members of the Assembly as to whether the Overture on Instrumental Music has been carried by a clear majority of the votes of the whole Church, and,

Whereas, Many have voted for the repeal of the existing law on this subject, because the law is objectionable in the form in which it is stated; therefore,

Resolved, That the further consideration of the report of the Committee be postponed, and the following proposition be sent down in overture to the Presbyteries, namely INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SHALL NOT BE USED IN THE WORSHIP OF GOD IN ANY OF THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE CHURCH.

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be instructed to report to the next Assembly upon this overture as follows:

1st. The number of members enrolled in the Presbytery at the time the vote was taken.

2d. The yeas and nays as recorded.

3d. The number of members excused, or not voting.

The vote on this amendment was: Ayes—ministers, 43; elders, 40; total, 83. Nays—ministers, 65; elders, 42; total, 107. Vol. V, pp. 523, 524, 1882.

The third resolution was amended by substituting the word "authorizing" for "recommending."

A fourth resolution in the report of the committee, viz.: "*Resolved*, That while there may be a liberty here, it is a liberty which in itself and especially in the present state of the Church, should be stringently regulated and kept from abuse, or any use that would conflict with the required simplicity of Christian worship," was, by the consent of the Assembly, withdrawn. Vol. V, p. 525.

A protest against the final action was presented. It was resolved that the action of this Assembly, as it explains itself, and the answer to the protest be considered a sufficient answer to this protest. Vol. V, pp. 530, 531. See p. 114.

[Memorials were presented asking the Assembly to prohibit instrumental music in the worship of God. The following action was taken:]

The Committee on Bills and Overtures respectfully report on the memorials relating to instrumental music referred to it:

These memorials are in different forms and make a variety of requests. As they will appear on the records of the Assembly, it is not necessary to cumber this report with a detailed statement of them. The request made in the one most numerously signed is expressed or implied in almost all of them that ask for additional action on the subject. This request is as follows: "The General Assembly is hereby most respectfully asked and earnestly urged to declare explicitly that in none of the congregations under the care of the Assembly can instrumental music be lawfully used in worship until the Church shall have decided by constitutional enactment that such music in worship is divinely authorized and prescribed."

The principal reasons affirmed in support of this request, as set forth in a preceding paragraph of the memorial, are—first, that the last Assembly "resolved that the enactment of the repeal did not authorize the use of instruments in the worship of any of our congregations"; and second, that "the Confession of Faith declares explicitly that nothing is to be used in the worship of God that is 'not prescribed in the Holy Scriptures.'"

In regard to the first reason, that drawn from the action of the last Assembly, there is evidently more assumed than the entire action of the Assembly justifies. In explaining its action in ratifying what it held to be the decision of the Presbyteries on the overture, the Assembly, in a spirit of conciliation, admitted the words, "not as authorizing," in place of those "not as recommending," used in the original form of its third resolution, but certainly with no such idea as conceding that its entire action on the subject was null and void. It is hardly necessary to say that in that sense, or anything like it, the resolution as amended was not adopted, and could not have been in the last

Assembly, with the sentiment that is known to have prevailed in it. The language in question must be understood in harmony with the declarations in the resolution itself, "that there is no sufficient Bible authority for an absolutely exclusive rule on the subject," and also in harmony with the entire action of which that resolution was but a part, in which the prohibitory law was declared to be repealed. The repeal of a law does not authorize anything except freedom from its restraints. Formally, it neither commands nor forbids anything. It simply leaves the subject without the law repealed. Taken, therefore, in its connection and necessary limitations, the language in question cannot be understood as of the effect assumed in this memorial.

In regard to the second reason, that drawn from the declaration in the Confession of Faith, to the effect that God is to be worshiped in the way appointed in His Word, it may be said that the question is not of the correctness of the principle so enunciated, but of the correctness of the application that is made of it in this case. To an ordinance of worship, or anything appointed in it, it is clearly applicable. Baptism and the Lord's Supper, for example, must be observed by the exclusive use of the elements appointed for each. But there may be mere incidents of an ordinance or helps to its observance, no part of the ordinance itself, which are not placed under such restrictions. In regard to the ordinance of praise, no intelligent Christian looks for the appointment of the particular tunes to be sung, or the particular means by which the keynote may be found, or for the use of musical notes as a help in singing, or the employment of trained singers to lead in the praise service. Such are among the things confessedly left to "Christian prudence."

Now, the question is, to which of these classes does the instrumental accompaniment belong, the essentials or the incidentals of worship? That is the very core of the question decided in the repeal of our prohibitory law. That law was what may be said to have been our statutory application of the principle cited from the Confession. To repeal that law, as has been done, was to declare it a misapplication of the principle, or that the thing forbidden by the law was one to which that general principle did not properly apply; in other words, that there was nothing in the ordinance of praise or any other Bible authority to justify such prohibition. That is the recorded judgment of the Church. While that judgment stands, how can we consistently declare, as asked in this memorial, that under the principle cited the prohibitory law is in effect still operative? And if we did, of what authority or force would such a declaration be? The Assembly has no power by mere resolution to annul a decision by overture, or virtually reinstate a law so repealed. It may advise a course of conduct deemed expedient in the circumstances or required in the interest of peace and harmony, but not on an assumption against which the judgment of the Church had been formally given.

It is only by overture that a declaration of the kind asked for could be authoritatively given. A request for this mode of settling the question is made by one of the memorials from the Presbyteries. While overture is the legitimate mode, there is room for grave doubts of its expediency at this time. There is no reason to expect that the result would be any more satisfactory than the decision given, and there is much reason to fear the effects of the continued strain that would be put on the Church. Besides, with our present differing interpretations of the law of overtures, there can be but little expectation of a satisfactory result until the law itself is put in a form of which there can be no misunderstanding.

Is there not a better way out of our present difficulties? Is not Providence clearly pointing it out? As the question that troubles us now stands, is there anything left for us but forbearance—mutual forbearance? It is a mistake to say that, so far as conscience is involved, the concession would be all from one side. While on the one side it is honestly believed that our pro-

hibitory law was necessary to preserve purity of worship, on the other it is believed just as honestly that such law has no sufficient Bible authority to justify the Church in making it a term of fellowship. They believe as honestly that in the present state of mind in the Church such a law could not be enforced; that, unsupported by the judgment and conscience of a large majority of the ministry, the officers of the Church whose special work is to study the Bible and declare its teachings, and who have most to do with the administration of the order of the Church, it is vain to expect for it such an enforcement as every existing law of the Church should have. Brethren of such convictions have the right to stand by them without challenge of their honesty. But while they may claim the repeal of the prohibitory law, they should remember that this repeal does not leave a liberty to disregard the comfort of fellow-worshippers; does not leave a liberty to disturb the peace of congregations; does not leave a liberty to violate the bonds of brotherhood or disregard the forbearance in love required by the law of God. It was by putting ourselves expressly under this law that our union was formed; it has been by acting under it, we have been preserved a united and greatly prospered Church; and at no time in our history was this forbearance more clearly a duty than now. Controversy has exhausted its power to bring us to unity of conviction. It is vain to expect such unity from further debate. It would be more likely to increase the distraction. In this view of the whole subject it does not appear that additional action upon it in any of the forms named by the memorialists is needed, or would likely be of good effect. We, therefore, submit for adoption by the Assembly the following resolutions:

1. That the action of the last Assembly on this subject be reaffirmed as explained in this report.

2. That its admonitory resolution, advising and enjoining against all action on this subject offensive to fellow-worshippers or disturbing the peace of congregations, be emphatically reaffirmed and urged with renewed earnestness on the attention of the pastors and sessions and people of the whole Church.

3. That Drs. Joseph T. Cooper, David A. Wallace and James P. Lytle be appointed a committee to address a pastoral letter to our people, setting forth the true state of the question as settled by the Church, and urging upon them the respect due the authority of the Church and to each other as Christian brethren. Vol. V, p. 727, 1883.

[During the discussion of the above report, an amendment was offered to the first resolution: That the following question be submitted in overture to the Presbyteries: Shall instrumental music be considered an incident in the worship of God? The vote was: Ayes—ministers, 42; elders, 30; total, 72. Nays—ministers, 77; elders, 71; total, 148. Excused, 1. P. 725.]

A second amendment was offered: That in order to settle difficulties in the Church, and to answer the prayer of the memorialists, this subject be sent down in overture, in some form, to the Presbyteries. The vote was: Ayes—ministers, 45; elders, 30; total, 75. Nays—ministers, 74; elders, 71; total, 145. Excused: 1. P. 726.

A protest was entered against the action of the Assembly.

The undersigned beg leave to enter their protest against the action of the Assembly in adopting the report of the majority of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, particularly the first resolution thereof, for the following reasons:

1. Because the action of the Assembly in reaffirming the action of last Assembly, instead of being even an attempt to give relief from the grievances complained of in the prayer of the memorialists and to heal the "breaches of Zion," is but a repetition of that action in a more offensive form, and is thus calculated to increase and deepen, rather than to remove, the dissatisfaction and disturbance which exist in the Church. * * * *

2. Because in assuming, by the action thus reaffirmed, to declare what

is the recorded judgment of the Church, as expressed in the vote of the Presbyteries on the overture, when neither in the terms of the overture itself nor in the record of the action of the Presbyteries, as transmitted to the last Assembly, is any such judgment to be found, the Assembly has usurped a power which is subversive of the Constitution of the Church on the subject of Overtures. * * * *

3. Because the action of the Assembly declares that the meaning attached by the memorialists to the phrase "not to be considered as authorizing the use of instruments in worship," is not the correct one, though it is the plain and obvious meaning of the language. The Assembly, however, does not explain or tell us what is its true meaning. * * * *

4. Because in refusing to overture the subject on instrumental music in any form, and declaring the question settled, the Assembly has not only gone in the face of the facts as evinced by the very presence of these memorials, but has rejected the only possible, because constitutional, method of reaching a satisfactory settlement of this vexed question. * * * *

And in all this we solemnly protest before God, the searcher of hearts, that we are influenced by no feeling of disrespect or ill-will toward our brethren, either in this Assembly or throughout the Church, but only by sincere love to them, and especially by love to our Lord Jesus Christ and supreme regard to His glory and to the interests of His truth and His cause as connected with the purity of His worship.

[It was agreed that the action of the Assembly, as explained in the report of the majority of the Committee on Bills and Overtures, be taken as an answer to the reasons of protest. Vol. V, p. 732, 1883.]

7. **Interpretation of the Law on Instrumental Music.** [Memorials were presented to the Assembly asking the Assembly "to declare that according to the Standards of our Church, the use of instrumental music in worship is unlawful." And also others, asking that the action already taken be declared final. These memorials were referred to the Committee on Judiciary, and also to the Committee on Bills and Overtures. The following is the report of the Committee on Judiciary, which was adopted:]

And now [after reciting the history of the subject in the Assembly] the question comes to us, ought we, can we, in view of the past action of the Church and the present state of the question, declare "that according to the standards of the Church, the use of instrumental music in worship is unlawful?"

In the judgment of your Committee, this declaration cannot be made for the following reasons, viz.:

1. It would "re-establish, in effect, by a simple act of one Assembly, a law which has been overruled and declared to be repealed by the only Assembly competent to count the vote and declare the result, which is to destroy the principle on which the law of overture is founded, and to cause the difference between a mere act of the Assembly and a law established by the votes of the whole Church, to disappear." It would be an attempt to set aside the decree of the Church, enacted through constitutional forms, in a way unknown to the Constitution for either making or repealing law!

2. It will be admitted, we trust, by all, that the article of the Directory, which has been declared repealed, was the statute which applied to the principle of the Confession, that "God is not to be worshipped in any way not appointed in his word," to this subject. And now that the article has been repealed, and the declaration made by the Church that this principle of the Confession does not apply to the use of instrumental help in praise, there is no such law in our Standards, and there can be none, until it is placed there in the only way the Constitution has provided, viz: by regular process of overture.

3. The Assembly should not make the declaration asked, as by so doing

there would be an attempt to establish a term of fellowship, to which a large majority of the ministers of the United Presbyterian Church, and perhaps a majority of her officers and members, could not conscientiously subscribe. They do not believe that there is Bible authority for such a law; they do not believe that the Standards of the Church authorize it, and they cannot say, as they then would be required to say, that all who fail to observe that law shall be excluded from the fellowship of the Church. They are willing to say that, in most cases, it would not be expedient to have any instrumental help in the praise service of our congregations. They can say, as very many of them have said, and as the last two General Assemblies have declared, that there should be no action on this subject in any of our congregations which would be offensive to fellow worshippers, or which would disturb the peace of congregations. And they do say that there is no authority to justify the Church in having, and enforcing by its discipline, a term of fellowship on this subject.

We, therefore, recommend for your adoption the following:

Resolved, That the request of the memorialists, asking the Assembly to "declare that, according to the Standards of our Church, the use of instrumental music in worship is unlawful," be not granted.

[The vote on the first resolution was: Ayes—ministers, 70; elders, 54; total, 124. Nays—ministers, 43; elders, 34; total, 77. Excused—ministers, 1; elders, 5; total, 6. Absent—ministers, 8; elders, 32; total, 40. Vol. VI, pp. 24, 26, 1884.]

A protest was entered, p. 32. An answer was adopted, p. 42.]

[During the discussion of the report, the following amendment was moved, but was lost by a vote of 75 to 116. P. 22.]

Resolved, That the repeal of the article in the Directory of Worship prohibiting the use of instruments in the worship of God, did not have the force of a positive enactment authorizing their use; that to secure such authorization further legislation by overture to the Presbyteries is required.

The following amendment was offered:

Resolved, That this General Assembly declares that the Standards of our Church authorize the use of instruments in the worship of God. The vote was: Ayes—minister, 1; elder, 1; total 2. Nays—ministers, 111; elders, 90; total, 201. Excused—elders, 2. Absent—ministers, 10; elders, 28; total, 38.]

8. Action Final. [Report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures:] * * * The Assembly referred so much of the memorial from the convention in Allegheny as involves an interpretation of law to the Judiciary Committee. We regard this action as a virtual reference of such parts of the other memorials as involve an interpretation of law to that Committee.

Leaving such parts of the memorials out of view, there remained for the consideration of your Committee, these three requests:

1. That the Assembly adopt a resolution declaring that, as the Scriptures do not give sufficient evidence of the Divine approval of instrumental music in worship, it shall not be authorized or sanctioned in any of our congregations.
2. That the Assembly send down in overture to the Presbyteries the question of the lawfulness of instrumental music in worship.
3. That the Assembly treat the present settlement of the question of instrumental music in our Church as final.

We cannot see how such action as is asked for in the first and second of these requests would tend to set the vexed question at rest. A declaration of the Assembly, virtually enacting a prohibitory law, might satisfy some, but would dissatisfy others. An overture on the question of the lawlessness of instrumental music in worship, while the meaning of the law of overture is itself a question in dispute, does not seem to us expedient.

We therefore recommend for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That no further action be taken by this Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 29, 1884.

[A protest was entered, p. 33, and was answered, p. 43.]

[During the discussion the following amendment was offered to the report given above:

Whereas, The General Assembly of 1882 could do nothing more than enact the repeal of our law on instrumental music; and,

Whereas, Nothing can be introduced affecting the worship of God until it is overtured and adopted; therefore,

Resolved, That the following be sent down in overture to the Presbyteries: "Shall the use of instrumental music in the worship of God be lawful in the United Presbyterian Church?"

The vote was: Ayes—ministers, 48; elders, 34; total, 82. Nays—ministers, 67; elders, 57; total, 124. Excused: elders, 2. Absent: ministers, 7; elders, 28; total, 35. P. 27.]

[A memorial from a convention held at Xenia, Ohio, asked the Assembly to declare instrumental music in the worship of God illegal, until, at least, declared legal by overture. The following was adopted]:

The Assembly of 1882 declared the law repealed. It also enjoined the lower courts and the congregations to seek the peace of the Church. This left all free, subject only to the law of love and the question of edification. * * * [For resolutions 1 and 2 see Sec. 10, p. 125.]

Resolved, 3. That further than the foregoing, the prayer of the memorialists be not granted. Vol. VI, p. 235, 1885.

[A memorial was presented from the Pittsburgh Conference, asking the Assembly to exclude instrumental music from the worship of God. On this the following action was taken: Ayes, 142; nays, 56]:

* * * The resolutions attached to the memorial represent "that the authoritative exclusion of instrumental music from the worship of God in the United Presbyterian Church is necessary to a final and peaceful settlement of the difficulty"; "that a representation to this effect be made by this Conference to the next General Assembly, and that the Assembly be respectfully asked to order the exclusion desired"; that in case of refusal on the part of the Assembly to grant their request they are placed "under the painful necessity of choosing between obedience to the authority of Christ, and acquiescence in such refusal."

In response to this memorial of brethren greatly esteemed and beloved, the General Assembly would say:

It is to be regretted that trouble has arisen and continued for so long a time in the Church, on account of the repeal of the law prohibiting instruments of music in the worship of the Church.

The law was declared repealed by overture by the Assembly of 1882. This leaves all free, subject only to the law of love, and the question of edification, as declared by the last General Assembly.

The attempt to authoritatively exclude instrumental music from the praise service in our congregations, as asked by the memorial, would be an attempt to re-enact the law already repealed, and this is clearly beyond the power and authority of the Assembly.

Moreover, such authoritative exclusion, under pain of discipline, would be regarded as oppressive and intolerable by brethren, who do not believe that such law is warranted by the Word of God.

These facts being as stated, and in view of deliverances by former Assemblies, it is hereby respectfully declared by this Assembly, that the request of the memorialists cannot be granted, and that any further action by this Assembly is not necessary. Vol. VI, p. 428, 1886.

Resolved, That the memorialists be respectfully referred to the action

of former Assemblies, * * * and that no further answer to their prayer can be given by this Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 29, 1888.

Resolved, That while we recognize the memorialists as brethren beloved and entitled to the highest respect and consideration, we are constrained to say the action of former Assemblies grants all the relief which this Assembly can afford. Vol. VII, p. 222, 1889.

9. **Instrumental Music in Mission Stations.** [The following amendment was moved to the second resolution of the report of the Committee on the Board of Home Missions, viz.: That the report of the General Committee of Home Missions be adopted:

“Except that the appropriations made to congregations using instruments of music in worship be withheld, while such congregations continue to use them; and that the Board of Home Missions be instructed to withhold appropriations from any congregation which may introduce and use instruments of music in their worship.”

The amendment was not adopted. Ayes—ministers, 44; elders, 38; total, 82. Nays—ministers, 70; elders, 61; total, 131. Excused—ministers, 2. Absent—ministers, 6; elders, 22; total, 28. Vol. VI, p. 17, 1884. A protest to this was entered. Vol. VI, p. 33, 1884.

10. **Protest Answered.** Vol. I, p. 24, 1885.

[During the discussion of the report of the Committee on Home Missions the following resolution was offered as an amendment]:

Resolved, That no appropriation be made from the Home Mission Fund in aid of any congregation or station using, in its worship, instrumental music, unless such practice be abandoned.

[The amendment was lost. Vol. VI, p. 425, 1886. Protest was made, p. 430, and answered, p. 437.]

[The following amendment was offered]:

Resolved, That no part of the money appropriated in this report [of the General Committee on Home Missions] shall be expended in any congregation which is known to use instruments of music in connection with the worship of God.

The vote was: Ayes—ministers, 30; elders, 30; total, 60. Nays—ministers, 71; elders, 58; total, 129. Excused—ministers, 2. Vol. VI, p. 665 [A protest was entered, p. 669.]

10. **Charity and Forbearance Enjoined.** *Resolved*, 4. That this Assembly hereby instructs and enjoins the lower courts to abstain, and to have all under their authority abstain, from any action in this matter that would disturb the peace and harmony of congregations, or unreasonably disregard the conscientious convictions of members. Vol. V, p. 525, 1882.

Resolved, 2. That its [the last Assembly's] admonitory resolution, advising and enjoining against all action on this subject offensive to fellow-worshippers, or disturbing the peace of congregations, be emphatically reaffirmed, and urged with renewed earnestness on the attention of the pastors and sessions and people of the whole Church. Vol. V, p. 729, 1883.

Resolved, 1. That the action of former Assemblies, enjoining sessions to refrain from divisive courses and uncharitable conduct in respect to this matter, be reaffirmed.

2. While making no demand for the restoration of the law already declared repealed, it is the judgment of this Assembly that the law of charity requires that brethren and congregations refrain grieving the hearts and wounding the consciences of many dear brethren who feel that the use of instrumental accompaniment in praise is a corruption of worship. Vol. VI, p. 235, 1885.

Resolved, That the memorialists be respectfully referred to the action of former Assemblies, “enjoining sessions to abstain from divisive courses and

uncharitable conduct in this matter," and that this Assembly does most earnestly repeat this injunction. Vol. VII, p. 29, 1888.

11. Appeal Concerning the Use of Instrumental Music in Worship. See Tate's Appeal, Judicial Cases.

12. Music for Sabbath Schools. See Praise Books.

13. The Psalter. See Praise Books.

XXVI. CHURCH PAPERS

Note: It is difficult at this date to unravel the history of the various periodicals which have been published through the years as a service to the United Presbyterian Church. We are indebted to the *Cyclopedia Manual of the United Presbyterian Church of North America* prepared by the Rev. William M. Glasgow, and published by The Board of Publication in 1903, for most of the material in these historical sketches. They are embodied in this Digest for the information they contain.

THE RELIGIOUS MONITOR OR EVANGELICAL REPOSITORY

Established by Rev. Chauncey Webster, (A) in 1824; a monthly magazine published in Albany, N. Y.; Revs. Drs. Peter Bullions and James Martin, editors; in 1837, the Rev. C. Webster became editor, it is now being published in Philadelphia; in 1842, it was published by Mr. W. S. Young, and changed to the *Evangelical Repository*.

THE CHRISTIAN INTELLIGENCER AND EVANGELICAL GUARDIAN

Established by an association of (A.R.) ministers in 1829; a monthly periodical published in Hamilton, Ohio; Rev. David MacDill, D.D., editor; changed to the *Evangelical Guardian*, in 1843.

THE CHRISTIAN MAGAZINE

Published at Geneva, N. Y., under the auspices of the A.R. Synod of New York; Rev. J. F. McLaren, D.D., editor, 1832-1843.

THE ASSOCIATE PRESBYTERIAN MAGAZINE

Published at Albany, N. Y.; Rev. Peter Bullions, D.D., (A), editor, 1838-1854.

THE EVANGELICAL REPOSITORY

Published by Mr. W. S. Young, at Philadelphia, in 1842; the Rev. T. H. Beveridge, D.D., (A) was editor from 1854 to 1860, and Revs. J. T. Cooper and W. W. Barr then became editors; in 1878 the Rev. Robert Stewart, D.D., became editor and proprietor; in 1880 it was bought by the U. P. Board of Publication and transferred to Pittsburgh, with the Rev. R. J. Miller, editor; 1881 to 1885, the Rev. J. C. Boyd, D.D., was editor; in 1885 the Revs. Drs. J. T. Cooper and A. G. Wallace became editors; in 1889, the Revs. Drs. J. D. Sands, J. C. Boyd, R. B. Ewing, and A. G. Wallace assumed editorial control; in 1890 it was sold to T. J. McKalip & Co., Pittsburgh, and was discontinued in 1891.

THE PREACHER

Established as a semi-monthly religious newspaper, in 1842; published at Pittsburgh, Pa.; Rev. J. T. Pressly, D.D., (A.R.), editor and proprietor; in 1845, the Rev. D. R. Kerr, D.D., became editor and proprietor, being published in Pittsburgh; in 1848, it became a weekly paper; in 1854, it became *The United Presbyterian*.

THE EVANGELICAL GUARDIAN

Established at Hamilton, Ohio, in 1843; Rev. David MacDill, D.D. (A.R.),

editor; in 1847, Revs. Joseph Claybaugh and James Prestley became editors; and it was published in Cincinnati; in 1854, it was consolidated with *The United Presbyterian* in Pittsburgh.

THE CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTOR

Established as a monthly magazine, in 1844; published at Newburgh, N. Y., by the Rev. D. L. Proudfit; Rev. John Forsyth, D.D. (A.R.), editor; in 1846 it was removed to Philadelphia, when the Rev. J. B. Dales, D.D., became editor and proprietor; in 1859, it became a weekly paper, and Revs. J. T. Cooper and G. C. Arnold were associate editors; in 1879, it was bought by Revs. A. G. McCoy and A. T. McDill, and transferred to Chicago; in 1882, Rev. D. W. Collins, D.D., succeeded Mr. McCoy, and it was returned to Philadelphia; in 1884, the Rev. J. A. Collins, D.D., succeeded Dr. A. T. McDill; by the death of Dr. D. W. Collins, in 1898, the Rev. J. A. Collins, D.D., became editor, and Rev. W. W. Barr, D.D., associate editor, until the latter's death in 1902.

Rev. J. A. Collins, D.D., was editor from 1898 until his death in 1910, and Rev. W. W. Barr, D.D., was associate editor from 1898 until his death in 1902; purchased by the Board of Publication, December, 1912, with Rev. R. J. Miller, D.D., as editor and Rev. J. D. Sands, as associate editor; purchased and edited by Dr. Miller in 1913; purchased by *The United Presbyterian* in 1914.

THE PRESBYTERIAN'S ARMORY

Published at Philadelphia, Pa.; Rev. Chauncey Webster (A), editor, 1845-1856.

THE ASSOCIATE REFORMED PULPIT

Established in 1850; published at Cincinnati; the Rev. James Prestley, D.D. (A.R.), editor and proprietor; it was discontinued in 1853.

THE FRIEND OF MISSIONS

Established as a semi-monthly paper, in 1851; published at Mercer, Pa.; Rev. Joseph Banks (A), editor and proprietor; after the editor's death, in 1855, is was changed to *The Westminster Herald*.

THE PRESBYTERIAN WITNESS

Established as a monthly magazine, in 1852; published in Cincinnati; Revs. R. H. Pollock, Robert Gilmore, and G. W. Gowdy (A), editors; in 1860 it was consolidated with *The United Presbyterian*.

THE MIDLAND

Established as a weekly paper, in 1884; published at St. Louis; Revs. W. P. McNary and A. H. Harshaw, editors and proprietors; in 1886, the Rev. E. B. Graham became editor and proprietor and it was transferred to Omaha; in 1888, it was removed to Chicago, being published by the Midland Publishing Co.; after the death of Mr. Graham in 1898, the Rev. W. S. Owens, D.D., became editor and Mr. John A. Crawford, business manager; in 1903 purchased by *The United Presbyterian*.

THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY MAGAZINE

Established as a monthly missionary periodical, in 1887, under the management of The Women's General Missionary Society; published at Xenia, Ohio; the Magazine Committee or Staff; Mrs. C. W. Hutchison, editor, 1887-1913; Mrs. Belle McD. Patterson, associate editor, 1887-1889; Mrs. S. S. Wilson, associate editor, 1899-1904; Mrs. George M. Moore, associate editor, 1904-1913; editor, 1913 to her death in 1925; Mrs. John P. White, editor since 1925; removed to Pittsburgh in 1933.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

Established as a weekly paper, in 1854; the outgrowth of *The Preacher* and the product of several consolidated papers; Rev. D. R. Kerr, D.D. (A.R.), editor; from 1858 to 1862, the Revs. D. H. A. McLean and J. S. Easton, and from 1870 to 1891, Rev. J. R. Johnston were associate editors; after the death of Dr. Kerr, in 1887, the Rev. W. J. Reid, D.D., became editor until his death, Sept. 22, 1902, and his associates were Revs. Drs. J. C. Boyd, A. G. Wallace, and D. F. McGill; Rev. D. R. Miller, D.D., was managing editor from 1902 to 1921 and during this period Rev. A. G. Wallace, D.D., was editor from 1912 to his death in 1913 and Rev. D. F. McGill, D.D., from 1914 to 1925; purchased from Murdoch, Kerr & Co., in 1925 by a group of laymen and presented to the United Presbyterian Church to be entrusted to a Board of Trustees, one from each of the Budget Boards and three chosen by the Board of Administration; Rev. William J. Reid, D.D., was editor and Mr. John C. Downs was business manager from 1925 until their resignations in 1941; Rev. Raymond L. Edie, D.D., became editor-manager in 1941.

NOTE: The church publications purchased by *The United Presbyterian* are so indicated in this Chapter, Church Papers.

THE WESTMINSTER HERALD

A semi-monthly periodical established in 1855; published at New Wilmington, Pa.; the Rev. G. C. Vincent, D.D. (A), editor and proprietor; in 1860, it was consolidated with *The United Presbyterian*.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN OF THE WEST

Established as a monthly paper in 1857; published at Monmouth, Ill.; Revs. Drs. David McDill and James Brown (A.R.), editors; in 1862, it was consolidated with *The Christian Instructor*, Philadelphia.

THE CHRISTIAN UNION HERALD

Established as a weekly paper, in 1879. Has been the official organ of the Young People's Christian Union since its organization. Published by the Board of Publication and Bible School Work, Pittsburgh. Dr. R. J. Miller, editor from 1881 to 1933; Dr. R. L. Lanning was made associate editor in 1918, editor in 1933. Dr. R. W. Graves was made associate editor in 1935.

1. The Christian Union Herald

(1) **Advertisements.** That the Assembly approves of the insertion of advertisements in *The Christian Union* and *The Bible Teacher* so as to help pay the expenses of their publication, but that it suggests that great care be used in admitting advertisements, so that nothing may be inserted that is not consistent with the character of these periodicals. Vol. VIII, p. 486, 1894.

4. Your Committee very carefully considered the memorial from the Presbytery of Mercer, relative to advertisements in *The Christian Union Herald*. We call attention to the action of the Assembly of 1894, on the same subject, wherein the Assembly approves the insertion of advertisements in *The Christian Union Herald* and *Bible Teacher*, when such are consistent with the character of these periodicals. Your Committee, therefore, sees no need for further action on this subject at this time, but expresses our confidence that the management of *The Christian Union Herald* will be guided by the former action of the Assembly. Vol. X, p. 853, 1903.

(2) **Organ of Associate Reformed Church in Young People's Work.** That we rejoice in the action of the Associate Reformed Church in adopting *The Christian Union Herald* as their official organ in young people's work, and approve the action of the Board of Publication in giving a page of *The Herald* to their department; and further that we express our fullest confidence in and

heartiest appreciation of the conduct of *The Herald*, but would suggest that since it is so largely used as a missionary agency by many of our congregations, more attention be given to furnishing milk for the babies, while no less care be taken to provide strong meat for the full grown. Vol. IX, p. 282-283, 1897.

(3) **The Constituency to Be Served.** 8. We recommend that *The Christian Union Herald* be published entirely in the interest of the young people, the Young People's Societies and the Sabbath schools of our denomination, at a cost consistent with the highest efficiency and economy. Vol. XIII, p. 371, 1913.

The General Assembly of 1921 directed that steps be taken to enlarge *The Christian Union Herald* as a family paper. Vol. XV, p. 295, 1921.

This action was rescinded by the General Assembly of 1922. Vol. XV, p. 575, 1922.

2. The Christian Instructor

Note: In an emergency in 1912, in order to save the paper to the Church, the Board of Publication purchased *The Christian Instructor*. The project was not profitable, hence the following action:

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be instructed to dispose of *The Christian Instructor* on the best possible terms and at the earliest possible time. Your Committee is authorized to say in this recommendation all the members of the Board of Publication present at the Assembly concur. In case a purchaser is not secured before January 1st, 1914, we recommend that the publication of *The Christian Instructor* be discontinued without detriment or loss to the present subscribers. In this connection the Committee suggests that certain admirable features of *The Christian Instructor* as it is now edited be adopted by the editors of *The Christian Union Herald*. Vol. XIII, p. 374, 1913.

3. Consolidation of *The United Presbyterian* and *Christian Union Herald* not acceptable.

Resolved, I. That both publications be continued. It is the conviction of your Committee that this is essential to the welfare of our church. The merging of the two papers as suggested by the Presbytery of Vermont would in our judgment result either in a wholly inadequate young people's paper or an equally inadequate adult's paper, thus making necessary the beginning of another publication.

II. That *The Christian Union Herald* be a publication for the youth of the church. It is evident to your Committee that there is a widespread desire throughout our church for a paper of greater interest to our young people, and while we are aware that *The Christian Union Herald* by its distribution through adult classes in our Sabbath School has come to have many adult readers, it is nevertheless our conviction that a definite youth emphasis should be maintained throughout its pages.

III. That *The United Presbyterian* be a paper for adults. As such this publication should be of great value in promoting the interests of the Kingdom of Heaven through the United Presbyterian Church.

IV. That the General Assembly urge all of our pastors and Sessions to earnestly seek a large number of subscriptions to both of these publications. This we believe is essential to their maintenance as well as to the largest possible influence in the promotion of Christian education and Christian endeavor throughout the denomination. We are desirous of especially emphasizing this in connection with *The United Presbyterian*. Unless there is an enlarged subscription list, either the General Assembly will be required to find a way to assist in the financing of it or it will be exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to continue its publication. Vol. XIX, p. 48, 1936.

4. Trustees of *The United Presbyterian*

The Board of administration shall nominate three persons to serve on the Board of Trustees of *The United Presbyterian*. Vol. XVII, p. 33, 1928.

XXVII. CHURCH PROPERTY

1. **Church Property Should Be Held by Deacons.** *Resolved*, 3. That Synods be, and they hereby are, urged to take immediate steps for securing within their respective limits, such civil legislation in regard to the tenure of ecclesiastical property, as may be requisite to enable congregations to commit to deacons the charge which now rests upon ordinary trustees. Vol. IV, p. 568, 1878.

Resolved, 4. That the third resolution of 1878, intended to prepare the way through civil legislation for committing to deacons the legal ownership of church property now vested in trustees, be repealed as both difficult and unnecessary. Vol. V, p. 194, 1880.

2. **Church Property May Be Held by Trustees.** *Resolved*, 3. That there is nothing in the Constitution of the Church forbidding the appointment of trustees for the management of church property, under the restrictions of the Assembly of 1873. Vol. V, p. 194, 1880.

3. **Title to Church Property.** [The General Assembly of 1873, Vol. III, p. 523, adopted a form of declaration of trust to be inserted in every conveyance. See Charters. This was amended. Vol. V, p. 741, 1883, and Vol. VII, p. 213, 1889. It was again amended, and is as follows:]

"In trust that the said premises shall be used and kept, maintained and disposed of as a place of divine worship, for the use of ministers and members of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, subject to the Standards and Acts of said Church, as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Assembly of said Church, and in case the United Presbyterian of shall cease to exist, be dissolved, or cease to be connected with and subject to the jurisdiction of the General Assembly of said Church, or shall lose its corporate existence, the trust shall terminate and the title shall vest absolutely in the 'Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America,' who shall then have the right to sell and convert the same into money without any liability of the purchaser to see to the application of the proceeds of such sale. And the said Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America may, at any time in their discretion, quit claim said property to said United Presbyterian of so as to vest it in the indefeasible title thereto discharged of said trust or they may permit said United Presbyterian of to mortgage said property so that the rights of the mortgage shall be superior to and free and discharged of the rights of said Trustees." Vol. X, p. 612, 1902.

Resolved, 2. It is also earnestly recommended that existing charters be changed to conform to this formula and clause in the deed.

Resolved, 3. That the General Assembly, in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of *Watson vs. Jenner*, instruct Presbyteries and congregations that the control and possession of church property belongs only to the members holding to the principles of the United Presbyterian Church, and that it will require a unanimous vote of the Session and congregation to sell, dispose of, or alienate said church property; it being understood that this action does not prevent congregations from disposing of church property for the purpose of rebuilding, or the erection of a new building in a new location.

4. **Church Property Is Under the Control of the Session.** *Resolved*, 4. That in every church the trustees shall be in full communion with the church,

and that the use of the church building for public worship, and all other meetings, shall be under the direction and control of the Session of the church. Vol. III, p. 523, 1873.

[The action in this section was taken on the report of a committee appointed by the General Assembly of 1872, Vol. III, p. 389, to prepare and present to the next General Assembly a paper defining the relation of trustees and sessions to the congregation, and their power to control its property and temporalities generally.]

5. **Title to Parsonage Property.** [The General Assembly adopted a form of the declaration of trust for parsonage property]: "In trust that the said premises shall be used and kept, maintained and disposed of, as a place of residence for the use of the minister of the United Presbyterian Church of, subject to the Standards and Acts of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Assembly of said Church; and the same as for church property. Vol. VIII, p. 711, 1895.

6. **The Declaration of Trust a Condition of Aid to Mission Stations.** *Resolved*, That the form for a trust clause in deeds and declarations of trust, adopted by the General Assembly of 1873, be amended according to the above form, and that the same be adopted as a condition of all appropriations by the Board of Home Missions and the Board of Church Extension. Vol. V, p. 741, 1883.

7. **Compend of Legal Decisions on the Tenure of Church Property.** [The representatives of the Mission Boards requested that "the clerks of the Assembly be instructed to have prepared, and to print, for the use of the Trustees of the Assembly and of the Boards, as occasion may arise, a brief compend or descriptive index of judicial decisions by civil courts in cases affecting the legal status and rights of the United Presbyterian Church." Whereupon the Assembly]

Resolved, That the Clerks of the Assembly be and hereby are instructed to prepare such a compend as is above described. Vol. VII, p. 33, 1888.

In the brief compend which has been prepared by Hon. A. M. Brown, of the Pittsburgh, Pa., bar, a mass of valuable information is made easily accessible. The labor of this distinguished jurist has been without cost to the Church. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the hearty thanks of this Assembly are due and are hereby tendered to Hon. A. M. Brown, for his valuable services.

2. That the committee be and is hereby directed to publish 2,000 copies of the above named compend for general distribution. Vol. VII, p. 210, 1889.

8. **Church Property to Be Defended in the Name of the Church.** *Resolved*, That this Assembly direct the Board of Church Extension, or the Trustees of the General Assembly when the Board of Church Extension is prevented by law from taking the necessary action, to act promptly in the name of the Church in all cases where, in their judgment, counsel and financial help are necessary to secure the use of and retain the property to the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. VII, p. 413, 1890.

9. **Property of Disorganized Congregations.** There has been referred to the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly a Memorial from the Presbytery of Sidney asking two questions upon which deliverances are sought.

I. A Concrete Case—"To whom do any values belong resulting from the disorganization of a congregation, when there is nothing in the title to designate what should be done in said event?"

Illustrative Case—The congregation of Leipsic, Ohio, was disorganized. In 1904 a bell was sold belonging to said congregation and the proceeds deposited in bank, and now have come to be over \$200. It is now in possession of

the S. M. of Sidney Presbytery, Rev. J. W. Kerr. To whom does the money belong?

In the judgment of the Assembly the money belongs, in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio and law and practice of the United Presbyterian Church, to the Church at large and should be sent to the Trustees of the General Assembly.

II. "To whom does any property of disorganized congregations belong when the title does not make designation of it?"

To this the answer is similar. It belongs to the Church at large and may be turned over to it through "The Trustees of the General Assembly" who are incorporated and authorized to receive properties and values belonging to the General Assembly.

Perhaps the practice of the Church has not been uniform in this matter. Sometimes the Presbytery has been considered the heir of a deceased congregation, rather than the Church at large. But in our judgment the larger Presbytery we call the General Assembly is the ultimate owner, and should determine the application of the remains of a deceased congregation. Vol. XVI, p. 28, 1924.

10. **Property of Disorganized Congregations in Presbyteries Abroad.** The General Assembly took the action requested by the Trustees in the following form:

On account of the impossibility of foreign corporations holding title to property in some of our mission fields, this Board requests the General Assembly to grant to the Synods of our Mission fields the right to take over the property of disorganized congregations, and to exempt them from the rule that such property should revert to the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly. Vol. XVI, p. 870, 1927.

2. The General Assembly believes that the property registered in the name of the Synod of Punjab is already adequately protected, and feels no further protective measures are necessary. We assure the Synod of the Punjab that its property rights are protected in exactly the same manner as those of all other Synods of the Church.

3. The General Assembly is informed by the Board of Foreign Missions that it does not hold in trust any funds belonging to the Gujranwala Theological Seminary. The General Assembly is also assured by the same Board that all funds held in trust by that Board for the education of theological students in India will continue to be administered with every care exactly according to the terms of the donors as it understands these in each individual case. Vol. XVIII, p. 639, 1934.

11. **Presbyterial Approval Required.** The following recommendation was adopted:

With reference to Delaware Presbytery Memorial, we recommend that all congregations buying land and erecting buildings should seek presbyterial approval where the funds available for same are less than sixty per cent of the total cost. Vol. XIX, p. 971, 1939.

12. **Sale of Church Property That Has Increased in Value.** The following action was taken:

In case of the sale of a church property which has largely increased in value, and where the circumstances seem to warrant it, the Board of Church Extension shall require the payment of the original grant or appropriation, with interest from the date of such appropriation. Vol. XI, p. 303, 1905.

13. **Selection of Locations for the Building of Churches.** *Resolved, 3.* That in order to give to congregations and missions that are about to select locations and build churches, the benefit of the Board's large experience and wide range of observation, the Board is hereby instructed to continue to send to them, whenever practicable, the Corresponding Secretary, or some other

member of the Board, to counsel and advise with them in this important matter. Vol. XI, p. 585, 1906.

XXVIII. CIVIL AND ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS

The following judgment was given:

(b) As to the accompanying Memorial which asks for an interpretation of the law of the Church relative to the superior and final judgment in a case in which is involved a conflict of opinion between the judgment of the ecclesiastical court and that of the civil court our answer is the judgment of the civil court is supreme and final. Vol. XIV, p. 219, 1917.

XXIX. CLERKS OF THE ASSEMBLY

1. **The Principal Clerk.** *Resolved*, That there shall be one principal clerk, to be elected every fourth year. Vol. I, p. 4, 1859.

2. **The Duties of the Principal Clerk.** See Book of Government and Worship, Chapter XIII, Section 46.

The following recommendation was adopted:

We recommend the combining of the duties and the compensation of the Second Clerk with those of the Principal Clerk under the title of "The Clerk of the General Assembly" and that this officer be authorized to draw upon the Treasurer of the General Assembly to the amount of \$500 to provide for expenses connected with his office. Vol. XIII, p. 736, 1914.

It was agreed that the Clerks be authorized to revise, correct, arrange, and combine reports and resolutions in the interest of consistency. Vol. XI, p. 37, 1904.

That the Stated Clerks of the General Assembly be authorized to prepare an order of business for the next General Assembly and also a manual for the use of its members. Vol. XI, p. 312, 1905.

That in view of the manifest usefulness of the Assembly's Manual, and the advantage of having a carefully prepared order of business, the Stated Clerks are hereby instructed to prepare annually hereafter a similar Manual for the use of the Commissioners, and to include in it an Order of Business for the General Assembly. Vol. XI, p. 605, 1906.

That the Principal Clerk be authorized to give warrants for the payment of bills for printing and other expenses made necessary by acts of the General Assembly, when the same shall be presented to him. Vol. XI, p. 557, 1906.

3. **The Salary of the Principal Clerk.** [His salary was fixed at \$65, Vol. I, p. 4, 1859; it was increased to \$100, Vol. III, p. 129, 1870; allowance was made for traveling and incidental expenses, Vol. II, p. 418, 1867; it was decreased to \$75, Vol. IV, p. 588, 1878; allowance of \$25 for clerical assistance. Vol. IX, p. 769, 1899.] Page 127, Chap. 23, Sec. 4. [An allowance of \$50 was made to the principal and second clerks for the preparation and publication of the minutes of the General Assembly. Vol. III, p. 535, 1873. An addition of \$25 was made to this. Vol. VI, p. 238, 1885.]

Resolved, That instead of the allowances for the publication of the Minutes the salaries of the Clerks be fixed sums, as follows: Principal Clerk, \$125.00; Second Clerk, \$250.00. Vol. X, p. 861, 1903.

Resolved, That the salary of the Clerk of the General Assembly be \$1,200 per annum with an amount of \$300 per annum for secretarial help. Vol. XX, p. 57, 1940.

4. **The Second Clerk.** *Resolved*, That instead of the assistant clerk, who is elected annually and serves only during the session of the Assembly, a second permanent clerk be elected for the same term of office with the Principal Clerk, who in addition to his duties during the Assembly, shall have special charge of statistics, shall take measures to secure full and correct

reports from all the Presbyteries, shall prepare the tables for the press, and report to the Assembly all Presbyteries which fail to send full and accurate statistics. Vol. II, p. 511, 1868.

5. **The Election and Term of Office of the Second Clerk.** See Rules of Order, 3, 5.

Resolved, That the term of office of the second clerk expire at the close of the business connected with this Assembly. Vol. III, p. 248, 1871.

6. **The Duties of the Second Clerk.** See rules of order, 14, 15.

The Second Clerk is required to furnish the Permanent Committee [on Sabbath Schools] all statistics that are necessary to a full report. Vol. V, pp. 188, 241, 1880.

And also to furnish the Permanent Committee on Narrative and State of Religion all the statistics necessary to a full report. Vol. V, p. 241, 1880.

7. **The Salary of the Second Clerk.** [His salary was fixed at \$45.00 and traveling expenses, Vol. II, p. 511, 1868; it was increased to \$100.00, Vol. III, p. 129, 1870; it was increased to \$200.00, Vol. IV, p. 313, 1876; it was fixed at \$200.00, Vol. IV, p. 588, 1878. See also Members of General Assembly, Sec. 1.]

An allowance, not exceeding \$30.00, was made for clerical assistance, Vol. V, p. 740, 1883. Expenses involved in the preparation of the statistical reports are to be paid from the General Assembly's Fund. Vol. VI, p. 20, 1884.

8. **The Assistant Clerk.** *Resolved*, That there shall be one assistant clerk, to be elected annually. Vol. I, p. 4, 1859 [merged into office of Second Clerk, Vol. II, p. 511, 1868.]

9. **The Election and Term of Office of the Assistant Clerk.** See Rules of Order, 4.

10. **The Salary of the Assistant Clerk.** [At first his services were rendered gratuitously, Vol. I, p. 4, 1859; but his salary was fixed at \$25.00, Vol. I, p. 121, 1860; at \$30.00, Vol. II, p. 162, 1865; at \$20.00, Vol. II, p. 321, 1866; at \$30.00, Vol. II, p. 418, 1867; at \$25.00, Vol. III, p. 270, 1871; at \$25.00, Vol. IV, p. 588, 1878; at \$25.00, Vol. V, p. 26, 1879; at \$25.00, Vol. V, p. 358, 1881; at \$20.00, Vol. V, p. 534, 1882; at \$25.00, Vol. V, p. 737, 1883; at \$10.00, Vol. VI, p. 39, 1884.]

11. **The Office of Second Clerk was discontinued by action of the 1914 General Assembly.** Vol. XIII, p. 736, 1914.

XXX. THE COLLEGES OF THE CHURCH

1. **A Chair of English Bible in Each of the Colleges of the Church.** *Resolved*, 5. That the Assembly most heartily endorse the plan of the Board of Education whereby endowment funds are to be secured for the establishment and support of a Chair of English Bible in each of our colleges, and further, that the Assembly authorize the Board of Education to so enlarge the scope of its charter as to enable it to receive, hold and administer endowment funds. Vol. XIII, p. 383, 1913.

The General Assembly endorsed the following proposed plan of establishing Bible Chairs in each of our colleges:

The purpose of the United Presbyterian Church in establishing adequately endowed Bible Chairs or departments in each of the five colleges under its control is to affect a businesslike arrangement guaranteeing the maintenance of the Bible Chairs or departments on a basis at least equal to the standards maintained in the major departments, such as literature, history, science, etc.; this in order that our colleges may fully measure up to their unparalleled opportunity and consequent responsibility for preparing a larger number of well-equipped religious and moral leaders for the Church and for the State.

The professor of Bible shall be selected by the authorities of the college, subject to the approval of the Board of Education. He shall have full pro-

fessional standing and his relationship to the institution, after his election, shall be the same as that of any other professor. He shall be the head of the Department of Bible, if Bible instruction is also given by other members of the faculty. He shall devote his whole time and ability to building up the Bible Chair or Department, and making it more efficient. Vol. XIV, p. 466, 1918.

2. **Greek in College Courses.** *Resolved*, That the Assembly instruct the colleges to make arrangements that better provision be made in the A.B. Course for the study of the fundamental grammatical forms and principles of the Greek language and of simple Greek prose. Vol. XVI, p. 623, 1926.

3. **Loyalty to the Principles of the Church.** *Resolved*, That the Synods of our Church are hereby instructed to see to it that nothing contrary to the principles of the United Presbyterian Church is taught in any educational institution under their care. Vol. XVI, p. 624, 1926.

4. **Objectives in the Work of Our Colleges.** The following objectives in the work of our colleges were adopted:

a. To provide an educational system based upon and permeated by the Christian faith as held by the United Presbyterian Church.

b. To furnish the student with adequate knowledge of Christian thought and ethics, as revealed and manifested in the life and teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ, as well as education in the fields of the arts and sciences.

c. To send the student out into the world charged with a dynamic spirit of service that will impel him to use his life definitely and purposefully in the great tasks of Christ's Kingdom.

The realization of these objectives requires—

a. A curriculum of high intellectual and spiritual content.

b. A faculty intellectually competent and also with positive and definite Christian convictions exemplified in daily conduct.

c. A rounded social program conducive to the building of Christian character.

We also recommend that the Board of Education be the representative of the General Assembly in consultation with the Presidents and Boards in control of the related institutions for attaining the foregoing objectives. Vol. XVIII, p. 649, 1934.

5. **Representatives in the Support and Control of the Colleges.** *Resolved*, That all Synods and Presbyteries within a state should be represented in the support and control of the college within that state.

This explanation is added, that this action does not interfere with the existing support or control of other institutions by Synods or Presbyteries. In such a case the constituency of a state may participate in the support or control of more than one institution, according to its own choice. Further, the action proposed herein is to be translated into the proper official relationship at the convenience of the two parties—namely, the college within the state and the United Presbyterian constituency not already represented in the support of the college. Vol. XVII, p. 339, 1929.

6. **Visitation to the Colleges.** *Resolved*, 4. That the plan of college visitation be broadened in its scope so as to arrange for at least a week's evangelistic effort each year in each of our colleges, to the end that every student may come into a decision for Jesus Christ, or to the experience of a deeper Christian life, and be led to the right choice of a life calling.

That the period of preparation for these meetings and the period of following up results shall be largely in the hands of the college authorities and the Christian Association, while the actual arranging and conducting of the meetings shall be in the hands of the Church agencies.

That the General Assembly authorize the Evangelistic Committee, in consultation with the College Presidents and the Board of Education, to select the evangelists and arrange for the meetings.

That the Board of Education furnish the chosen representatives, in advance, all the information at its disposal which would aid them in its work.

That the evangelists be asked to report results immediately after the meetings each year to the Board of Education, so that the Board may follow up the work during the year and pass on the information to the next year's leaders. Vol. XIII, p. 382, 1913.

7. 1. That the Waitsburg Academy Fund, now in the hands of the Trustees of the General Assembly, be transferred, through the Board of Education, to Cooper College, at Sterling, Kansas, to be placed in its endowment fund. Vol. XIII, p. 27, 1912.

XXXI. COMMISSIONS

[A memorial was presented from the Presbytery of Delaware, asking a definition of the nature and duties of a commission. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That be a committee to take into consideration the question of commissions, and report to the next Assembly.

2. That, if said committee conclude that a chapter on Commissions should be inserted in the Government and Discipline of the Church, it be authorized to prepare and present to the next Assembly such a chapter. Vol. V, p. 21, 1879.

[The committee reported, Vol. V., p. 252, 1880, and the Assembly, after discussion, adopted the following paper]:

Resolved, 1. That the following question be submitted to the Presbyteries to be voted upon, yea or nay, and the vote reported to the next Assembly:

"Shall the General Assembly order the preparation of a chapter, to be added (after overture to Presbyteries and adoption by them), to our Book of Government and Discipline, providing for, and regulating the appointment of Commissions by Sessions, Presbyteries and Synods?"

2. That the paper now before the Assembly be published in the Minutes and in the periodicals of the Church, submitted to Presbyteries for their consideration in connection with this question, and referred to the next General Assembly. Vol. V, p. 183, 1880.

The overture was adopted by the following vote. Ayes, 418; nays, 409; not voting, 50.

Resolved, That this Assembly appoint a committee of three to prepare the Chapter on Commissions, which was contemplated in that overture. Vol. V, p. 343, 1881.

[The committee reported—Vol. V, p. 592, 1882—the draft of a Chapter on Commissions, to be added, if approved, to Part I of the Book of Government, and corresponding changes to be made in other parts of the Book, if the chapter should be adopted. The resolution to overture the prepared chapter was lost—ayes, 76; nays, 78—but the report, after discussion, was amended and adopted as follows]:

Resolved, That this General Assembly, recognizing the right of Synods, Presbyteries and Sessions, to appoint commissions in special matters, does hereby adopt the following rules, defining their scope and regulating their procedure under them, viz.:

1. A commission is an agency invested with the power of the court appointing it, and authorized to deliberate upon and conclude the business submitted to it. It is not in itself a court, but acts for and in the stead of the court it represents; its powers are defined by the terms of its appointment, and its existence terminates with the particular business committed to it.

2. Such commissions may be appointed by Sessions, Presbyteries and Synods, to act in matters to which the full court cannot, without great incon-

venience, attend, or in which the ends of government may be more judiciously attained by this means than by a meeting of the court itself, and by the General Assembly for the adjudication of appeals in cases of discipline.

3. Commissions may be appointed in delicate or difficult matters requiring much deliberation and prudence; for the organization of congregations; as provisional Sessions for mission or partially disorganized congregations; for the installation of ministers; for taking testimony in judicial cases; for the visitation of congregations; for the investigation of offenses and irregularities, properly brought before the court, and for the trial of cases, and the adjudication of appeals and complaints.

4. Except for the organization of a congregation and for a provisional Session, a commission of Presbytery shall consist of not less than two ministers and an elder; a commission of Synod not less than five ministers and four elders; and of the General Assembly of not less than eight ministers and seven elders. In each case two-thirds shall constitute a quorum.

5. The proceedings of a commission shall be according to the rules of the court it represents, and shall be subject to review, appeal and complaint. It shall, therefore, submit a full record of its proceedings to the court appointing it, which, if the proceedings have been regular, and the commission has not exceeded its powers, shall be entered upon and become a part of the records of the court.

6. The right of dissent, protest, appeal and complaint, and the rules of procedure therein, shall be the same as in the full court. The reason for protest, appeal or complaint shall be lodged with the Moderator or the Clerk of Court appointing the commission, and the commission shall not appear in any subsequent proceedings.

7. A judicial commission of the General Assembly shall report its finding of the facts in the case, and also its judgment thereon. The finding of the facts shall be final, but the General Assembly may review the judgment.

8. The court appointing a commission shall designate the time and place of its meeting, the nature of the business submitted to it, and the extent of the power delegated to it, and the clerk shall give the chairman a copy of the record, with all the papers relating to the business. Vol. V, p. 527, 1882.

The Book of Government and Worship provides for the appointment of Commissions and the laws governing them, embodying or displacing much of the foregoing.

See Book of Government and Worship, Chapter XVII, Section 73, Chapter XIX, and Discipline, Section 298.

XXXII. COMMITTEES

1. **Standing Committees.** See *Manual of the General Assembly*, p. 14.
2. **Permanent Committees.** See *Manual of the General Assembly*, p. 18.

(1) Historical Records

Resolved, 2. That a Permanent Committee be appointed which shall be called "The Committee on Historical Records" and that this Committee shall report to the General Assembly.

3. This Committee shall have nine members, each serving three years, subject to re-election. Vol. XII, p. 657, 1910.

(2) Publicity Committee

The Assembly of 1914 created a Permanent Committee on Publicity consisting of two members, each to serve for three years. Vol. XIII, p. 739, 1914.

The Assembly of 1928 directed that this committee consist of one member and two advisers. Vol. XVII, p. 36, 1928.

The Assembly of 1931 directed that this committee consist of two members. Vol. XVII, p. 954, 1931.

(3) State of Religion

This Committee has been variously constituted during the history of the Church. For details, note the following action:

A Committee on the State of Religion reported to the General Assembly of 1859. Vol. I, p. 122, 1859; Vol. III, p. 158, 1870; Vol. III, p. 518, 1873; Vol. IV, p. 15, 1874; Vol. II, p. 504, 1868; Vol. V, p. 241, 1880; Vol. VII, p. 22, 1888; Vol. XVI, p. 12, 1824; Vol. XVII, 953, 1931.

(4) Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence

Established as a Permanent Committee on Delegate Fund by the Assembly of 1902. Vol. X, p. 605, 1902.

3. **Beginning of the Term of Service of Committees.** *Resolved*, That unless otherwise determined by the charter regulations of a Board, persons elected by the General Assembly to membership in the various Boards or to membership in Permanent Committees shall assume office at the first meeting which shall be held by a Board or a Permanent Committee subsequent to the adjournment of the General Assembly. Vol. XIII, p. 731, 1914.

4. **Expenses of Special Committees.** *Resolved*, That the expenses of all permanent committees appointed by the Assembly shall be reported to and paid by it. This does not include the traveling expenses of a member of the committee to report to the Assembly, except in cases where this is definitely authorized by the Assembly. Vol. XII, p. 669, 1910.

XXXIII. THE CONFSSIONAL STATEMENT

1. **A Revised Statement of Faith to Be Prepared.** *Resolved*, 1. That in humble dependence upon the Holy Spirit, Who is pledged by the Head of the Church to "guide into all the truth," the General Assembly will undertake the preparation of a revised Statement of Faith covering the whole field of our present Subordinate Standards, the intent being that when said Statement has been matured and has proved satisfactory to the General Assembly to which it is presented, it is to be sent down in orderly overture to the Presbyteries for review and adoption as the official creed of the United Presbyterian Church.

2. That such revised Statement shall, in a formal preamble, explicitly recognize its derivation from, and intimate relation with, the historic Standards hitherto held by the Church—the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms and the Testimony, and shall incorporate the system of doctrine contained in our present Subordinate Standards, with only such minor modifications as will bring the Statement into harmony with the present-day conviction and attainments of the Church.

3. That a Permanent Committee be appointed to undertake the preparation of such a Statement, and instructed to report to each General Assembly the progress of the work until its completion, said Committee to consist of nine members—six ministers and three laymen—the majority of whom shall be so located as to make possible frequent personal conferences. Vol. XIV, p. 729, 1919.

The Committee reported "progress" to three successive General Assemblies. Vol. XV, pp. 45, 299, 566, 1920, 1921, 1922.

2. **The Confessional Statement Submitted and Enacted.** (1) Sent to the Presbyteries in overture. Vol. XV, pp. 860, 866, 1923.

(2) Enactment of Articles I-XXVII, and Articles XXIX-XLIV. Vol. XVI, p. 38, 1924.

(3) New texts of the Preamble and Article XXVIII were submitted to the Presbyteries in overture. Vol. XVI, p. 41, 1924.

(4) The Preamble and Article XXVIII were enacted. Vol. XVI, pp. 349, 351, 1925.

3. **The Confessional Statement.** See this DIGEST.

XXXIV. CONGREGATIONS

1. **Charters of Congregations.** *Resolved*, 1. That the General Assembly hereby directs Presbyteries in the organization of new churches to require that the charter of said churches shall contain the following formula, as a definition of the ecclesiastical relation of said churches to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America: "State (or Commonwealth) of To all to whom these presents may come, greeting: Know ye that the persons, whose names are hereunto subscribed, citizens of the State (or Commonwealth) of, having associated themselves together as a church and congregation for the purpose of worshipping Almighty God, by the name of the 'United Presbyterian Church of', in connection with the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

And that the following clause be inserted in every deed of conveyance of property:

"In trust that said premises shall be used and kept, maintained and disposed of as a place of Divine worship, for the use of the ministers and members of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, subject to the standards and acts of said Church, as from time to time authorized and declared by the General Assembly of said Church and in case the congregation should cease to exist, or to be connected with and subject to the jurisdiction of the General Assembly of said Church, or shall lose its corporate existence, the property shall enure in all its holdings to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America." [For the amended form of this declaration of trust, see Church Property.]

2. It is also earnestly recommended that existing charters be changed to conform to this formula and clause in the deed.

5. That Presbyteries are hereby directed to make an official examination of the charters of the particular churches under their care, as to the powers granted the trustees, and especially as to the ecclesiastical relations of said churches, and report to the next General Assembly the result of said examination. Vol. III, p. 523, 1873.

On recommendation of the Trustees the General Assembly adopted the following:

FORM OF CHARTER

COMMONWEALTH OF }
COUNTY OF } ss.

To all whom these presents may Come, Greeting:

KNOW YE, that the persons whose names are hereunto subscribed, and their associates, citizens of the county and commonwealth aforesaid, having associated themselves together as a Church or Congregation for the purpose of worshipping Almighty God, they and their successors shall be known by the name, style and title of the United Presbyterian Church of and shall be in connection with the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

Said association or congregation, by said name, shall be constituted a corporation or body politic in law and in fact, and shall have perpetual succession, and shall be able and capable to have and use a common seal, and to do all acts and enjoy all powers and privileges allowed by law to like corporations.

They shall be capable to own and hold so much real estate and personal property as shall be necessary for their legitimate uses; provided, the clear annual income derived therefrom (exclusive of their stated or voluntary contributions) does not exceed twenty thousand dollars. And the same to mortgage or dispose of as two-thirds of the members of said congregation shall direct; provided, that said property or the proceeds of the sale of the same, shall never be alienated to any other purposes, but shall ever be kept and used for the maintenance of the worship of God, in accordance with and subject to the standards and acts as from time to time declared and authorized by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

The temporal affairs of said congregation shall be managed and conducted by a Board of Deacons or Trustees, in number, who shall be in full communion in said Church, and shall be elected by the members in full communion to serve for years. Said Board of Deacons or Trustees shall be capable of establishing and ordaining needful Rules, Regulations and By-Laws for the management of temporal affairs of said congregation; provided, they are not repugnant to the Constitution and laws of the United States, or of this State, or of this charter.

Subscribed this day of Anno Domini 18..... Vol. IV, p. 47, 1874.

2. **Congregational Debts.** *Resolved*, That individual congregations be earnestly urged not to contract any considerable debts before consulting the Board of American Missions. From its experience this Board is qualified to give helpful advice in such matters and the Board's assistance is likely to be sought if responsibilities are incurred which cannot be met by the local congregation. Vol. XVIII, p. 951, 1935.

Resolved, That all congregations buying land and erecting buildings should seek presbyterial approval where the funds available for same are less than sixty per cent of the total cost. Vol. XIX, p. 971, 1939; Vol. XX, p. 51, 1940.

3. **Federated Congregations.** *Resolved*, That the United Presbyterian constituency of the federated church should be represented in Presbytery by an elder regularly ordained and that said constituency should be amenable to the Presbytery the same as if it were a separate and independent organization. Vol. XIV, p. 218, 1917.

4. **Ministers of Other Churches in Federated Congregations.** The following action was taken by the General Assembly:

First. A Memorial from Los Angeles Presbytery requested that in Federated Churches pastors who are in full and regular standing in other Reformed and Presbyterian denominations be received in full membership in our Presbyteries.

This would necessitate an overture to the Church. The Book of Government would have to be changed to include this provision. It would involve the allegiance of the pastor to two sets of church courses. In view of the limited number of congregations involved and our doubt as to the wisdom of the procedure we recommend that the petition be not granted. Vol. XX, p. 348, 1941.

5. **Congregations to Forward Missionary Funds to Financial Agents.** The General Assembly adopted the following:

It will be remembered that the last General Assembly approved the Report of the Committee on Survey of the Boards, a report in which there is the provision made "that congregations be instructed to send all missionary money on or before the last day of each month direct to the Board of Administration instead of as at present to Financial Agents" (Minutes of the General Assembly, 1935, Page 935, Report of the Committee on Survey of the Boards, Section A, Part 2). In the place of the plan, proposed by the Committee on Survey and approved by the 1935 General Assembly but not as yet actually been put

into operation, our present Assembly has been memorialized to adopt the following: "That congregations be instructed to send all missionary money on or before the fifth day of the month direct to the Financial Agent of the presbytery, and that the Financial Agent be directed to forward all missionary money in his possession to the treasurer of the Board of Administration on or before the tenth day of each month." Your committee feels that the action of the last General Assembly should be rescinded, and that the plan suggested in this Memorial from the Presbytery of Arkansas Valley should be adopted. Vol. XIX, p. 29, 1936.

6. **Missionary Treasurers.** *Resolved*, 5. That, for the safeguarding of the Church's funds and the prompt transmission of money to the work for which it is given by its donors, all sessions be advised to elect at once a separate missionary treasurer, if they do not already have such, and that all missionary money be sent promptly each month by him through the Financial Agent. Vol. XVIII, p. 634, 1934.

7. **Organized Mission.** *Resolved*, That, 1. The organized mission under a provisional session should be reported (in the statistical report) as a congregation. Vol. XIII, p. 32, 1912.

8. **Quorum of a Congregation.** The following amendment to the Book of Government was enacted by the General Assembly:

From this day forth Section 206 of Chapter XXII of the Book of Government and Worship shall read, "If the membership of a congregation numbers one hundred or less, one-sixth of the members shall be required as a quorum for the transaction of business. If the membership be more than one hundred, one-tenth of the membership shall be sufficient." Vol. XIX, p. 640, 1938.

9. **Ruling on Limited Giving to Missionary Causes Removed and Obligation to Missionary Budget Required.** The following recommendations were adopted:

A Memorial was before your Committee from Kansas City Presbytery asking that the General Assembly "remove its ruling that congregations receiving aid from the Board of American Missions shall not give more than ten per cent of their budget to missionary causes." Your Committee recommends that this memorial be granted. But it is further recommended that congregations receiving aid from the American Board should recognize that their primary obligation in missionary giving should be to the missionary budget of the denomination from which source the American Board receives the funds to furnish the aid requested. We further recommend that where congregations seeking aid from the American Board fail to recognize their primary obligation to the missionary budget of the denomination, the American Board be instructed to refuse aid. Vol. XX, p. 50, 1940.

10. **Free Pews.** *Resolved*, 2. That Sessions and trustees be recommended to abolish the system of renting pews, as inconsistent with freedom of worship, as a hindrance to benevolence, and as making merchandise of the house of God. Vol. III, p. 534, 1873.

11. **Congregational Committee on Pastoral Settlement.** The following plan was adopted:

VI. Congregational Pastoral Settlement Committee:

1. **Constitution.** In event of vacancy a congregation shall establish a committee on pastoral settlement under the supervision of the session. This committee shall co-operate with the synodical commission and the presbyterial committee, and shall follow their leadership in the effecting of pastoral settlement.

2. **Committee Hearings.** A congregation may instruct its pastoral settlement committee to arrange for a formal call without congregational hearing. In such case, if the committee wishes to hear a minister, it should do so in another pulpit, preferably his own, without publicity. If the congregation,

upon report of the committee and the recommendation of the session, is willing to proceed to a formal call without further hearing, the session shall petition the presbytery or the moderator appointed by presbytery to preside in the making of a formal call.

3. **Congregational Hearings.** When a congregation requests the hearing of ministers, the committee shall make first choice from its list of available men. After the hearing, if the session so directs, an informative vote shall be taken by ballot of the members present on the question, Are you ready to call a pastor? If this vote, in the judgment of the pastoral settlement committee and the session, is sufficiently favorable, the session shall petition presbytery or the moderator appointed by presbytery to preside in the making of a formal call. If the vote is unfavorable, the committee shall propose another minister and proceed in the same manner.

4. **Use of Information.** The congregational pastoral settlement committee shall avoid premature hearings by wise use of the information service provided in this legislation and such other sources of information as they may choose. Discreet use of such information will avoid needless expense and delay, and will benefit all concerned. Congregations and ministers shall also use the privileges of candidating with discretion, as a means for final confirmation of a preliminary choice. Vol. XIX, p. 643, 1938.

12. **Trustees of Congregations.** 1. **The Relation of Trustees and Sessions to Church Property.** *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed by this Assembly, who shall have prepared and presented to the next General Assembly a paper defining these offices in their relation to any Church over which they are placed, and their power to control its property and temporalities generally. Vol. III, p. 389, 1872.

[For the report of this committee, see Church Property, Sections 3 and 4.]

2. **The Trustees Must Be Members of the Congregation.** *Resolved*, 4. That in every Church the trustees shall be in full communion with the Church, and that the use of the Church building for public worship and other meetings, shall be under the direction and control of the Session of the Church. Vol. III, p. 523, 1873.

3. **Trustees May Be Chosen to Hold Church Property.** *Resolved*, 3. That there is nothing in the constitution of the Church forbidding the appointment of trustees for the management of Church property under the restrictions of the Assembly of 1873. Vol. V, p. 194, 1880. See Deacons, Sec. 1.

XXXV. CORRESPONDING CHURCHES

1. **Names of Corresponding Churches.** Associate Reformed Synod of the South. Vol. II, p. 487, 1868.

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. (O. S.) Vol. I, p. 352, 1862.

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. (N. S.) Vol. I, p. 39, 1859.

Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 494, 1863.

General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 494, 1863.

General Synod of the Reformed (Dutch) Church. Vol. II, p. 147.

General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States of America. Vol. III, p. 111, 1870.

Synod of the Free Presbyterian Church. Vol. II, p. 152, 1865.

Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada. Vol. I, p. 123, 1860.

Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Vol. III, p. 11, 1869.

Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces. Vol. III, p. 380, 1872.

- Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces. Vol. III, p. 380, 1872.
- General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Vol. I, p. 32, 1859.
- Assembly of the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland. Vol. I, p. 39, 1859.
- Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. Vol. I, p. 39, 1859.
- General Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland. Vol. IV, p. 39, 1874.
- Synod of the Presbyterian Church of England. Vol. I, p. 39, 1859.
- General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Vol. VI, p. 31, 1884.
- National Council of the Congregational Churches. Vol. VI, p. 31, 1884.
- Synod of the Holland Christian Reformed Church. Vol. VII, p. 34, 1888.
- Vaudois Church in Italy. Vol. I, p. 123, 1860.
- Church of the Waldenses. Vol. III, p. 514, 1873; Vol. V, p. 533, 1882; Vol. VII, p. 235, 1889.
- Free Christian Church in Italy. Vol. IV, p. 39, 1874.
- The Evangelical Society of Geneva. Vol. VI, p. 659, 1887.
2. **Expenses of Delegates to Corresponding Churches.** *Resolved*, 6. That the delegates of the Assembly to other bodies report their expenses to the General Assembly for payment. Vol. IV, p. 453, 1877. [This rule has not been applied to delegates to Churches in foreign countries or the Council of Presbyterian Churches.]
3. **No More Delegates to Corresponding Churches to Be Appointed.** *Resolved*, 1. That after the present year the appointment of delegates to other Churches be suspended, with the exception of the Associated Reformed Synod of the South. Vol. IV, p. 576, 1878.
- Resolved*, That as it was understood that the main object of the various branches of the Presbyterian family holding intercourse with one another by delegates has been largely provided for by the General Presbyterian Council, and the Assembly has generally discontinued the practice; therefore, nothing more is required in this case [viz.: The General Synod of the Reformed Church in America, and the Evangelical Lutheran Synod.] Vol. V, p. 538, 1882.
4. **Delegates Were Subsequently Appointed to the Following Courts: The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in U. S. A.—1887, 1896, 1900, 1907, 1918, 1932, 1940, 1941.**
- The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada—1936.
- The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland—1936.
- The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church—1884.
- The General Synod of the Reformed Church in America—1883, 1884, 1886, 1888, 1893-1896, 1898, 1900, 1902-1906, 1910, 1916-1920, 1928.
- The General Synod of the Reformed Church in U. S.—1892, 1900, 1906, 1909, 1910.
- The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church—1902.
- The National Council of Congregational Churches—1884.
- The Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, South—1890-1930 (except 1914).
- The Synod of the Christian Reformed Church—1888, 1890, 1892, 1896, 1899, 1901-1903, 1907, 1908, 1911, 1916, 1922-1924.
- The Synod of the Waldensian Church—1889, 1895, 1910.
- Bohemian Reformed Church at Prague—1909.
- Church of the Disciples Centennial—1909.
- Methodist Episcopal Church in Italy—1910.
- Quadri Centennial of the Birth of John Calvin, Geneva—1909.
5. **Fraternal Correspondence with the Presbyterian Church in India was referred to the Synod of the Punjab.** Vol. XI, p. 301, 1905.

XXXVI. CORRESPONDING SECRETARIES

1. **The Election and Term of Office of the Corresponding Secretaries of the Boards.** There shall be for each Board a Corresponding Secretary, elected by the General Assembly for a term of four years. Vol. IV, p. 22, 1874.

Each of the Budget Boards, with the approval of the General Assembly, shall appoint its own General Secretary, who shall not be a member of any Board. Each Board shall determine the salary of such General Secretary, and shall provide such associate and clerical help as it may deem necessary. Vol. XVII, p. 32, 1928.

2. **The Right of Corresponding Secretaries to Speak in the Assembly.** The Corresponding Secretaries shall have the right to speak in the Assembly on all questions relating to the Boards with which they are severally connected. Vol. IV, p. 22, 1874.

3. **Corresponding Secretaries Are Ex Officio Members of the Boards.** There shall be for each Board, a Corresponding Secretary * * * who shall be ex officio a member of the Board. Vol. IV, p. 22, 1874.

NOTE: This action was superseded by the action indicated in Section 1, above.

4. **On the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions Giving His Whole Time to the Work.** *Resolved*, That the question of the propriety of employing and directing the Secretary to devote all his time to the work of his office, be referred to the Presbyteries, with instruction to report on the subject to the next General Assembly. Vol. II, p. 410, 1867.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented a report on the overtures, * * which was adopted. * * On the propriety of employing and directing the Secretary of the Board of Home Missions to devote all his time to the work of his office, the following vote is reported by 34 Presbyteries. Whole number of votes given, 454; number for employing a Permanent Secretary, 124; number against, 330. There is thus a decided majority against employing and directing the Secretary to devote all his time to his office. Vol. II, p. 498, 1868.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions be requested to devote his time exclusively to the work of the Secretaryship. Vol. VI, p. 468, 1886.

5. **On the Corresponding Secretary of Church Extension Giving His Whole Time to the Work.** *Resolved*, 8. That the Board be directed to take under advisement the propriety or feasibility of requiring the Corresponding Secretary to devote his entire time and attention to the work entrusted to this Board, and its judgment on the point be reported to the next General Assembly. Vol. V, p. 739, 1883.

[The Board reported:

After carefully considering the subject in the light of our experience, keeping in view the constant and somewhat rapid enlargement of the work entrusted to our care, we earnestly recommend that such action be taken by the Assembly as will secure for this important department of the Church's work the entire time and attention of the Corresponding Secretary of this Board.

The Assembly took the following action]:

Resolved, That the Assembly does not deem it expedient at the present time. Vol. VI, pp. 77, 35, 1884.

[Subsequently the Corresponding Secretary gave, substantially, his whole time to the work, with the approval of the General Assembly. Vol. IX, p. 268, 1901.]

XXXVII. COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Resolved, 3. That the Memorials of Monongahela Presbytery and the National Y. P. C. U. be granted. That a Council of Christian Education be established with the following personnel: The National Secretary of Bible School Work, the National Secretary of Young People's Work, representatives of the Boards of the Church including the Women's Board appointed by them, a representative-at-large elected by the General Assembly, and a representative elected by the National Council of the Y. P. C. U. Since, at the suggestion of the National Y. P. C. U., such a voluntary council has been meeting during the past year, we would suggest that the present personnel be retained insofar as possible. In case this becomes the action of the General Assembly, we suggest that the Secretary of Bible School Work be requested to call this Council together for organization as early in the Fall as convenient. It is the judgment of your committee that there is a crying need for a correlation and unification of our education program in the Bible School and Y. P. C. U. Vol. XIX, p. 338, 1937.

XXXVIII. GENERAL COUNCIL

The General Council was created by the General Assembly of 1923 to supersede the Missionary and Efficiency Committee. Vol. XV, p. 854, 1923.

NOTE: For a review of the General Council see Vol. XVII, p. 945, 1931, and this DIGEST, Chapter on Administration.

XXXIX. GENERAL COUNCILS OF CHURCHES

1. Alliance of Presbyterian Churches in India

(1) **An Alliance of Presbyterian Churches in India.** [As early as January, 1871, a movement in favor of closer union among Presbyterians in India was begun. A meeting of delegates was held in November of the same year, to consider the advisability of forming a Presbyterian Alliance. It was agreed that, from time to time, general conventions of Presbyterian ministers and elders should be held for the purpose of consultation and co-operation in all that pertains to the extension of Christ's kingdom in India. At a general convention held at Allahabad in the next year, it was *Resolved*, That "without reference to an organic union, as speedily as possible, the different Presbyterian Churches in India should be consolidated together for consultation and co-operation in furtherance of a common evangelistic work, but in no degree compromising the position which they occupy in connection with their respective Churches at home." At subsequent meetings the purpose was defined to be: 1. To promote mutual sympathy and the sense of unity among Presbyterian Churches in India. 2. To arrange for co-operation and mutual help. 3. To promote the stability and self-support of the native Churches, and to encourage them in direct labor for the evangelization of India. 4. To prepare the way for an organic union among the native Presbyterian Churches in India.

The First Council of the Alliance was held in December, 1877, the second in 1880, the third in 1883, the fourth in 1886, and the fifth in 1889. See Vol. VII, p. 502, 1890.]

(2) **Appellate Power Refused to the Alliance.** [The Second Council of the Presbyterian Alliance in India sent to all the supreme judicatories represented in India, asking the recognition of the appellate jurisdiction of the Alliance in certain cases in regard to native Churches, office-bearers, and members. The General Assembly took the following action]:

Resolved, 2. That it is the judgment of this Assembly, that it would not be expedient for it to recognize the appellate jurisdiction of the Alliance over any of its churches, office-bearers, or members; and that it, therefore, re-

spectfully refuses the request of the Alliance, asking for such jurisdiction. Vol. V, p. 354, 1881.

(3) **Union of the Presbyterian Churches in India Proposed.** [In 1889, by circular letter sent out by the Lahore Presbytery, a General Committee was formed to consider "the difficulties in the way of union, with the best method of overcoming them, and prepare a carefully matured plan of union, to be submitted to the Presbyteries." This General Committee, in which the majority of the Presbyterian bodies in India were represented, prepared a basis of union, and submitted it to the Presbyterian Alliance of India, by which it was approved and sent to the Presbyteries, to be transmitted to the home Churches for final consideration. It was transmitted to the General Assembly by the Presbytery of Sialkot with an adverse judgment. This basis provides as to polity and worship:

1. That a constitution shall be drafted, based upon the constitutions of the Presbyterian Churches in Europe and America.

2. That in all meetings of Church courts in which the United Presbyterian Church in North America is represented, Psalms alone shall be sung, out of respect to their opinion, and also because the Psalms alone are a sufficient medium by which to express Divine praise.

3. Official members of these missions, refusing to sever their connection with the home courts, are to be only advisory members of the courts in India, while those severing this connection and submitting to the courts in India are to be full members. All shall be free to choose one of these relations.

4. The Synod is to be the court of last resort, except that it shall have power to refer cases to the General Assembly for advisement or decision.

The doctrinal basis is to consist, 1st, Of the Apostles' Creed; 2d, The Nicene Creed; 3d, A modern statement of doctrine, which is not yet prepared. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms and the Heidelberg Catechism are to be held in veneration, and as useful for edification. There is to be a General Assembly with five subordinate Synods, embracing all the Presbyterian Churches in India.

In the judgment of the Assembly this basis, if adopted, would be an abandonment of the Standards of the Church for a creed not yet prepared, would authorize in India a confession of faith not accepted at home, and would sever the mission from the mother Church. It was, therefore,

Resolved, That the Basis of Union of the Presbyterian Churches in India, submitted to this Assembly by the Sialkot Presbytery, be not approved. Vol. VII, p. 426, 1890. [For the Basis in full, and the action of the Sialkot Presbytery, see p. 502, 1890.]

2. **The Alliance of the Reformed Churches Holding the Presbyterian System.** 1. **An Alliance of Presbyterian Churches.** [The General Assembly received a memorial from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States in America on the confederation of all the Churches of Reformed faith holding the Presbyterian System throughout the world. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That there be appointed a committee to confer with the other committees which may be appointed to the Presbyterian bodies, with a view to securing the objects proposed; and

2. That, while doing all they can to secure these objects, the committee be directed to do nothing to compromise the peculiar principles and practices for the maintenance of which the Assembly believes herself called upon, in providence and by the Head of the Church, to sustain a separate ecclesiastical organization. Vol. IV, p. 37, 1874.

[This committee reported to the Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly expresses its gratitude to the Saviour

for the harmony He has given to the deliberations of these committees, and its conviction that this agreement in a statement of revealed truth so full as that contained in the propositions adopted, is a precursor of a closer union among the Churches holding the great doctrines of the Bible. Vol. IV, p. 186, 1875. [For the propositions agreed upon and the draft of constitution for an Alliance of the Reformed Churches holding the Presbyterian System, prepared by the American delegates, see Vol. IV, pp. 223, 225, 1875.]

[The Assembly also adopted the following]:

Whereas, Several Churches adhering to Presbyterian polity and Calvinistic doctrine are, on conscientious grounds, opposed to the use of uninspired hymns in the worship of God; and, *whereas*, the inspired Book of Psalms has been acknowledged by every branch of the Church of Christ, at least by every Presbyterian one, to contain matter suitable for praise in the service of song; and, *whereas*, the exclusive use of the hymns embraced in this sacred collection by the proposed confederation in its meetings would not only evince a generous regard for the cherished convictions of many Presbyterians, but also, it is believed, tend to prove and promote the unity of the Church of Christ; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly respectfully, but earnestly, asks that in the particular referred to, the "Consensus of the Reformed Churches" be respected by the confederation in its devotional exercises, and that a specific guarantee to this effect be incorporated in the constitution which may be adopted.

2. Further, that our committee be directed to urge this matter by letter, or otherwise, in the convention about to be held in London. Vol. IV, p. 186, 1875.

[The delegates reported that they had forwarded the above action to the Alliance, and submitted to the Assembly the correspondence had, Vol. IV, p. 356, 1876, when their action was approved. Vol. IV, p. 318, 1876.]

[Delegates were appointed to the First General Presbyterian Council, Vol. IV, p. 455, 1877, who reported to the Assembly, Vol. IV, p. 635, 1878, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 2. That while gratified to know that during the late meeting the Council used in its exercise of praise only the Psalms of Scripture the Assembly regrets that no constitutional provision has been made for the continuance of this practice, and no definite pledge given to that effect, and hereby instructs its delegates to the meeting of 1880 to use their influence to have this matter adjusted in accordance with the action of the Assembly of 1875. Vol. IV, p. 576, 1878.

[Delegates were appointed to the General Presbyterian Council Vol. V, p. 42, 1879; p. 744, 1883. Power was given to the delegates present at the Third Council to fill vacancies in the delegation. Vol. VI, p. 41, 1884.]

2. **Committee of Correspondence with the Alliance.** [At the request of the Clerks of the Presbyterian Alliance, the General Assembly appointed a standing committee of correspondence, consisting of three persons. Vol. V, pp. 337, 344, 1881.]

3. **Expenses of the Alliance.** [The Third Council requested the Churches represented to bear the expenses of the Council in proportion to their membership. These expenses heretofore had been met by individual contributions. The Committee on Finance reported]: For lack of sufficient information, and the Assembly having no "contingent fund," your committee cannot recommend the appropriation of any sum. Vol. VI, p. 237, 1885.

Resolved, 2. That the Principal Clerk of the Assembly be, and is hereby, directed to issue an order on the Assembly's Treasurer for the payment of \$269.00, our proportion of the expenses already incurred by the Alliance. Vol. VI, p. 423, 1886.

4. **Withdrawal of the General Assembly from the Alliance.** [The delegates to the Third General Council reported their attendance, and that another Council had been appointed.] "It is for the Assembly to determine whether it will continue its connection with the Alliance. . . . We suggest that this whole matter be referred to a committee to report to the next General Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 298, 1885. [The committee was appointed and submitted a report, which was amended and adopted]:

Whereas, The constitution of the Presbyterian Alliance provides that there shall be no interference with the internal order or discipline of any Church which has joined the confederation; and,

Whereas, In 1875, our General Assembly adopted a paper on this subject, asking that in consideration of the fact that several of the Churches are, on conscientious grounds, opposed to the use of uninspired hymns in the worship of God, and that every Presbyterian branch of the Church of Christ has acknowledged that the inspired Book of Psalms contains matter suitable to be employed in the praise service, the consensus of the Reformed Churches be respected by the Confederation in its devotional exercises, and that a specific guarantee to this effect be incorporated in the constitution which may be adopted; and

Whereas, The guarantee thus sought has not been given, while at the last Council our position was even practically disregarded by the use, to some extent, of uninspired compositions in the devotional exercises of the meetings; and,

Whereas, In the reception of Churches to its confederation, the Alliance has shown a disposition to interpret in a very lax and, in our view, an improper manner the phrase, "the consensus of the Reformed Churches"; and,

Whereas, The good likely to be accomplished by the Alliance seems hardly commensurate with the expenditure of time and money required; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly, representing "The United Presbyterian Church of North America," hereby discontinues its connection with the Presbyterian Alliance. Vol. VI, p. 423, 1886.

[A letter was received from the Secretary of the Alliance, expressing regret at the action of the Assembly. The following was adopted]:

Whereas, No guarantee has been offered that the faith and practice of our denomination, in the matter of Psalmody, will be respected in the future; and,

Whereas, Definite action was taken by the Assembly last year in withdrawing from that organization;

Resolved, That this Assembly take no further action in the case at present. Vol. VI, p. 683, 1887.

5. **Renewal of Relations to the Presbyterian Alliance.** [Rev. T. W. Chambers, D.D., and Rev. George D. Matthews, D.D., Secretary, addressed the General Assembly on behalf of the Alliance of Presbyterian Churches. The matter of the relation of the General Assembly to the Alliance was referred to a committee of five to report to the next Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 421, 1890. This committee reported according to appointment, and the report was amended and adopted]:

. . . . In the judgment of your committee, it would be well for the General Assembly to appoint delegates to the Council to meet in Toronto, in 1892, and ask that the United Presbyterian Church be received into the Alliance and her delegates admitted to seats in the Council.

We believe that our connection with the Alliance may prove of great value to us in preventing encroachments in the foreign field. We have been at different times threatened with an invasion of our territory by other Churches. One of the great objects of the Alliance is to prevent collision among the Churches in the foreign field and see that the rights and interests of the several Reformed Churches are duly respected by others.

We further believe that our connection with the Alliance will be favorable to the general maintenance of the venerable consensus of the Reformed Churches, including the preservation of the principle that a Scripture Psalmody alone should be used in celebrating the praises of God.

For these reasons, and inasmuch as the constitution of the Presbyterian Alliance provides that there shall be no interference with the internal order or discipline of any Church belonging to the Alliance, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That, as the Assembly has been assured by the Secretary of the Alliance that any departure from the exclusive use of the Scripture Psalms in the devotional meetings thereof was not by its authority, and that such departure will be carefully guarded against in the future meetings, the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America hereby declares its desire to be re-admitted into "the Alliance of the Reformed Churches throughout the world holding the Presbyterian System."

2. That we will appoint a full delegation of ministers and elders as our representatives to the Council to meet in Toronto, Canada, September, 1892.

3. That the Clerk of the Assembly be directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the Secretary of the Alliance. Vol. VII, p. 736, 1891.

6. **Co-operation in Home Mission Work.** There has also been placed in our hands a request from the American Section of the Alliance of the Reformed Churches holding the Presbyterian System, that we unite with them in a plan of co-operation in home missions. This plan was laid on the table by the last General Assembly. We believe that if such a plan had been adopted in former years, it would have prevented much undesirable rivalry between different denominations in mission fields, which has been injurious to the Church and discreditable in the eyes of the world. We regard the plan proposed as equitable to all concerned, and therefore recommend its adoption. This plan is as follows:

"The Boards and Committees of Home Missions, Church Erection, Freedmen's Missions and Sabbath School Work of the American Churches in 'The Alliance of the Reformed Churches Holding the Presbyterian System,' both in the United States and Canada, recognizing with gratitude to God their substantial unity both in faith and polity, do agree upon the following principles of action for their guidance in their work, viz.:

"1. That in the work of all these boards as related to each other the authority of the Church courts is to be recognized as final.

"2. That there shall be no interference with churches, missions or Sabbath schools at present existing, unless by voluntary agreement between the denominations directly concerned.

"3. That ordinarily, no churches, missions or Sabbath schools shall be established in small communities where the field is fully occupied by other Presbyterian or Reformed Churches.

"4. That the supreme judicatories of the several Churches recommend their church-members, when moving into new communities, in which there is no congregation of their own Church, to unite, for the time being, with some other Presbyterian or Reformed Church, if such there be.] This part of the plan was afterwards stricken out. See page 291.

"5. That, if cases of difference of opinion arise in connection with the work, they shall be referred for consideration and amicable adjustment to the missionary authorities of the denominations directly concerned." Vol. IX, pp. 280, 281, 1897.

7. **Articles of Agreement.** The following Articles of Agreement were submitted by the General Assembly of 1906 to the presbyteries in Overture. The General Assembly of 1907 declared that the Articles of Agreement are adopted.

The Reformed Churches in America Holding the Presbyterian System, desiring to evince and develop their spiritual unity and to promote closer relations and more effective administrative co-operation among these Churches, hereby adopt the following Articles of Agreement in furtherance of these purposes:

1. For the prosecution of work that can be done better unitedly than separately an Ecclesiastical Council is hereby established, which shall be known by the name and style of "The Council of the Reformed Churches in America Holding the Presbyterian System."

2. The Council shall consist of at least four representatives, ministers or ruling elders, from each of the constituent Churches, for each one hundred thousand communicants or fraction thereof up to three hundred thousand; and where a Church has more than three hundred thousand communicants, then four representatives, ministers or elders, for each additional two hundred thousand communicants or fraction thereof. These persons shall be chosen with their alternates under the direction of their respective supreme judicatories, in such manner as those judicatories shall respectively determine.

3. Every Church entering into this agreement retains its distinct individuality, its own creed, government and worship, as well as every power, jurisdiction and right, which is not by these articles expressly and exclusively delegated to the body hereby constituted.

4. The Council shall exercise only such powers as are conferred upon it by these articles, or such as may hereafter be conferred upon it by the constituent Churches. It shall not interfere with the creed, worship or government of the Churches, and, in particular, all matters of discipline shall be left to the exclusive and final judgment of the ecclesiastical authorities of the Churches concerned. All acts of the Council affecting the interests of any of the constituent Churches shall have only advisory authority, except in matters covered by Articles 6 and 7.

5. The Council shall promote the co-operation of the constituent Churches in their Foreign Missionary work, and also in their general work in the United States of America, in connection with Home Missions, work among the colored people, church erection, Sabbath schools, publication and education. The Council may also advise and recommend in other matters pertaining to the general welfare of the kingdom of Christ.

6. The Council shall have power to deal with questions which may arise between the constituent Churches, in regard to matters within the jurisdiction of the Council, which the constituted agencies of the Churches concerned have been unable to settle, and which may be brought to the attention of the Council by the supreme judicatories of the parties thereto; and such differences shall thereupon be determined by the Council or by such agencies as it may appoint. If determined by an agency, such as a committee or commission, there shall be the right of appeal to the Council for final decision. The representatives in the Council, of Churches which are parties to questions at issue, shall be excluded from voting upon such questions. Every final decision shall be transmitted by the Council to the supreme judicatories of the Churches concerned, which shall take such steps as are necessary to carry the decision into effect.

7. The Council shall have power to deal with any other matters of interest common to any two or more of the constituent Churches, which may be referred to it by the supreme judicatories of the Churches concerned for its action, with such authority in the premises and under such conditions as may be agreed upon by the Churches which make the reference. It may also initiate movements having co-operation in view, subject to the approval of the Churches concerned.

8. The Council shall have power to open and maintain a friendly cor-

respondence with the Presbyterian and other Evangelical Churches for the purpose of promoting concert of action in matters of common interest; but nothing in this article shall be construed as affecting the present rights of correspondence of the constituent Churches.

9. The Council shall give full faith and credit to the acts, proceedings and records of the duly constituted authorities of the several constituent Churches.

10. The Officers of the Council shall be a President, Vice-President, Stated Clerk, Treasurer, and such other subordinate officers as may be necessary.

11. The Council shall meet in regular session at least biennially, and on its own adjournment, at such time and place as may be determined. In conduct of its meetings it shall respect the conscientious views of its constituent members. The President shall call special meetings at any time when requested so to do by a majority of the representatives of each of two or more of the constituent bodies; thirty days' notice of such meetings shall be given to all the members, and only such business may be transacted as is specified in the notice.

12. The incidental expenses of the Council shall be met by a fund to be provided in a *pro rata* apportionment on the basis of the representation of each Church in the Council. The expenses of the representatives shall be paid by their respective Churches. All the expenses involved in the settlement of any question between the Churches shall be borne equally by the Churches concerned.

13. When the representatives of three of the Churches, at a meeting of either the Council or its agencies, request a unit vote by Churches upon pending motion, the vote shall be so taken.

14. The Council shall have power to make such regulations and by-laws as shall be deemed necessary for the conduct of its business.

15. After this Council shall have been constituted, any Church holding the Reformed Faith and Presbyterian Polity may be received into the Council by a majority of the representatives of the Churches, voting by the unit rule, and upon its adoption of the Articles of Agreement.

16. Any Church in the Council may withdraw therefrom on notice officially given, and on its observance of the same constitutional steps as were followed in its adoption of these articles.

17. Any amendment of the articles proposed to the Council shall before its adoption be approved by the Council, and receive the consent of two-thirds of the constituent Churches acting in accordance with their respective constitutions. When the Council shall have been notified of such consent it shall declare the amendment to be a part of the Articles of Agreement.

18. These Articles of Agreement shall go into effect when any two or more Churches shall adopt the same by proper action, and elect their representatives in the manner herein provided. Vol. XI, p. 728, 1906; Vol. XI, p. 864, 1907.

8. **Co-operative Work.** *Whereas*, This Council represents officially the Reformed Churches in the United States Holding the Presbyterian System, in their effort to evince their spiritual unity and promote more effective administrative co-operation in Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Work Among the Colored People, Church Election, Sabbath School and Publication Work, and Education; and

Whereas, There is a marked historic harmony between the constituent Churches in their maintenance of the great truths in which they have a common heritage and of which they have a common custodianship; and

Whereas, There is urgent need of prompt and practical co-operation in several lines of Church work above named; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the following recommendation be submitted to the supreme

judicatories of the constituent Churches: "That where Synods, Presbyteries, and Classes cover the same territory, or where Presbyteries and Classes are contiguous one to another, either Synods, Presbyteries or Classes, as the case may be, may adopt plans for the conduct of co-operative work, provided that such plans be consulted upon with the general executive Church agencies directly interested.

The Council further submits to the supreme governing bodies the following suggestions as to lines of co-operative work for Synods, Presbyteries and Classes, in which immediate action is desirable:

1. The establishment and conduct of missions for foreign-speaking people, especially in large cities.

2: The establishment of new churches.

3. The serving of neighboring congregations in two or more of our denominations by a minister of one of our denominations, when advisable.

4. The supply and support of weak rural home mission congregations upon an interdenominational basis.

5. The support of mission work among the colored people on an interdenominational basis.

6. The establishment or support of denominational colleges upon an interdenominational basis.

7. The education of students for the ministry upon an interdenominational basis, whenever practicable.

8. Co-operative work in cities or other communities by particular churches of our denominations therein located. Vol. XII, p. 646, 1910.

9. **Joint Committee on Christian Education.** (6) In response to the request from the General Council of the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches in America that we appoint two members of a joint Committee of Fifteen on Christian Education, which is to lead the constituent Churches in such forms of educational work as can best be done co-operatively, we recommend:

That we join in the erection of the proposed Committee, and that the Board of Education be instructed to appoint a representative to serve on the Committee for two years and the Board of Publication a representative to serve for four years. Vol. XV, p. 901, 1923.

10. **Representatives Elected for Four Year Term.** *Resolved*, That the eight United Presbyterian representatives on the Western Alliance, whose terms expire this year be reappointed for a period of three years, making their terms expire in 1936, and that thereafter our representatives be appointed every four years. This change is recommended to conform to the quadrennial meetings of the Alliance. Vol. XVIII, p. 324, 1933.

11. **Merger.** *Resolved*, 1. That the Assembly approve and ratify the union and merger of the General Council and the Western Section of the Alliance of the Reformed Churches Throughout the World Holding the Presbyterian System.

2. That the Assembly approve the report of the General Council of the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches in America, held at Atlantic City, N. J., March 2nd and 3rd, 1926.

3. That this Assembly fill up their quota of delegates to the Western Section of the Alliance, as provided for in Section III of the Rules of Order and By-laws of the Alliance, which entitles them to eight delegates, seven of whom were elected last year for a period of four years.

4. That particular attention be called to the Conference which is to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from September 14th to 18th, 1926; and also to the St. Giles celebration in July, 1927, being the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Foundation of the Alliance.

5. That this Assembly would respectfully approve and commend the

efforts of the Alliance to aid and assist the struggling Churches in Europe and the Balkans. Vol. XVI, p. 622, 1926.

12. **Women Corresponding Members of the Council.** The General Assembly of 1938 adopted the following:

Now, as to the communication filed by the Secretary: It has to do with relationship with the Alliance of Reformed Churches; a quotation from the minutes of that body in its meeting in Montreal last summer will explain: "The Council recognizes the International Union of Women's Missionary Societies of the Reformed Churches as the official women's organizations of the Alliance: it resolves that constituent churches through their Supreme Courts (and, if possible, upon the nomination of the several women's organizations in the said churches) may appoint a number of representative women as Corresponding members of General Councils, in such ratio as may be determined by the Council, with liberty to speak—but not to vote, unless they hold places in the Council itself as ministers or elders."

The ratio adopted allows one representative from our Church—which is in the class of fewer than 1,400 congregations.

We recommend that the Assembly approve participation of the Women's Board in the Council as thus provided.

We recommend that the Women's Board nominate a member for appointment by the Assembly of 1939 to represent them in the next quadrennial Council, which will be held in 1941. Vol. XIX, p. 647, 1938.

3. Confederation of Evangelical Churches

1. **Confederation Is Not for Edification.** *Resolved*, That while cherishing kind and Christian regards for every follower of Christ, and for all evangelical Churches, and while holding itself ready to co-operate in any good work with the servants of Christ of every name, yet this Assembly does not feel that it would be for edification for us to set aside, in principle or practice, any of its distinctive features as a portion of the visible Church, or even to seem to affect a union which could not in reality exist. Vol. III, p. 524, 1873.

2. **Conference on a Federation of Churches.** On the communication from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, requesting the appointment of a committee to confer with similar committees from other Churches for the purpose of securing a federation of Christian Churches of this land, your committee believes that the objects sought to be accomplished by such a conference are certainly very desirable and may be briefly stated as follows: (1) The concentration of the influence and efforts of all evangelical Churches in the work of reclaiming the Christless masses. (2) The prosecution of home and foreign missionary work by the different Churches on the same principles of comity, so that different Churches may cultivate particular fields and so avoid unseemly strife. (3) The education of the public conscience with scriptural views on marriage and divorce, the Sabbath, temperance, and other moral and social questions. It seems to your committee that it is worth while to at least make the attempt to accomplish such desirable results, and therefore we recommend for your adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That be and hereby are appointed a committee of three to represent the United Presbyterian Church in the meetings of the Committee on Federation of the Churches of this land. Vol. VII, p. 647, 1891.

The General Assembly hereby declares that we are not prepared to accept the proposed plan for the federation of the Churches, for the following, among other reasons:

1. Because we do not believe it is proper to accept any plan of federation which would exclude other evangelical Churches, although they do not hold to the Presbyterian system of Church government.

2. Because that provision in the plan designed to "prevent the multiplication of weak and antagonistic organizations," would impose restraint upon us in our work of home evangelization which we cannot accept.

3. Because we have no guarantee, in the proposed plan of federation, that the position of our Church on the important subject of praise in divine worship would be respected in the meetings of the Federal Council.

4. Because the ends proposed can be sufficiently secured by the Alliance of the Reformed Churches. Therefore,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Federation of the Churches be continued, with instructions to be guided in their further negotiations by the foregoing declarations of the General Assembly. Vol. VIII, p. 274, 1893.

4. Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America

(1) **Participation.** The General Assembly appointed a committee to attend the conference on the Federation of Evangelical Churches. Vol. XI, p. 308, 1905.

Resolved, 1. That we express to the present organization our sympathy with the movement. 2. That we commend to the Church a careful consideration of the plan during the coming year. 3. That the Committee appointed last year on Federation be continued for this year, and their duty shall be to bring the plan before our people through our church papers, and by whatever other means may seem wise, and to submit to the next Assembly a course of action. Vol. XI, p. 592, 1906.

Resolved, 1. That the plan of Federation of Evangelical Churches herewith submitted be approved.

2. That the plan of Federation is approved by this General Assembly with the distinct understanding that the proposed Federation is to be composed only of Churches holding to historical and evangelical Christianity, and especially to the scriptural doctrine of the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, three persons, yet one God; the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

3. That upon the approval of this plan the General Assembly elect seven (7) representatives to the Council of 1908, as provided for in Article V of this plan. Vol. XI, p. 892, 1907.

Resolved, (a) That the United Presbyterian Church discontinue its relation with the Council of the Churches of Christ in America and continue its relations with the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. Vol. XV, p. 46, 1920

(2) **Activities.** The following articles were adopted by the General Assembly of 1937:

1. There is a need for an organization through which the voice of united Protestantism may be expressed but we believe such an organization must be in harmony with the revealed Christian faith.

2. We understand the Federal Council was organized to facilitate the extension and establishment of the Kingdom of God through the Churches and to express the common conviction of the Churches that Protestant Christianity should become the dominant spiritual and cultural influence in America.

3. We believe the Federal Council has spread its activities over too wide a field and that these activities have not been carefully supervised. It is our conviction that men of radical tendencies associated in the work of the Council have been permitted to speak and write and give out interviews with the reporters of the press on various subjects but remotely related to the work of the Christian Church.

4. We believe there should be no ground of uncertainty concerning the evangelical faith of the members of the Executive Committee or any Secretary or any associate in the work of the Council.

5. We believe the Council should give a more definite expression of its attachment to the historical principles of the gospel.

We commend the Department of Evangelism for its aggressive work in the Preaching Mission last Winter and in its purpose to extend that activity during this year, especially in our educational institutions. We urge that the message be carried by persons of definite Christian faith who will bring a clear challenge of surrender to Jesus Christ as Lord.

7. We recommend that our representatives on the Federal Council be instructed to carry our convictions to the Council. Vol. XIX, p. 346, 1937.

(3) **Charges and Questions Relating to the Federal Council.** A Resolution was adopted that the Moderator and Clerk appoint a committee to study carefully charges against and questions relating to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and report to the Eighty-first General Assembly. Vol. XIX, p. 656, 1938.

The General Assembly of 1939 adopted the report of the Committee provided for by the previous General Assembly.

The charges and questions were carefully weighed together with information provided by the Federal Council and the report closed with the following: Accepting the promise of the Council in 1937, and also the statement of the Secretary regarding matters that have just been mentioned, and,

Because the voice of Protestantism is needed in America and in the World,
Because of the results already achieved by the Federal Council of Churches,
Because of the possibilities for service which may be rendered by the co-operation of the Protestant Churches,

And because the United Presbyterian Church desires her voice to be heard in the great work of redeeming the world through the atonement made on Calvary by our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God, your Committee therefore, recommends that the United Presbyterian Church continue her membership in the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. Vol. XIX, pp. 931-938, 1939.

(4) **Method of Support.** Memorials were received from Argyle, Indiana, and Ohio Northwestern Presbyteries asking that we change our method of supporting our part in the Federal Council of Churches from assessment to a voluntary basis upon the part of each Church. Your committee recommends that these memorials be denied, since the method suggested would be both impracticable and expensive, and for this further reason, that since the 1939 General Assembly voted not to sever our relationship as a denomination with the Federal Council, it is only reasonable that we, having a Presbyterial, not a Congregational form of church government, should support the Federal Council as a denomination, and therefore out of our Assembly and Delegate Fund. Vol. XX, p. 51, 1940.

(5) **Laymen and Lay Women to Be Members of the Federal Council.** *Resolved*, That, (1) The revision of Section 5 of the Constitution of the Federal Council by the insertion of the following clause to be known as Article (b): "(b) Each of the constituent bodies shall be further entitled to appoint additional members who must be laymen or lay women not exceeding one-third of the number provided for in ('a')." "

(2) That the additional members allowed our denomination be nominated by the Committee on Nominations. Vol. XX, p. 361, 1941.

5. **World Council of Churches**

The following action was taken by the General Assembly of 1939:

In regard to the World Council of Churches, we notice that the movement in its development up to this present time, together with its adopted Constitution, and published aims, is such that we can give it our approval and believe it will prove an effective instrumentality in making the world conscious of the

salvation which alone is to be found in Jesus Christ, and of the obedience which the world owes Him as Lord and King.

1. We therefore recommend that our Church shall accept the invitation to become a member of the World Council of Churches, and that the Assembly instruct its Clerk to so notify the Provisional Committee of that organization.

2. Enjoying as we do in America the privileges of freedom of worship, the right to give our supreme loyalty to Jesus Christ; of joyously obeying His commission to proclaim Him as the only Saviour for all peoples; the right to minister to all members in our churches regardless of race or condition; we covet these same privileges for all others and protest against their limitation by any civil or religious power. Vol. XIX, p. 962, 1939.

6. **The World's Evangelical Alliance.** *Resolved*, That while the Divine direction and blessing are devoutly desired for the Alliance, in common with every movement that has for its end the promotion of the well-being of men and the glory of God; yet the General Assembly does not deem it expedient or important that it make any appointment of delegates or representatives to attend it. Vol. III, p. 525, 1873.

XL. COVENANTING

1. *Resolved*, 1. That it is the duty of pastors to instruct their people in relation to the nature of the duty of public social covenanting, and the proper season for its observance, in common with other religious duties.

2. That pastors and Sessions should carefully observe the dispensations of Divine Providence; and if the circumstances of congregations furnish a call, and it is deemed for edification, that they engage in the observance of the duty. Vol. I, p. 170, 1860.

2. *Resolved*, That while congregations may consider the dealings of Divine Providence with them and the Church at large, to determine what is their duty in relation to this matter, this General Assembly does not see that the circumstances in which we are placed furnish a special providential call to the Church to engage in the duty of public social covenanting with God at the present time. Vol. I, p. 483, 1863.

3. *Resolved*, That the committee be instructed to prepare a brief chapter on social covenanting, and that it be embraced in this overture [on the Directory for Worship.] Vol. II, p. 27, 1864.

4. The following action was taken by the General Assembly of 1918:

2. In reference to the memorial from the Presbytery of Philadelphia on Public Covenanting, we believe that the present time offers such an "extraordinary occasion in the providence of God" as calls for an act of public covenanting on the part of our people. That we may obtain the blessing of Almighty God and be worthy to win the victory in the war we are now engaged in for justice and righteousness, we need to "get right with God," to humble ourselves before Him in confession of sin, and to renew our engagements to be His.

Therefore, we recommend:

(1) That the prayer of the memorialists be granted, and that our subordinate courts and congregations be recommended to observe a day of fasting and prayer, during which an opportunity be given to all who will do so to engage in the solemn covenant with God.

(2) That Sabbath, October 6th, 1918, or some suitable day near that date, be designated as the time for this act of covenanting.

(3) That the following be suggested as a suitable form of covenant:

We, the session and members of the congregation of (or, here insert the name of the body or court making the covenant), do now again confess and acknowledge Jesus Christ not only as our King and Saviour but also as King of kings and Lord of lords, to whom is committed all authority

in heaven and on earth. We do humbly confess our sins, our shortcomings in life and duty as individuals, as a denomination, and as a nation. Looking to Him for grace we do now solemnly covenant with Him to be His, to put away every sin and to endeavor to fulfil every duty we owe to Him, to our neighbor, to the church, the state and the nation, and we do now solemnly subscribe and affirm the same.

(4) That we invite churches of our sister denominations to unite with us in this solemn covenant. Vol. XIV, p. 456, 1918.

XLI. DEACONS

[A memorial was presented asking such a change in the Book of Government as would allow the election of Deaconesses, Vol. IV, p. 153, 1875, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, whose duty it shall be to prepare for the next General Assembly a report on the subject of the deaconship, dealing particularly with the questions as to the perpetuity of the office, the functions pertaining to it, and the persons eligible to it; said committee to furnish by February 1st, 1876, a copy of their report for publication in the periodicals issued peculiarly in the interests of our Church. Vol. IV, p. 186, 1875.

[This report, as published in the papers of the Church, was brought before the next Assembly, when] after discussion, the further consideration of the whole subject was postponed and the report of the committee was referred to the next Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 301, 1876.

[At the next Assembly this report was referred to a special committee, Vol. IV, p. 434, 1877, but their report was laid on the table, Vol. IV, p. 455, 1877. At the next Assembly the resolutions of the original report were adopted.] *Resolved*, 1. That the General Assembly, heartily approving of the teaching of its subordinate standards touching the divine institution and permanent obligation of the office of deacon, and being persuaded also that it is of great importance for the welfare of the Church that the teaching of these standards on this subject be reduced to practice, hereby enjoins Synods, Presbyteries and Sessions to adopt measures, with all becoming promptitude, to have deacons appointed in the different congregations of the Church, in the manner prescribed in the Book of Government and Discipline.

2. That Presbyteries be, and they hereby are, directed to report to the General Assembly, from time to time, the progress made in carrying into effect, in their respective bounds, the direction just given.

3. That Synods be, and they hereby are, urged to take immediate steps for securing within their respective limits such civil legislation in regard to the tenure of ecclesiastical property as may be requisite to enable congregations to commit to deacons the charge which now rests upon ordinary trustees.

4. *Deaconesses*. That while the General Assembly does not find in Scripture sufficient authority for the ordination of women to the office of deacon, it is convinced that pious women may, with profit to themselves, and with great advantage to the cause of suffering humanity and of Christ, be organized to act as assistants of the deacon; it being understood, however, that those so devoting themselves and banded together, shall not be formed into sisterhoods living apart from ordinary society, after the manner of certain Popish devotees, or even of some associations found in certain denominations of the Protestant Church. Vol. IV, p. 567, 1878.

[Six Presbyteries reported the progress they had made in carrying into effect the action of the Assembly. The following was adopted]:

In view of the importance of this office, and especially of having deacons as spiritual officers of the Church to take the place of trustees in the manage-

ment of the temporal affairs of the congregations, the following action is recommended:

Resolved, That all the congregations under the care of the Assembly be instructed to endeavor to have the law of the Church in regard to this office carried out, by having deacons ordained and installed in their midst as soon as their circumstances permit. Vol. V, p. 28, 1879.

[At the next Assembly memorials were presented from several Presbyteries asking for a modification of the acts of 1878 and 1879. The action taken is as follows]:

Resolved, 1. That deacons are mentioned among the regular and permanent officers of the New Testament Church, but since elders are entirely competent to exercise the duties of the diaconate, those congregations in which these duties are successfully performed by the elders have fulfilled the spirit of the law, and nothing more is required.

2. That the language of the Book of Government indicates that the duties of the diaconate are of two classes, those which belong essentially to the office and those which may be assigned to it. The first are specified as those which belong to the collection and distribution of the church's charities, which include all the benevolent contributions of the church; the second to all such temporalities as may be committed to their care.

3. That there is nothing in the constitution of the Church forbidding the appointment of trustees for the management of church property, under the restrictions of the Assembly of 1873.

4. That the third resolution of 1878, intended to prepare the way through civil legislation for committing to deacons the legal ownership of church property now vested in trustees, be repealed as both difficult and unnecessary. Vol. V, p. 194, 1880.

2. **Resignation of Deacons.** "To whom shall the ruling elder or deacon offer his resignation when desiring to retire from active service, and what constitutional steps are necessary to complete the act?"

Resolved, 1. He shall offer his resignation to the Session, which is the primary court of the elder or deacon.

2. The same steps are to be taken as in the case of the teaching elder. Book of Government, Part II, Chap. VI, Art. IV. Vol. V, p. 720, 1883.

3. **Deacons Not to Be Elected to Succeed Themselves.** As to the memorial from the Presbytery of Colorado asking that the rule by which deacons are not permitted to succeed themselves for a year after the expiration of a term of office be eliminated—Your Committee would report that as the Rule on general principles appears to be a good one and as the memorialists have not submitted any reasons for the change, we recommend that the memorial be not granted. Vol. XIII, p. 1082, 1915.

Second, we recommend to the General Assembly that the Memorial from the Presbytery of Conemaugh be denied. The Memorial suggests a change in the matter of the re-election of Deacons. The Book of Government and Worship, Chapter XIX, Section 192, at present reads: "Deacons shall be elected to serve for three years, and shall not be eligible for re-election until after one year after the expiration of their term of office." The change proposed calls for the striking out of the "not"—making the clause read "and shall be eligible for re-election after the expiration of their term of office." The reasons advanced for the proposed change, calling for an Overture to be sent down by the General Assembly to the several presbyteries, are as follows:

a. The congregation has the liberty of re-electing all officers except Deacons. Why not allow Deacons also to succeed themselves?

b. In a given congregation it may happen that in course of time many are ordained to the office of Deacon but only a few are needed to serve on the Board of Deacons at any one time.

c. Some persons feel slighted when not re-elected, and at the end of a year refuse to stand for their nomination to the office again.

d. There are congregations that are ignoring the Church's prohibition for Deacons to succeed themselves.

Your Committee has given due consideration to the arguments urged in favor of the proposed change but feels that there are perhaps advantages in having persons ordained to the diaconate even though they may not be called upon to serve continuously, that the present plan need work no special hardship on congregations wishing to continue to use the services of ordained Deacons of proved ability, that the provision now in effect may indeed at times prove to be a safeguard, and that the fact that there are congregations that are ignoring the law of the Church is not necessarily a good reason for changing the law. Vol. XIX, p. 28, 1936.

4. **Deaconesses.** The overture having thus received a majority of the votes of the whole Church, the General Assembly does now enact the same into law, and ordains that the following section shall be added to Article IV of Chapter IV, Part I, of the Book of Government and Discipline, on "The Deacon," viz.:

3. "Female members of the Church are eligible to the office of deacon."

Resolved, Inasmuch as the vote of the Presbyteries on the Overture, with reference to the eligibility of women to the office of deacon, indicates that the mind of the Church is not in harmony with the deliverance of the General Assembly of 1878 upon that subject. (See Digest, page 129, Section 4.) *Resolved*, That said deliverance be and hereby is rescinded. Vol. XI, p. 595, 1906.

For the constitutional provisions on the subject of Deacons see Book of Government and Worship, Chapters XI, XIX, and XX.

XLII. DECLINATURE

The General Assembly of 1904 adopted the following:

The General Assembly affirmed the decisions of the lower courts. This action is in accordance with presbyterial law, and does not conflict with the broadest equity.

The power of sessions to administer discipline would be practically abolished if persons were permitted at pleasure to repudiate their authority and to decline their jurisdiction.

No session, probably, or other court, would ever decline to grant a change of venue, or the removal of a case to a higher court, if there were any substantial ground for making the demand.

In any event, no serious injury could accrue since by appeal or complaint the case could quickly be carried to the superior court.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the court before which a case is brought is competent to determine whether a declinature of its authority is warranted, subject, of course, to review by the court above.

We find that the General Assembly of 1866 took action in a concrete case of declinature. The Presbytery of Mansfield and the Synod of Ohio had sustained the action of the session of Amity congregation in proceeding to trial after the accused had declined the authority of the session and withdrawn from the court. Vol. XI, pp. 14, 146, 1904.

XLIII. THE DIGEST OF THE PRINCIPAL ACTS AND DELIVERANCES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

That however desirable it may be to have a digest of all the acts of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian, the Associate Presbyterian and the United Presbyterian Churches, the pecuniary condition of the Church will not warrant us to engage in the publication of such a work at present; therefore,

Resolved, That it be postponed. Vol. I, p. 223, 1861.

[So much of the report (on the Board of Publication) as refers to the codifying of the enactments of the various General Assemblies, was referred to the Board of Publication, to report next year. Vol. III, p. 544, 1873. No report was made.]

[On memorials from the Presbyteries of First New York and Tennessee, the General Assembly appointed a committee of three to prepare and publish a digest of "the principal deliverances of the Assemblies since 1858, in a suitable form for convenient reference." Vol. IV, p. 299, 1876.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, Vol. IV, p. 493, 1877, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the work of your committee to prepare a digest be approved.

2. That it be referred to the same committee, with instruction to make such revision as may be deemed necessary, and to incorporate in it such items from the proceedings of the present Assembly and that of 1878, as is proper to complete the work to that date.

3. That the committee be instructed to publish this work and with it the Book of Government and Discipline, as soon after the above date as possible. Vol. IV, p. 441, 1877.

[The Digest was published by the Board of Publication in accordance with the above action.]

Resolved, 6. That the Board of Publication be directed to issue a new edition of the "Digest," bringing it up to date. Vol. VII, p. 224, 1889.

[The Board asked for instruction, and the Assembly gave the following]:

Resolved, 5. That the Board be instructed to appoint a committee to prepare and publish a new edition of the Digest without delay, comprising all the information in as condensed a form as will be consistent with clearness of expression, and at the same time with as much fullness as may be required, in its judgment, to meet the aim of such a book. Vol. VII, p. 433, 1890.

Resolved, 2. That the Board be directed to complete, as soon as possible, the new edition of the Digest. Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.

NOTE: The second edition of the Digest was submitted to the Church in 1892.

NOTE: The third edition of the Digest including the Acts of the General Assembly of 1902 was published in 1903.

The General Assembly of 1915 directed the Board of Publication to publish a revision of the Digest, subject to the convenience and finances of the Board. Vol. XIII, p. 1083, 1915,

This action was renewed in 1927. Vol. XVI, p. 907, 1927.

The Board's report to the General Assembly of 1941 that a new Digest is under preparation was approved. Vol. XX, p. 352, 1941.

XLIV. DIRECTORY FOR WORSHIP

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare and publish a draft of a Directory for Worship, public and family, and that this draft be sent in overture to the Presbyteries, and they be directed to report their judgment thereon, with such amendments as they may deem expedient, to the next Assembly. Vol. I, p. 119, 1860.

[Such a draft was presented to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That the Directory for Worship, together with all the reports of the Presbyteries thereon, and any amendments of Presbyteries or individuals, which may be sent in to them up to the first of November next, be committed to the same committee, who shall mature and publish the work; that it is

hereby sent down to the Presbyteries in overture, and that they report on the book, aye or no, to the next General Assembly. Vol. I, p. 226, 1861.

[On this overture twenty-four Presbyteries reported, but only eleven reported favorably. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the Directory be referred to a select committee, with instructions to re-write the document.

2. That to this committee be referred all the proposed amendments, either printed or in the reports of Presbyteries.

3. That this select committee be required to report to the next General Assembly. Vol. I, p. 354, 1862.

[This committee not being ready to report, the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Directory for Worship be directed to report to the next meeting of the Assembly. Vol. I, p. 499, 1863.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That a draft of a Directory for Worship be, in general, approved, and that it be hereby overtured to Presbyteries and Sessions, with instructions to report their mind thereon to the next Assembly, particularly stating whether they approve of it so far as to be willing to adopt, yea or nay. Vol. II, p. 27, 1864.

[On this overture twenty-four Presbyteries reported: Yeas, 111; nays, 45. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the amendments, suggested by Presbyteries, be placed in the hands of the committee having charge of the work of preparation of the overture, and that said committee be directed to take action on these recommendations, and submit to the Presbyteries the Directory as amended, for approval or disapproval.

2. That said committee be directed to publish said overture that it may be distributed through the Church by the first of September.

4. That Presbyteries are hereby directed to report to the next General Assembly the number of votes, yea or nay, on said overture. Vol. II, p. 160, 1865.

[On this overture thirty-two Presbyteries reported the following vote: Ayes, 299; nays, 72. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, That the draft of the Directory for Worship be recommitted to the committee appointed to prepare it, with instruction to re-write the book with reference to the amendments that have been suggested by the Presbyteries and with special view to making it more unique and systematic; and that they publish the result of their labors not later than September 1st, 1866, and that the new draft be, and hereby is, overtured to the Presbyteries, in order that they may vote aye or no upon it, and report to the next General Assembly. Vol. II, p. 295, 1866.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the Directory for Worship, overtured by the last General Assembly, has received a large majority of the votes of the Church as reported to the Assembly, it is hereby declared to be of authority in the Church until another shall have been adopted. Vol. II, p. 301, 1866.

[On account of some dissatisfaction with the Directory, especially with the article on instrumental music, the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That a committee be appointed with instructions to rewrite the Directory for Worship with reference to the amendments suggested by Presbyteries, having special reference to greater uniformity and system in the work, and that they publish the result of their labors not later than February 1st, 1868, and that the new draft be, and it hereby is, overtured to the Presbyteries in order that they may vote aye or nay upon it, and report the ayes and nays to the next General Assembly.

2. That the article on instrumental music in the present Directory for

Worship is hereby made a special overture, and Presbyteries are directed to vote aye or nay upon it, and report the ayes and nays to the next General Assembly. Vol. II, p. 408, 1867.

[On this overture the vote stood: Ayes, 229; nays, 58; when the Directory for Worship was declared by the Assembly to be constitutionally adopted. Vol. II, p. 512, 1868. On instrumental music, see p. 112.]

[For the Directory for Worship, see Digest, p. 59.]

2. **Amendment to the Directory for Worship.** *Resolved*, 2. That this Assembly hereby ratifies the decision of the Presbyteries, and declares Sec. 5, Art. 2, Chap. 3, of the Directory for Worship [on instrumental music] repealed. Vol. V, p. 525, 1882. [The vote on the above overture was: Ayes, 620½; nays, 612½; not voting, 9.]

NOTE: For further information on Directory for Worship, consult Chapter XVIII, Book of Government and Directory of Worship.

XLV. DIVINE HEALING

1. **Standing in the Church of Such as Believe In.** On the question referred to the General Assembly by the Synod of Iowa, on the subject of the ecclesiastical standing of those who believe in and practice "divine healing," the Committee on Judiciary would respectfully report:

There is no room to doubt that much of the teaching and practice of the believers in so-called "divine healing" arises from a misinterpretation of Scripture on the subjects of Christ's redemptive work, and of the function of Christian faith, and is repugnant to sanctified common sense. Their rejection of the use of means of recognized utility in the relief of sickness and injury is presumptuous and unscriptural. It is always the duty of those having ecclesiastical oversight of those holding these views and practices to enquire whether the views held are opinions founded on ignorance of Bible teaching, or heretical perversions of the doctrine taught in the Word of God, and whether the non-use of the recognized means of relief or cure is an error of judgment or criminal negligence. Such inquiry should be fairly and kindly prosecuted in each individual case, where the evidence seems to require it. And only where the views are proved heretical, producing divisions in the Church; or the practice criminally negligent, can they deprive such members of their good standing in the Church; therefore,

Resolved, That such persons are to be regarded and—on their request—certified as in good standing, unless on due trial convicted of heretical belief or of criminally negligent practice in the holding and carrying out of their views. Vol. X, p. 25, 1900.

XLVI. DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

In view of certain proposed activities in ecclesiastical circles, looking toward the sanctioning of marriage of all kinds and the legalizing of divorce, and in view of the fact that the Church has ever stood as the guardian of the home, and without such guardianship the home will disintegrate, and in view of the fact that our criminals are coming largely from broken homes, we recommend:

1st. That the Assembly go on record as reaffirming our position on the sanctity of the home and as opposed to divorce save on Scriptural ground.

2nd. That we urge our ministers to exercise care in solemnizing marriage where the divorce question is involved.

3rd. That the Assembly recommend to pastors the necessity of a sermon at least once a year, on the home—stressing the evils of divorce. Vol. XVII, p. 663, 1930.

NOTE: See Book of Government and Directory of Worship, Chapter XX, Section 397.

See also Chapter on Marriage and Divorce in this DIGEST.

XLVII. EDUCATION, BOARD OF

1. **Charter of the Board of Education.** [Authorized by the General Assembly, Vol. I, p. 484, 1863; Vol. IV, p. 22, 1874, granted under a general law of the State of Illinois, November 1, 1876, and approved by the Assembly, Vol. IV, p. 449, 1877.]

I. **PETITION OF THE BOARD FOR INCORPORATION.** State of Illinois, Warren County ss. We, the undersigned, being citizens of the United States, desiring to form an association not for pecuniary profit, pursuant to an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, entitled, "An Act concerning corporations," approved April 18th, 1872, do hereby certify that the following is the true statement of the name or title by which said association shall be known in law, the particular business and object for which it is formed, the number of its managers, and the names of the same selected for the first year of its existence, viz.:

I. **NAME OR TITLE.** The Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

II. **PARTICULAR BUSINESS AND OBJECT.** 1. To cherish and diffuse an educational spirit throughout the Church.

2. To co-operate with the Presbyteries, Synods and General Assembly of the said United Presbyterian Church of North America in the establishment of institutions of learning.

3. To assist in the education of pious and promising young men in their literary and theological education for the ministry.

4. To concert and execute such measures as may be judged proper for increasing the funds of the Board, and promoting the general cause.

III. **NUMBER OF MANAGERS.** Five.

IV. **NAMES OF MANAGERS SELECTED FOR THE FIRST YEAR.** John Scott, David A. Wallace, W. T. Campbell, Ed F. Reid and G. D. Henderson. [This petition was acknowledged by Wm. Marshall, Esq., notary public of Warren county, state of Illinois, October 31st, 1876.]

V. **CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS.** State of Illinois, Department of State, Geo. H. Harlow, Secretary of State. To all whom these Presents shall come, greeting: Whereas a certificate duly signed and acknowledged, having been filed in the office of the Secretary of State on the first day of November, A.D., 1876, for the organization of the Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, under and in accordance with the provisions of "An Act concerning corporations," approved April 18th, 1872, and in force July 1st, 1872, and "An Act to revise the law in relation to universities, colleges, academies and other institutions of learning," approved March 24th, 1874, and in force July 1st, 1874, a copy of which certificate is hereto attached; now, therefore, I, George H. Harlow, Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, by virtue of the powers and duties vested in me by law, do hereby certify that the said "The Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," is a legally organized corporation under the laws of this State.

In testimony whereof I hereby set my hand and cause to be affixed the great seal of State.

Done at the city of Springfield, this first day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and first.

GEORGE H. HARLOW,
Secretary of State.

[The foregoing instruments of writing were recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds for the county of Warren and State of Illinois, on November 4th, 1876, in Vol. 61, of deeds, page 565.]

VI. ACTION OF THE BOARD WITH REFERENCE TO THIS ACT OF INCORPORATION. *Whereas*, the United Presbyterian General Assembly of 1874 directed the Boards, which had not already been incorporated, to become incorporated, under the laws of the State where such Board is located; and *whereas*, members of this Board have secured its incorporation under the laws of this State; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the legal document of incorporation be copied into and made a part of the records of this Board.

2. That this Board thus becoming only a body corporate of politic, but not changed in its relations to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, hereby recognizes as binding on it the rules and regulations which have been given it by the said General Assembly; also, its own actions and obligations, assumed whilst in a non-corporate state.

2. Charter of the Board of Education Amended. The General Assembly of 1913, with the Bible Chair Endowment Fund in mind, directed the Board of Education to have its Charter amended to enable the Board to receive, hold, and administer endowment funds. Vol. XIII, p. 383, 1913.

The Charter amendment was approved by the General Assembly. Vol. XIII, p. 712, 1914.

3. Charter of the Board of Education Amended

Reorganization

In accordance with the action of the last General Assembly the following adjustments have been made, conforming the Board's operations to the expressed will of the Church.

At a meeting held June 12, 1923, the Articles of Association were amended, provision made for revising the By-Laws and three additional members elected. The Articles of Association as amended and the Board as thus constituted is as follows:

Articles of Association

I. NAME OR TITLE. The Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

II. PARTICULAR BUSINESS AND OBJECTS:

1. To cherish and diffuse an educational spirit throughout the Church.

2. To co-operate with the Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assembly of the said United Presbyterian Church of North America in the establishment and support of institutions of learning or any department thereof, and in any lawful manner to aid and encourage the same.

3. To assist the youth of the Church in their education for the ministry, for teaching, for missionary work at home or abroad, and for such services as may in any way be helpful to the Church.

4. To take and receive real and personal property by purchase, gift, devise, bequest or in any lawful manner to hold and administer the same, whether in the form of trusts, endowment funds or otherwise as may seem best to the Board for carrying on its work or any phase or part thereof, and when deemed wise by the Board or for the interests of its work to sell or dispose of such property or any part thereof.

5. To concert and execute such measures as may be judged proper for increasing the funds of the Board, carrying out the purposes of its organization and promoting the general cause of Christian Education.

6. To promote the interests of organized Young People's Work.

7. To recruit and train young persons for the ministerial, missionary, evangelistic and educational work of the Church.

8. To serve as the principal agent of the Church in executing its policy of educational promotion.

III. MANAGERS. Said Board is composed of twelve members elected by the General Assembly of said Church, and all the twelve members of said Board shall be the Trustees, Directors, or Managers of the same and shall have the control and management of all the affairs and funds of said corporation.

The work of the Board was reorganized by the establishment of the following departments:

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, which shall have charge of the administration and promotion of the financial interests of the Board, the investment of its permanent funds, the conservation and supervision of all its properties, the bonding of its treasurer, and the safeguarding and auditing of its books, accounts and securities. The work of this department shall be under the direction of the Executive Committee.

DEPARTMENT OF COLLEGES, directed by a committee of three, which shall have oversight of the interests of the Church in her colleges and all that relates to the promotion of such interests; also of such of her students as attend other than her own colleges.

DEPARTMENT OF RECRUITING AND TRAINING, directed by a committee of three members, which shall keep the call for ministers, missionaries and Christian educators before the Church, recommend grants for aid to such as require assistance in preparation for definite service and put such young people in touch with the boards needing their services.

DEPARTMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK, which shall promote and direct the organized Young People's Work of the Church. This department is under the direction of a committee consisting of three members of the Board, the General Secretary and three consultative members selected by the Y. P. C. U. in national convention.

Each department is subject to the general supervision of the Board to which each committee must report all actions taken. No financial obligation can be incurred without the approval of the Board or the Executive Committee.

At its meeting of September 11, 1923, the following action was taken.

The By-Laws revised to conform to the amended Articles of Association were adopted.

Three persons chosen by the Y. P. C. U. assembled in national convention to represent the interests of that organization were elected to consultative membership. Vol. XVI, p. 127, 1924.

2. Constitution of the Board of Education. [A constitution for the Board of Education was adopted, Vol. I, p. 49, 1859, but it was superseded by the general constitution of the Boards, and the following new constitution]:

1. This Board shall be styled "The Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and shall be located in Monmouth, Illinois.

2. It shall be the object and duty of this Board to cherish and diffuse an educational spirit throughout the Church; to co-operate with Presbyteries, and Synods, and the Assembly, in the establishment of institutions of learning; and to assist in the education of pious and promising young men for the ministry. It shall have power to devise and carry out such measures as may be proper for the promotion of the cause entrusted to its care. Vol. IV, p. 25, 1874.

Resolved, 14. That the name of "Corresponding Secretary" be changed to "General Secretary." Vol. XVI, p. 45, 1924.

Resolved, That the Board shall have charge of Young People's Work. Vol. XV, p. 852, 1923.

Resolved, 3. That the Board of Education be authorized to elect consultative members as they may deem wise. Vol. XIII, p. 382, 1913.

Resolved, 9. That the General Assembly affirm the following as a rule, namely—that in electing members of the Board of Education, members of the faculties of our colleges and seminaries shall not be considered eligible to membership on the Board. Vol. XIV, p. 40, 1916.

Resolved, (c) That the Board of Education is hereby authorized and directed to remove its headquarters from the city of Monmouth, Ill., to the city of Chicago, Ill., as soon as may be convenient. Vol. XIV, p. 40, 1916.

3. **Regulations of the Board of Education.** [The regulations of the Board of Education were approved by the Assembly, Vol. I, p. 222, 1861, and published, Vol. I, p. 248, 1861, and Vol. II, p. 145, 1865. They are as follows:

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD. The Board holds four regular meetings annually, viz.: On the first Tuesdays of August, November, February and May. Special meetings are held when necessary. The place of meeting is the First United Presbyterian Church, Monmouth, Illinois.

DIVISION OF FUNDS. 1. That the Board of Education be instructed to make two funds, one to be called the beneficiary fund and the other the seminary and college fund; and to be careful to have financial agents and others forwarding contributions to designate the object for which they are made.

2. That all undesignated moneys coming to the Board of Education shall be divided in proportion to the amounts appropriated to these funds.

3. That each of our Synods be urged to appoint one of its best qualified members to push this appropriation for our educational institutions within its bounds. Vol. VIII, p. 499, 1894.

GRANTS OF MONEY. Pecuniary aid shall be granted young men only in accordance with the following principles:

1. All applications from theological students made at any meeting shall be first acted on, and then applications from literary students.

2. Testimonials shall certify that the applicant is under the care of some Presbytery of the United Presbyterian Church, that he intends to enter the ministry, that he possesses hopeful piety, that his talents are such as to qualify him for usefulness in the ministry, and that he needs the sum asked. Such testimonials shall be given by the order of the Presbytery to which the applicant belongs, and be signed by the moderator and clerk. Under extraordinary circumstances, testimonials of three members of the Presbytery, of the above tenor, may be accepted; but such testimonials shall in all cases be substituted by regular presbyterial testimonials as soon as practicable. New testimonials shall be furnished every year that aid is granted.

3. Grants exceeding one hundred dollars per annum shall not be made to any one individual, nor be continued more than four years, beginning with the senior year in college.

4. Grants shall be due and payable to theological students in three installments, viz.: One-third on the first of September, one-third on the first of December, and one-third on the first of March; and to literary students in four installments, one-fourth on each of the days mentioned, and one-fourth on the first of June.

5. Beneficiaries shall give obligations of the following tenor: "I do agree that if I do not in due course of time enter the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church, or, having entered it, do not continue in the same, the sum above mentioned shall then become due and payable at the pleasure of the Board, with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum from date."

6. No grant shall be made except by the Board at a regular or special meeting. The regular time for acting on applications shall be the August meeting, but grants may be made at any regular or special meeting duly called.

7. While in all ordinary cases the Presbyteries must, in the very nature of the case, be responsible for the character of the beneficiaries of the Board, and while Presbyteries are urgently solicited to be careful to recommend only

such young men as have the prescribed qualifications; yet the Board shall not knowingly furnish aid to any young man who lacks the prescribed qualifications, even though he be recommended by a Presbytery.

In all ordinary cases, the Board should require its beneficiaries to attend some institution of learning, instead of pursuing their studies privately; yet the Assembly judges that in this matter something should be left to the discretion of the Board.

Especial attention is invited to the following directions:

1. Let young men desiring aid make application directly to the Presbytery for a certificate; if it be impracticable to lay the matter before the Presbytery in season, let a certificate be obtained from three members, and then, at the next meeting of the Presbytery, let a regular certificate be obtained.

2. Let the certificate be forwarded directly to the Corresponding Secretary of the Board, accompanied by a statement of the following facts: (1) The name in full of the beneficiary; (2) His postoffice, town, county and State; (3) His standing as a student; if literary, of what class; if theological, of what year; (4) The college or seminary he purposes attending.

3. Let the applications be forwarded in time to be laid before the Board at their meeting in August, if possible.

4. Let Presbyteries be careful to certify all that is required by the constitution of the Board. No grants can be made without certificates. Applications made in regular form to the Board will, in all cases, receive prompt attention. Many vexatious and unnecessary delays grow out of inattention to the regulations of the Assembly, which the Board cannot disregard.

5. Presbyteries should recommend no one as a beneficiary who does not need and deserve assistance. Vol. II, p. 145, 1865.

[These regulations were amended as follows]:

Resolved, 3. That the third rule adopted by the General Assembly of 1861 be changed so as to read thus: "The maximum of contributions to any one student be \$1,000, and that it be left to the Presbytery and the Board to determine during what time this money shall be expended, and that contributions to any one student for one year shall not exceed \$200." Vol. II, p. 145, 1865.

Resolved, 3. That Articles III and IV of the By-Laws, as amended by the Board, be published with the Minutes of this Assembly.

ARTICLE III. GRANTS OF MONEY. 1. Other things being equal, applications in behalf of students shall have preference according to their advancement in their course of study.

2. The General Assembly has ordered the use of three series of questions, viz.: The first to be answered by the Presbytery to which the applicant belongs; the second by his instructors, literary or theological; and the third by himself. The one answered by the applicant should be sent to his Presbytery and retained by it; the other two should be sent to the Secretary of the Board.

3. When a young man who has already been received as a beneficiary is recommended by his Presbytery for renewed assistance, an official statement to the effect that the applicant is recommended as before will be sufficient. This shall be done every year that aid is granted.

4. The Assembly forbids that grants exceeding two hundred dollars per annum shall be made to any one individual. Owing to scarcity of funds, the Board does not, under any ordinary circumstances, grant more than one hundred and fifty dollars per annum, except that seniors in colleges may receive twenty-five dollars extra, to be paid in connection with the last installment. No one shall receive more than one thousand dollars in the aggregate.

5. Grants shall be due and payable to theological students, etc. See above, Rule 4.

6. Beneficiaries shall give obligations of the following tenor: "I have received from the Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church of North America dollars; and I hereby agree, that if I do not in due course of time enter the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church, or do at any time voluntarily abandon the same, the sum above mentioned shall then become due and payable at the pleasure of the Board, with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum from date."

7. While in all ordinary cases the Presbyteries must in the very nature of the case, etc. See above, Rule 7.

ARTICLE IV. OF WARRANTS, NOTES, ETC. 1. At each quarterly meeting, a warrant of the treasurer, signed by the president and secretary, authorizing him to pay to parties therein named, the sums set opposite to their names, shall be made out.

2. The Treasurer shall pay the sums named in the warrants, as therein directed, and take notes from beneficiaries, and receipts from all other persons to whom money may be paid. The appropriations to beneficiaries, together with notes ready for signature, shall be remitted to the presiding officers of the institutions at which they may be in attendance, who are expected to pay out the same, secure the signatures of the beneficiaries to the notes, and return the same to the Treasurer without unnecessary delay. The warrants of the Board, together with the receipts and notes, shall constitute the vouchers of the Treasurer.

3. The Treasurer shall submit to the Board, at each quarterly meeting, a statement of the receipts from the several Presbyteries during the quarter immediately preceding, and of the balance in the treasury, subject to the order of the Board.

4. At each May meeting an auditing committee shall be appointed, who shall serve for one year. The Treasurer, at the close of each quarter, counting from May first, shall submit his books and vouchers for the quarter then closing, to the auditing committee, who shall examine and report on the same to the Board at its next quarterly meeting.

5. At the close of the financial year the Treasurer shall submit his annual report to the General Assembly to the same committee, who shall return the same with their certificate to the Board at its May meeting.

6. The Treasurer shall publish, at the close of each quarter, in the [papers of the Church], a detailed statement of his receipts during the quarter preceding. Vol. III, p. 540, 1873.

[These regulations were again amended as follows]:

7. That every United Presbyterian theological student, in actual attendance at either of our seminaries, shall receive \$100 per year, without making formal application to his Presbytery, but shall be required to conform to the rule touching the use of tobacco, and to refund the money so received if he fails to enter and remain in the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. VII, p. 28, 1888.

[The Board reported that the funds at command would not be sufficient for the application of the above rule, and the Assembly adopted the following]:

1. That aid be given only to those who are in actual need of assistance, and that this aid be given to theological students, and to literary students of the Senior year who are intending to enter the ministry.

2. Students receiving aid must be taken under the care of Presbytery, and be in attendance at one of our denominational institutions.

3. The regular appropriation of the Assembly shall not exceed \$100, but the Board may have liberty of granting more, in exceptional cases.

4. An application for aid may be made by any student, either through the Presbytery to which he belongs, or directly to the Board, which shall have power to act on all applications.

5. The regulations adopted by the Assembly must be observed by the students as a condition of receiving assistance.

We would recommend the following form of application:

i. Name and address of student.

ii. Name of Presbytery.

iii. Theological Student—The college of which you are a graduate. Literary Student—I am a member of the Senior class ofcollege.

iv. What seminary to you expect to attend during the year?

v. What amount will be necessary to meet your actual expenses?

vi. Do you promise to be faithful in maintaining the principles professed by the United Presbyterian Church?

vii. Will you obey the requirement of the General Assembly that "No student addicted to the use of tobacco, in any form, shall be granted aid by this Board"?

viii. Do you agree to refund the money received if you fail to enter, or should at any time voluntarily forsake the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church?

Date..... Signed.....

This is to certify that Mr..... was, on theday of.....

18... , received as a student of theology (or, literary student of the Senior year) by the Presbytery of.....

This certificate to be signed by the Clerk of Presbytery or the pastor of the congregation of which the student is a member. Vol. VII, pp. 229, 281, 1889.

[The General Assembly, Vol. VII, p. 432, 1889, appointed a committee to devise a plan whereby ample aid may be furnished each student who may need help to prosecute his theological education in our own seminaries without encumbrance of debt at its completion. The committee submitted to the next Assembly the following report, which was adopted]:

1. That the regular appropriation of the Assembly shall not exceed fifty dollars to licensed students of the third year; one hundred dollars to unlicensed seniors and to students of the second year. Students of the first year may receive one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

2. If at any time the resources of the Board are not sufficient to pay the full appropriation to all students, the chief reduction is to be in the amount paid to the unlicensed seniors, and students of the second year.

3. That the rule now governing the Board, viz.: "An application for aid may be made by any student, either through the Presbytery to which he belongs, or directly to the Board, which shall have power to act on all applications, when certified by the Clerk of Presbytery, or the pastor of the congregation of which the student is a member"; be so amended as to read, "Aid may be secured on recommendation of the Presbytery to which the student belongs, or of the faculty of the seminary which he is attending, in connection with, and when certified by the Clerk of his Presbytery." Vol. VII, pp. 623, 731, 1891.

In order that the greatest good may be done to the greatest number of young men, therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly direct the Board of Education, when granting aid to students, to take into account the amount received by students from the other funds, so that no student shall receive aid in excess of one hundred and fifty dollars each year. Vol. VII, p. 653, 1891.

3. **Academies to Seek Endowment.** *Resolved*, 7. That we recommend academies to seek endowment, and thereby ensure a prolonged as well as useful existence. Vol. VI, p. 663, 1887.

4. **Agency for Handling Educational Moneys.** *Resolved*, 5. That the Church place the handling and distribution of its educational moneys (i.e., the moneys received from the regular contributions of the Church for educational

purposes) in the care of some one agency, and that that agency be its Board of Education. Vol. XIII, p. 712, 1914.

5. **Aid to Literary Students.** [The Assembly, Vol. V, p. 39, 1879, re-affirmed the action of 1875 limiting the beneficiaries of the Board to theological students. The Board was authorized to grant aid to literary students of the senior year, to an amount not exceeding one hundred dollars. Vol. VI, p. 30, 1884.]

5. That this General Assembly urge Presbyteries, recommending students to the Board, not to present the names of students who are undergraduates and persons not intending to graduate, unless the cases are rarely exceptional. Vol. VI, p. 663, 1887.

4. Literary students of the Junior and Senior years, intending to enter the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church, when properly certified as needing aid, may be granted a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars, so soon as the proceeds of the Speers estate shall have been distributed. Vol. VII, p. 434, 1890.

[A memorial from the Presbytery of College Springs, asked the General Assembly "to direct the Board of Education under its rules to pay the tuition of literary students in the collegiate department who are intending to enter the ministry, and to grant no other aid to literary students."]

Resolved, That aid be granted to all students who have passed the freshman class, as the Board may be able. Vol. VII, p. 652, 1891.

17. Grants to students in a college not under the United Presbyterian Church are to be made only from the discretionary funds of the Board. Vol. XVI, p. 348, 1925.

Resolved, 6. That a carefully selected number of persons desiring to qualify for service in the field of Christian education by studying for an advanced degree in an approved university, may, on filing applications similar to those now required of theological and medical students and bearing the endorsement of a college president, be granted aid from the Student Beneficiary Fund in an amount not to exceed \$500.00 annually, provided such grants shall not exceed five in any one year. Vol. XVI, p. 44, 1924.

6. **Aid in Proportion to Attendance.** *Resolved*, 3. That the amount paid to each student shall be proportionate to the time of his actual attendance at the Seminary during the session. Vol. V, p. 357, 1881.

7. **Aid to Literary Institutions.** [The Board of Education was instructed to report to the Assembly what grants of funds may, and ought to, be made from the funds under its control in aid of academical institutions. Vol. V, p. 739, 1883.]

The following regulations were adopted:]

The Board shall expend these funds according to the following rules and regulations:

(a) Aid shall be granted to academies only so far as the supplementing of salaries of teachers is concerned, the rooms and grounds being furnished by the community in which the academy receiving aid is situated.

(b) For the present, the Board shall not grant more than five hundred dollars in one year to any academy.

(c) It shall be the duty of the Board to recommend, and, as far as possible, secure the appointment of competent teachers.

(d) The Board shall report annually to the Assembly all its proceedings in the way of aiding academies, specifying the academies aided, the amount granted to each, the number of students in attendance, and other details.

(e) All the proceedings of the Board in this particular shall be subject to the control of the Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 30, 1884.

1. The academies receiving aid from the Board must be incorporated

institutions under the management of a board of trustees, in distinction from a private or individual enterprise.

2. That the academy should own and occupy, or give assurance to the Board of speedy erection of buildings, suited to the purposes of the school.

3. Institutions receiving aid must be under the control of a board of trustees or managers, the majority of whom shall be in connection with the United Presbyterian Church.

4. Report as to the work of the school, number of teachers and pupils and general management, should be made to the Board of Education annually, not later than the 20th of April. Vol. VI, p. 662, 1887.

8. **Aid to Colleges in Exceptional Cases.** [The Assembly made a grant of five hundred dollars to Tarkio College for one year, Vol. VI, p. 226, 1885, and a similar grant to Cooper Memorial College, in both cases "with the distinct understanding that this is not to be regarded as establishing a precedent." Vol. VII, p. 229, 1889.]

9. **Aid to Medical Students.** *Resolved*, 2. That the following rules for the guidance of the Board of Education in granting aid to medical students preparing for medical service under the Board of Foreign Missions of our Church, be adopted:

(1) The candidate must be a graduate of an accredited college.

(2) The candidate must be a member of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, or of a closely related body, for at least one year prior to his receiving aid, and shall be recommended by the session of his church after it shall have examined him as to his piety, his motives for entering the field of medical missions, his talents, his health, his promise of practical efficiency, and his freedom from expensive and injurious habits. This sessional recommendation shall be approved by the Committee of Education of his Presbytery.

(3) The candidate must meet such requirements as the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church chooses to impose upon him at this stage of his preparation. No medical student shall be aided by this Board who is not unqualifiedly approved by the Board of Foreign Missions. It is, however, distinctly understood that the Board of Foreign Missions is under no more obligation to appoint such candidate after graduation from the medical college than if he had been unaided by the Board of Education.

(4) Application blanks will be furnished by the Board of Education to the candidate, who will see that they are properly made out, first by his session, then approved by his Presbyterial Committee on Education, after which they are to be forwarded to the Board of Education for its consideration. The recommendation of the Board of Foreign Missions imposes no obligation upon the Board of Education to accept any candidate for aid.

(5) In case a medical student thus aided is refused appointment by the Foreign Board after his graduation, or in case he abandons his purpose of entering the Foreign field as a medical missionary, all monies granted by the Board of Education shall be by him refunded to the Board of Education with interest.

(6) Applicant must give satisfactory note, with approved security.

(7) Only students in "Class A" institutions of the American Medical Association shall be aided. Vol. XIII, p. 382, 1913.

10. **Beneficiaries May Not Use Tobacco.** *Resolved*, 2. That no student addicted to the use of tobacco in any form shall be granted aid by this Board. Vol. V, p. 39, 1879.

2. That the refusal of the Board to aid young men preparing for the holy ministry, who are known to violate their solemn pledges by the use of tobacco, is especially worthy of endorsement. Vol. VI, p. 225, 1885.

4. That the Board be directed to continue the rule that beneficiaries shall not use tobacco. Vol. VI, p. 663, 1887.

2. That the rule enacted by the Assembly of 1879, and reaffirmed by the Assembly of 1887, "that beneficiaries shall not use tobacco," be construed to mean *absolute abstinence* from the use of tobacco.

3. That the endorsement of the Presbytery having the care of the student, be made in all cases a condition of aid from the Board of Education. Vol. VIII, p. 269, 1893.

2. The Board is directed to refuse aid to students who marry in immediate prospect of the study of theology, or while prosecuting their studies.

3. The Board is commended for its refusal to grant aid to students who have violated the conditions upon which aid was granted. Vol. IX, p. 772, 1899.

11. **Beneficiaries to Be Reported.** *Resolved*, That the Board be directed to report every year to the General Assembly the names of the students under their care, for the information of the Assembly but not to be published in the minutes. Vol. IV, p. 317, 1876.

12. **Chair of Bible in the Colleges.** *Resolved*, That the Assembly most heartily endorse the plan of the Board of Education whereby endowment funds are to be secured for the establishment and support of a Chair of English Bible in each of our colleges, and further, that the Assembly authorize the Board of Education to so enlarge the scope of its charter as to enable it to receive, hold, and administer endowment funds. Vol. XIII, p. 383, 1913.

13. **Competitive Examination of Beneficiaries.** *Resolved*, That to secure the end sought, the Board is directed to provide and carry into effect, at as early a period as possible, a scheme of competitive examinations. Vol. IV, p. 45, 1874.

14. **Day of Prayer for Colleges.** [For many years the Assembly designated a day of prayer for colleges.]

Resolved, That the last Wednesday of January, 1892, and the same day of each succeeding year, until otherwise ordered, be set apart as the Day of Prayer for Colleges. Vol. VII, p. 656, 1891.

The Assembly of 1899 changed the date to the second Sabbath of February. This date was adhered to until the Assembly of 1918 appointed the fourth Sabbath of February. Since the Assembly of 1931 appointed the third Sabbath of February, this date has been appointed by successive Assemblies.

15. **Educational Institutions to Report to the Board.** *Resolved*, 5. That our seminaries, colleges and academies be directed to report to the Assembly, through the Board of Education, the number of instructors, number of students, the work and needs of the institution, the contributions received from the Church, and other matters pertaining to the educational work of the Church. Vol. VII, p. 28, 1888.

[Memorials were presented to the Assembly from the Boards of Trustees of Monmouth and Westminster Colleges asking to report directly to the Assembly. A paper granting the request and authorizing representatives of these colleges to appear in the Assembly and be heard in their behalf, was laid on the table until the next meeting of the General Assembly. Vol. VII, pp. 203, 227, 1889. The institutions asked and obtained leave to withdraw their memorial. Vol. VII, p. 409, 1890.]

5. New educational enterprises should be undertaken by Presbyteries or Synods with the approval of the General Assembly representing the whole Church, and such enterprises shall be brought before the Assembly for its action through the Board of Education. Vol. IX, p. 772, 1899.

16. **Faculties to Report Observance of Regulations.** *Resolved*, 6. That a rule be adopted, asking the faculty of the seminary or college to report to the Board, before each payment, respecting the observance of the regulations

adopted by the Assembly for the government of students receiving aid. Vol. VII, p. 28, 1888.

17. **Married Beneficiaries.** *Resolved*, That in case a beneficiary enters the marriage relation, aid may be continued or not, at the discretion of the Board. Vol. III, p. 148, 1870.

Resolved, That the Board be directed to make no discrimination among students on account of their marital relations, unless these increase the demands upon the Board. Vol. III, p. 418, 1872.

(d) That the Board be directed to make no grants under ordinary circumstances to such students as marry immediately prior to entering upon or while pursuing their seminary course. Vol. XV, p. 863, 1923.

18. **National Aid for Education.** The officers of the Assembly were directed to sign and forward in the name of the Assembly, the following petition to the Senate of the United States:

To the Honorable Senate of the United States: We, the undersigned citizens of the United States, profoundly concerned for the passage of the Blair Educational Bill, do respectfully entreat your honorable body to reconsider and enact it into a law. Vol. VII, p. 410, 1890.

19. **Popular Meeting on Education in the Assembly Meeting.** The following recommendation was adopted:

3. That a popular evening program on Christian Education under the auspices of the Board of Education be arranged during Assembly week hereafter. Vol. XIII, p. 713, 1914.

The title of this Popular Meeting was changed to "A Popular Meeting on Education and Young People's Work." Vol. XVII, p. 953, 1931.

20. **Presbyteries to Exercise Care of Young Men.** *Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be requested to give special care to the training of young men under their care. Vol. V, p. 735, 1883.

21. **Repayment of Aid Received by Ministers Leaving the Denomination.** The following action was taken:

3. A third memorial, from Butler Presbytery, came before us asking "That ministers who, while pursuing their seminary course, receive aid from the Board of Education be not required to pay back to the Board any aid they may have received, in the event of their leaving the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church, provided that they have rendered five years or more of service in the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church." We would recommend that the prayer of the memorialists be granted with the provision that the required term of service be extended to ten years. Vol. XIII, p. 713, 1914.

22. Travel Expenses of Students

(1) College Students

Resolved, 8. That the rules governing the administration of the Student Traveling Fund be so amended as that the provision of the fund be limited to United Presbyterian students from congregations located within the bounds of New York, Columbia and California Synods, together with those from the Presbyteries of Wisconsin, Colorado and Texas and the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Arkansas. Payment from this fund shall be made only to those students who have passed not less than twelve hours of regular class work during the first semester and are in residence on March 1st, following. The payment shall be made in the amount of one-half of the railway fare reckoned to a point 200 miles from the nearest United Presbyterian College and return. Vol. XVII, p. 50, 1928.

(2) Theological Students

Resolved, That the Board be authorized to grant an allowance on Seminary Students' traveling expenses on the same general basis as College Students,

except that the student may choose which Seminary he desires to attend, the mileage allowed him to within two hundred miles of the Seminary he desires to attend. Vol. XVII, p. 337, 1929.

XLVIII. ELECTIVE FRANCHISE

1. **Pastors Should Instruct Their Congregations in This Duty.** *Resolved*, That it is the duty of the pastor to instruct the people of his charge, in relation to the responsibility which rests upon them in the exercise of the elective franchise, as well as with regard to all other obligations which rest upon them as Christians and as citizens, as circumstances may require. Vol. I, p. 480, 1863.

2. **The Elective Franchise Should Be Extended to the Colored Race.** 1. As this Church has deemed it a part of her mission in times past to "open her mouth for the dumb," she should labor still to set the black man right in view of all his wrongs.

2. That class legislation is a curse to any country, and we condemn as anti-Christian the silly notion that the circumstance of color should, to any extent or in any sense, limit or enlarge the application of the sacred principles of human liberty.

3. While we deem it alike indispensable to the safety and happiness both of blacks and whites to fully enfranchise the colored race, especially in view of his loyalty and acts of valor done in our defense, it becomes a claim of clearest moral justice.

4. From what we have seen and known of prejudice against the colored race, we have reason to expect to this specific point of reformation determined and persevering opposition; and hence that our people be carefully warned to take no part in such opposition, "lest haply they be found fighting against God."

5. Believing that the circumstances of our country are such as are contemplated in our constitution, which is as follows, Chap. XXXI, Sec. 5: "Synods and councils are to handle or conclude nothing but that which is ecclesiastical, and are not to intermeddle with civil affairs, which concern the commonwealth, unless by way of humble petition, in cases extraordinary," we recommend the people under our care to petition Congress for such legislation as shall secure, according to the preceding declarations, the rights of the colored race. Vol. II, p. 166, 1865. [A dissent, with reasons, was entered against this action of the Assembly. Vol. II, p. 167, 1865.]

3. **Woman's Suffrage.** *Resolved*, That we give our hearty endorsement to the cause of Woman's Suffrage and pledge our earnest effort toward giving them equal rights with men on all questions of public concern. Vol. XIV, p. 693, 1919.

XLIX. EVANGELISM

The following recommendations were adopted:

There have been placed in our hands memorials from the Presbyteries of Allegheny, Monongahela, Des Moines, and the Synod of Illinois; also Article I, of Section 3, of the report of the Semi-Centennial Committee. These memorials indicate a commendable awakening of interest on the part of the Church in the line of evangelistic efforts. Your committee recommends, first, That a permanent committee be created to stimulate synods, presbyteries and congregations in aggressive evangelistic work, and to devise and suggest measures for the systematic prosecution of such work, said committee to cooperate with the Board of Home Missions; second, This committee shall be known as the Committee on Evangelistic Work, and shall consist of seven

members, who shall be appointed by the General Assembly, one of whom shall retire each year, but shall be eligible to re-election. The chairman of the committee each year shall be the member whose name stands first in order; third, This committee shall constitute the committee on evangelization, contemplated in the report of the committee on semi-centennial celebration, during the lifetime of said commission. Vol. X, p. 849, 1903.

Resolved. (a) That the work of the Committee, in placing in the hands of pastors and sessions a tract on "Methods of Evangelistic Work," in keeping the subject before our people in the Church papers, in the distribution of leaflets, and appointing Synodical and Presbyterian Committees, be approved.

(b) That the General Assembly earnestly recommends to synods and presbyteries, sessions and pastors to pray and plan for a spiritual awakening that the whole Church may be revived and the Kingdom of Christ advanced.

(c) That synods and presbyteries that have not yet complied with the request of the last Assembly in the appointment of Permanent Committees on Evangelistic Work be asked to do so at once. Vol. XI, p. 583, 1906.

Resolved. 1. That the Presbyteries of the Church be urged and admonished to assume leadership and direction in the work of evangelism within their bounds.

2. That our congregations be asked to plan definite programs for the quickening of their spiritual life and for the ingathering of souls into the Kingdom of Christ.

3. That the Committee on Evangelism of the Board of Home Missions, in co-operation with the officers of the General Assembly, be instructed to arrange for a similar Pre-Assembly Evangelistic Conference for the next General Assembly. Vol. XIV, p. 728, 1919.

L. EVANGELISTS

1. **Unlicensed Students as Evangelists.** *Resolved.* 5. That . . . our Presbyteries be recommended to fully employ their unlicensed theological students in evangelistic work during their vacations. Vol. VII, p. 460, 1890.

2. **Institute for Training Evangelists.** [The General Assembly—1890—appointed a committee on the subject of training members of the Church for evangelistic labor.]

The committee reported; and the Assembly adopted the following plan for evangelistic training:

1. That a Bible Institute be held in some central locality for the benefit of such members of our Church as may desire to fit themselves for more effective Christian labor than they are at present able to accomplish.

2. That such Institute be held annually in the month of July or August, for a term of not less than two nor more than four weeks.

3. That should such Institute prove successful, it be removed from year to year to different sections of the Church, that the largest number may enjoy its benefits; or that two or more Institutes be held in the same year.

4. That the course of instruction embrace the following principal topics: (1) The English Bible; (2) The Plan of Salvation; (3) The Distinctive Principles of our Church; (4) Methods of Christian Work.

5. That a committee of three be appointed who shall have charge of this matter, designate the place of holding the Institute, select the teachers, and announce the opening of the term of study. Vol. VII, p. 629, 1891.

3. **Training in the Seminaries for Evangelistic Work.** The General Assembly appointed a committee "to consider plans for securing additional training of students in the seminaries for evangelistic work, and report upon the same to the Synods having oversight of the seminaries and to the next General Assembly." Vol. VII, p. 653, 1891.

4 **Evangelists to Be Certified by Their Presbyteries.** *Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly hereby directs and requires all those desiring to engage in general evangelistic work among our churches to secure certificates of fitness and ability for this work from their respective presbyteries.

2. That congregations be directed to employ only those as evangelists who have received distinct presbyterial endorsement for such service, or the endorsement of some other recognized ecclesiastical body.

3. That the Committee on Revision of the Book of Government and Discipline be requested to define the status of evangelists in our Church, and to frame proper rules for their employment. Vol. XI, p. 874, 1907.

NOTE: Consult Book of Government and Directory of Worship, Chapter XV, Section 56; Chapter XV, Sections 167-169.

LI. FINANCE

1. **Standing Committee on Finance.** See Rules of Order.

Resolved, 5. That the following be adopted as a Standing Rule:

All resolutions offered in the General Assembly, and all propositions coming from others than Boards and Standing Committees, appropriating money, shall first be referred to the Committee of Finance, to be examined, and their judgment reported before final action. Vol. V, p. 358, 1881.

LII. FINANCIAL AGENTS

1. **Election of Financial Agents.** *Resolved*, 5. That the delegates from each Presbytery shall nominate, and the Assembly annually appoint, a member of each Presbytery financial agent for the same. Vol. I, p. 117, 1860.

Resolved, That the clerks of Presbyteries be instructed to furnish the Principal Clerk, previously to the meeting of the Assembly, with a list of nominations for financial agents and superintendents of missions, with their postoffice address, and that the clerk be instructed to report this list to the General Assembly for confirmation. Vol. III, p. 28, 1869.

2. **Duties of Financial Agents.** *Resolved*, 5. That the delegates from each Presbytery shall nominate, and the Assembly annually appoint, a member of each Presbytery financial agent for the same, who shall be the medium of correspondence between the Boards and the Presbyteries, and who shall be charged with the special duty of seeing to it that the will of the Assembly is fully carried out in each Presbytery. Vol. I, p. 117, 1860.

Resolved, 2. * * * That financial agents be prompt in reporting to their Presbyteries and publishing in the papers, the contributions they have received, as well as from what congregations, and that they forward the funds on hand to the various treasurers at least quarterly, and oftener, if possible; and that Presbyteries see to it that these agents perform their duties promptly, and also that non-contributing congregations be called to account for their neglect, and that pastors, Sessions and people be urged to meet their obligations to sustain our benevolent work at home and abroad. Vol. IV, p. 320, 1876.

5. That, in order to give ample time for the treasurers of congregations to forward their contributions, and to the treasurers of the Boards to make up their accounts, the financial agents be instructed to close their accounts, on the 20th of April, and remit promptly to the Treasurers of the Boards whatever moneys may be on hand. Vol. IX, p. 770, 1899.

It is submitted, that the financial agent is the Assembly's officer, and in order to define the duties of the position, the following is recommended:

1. To seek the counsel and co-operation of Presbyteries, by laying before them the work to be done, and securing, as far as possible, such wise and judicious action as will enlist the Sessions and people in the work.

2. To keep before Sessions and people, by correspondence and personal intercourse, the workings and wants of the Boards.

3. To endeavor to have each congregation adopt some efficient plan for raising the funds of the Church, recognizing the fact that pastors and Sessions are divinely constituted agencies to do this work in each congregation.

4. To call attention of Sessions to any remissness on the part of any congregation in their contribution to any of the funds.

5. To report to each regular meeting of Presbytery the condition of the financial work in its several congregations.

6. To secure general conferences on the work of the Church in the hands of the several Boards.

7. To have their accounts audited by the Presbyteries each year. Vol. IV, p. 452, 1877.

1. In view of the many delinquencies reported, that all Financial Agents and Presbyteries be and they hereby are, directed to urge upon all our people and congregations to make some contributions to each and all of the Boards of the Church annually, and report annually to the Assembly on the subject, in the hope that the present number of delinquent congregations and Presbyteries may annually grow less. Vol. V, p. 198, 1880.

Resolved, That Financial Agents be urged to attend all meetings of Presbytery, as the Assembly's officers, and be diligent in the discharge of their duties as laid down by former Assemblies. Vol. VI, p. 238, 1885, also p. 432, 1886.

3. **Financial Agents to Apportion the Funds Among the Congregations.** *Resolved*, That the financial agents be directed at an early day to apportion the sum required from their Presbyteries among the congregations, settled and vacant, and urge upon them the great importance of complying with the above requisitions. Vol. II, p. 28, 1864.

4. **All Contributions to Be Made Through the Financial Agents.** *Resolved*, That congregations or individuals, forwarding subscriptions to the various Boards, should do so through the financial agents of their respective Presbyteries, and that the treasurers of such Boards acknowledge the same as received from such Presbyteries. Vol. II, p. 162, 1865.

Resolved, 10. That all the contributions of churches, Sabbath schools and societies shall be made through the financial agents of Presbyteries. Vol. III, p. 535, 1873.

Resolved, 6. That congregations be instructed to forward their contributions through the financial agents of the Presbyteries, and that the financial agents be instructed to report, when requested by the Board to do so, the amount contributed by each congregation. Vol. IV, p. 302, 1873.

[The Missionary Societies were exempted from this rule.]

Resolved, 1. That the resolution [6, above], directing that all contributions shall be made through financial agents of Presbyteries, is hereby changed so as no longer to apply to Missionary Societies, and that the Assembly recommend that these societies make all their contributions for missionary purposes through *their own* Presbyterian Treasurers. Vol. VII, p. 220, 1889.

5. **Financial Agents to Acknowledge the Moneys Received by Them.** *Resolved*, That it be the duty of the financial agents to acknowledge such subscriptions in the local papers of the Church. Vol. II, p. 162, 1865.

Resolved, 3. * * * That financial agents be directed to acknowledge, by publishing in detail all moneys received by them, and that it be no part of the duty of the General Treasurer to publish receipts of funds. Vol. III, p. 416, 1872.

Resolved, 2. * * * That financial agents be prompt in reporting to their Presbyteries, and publishing in the papers, the contributions they have received, as well as from congregations. Vol. IV, p. 320, 1876.

6. **Blanks for Financial Agents.** *Resolved*, 9. That blank forms be prepared by the Assembly for the use of financial agents in remitting moneys to the different treasurers of the Boards and other funds of the Church, with directions as to the manner of using the same. Vol. III, p. 535, 1873.

That the clerks of Assembly be authorized and directed to procure a uniform set of books and blanks for reports, for the use of financial agents and treasurers of the Boards; and that they are hereby authorized to draw upon the Assembly's Treasurer for the amount of the bill. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

7. **Persons to Co-operate With Financial Agents.** *Resolved*, 3. That the Committee on Ways and Means be empowered to secure in every Presbytery the help of one or more persons, specially interested in bringing before the people of all our congregations the claims and needs of the general work of the Church, who shall advise and co-operate with the financial agent in his work. Vol. VII, p. 641, 1891.

8. **A General Financial Agent for the Whole Church.** *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to consider the subject of appointing a general treasurer and financial agent for the entire Church, and that they recommend a suitable person for this office, and report to the next General Assembly. Vol. II, p. 418, 1867. [This committee presented a report, recommending the appointment of a general financial agent. This report was before several Assemblies, when it was overtured and rejected by the following vote: Ayes, 208; nays, 245; not voting, 21. Vol. III, p. 150, 1870.]

[Resolutions for the appointment of a general financial agent were introduced into the Assembly of 1875, Vol. IV, p. 189, and were referred to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That the appointment of a general financial agent, as contemplated in the paper assigned to us, be postponed for the present. Vol. IV, p. 320, 1876.

[Sundry memorials were presented, asking the Assembly to appoint a general financial agent. The following action was taken]:

1. That a committee be appointed to prepare, in the use of such time and study of facts, and careful deliberation, as the work needs and its great importance merits, a system of finance, with a view to the correction, or at least to the mitigation of the evils deplored; that said committee shall consist of [seven persons], with the Corresponding Secretaries of the Boards as advisory members; and that said committee be directed to publish first draft of its scheme in the Church papers on or before October 1, next.

2. That the Presbyteries of the Church be directed to consider the scheme of finance, which the said committee may thus propose, and on or before February 1, 1892, report to the committee their views with reference to it, and any amendments they may think expedient, with their reasons for suggesting such amendments.

3. That the committee carefully consider the views expressed by the Presbyteries, and the amendments proposed; and then revise and complete their scheme by the incorporation in it of such changes as may seem to be expedient, in the light shed upon all parts of the subject by the advices from the Presbyteries.

4. That the committee publish in the papers of the Church, about May 1, 1892, their scheme of financial management, as thus completed; and finally, that they present it to the next Assembly for action thereon.

5. That to this committee be referred the various memorials on this subject now before the Assembly, including the memorial asking that the contributions of Women's Missionary Societies be forwarded through the financial agents of the Presbyteries. Vol. VII, p. 645, 1891.

[Sundry memorials were presented to the Assembly, asking for a better system of finance. A committee was appointed to prepare a system with a

view to the correction, or at least the mitigation, of the evils deplored; to publish a preliminary report for the consideration of the Presbyteries, and, in the light of their suggestion, to prepare a final report for the Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 645, 1891.]

i. We commend the committee having this matter in charge during the past year, for their careful and exhaustive investigation and full report upon this subject.

ii. We recommend that the General Assembly create the office of a General Secretary, under the following regulations:

1. The title of this officer shall be Financial Secretary.

2. The term of office shall be three years.

3. The duties of office shall be, first, by correspondence, through the press, and by personal presentation, to educate the people to greater liberality; second, when so ordered by the General Assembly, he shall also become the General Treasurer, to whom all funds shall be remitted, and he shall, at the end of each month, remit to the Treasurer of each Board or fund the amount to its credit.

4. The compensation of this office shall be \$2,000 per annum. All actual expenses incurred in the work of the office, together with the salary, shall be paid out of the General Assembly Fund.

iii. We unite with the committee in urging "each congregation to adopt some regular system for raising the funds of the Church," and with the committee would also urge to this end the adoption of the "envelope system," at the earliest possible opportunity.

We also call attention to that part of the committee's report concerning tithe-giving, and again urge upon our people the plan of giving one-tenth of their income to the Lord's work. Vol. VIII, pp. 38, 39, 1892.

[The foregoing was reaffirmed by the Assembly of 1902, and the Committee on Ways and Means was directed to secure a suitable person for the office.]

9. **Date of Final Remittances of the Year.** *Resolved*, That the Missionary and Efficiency Committee make no remittances to the Treasurers of any Board or department of the Church work for a current year after April 29th of that year, and that all Financial Agents be notified of this fact and instructed to send in their remittances to the Missionary and Efficiency Committee on or before April 25th, and that any moneys received by the Missionary and Efficiency Committee after this date be carried over into the accounts of the next year. Vol. XIII, p. 1100, 1915.

10. **Bonds for Financial Agents.** *Resolved*, That Presbyteries be required to place under bond their Financial Agents. Vol. XV, p. 30, 1920.

LIII. FORBEARANCE IN LOVE

Resolved, Third. That inasmuch as on the consummation of the union of the Associate and the Associate Reform Churches, it was "agreed between the two Churches that the forbearance in love which is required by the law of God, will be exercised toward any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe to the standards of the United Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace and things wherewith one may edify another," it is the judgment of this General Assembly that this same gospel principle, which the fathers avouched in the day of their solemn covenant, should rule in the hearts of their children as they interpret and apply the distinguishing testimony of the Church in the case of those who now seek admission to her communion.

Fourth. That maintaining this historic position of the United Presbyterian Church, fortified by the deliverances of former General Assemblies, we

affirm it to be the right and duty of sessions to receive into full Church membership those who apply for such privilege, even though they may not be able fully to subscribe to her standards, provided they give evidence of sincere and humble faith, and covenant to seek the peace, purity and prosperity of the Church, and to preserve inviolate their allegiance to Jesus Christ. Vol. XI, p. 29, 1904.

LIV. FOREIGN MISSIONS, BOARD OF

1. **Charter of the Board of Foreign Missions.** [Granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, approved by the Governor, April 12, 1866, and accepted by the General Assembly, Vol. II, p. 302, 1866.]

Whereas, The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North American has a Board of Foreign Missions, composed of ministers and laymen, members of the said Church, the design of which is the establishing and conducting Christian missions among the uncivilized or pagan nations, and the general diffusion of Christianity; and,

Whereas, The aforesaid Board of Foreign Missions labors under serious disadvantages as to receiving donations and bequests, and as to the management of funds entrusted to them for the purposes designated in their constitution, and in accordance with the benevolent intentions of those from whom such bequests and donations are received; therefore,

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, etc. That James Prestley, John B. Dales, Francis Church, Thomas H. Hanna, Samuel C. Huey, Wm. Getty, Thomas Stinson and William W. Barr, citizens of the United States, and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and their successors, are hereby constituted and declared to be a body politic and corporate, which shall henceforth be known by the name of the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and as such shall have perpetual succession, and be able to sue and be sued in all courts of record and elsewhere, and to purchase and receive, take and hold to them and their successors forever lands, tenements, hereditaments, money, goods and chattels, and all kinds of estate which may be devised, bequeathed or given to them, and the same to sell, alien, demise and convey, also to make and use a common seal, and the same to alter and renew at their pleasure, and also to make such rules, by-laws and ordinances as may be needful for the government of the said corporation, and not inconsistent with the constitution and laws of the United States and of this State. *Provided always*, that the clear and annual income of the real and personal estate held by this corporation shall not at any time exceed the sum of twenty thousand dollars. The corporation of persons above named shall hold their offices for three years from the date of this act, and until their successors are duly qualified to take their places, who shall be chosen at such times and in such way and manner as shall be prescribed by the said General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. The said Board hereby incorporated and their successors shall be subject to the direction of said General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, have full power to manage the funds and property committed to their care in such manner as shall be most advantageous, not being contrary to law.

2. **Constitution of the Board of Foreign Missions.** [A constitution for the Board of Foreign Missions was adopted, Vol. I, p. 45, 1859, but it was superseded by the general constitution of the Boards, and the following new constitution]:

1. This Board shall be styled "The Board of Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and shall be located in the city of Philadelphia.

2. To this Board shall be entrusted, under the direction and control of

the Assembly, the superintendence of the Foreign Missionary operations of the Church. To this Board shall belong the duty, though not the exclusive right, of nominating to the Assembly missionaries and agents, and of designating fields of labor. They shall also receive reports of the Corresponding Secretary, and give him needful direction, prepare, for the Assembly estimates of all appropriations and expenditures of money, and take such action as may be necessary to secure the efficient and successful prosecution of the work committed to their care. Vol. IV, p. 23, 1874.

3. **Two Laymen on the Board.** *Resolved*, 8. That in order to conform to the laws of the State of Pennsylvania and also for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of the Board, authority is hereby given the Board to add two laymen to its membership, the term of service of the one to be for one year and of the other for two years. Vol. XIII, p. 720, 1914.

4. **Associate Secretary.** *Resolved*, 5. That in view of increasing demands upon the administrative department of the Board the Board be authorized to select and appoint some one who shall serve as Associate Secretary for the Board at a salary not to exceed two thousand dollars. Vol. XII, p. 28, 1908.

3. **Regulations of the Board of Foreign Missions.** [Approved by the General Assembly, Vol. I, p. 227, 1861.]

1. Every application to be recommended to the General Assembly, for an appointment to be a missionary in the Foreign Field, shall be given in to the Board at the earliest time convenient, that thus there may be an opportunity for making all proper inquiries in regard to it. This application shall be presented in writing, briefly stating the applicant's age, habits, education, previous employment, the length of time he has been a professor of religion, his motives and reasons for desiring to engage in the missionary service, the field of labor he prefers, the state of his health, his purpose or position in reference to marriage, and the probabilities of his permanent continuance in the mission work if appointed and sent out.

2. No student, licentiate or minister shall be recommended by this Board for an appointment who cannot give written testimonials from persons who have known him, in reference to his character and supposed fitness for the missionary service, and who has not also been specially recommended as possessing suitable qualifications by the Presbytery to which he belongs. It is also very desirable, if at all possible, that the Board shall have a personal interview or acquaintance with him.

3. In no case shall the Board be held liable for debts of the candidate, contracted previously to his appointment, nor for any after it, unless they were authorized by the Board; and while his wishes in regard to his field of labor are to be carefully consulted, he is to hold himself at the direction of the Board, as the necessities of the whole field, or the emergencies of any particular part of it, may require.

4. After his appointment the candidate is to keep the Board informed of his postoffice address, and while the whole matter of his ordination is left to the Presbytery, yet it is recommended that it be attended to at an early day, so that there may be no distraction or delay in his departure on account of it—and also that it be at such time and place, if circumstances will allow, as will best subserve the interests of the cause of missions.

5. Every married missionary shall be allowed at least \$400 from the mission funds, for an outfit, and every unmarried missionary \$200, together with all the expenses in each case, of traveling under the direction of the Board, and of the passage from their home to the field of labor. The regular salary shall commence with the day of arriving in the field of labor.

6. In all cases, apparatus, surgical instruments, books and durable property of any kind, which have been purchased by special grants of the Board, for

any mission, shall be used and returned to the mission, as belonging to it, under the direction of the Board.

7. On reaching the field of labor, the missionary shall see that communications from himself or from the mission are forwarded to the Board once in three months. In no case shall he engage in compensatory services outside of the regular mission work, without the consent of his brethren in the mission, subject to the review of the Board, and in case he is alone, he shall not so engage without the consent of the Board.

8. It is understood that in all ordinary and minor matters the missionaries of the foreign stations shall have much discretionary power—but inasmuch as even from the best of motives, and by the best of men, works might be projected and entered on which the Board would not have the means of sustaining—which neither it nor the Church at large would approve—and which might result in serious difficulties, and perhaps disasters; it is hereby declared that no new mission shall be formed, no new station shall be taken up, no real estate shall be purchased at the expense of the Board, no money belonging to the Board shall be loaned or invested, and no new and heavy expenses shall be incurred, without the knowledge and consent of the Board.

9. If any missionary shall have a desire or a necessity, on account of ill health, or from any other cause, to return to this country, he shall, in all cases that are practicable, request permission from the Board, the request being accompanied by a statement of the reasons for it, and by the opinion also of the members of the mission in regard to it. If the time and urgency of the case render it impracticable for him to obtain this permission, he must then obtain the consent of his brethren in the mission, and this consent shall be subject to the review of the Board.

10. In all cases, unless otherwise expressly provided for, the salary of the missionary shall cease with his leaving his field—his traveling expenses shall be defrayed by the Board—and on his arrival in this country, his salary may be resumed, if it is judged best by the Board, at half the previous rate for six months or one year, when, if he shall not return to his field, it shall entirely cease. All his traveling expenses, under the direction of the Board, after his return, shall be paid out of the treasury of the Board.

11. Every mission shall have, if practicable, a treasurer or financial agent, who shall keep the accounts, make out for the Board an annual report of the expenses, receipts, estimates, and an inventory of the property of the mission, receive the appropriations of the Board and distribute them to the members of the mission, according to the rates or salaries fixed by the Board. The financial year of every missionary shall begin with the first of January, and the financial report, estimates, etc., etc., shall be forwarded to the Board so as to be received by the first of April in each year. No missionary shall draw any draft on the Treasurer of the Foreign Missionary Fund without being authorized by the Board.

12. An annual report shall be prepared in each mission, and sent to the Board by the first of April, to be incorporated with the annual report of the Board to the General Assembly.

4. Rules of Finances of the Board of Foreign Missions.

i. *The Treasurer.*

(a) Shall report in full to each regular meeting of the Board.

(b) Shall have authority to pay sight drafts and such bills as do not admit of delay, and report the same to the next regular meeting for an order of the Board.

(c) Shall have all checks countersigned by the president.

(d) Shall present all receipted bills at the meetings of the Board, to be listed by the recording secretary and checked against the order issued by the Board.

(e) The Recording Secretary shall list the total monthly receipts and disbursements, and the balance on hand, and where the balance is.

ii. A *Committee of Accounts* of two members shall be appointed.

(a) To this committee the treasurer shall present all proposed disbursements for each month for approval.

(b) The report of this committee shall be presented to the Board, and when adopted, entered upon the minutes.

(c) An order shall be drawn upon the treasurer for the payment of the approved disbursements; which order shall be signed by the president and recording secretary, and the resolution drawing it shall be entered on the minutes.

iii. All *Securities* of the Board shall be deposited by the Treasurer in a safe deposit vault, subject to the order of the Board.

iv. Two *Auditors* shall be appointed, who shall

(a) Audit each month the letters containing remittances to the Board.

(b) Audit annually all accounts of the treasurer, at which audit they shall have the assistance of an expert accountant. Vol. VIII, p. 515, 1894.

5. A *Manual of Instructions for Missionaries*. *Resolved*, 4. That the Board be directed to prepare and publish for missionary use such a manual of instructions and directions as their work demands. Vol. V, p. 529, 1882.

4. That the Assembly approve of the manual that has been published and direct that it shall be put into the hands of all our missionaries and those under appointment for the foreign work, and that its instructions and suggestions be earnestly carried out. Vol. V, p. 730, 1883.

Resolved, 4. That the Assembly approve, endorse and adopt "The Manual" for the guidance of the Board of Foreign Missions and the Women's Board in the prosecution of their work as touching the Foreign fields. Vol. XIV, p. 211, 1917.

Resolved, First. That the Women's Board and the Board of Foreign Missions be authorized to put into effect a Revised Manual for Missionaries, copy of which is herewith submitted to the General Assembly, with the understanding that the provisions thereof may in detail be amended by the Boards in the light of action already taken or to be taken by the Mission Association, to which bodies they have been submitted for advisory comment. Vol. XX, p. 344, 1941.

6. *Outfits, Salaries and Allowances for Foreign Missionaries*. [The salaries and allowances of foreign missionaries were as follows: For married missionaries: Outfit, \$500; salary, \$1,200 in Egypt and India, \$1,000 in Syria and China; for each child under ten years, five per cent of salary; from ten to eighteen years, ten per cent, and a fair allowance for house rent. For unmarried men: Outfit, \$300; salary, \$800 each, except in Syria and China, \$700 each. For unmarried women: Outfit, \$200; salary, in India and Egypt, \$500 each, and \$450 elsewhere. Vol. IV, p. 51, 1874. The salaries of missionaries in Cairo and Alexandria were advanced to \$1,400 each for men and \$550 for women. Vol. IV, p. 180, 1875.

Resolved, 6. That the Board be instructed to inquire further into the financial state of our missions, and make such modifications or changes in regard to the salaries, general expenses, etc., as the circumstances in the different cases may show to be desirable or necessary. Vol. V, p. 353, 1881.

Resolved, 1. That hereafter the outfit for a married missionary shall be \$300.00; for an unmarried male missionary, \$150.00; and for a single female missionary, \$100.00.

2. That in addition to a house which shall be provided by the Board, the salaries of missionaries in the field shall be as follows: In Egypt, each married missionary shall receive, annually, \$1,400.00; each single male missionary, \$900.00; and each single female missionary, \$550.00. In India, each married

missionary, \$1,200.00; each single male missionary, \$900.00; and each single female missionary, \$500.00.

3. That for each child under the age of eighteen years, in mission families, \$100.00 shall be paid annually, this rule applying to children in the field, in this country, or elsewhere.

4. That no allowance shall be made to missionaries for physicians' fees, except in extraordinary cases, which must be reported to the Board for action; and no allowance shall be made for traveling expenses, except where the missionaries are actually engaged in mission work, or in going to the sanitariums for the health of themselves or families. Vol. V, pp. 529, 547, 1882.

Resolved, That in the judgment of the Assembly, no contract exists between the Board and a missionary in the foreign field which absolutely forbids it to make any change in the regulations in reference to salaries and allowances during his absence in the field; but that care should be taken that such change work as little hardship as possible to the missionary. Vol. V, p. 731, 1883.

Resolved, 1. That the Board of Foreign Missions unite with the Women's Board in fixing the salaries of unmarried professional missionaries (ordained ministers, doctors and college professors) at \$750 for Egypt and the Sudan, and at \$700 for India; and that the furlough salary of such missionaries be fixed at \$450 per annum. Vol. XI, p. 581, 1906.

Resolved, 11. Inasmuch as the high cost of living is as keenly felt where our foreign missionaries are serving as in the homeland, we therefore recommend—That the increase in the scale of salaries of the various missionaries approved by the Woman's Board and by the Foreign Board and submitted to the Assembly for consideration, be adopted:

(1) The Foreign Board and the Women's Board unite in recommending that the salary of each unmarried woman missionary in India (doctors excepted) be advanced from \$500 to \$550, and of unmarried women doctors in India be advanced from \$700 to \$750, this rule to become effective on November first, 1913; and that the furlough salary of all unmarried women missionaries be \$40 a month.

(2) The Foreign Board would further recommend the following salaries and allowances:

(a) *Children's Allowances*: That these be continued throughout the furlough period; and that the annual allowance be fixed at \$100 for the first ten years of each child's life, and at \$200 for the next eight years.

(b) *Furlough Salaries*: That the salary for a married couple be fixed at \$90 per month for the period prescribed for a regular furlough; and that it be fixed at \$50 a month for the unmarried professional man missionary (doctor, minister, professor).

(c) *Field Salary*: That field salaries remain as at present (except as modified by section 1 above) during the first regular term of service, that for the second and subsequent regular terms of service the salary be, in Egypt and the Sudan, \$1,500 a year for each married couple; and \$850 for each unmarried professional man; in India \$1,320 for each married couple, and \$780 for each unmarried professional man.

(d) *When Effective*: That the Board make these allowances effective at such time and rate as the financial situation may justify; the allowance for children, however, during furlough period, to become effective July 1st, 1913, on the old basis. Vol. XIII, pp. 395, 418, 1913.

Regarding the matter of salaries of missionaries which was referred to your Committee for consideration we would report—

1. That we believe the salaries should be increased.
2. That no funds are available to warrant our recommending an increase this year.

3: We learn from representatives of the Board that last year a War Bonus was paid in the amount of \$100 to each married missionary, and \$50 to each unmarried missionary; and that they plan to do the same thing this year.

4. We recommend that the Assembly authorize the Board to double this bonus in each case, *provided* it can be done without necessitating retrenchment, or creating a debt.

5. We recommend that the Assembly direct the Board to make a careful survey of the whole matter of the missionaries' salaries, in co-operation with other Boards with which relation of comity are maintained, with a view to raising the salaries to a comfortable basis. Vol. XIV, p. 699, 1919.

The following recommendations were adopted:

3. The approval of the co-operation of the Board of Foreign Missions in the control of Cairo University.

4. The approval of salary increases and allowances proposed by the Board, and which are as follows:

Married missionary, Egypt	\$1,700
Married missionary, Sudan	1,700
Married missionary, India	1,600
Single man, Egypt	1,100
Single man, Sudan	1,100
Single man, India	1,100
Furlough salaries, married missionaries	1,600
Furlough salaries, single man	1,000
Children's allowance from birth to 11th birthday	100
Children's allowance from 11th to 22nd birthday	250
Outfit allowance, married missionary	500
Outfit allowance, single man	250
Refit allowance, on returning to field, married missionary	200
Refit allowance, on returning to field, single man	100
Salary bonus, account of unusual conditions, married missionary	200
Salary bonus, account of unusual conditions, single man	100

Vol. XV, p. 49, 1920.

Resolved, 5. That we approve the plans of the Board for adjustment of salaries and retiring of missionaries.

The Board is asking a change in the Manual respecting the fixed salaries of missionaries and the age of honorable retirement. The chief item in the first instance is to make the war bonus a part of the basic salary, and the chief item in the second is to give missionaries honorable retirement after the age of seventy with the privilege of continuing in active service provided they have the sanction of the Board and the approval of the Mission as registered by a two-third vote. Vol. XVI, p. 619, 1926.

We recommend that a reduction of \$50,000 be made by means of a horizontal cut from field classes and home administration dating from May 1, 1931. This constitutes a reduction of 20.8 per cent.

Further, we recommend that the classes comprising missionaries' salaries and allowances be reduced by \$50,000 as rapidly as this can be done without injustice to any missionary concerned, this reduction to be completed by June 1, 1932. This constitutes a reduction of 15.15 per cent. Vol. XVIII, p. 928, 1931.

Resolved, 4. That the proposed reduction of ten per cent in the salaries of all secretaries and members of the office force in America, and in the salaries and children's allowances of all missionaries be approved. It is understood that this reduction is to become effective June 1, 1932. That the necessary changes in the Manual to make these reductions be also approved. Vol. XVIII, p. 37, 1932.

Resolved, 8. That we approve the spirit and action of our Board, its sec-

retaries and our missionaries in agreeing that "that portion of the budget applicable upon salaries shall be divided pro rata among all missionaries and secretaries." We call upon our Church at large to not allow such sacrifice upon the part of those who represent us without our all seeking to show like devotion and loyalty. Let our whole Church get into our missionary enterprise with mighty intercession and Scriptural giving of life and all our resources. Vol. XVIII, p. 330, 1933.

7. **Return of Foreign Missionaries.** *Resolved*, 2. That in the judgment of this Assembly missionaries laboring in foreign lands, and especially in warm climates, should return to their native land at intervals of about five years, to invigorate their health, and thus prolong their lives and usefulness, and otherwise advance the mission work. Vol. II, p. 157, 1865. [This action was rescinded. Vol. II, p. 416, 1867. The "Manual" approved by the General Assembly, Vol. V, p. 730, 1883, says: The question of the return of a missionary must be determined in each case on its own merits. . . . In no case will the Board feel free to sanction the return of any one who has not been at least ten years in the field, unless the requirements of health, or other providential interposition, shall plainly make it their duty so to do.]

4. That we authorize the reduction of the first term of service in a mission field to seven years, the subsequent terms to remain as at present, viz., ten years. Vol. VIII, p. 484, 1894.

Resolved, 9. That the term of missionary service for the second and subsequent terms be eight years, as agreed upon by the Board of Foreign Missions and the Women's Board, and commended by the Missionary Associations of India and Egypt, after its reference to them by the last Assembly. Vol. X, p. 843, 1903.

8. **Salaries of Returned Foreign Missionaries.** See Regulation 10.

[The Board was authorized to continue to returned missionaries, in case of continued disability, the usual salary during the first six months after their return. Vol. II, p. 302, 1866. The Board was directed to pay missionaries, in all ordinary cases, at the rate of half salary in gold, while necessarily absent from the field of labor. Vol. II, p. 498, 1868.]

The action of 1866 and 1868 was rescinded, and Regulation 10 was amended by substituting, "not more than two years," for "six months or one year." Vol. III, p. 19, 1869. The salaries of missionaries temporarily absent from their fields of labor were fixed as follows: Missionaries with families at the rate of \$1,000 a year, with no allowance for children; single male missionaries, \$500, and female missionaries, \$350, *provided* that these allowances shall not extend beyond one year, except at the discretion of the Board. Vol. IV, pp. 305, 327, 1876.]

Resolved, 4. That the joint request of the Foreign Board and the Women's Board that the now established furlough salaries of missionaries be made payable for such portions of the year as a normal furlough may exceed the year of twelve months, be granted. Vol. XII, p. 28, 1908.

9. **Allowance to Widows of Foreign Missionaries.** *Resolved*, 12. That the Board of Foreign Missions be instructed to pay to the widows of missionaries who have died, or may die, in the service of the Board, the sum of \$20 a month, during their widowhood. Vol. II, p. 157, 1865. [The widow of a missionary, who has died in the service of the Board, if she be without children, may be employed as a single female missionary, *provided* she has the necessary qualifications. Manual.]

10. **Allowance to the Children of Foreign Missionaries Sent to This Country.** *Resolved*, 13. That the sum of \$100 be paid annually for the support of each of the children of our missionaries who have been returned to this country to obtain an education, and that they be provided with tuition free in any college under the care of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. III, p. 19,

1869. [This allowance was fixed at the uniform rate of \$150 a year for children under eighteen years of age, and whose parents are not in this country. Vol. IV, pp. 305, 327, 1876. It was changed to \$100 a year. Vol. V, pp. 529, 547, 1882.]

11. **The Training of Native Missionaries.** *Resolved*, 8. That in view of the comparatively short life of American missionaries in heathen countries, and the frequent necessity of returning home to recruit strength; and in view of the length of time and the great labor necessary to acquire the use of the difficult languages of most heathen countries; and in view of the great disadvantage which a foreigner must always experience in commanding the popular mind of any people when he has to address them as a foreigner; and in view of the vastly greater expense of sustaining the work by exporting the laborers at such disadvantages, and at such great distances from the bases of supply and management, we recommend to our Board that the idea should be constantly kept in view, that the present system of conducting foreign missions should be regarded as introductory to the more permanent and efficient system by which the work will be mainly carried forward by native teachers and missionaries from home sources of support; therefore, we recommend to the Board to give special attention to the raising up of native teachers and ministers, and thus laying deeply and broadly such foundations as may secure efficient native laborers, and in due time make the respective institutions self-sustaining. Vol. II, p. 498, 1868.

On the subject of training a native ministry, referred by the Board to the Assembly, the Committee on Foreign Missions recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, 1. That it is the judgment of this Assembly that this is necessary to the final success of the missionary cause, and that they hereby instruct all their missionaries in the foreign field to give special attention to this part of the work; and that they also direct the Board to encourage and co-operate with missionaries in carrying out this instruction; assuring both the Board and missionaries of the sympathy and hearty co-operation of the Assembly.

2. That this Assembly heartily approves of the action of our missionaries in Egypt in establishing and conducting a literary and theological institute for this purpose; and should the Board, on consultation with the Presbytery of Egypt, deem it necessary to the wants of the mission to establish an additional institute, they are instructed to do so, the location and management to be under the direction of the Presbytery. The Assembly also directs the Board, if on consultation with the brethren in Syria they deem it necessary, to establish a similar institute in Damascus, or wherever they may deem it best, its management to be under the direction of the mission.

3. That the Board be directed, when they shall have ascertained what means are necessary in books, apparatus or money, and shall have secured competent person or persons to take charge of these institutions, then to bring the whole matter before the Church, and make a special appeal to our people, urging the great importance of this work, and its demands upon their liberality and their prayers.

This direction is to be understood as extending to all our foreign missions. Vol. III, p. 413, 1872.

Resolved, 7. That the Assembly approves the establishing of a training college and missionary seminary at Assiut, and that \$2,500 be devoted to the building fund of the college, out of the appropriation for Egypt for this year. Vol. IV, p. 35, 1874.

Resolved, 11. That the Assembly heartily approves of the proposal to establish a theological seminary in India for the training of a native ministry, and that the Presbytery of Sialkot be encouraged to establish the same as soon

as in their judgment it may be deemed proper, and the money at their disposal will warrant; but in the present state of the treasury of the Board it is not deemed advisable to appoint any additional laborers for that field, or become responsible for any expense additional to the present estimates. Vol. IV, p. 305, 1876.

12. **The Education of Native Women.** Boarding Schools for girls were established at Assiut and Cairo in Egypt. The Girls' Training Institute at Sialkot, India, was commended to the churches for special contribution, "with an earnest view of raising up the women in our different fields to their proper state." Vol. V, p. 730, 1883.

13. **China Mission.** See Chinese Mission.

14. **Syria Mission.** [On memorials from the Synod of Illinois and from the Presbytery of Frankfort, asking for the consolidation of the foreign missions of the Church, it was]

Resolved, 4. That the Board is hereby instructed to make, as soon as practicable, such arrangements with the Irish Presbyterian Church as shall relieve us of all responsibility with regard to the Syria Mission. Vol. IV, p. 444, 1877.

[By the terms of the agreement with the Presbyterian Church of Ireland, which had joint charge of the mission and an equal ownership in the property, either party withdrawing would leave the other in possession of all the property, and in entire ownership and charge of the mission. The mission was transferred to the Church of Ireland, "with a right for us to return and resume labors with them in it, if at any time hereafter it shall be deemed best." The buildings in Bludan were the exclusive property of the United Presbyterian Church, and were sold to the Church of Ireland. Vol. IV, p. 598, 1878.]

Resolved, 7. That the Board be, and hereby is, directed to place the proceeds resulting from the sale of the Bludan property in Syria, together with the stock of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Bank, Pittsburgh, to the credit of the investment fund. Vol. IV, p. 577, 1878.

15. **Women's Foreign Missionary Societies.** *Resolved*, 10. That it is the judgment of this General Assembly that the great demand for female laborers, in view of the condition of their sex in foreign lands, requires that the women of the United Presbyterian Church take a deeper interest in this important department of the foreign work, and exert themselves in order to sustain the female missionaries now in the field, and to increase the number and secure the support of additional female laborers. Vol. III, p. 407, 1872.

Resolved, 9. That the women of our Church at large be urged to make special efforts in behalf of these schools [suitable boarding schools for girls] and in the Zenana work or work which Christian women may do, in visiting and endeavoring to teach and evangelize heathen women, in the seclusion and privacy of their homes. Vol. IV, p. 36, 1874.

Resolved, 6. That, as in all our missions, the Board is urging the missionaries to encourage and carry on, as far as may be possible, and in the best ways practicable, the work of educating and evangelizing heathen women, the Assembly urge the women in all our churches to make individual contributions for this purpose, or organize and carry on societies for it, that the Board may have in its general fund the means of more and more thoroughly and usefully performing this in common with the other parts of our great work, and we rejoice to know that quite a number of our churches have formed such societies with gratifying results. Vol. IV, p. 182, 1875.

Resolved, 4. That in order to secure unity of purpose and action in all our operations, the Assembly direct that no work in behalf of the foreign mission cause be undertaken by the women's missionary societies, or by any other society, apart from and independent of the Board of Foreign Missions,

and that such work shall be taken up only when asked for by the missions in the foreign field, and sanctioned by the Board. Vol. IV, p. 577, 1878.

16. **Missionary Associations.** [An association of the members of the mission in Egypt, for all business outside of Presbyterial matters, was formed, and its constitution was approved by the Assembly. Vol. III, pp. 140, 175, 179, 1870. For Constitution of the Association, see Vol. III, p. 180, 1870. A similar association was formed in connection with the India Mission, but its Constitution is not given in the Minutes of the General Assembly.]

Resolved, 6. That the rules of the Manual be so amended as to allow the female missionaries, who assume all the responsibilities of missionaries, to sit as members in the Missionary Associations, to advise and to vote in all matters pertaining to their work. Vol. VII, p. 427, 1890.

10. That Missionary Associations in the foreign field be earnestly reminded that the Board of Foreign Missions is the appointed agency of the Church for carrying on the work, and that all their communications with the Church at home, in the interest of the work, should be conducted with a full recognition of the authority of the Board. Vol. VII, p. 633, 1891.

17. **Special Work.** *Resolved*, 4. That the Assembly has heard with interest the special work that has been undertaken, by congregations and individuals, to send out and support new missionaries. Vol. VII, p. 219, 1889.

8. That while there are some dangers and disadvantages in the sending out of special missionaries by congregations, societies, or individuals assuming their support for a term of years, yet it is the judgment of the Assembly that an interest is aroused in mission work by this method, and an amount of money contributed for its support, which could not otherwise be secured. Vol. VII, p. 633, 1891.

18. **The Medical Work Transferred to the Women's Auxiliary Board.** [The Board of Foreign Missions reported that it had handed over to the Women's Auxiliary Board the work of establishing a hospital in connection with the mission in India. Vol. VII, p. 41, 1888.]

Resolved, 2. That . . . the Board of Foreign Missions be directed to give the management of the medical work into the hands of the Women's Board, in so far as it extends to the nomination of the medical missionaries, and to all the details in carrying on the medical work in hospitals and elsewhere, and that the Women's Board be directed to report annually to the Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 220, 1889. [A committee appointed by the Assembly of 1890 reported regulations governing this work, Vol. VII, p. 736, 1891, but no action was taken on them.]

19. **A Monthly Publication to Be Issued by the Board of Foreign Missions.** *Resolved*, 4. That the Board be authorized and recommended to issue a monthly missionary publication in a cheap form for general circulation through the Church. Vol. I, p. 118, 1860.

Resolved, 4. That the missionary paper proposed to be published by the Board of Foreign Missions be recommended to the pastors and people of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 227, 1861.

Resolved, 5. That for the purpose of disseminating information on the subject of our foreign missions, the Board * * * be directed to inquire into the expediency and practicability of establishing and publishing monthly a missionary paper to be devoted principally to giving information on the subject of our missions, home and foreign. Vol. III, p. 407, 1872.

20. **An Itemized Statement of Expenses to Be Given by the Board.** *Resolved*, 8. That an itemized statement of all expenditures and investments of funds intrusted to the Board, and its liabilities, be made hereafter to the Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 440, 1866.

21. **Mission to the Upper Nile.** The American Missionary Association tendered to the Board of Foreign Missions \$20,000 to commence a mission in

the regions towards Central Africa, or, more especially, along the Upper Nile. The Board was instructed to examine the wisdom of establishing such a mission, with authority to undertake the work, if the way be clear and appeal to the Church for the men and the money necessary for its prosecution. Vol. V, p. 730, 1883. The Board reported that it had found the work impracticable and had declined the proposition. Vol. VI, p. 53, 1884.

2. That the Board be given discretionary power, should the way be opened during the year, to use the funds already in its hands or which may be received for that purpose to make an experimental advance on the Nile, without infringing on the rights of other missionary bodies. Vol. IX, p. 765, 1899.

6. That the Board be authorized to begin work in the region of Khar-tum as soon as in its judgment it is practicable, and the work in said region will in no way hinder the progress of the work in Egypt. Vol. X, p. 37, 1900.

9. The Assembly directs the Board of Foreign Missions to take the necessary steps to secure charters for Assiut Training College in Egypt, and Gordon Mission College in India, giving authority to these institutions to confer academic degrees. Vol. X, p. 261, 1901.

22. **Transfer of Rawil Pindi.** The offer of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions to transfer to us the district of Rawil Pindi, involves on our part the purchase of mission premises and buildings calling for an outlay of not probably less than twenty thousand dollars. Also the appointing of a new missionary for that field, involving an expense of fifteen hundred dollars additional for the first year, and thereafter the regular salary of the missionary. The Secretary of our Board has in his possession a considerable correspondence, setting forth the reasons why the Presbyterian Board propose to sell and transfer to us this field. The situation of this field to our own forms one reason, and it a plausible one, why we should take it. But we must consider, also, our resources, whether we have in sight the means justifying the purchase; and we must also consider whether our present field, with its great breadth and large population, is not more than enough for all the laborers we can place in it for a long time to come. Your committee recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the offer of this mission property be referred to the Board of Foreign Missions, with power to act. Vol. VIII, p. 34, 1892.

23. **The Gibson Trust Fund.** [Dr. William Gibson of Jamestown, Pa., about the year 1875, by deed conveyed to the Board of Foreign Missions certain properties in Erie, Pa., the income of which is to be used under the direction of the Board, for "the circulation of the Holy Scriptures in Arab-speaking countries." By the conditions of the trust, this fund must be kept separate, and be known as "The Gibson Trust Fund." A report of the fund is made to each General Assembly. Vol. V, p. 204, 1880; p. 373, 1881.]

24. **Semi-Centennial of Our Foreign Missionary Work.** Fourth. That in view of the fact that the fiftieth anniversary of our Church's entrance upon foreign work is upon us, special attention should be called to the great work that God has called our Church to do during these fifty years: A native Church of sixteen thousand four hundred and thirty-four members; a native ministry; organized and, in some cases, self-supporting congregations; schools, colleges, and theological seminaries; homes, churches and school buildings, erected at a total expenditure that reaches into the hundreds of thousands of dollars; and a faith in the work in the home Church that justifies this General Assembly in making an appropriation of more than two hundred thousand dollars to carry on the work during the coming year, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Fifth. That the plan proposed by the Board for a Foreign Missionary Week be approved, viz.:

1. That December 4th to December 11th be chosen to be observed throughout our entire Church as a Foreign Missionary Week. At the services of these

two Sabbaths, as also at the intervening midweek meetings, pastors shall bring into review the foreign missionary work of our Church in order to acquaint our people with the successes achieved under the rich blessing of God upon us, during the past half century of missions. Especially shall this week be made a week of general intercession and prayer for foreign missions throughout our churches.

2. That during this week of December 4-11, a Foreign Missionary Convention be held at or near Pittsburgh. The aim of this convention shall be educational and inspirational—to present the conditions, the aim, the methods, and especially the results of foreign missionary work in general, with special reference, however, to the work in our own foreign fields. To this convention, presbyteries shall be invited to send delegates, that the interest generated may spread as widely as possible.

3. In order to effectively prepare the way for a hearty observance of the Foreign Missionary Week, and in order to carry the educational and inspirational privileges of this Jubilee of Foreign Missions to as large a constituency as is possible, deputational work shall be arranged for such as will give to as many congregations as is practicable, an opportunity of hearing those qualified especially to present the inspiring record of our first half century of missions.

Sixth. That at the fall meetings, the synods be requested to give special prominence to the proposed Semi-Centennial of our Foreign Mission work, and to co-operate with the committee of the Board, in securing a general observance of the foreign missionary week throughout the Church. Vol. XI, p. 24, 1904.

25. **Points of Agreement Between the Women's Board and the Board of Foreign Missions in Relation to Missions.** The following agreement is entered into between the Board of Foreign Missions and the Women's Board:

1. That the new forms for estimating for mission work be adopted by both boards and the missions.

2. That suitable blanks and rules be printed in accordance with the proposed method of estimating for missionary work; that the blanks be used in estimating the work to be supplied by each board, and bear the imprint of said board; that duplicate copies of the estimate submitted to each board be sent to each other board, so that the entire work may be before both boards for consideration.

3. That the Women's Board assume the expense for language teacher and the usual sanitarium allowance of the lady missionaries supported by said board.

4. That both boards recognize the rights heretofore claimed by and accorded to the missionary associations in the internal administration of missionary affairs, it being understood that the association shall give to the work supported by each board the same responsible and careful supervision.

5. That in making grants and appointing missionaries both boards take into serious consideration the recommendations made by the missions as to their immediate needs. (The attention of both boards is called to the rule requiring missions to indicate each year the order of precedence in regard to their needs—whether these are for men missionaries, unmarried lady missionaries, or money grants for the enlargement of the work.)

6. That both boards deal directly with the missionary association instead of individual missionaries. Missionaries disagreeing with any action of the association shall have the right to protest, formally, against that action, but failing to register a protest, both boards shall decline to entertain opinions dissenting from the formal action of associations.

7. After each board has informed the missions of the amount of its appropriations, each board shall allow missions to distribute said appropriations among the different departments of work, according as they deem best; in doing

this it shall be necessary, so far as appropriations allow—

(a) That the missions shall adhere to the original estimates made out, unless new conditions require a change.

(b) That it shall require special action and special consideration of the work at each point before any change in adopted estimates is made. In no case shall a less amount be given to that work than was given to it the previous year without consultation with the board supporting that particular work.

(c) That where a surplus of the appropriations of the Women's Board accrues from any reduction made by the mission in the estimates, that surplus may be transferred to the support of work for women and girls now supported by the Board of Foreign Missions. Estimates shall be sent to the Women's Board for that work in the subsequent year, with the understanding that said Board shall grant them when advisable; in case a surplus accrues to the appropriations of the Board of Foreign Missions it should be transferred to work not otherwise provided for.

8. Two union meetings of representatives of both Boards shall be held each year, one preceding the meeting of the General Assembly and the annual meeting of the W.G.M.S., and the other following these meetings. Each Board shall elect no more than five representatives for these union meetings.

The General Assembly hereby approves these articles of agreement between the Board of Foreign Missions and the Women's Missionary Board. Vol. XI, p. 301, 1905.

26. **The Synod of the Punjab Authorized to Have Charge of Fraternal Correspondence With the Presbyterian Church of India.** The First General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in India, which met in Allahabad, in December, 1904, requests this General Assembly to enter into fraternal correspondence with the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church. In answer to this we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church sends greeting and wishes for the divine blessing to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in India, and will take pleasure in such fraternal correspondence as may be practicable.

2. That the Synod of the Punjab is hereby authorized to represent the General Assembly and enter into this fraternal correspondence, according to its judgment and opportunity. Vol. XI, p. 301, 1905.

27. **A Charter for Assiut College.** *Resolved*, 6. That the Board be authorized to secure such a charter for Assiut College as shall permit incorporation, with the conditions that five of the incorporators shall be appointed by the Board of Foreign Missions and four shall be elected by these five. Vol. XII, p. 28, 1908.

28. **Pensions and Relief.** *Resolved*, 5. That the Assembly authorize the Board of Ministerial Relief to extend its ministrations to disabled men lay missionaries under life appointment, or their families. Vol. XII, p. 631, 1910.

7. We approve the action of the Board in its decision to participate in the new Pension Plan on behalf of the missionaries and paid officers of the Board if and when this Plan is put into operation by action of the Assembly. Vol. XVII, p. 347, 1929.

29. **Aid for Medical Students Preparing for Work Under the Board of Foreign Missions.** NOTE: See 9, under Board of Education. Vol. XIII, p. 382, 1913.

30. **Four Hundred and Seven Movement.** *Resolved*, 8. That we approve the Board's plan of proportionate distribution, whereby it is seeking to realize its program of 407 new missionaries, as a sane and practical plan and one which should receive the hearty co-operation of the Church. Vol. XIV, p. 452, 1918.

Made part of the Forward (New World) Movement. Vol. XIV, p. 711, 1919.

31. **Abyssinia (Ethiopia) Mission.** (1) The following recommendation was adopted:

1. The approval of the recommendation of the Board for the opening of one station this year in Abyssinia, with the understanding that for the present work undertaken in Abyssinia be regarded as an extension of the work in the Sudan field and be directed as a part of that field. Vol. XV, p. 49, 1920.

(2) *Resolved*, That the name of the Mission called Abyssinia be changed to Ethiopia. Vol. XVII, p. 928, 1931.

(3) The Presbytery of Ethiopia created.

The following recommendation was adopted:

We recommend the creation of the Presbytery of Ethiopia to be composed of Ministers Duncan C. Henry, Mamo Choroka and Gidada Solon, who are now members of Allegheny Presbytery, and the following ruling elders, who are also on the elders' roll of Allegheny Presbytery—Lamma Daki, Korjo Wagi, Guddetta Wado, Gamachu Adam, Kumso Boru, Byenna Gosa, Nagari Sema, Barrambaras Joar, Gutama Rufo, Daba Wasi, Gobri Michael Daga, Milike Gobana, Abamagal. The organization of this presbytery shall take place at a time and place convenient to its proposed constituent membership and Rev. D. C. Henry, or a teaching elder designated by him shall act as Moderator in effecting the organization. This Presbytery shall be made subject to and become a part of the Synod of New York as the Synod with which most of the members of the Board of Foreign Missions are connected. Vol. XX, p. 28, 1940.

32. **"Rethinking Missions."** In answer to Memorials from the Presbytery of Hudson and Steubenville regarding the report on "Rethinking Missions"—

Whereas, The Christian Church has been greatly disturbed by the Laymen's Missionary Inquiry Report, entitled, "Rethinking Missions," causing unrest throughout the Church and on the mission field; and,

Whereas, The Report constitutes, from beginning to end, an attack upon the historic Christian Faith; it deprecates the distinction between Christians and non-Christians; it belittles the Bible and inveighs against Christian doctrine; it presents Jesus as a great religious Teacher and Example, as Christianity's "highest expression of religious life," but not as our God and Saviour; it belittles evangelism, definite conversions, open profession of faith in Christ, membership in the Christian Church, and substitutes "the dissemination of spiritual influences" and "the permeation of the community with Christian ideals and principles" for the regeneration; and is in its whole doctrinal position out of harmony with the Evangelical Faith.

Therefore Be it Resolved, 1. That we commend our Board of Foreign Missions for their repudiation of the report:

2. That we as a Church repudiate the findings of the Commission as expressed in their report "Re-thinking Missions."

3. That we direct our Church Boards to completely sever at once any relation which may exist between the Boards and the Commission, and to have, in the future, no dealings of any kind whatsoever with it. Vol. XVIII, p. 330, 1933.

33. **Christian University at Cairo, Egypt.** The following recommendation was adopted:

We recommend that the General Assembly endorse the proposal to establish a Christian University at Cairo; that the Board be authorized to secure, as soon as necessary, a charter for such an institution, care being taken that it be properly related to existing educational institutions and to our entire missionary program in Egypt; and that the Board be authorized to make such arrangements for carrying on its regular work that the Corresponding

Secretary may give largely of his time, during the coming year, to the task of interesting individuals in the establishment of this proposed university in Cairo. Vol. XIII, p. 396, 1913.

Incorporated in the District of Columbia under the name The American University at Cairo. Vol. XV, p. 56, 1919.

Opened October 5, 1920. Vol. XV, p. 321, 1921.

LV. GAMBLING

The following resolution on gambling was adopted:

Whereas, There is in the United States a constantly rising tide of gambling and an apparent public apathy toward it, and

Whereas, One largely contributing factor is the form of lottery thinly disguised under the caption of "Bank Night," "Groceries Night," or "Free Automobile Night," in certain moving picture theaters, stores, filling stations, and by some firms broadcasting over the radio, and

Whereas, Such lotteries tend to foster and spread the urge for gambling, especially among the children and youth of the country,

Therefore, we the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America in session at the Old Stone Church, Cleveland, Ohio, May 30, 1938, take action as follows:

We deplore as un-Christian and un-American the propagation of any form of gambling through bank nights, automobile nights, and so forth, by moving picture theaters, stores, and other commercial enterprises or benevolent societies, vending many different kinds of products.

We urge the pastors of our churches to speak out in no uncertain terms to their people of the evils of these forms of gambling. We urge them to cooperate with all churches who will urge their people to refrain from patronizing stores, theaters, and other institutions that make use of gambling to sell their services. We order the printing and distribution by the Board of Administration of a uniform pledge card which may be used by our church members indicating that they will not participate in this corruption of social life and business. We ourselves pledge a united front against the gambling evil, including enforcement and improving of anti-gambling laws. Vol. XIX, p. 648, 1938.

LVI. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. **Charter.** NOTE: See Charter of the Church, Chapter XXI.

2. **Officers of the General Assembly, Order of Business, etc.** NOTE: See Manual of the General Assembly.

3. **Time of the Annual Meeting of the General Assembly.** [Though there is no law on this point, usage has fixed the fourth Wednesday of May as the time for the annual meeting of the General Assembly.]

4. **Ratio of Representation in the General Assembly.** *Resolved*, That for the present the ratio of representation as fixed by the Twelfth General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church be, and the same hereby is adopted and continued in the United Church as follows: Every Presbytery containing two ministers shall be entitled to send one minister and one ruling elder; every Presbytery containing five ministers shall be entitled to send two ministers and two ruling elders; every Presbytery containing eight ministers shall be entitled to send three ministers and three ruling elders; every Presbytery containing fourteen ministers shall be entitled to send four ministers and four ruling elders; every Presbytery containing more than fourteen ministers shall be entitled to send for each additional four ministers, one minister and one ruling elder. Vol. I, p. 31, 1859.

Resolved, That the next General Assembly be composed of commissioners

from the Presbyteries according to the proportion proposed by the Book of Discipline now in overture. Vol. I, p. 123, 1860.

Resolved, That the next General Assembly be constituted on the basis of representation recognized in our proposed Book of Government and Discipline. Vol. I, p. 226, 1861. [For ratio adopted, see p. 22.]

[After the Book of Government and Discipline was adopted, a committee was appointed by the Assembly to consider the propriety of reducing the ratio of representation, Vol. III, p. 422, 1872. This committee reported to the next Assembly, but no action seems to have been taken. Vol. III, p. 515, 1873.]

[The Presbytery of Keokuk requested the General Assembly "to so change the basis of representation, that the ministers only who are actually engaged in the work of the ministry, be counted in the basis of representation."]

It is submitted that the rights and privileges, pertaining to the ministerial office, are not founded on the exercise of that office. By ordination to the office of the ministry, authority to govern, as well as to teach, is conferred. The non-exercise of the right to teach does not in any way affect the right to govern. Since the above desired regulation would infringe upon the ordained prerogatives of the ministry; therefore,

Resolved, That the request cannot be granted. Vol. IV, p. 440, 1877.

[The Presbytery of Omaha asked that the General Assembly submit an overture for the change of the basis of representation from seven to ten ministers. The Assembly took the following action]:

While many good and substantial reasons may be urged in support of the petition in the line of economizing money and time, and, in many cases even, of the more efficient transaction of the actual business of the Assembly; yet we believe that the increased moral and spiritual influence, resulting from the larger Assembly, will more than compensate for all the loss sustained. Up to the point where the Assembly becomes too unwieldy to transact its business, its efficiency in doing the work of the Church is increased, and we believe that this point has not yet been reached.

5. **The Number of Ministers in the Presbytery to Be Stated in the Credentials of Commissioners.** *Resolved*, That the clerk of each Presbytery be directed to state on the face of credentials to the Assembly, the number of ministers in his Presbytery. Vol. I, p. 500, 1863.

The Assembly adopted the following resolution:

"Be it ordered, that when any Presbytery adopts a rule debarring any member from taking his regular term as a Commissioner of the General Assembly, such member or members shall be thereby eliminated in calculating that Presbytery's representation in the General Assembly." Vol. XVI, p. 906, 1927.

6. **Alternates of Commissioners.** [During the calling of the Roll the right of an alternate from the Presbytery of Keokuk, but not of the absentee in the order of their names, to a seat in the Assembly, was called in question. The Assembly decided that he was not entitled to a seat. Vol. VI, pp. 5, 8, 1884.]

[Several persons who were not reported by the Clerks of Presbyteries as delegates or alternates, asked to have their names put on the roll, in the absence of other representatives.]

Resolved, That in the failure of the Presbytery to appoint an alternate, the General Assembly cannot admit one to a seat as a Commissioner. Vol. VII, pp. 201, 221, 1889.

In reply to the question of the Clerk of Monongahela Presbytery, as to credentials of Assembly delegates, we call attention to Chapter 17, Section 70, Book of Government, which reads: "In ordinary cases no one shall be seated as a member of the General Assembly without certificate from the Clerk of his Presbytery. In extraordinary cases the decision of the Committee of

Credentials of the General Assembly should be final unless reversed by action of the Assembly itself." Vol. XVI, p. 336, 1925.

7. **Expenses of Commissioners to the General Assembly.** See Delegate Fund.

8. **Commissioners to the General Assembly Should Not Absent Themselves.** *Resolved*, That the Assembly deprecates and hereby expresses its unqualified disapprobation of the course pursued by members in absenting themselves from the Assembly, except in cases of extreme emergency, and recommends to Presbyteries the election as commissioners of such members only as pledge themselves, God willing, to remain and attend closely to the business during the entire meeting. Vol. I, p. 115, 1860.

9. **Appellate Power Given to the General Assembly in Cases of Discipline.** [The Book of Government of the Associate Reformed Church, accepted at the time of the Union restricted appeals in cases of discipline to the Synods. An amendment to the Book of Government and Discipline, giving appellate power to the General Assembly in cases of discipline, was submitted to the Presbyteries as a separate overture, Vol. I, p. 351, 1862. This overture was adopted by the following vote: Ayes, 327; nays, 158; not voting, 4. Vol. I, p. 490, 1863.] This was restricted to Synods by overture, 1902.

10. **Printing, Stationery, etc., for the Assembly.** *Resolved*, 7. That the clerks be authorized to give warrants for the payment of bills for printing, stationery, and other expenses necessary to the work of the General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 453, 1877.

11. **The Assembly and Delegate Fund (Originally two funds).**

1. **General Delegate Fund.** *Resolved*, 1. That a committee be appointed to report to the next Assembly on the propriety of establishing a general delegates' fund.

2. That the committee contemplated in the foregoing resolution be instructed to report a plan for establishing and managing such fund, should they see fit to report in favor of founding it. Vol. II, p. 29, 1864.

[The report of this committee was referred to a special committee. Vol. II, p. 142, 1865, which reported the following resolutions:]

Resolved, 1. That a delegate fund be established by the Assembly.

2. That a sum be assessed on the several Presbyteries in proportion to the number of communicants under their care, sufficient to allow an average of thirty dollars per delegate to the Assembly, which, in the judgment of your committee, would amount to six thousand dollars.

3. That Presbyteries be required to deposit their contributions in the hands of the treasurer of the Assembly annually, before the meeting of the Assembly.

4. That the Committee on Credentials be authorized to furnish each commissioner to the Assembly with an order on the treasurer for an amount equal to his necessary expenses by the most direct route to the Assembly, or in proportion to such expense in case of a deficiency in the treasury.

5. That if any Presbytery shall neglect to contribute their proportion, their commissioners shall not be paid, if there be a deficiency in the treasury. Vol. II, p. 169, 1865. [These resolutions were referred to the next Assembly, but it seems they were never acted on.]

[The Presbytery of Kansas memorialized the Assembly to institute a delegates' fund for the whole Church, but the Assembly, in view of "previous experience"],

Resolved, That it would be unwise, at present, to make any change in this particular. Vol. II, p. 495, 1868.

Resolved, 1. That a committee be appointed, to whom shall be referred for their report at the next Assembly the subject of making provision for the entertainment of commissioners to the Assembly, as brought before this As-

sembly by the memorial from the Presbytery of Allegheny. Vol. III, p. 422, 1872. [This committee reported to the next Assembly, but no action appears to have been taken. Vol. III, p. 515, 1873.]

[Certain memorials, asking for the establishment of a general delegate fund, and a sustentation fund, having been presented to the Assembly, the following resolutions were adopted]:

Resolved, 1. That we deem it inexpedient to establish either of these funds at the present time.

2. That a committee of one member from each Synod be appointed, to whom all the papers relating to these subjects shall be referred, and whose duty it shall be to consider these subjects carefully, and report to the next General Assembly; and also to publish their report in the papers of the Church, at least three months before the meeting of the Assembly, Vol. III, p. 543, 1873. [This committee reported, and their report was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures, which reported with reference to the sustentation fund, but not with reference to the delegate fund. Vol. IV, p. 12, 1874.]

IV. To secure uniformity and insure equity we recommend that all persons traveling, by appointment of the Assembly, such as delegates to other Churches, committees, conferences or alliances, be paid on the same mileage basis as the delegates to the General Assembly. Vol. XI, p. 295, 1905.

The memorial of the Presbytery of Monongahela asks that a general law be enacted requiring Presbyteries to pay the traveling expenses and the bills for boarding and lodging of their respective delegates during their attendance on the sessions of the General Assembly, and authorizing Presbyteries to refuse to pay in cases in which the congregation, with which the minister or elder who is a delegate is connected, is delinquent in contributing to the delegates' fund. The committee admit that there may be injustice and unfairness in the present condition of things as complained of, but they are clearly of the opinion that the courses recommended by the resolutions appended to the memorial will not afford a sufficient remedy. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the resolutions of the memorialists be not adopted. Vol. IV, p. 298, 1876.

[Immediately on the adoption of the above, on motion, "the whole subject of providing a delegate fund was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures." The committee reported the following]:

Resolved, That Presbyteries be requested to embrace their opinions on the subject of a general delegates' fund in their reports to the next General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 308, 1876.

Ten Presbyteries have reported favorably to the establishment of a delegate fund; thirty-four have reported against the establishment of such a fund; eleven have either not acted, or have failed to report their action on this subject.

Resolved, That it is not expedient, at present, for the Assembly to attempt the establishment of a general delegate fund. Vol. IV, p. 436, 1877.

[On the memorial of the Presbytery of Oregon for a general delegate fund, the Assembly appointed a committee to prepare a plan for consideration by the next Assembly, and to publish it not later than January 1, 1883. Vol. V, p. 533, 1882. No action appears to have been taken.]

Resolved, 4. In reference to the memorials received from the Presbyteries of Oregon and Colorado, that a fund be established and known as the "General Delegate Fund," and that this Assembly make an assessment of ten (10) cents per capita on the membership of the whole Church, and that when Presbyteries pay the assessment in full, their delegates be reimbursed in full for their expenses incurred in attending such meetings; and in case any Presbytery shall

fail to pay its quota in full, the delegates from such Presbyteries shall be reimbursed in like ratio; that this Assembly appoint a treasurer to take charge of said fund, giving him such instructions as it may deem necessary. Vol. VI, p. 36, 1884. [No treasurer was appointed.]

[The Presbytery of Colorado asked the Assembly to "take such action as may be necessary to carry into effect the action of 1884." The action taken is]:

Resolved, 1. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the Assembly, in his yearly estimates for the Assembly's Fund, to provide for the payment of the actual traveling expenses of commissioners to the Assembly, over and above what would be paid by an assessment of ten cents per member in the Presbyteries from which they are delegates.

2. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the Assembly to pay out of the Assembly's Fund, all actual traveling expenses of delegates, which would not be paid by assessment of ten cents per member in Presbyteries represented, and not otherwise paid, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Delegates' and Commissioners' Expenses.

3. The Assembly shall appoint a standing committee of one on Delegates' and Commissioners' Expenses. Vol. VI, p. 431, 1886.

[The Committee on Delegates' Expenses reported that there were no funds in the treasury, and that therefore it was impossible to pay any part of the expenses of the delegates to this Assembly. The Assembly took the following action]:

After three years' experience it is manifest the Church at large is not willing to maintain such a fund.

We therefore recommend the repeal of the rule of 1884, establishing the "Delegates' Fund," as its remaining upon the books of the Church is productive of controversy and disappointment. Vol. VI, p. 686, 1887.

[The matter was taken up by the Assembly of 1899 and resulted in the establishment of a delegate fund. The following was proposed and adopted by the Assembly of 1900]:

1. For the creation of such a fund the General Assembly, through its Committee of Finance, shall annually make an assessment upon the entire membership of the Church in America. The assessment is in no case to exceed ten cents per member.

2. The financial agent of each Presbytery shall receive the amount collected and forward to the Treasurer of the General Assembly, not later than April 20 of each year. Through him it shall be paid out according to the regulations stated in the articles that follow.

3. Those entitled to the benefits of this fund shall be the delegates in actual attendance upon all the sessions of the Assembly. The roll of the Assembly shall be accepted as sufficient evidence of the attendance required. The expense provided for is to be limited to railroad fare, and that by the shortest route to and from the place of the Assembly meeting. The time for the distribution of these funds shall be during the sessions of the Assembly.

4. The expenses of each delegate shall be paid in full, when the Presbytery represented shall have paid its assessment in full; otherwise, in part, on the basis of the per cent of the assessment paid in by the Presbytery to which the delegate belongs.

5. If at any time a surplus should accrue from this fund in any one year, it shall be retained by the Treasurer of the Assembly and used to reduce the assessment of the following year. Vol. X, p. 115, 1900.

The officers of the Assembly proposed and the Assembly adopted the following:

1. The necessary traveling expenses of delegates to the General Assembly shall be paid out of the General Delegate Fund, subject to conditions hereinafter stated.

2. Upon the basis of estimates submitted, the Finance Committee shall recommend to the General Assembly each year an assessment on the Presbyteries in this country of as many cents per member as may be deemed sufficient to meet all claims against this fund for the next ensuing year.

3. Delegates from the Presbyteries which have paid their full apportionment to this fund shall be entitled to their entire traveling expenses, and those from Presbyteries, which have paid less than their full apportionment shall be paid the same proportion of their traveling expenses as their Presbyteries have paid of their apportionment.

4. When the bill of any delegate for necessary traveling expenses shall exceed four cents mileage (computed in one direction only) it shall be referred to the Finance Committee for approval. Delegates from foreign Presbyteries shall be allowed their expenses from and to their temporary home in this country.

5. Contributions to this fund must be paid on or before the second day of the sessions of the Assembly.

6. The Treasurer of the General Assembly shall each year present to the Finance Committee an estimate of the expenses for the coming year, shall receive all contributions to this fund and shall audit and pay all claims, except as provided above.

Your committee believes that the scheme here presented is a good and practical one, and that its adoption would be a simple justice to the various parts of our Church. It is our opinion that an assessment of ten cents per member each year would afford a sum sufficient to pay the expenses of all delegates, and this would not be burdensome to any, but would relieve weak and distant Presbyteries of a heavy burden.

We recommend for adoption, the following:

Resolved, That the scheme of the General Delegate Fund, as submitted, be adopted. Vol. VIII, p. 365, 1893.

Regulations. 1. The General Assembly, through its Committee on Finance, shall make an assessment upon all the Presbyteries in America for a General Delegate Fund, the same to be included in the appropriation for the General Assembly Fund. The assessment shall be according to the membership in the several Presbyteries as reported to the Assembly making the assessment, and shall in no case exceed ten cents per member.

2. The financial agent of each Presbytery shall receive the amount collected, and forward the same to the Treasurer of the General Assembly not later than April 20 of each year. He shall also report to the General Assembly, at its first session, the distance by the most direct route from a central point in the Presbytery to the place of meeting of the General Assembly.

3. The Treasurer of the General Assembly shall report to the Assembly, at its first session, the apportionment to each Presbytery for the General Assembly Fund, the amount received from each Presbytery and the percentage of the latter to the former. This report shall be referred to the Committee on Finance.

4. The Committee on Finance shall compute the expenses of each delegate entitled to receive allowance from this fund at the rate of 1½ cents per mile for ministers and 2 cents per mile for ruling elders, and prorate the same to each delegate on the basis of the percentage paid by his Presbytery as reported by the Treasurer of the General Assembly, and report by Presbyteries to the General Assembly. In exceptional cases, where concessions cannot be obtained from the railroad companies, the committee is authorized to allow a higher rate.

5. All the commissioners in attendance on the sessions of the General Assembly are entitled to the benefits of this fund. The roll of the Assembly, as certified by the Principal Clerk, shall be accepted as evidence of the attendance required. The expenses to be provided for shall be limited to railroad

fare, and that by the shortest route to and from the place of meeting of the Assembly, the delegates availing themselves of any commutation, or special rates that may be offered. Commissioners from Presbyteries in foreign lands shall be allowed mileage from their place of residence in this country.

6. The Principal Clerk, not later than the close of the morning session of the last day of the General Assembly, shall certify to the Committee on Finance the attendance of the commissioners on the sessions of the Assembly.

7. When the report of the Committee on Finance shall have been adopted, the Principal Clerk shall draw a warrant on the Treasurer of the General Assembly for the aggregate amount, and certify to the Treasurer the amount due to each Presbytery, together with the sum to be paid to each delegate.

8. The Treasurer of the General Assembly shall remit to the financial agent of each Presbytery the amount due to the delegates of that Presbytery, who shall, without delay, remit to each delegate the amount due to him.

9. The Committee on Finance shall submit to the General Assembly an estimate of the amount required for the Delegate Fund for the following year.

We also recommend the adoption of the following: *Resolved*, That, while we concede the right of a Presbytery to provide for the expenses of its own delegates, yet in view of the fact that the establishment of a General Delegate Fund is the act of the highest court of our Church, whose authority we recognize, and that the principle on which it is based is scriptural as well as fraternal, viz., that the strong should bear the infirmities of the weak and not please themselves, and that the success of the plan depends on the co-operation of all our Presbyteries and congregations; we urge all the Presbyteries to contribute their full quota to the General Assembly Fund. Vol. X, p. 269, 1901.

The General Assembly of 1899 appointed a committee to report to the next General Assembly on the subject of a General Delegate Fund. The committee reported regulations which were adopted. They were amended by the Assemblies of 1901, 1902, and 1904, and are as follows:

1. The General Assembly, through its Committee on Finance, shall make an assessment upon all the presbyteries in America for a general delegate fund, the same to be included in the appropriation for the General Assembly Fund. The assessment shall be according to the membership in the several presbyteries, as reported to the Assembly making the assessment, and shall in no case exceed ten cents per member.

2. The Financial Agent of each presbytery shall receive the amount collected and forward the same to the Treasurer of the General Assembly not later than April 20 of each year.

3. The Treasurer of the General Assembly shall report to the Assembly at its first session, the apportionment to each presbytery for the General Assembly Fund, the amount received from each Presbytery, and the percentage of the latter to the former. This report shall be referred to the Committee on Delegate Fund.

4. The Committee on Delegate Fund shall apportion the delegate fund in proportion to the amount of railroad fare each delegate has paid, and shall prepare warrants upon the Treasurer of the General Assembly for the said amount, which warrants shall be signed by the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly before adjournment.

(NOTE: Each commissioner submits to the Committee on the Delegate Fund a statement of the expenses paid coming to the General Assembly and an estimate of the expense of the return trip. This statement is made on a blank prepared by the committee, and must be given in early in the sessions of the Assembly.)

5. All the commissioners in attendance on the sessions of the General Assembly are entitled to the benefits of this fund. The roll of the Assembly, as certified by the Principal Clerk, shall be accepted as evidence of the attend-

ance required. The expenses to be provided for shall be limited to railroad fare, and that by the shortest route to and from the place of meeting of the Assembly, the delegates availing themselves of any commutation, or special rates that may be offered. Commissioners from presbyteries in foreign lands shall be allowed mileage from their place of residence in this country.

6. The Principal Clerk, not later than the close of the morning session of the last day of the General Assembly, shall certify to the Committee on Delegate Fund the attendance of the commissioners on the sessions of the Assembly.

7. The Treasurer, or his representative, shall be in attendance upon the General Assembly, and shall, upon receiving the warrants from the Committee on Delegate Fund, signed by the Principal Clerk, deliver said warrants to the commissioners. The endorsement of said commissioners on said warrants shall be considered receipt in full for the amounts specified in the warrants. The Treasurer, or his representative, may, if desirable, select a representative from each presbytery, to whom he shall deliver the warrants for the commissioners from that presbytery. All money due commissioners from the Assembly, and not called for during the Assembly, shall be remitted to the financial agents of the respective presbyteries, to be paid by them to the said commissioners.

8. The Committee on Finance shall submit to the General Assembly an estimate of the amount required for the Delegate Fund for the following year.

The General Assembly also adopted the following:

Resolved, That, while we concede the right of a presbytery to provide for the expenses of its own delegates, yet in view of the fact that the establishment of a General Delegate Fund is the act of the highest court of our Church, whose authority we recognize, and that the principle on which it is based is scriptural, as well as fraternal, viz., that the strong should bear the infirmities of the weak and not please themselves, and that the success of the plan depends on the co-operation of all our presbyteries and congregations, we urge all the presbyteries to contribute their full quota to the General Assembly Fund. *Minutes General Assembly*, Vol. X, pp. 269, 1901; 594, 1902.

The appropriation for the Delegate Fund is included in the appropriation for the General Assembly Fund, which for the year 1906-7 is ten cents per member. Vol. XI, p. 729b, 1906.

Resolved, 5. That the Principal Clerk be authorized to give warrants for the payment of bills for printing and other expenses made necessary by acts of the General Assembly, when the same shall be presented to him. Vol. XI, p. 557, 1906.

The following regulations for the Delegate Fund were adopted:

We have considered the matter of formulating rules relating to the distribution of the Delegate Fund, referred to us at the last General Assembly, and submit for your approval the following:

1. RULES GOVERNING DISTRIBUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY DELEGATE FUND

Commissioners are expected to secure the best railroad rates possible to and from the General Assembly and will be allowed railroad expenses on this basis. Commissioners making stops on account of business or social visits will not be allowed the additional expenses incurred by such stops.

Pullman car expenses will be allowed on the basis of one person to a berth.

Railroad and Pullman fares will be allowed in proportion as the Commissioner's Presbytery has contributed to the Assembly's Fund.

In case of special or reduced rates, notice will be given in the Church papers by the Committee on Railroad Transportation. Commissioners should study such notices carefully and comply with the instructions given therein. Failure to observe the notices will not be considered a valid reason for deviating from these regulations.

Every Commissioner is required to file promptly with the Committee on Delegate Fund, on arrival at the Assembly or as soon thereafter as possible, and not later than the second day of the Assembly, on blanks provided for the purpose, a statement of his railroad expenses. On the last day of the Assembly he will receive a check from the Treasurer of the Assembly for proportion of expenses due him.

No provision has been made in the Delegate Fund for meals or lodging to, or from, or at the Assembly.

In order to participate in the Delegate Fund, Commissioners are required to attend all the sessions of the Assembly unless excused by the proper Committee or the Assembly.

Each Presbytery should see that its quota to the Assembly Fund is paid in full in order that Commissioners may receive from this fund the full amount paid by them for railroad expenses.

II. EXCUSES CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE FOR PRESENTATION FOR ABSENCE FROM THE SESSIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY

1. Sickness of the Commissioner or sickness in his family.
2. Serious illness or death of a member of the congregation requiring the presence of the pastor.
3. Unforeseen business emergency.

III. EXCUSES NOT CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE FOR PRESENTATION FOR ABSENCE FROM THE SESSIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY

1. Social visits to friends and relatives during sessions of the Assembly.
2. Absence to attend to business matters which could have been provided for by taking proper foresight.
3. Engagements to preach requiring absence from more than the Monday morning session of the Assembly.
4. Other similar excuses.

IV. RULES GOVERNING ATTENDANCE OF COMMISSIONERS

A Commissioner accepting appointment to the Assembly should arrange to give the work of the Church all the time needed and should, therefore, so arrange his business that he can be at every session of the Assembly.

Commissioners should not, except under very special circumstances, make arrangements which would take them away from the Sabbath exercises held in connection with the Assembly.

These regulations, when approved, should be printed by the Principal Clerk of the Assembly and placed in the hands of the Clerks of the various presbyteries for distribution to all persons appointed from time to time as Commissioners to the General Assembly. Vol. XII, p. 171, 1908.

The following recommendations of the Trustees of the General Assembly were adopted:

"The expenses of all permanent committees appointed by the Assembly shall be reported to and paid by it. This does not include the traveling expenses of a member of the committee to report to the Assembly, except in cases where this is definitely authorized by the Assembly.

"The expenses of fraternal delegates to other bodies shall be paid by the Assembly. This rule shall not be applied to delegates to Churches in foreign countries, or to general conventions.

"The expenses of delegates to the Biennial Council of the Reformed Churches in America Holding the Presbyterian System, and to the Federal Council of the Evangelical Churches of America shall be paid by the Assembly.

"The expenses of other special delegates and committees shall be allowed

only when definitely authorized by the Assembly." Vol. XII, pp. 657, 669, 1910.

Resolved, 7. That hereafter the Delegate Fund be provided by means of a per capita assessment, that this assessment this year be ten cents per member, and that out of this Fund such expenses of Commissioners to the General Assembly be paid as may be recommended by the Committee on the Delegate Fund. Vol. XIII, p. 1091, 1915.

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly hereby direct that the scope of the Delegate Fund be extended to include the payment of the railroad transportation of ministers and elders to the annual meetings of Synods, where a spiritual life conference is held in connection with the same.

2. That the rules, regulations and enactments adopted heretofore by the General Assembly for the operation of the Delegate Fund shall be applicable in every respect to the Delegate Fund as now extended, except as herein modified and changed.

3. That the benefits of the Delegate Fund shall be applicable to ministers and elders attending and constituting the respective synods only when such constituents shall be in attendance at all sessions of the synod and the spiritual life conference held in connection therewith, unless excused by the Synod's Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence. The Assembly's rules adopted for excuses for absence shall govern.

4. That the Missionary and Efficiency Committee shall be charged with the administration of the Delegate Fund. The Executive Secretary of the Missionary and Efficiency Committee shall be the treasurer of the fund. All previously enacted regulations in conflict with this section are hereby repealed.

5. That the Assembly's Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence shall be continued as heretofore to receive and tabulate statements of expenses from commissioners and to act upon requests and excuses for absence.

6. That all synods be directed to create a permanent Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence whose duty it shall be to conduct the business of the application of the Delegate Fund and its benefits to its respective synod, according to the provisions hereby enacted and in accordance with the rules and regulations provided for the Delegate Fund.

7. That the Assembly Delegate Fund be raised as heretofore by an assessment upon the membership of the Church which shall be outside and above the regular missionary budget, and that the attention of all congregations be called anew to this fact.

8. That the assessment for the Delegate Fund for this year be fifteen cents per member. Vol. XV, p. 584, 1922.

10. **Fund of the General Assembly.** *Resolved*, That a fund be created, to be called "The Fund of the General Assembly," to which our congregations are enjoined to contribute annually. Vol. I, p. 37, 1859.

The Name of the Fund Changed. *Resolved*, 1. That in view of the inadequate amount produced for the Assembly's expenses by the present participation of three-fourths of one per cent in the missionary budget, the Assembly's expenses hereafter be provided from the Delegate Fund Assessment, the Clerk of the General Assembly to draw orders on the Treasurer of the Delegate Fund for all bills of Assembly expenses, and that the name of the Delegate Fund be changed to the "Assembly and Delegate Fund." Vol. XV, p. 896, 1923.

Resolved, 14. That the action of the General Assembly of 1923, recorded on page 901 of the General Assembly Minutes, Vol. XV, No. 4, viz.: "that the payment of traveling expenses of congregational delegates to Synod meetings shall be in proportion to the congregational payment of its synodical assessment," be rescinded, and that section III of the regulations for the Assembly and Delegate Fund (page 584, Minutes Vol. XV, No. 3) be amended to read as follows: "That the benefits of the Assembly and Delegate Fund shall be appli-

cable to ministers and elders attending and constituting the respective Synods when congregations in the respective Synods shall have complied fully with such regulations as the respective Synods may make relative to the payment of assessments for their Synodical expense fund, and only when such constituents shall be in attendance at all sessions of the Synod and the Spiritual Life Conference held in connection therewith, unless excused from such attendance by the Synod's Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence. The General Assembly's rules adopted for excuses for absence shall govern. This amendment shall take effect November 1st, 1924." Vol. XVI, p. 32, 1924.

Resolved, 11. That the rules governing the payment of delegates' expenses attending the General Assembly and Synod meetings be amended to read as follows:

(1) That Item I of Section II be amended to read, "Delegates who travel by train shall be reimbursed the amount of their tickets and necessary Pullman fare. The train fare (Ministerial rate in the case of ministers where obtainable) by the shortest route to and from the place of meeting, delegates availing themselves of any commutation or special rates, shall be the maximum allowance for transportation.

(2) Delegates traveling by public auto coach shall be paid the amount of their tickets, where such amount does not exceed train fare, where train travel by direct route would be available.

(3) When a group of three or more delegates travel by private automobile the driver of the car shall be paid six cents per mile, of direct travel going and coming; in the case of smaller groups, the owner of his car shall receive his train fare; other passenger delegates having been at no transportation expense shall require nothing therefor. Vol. XVII, p. 344, 1929.

Resolved, Payment of fare for those who travel by train will be as at present. Those who travel by auto will be given their necessary lodging expenses enroute, as at present. In no case shall any driver of an automobile receive more than the railroad fare by nearest route of the delegate or delegates in the load. One coming alone by auto shall receive his railroad fare. When two come by one auto, the driver shall receive 5 cents per mile. When three come by one auto the driver shall receive 6 cents per mile. When four or more come by one auto the driver shall receive 7 cents per mile. If for some reason an auto load is not able to complete the home trip, adjustment shall be made whereby the driver shall be paid for actual mileage covered, and the delegates shall be given their railroad fare for the remainder of the trip.

In case delegates coming by one auto load shall all, or any one, be from presbytery or presbyteries not having paid the General Assembly Fund in full the driver shall receive the railroad fare for each and all in the load adjusted on the basis of the percentage paid by the presbytery or presbyteries represented in the load, provided that this total amount received by the driver shall not exceed the mileage rate allowed for his load, namely—5 cents per mile for two delegates, 6 cents per mile for three delegates, 7 cents per mile for 4 or more delegates. This rule shall become effective for all future Synods and Assemblies. Vol. XVII, p. 678, 1930.

Resolved, In the interest of economy, your Committee recommends that the Committee on Assembly and Delegate Fund be composed of two members, one to be elected each year for a term of two years and if additional assistance is required the same be obtained from the membership of the Assembly or from the vicinity in which the Assembly meets.

We recommend that the rules governing payment of delegates' traveling expenses be amended so as to provide that delegates traveling in automobiles conveying no other delegate shall receive instead of four cents per mile, as at present, only an amount equal to train fare and pullman, when necessary. Vol. XVIII, p. 60, 1932.

Resolved, 5. That the assessment for the Assembly and Delegate Fund for the current year be made 10 cents per member and that the provision for payment of delegates to Synods this year be changed to provide their expenses on a 3-cent per mile basis under the rules as they apply, on condition that at least two hours during the sessions of the Synod be spent on consideration of the Yearly Program of the Board of Administration. Vol. XVIII, p. 322, 1933.

Resolved, 10. That the basic rate for payment of traveling expenses to Assembly or Synods shall be, for representatives traveling by auto: one person traveling alone, 2 cents per mile; two persons, 4 cents per mile to the driver; three persons, 5 cents per mile to the driver; four or more persons, 6 cents per mile to the driver. Vol. XIX, p. 355, 1937.

Resolved, 9. That the basic rate of travel by auto to Assembly and Synods by one person traveling alone, 2 cents per mile; two persons, 4 cents per mile to the driver; three persons, 5 cents per mile to the driver; four or more persons, 6 cents per mile to the driver. Vol. XIX, p. 625, 1938.

Resolved, 6. That the assessment for the Assembly and Delegate Fund be fixed at 10 cents per member, the same as for many years past, with the usual proviso for payment of travel of synod delegates, on condition that at least two hours' time be employed in consideration of the program suggested by the Board of Administration—and that thirty minutes each be allotted to the two representatives of the two selected Budget Boards annually on the programs of the Synods. That the basic rate of travel by auto to Assembly and Synods be, one person traveling alone, 2 cents per mile; two persons, 4 cents per mile to the driver; three persons, 5 cents per mile to the driver; four or more persons, 6 cents per mile to the driver. Vol. XIX, p. 943, 1939.

Resolved, 7. That the Board of Administration be directed to charge five per cent of the amount handled for the administration and promotion of the Assembly and Delegate Fund, the Assembly Certificate Fund, and the White Gift Fund.

9. That all expenses paid by the Assembly and Delegate Fund, except the traveling expenses of delegates, be subject to the recommendations of the Finance Committee of Assembly. Vol. XX, p. 27, 1940.

Resolved, 6. That the assessment for the Assembly and Delegate Fund be fixed at 10 cents per member with the usual proviso for payment of travel of Synod Delegates, that two hours' time be employed in the program of Synod to consider the program of the denomination; and that thirty minutes each be allotted to the two representatives of the two selected Budget Boards annually on the programs of the Synods; that the basic rate of travel by auto to Assembly and Synods be, one person traveling alone, 2 cents per mile; two persons, 4 cents per mile to the driver; three persons, 5 cents per mile to the driver; four or more persons, 6 cents per mile to the driver.

7. That all expenses paid by the Assembly and Delegate Fund, except the traveling expenses of delegates, be subject to the recommendations of the Finance Committee of the Assembly. Vol. XX, p. 338, 1941.

12. Blue Book of Reports

It was ordered that the Clerks of the Assembly prepare each year a bound volume of the reports to be presented. Vol. XI, p. 890, 1907.

13. Certificates of Inter-Church World Movement Indebtedness, Known as General Assembly Certificates

The following Plan was adopted:

V. Investment Bonds of the Trustees of the General Assembly.

The Missionary and Efficiency Committee proposes the issuance of bonds to cover the Inter-Church World Movement Indebtedness, details of which are printed in the Committee's report to this Assembly, pages 34-36. We recommend the adoption of the resolutions submitted.

Investment Bonds of the Trustees of the General Assembly.

Whereas, the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, at its meeting held on May 29th, 1919, at Monmouth, Illinois, approved the following recommendation, *to wit*:

"That the Assembly approve the full co-operation of our Church with the Inter-Church World Movement in its proposed campaign, insofar as it may not interfere with the recognized missionary and financial policies and methods of the United Presbyterian Church, and on condition that a large majority of the principal denominations agree to co-operate in this Movement,"

by virtue of which recommendation various Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America co-operated in said Inter-Church World Movement, each underwriting a certain amount of the expenses of the said Inter-Church World Movement, and

Whereas, by virtue of said authorization certain of the Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the Church underwrote (by giving their paper) to the extent of \$445,502.90. Paper aggregating \$316,247.90 was actually used as security by the Inter-Church World Movement Corporation in obtaining loans, which security is now held by the Loaning Agency. Paper to the extent of \$129,255.00 was unaccepted by the banks for various reasons, but was perhaps the basis upon which the Inter-Church World Corporation felt justified and acted in further borrowings, although upon other security or endorsements, and

Whereas, the Inter-Church World Movement failed to obtain sufficient funds through its campaign to meet its expenses, and

Whereas, certain of said underwritings by the various Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the Church are either moral or legal obligations, and

Whereas, the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, at its meeting held May 25, 1920, at Sterling, Kansas, ratified the action of the various Boards, Agencies and Institutions in so underwriting a portion of the said Expense of the Inter-Church World Movement by resolution as follows, *to wit*:

"As it became necessary in the development of the Inter-Church World Movement and of our New World Movement in its relationship to the larger Movement to secure funds, and as it seemed wise on the part of the several agencies, in that the last General Assembly had endorsed the plan and program of the Inter-Church World Movement, to underwrite the Inter-Church World Movement to the extent of 5% of the askings of the New World Movement, that the Assembly direct the Boards that have underwritten the Movement to assume their proportionate share of expenses, and that hereafter all matters related to the financing of the Movement shall be referred to the Committee having these matters in charge."

And *Whereas*, the Inter-Church World Committee has agreed to charge off 50% of the unaccepted underwritings, *to wit*: \$64,627.50, upon the payment of a like sum by the Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the Church, and

Whereas, the various Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the United Presbyterian Church have no available funds from which to pay their respective underwritings, and

Whereas, the annual budget of the United Presbyterian Church is not adequate to meet this large obligation in addition to the current expenses of the various Boards of the Church,

Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*: I. That the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America determine that \$380,875.40 be the entire amount to be payable on account of the underwritings of the

various Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

II. That the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America direct the Trustees of the said General Assembly to issue bonds or some other evidence of indebtedness to the amount or sum of \$380,875.40.

III. That said bonds or other evidence of indebtedness shall be non-negotiable or transferable; they shall bear interest at the rate of 5% per annum, payable annually; they shall be payable in twenty (20) years from date of issuance, and shall contain a provision that they, or any part thereof, may be retired at any time after one (1) year from the date thereof; they shall be declared to be the authorized investments for the Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the Church, to the payment of which the good faith of the Church is pledged.

IV. That each Board, Agency or Institution which is determined to be obligated by the aforementioned underwritings be required to purchase said bonds or other evidence of indebtedness from the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America to the amount of its determined obligations; it being understood, however, that where any of said Boards, Agencies or Institutions have made payment or payments on account of said underwritings, the receipt for such payments shall be accepted as cash.

V. That the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church shall issue to each of said Boards, Agencies and Institutions so underwriting, and so obligated, said bonds or other evidence of indebtedness to the amount of their determined obligations by virtue of said underwritings.

VI. That the fund realized from the sale of such bonds or other evidence of indebtedness be used by the Trustees of the General Assembly to liquidate the said underwritings.

VII. That at the end of each fiscal year the Missionary and Efficiency Committee shall pay to the various Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the Church holding said bonds or evidence of indebtedness, their proportionate part of whatever amount the general undesignated receipts exceed the receipts for the fiscal year 1919-20, which were \$707,417.00 which amount shall be used by the various Boards, Agencies and Institutions; 1st—as payment of the accrued interest on the certificates of indebtedness at the rate of 5% per annum, and 2nd—the balance to be applied toward the retirement of the said bonds or certificates of indebtedness held by the said Boards, Agencies and Institutions.

VIII. That the Missionary and Efficiency Committee be directed in co-operation with all the Boards and Agencies of the Church to put forth effort to increase the contributions of the Church through the regular channels for the fiscal year 1922-23, and that special effort be put forth through the Every Member Canvass each Spring to the end that the entire indebtedness be liquidated at the earliest possible moment.

IX. That the various Boards, Agencies and Institutions of the Church shall, upon payment to them, deliver up said bonds or other evidence of indebtedness, or any divisible part thereof, to the proper officers for cancellation.

X. That the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed to prepare a form of bond or other evidence of indebtedness as above provided, and that they, in co-operation with the Executive Committee of the Missionary and Efficiency Committee, determine the amount of the bonds or other evidences of indebtedness which the various Boards, Agencies and Institutions shall be required to purchase from the Trustees of the General Assembly. Vol. XV, p. 585, 1922.

Retirement of General Assembly Certificates. The following recommendation was adopted:

In response to the Memorial from the Board of American Missions, asking that the General Assembly request each Board and agency holding one of these certificates, to credit on said certificate which it holds, each year for ten years, one-tenth of the face of said certificate, beginning in 1932, and at the end of the ten years to return the certificate to the proper authorities for cancellation; agreeing that each year the one-tenth written off shall be replaced by money raised to preserve the integrity of the fund.

Provided, that the General Assembly, through its Board of Administration, shall pay during the fiscal year of 1931-32 the full 5% interest on the principal; the year following, interest on the principal reduced by one-tenth, and so on for ten years, when the certificate shall be returned for cancellation.

We recommend the approval of this Memorial. Vol. XVII, p. 955, 1931.

Board of Administration to deduct 5% for handling Certificate Funds.

Resolved, 7. That the Board of Administration be directed to charge five per cent of the amount handled for the administration and promotion of the Assembly and Delegate Fund, the Assembly Certificate Fund and the White Gift Fund. Vol. XX, p. 27, 1940.

14. Commissioners

(1) **Ruling Elders Not Members of Session Not to Be Commissioners to the General Assembly.** The following action was taken: "May a Ruling Elder who is not a member of Session represent that Session officially in the Presbytery as a delegate, or represent the Presbytery officially in the General Assembly as a Commissioner?"

In response to this inquiry your committee reports as follows:

Ruling Elders sit in the meetings of Presbytery, not as representatives of the session, but as representatives of the congregation. (Book of Government, Part I, Chapter XV, Sec. 53.)

A Ruling Elder who is a member of a congregation, but not a member of its Session, has no official relation to the congregation (Book of Government, Part II, Chapter XVIII, Section 182, et seq.), and therefore is not qualified to represent the congregation in meetings of Presbytery.

Since official relation to a congregation is requisite to qualify a Ruling Elder to sit as a member of any court of the Church, a Ruling Elder without such official relation is not qualified to represent the Presbytery in the General Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 320, 1933.

(2) **Commissioners from Egypt and India.** Your Committee recognizes the justice of this Memorial and also feels that whatever help is extended to Indian presbyteries should likewise be extended to Egyptian presbyteries. The membership of the Indian Church is almost twice that of the Egyptian Church, but the cost of sending a delegate from India is almost twice that of a delegate from Egypt.

We would therefore recommend that the Church in India and the Church in Egypt be urged to send a delegate to the General Assembly in alternate years. We recommend that the expense of transportation to and from the General Assembly and the expenses at the General Assembly be paid as follows: One-third by the native church; one-third by the Board of Foreign Missions; one-third from the Assembly Delegate Fund. It is suggested that this delegate should make appearances in our American churches and at Summer Bible Conferences, etc., and that he be remunerated for the same, the remuneration in turn to be divided between the Board of Foreign Missions and the native church. Should it be desirable to send delegates from both India and Egypt, in any one year, it is to be understood that this can be done provided no delegates are sent the following year. Vol. XIX, p. 960, 1939.

(3) **A Provisional Member of Presbytery May Not Represent That**

Presbytery in the General Assembly. The following recommendation was adopted:

There was referred to this Committee the question of seating the provisional member of the Presbytery of Uncompahgre, who is a member of another presbytery, as a Commissioner in this General Assembly.

We find in the Book of Government, Chapter XX, Section 88, that members of a provisional session, except in the case of an elder duly installed in the congregation, may not represent the congregation as a member of the Presbytery. Since this case is analogous, your Committee unanimously recommends that the provisional member of the Presbytery of Uncompahgre be not seated as a Commissioner in this General Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 630, 1934.

15. Committees, Permanent and Standing (See Manual)

16. Communion Service of the General Assembly

The Committee on Arrangements, in connection with the Stated Clerks, was instructed to provide for a communion service during the meeting of the General Assembly. Vol. XI, p. 312, 1905.

Resolved, 1. That with the conviction that the Communion Service of this Assembly was a channel of blessing to all, it is hereby ordered that hereafter such a service be arranged for in connection with the meeting of each General Assembly. Vol. XI, p. 605, 1906.

17. Pre-Assembly Conference on Evangelism

Resolved, (b) That this Assembly instruct its officers in preparing the program of the 1917 Assembly to set aside Tuesday evening for a meeting and conference on Evangelism. Vol. XIV, p. 55, 1916.

To this end we recommend the continuation of the Pre-Assembly Evangelistic Conference for 1918. Vol. XIV, p. 198, 1917.

The following resolution on Evangelism was adopted by the Assembly:

Realizing that the Pre-Assembly Evangelistic Conference has greatly advanced the work of evangelism in our denominational life, and holds a fundamental place in the life and meaning of our Assembly meeting; and convinced that there are disadvantages in the continuation of the same as at present, the General Assembly directs that the Committee on Evangelism in connection with the officers of the Assembly consider the advisability of holding an Assembly Evangelistic Conference on the afternoon and evening of the Assembly Sabbath following the Assembly Communion. Vol. XVII, p. 640, 1930.

NOTE: Pre-Assembly Conferences have been held continuously from year to year.

18. Manual of the General Assembly

Resolved, That the Stated Clerks of the General Assembly be authorized to prepare an order of business for the next General Assembly and also a manual for the use of its members. Vol. XI, p. 312, 1905.

Resolved, 2. That in view of the manifest usefulness of the Assembly's Manual and the advantage of having a carefully prepared order of business, the Stated Clerks are hereby instructed to prepare annually hereafter a similar Manual for the use of the Commissioners, and to include in it an Order of Business for the General Assembly. Vol. XI, p. 605, 1906.

19. Minutes of the General Assembly

(1) **Compensation for Superintending the Publication of the Minutes.** One hundred dollars were appropriated to the committee to superintend the printing and publication of the Minutes. Vol. II, p. 321, 1866.

Resolved, That the clerks of the General Assembly be authorized to expend a sum, not exceeding \$50, for the revision of the Minutes of the General Assembly. Vol. III, p. 535, 1873. [\$25 additional was granted to the Clerks for preparing the Minutes. Vol. VI, p. 238, 1885.]

(2) **The Minutes to Be Published by the Board of Publication.** [The

Minutes of the General Assembly had been published in connection with the *Evangelical Repository*.]

Resolved, 1. That hereafter the publication of the Minutes be committed to the Board of Publication, and that, under the superintendence of the clerks of the Assembly, they be issued in the name of the Board, in the same way as are other publications. Vol. III, p. 33, 1869.

Resolved, 3. That the publication of the Minutes of the General Assembly be committed to the Board of Publication, the size of the edition to be issued, and the price per copy to be left to the discretion of the Board. Vol. III, p. 281, 1871.

(3) **An Index of the Minutes to Be Prepared by the Clerks.** *Resolved*, 2. That, hereafter, a full index of each number of the Minutes be prepared on the same plan, by the clerks of the Assembly, and appended, and a general index at the close of each volume. Vol. II, p. 511, 1868.

(4) **The Minutes Not to Be Transcribed.** [Resolutions with reference to transcribing the Minutes were presented to the Assembly of 1871, Vol. III, p. 285. They were referred to the clerks of the Assembly, with instruction to take legal advice thereto and report to the next Assembly. This legal advice was reported to the Assembly, Vol. III, pp. 379, 380, 1872, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the Principal Clerk be not required, after the present meeting, to transcribe the Minutes into a book prepared for that purpose.

2. That, instead thereof, he be directed to certify, over his own signature, to the correctness of at least ten copies of the printed Minutes; one to be preserved among the archives of the Assembly as the official copy, and one to be deposited in the library of each of our theological seminaries. Vol. III, p. 380, 1872.

(5) **Expenses of Binding the Minutes.** *Resolved*, 3. That the expense of binding the official Minutes for preservation be defrayed out of the Assembly's fund. Vol. V, p. 38, 1879.

(6) **Gratuitous Copies of the Minutes.** [By order of the General Assembly, copies of the Minutes of the General Assembly are furnished by the Board of Publication gratuitously to the Corresponding Secretaries of the several Boards, to the Library of each Theological Seminary, to each foreign missionary, to the clerks of Synods and Presbyteries, to Financial Agents and Superintendents of Missions, and to the delegates from corresponding Churches, the expenses to be paid out of the funds appropriated to the Board of Publication.] Vol. III, p. 33, 1869. Vol. IV, p. 33, 1874. Action of 1900. Paid from Assembly's Fund.

(7) **Grants from Home Missions Funds to Be Published in the Minutes.** The following recommendation was adopted:

Regarding the Memorial from Des Moines Presbytery asking the Clerk of the Assembly to have the appropriations of the General Committee of Home Missions printed each year in the Minutes of the Assembly, we recommend this Memorial be granted. Vol. XV, p. 568, 1922; Vol. XVI, p. 898, 1927.

(8) **Missionaries of the Church, Roll of, in the Minutes.** Furthermore, in response to a general desire of the Church, we recommend that the Stated Clerk be instructed to insert into the Minutes of the General Assembly an alphabetical roll of all the missionaries in the entire Church. Vol. XVIII, p. 27, 1932.

(9) **Publication of the Minutes. General Provisions.** 4. A Memorial from the Presbytery of Allegheny asking as follows:

(1) That the publication and distribution of the Minutes of the General Assembly be under the direction and control of the Clerk of the General Assembly.

(2) That the Clerk be directed to have the Minutes published and dis-

tributed through the United Presbyterian Board of Publication, and that care be taken to have the work done as economically as possible.

(3) That the Secretaries of the Boards and the Chairmen of Committees be directed to send their reports to the Clerk for publication in the Assembly's "Blue Book," and that the Clerk have these printed by the same firm and on the same page form as the Minutes, so that this report matter will not have to be set up twice.

(4) That the Board of Publication be directed to publish an edition of the Minutes large enough amply to supply all demands.

(5) That the expense of the publication and distribution of the Minutes be taken from the Delegate Fund and the Board of Publication be directed to render a bill to the Assembly's Treasurer for the amount.

(6) That a copy of the Minutes be sent, free of charge, to each of our Church papers, to the Secretary of each of the Church Boards, to each of our Theological Seminaries and Colleges, to the Clerks of corresponding religious bodies and of interdenominational associations, to each ordained missionary in our foreign field, and to each ordained minister and to the Session of each vacant congregation, to the Presbyterial Financial Agents, Superintendents of Missions, Sabbath School Superintendents, and Superintendents of the Young People's Work, avoiding duplication of copies, in all those presbyteries which have paid their full apportionment to the Delegate Fund of the last preceding General Assembly.

(7) That the Minutes of the General Assembly be offered for sale at 50 cents per copy, and all proceeds from these sales be returned by the Board of Publication to the Delegate Fund.

We recommend:

(1) That the prayer of the memorialists be granted and that the Clerk of the Assembly be instructed to take such steps as will put this plan into effect with such minor modifications as may be found desirable to make it practicable and economical.

(2) That this plan take effect in the year 1919. Vol. XIV, p. 457, 1918.

Number of Copies. Resolved, That the Board of Publication be instructed to publish the Minutes of the General Assembly in sufficient quantity for the needs of the Church and furnish them at a nominal price. Vol. XV, p. 25, 1920.

Resolved, That the edition of the Minutes of the General Assembly shall be determined this year by orders received prior to June 20, and in succeeding years prior to June 10; and that 200 copies shall be added to the number of orders received. Vol. XV, p. 905, 1923.

16. In answer to the Memorial from Allegheny Presbytery, we recommend that the Assembly direct the Board of Publication to continue the plan as laid down by the Assembly of 1923. This plan directs the Board to publish a supply of Minutes to amply provide for all orders that have been received prior to and including June 10th; that in addition two hundred copies be published to take care of orders that may be received after this date. We think this as good a plan as can be proposed, but would recommend that an additional fifty copies be published to be reserved for calls that may come from outside our denomination. Vol. XVI, p. 612, 1926.

Price of the Minutes. We believe that Fifty Cents is a nominal price for the Minutes of the General Assembly. Vol. XV, p. 289, 1921.

Size of the Minutes. In view of the rapid increase in the size of the Minutes of the General Assembly and the corresponding increase in the cost of publication and distribution and that the Minutes may have a larger circulation among ministers, officers and members of the Church, your Committee would recommend:

That all the Reports of Boards and Permanent Committees be eliminated;

That all statistics and all reports of standing select committees with their recommendations adopted by the Assembly be retained. Vol. XIII, p. 1094, 1915.

Resolved, (a) That the Report of the General Committee of Home Missions be restored to its place in the Appendix of the Minutes.

(b) That the Secretary of each Board be directed to prepare a brief but comprehensive abstract of his Annual Report for publication in the Appendix, this abstract to contain the Treasurer's Report in full and a summary of the year's statistics.

(c) That the Business Manager of the Board of Publication be directed to send to each minister and to the correspondent of vacant congregations a return card asking for a statement as to the number of copies of the Minutes of the Assembly desired. Vol. XIV, p. 220, 1917.

Salaries to Be Published in the Minutes. We recommend that somewhere in the Minutes of the Assembly there be published the salaries of the Secretaries of the Boards, Synodical Superintendents of Missions, Seminary Professors, and others whose salaries are paid out of Church funds. Vol. XIX, p. 340, 1937.

20. Patriotic Service

The following resolution was adopted: In keeping with the nature and spirit of the day, the General Assembly recommends that a half-hour memorial or patriotic service be arranged for Friday, May 30th, consisting of prayer, recognition of soldiers of all wars, and a twenty-minute patriotic address; and that such service be arranged for annually. Vol. XVII, p. 640, 1930.

21. Place for the Meeting of the General Assembly

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly create a Permanent Committee on Place of Meeting consisting of five members to include the Moderator, the Clerk, and the Transportation Secretary.

2. That this Committee be instructed to arrange to hold the meetings in United Presbyterian Churches.

3. That this Committee be authorized to solicit invitations and that all invitations be in the hands of the Clerk of the Assembly six months before the meeting of the Assembly at which the choice of a place is made. Vol. XX, p. 330, 1941.

22. Popular Meetings

Popular Meeting on Education. *Resolved*, That a popular evening program on Christian education under the auspices of the Board of Education be arranged for during Assembly week hereafter. Vol. XIII, p. 713, 1914.

The title of this meeting was changed to A Popular Meeting on Education and Young People's Work. Vol. XVII, p. 953, 1931.

Rotation of Popular Meetings. The order of rotation for Popular meetings of the Assembly was approved, providing for the same order of succession as at present with the Board assigned the last place to be assigned the first place the following year. Vol. XIX, p. 656, 1938.

23. Reduction of Number of Representatives

Resolved, 2. That the Assembly itself shall lead the way to reduction of expense, by limitation of the number of its appointees on general committees, and on inter-denominational representation, wherever expense is involved; and, to this end, hereby provide that, for the present year, such appointees shall be limited in the following appointments, and the Nominating Committee be so instructed:

World Conference on Faith and Order One representative
 Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence Two members
 Fraternal Delegates to Sister Churches—Omit appointees and send cordial greetings.

Delegates to Federal Council of Churches—Three representatives
 Standing Committee on Y. M. C. A.—Two representatives
 Counselling Commission on Y. M. C. A.—Omit representatives
 Assembly's Publicity Committee—Two members (expense not to exceed
 \$100.00).

Vol. XVII, p. 954, 1931.

24. Transportation Secretary

The following resolution was adopted:

"*Whereas*, the denominations are brought in contact with the railroads in many ways and have mutual interests, and

"*Whereas*, most denominations have Transportation Secretaries, we, therefore, recommend that the Nominating Committee select a person to act as Transportation Secretary for the United Presbyterian Church of North America, whose duty it shall be to preserve the confidence and courtesy of the railroads, and present fairly the needs of authorized officials of our denomination." Vol. XV, p. 846, 1923.

25. Vice Moderator to Be Elected

Resolved, That a Vice Moderator be elected. Vol. XVIII, p. 39, 1932.

LVII. HISTORICAL RECORDS

(NOTE: See Chapter LXXXVI, on Presbyterian Historical Society.)

1. **A Committee Appointed to Prepare a History of the United Presbyterian Church.** [In view of the approaching centennial anniversary of the national independence, and in accordance with the action of other Churches, the General Assembly appointed a committee] to prepare a complete history of the United Presbyterian Church, showing: 1. Its origin, progress and present statistics. 2. Its principles. 3. Its home and foreign missionary work. 4. Its educational interests. Vol. IV, p. 26, 1874.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly that meetings had been held and arrangements made for the preparation of papers on the subjects assigned to them, and asked that the committee be enlarged and that provision be made for the publication of the papers. These requests were granted.] Vol. IV, p. 187, 1875. The enlarged committee was continued and reported to the Assembly that progress had been made. The committee was continued, and the Board of Publication was instructed to publish the papers in a suitable volume. Vol. IV, p. 362, 1876.

Resolved, That the committee appointed by the Eighteenth General Assembly to prepare a history of the United Presbyterian Church, be instructed to complete their work, if it be not already done; and that the Board of Publication be directed to publish it without delay. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879. [These instructions were repeated by the following Assembly. Vol. V, p. 196, 1880. No later report appears.]

2. **Histories of Congregations, Presbyteries and Synods.** [The Permanent Committee on Old Records reported that many histories of congregations, Presbyteries and Synods had been prepared, and gave a list of them. Vol. IV, p. 631, 1878.]

4. That Presbyteries be instructed to see that the histories of their congregations are collected at once, and, for the present, placed in the keeping of the different Clerks of Presbyteries. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879.

3. **The Board of Publication to Secure and Publish Old Records.** *Resolved*, 1. That the Board of Publication be instructed to secure the records of the Associate Presbyterian, and of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches, and United Presbyterian Church.

2. That the Board be instructed to arrange for publication of so much of these records as may be deemed of general utility, and to publish them as soon as the funds can be procured for defraying the expenses.

3. That the Board be instructed to obtain all the material that they can for a complete history of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 223, 1861.

3. **A Permanent Committee Appointed to Collect and Deposit Old Records.** *Resolved*, 6. That in order to preserve the various records of the Church from being scattered and lost, a committee * * * be appointed to collect and deposit in some safe and convenient place: 1. The records of the Associate and Associate Reformed Presbyteries and Synods as far as practicable. 2. The records of Presbyteries which have been dissolved. 3. All documents pertaining to the history of our Church. Vol. III, p. 396, 1872.

Resolved, 2. That this committee be authorized to receive and receipt for all the records of Synods and Presbyteries formerly in connection with the Associate and Associate Reformed Churches which have been dissolved, and that all persons in possession of these records be requested to forward them at once to the chairman, or some member of the committee.

4. That this committee be directed to deposit such records and historical documents as come into its hands, in the safe of the United Presbyterian book rooms, in the city of Pittsburgh, and that the superintendent of these rooms be charged with their proper care and keeping.

5. That this committee be authorized to receive as a donation, or to purchase such historical documents as in the judgment of a majority of its members are necessary to preserve a knowledge of the planting, growth, labors and struggles of the Associate and Associate Reformed Churches in this country with a view to furnishing material for future history, and for effecting said purchases be authorized to draw through the principal clerk upon the treasurer of the Assembly to an amount not exceeding \$75.00, as these purchases may be made. Vol. III, p. 517, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That the records now on hand, and those which may be hereafter procured, be placed in the fire-proof building of the Presbyterian Historical Society, when it shall be completed, for safe keeping, and that a copy of all those which may be printed be placed in our own publishing house. Vol. IV, p. 301, 1876.

7. That the committee be directed to construct a vault for the preservation of histories and records, in our Theological Seminary building at Allegheny, or, if a suitable place can be found for it, in our Board of Publication building in Pittsburgh, at a cost not to exceed three hundred dollars. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879. [The use of the vault of the Board of Publication was procured. Vol. V, p. 247, 1880.]

[The permanent committee on the preservation of old records reported as follows: Vol. III, p. 516, 1873; Vol. IV, pp. 37, 1874; 227, 1875; 359, 1876; 491, 1877; 630, 1878; Vol. V, pp. 81, 1879; 246, 1880. The committee was discharged, inasmuch as the Assembly has established a historical society. Vol. V, p. 196, 1880.]

4. **Records of Associate and Associate Reformed Presbyteries and Synods.** [A list of these records and the persons holding them, is to be found, Vol. IV, p. 631, 1878; Vol. V, p. 81, 1879.]

3. That as the old records of the different Presbyteries and Synods, by direction of the Assembly of 1876, are to be retained in present hands until the work of preparing histories is completed, Presbyteries be directed to place the records of their Associate and Associate Reformed predecessors in the possession of their respective Clerks, who shall be held responsible for their safe keeping. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879.

5. **United Presbyterian Historical Society.** *Resolved*, 5. That this Assembly recommend the formation of a United Presbyterian Historical Society, and hereby authorize the committee on old records to organize such a society, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 595, 1878.

[The committee reported that the organization had not been effected, and the Assembly renewed the action of the previous Assembly. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879. The committee prepared a constitution for a historical society and reported it to the Assembly.]

Resolved, 4. That this Assembly proceed to organize a United Presbyterian Historical Society, by adopting the constitution referred to above, and by electing nine persons to constitute a Board of Managers, in accordance with its provisions, Vol. V, p. 196, 1880. [The constitution of this society is to be found, Vol. V, p. 247, 1880. For report of the Board of Managers, and by-laws, see Vol. V, p. 412, 1881.]

6. **Historical Record of Organizations.** [The Second Clerk reported a record of the organization of the Presbyteries and Synods of the Associate and Associate Reformed Churches, Vol. IV, p. 563, 1878, when the following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That the record of organizations be printed in the appendix to the minutes. Vol. IV, p. 594, 1878. [The publication of this record was deferred till the next year, in order to secure greater completeness. It is given, Vol. V, p. 85, 1879; amendments, p. 255, 1880; p. 607, 1882.]

[For a historical record of the organization of the General Assembly, of the Synods and of the Presbyteries of the United Presbyterian Church, see Vol. V, p. 593, 1882.]

Resolved, 1. That Rev. J. B. Dales, D.D., Rev. Jas Price and Elder John Means be appointed a committee to co-operate with the Presbyterian Historical Society in the effort to collect material for the history of our own branch of the Presbyterian Church.

2. That, in view of the fact that our own Historical Society is prepared to receive and take care of manuscript records, our judicatories be recommended to give the preference to our society, in seeking safe keeping of their records. Vol. VIII, p. 43, 1892.

7. **The Committee on Historical Records.** The following recommendations were adopted:

Your Committee is informed that a number of documents, records and journals of great historical interest to our Church are in possession of individuals, presbyteries and synods; that there is danger of losing them through their falling into disinterested hands or destroyed by lack of proper care; that there is in reality no Historical Society.

In view of these facts your Committee recommends:

1. That the appointment of "The Managers of the Historical Society" be discontinued, and that they be instructed to transfer material in their possession to the Committee hereinafter named.

2. That a Permanent Committee be appointed which shall be called "The Committee on Historical Records"; that this Committee shall report to the General Assembly.

3. This Committee shall have nine members, each serving three years, subject to re-election.

4. That after this year the nominations be made by the Committee on Nominations.

5. That the Assembly shall authorize the outlay of sufficient funds to provide for the proper care of historical matter committed to the custody of this Committee.

6. That the vaults of the Allegheny Seminary be the depository of said material. Vol. XII, p. 657, 1910.

8. **Service Theological Seminary Memorial.** The following recommendation was adopted:

1. We recommend that the matter of marking the site of Service Seminary be referred to the Committee on Historical Records, with instructions to co-

operate with the Presbyterian Historical Society of Philadelphia in the undertaking. Vol. XIII, p. 374, 1913.

The following report was adopted:

The enterprise of the year has been the Service Seminary Memorial, intended to mark the location of the old Associate Seminary in Raccoon Township, Beaver County, Pa. While the Memorial was suggested by the General Assembly of 1913, the committee did nothing more than visit the site until last fall, when, after a second visit, definite steps were taken toward the erection of a suitable monument. A plot of ground, embracing the exact location of the Seminary, was purchased for \$100.00, the title being vested in the Trustees of the General Assembly. The contract for a monument of the best Vermont granite was let, the cost, inclusive of foundation, hauling, and setting, being \$374.12. There will be further outlay in providing for the filling in of the lot and fencing it in a durable way, so that it is estimated that the total cost of the Memorial will be about \$600.00. The purpose of the committee is to raise this amount by private subscription.

The inscription for the monument reads as follows: "Site of the Service Theological Seminary of the Associate Presbyterian Church, the second Divinity School in America. In a log building erected here the first session was held during the winter of 1794-1795, the Rev. John Anderson, D.D., being the sole instructor. In 1821 the Seminary was transferred to Canonsburg, Pennsylvania; thence, in 1855, it was removed to Xenia, Ohio. By the Union of 1858 it became one of the Theological Seminaries of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

The unveiling of the monument is fixed for June 22, 1916. Vol. XIV, p. 34, 1916.

The following report was adopted:

The granite monument marking the site of the Service Seminary was unveiled with appropriate ceremony on Thursday, June 22, 1916. The Presbytery of Frankfort, within whose bounds the site of the old Seminary is located, planned a presbyterial picnic, and there was a large gathering of people to commemorate the event. Dr. John A. Wilson, of the Committee, was the introductory speaker, and Dr. Joseph Kyle, president of the Xenia Seminary delivered the historical address. The Rev. R. H. McCartney, Moderator of the Presbytery of Frankfort, spoke, accepting in the name of the Presbytery the responsibility of caring for the monument. The total cost of the enterprise was \$700.00. Of this amount the Trustees of the General Assembly provided \$100.00 for the purchase of the lot, and the deed was made out in the name of these Trustees. The remainder of the cost has been raised by private subscription. The monument should be enclosed by a substantial fence, something which remains to be done. Vol. XIV, p. 200, 1917.

9. **A Bronze Tablet Marking the Place Where the United Presbyterian Church Was Organized.** The following proposal by the Committee on Historical Records was adopted:

It would be eminently fitting that the location in Pittsburgh where the United Presbyterian Church was formally organized in 1858 should be properly marked with a bronze tablet. The spot is now occupied with a new city market house, a building of such substantial character that any memorial affixed to its walls would have the promise of durability. Bronze tablets of the size required range in price from \$250.00 up to \$500.00, according to the originality of design, the amount of lettering, and the ornamentation. The committee requests that the General Assembly make provision for the expense involved, and recommends that this matter be referred to the Finance Committee, that it may report whether the condition of the funds at the disposal of the Assembly will permit a sufficient appropriation to be made. With the expense provided

for, the committee will assume all other responsibility regarding such a commemorative tablet. Vol. XIV, p. 468, 1918.

The following recommendation was adopted:

3. With reference to the provision for a tablet commemorating the organization of the United Presbyterian Church we recommend the appropriation for this purpose from the General Assembly Fund, a sum not to exceed \$400 to be paid when the condition of that fund, in the judgment of the Trustees, shall warrant it. Vol. XIV, p. 480, 1918.

The following report was adopted and the additional funds were granted:

The General Assembly of 1918 took action providing for marking with a bronze tablet the location in Pittsburgh where the United Presbyterian Church was formally organized in 1858. An appropriation was made for this purpose from the General Assembly Fund, not to exceed \$400.00, this to be paid when the condition of the fund, in the judgment of the Trustees, should warrant it. Taking into account the meeting of the Young People's National Convention in Pittsburgh this year, the Committee concluded that the unveiling of such a tablet would be an instructive and stimulating feature of such a gathering, and, assured officially that the General Assembly Fund permitted the payment arranged for, contracted for the tablet with Jas. H. Matthews & Co., Pittsburgh. Owing, however, to the price advance everywhere in evidence, it was found that a tablet of the right size and finish would cost \$610.00. Desirous of having the tablet in readiness for the Young People's National Convention, the Committee decided to proceed with the matter at once, although this involved an additional appropriation. Your Committee now presents its action for approval, and asks that a second appropriation amounting to \$210.00 be made. The tablet will be affixed to the wall of the new city market-house occupying the site of the building where the Union took place. The inscription adopted is as follows:

IN THE CITY HALL OF PITTSBURGH, FORMERLY OCCUPYING THIS
SITE, THE UNION OF THE ASSOCIATE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND THE
ASSOCIATE REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WAS CONSUMMATED ON
MAY 26TH, 1858, FORMING THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF
NORTH AMERICA.

The tablet will be unveiled on the evening of the 29th July next, the Rev. John A. Wilson, D.D., representing the Committee on Historical Records, and the Rev. R. J. Miller, D.D., speaking by appointment of the General Committee of Young People's Work. Vol. XV, p. 44, 1920.

10. A Memorial Tablet at Octoraro Church, Philadelphia Presbytery. The Assembly authorized the expenditure of not more than \$100 for the erection of a suitable Memorial tablet at the Octoraro Church. Vol. XIX, p. 974, 1939.

11. Fireproof Vaults for Historical Records. The General Assembly of 1940 authorized the fireproofing of two vaults in the building of the Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary. Vol. XX, pp. 23, 35, 1940.

It was reported to the General Assembly of 1941 that the work ordered as above had been completed. Vol. XX, p. 331, 1941.

LVIII. HOME RELIGION

The following proposals were endorsed:

(8) The Board of Publication in its report, discerningly calls attention to the deplorable breakdown of religion in the home in our day. Certainly conditions as they now prevail, challenge the Church to its "utmost endeavor toward remedying the situation." The Board is anxious to co-operate in every possible way and offers to prepare and publish for free distribution in all our churches an inclusive pamphlet, covering the field of religious exercises

in the home, and including forms of prayer for family devotions and for grace at meals. We feel that such a pamphlet generally distributed and properly used, would be of inestimable value in cultivating family religion and in calling our people back to fundamental and eternal things.

Our hearty endorsement is hereby given to this proposal of our Board, and we earnestly urge that in every Church and Bible School of our denomination a new emphasis be laid on the vital importance of religion in the home.

We gladly approve also of the Board's suggestion that the month of October be set apart this year for a concentrated pulpit discussion of such themes as (a) The Sabbath in the Home, (b) Family Worship, (c) Bible Reading, (d) Study of the Catechism, and (e) Grace at the Table. Vol. XX, p. 352, 1941.

HOME MISSIONS—See AMERICAN MISSIONS, and BOARDS OF THE CHURCH

LIX. INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS

1. **A Permanent Committee on Industrial Conditions Was Created by the General Assembly of 1910.** Vol. XII, p. 661, 1910.

The duties of this Committee were transferred to the Board of Home Missions. Vol. XIII, p. 527, 1913.

Reports adopted on Industrial Conditions. Vol. XII, p. 660, 1910; p. 965, 1911; Vol. XIII, p. 180, 1912; p. 521, 1913; p. 791, 1914; p. 1160, 1915.

Resolved, 13. That in accordance with the action of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America we put ourselves on record as standing (1) "For equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life." (2) "For the protection of the family by the single standard of purity, uniform divorce laws, proper regulation of marriage, and proper housing." (3) "For the abolition of child labor." (4) "For such regulation of the condition of toil for woman as shall safeguard the physical and moral health of the community." (5) "For the protection of the individual and society from the social, economic, and moral waste of the liquor traffic." (6) "For suitable provision for the old age of workers and for those incapacitated by injury." (7) "For the principle of conciliation and arbitration in industrial disputes." (8) "For a release from employment one day in seven." (9) "For the most equitable division of the product of industry that can ultimately be devised." Vol. XIII, p. 369, 1913.

2. **The Church and the Labor Problem.** Having faith to believe that the gospel of Jesus Christ is designed to meet and solve all the problems of humanity, and remembering that from the very beginning it has been the champion of the man who toils, and must be in the end his salvation, therefore, we, the United Presbyterian Church of North America, in General Assembly met, join in the protest against the un-Christian spirit and methods that so extensively prevail in the industrial world, and pledge our support to the efforts to realize Christ's ideals of fairness, justice and fraternalism between employer and employee.

We desire the confidence of workingmen everywhere, and deeply deplore any suspicion of unfriendliness. We invite frank counsel as to how, as a Church, we may best minister to workingmen and their cause.

We urge upon all our ministers a sympathetic study of the problems of labor, and an earnest effort to establish cordial relationship between themselves and the workingmen of their respective communities. Vol. XI, p. 868, 1907.

Whereas, To labor is a God-commanded duty, and absolutely necessary to human life and welfare, this General Assembly affirms the following principles to be agreeable to and founded on the word of God.

1. That the duty and necessity to labor necessarily imply a God-given right to an opportunity to labor.

2. That the law of God which requires men to rest from their labor on the Sabbath day necessarily implies a God-given right to an opportunity to labor on the six week days.

3. That it is the duty of civil government to secure that industrial right to all law-abiding citizens who may not be able to secure it for themselves. Vol. XII, p. 59, 1908.

3. **Knights of Labor.** [The following report was adopted]:

The Committee on Bills and Overtures, to which was referred the memorial of the Presbytery of Albany, finds it impossible to report anything of a decided character in regard to those associations, known as "Knights of Labor," and other kindred associations, because we have no adequate knowledge of their true character, or of the forms and extent of the obligations which are assumed at the time of initiation.

There is, however, too much reason to believe that these associations require a surrender of personal liberty to act in accordance with the individual's own conscience of right and wrong, and hence are an entanglement and a snare, which we earnestly counsel all our members to avoid.

Your committee would have the Assembly direct all our sessions to carry out the rules of our Church in dealing with any members who have joined, or who may be about to join, any of the associations in question, as they shall obtain such positive information as will enable them to act intelligently in the case.

We recommend the adoption of the following, viz.:

Resolved, That we enjoin upon all our members to abstain from connection with any association which might lead to acts of violence, or to the invasion of the rights of property, or interference with the liberty of men to engage in honest labor where and when, and for whomsoever they may choose. Vol. VI, p. 436, 1886.

LX. INTER-CHURCH WORLD MOVEMENT

1. **Explanation.** III. Relative to the Inter-Church World Movement. This projected movement is a co-operative effort of the Missionary, Educational, and other benevolent agencies of the Evangelical Churches of the United States and Canada to survey unitedly their common present task, and simultaneously and together secure the necessary resources of men, money and power required for these tasks. It is a spiritual undertaking of survey, education, and inspiration, an instrumentality of co-operation and co-ordination of administrative agencies, and is designed to serve, not to supplant, them. It is not an ecclesiastical movement nor an effort at organic union. It will not disturb the autonomy, nor interfere with the administration of any Church or Board. Neither will it undertake to administer or expend funds for any purpose beyond its own proper administrative expenses. It has a definite and temporary mission. It will not duplicate nor conflict with other denominational agencies. It does not assume responsibility in questions of Church or Missionary policy, recognizing that these belong to the co-operative agencies and organizations. Already, as they were free to do, our Boards of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Freedmen's Missions, and Education have endorsed the Movement, at least in principle. Recommendation number 7, later in this report, presents action for the General Assembly.

2. **Action.** 7. That the Assembly approve the full co-operation of our Church with the Inter-Church World Movement in its proposed campaign, insofar as it may not interfere with the recognized missionary and financial policies and methods of the United Presbyterian Church, and on condition

that a large majority of the principal denominations agree to co-operate in this Movement. Vol. XIV, p. 713, 1919.

From the report of the General Committee of the Inter-Church World Movement we discover that they desire the ruling of our Assembly in at least three particulars, namely, the endorsement of the Movement, the appointment of our quota of members of the General Committee of the Inter-Church World Movement, and to provide for our share of the financial support.

1. In view of the conditions of our country and of the world in the unprecedented need for the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and in view of the fact that the Church faces the greatest opportunity of her history, we believe the day has come for an undivided Protestant forward movement and therefore would endorse the general plan of the Inter-Church World Movement. We recommend hearty co-operation on the part of all Boards, agencies and congregations with the Inter-Church World Movement under the direction of the agencies of the United Presbyterian Church, on condition of reorganization and projected future plan satisfactory to the agency representing our Church.

2. As all bodies participating in this Movement are to be represented in the General Committee by a number based upon their Church membership and average current budget, therefore, being entitled to four representatives, we recommend that the Assembly's Committee on Nominations nominate four persons to be elected by the Assembly to this office. Further, that all matters thereafter to be referred to our Church shall be under the direction of the New World Movement Committee in whatever form it shall then exist.

3. As it became necessary in the development of the Inter-Church World Movement and of our New World Movement in its relationship to the larger Movement to secure funds, and as it seemed wise on the part of the several agencies, in that the last General Assembly had endorsed the plan and program of the Inter-Church World Movement, to underwrite the Inter-Church World Movement to the extent of 5% of the askings of the New World Movement, that the Assembly direct the Boards that have underwritten the movement to assume their proportionate share of expenses, and that hereafter all matters related to the financing of the Movement shall be referred to the Committee having these matters in charge. Vol. XV, p. 31, 1920.

3. *Indebtedness. Action:* 16. With respect to the Inter-Church Underwritings, we recommend that the Boards and Institutions concerned take care of their obligations in this matter for at least another year and that this Assembly direct the Missionary and Efficiency Committee to present a plan to the next Assembly for liquidating these obligations. Vol. XV, p. 311, 1921.

For the plan adopted consult Certificates under General Assembly in this DIGEST and Vol. XV, pp. 585, 897, 1922, 1923.

LXI. INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS

1. **League of Nations.** The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The word we are commissioned to preach forecasts a time when the "Nations shall learn war no more" and proclaims ideals whose world-wide acceptance must render intolerable arbitrament by the sword; and

Whereas, In the providence of God and through the exigencies of war the United States was thrust into a position of leadership which she neither sought nor desired, a position in which the eyes of all the nations, friends, foes and neutrals alike, were turned with expectation and hope to America; and

Whereas, It is our conviction that Christian America came to her kingdom of leadership for such a time as this, and that the League of Nations is a decisive step in the direction of enthroning in international affairs many of the Christian ideals and principles of government taught in the Word of God; therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly, without undertaking to place responsi-

bility for the failure of America to endorse the League of Nations and to adopt a treaty of peace with those nations with which we were at war, heartily endorses the principle of the League of Nations and authorizes the officers of this Assembly to communicate our action to the President and the Congress of the United States.

2. That in a time like this when some are crying for a nationalism that wholly belies our high duty and obligation to all the nations of the earth, we call upon our people to remember that Christian ideals can only come into world power by their outspoken, unceasing and uncompromising devotion to them. Vol. XV, p. 40, 1920.

2. **The Irish Question.** *Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly hereby expresses its hearty disapproval of the Sinn Fein propaganda in our country, and its pained surprise at the attitude of our Congress toward the so-called "Republic of Ireland" and that we earnestly call upon our representatives and senators to free our nation from the charge of impudent meddling in the affairs of our great ally, Great Britain. Vol. XV, p. 32, 1920.

3. **The International Protestant League.** *Resolved*, That the General Assembly put itself on record as disapproving the efforts that have been made by propagandists to inject into our politics, both national and state, questions concerning the affairs of our friendly ally, Great Britain, in its handling of the "Irish Question." We deplore the attempt to create in the United States the feeling of hatred toward England. We note with interest the establishment of the International Protestant League, and express our sympathy with the objects it has in view, which are expressed in its declaration of principles as found first in its name "The International Protestant League" constituted in humble reliance upon Almighty God, and second, in its avowed purpose, which is: (1) the establishment of a thoroughly hearty and efficient unity among Protestants; (2) to direct the combined forces of Protestantism in an educational campaign through the several churches by which members thereof may become informed as to the history and achievements of Protestantism since the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century; (3) to arrange for the delivery of popular lectures on related Protestant themes in all places where the League is able to function; (4) to prepare, publish, and distribute literature intended to interest and inform the members of the League as to the progress of Protestantism, and to expose the machinations of its enemies; (5) to safeguard Protestant interests when menaced or attacked, especially by the enemies of the public school system, the open Bible, and other cherished Protestant institutions. Vol. XV, p. 23, 1920.

4. **The Court of International Justice at the Hague.** *Resolved*, (b) That the General Assembly endorse the proposal of the President and the Secretary of State that the United States associate itself definitely with the Permanent Court of International Justice established at the Hague. Vol. XV, p. 884, 1923.

LXII. JEWS

1. **Missions Among the Jews.** *Resolved*, That * * * be a committee, whose duty it shall be to inquire regarding the accessibility of the Jewish people in the United States to the influence of a simple Bible Christianity, and to report to the next General Assembly; and if the result of their inquiry be favorable, also to report any other facts of importance, as connected with such missionary enterprise, and designate, if in their power, a suitable person or persons for the work. Vol. I, p. 157, 1860.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, recommending the establishment of a mission among the Jews in the city of New York, Vol. I, p. 306, 1861, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the former committee be continued, and that they issue an appeal in behalf of the Jews of our own land through the periodicals of the

Church, embodying the facts in their report, and asking special contributions for their benefit.

2. That the contributions thus obtained be used for the obtaining and circulating such a Christian literature as is likely, by the blessing of God, to benefit the Jew.

3. That they continue their inquiries in reference to the accessibility of the Jews, and the best means of reaching them with a knowledge of the Saviour, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. I, p. 219, 1861.

[On the recommendation of this committee the following resolutions were adopted]:

Resolved, 1. That pastors of congregations be instructed to preach, as soon as convenient, a discourse presenting to their people the claims which the Jews in general, and those of them resident in the United States in particular, have upon the Church, and urging the duty of contributing for their special benefit.

3. That, should the state of the treasury warrant such action before the next meeting of the Assembly, the executive committee of the Board of Home Missions be authorized to employ, at such salary as may seem proper, an agent to labor among the Jews in New York, Philadelphia or Cincinnati. Vol. I, p. 439, 1862.

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly hereby expresses its continued interest in the saving conversion of the Jews, and its desire to have the United Presbyterian Church enter upon the work of their evangelization whenever it is believed God has opened up the field and raised up the man or the men to enter in and occupy it.

2. That this Assembly has confidence in Rev. Abraham C. Tris as a minister of Christ and a friend of Israel, and recommend him to the work of visiting the churches and of endeavoring to excite in all who love our Lord Jesus Christ a new or a deeper interest in the salvation of this long outcast and painfully spiritually needy people. Vol. II, p. 13, 1864.

Resolved, 1. That ministers be recommended to preach to our people on the history and condition of the Jews as they illustrate the providence of God, and the fulfilment of prophecy, and upon their prospective conversion and its influence upon the Church and the world.

2. That special collections be taken up in all our churches for the establishment of a fund for the mission, and that the supervision of this fund be entrusted to the executive committee of the Board of Home Missions.

3. That Rev. A. C. Tris be appointed to labor as a missionary among the Jews, under the First Presbytery of New York, and that he be paid by the Board of Home Missions at the rate of \$800 per annum. Vol. II, p. 168, 1865.

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly recognize it to be our duty as a Church, as God gives us ability and opportunity, to seek after the lost sheep of the house of Israel in our midst.

2. That the mission to the Jews be placed under the Board of Home Missions.

3. That Rev. A. C. Tris be assigned to the First Presbytery of New York, to labor especially among the Jews, under the direction of the Presbytery, and that \$1,000 be appropriated from the home mission fund for the support of the missionary for the year. Vol. II, p. 315, 1866.

Resolved, 3. That the Jewish mission in the City of New York be for the present abandoned, and Rev. A. C. Tris be referred to the executive committee with a view to employ him as a missionary in a community of Hollanders. Vol. II, p. 410, 1867.

[A paper from the American Christian Society, for promoting Christianity among the Jews, was referred to a special committee. Vol. III, p. 113, 1870.]

This committee presented a report which was not adopted. Vol. III, p. 139, 1870.]

2. **Jewish Mission in Chicago.** Regarding the memorial from the Committee of Missions of Chicago Presbytery, relative to Jewish mission work in the City of Chicago, your committee would report as follows:

Whereas, To the Trustees of the General Assembly were bequeathed \$3,000 (more or less), by the late Mrs. Mary Stewart, of Bethel congregation, Illinois, to be used in a mission for Jewish people, under the auspices of the United Presbyterian Church; and, *whereas*, the Presbytery of Chicago has requested the Women's Board to grant support to a Jewish mission, conducted by Rev. Thomas M. Chalmers, in the City of Chicago, Ill.; and *whereas*, the Women's Board has favorably considered it and is willing to grant support, provided the General Assembly approves; therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That the Women's Board be requested to take charge of and conduct a mission for Jewish people in Chicago, under such conditions as may be mutually agreed upon between the Women's Board and the Presbytery of Chicago.

2. That, in the event of the establishment of said Jewish mission, the Trustees of the General Assembly are hereby instructed to convey to the Women's Board the proceeds of the said bequest for the use of the said Women's Board in supporting the aforesaid mission. Vol. IX, p. 766, 1899.

Resolved, That the interest in Jewish work be given renewed expression and that pastors are requested to give the cause of Jewish evangelization earnest thought, and that on Sabbath, October 9th, special prayer be offered in all United Presbyterian churches on behalf of the Jews and for the blessing of God on all Jewish Missions in their efforts to win them to Christ, their only hope of salvation and glory.

The Jewish Day of Atonement occurs on Wednesday, October 13th. Prayer is requested to be made on the preceding Sabbath, October 9. Vol. XV, p. 302, 1921.

With reference to the Memorials from Arkansas Valley, Beaver Valley, Cleveland, Des Moines, Monongahela and Pawnee Presbyteries, on work among the Jewish people, while we are in thorough sympathy with the movement for the evangelization of those who were the chosen people of God and to whom the Saviour first came with his offer of salvation, and would recommend this work to the prayerful and thoughtful consideration of the various individual presbyteries of the Church which may be able to assume larger responsibilities, but in view of the lack of funds available in the appropriations to the Home Board, we recommend that the Memorials be not granted. Vol. XV, p. 848, 1923.

LXIII. JUDICIAL CASES AND DECISIONS

1. General Deliverances on Appeals

(1) **Appeal from the Decision of the Moderator.** [Pending the consideration of the Adam Green appeal, a question was raised relative to the right of the members of the Synod of Illinois to vote. A motion was made to allow the members of the Synod to vote except in motions where the Synod itself is a party to the case. The Moderator decided that the members of the Synod had not a right to vote on this motion. An appeal from the decision was taken, it was not sustained. Vol. II, p. 395, 1876.]

(2) **Parties to an Appeal.** [In M'Cune's case, Rev. Samuel Wilson and others, members of Synod, appealed from a decision of the Second Synod, and the Synod was recognized by the Assembly as a party. Vol. II, pp. 390, 413, 1867.]

In an appeal from a lower court, the lower court becomes a party in the case before the higher court, and appears there as such by its authorized agents. Vol. II, p. 409, 1867.

[In Gordon's appeal, the appeal was declared inadmissible because the appellants were not original parties in the case, and because the interests of truth and righteousness were not injuriously affected by the decision of the Synod. Vol. III, p. 420, 1872.]

[In McCaughan's second appeal, the appeal was declared inadmissible because the parties against whom the decision was made did not appeal, and it is not alleged that the purity of the Church or the interests of truth and righteousness were injuriously affected by the decision. Vol. VII, p. 210, 1889.]

(3) **Parties Must Be Heard Before Judgment.** The Presbytery of Des Moines refused to grant the petition of certain memorialists on the alleged ground that they were not in good standing as members of the Church.

Resolved, That the appeal be sustained because the lower courts passed judgment on the memorialists unheard. Vol. VI, p. 679, 1887. [See McCaughan's first Appeal.]

(4) **Papers in the Case of an Appeal May Be Amended.** [An appeal from the Second Synod was endorsed by the moderator of that Synod as having been put in his hands on a certain date, which was two days over the time specified in the Book of Discipline. It appearing from the statement, both of the appellants and of the moderator, that the appeal with the reasons thereof was placed in his hands before the expiration of the specified time, he was permitted to correct his endorsement by the following action:]

Resolved, 1. That the moderator of the Second Synod is hereby permitted to amend his endorsement of the appeal according to the facts.

2. That upon this correction, the Assembly proceed to the issuing of the appeal, Vol. II, p. 398, 1867. [A dissent against this action was entered, Vol. II, p. 401, 1867, and answered, Vol. II, p. 408, 1867.]

(5) **The Right of Members of a Lower Court to Vote in the Case of an Appeal.** The following amendment was submitted to the Presbyteries as a separate overture: Strike out the last clause in Book II, Chapter XII, Section 2, and insert the following: "When a matter is transferred in any of these ways from an inferior to a superior judicatory, the inferior judicatory shall, in no case, be considered a party, except in cases of declinature; but its members shall have the right to sit, deliberate and vote in the higher courts." Vol. I, p. 351, 1862. [The vote on this overture was: ayes, 275; nays, 192; not voting, 13. Vol. I, p. 390, 1863. The Book of Government and Discipline, adopted in 1866, declares that "the members of the inferior court shall have the right to sit and deliberate, but not to vote." In the case of an appeal from the Synod of Illinois, a question relative to the right of the Synod to vote was raised, when the following resolution was offered:]

Resolved, That Section 3, Chapter XII, in the Book of Government, is not considered by this Assembly as giving it authority to exclude any Synod in the Assembly from voting on an appeal, except in motions where the Synod is a party in the case.

* * The following amendment was offered:

Inasmuch as the question as to members of an inferior court voting in a superior in all cases of judicial transfer was, by the General Assembly, over-
tured some time ago to the Presbyteries and decided in the affirmative by the large majority of eighty-three votes; and inasmuch as this decision, coming from the Presbyteries, became virtually from that time forth the law of the Church on this subject and wanted only the formality of enactment on the part of the Assembly of being regularly and fully said law; and inasmuch as it is a notorious fact that the rule on this subject in our Book of Government is, through oversight on the part of the Church, entirely inconsistent with said decision, therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this matter be overtured anew to the Presbyteries for final decision.

2. That in the meantime, the previous decision of the Presbyteries on this subject be accepted, as the law by which we are to be governed.

This amendment was laid upon the table. The moderator decided that the members of the Synod of Illinois had not a right to vote on the question of the adoption of the report. An appeal was taken from this decision, but it was not sustained. Vol. II, pp. 394, 395, 1867. [A dissent with reasons was entered, Vol. II, p. 395, and answered, Vol. II, p. 409, 1867.]

(6) **Rights of a Member of a Court Pending an Appeal Affecting His Seat.** [A question was raised as to the right of James Skinner to act with the Session of the First Church of Washington, Iowa, while the appeal was pending concerning his right to a place in the Session. On this question the Synod of Iowa took the following action: *Resolved*, That in the judgment of this Synod, he is entitled to sit and act with the Session. From this action an appeal was taken to the Assembly. The Assembly took the following action:]

Resolved, That no further proceedings in this case are necessary. Vol. VI, p. 680, 1887. [See Dawson's second appeal.]

(7) **Proposed Amendment to the Article on Appeals in the Book of Government.** The amendments suggested would not materially improve the present article on appeals. * * *

Therefore,

Resolved, That the matter of revising Article III, Chapter XII, of the Book of Government, be indefinitely postponed. Vol. III, p. 287, 1871.

(8) **Presbyteries May, in Exceptional Cases, Appeal Directly to the Assembly.** The Presbytery of Oregon signify their cordial reception of the Testimony and other doctrinal standards of the United Presbyterian Church; but owing to their remote position, they reserve the right of final jurisdiction over all matters, except such as may be appealed directly to the General Assembly; and moreover, reserve the right of sending delegates to the General Assembly, as they may deem expedient.

Resolved, That the General Assembly cordially acquiesce in the proposal of the Presbytery of Oregon, and regard it as one of the Presbyteries under its care. Vol. I, p. 107, 1860.

The Presbyteries of Egypt and Sialkot are isolated and without Synodical control, and * * * from the nature of the case have practically Synodical powers. Vol. V, p. 29, 1879.

(9) **Limitation of Appeals.** As the amendment, asked by the Presbyteries of Allegheny and the Lake, to the provision in the matter of appeals in case of discipline, would require changes in different parts of the Book of Government and Discipline, such a change would require more consideration and care than it is possible to accord to it by any Assembly in session; we therefore recommend the following for your adoption:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to consider such changes as may be necessary in our Book of Government and Discipline, in the limitation of the Synod as the last court of appeal or complaint in all matters of discipline not affecting the doctrines of the Church, and that this committee report the result of its investigation to the next General Assembly. Vol. X, p. 42, 1900.

I. That this Assembly submits to the presbyteries the following overture:

Shall the Book of Government be amended in the following particulars, viz.:

1. Amend Part I, Chapter V, Article IV, by striking out Section 4.
2. Amend Part III, Chapter XII, Section 2, so as to read: "Every decision in any court, except the highest, having jurisdiction, is subject to the review of a superior court."

3. Amend Section 1, of Article II, Chapter XII, to read as follows: "A reference is a judicial representation made by an inferior to a superior court having jurisdiction, of a matter not yet decided."

4. Amend Article II, Chapter XII, by inserting the following as Section 2: "In cases of discipline an appeal or complaint may be made to the Synod as the court of final jurisdiction, but an appeal or complaint concerning doctrines, general regulations, the interpretation of law, or the regularity of proceedings, may be made direct from the presbytery or synod to the General Assembly, whose judgment shall be for the guidance of the lower courts. Such appeal or complaint shall always be made in writing, and shall contain a clear statement of the issue involved. The General Assembly shall enter upon its records the appeal as presented from the lower court, a clear statement of its own decision and the grounds upon which it is made." Vol. X, p. 256, 1901.

Out of a total vote cast of 1,029, there were 625 ayes, and 414 nays. a majority of 221 in favor of the Overture. The Overture is therefore carried, and we recommend the adoption of the following resolution, that the Overture on the Limitation of Appeals is declared to be carried, and it is hereby directed that it be incorporated in the Book of Government. Vol. X, p. 605, 1902.

(10) **Appeal Cases Before the Assembly.** The following appeal cases are reported in this Digest under their appropriate headings: On Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister; of James Dawson, (first and second); of James Donaldson; of Rev. J. C. Evans; of Rev. R. Gailey; of Rev. H. Gordon; of A. Grant; of Adam Green; of Rev. W. R. Hutchison; of J. W. Dorrance; of Rev. C. T. McCaughan, (first and second); of Ellen Marshall and others; of Rev. J. T. Tate; of Rev. S. Wilson.

12. **A Case May Be Settled Pending the Appeal.** Cases: Mary A. Paterson, Geo. A. Roseberg, C. B. Smyth.

Consult Book of Government and Directory of Worship, Sections 276, 295, 298, 316-325.

2. Appeals

(1) The Appeal of Rev. David H. Curry

1. In the matter of the appeal of Rev. David H. Curry your Committee finds that the appeal is taken from an action of a Commission appointed by the Synod of Ohio, that the Commission has not yet submitted the record of its proceedings and findings to the Synod, that an appeal may not properly be taken to the General Assembly until the record and findings have been so submitted and passed upon by the Synod which appointed the Commission and therefore that the appeal is not properly before the General Assembly. Vol. XV, p. 302, 1921.

Regarding the appeal of Rev. D. H. Curry, your Committee gave both parties to the controversy a full and impartial hearing and also considered carefully (as far as the limits of time and endurance would permit) the official documents bearing on the controversy. While there were some irregularities and failures to conform to the letter of the law as laid down in our Book of Government, nevertheless, it is our judgment that the proceedings in the main were regular. The following facts appear:

The Presbytery of Detroit, for reasons deemed sufficient, transferred to the Synod of Ohio, without prejudice of the rights of any, certain matters affecting the Birmingham congregation for investigation and official consideration. We find further that the Synod of Ohio, in the exercise of its proper authority, appointed an Administrative Commission to adjust the matters referred. This Commission failed to secure satisfactory results. The Synod then appointed a Judicial Commission to investigate more fully and with full

power to issue the case. This resulted finally in the suspension of the Appellant from the gospel ministry and from the sealing ordinances of the Church. This action of the Synod of Ohio was appealed from by the Rev. D. H. Curry, chiefly on the grounds that Synod had no jurisdiction and that the proceedings of its Commissions were irregular.

Your Committee finds:

1. That this Appeal is regularly before the Assembly.
2. That the Synod of Ohio had jurisdiction in this case.
3. That while in the main regular, the proceedings of the Commission of Synod were marked by the loose use of certain legal terms which somewhat clouded the matters at issue and might easily pave the way to misunderstandings between the parties, but not sufficient to deprive the Appellant of his full rights.
4. That from its viewpoint the Synod of Ohio reached the only logical conclusion in the action taken.
5. The records of the Courts' proceedings do not show that the rights of the congregations involved in this controversy were sufficiently safeguarded.
6. That the Appellant, acting in the main without counsel, prejudiced his case by making mistakes. These mistakes, we believe, resulted from errors of judgment rather than from wilful intention, such as would have called for the censures inflicted.

In view of all the facts it is the judgment of your Committee that the General Assembly has no jurisdiction in this case. But we also believe that the cause of Christ and the welfare of the congregations involved in this controversy would be best served by a conciliatory course. Therefore, we recommend:

1. That the Synod of Ohio remove the sentence of suspension imposed on the Rev. D. H. Curry and restore him without prejudice to his former standing in the Church.
2. That in view of the disturbed conditions on this field and the feelings that have been engendered throughout the Presbytery and Synod, the interests of the Appellant and of the cause of Christ would best be served by his finding another field of labor at an early date. Vol. XV, p. 568, 1922.

(2) Appeals of James Dawson and Others

1. **The Resignation of an Elder Made Void by an Appeal Sustained.** [James Dawson and others appealed from a decision of the Synod of Iowa, in a case carried up from the Presbytery of Keokuk. The following is a statement of the case]:

At an adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of Keokuk, held at Washington, Iowa, February 24, 1885, the Presbytery received and recorded the report of a Commission, appointed at a previous meeting, directing James Dawson, Alexander Knox, and James Skinner, members of Session of the First United Presbyterian Church of Washington, to resign their office as elders on the first Monday of March, 1885, at 2 P.M., and also directing Session to accept their resignations. An appeal from this action was taken by George Warrington, J. T. Tate, James Dawson, and Alexander Knox. The Session met at the time appointed, and James Skinner expressed his willingness to resign, but no action was taken by Session at this meeting. At a subsequent meeting, held April 27, 1885, the resignation of James Skinner was presented and accepted by the Session.

When the above appeal came before the Synod of Iowa, at Omaha, September 29, 1885, it was sustained, and the action of Presbytery reversed. At a meeting of Presbytery, held December 7, 1885, the question was raised concerning the standing of James Skinner as an elder in the First church of Washington. The Presbytery took the following action: "*Resolved*, That

inasmuch as the appeal from Presbytery has been sustained by Synod and the action of Presbytery reversed, it is the opinion of Presbytery that James Skinner is still a member of the Session of the First Church." Of this action Robert Braden and others complained to Synod to meet at Cedar Rapids, September 28, 1886. The action of Synod on this complaint was as follows: "*Resolved*, That, in view of all the circumstances, there is no valid ground of complaint." From this action the appellants bring their appeal to this Assembly. Your Committee find that the appeal is regularly before the Assembly, and recommend that it be taken up and issued according to order.

The appeal was not sustained. Vol. VI, p. 664, 1887.

2. **Right of an Elder to His Seat Pending an Appeal.** [A second appeal from the Synod of Iowa was presented by James Dawson and others.]

This appeal came before the Assembly, based on the following facts:

After appeal No. 1 had been taken, the question was raised concerning the right of James Skinner to act with the Session of the First Church of Washington while the appeal was pending concerning his right to a place in the Session. On this question the Synod of Iowa took the following action: "*Resolved*, That in the judgment of this Synod he is entitled to sit and act with the Session." From this action the present appeal is taken to this Assembly.

Your Committee find that the appeal is regularly before the Assembly. But inasmuch as the matter at issue in it has been terminated by the decision of appeal No. 1, the Committee recommend the following action:

Resolved, That no further proceedings in this case are necessary. Vol. VI, p. 680, 1887.

(3) The Appeal of James Donaldson

In the case of appeal from the action of the Synod of New York, we find the papers of Mr. James Donaldson very irregular; therefore,

Resolved, That the case be dismissed. Vol. VII, p. 29, 1888.

(4) The Appeal of Rev. J. C. Evans

[The appeal of Rev. J. C. Evans from the decision of a commission of the Synod of Iowa, was referred to a commission consisting of eight ministers and seven elders, to meet at Monmouth, Ill., on the second Tuesday of October, 1883, with full power to take up and try the case, and instructed to submit a full record of its proceedings and findings to the next General Assembly.] Vol. V, p. 721, 1883.

In the matter of the appeal of Rev. J. C. Evans vs. The Synod of Iowa.

In the above entitled cause the Committee on Judiciary respectfully report:

That on June 21st, 1881, Julia E. J. Evans filed a Libel with the Presbytery of Omaha, accusing the Rev. J. C. Evans of dishonesty; that on March 29th, 1882, the Presbytery of Omaha declared the charges contained in said Libel inadmissible; that thereafter the complainant, Julia E. J. Evans, prosecuted an appeal to the Synod of Iowa; that said Synod appointed a commission to try and issue the case; that said commission of the Synod of Iowa, at a meeting thereof in Indianola, Iowa, on November 14, 1882, found the said Rev. J. C. Evans guilty of the first, second, third and fourth specifications in said Libel, and directed the "Presbytery of Omaha to suspend the said Rev. J. C. Evans from the Gospel Ministry and from the sealing ordinances of the Church"; that thereafter the said Rev. J. C. Evans appealed from the finding of said commission to the General Assembly; that the Twenty-fifth General Assembly appointed a commission to try and issue the case.

We further report that said commission appointed by the Twenty-fifth

General Assembly conducted all its proceedings according to the rules of this court; and that said commission did not exceed its powers, and in October, 1883, adjudged "that the appeal be not sustained."

We therefore recommend that the judgment of said commission be confirmed, and that the records of its proceedings be entered upon and become part of the records of this court, and that the Presbytery of Omaha be directed to execute the judgment of the commission of the Synod of Iowa, upon receipt of a certified copy of the proceedings of this court in the cause. Vol. VI, p. 15, 1884. [For proceedings of the above commission, see Vol. VI, p. 44, 1884.]

(5) The Appeal of Rev. J. I. Frazer

In the case of the appeal of Rev. J. I. Frazer from the decision of the Synod of the Pacific, sustaining the action of the Presbytery of Oregon, in receiving Rev. S. D. Johnston as a member of the Presbytery, we report, that this case comes regularly before the Assembly. In this case there seems to be a misunderstanding, persons equally worthy of confidence bearing contradictory testimony. While we would not do anything implying the censure of any of the parties concerned, we would recommend that the General Assembly shall take such action on the law of the Church on psalmody as will correct any tendency to looseness on that subject; therefore,

Resolved, That all lower courts of the Church be admonished to carefully enforce the law of the Church on the subject of psalmody in its historical sense, as prohibiting the use of uninspired songs in the worship of God, under any and all circumstances. Vol. VIII, p. 41, 1892.

(6) The Appeal of Rev. R. Gailey

[Rev. R. Gailey appealed from the Presbytery of Mansfield to the First Synod of the West, which issued the case, the Synod being then vested with final power in matters of discipline, the General Assembly having appellate power in doctrine and order only. After the erection of the Synod of Ohio out of a part of the First Synod of the West, Mr. Gailey brought his appeal to the Synod of Ohio, which Synod, being co-ordinate with the First Synod of the West, decided not to entertain his appeal. From this decision he appealed to the Assembly, The Assembly sustained the Synod of Ohio, and adopted the following resolution]:

Resolved, That the appeal and accompanying papers of Rev. R. Gailey be and they hereby are returned to him. Vol. II, p. 314, 1866.

(7) The Appeal of Rev. Henry Gordon and Others

[Rev. Henry Gordon and others appealed from a decision of the Synod of New York in the case of J. M. Hall, carried up by appeal from the Presbytery of Argyle. This appeal was declared "not admissible," because the appellants were not original parties in the case, and because the interests of truth and righteousness were not injuriously affected by the decision of Synod. Vol. III, p. 420, 1872. This case was brought before the Assembly of 1873 by the memorial of Rev. G. M. Wiley, who claimed that the result of the action of the Assembly of 1872 was to send the case of J. M. Hall back to the Synod of New York for adjudication, and that the said Synod had refused to take up and issue the case; and who asked the Assembly to require the Synod to take up the case. This memorial was disposed of as follows]: From an examination of the action of the Assembly of last year, your committee do not understand said action as referring the case back to the Synod for final adjudication; therefore,

Resolved, That the request of the memorialist be not granted. Vol. III, p. 547, 1873.

(8) The Appeal of Alex. Grant

[Alex. Grant appealed from a decision of the Synod of New York to the General Assembly of 1888, but in the unavoidable absence of the appellant, the case was laid on the table until the next Assembly, and in 1889, was again continued.]

The appeal of Alex. Grant was taken from the table. . . The appeal was not sustained. Vol. VII, p. 423, 1890. [There is nothing in the record to indicate the ground of the appeal or the principles involved.]

(9) The Appeal of Adam Green

[The appeal of Adam Green from a decision of the Synod of Illinois was "dismissed as irregular," because there was nothing to show that the appellant had furnished a copy of his reasons of appeal, either to the moderator or clerk, within the time required by law, or afterwards. Vol. II, p. 394, 1867.]

(10) The Appeal of Revs. W. R. Hutchison and J. W. Dorrance

[Revs. W. R. Hutchison and J. W. Dorrance appealed from a decision of the Synod of Kansas. It appeared that Sec. 4, Art. 3, Chap. XII, of the Book of Discipline, had not been complied with,] Therefore,

Resolved, That this case be dismissed on the ground of irregularity. Vol. VII, p. 28, 1888.

(11) The Appeal of Rev. C. T. McCaughan, D.D.

FIRST. [The following is a statement of the case]:

At a meeting of the Presbytery of Des Moines a memorial was received from twenty persons claiming to be members of the congregation of Oskaloosa, representing that they were aggrieved by the introduction of instrumental music into the services of worship in said congregation, and asking for such relief as the case required. In response to this the Presbytery found that nine of these persons were on what was called a "dead list" of members in the congregation, and of the remaining eleven only five contributed to the support of the church, and that to a limited degree, and that only one had ever made complaint to session about the matter. For these reasons the Presbytery refused to grant the petition of the memorialists. From this decision the present appellant took an appeal to the Synod of Iowa. The Synod refused to sustain his appeal, and from that decision he appeals to this Assembly.

[The action of the Assembly was]: *Resolved*, That the appeal be sustained, because the lower courts passed judgment on the memorialists unheard. Vol. VI, p. 679, 1887.

SECOND. [Rev. C. T. McCaughan, D.D., appealed from a decision of the Synod of Iowa in a judicial case. The action of the Assembly was]:

Two kinds of cases may be appealed from a lower to a higher court: First, A judicial case, in which the "right of appeal belongs to the party against whom the decision is made." Second, Cases in which "the purity of the Church or the interests of truth and righteousness are injuriously affected by a decision," in which any member of the court may appeal. The case before us is of the former class, and the parties against whom the decision is made have not appealed. There is no evidence before us that they are even aggrieved.

In view of the above, and also in view of the fact that there is no evidence before us that the purity of the Church or the interests of truth and righteousness are injuriously affected by the decision from which the appeal is taken, and that it is not even so alleged in the appeal; therefore,

Resolved, That the appeal is not legally before the Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 210, 1889.

(12) The Appeal in the Case of Rev. William C. McCune

[Certain Presbyteries brought against Rev. Wm. C. McCune, of the First Presbytery of Ohio, the charge of holding and defending fundamental and serious errors on the subject of Church fellowship, and in support of their charge they referred to a book published by him on communion. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the action of the Presbyteries in bringing this matter to the notice of the Assembly be and hereby is approved.

2. That we regard it as inconsistent with that integrity which should characterize the followers of Christ to espouse a profession, and under the garb of that profession to assail its well known and acknowledged principles.

3. That the case of Rev. Wm. C. McCune be submitted to the First Presbytery of Ohio, of which he is a member, that proceedings may be, if they are not already, instituted by that Presbytery, for his trial in regard to doctrines which he has taught, or opinions which he has published on the subject of Church fellowship, represented to this Assembly by several Presbyteries to be in opposition to our Standards, erroneous, and therefore censurable. Vol. II, p. 307, 1866.

[Mr. McCune was put on trial by his Presbytery and convicted, but the case was brought before the next Assembly by the appeal of Rev. Samuel Wilson and others from the decision of the Second Synod, acquitting him. It being shown that the endorsement on the appeal was incorrect, the Moderator of the Second Synod was allowed to correct the error, when the case was issued by the Assembly. Vol. II, p. 398, 1867. Protest was entered against this action.] The question was then put on the first specification. The main question was divided—Shall the appeal from the decision of the Second Synod of the West, acquitting Rev. W. C. McCune of the charge in the first specification, namely, “making determined opposition to one of our distinctive principles, namely, the sixteenth article of the Testimony,” be sustained? Ayes, 124; nays, 3; not voting, 7.

First. Shall the appeal from the decision of the Second Synod of the West, acquitting Mr. McCune of “holding and defending serious error on the subject of Church fellowship,” be sustained? Ayes, 110; nays, 21; not voting, 1.

Second. Shall the appeal from the decision of the Second Synod of the West, acquitting Rev. W. C. McCune of holding and defending fundamental error on the subject of Church fellowship,” be sustained? Ayes, 91; nays, 38; not voting, 3.

The vote was then taken *viva voce* on the main question as a whole. The appeal was sustained. Two members being absent, left their votes in writing, which were counted. Vol. II, pp. 401, 402, 403, 404, 1867.

[The following was adopted as the final disposition of the case]:

The Assembly having sustained the appeal of Dr. S. Wilson and others, from the decision of the Second Synod of the West, in the case of Rev. W. C. McCune, charged with “holding and defending serious and fundamental error on the subject of Church fellowship,” hereby reverses the decision of the Synod, and declares said charge proved.

This judgment is not simply because of Mr. McCune’s interpretation of the 26th chapter of the Confession of Faith, or his “determined opposition” to the sixteenth article of the Testimony, a part of the basis of union on which this Church was organized; but also because of his enunciation and advocacy of principles which, if fully carried out, would work a complete subversion of the Church as a visible organization.

By this judgment Mr. McCune is fairly liable to the severe censure of the Church. But, in consideration of the fact that he appears to have labored under a misapprehension of what the doctrine and law of his Church are on

the subject of Church fellowship, and that this question is now definitely settled by a judicial decision of her highest court, it is deemed sufficient to remit his case to his Presbytery, with instructions to admonish him that he must respect the authority of the Church in this decision, abstain from divisive courses, and follow the things that make for peace. Vol. II, p. 406, 1867.

[A dissent against the legality of the proceedings in the case of Mr. McCune was entered, Vol. II, p. 407, 1867, and answered, Vol. II, p. 313, 1867.]

(13) The Appeal and Complaints of Rev. J. P. McKee, D.D.

The case is that of Rev. Isa Bhajan, against whom serious charges were preferred. About one year and a half after the said case had been issued, the appeal of Rev. J. P. McKee, D.D., was taken from the decision of the Presbytery refusing to re-open the case, he having entered a complaint about six months before. The complaint is inadmissible, because it was not made within the proper time; the appeal was taken within the proper time. But inasmuch as the Presbytery had no legal notice of complaint, or any other form of objection, for about one year after their action had been taken; and inasmuch as the Presbytery took seven months of time, and gave due attention to the question of re-opening the case before refusing to do so; and inasmuch as the appeal, like the complaint, is really against the original action of Presbytery in issuing the case of Rev. Isa Bhajan; therefore,

Resolved, That the appeal be not entertained. Vol. VIII, p. 41, 1892.

(14) The Marshalls' Appeal

[The appellants, Eleanor, Jane L., and Catherine Marshall, were libelled by the Session of the Amity congregation, to which they belonged, for neglect of ordinances. At the time set for trial, the accused sent in papers declining the authority of Session, on the ground of incompetency. Their reasons were deemed groundless by the Session, and the appellants were cited to appear a second time for trial; when they all appeared, and again declined the authority of the Session, and protested against the action of the Session in deciding their declination unwarrantable; and appealed to Presbytery. The accused then left the court, and in their absence were tried and convicted of the charge contained in the libel. The only question coming before the Presbytery was the competency of the Session to try the case. The Presbytery sustained the Session, regarding it as competent, and the declination of the accused as unwarrantable. An appeal was taken from the Presbytery to the Synod of Ohio. In Synod the appeal was not sustained, thereby affirming the decision of the Presbytery. From this action an appeal was taken to the Assembly, but the appeal was not sustained, and the concurrent decisions of the lower courts were affirmed. Vol. II, p. 297, 1866. The appellants protested against this action. Having removed from their former place of residence, the Assembly, on the ground that members under suspension are still under the jurisdiction of the Church courts, passed the following resolution]:

Resolved, 1. That Eleanor, Jane L., and Catherine Marshall be, and hereby are, placed under the care of the Session of the First congregation, Monmouth.

2. That the Session of Amity congregation be, and hereby is, directed to transmit to the Session of the First congregation of Monmouth all the papers in their possession pertaining to the case. Vol. III, p. 276, 1871.

(15) The Appeal of Mrs. Mary A. Patterson

[Mrs. Mary A. Patterson appealed to the General Assembly from a decision of the Synod of Illinois. The Judiciary Committee reported an agreement of compromise entered into by the representatives of the parties. This

was approved by the General Assembly and the case dismissed. Vol. VII, p. 418, 1890.]

(16) The Appeal and Protest of Rev. George A. Roseberg

In the case of protest and appeal by Rev. George A. Roseberg against the decision of the commission of the First Synod of the West in the Youngstown case, your committee would submit the following report: We have examined the papers in this case, and find that, as in the case of complaint by Rev. J. W. Logue and others, already decided by this Assembly, this appeal is premature, and therefore irregular having been taken before the decisions of the commission were recorded, by the Synod appointing it. We, therefore, recommended that the appeal be respectfully returned. Vol. VI, p. 422, 1886.

(17) The Appeal of L. V. Smith

I. In the matter of the appeal of L. V. Smith, an elder of the Ottawa, Kansas, congregation, from the action of the Kansas City Presbytery, the judiciary and conciliatory committee in refusing the right of appeal from action of the Ottawa Session, we find the Judiciary Committee of Kansas City Presbytery erred in two grounds upon which they are reported to have based their decision.

And further, that owing to the fact that the Session of the Ottawa congregation had previously rescinded its action deposing from eldership and suspending from membership in the congregation the said L. V. Smith, thereby terminating the case and automatically restoring Mr. Smith to his former church relations and precluding the possibility of a second trial upon the previous charges (Chapter IV, Section 228, of the Book of Government).

We find the action of the Presbytery irregular.

We recommend that the General Assembly instruct the Session of the Ottawa congregation to issue to L. V. Smith at his request a certificate of transfer in good and regular standing as of the present date.

(18) The Appeal of Rev. Charles B. Smyth

[Rev. Charles B. Smyth, of the Presbytery of New York, appealed from a decision of the Synod of New York, and accompanied the appeal with a complaint. He was unable to be present, and the Assembly appointed a member to represent him. The Assembly referred the case to a commission. Vol. VI, p. 422, 1886. The commission reported its proceedings, and the Assembly adopted the following report of the Judiciary Committee]:

We have examined the action of the commission, and find the proceedings, which are herewith transmitted, regular, and that said commission did not exceed its powers. We would therefore recommend that the proceedings be inserted in the records of the Assembly. Vol. VI, 664, 1887. [For the Minutes of the commission see p. 688, 1887. The finding of the commission in the case is as follows]:

“The commission having carefully examined the papers sent up to them from the Synod and the Presbytery of New York in the case, find that there has been a want of regularity in the proceedings of the Presbytery of New York particularly in passing a sentence of suspension upon Mr. C. B. Smyth without having first instituted judicial process and giving Mr. Smyth the benefit of a regular trial, and also in failing to send up a full written record of the evidence on which that sentence was based. The commission, therefore, without passing any judgment as to the merits of the case, is compelled to sustain the appeal on the ground of want of regularity in the proceedings of the Presbytery.” Vol. VI, p. 689, 1887.

(19) The Appeal of Rev. J. T. Tate

The appeal comes before the Assembly based on the following facts as they appear from the records: At a meeting of the Presbytery of Keokuk, held at Burlington, Ia., September 6, 1886, the Presbytery was asked to direct the Session of the congregation of Keokuk to cease from the use of an organ in the worship of God in the congregation, and to enjoin upon all Sessions under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery, to forbid the use of musical instruments in the worship of God, whether in the congregation, the family, or the Sabbath school, wherever and by whosoever attempted. The Presbytery refused to take the above action, and from its decision the present appellants took an appeal to the Synod of Iowa. The Synod of Iowa refused to sustain their appeal, and from that decision they appeal to this Assembly.

Your committee finds that the appeal is regularly before the Assembly, and recommends that it be taken up and issued according to order. And for the decision of this case the committee proposes for adoption the following:

Whereas, There is now no law forbidding the use of instrumental music in the worship of God, and therefore no violation of law in the case pending; therefore,

Resolved, That the appeal be not sustained. Vol. VI, p. 674, 1887.

(20) The Appeal of Mr. Paden

[A Mr. Paden, a member of the congregation of Bethel, in the Presbytery of Mercer, having married the sister of his deceased wife, was arraigned by the Session, and the following sentence pronounced: *Resolved*, That Mr. Paden be admonished before the Session, and that a public intimation of the same be made to the congregation." From this decision a minority of the Session appealed to the Presbytery. Presbytery sustained the appeal, and instructed the Session of the congregation of Bethel to suspend Mr. Paden from the privileges of the Church until he gave evidence of repentance. From this decision an appeal was taken, and the case brought before the First Synod of the West. The Synod sustained the appeal from the decision of the Presbytery. From this decision certain members of Synod appealed to the Assembly. Vol. III, p. 11, 1869. This appeal from Synod was sustained: Ayes, 66; nays, 62. Vol. III, p. 21, 1869.]

(21) The Appeal of the Presbytery of New York

2. (a) In regard to the appeal, petition, complaint, review or memorial of the Presbytery of New York against the Synod of New York, your committee after having carefully examined the Minutes of the Synod and the accompanying papers finds the whole matter relates to the distribution of certain money loaned to a certain congregation by the Presbytery of New York, and involves solely a question of property rights. It is therefore the judgment of your Committee that the General Assembly has no jurisdiction in the case, but that the action of the Synod is final so far as the ecclesiastical procedure is concerned as provided for in the Book of Government and Worship. (See Book of Government and Worship, chapter 16, section 64)—"It belongs to the Synod to receive and act upon issues coming before it by complaint, appeal, or reference, its decisions being final in all cases which do not affect the doctrine of the church, the regularity of proceedings or the interpretation of law." Vol. XIV, p. 219, 1917.

IV. Memorial and Complaint from the Presbytery of New York concerning the Memorial and Complaint from the Presbytery of New York against the Synod of New York, your Committee on Judiciary is of the opinion that the matter is not properly before the General Assembly since the reasons in support of the complaint were not filed with the Moderator or Clerk of Synod

within the ten days as specified in the Book of Government and Worship. See Chapter 15, Article 3, Section 309. Your Committee would therefore recommend that the Memorial and Complaint be denied. Moreover, we unanimously regard the action of the Synod of 1916 as final on basis of Chapter 16, Section 64. Vol. XIV, p. 466, 1918.

2. The Presbytery of New York appeals from the ruling of the Synod of New York by which said Presbytery is declared to be in a state of insubordination in the case of the Presbytery of the Hudson on behalf of the East 187th Street congregation. In making this appeal the Presbytery of New York makes the following declaration:

"That the Presbytery of New York has not at any time desired to manifest any spirit of disobedience to or defiance of the authority and commands of the Synod of New York, but conscious of the truth and justice of its cause has been urging with all the means within its power a full hearing of the case so that the interests of righteousness might be conserved. The Minutes of the Presbytery will show that it offered to make payment of the amount involved at such time as the civil court will hear the case, render its decision and order its payment."

It is the judgment of your Committee that the adjudication of this matter by the Synod of New York in 1916 was final, in accord with Chapter 16, Section 64, of the Book of Government and Worship: "It belongs to the Synod to receive and act upon issues coming before it by complaint, appeal, or reference, its decisions being final in all cases which do not effect the doctrine of the Church, the regularity of proceedings, or the interpretation of law." It is also the judgment of your Committee that irregularity of proceedings has not been established by the appellants and that therefore the appeal is not admissible into the Assembly.

But while we do not believe that the Assembly would be warranted in taking up this case in a judicial way we are constrained to ask the Assembly to issue a fraternal message pleading for a settlement of the case at issue on the principle of brotherly love for the glory of our Lord and Saviour and for the interests of his kingdom. We recognize that there are difficulties in the way of such a settlement, but in the face of promised wisdom and grace we do not believe that they are insuperable. Love can always find a way, even over the greatest obstacles. The love of God found its way to our rebellious hearts, but that way was over the cross and through the tomb of God's only and well-beloved Son. And we believe that the brethren of the Synod and the Presbytery of New York, filled with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, can find a way to the settlement of this case that will be his glory and to the advancement of his kingdom.

In brief, the case at issue is as follows:

The Synod of New York directed the Presbytery of New York to pay the sum of \$496.63 to the East 187th Street congregation in the bounds of the Presbytery of the Hudson.

The Presbytery of New York has hitherto declined to pay this amount, giving as its reason that it held this money as a trust from the sale of the East 119th Street church, for use in its own bounds.

In consequence of this failure to pay, the Synod of New York, at its meeting in Philadelphia in 1918, declared the Presbytery of New York to be in insubordination to the Synod. It is against this declaration that the Presbytery of New York now makes its appeal.

It is here your Committee believes that the love of Christ will find a way for the settlement of the issue—a way that will bring more peace and joy to the hearts of God's servants and more glory to the Redeemer's name than could possibly result from further prosecution of the case in Church or civil courts. The Presbytery of New York declares its conscientious conviction that

the money at issue is a sacred trust, to be used for the promotion of Christ's kingdom within its own bounds. Without disturbing what it considers as trust funds, would not the Presbytery of New York be willing to contribute an equal amount to the work of the East 187th Street congregation for the promotion of the work of the Lord in that important section of the great metropolis? Then will not the Synod of New York, knowing that its claim has been met, and recognizing that the brethren in the Presbytery of New York followed their convictions in seeking to fulfil a trust committed to their care, remove from their Minutes the charge of insubordination to the Synod?

We have faith in the brethren of Synod and of the Presbytery to believe that they would be willing to follow such a course, one that would make for peace and for the advancement of the kingdom of our Lord. And such a course we most earnestly and affectionately plead with them to follow. Vol. XIV, p. 715, 1919.

The following resolutions were presented, concerning the appeal of the Presbytery of New York, and adopted.

In the matter of the appeal from New York Presbytery be it hereby

Resolved, That the General Assembly, in harmony with the action already taken, hereby further,

1. Recommends that the Presbytery of New York turn over the funds in question amounting to \$496.00 to the Permanent Investment Funds of the Home Mission Board, the proceeds from which are to be used in the Home Missions work within the bounds of New York City at the discretion of the Home Mission Board.

2. Directs the Home Board to assume all legal liabilities in connection with the adjusting of these Trust Funds before the New York courts.

3. Asks the Board of Church Extension to donate to the complaining congregation, East 187th Street, the sum of \$496.00.

4. Instructs the Synod of New York to remove the ban on insubordination from New York Presbytery.

5. Urgently requests that these adjustments be made during or immediately after the next meeting of Synod.

6. Commends the brethren for their zeal manifested for the Church of God in the environs of our national metropolis. Vol. XIV, p. 725, 1919.

3. Complaints

(1) The Complaint of Rev. Butrus Hanna

Concerning the pleading and complaint of the Rev. Butrus Hanna your Committee would say that the complaint is not one which can come properly before the Assembly, as all the papers in the case are not present. Vol. XIV, p. 466, 1918.

(2) The Complaint of Rev. J. W. Logue and Others

In the case of complaint by Rev. J. W. Logue and others against the decision of the Commission of the First Synod of the West, in the matter of the appeal of Rev. S. R. Frazier and others from the Presbytery of Cleveland, your committee would submit the following report: We have examined the papers in this case and find that the complaint is not regular because premature; it having been made against the action of a Commission which had not yet reported to the court appointing it. The law of commissions reads as follows: "It," that is, the Commission, "shall submit a full record of its proceedings to the court appointing it, which, if the proceedings have been regular, and the Commission has not exceeded its powers, shall become part of the records of the court. The right of dissent, protest and complaint, and the rules of procedure therein, shall be the same as in full court. The reason for protest, appeal or complaint shall be lodged with the Moderator or the Clerk of the

court appointing the Commission." (See Minutes of Assembly, Vol. V, p. 527, Sections 5 and 6.)

Now, this language plainly implies that the records of the Commission shall be submitted to the appointing court, and be declared regular, and within the limits of the Commission's power, before an appeal or complaint against its action can be admitted. Until this action has been taken by the appointing court, the higher court can have no access to the records of the Commission in case of complaint or appeal, and could not, therefore, issue the case. Also, the law declares that the reason for protest or complaint shall be lodged with the Moderator or Clerk of the court appointing the Commission. These conditions not having been complied with in this case, we, therefore, recommend that the complaint be dismissed. [Adopted.] Vol. VI, p. 419, 1886.

(3) The Complaint of Rev. R. A. Hill

[Rev. R. A. Hill, a member of the Presbytery of Sialkot, presented a memorial to the Assembly, complaining of the action of the Presbytery, which refused to admit him to sacramental communion on the ground of his views on the subject of intercommunion, and then suspended him for declining their authority. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That, without expressing any opinion as to the views of Rev. R. A. Hill on the question for which he was suspended by the Presbytery of Sialkot, this Assembly deem the action of said Presbytery in suspending Mr. Hill, when he had declared that he would not agitate the question, or preach, or teach, contrary to the principles of the United Presbyterian Church, so long as he remained in her connection, as irregular and unwarrantable; and, therefore, that the suspension should be removed.

2. That the Assembly direct the said Presbytery to furnish Rev. R. A. Hill, at his request, with an attested copy of their whole minutes in his case.

3. That the Assembly recommend the Presbytery, in case Rev. R. A. Hill should come to the conclusion that it is his duty to unite with another branch of the Church, to take no further action in his case than to strike his name from their roll.

4. That this Assembly is not prepared to express any opinion as to the charges made against Mr. Hill, subsequent to the 10th of April, which charges the Presbytery expressly declare are not mentioned in their final action as proved, but as charges to which he was liable.

5. That should Mr. Hill continue as a member of the Presbytery of Sialkot, he be specially enjoined to pursue the things that make for peace.

6. That this action of the General Assembly shall not be construed as giving any countenance to unrestricted communion. Vol. I, p. 231, 1861.

[This case came before the Assembly of 1862, by a protest and petition of the members of the Sialkot Presbytery, who complained that the case came before the Assembly of 1861, without their knowledge, and without an opportunity of their being heard in their own defense, and that the action of the Assembly was based on a misapprehension of Presbytery's action. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the Presbytery be directed to restore Mr. Hill to his former standing upon declaring his willingness to submit to the authority of Presbytery, and declaring his resolution to abide by our professed principles on the subjects that have occasioned these troubles, and to study the things that make for peace.

2. That if any of the parties, that is, Mr. Hill or any other member of the mission, cannot accede to this as a final end to all their disastrous troubles, the Board of Foreign Missions be directed to recall him or them from the field, and take measures to supply their places, that this once prosperous mis-

sion be restored to the confidence and support of the Church. Vol. I, p. 354, 1862.

[The Presbytery attached other conditions to those required by the Assembly. Mr. Hill refused to withdraw his declination, and appealed to the Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the appeal of Mr. Hill is, in some respects, irregular; yet, considering the peculiar circumstances of the case, we think it will be expedient to give judgment respecting it.

2. That the appeal of Mr. Hill be sustained, so far as relates to the form in which the questions of the Presbytery were proposed to him.

3. That it be not sustained so far as relates to his refusal to withdraw his declination.

4. That his case be now issued.

5. That on Mr. Hill's declaring his acquiescence in the directions of the Assembly of 1862, and also his withdrawal of his declination of the authority of the Presbytery of Sialkot, he be restored to good standing in the United Presbyterian Church.

The moderator then read to Mr. Hill the resolution of the Assembly requiring him to withdraw his declination, to which he responded in the affirmative. He also read to him the act of the last Assembly, to which he expressed his agreement. The following resolution was then adopted:

Resolved, That the answer of Mr. Hill be considered satisfactory, and that he be declared in good standing in the United Presbyterian Church.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That the clerk be directed to furnish Mr. Hill with a certified extract of the minute in his case, and that any Presbytery under the care of this Assembly, to which he may apply, is authorized to receive him as in regular standing. Vol. I, p. 492, 1863.

(4) The Complaint of Rev. D. Morrow

The Committee on Judiciary in the case of Rev. David Morrow's complaint against the Presbytery of San Francisco, report that, in our judgment, this case cannot properly come before the General Assembly. A similar complaint was made to the Synod of the Pacific, but for reasons satisfactory to that body the complaint was returned to the Presbytery of San Francisco where it still remains to be acted on; therefore,

Resolved, That the papers in this case be returned to the parties concerned, without prejudice. Vol. VIII, p. 37, 1892.

(5) The Complaint of Xenia Presbytery Against the Presbytery of Muskingum on Territorial Trespass

Regarding the complaint from the Presbytery of Xenia, the committee submits certain recommendations for adoption:

1. That while affirming the principle of geographical boundaries as belonging to the definition of a presbytery, the Assembly declines to act upon said complaint, inasmuch as the matter is pending in the Second Synod, to which it was referred rightly by the Presbytery of Xenia, and inasmuch as the Synod of Ohio, included in the complaint, has had no notice thereof.

2. That the Second Synod and the Synod of Ohio, both of which are related to the subject in dispute, be duly notified of the present action of the Presbytery of Xenia, to the end that they may take such measures as shall conserve presbyterial order and all the interests involved. Vol. XI, p. 308, 1905.

The Judiciary Committee has had referred to it the following: A petition from the Second Synod in reference to what is called "the Columbus case of territorial trespass"; a request from the pastors of Neil Avenue and the First

Church of Columbus; a transcript of the action of the Synod of Ohio in 1905; and the action of Muskingum Presbytery in defense of their action in this case.

The action of the Second Synod is: "That the Synod ask the General Assembly at its next meeting to adjudicate the matter at issue in such a way as may at once conserve good order and the interests of the congregation more immediately concerned."

We offer for adoption the following:

Resolved, 1. That the action of Muskingum Presbytery in receiving the pastor and congregation of Fair Haven, Columbus, O., within the bounds of Xenia Presbytery, was irregular, and is not to be taken as a precedent by this or any other presbytery.

2. That we deem it unwise at this time to disturb the relations existing between this congregation and Muskingum Presbytery.

3. That all the parties in this case are urged, in love and forbearance, to "seek the things that make for peace and the things whereby one may edify another." Vol. XI, p. 586, 1906.

4. Petitions

(1) The Petition of Rev. J. R. Wallace

We beg leave to report that there has been placed in our hands but one paper. This purports to be a petition from the Rev. J. R. Wallace, of Frankfort Presbytery, requesting that the Assembly direct the Synod of Pittsburgh to review the Minutes of the Presbytery of Frankfort referring to the removal of the said Rev. J. R. Wallace from the pastorate of the New Bethlehem congregation and specifically to approve or disapprove the same.

The paper is really in the nature of a complaint against Synod's action in approving the Minutes of Presbytery in what appears to have been the usual manner. The petitioner is so indefinite in his statements that your Committee does not find any sufficient ground for ordering the action requested.

We therefore recommend for adoption the following:

Resolved, That the petition be not granted. Vol. XII, p. 349, 1909.

(2) The Petition of the First Church, Indianapolis

The Assembly Judiciary Committee had referred to it a Petition of the members of the First United Presbyterian Church of Indianapolis, asking that the congregation be restored to its status on the roll of the Presbytery of Indiana.

After a limited review of the case, the action of the Presbytery, the history of the congregation and present conditions and prospects of the First Church and its present field,

Your committee recommends:

1. That the congregation be restored to its former place on the roll of the Presbytery.

2. That Indiana Presbytery be instructed to provide a Provisional Session for the First Church for a period of reorganization, and renewed efforts on the part of the congregation, the Presbytery and the Board of American Missions on behalf of what appears to your committee, to be a promising field for the work and program of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. XX, p. 354, 1941.

5. Questions

(1) The Legality of an Interim Commission of Presbytery

2. In the matter of the Memorial from Keokuk Presbytery your Committee would report:

That the Memorial asks for a "deliverance in regard to the legality of an Interim Commission of Presbytery. If legal, is it necessary to state place and time of meeting of this Commission? May all the powers of Presbytery be delegated to such a Commission?"

Your committee understands an Interim Commission to mean a Commission appointed by Presbytery to act upon matters that may arise in the interim between meetings of Presbytery.

The entire authority for the appointment of a Commission is Chapter XIX of the Book of Government and Worship. It is the clear intent and meaning of the Chapter that Commissions may be appointed only for specific purposes and to deal with definite matters which have been brought to the attention of the court, the nature of which is set forth in that chapter, and that no general phrases in said chapter can be construed to authorize a Presbytery to delegate all its powers to any Commission; but only such powers as may be necessary to enable it to deliberate upon and conclude the specific business committed to it.

That Section 84 of Chapter XIX provides that it is necessary for the Court appointing a Commission to designate the time and place of its meeting for organization. Vol. XV, p. 302, 1921.

* (2) Ecclesiastical and Civil Courts

(b) As to the accompanying Memorial which asks for an interpretation of the law of the Church relative to the superior and final judgment in a case in which is involved a conflict of opinion between the judgment of the ecclesiastical court and that of the civil court our answer is the judgment of the civil court is supreme and final. Vol. XIV, p. 219, 1917.

(3) Standing of a Student

The second, a Memoranda presented to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America concerning the appeal of the Rev. Labib Mishriqi from a decision of the Synod of the Nile concerning the status of Mikhail Effendi Abbal-Masih as a student of theology.

Your Committee would state concerning this matter that no official papers came to the Assembly from the Synod of the Nile relative to this matter. Neither do the Minutes of the Synod make any reference to this matter of the reported appeal to the General Assembly. From the information we have from a letter by Labib Mishriqi and one from the American Mission, Cairo, Egypt, by Dr. C. C. Adams, the President of the Faculty of the Seminary, it would appear that Mikhail Effendi is asking admittance into the Theological Seminary at Cairo, Egypt, and while not a graduate of college, was accepted by the Presbytery on the grounds that he had certain preparations that led the Presbytery to make an exception to the general rule, under powers granted them as to unordinary cases by the Book of Government. For some months he pursued his studies in the Seminary. The case, however, was called to the attention of the Synod of the Nile by three members of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary. The Synod acted adversely to his acceptance in the Seminary on the ground that it is the rule of the Theological Seminary to require a college diploma, refusing thereby to make an exception in this case. He had retired from college at the middle of his Junior year. The Presbytery considered that he had equivalent supplemental work to justify their action in accepting him as a theological student.

It would appear to your Committee that the Presbytery and the Synod, as well, acted within their rights. The Presbytery, as the Court, having control over theological students. The Synod, as the body with supervision and control over the Seminary.

We would recommend, however, that in the interest of the Church and the Kingdom of our Lord, that the Presbytery and Synod get together giving to the student whatever rights his abilities, qualifications, and training merit; that in case this cannot be accomplished that the official papers bearing on the action be forwarded to the Clerk of the General Assembly, so that the next Assembly may have in their possession both sides of the case for its consideration. Vol. XVIII, p. 642, 1934.

LXIV. LEGACIES

1. **Permanent Investment of Legacies.** Your committee are unanimous in recommending to the different Boards of the Church the setting aside of all legacies and bequests as a permanent investment, believing that the ordinary expenses of the Boards should be paid out of the annual contributions of the Church; believing, also, that if such a disposition could be made of bequests, a much larger sum would be given to the Boards; and that in a few years these investments would become endowments. Vol. III, p. 270, 1871.

Resolved, That the Trustees of this Assembly be, and hereby are instructed to invest any bequest they may receive on behalf of the Assembly, and until otherwise ordered, appropriate the revenues only to the general work of the Church. Vol. III, p. 419, 1872.

[A committee was appointed by the Assembly of 1872 to report an answer to the question: "Shall Boards to which bequests are made invest and use the income only, or at once use the entire legacy?" Vol. III, pp. 416, 417, 1872. This committee presented the following report, which was adopted]: All legacies or bequests left to the General Assembly, or any of the Boards of the Church, should be held as sacred trusts, and used or disposed of only as directed by the testator; but when left, as is frequently the case, without specific directions to the Trustees of the Assembly or the Boards of the Church, such bequests may be used temporarily, until the next meeting of the General Assembly, when all such legacies, together with all the facts connected with the same, shall be reported to the Assembly, and be subject to its direction and order. Your committee would also express the opinion, that unless urgent exigencies require the immediate use of bequests, they should be invested in undoubted securities, and the interest only used. Vol. III, p. 546, 1873.

6. That we recommend and direct that all moneys belonging to the Church, which are not accompanied by limitations or restrictions, shall be kept for the use of the Church, invested in such available securities as can on short notice be converted into cash. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

7. That the Board [of Foreign Missions] be authorized to invest temporarily any bequest that may come into their hands, which may be used as collateral security in borrowing money in case of emergency, and also to use so far as necessary said bequests after careful examination of each case, in extending operations in fields already occupied, in securing necessary buildings and providing such helps and appliances as are judged necessary to the prosperity and success of the mission cause; and that so far as practicable these grants be made proportionately between the two mission fields. Vol. V, p. 192, 1880.

Resolved, 3. That the bequests now made to this Board [of Home Missions] be permanently invested, and the interest annually appropriated to the work of the Board. Vol. III, p. 428, 1872.

Resolved, That hereafter any bequest made to the Board of Home Missions that is not especially designated by the testator for investment may be used to meet the current expenses of the Board. Vol. III, p. 565, 1873.

[A bequest was made to the Board of Home Missions, by Archibald Stewart, Esq. A part of this was used to pay indebtedness and meet the current expenses. The Assembly authorized the Board to invest the remainder,

and use the principal only in extraordinary cases, at its discretion. Vol. V, p. 190, 1880.]

Resolved, 6. That the General Assembly direct the legacy of Archibald Stewart, Esq., to be set apart as a reserve fund of the Board, from which temporary loans may be made to meet pressing emergencies, and that the management of said legacy be left with the Board, under such restrictions as the Assembly may see fit to impose. Vol. V., p. 352, 1881.

2. **General Rule Concerning Bequests.** *Resolved*, 1. That when a bequest is made to the General Assembly, or its Trustees, for missionary purposes, the Trustees be directed to appropriate it to the Boards of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Freedmen's Missions and Church Extension, in the proportion in which the appropriations were made for these Boards by the preceding General Assembly.

2. That when a bequest is made to the General Assembly without any limitation, it be applied to all the Boards and to the General Assembly's Fund, on the same principle. Vol. IV, p. 449, 1877.

LXV. LICENSURE

1. **Presbyteries to Exercise Care in Licensing Students.** *Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be enjoined to exercise tenderly, but faithfully, their authority in judging of the piety, mental gifts and acquirements, and general fitness for the office, of all candidates for the ministry; to give them, during the progress of their studies, the full benefits of a seminary course, as also of such oversight as it belongs to Presbyteries to take of their theological students; and that they be especially enjoined to guard against premature licensures, or whatever would unnecessarily come short of the established conditions of licensure. Vol. III, p. 528, 1873.

Resolved, That Presbyteries be enjoined to adhere more strictly to the instructions of the General Assembly in the licensure of young men. Vol. IV, p. 450, 1877.

Resolved, That as an able as well as a godly ministry is of the utmost importance to our success as a Church, this General Assembly earnestly exhort all our Presbyteries to exercise the greatest care in training men for the office of the ministry. Vol. IV, p. 592, 1878.

2. **Presbyteries to Maintain Uniformity in Licensing Students.** [In response to a memorial from certain persons, the Assembly adopted the following]:

The memorialists represent that while the Book of Government and Discipline, Part I, Chapter V, Section 2, requires that in ordinary cases no student of theology shall be admitted to trials for license until he has completed a course of theological study of three full years after the time of his admission by the Presbytery, it is a well known fact that many students "receive license at the end of their second year." Such disregard of the law of the Church on this subject is on many accounts deeply to be deplored. That law is a wise provision to guard the introduction of persons into her ministry before they are fitted by previous theological training for rightly expounding and dividing the Word of Truth. Uniformity in its enforcement is of highest importance; otherwise it becomes a dead letter. If some of the Presbyteries of the Church violate this law, its observance by other Presbyteries is of little or no avail, and the end for which it has been placed on our Book of Government and Discipline has been defeated.

Therefore, your committee recommend to the Assembly the following for adoption:

Resolved, That all our Presbyteries be and are hereby earnestly enjoined to conform in letter and in spirit to the law of the Church touching the licensure of candidates for the Gospel ministry. Vol. V, p. 538, 1882.

3. **Theological Students Not to Be Licensed Till the Completion of Their Regular Theological Course.** *Resolved*, 2. That it be recommended to Presbyteries not to license any student until he has completed the entire course. Vol. II, p. 486, 1868.

Resolved, 6. That the Presbyteries be especially enjoined to guard against premature licensures, or what would unnecessarily come short of the established conditions of licensure, which, according to our Form of Government, Part II, Chapter 5, Section 2, are that "In ordinary cases, a student is not to be admitted to trials for license until he has completed a course of theological study of three full years after the time of his admission by the Presbytery, and produced testimonials of good conduct and proficiency in his studies." Vol. III, p. 528, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That the committee take the liberty of expressing it as their unanimous opinion, that the best interests of students require their uninterrupted attendance during the three sessions previous to licensure, and earnestly entreat Presbyteries to act accordingly. Vol. IV, p. 88, 1874.

[The General Assembly of 1873 required the Presbyteries to report to each Assembly the names of persons licensed during the year and the number of terms spent at the seminary. Vol. III, p. 529. The Presbytery of New York reported the licensure of two students at the end of the second year. The following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the action of the First Presbytery of New York in licensing students of theology before the completion of their studies be disapproved by the Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 184, 1875.

[The above order of the Assembly was annulled. Vol. V, p. 39, 1879. See Licentiates, Section 1.]

4. **Change in the Time of Licensure.** [The Presbytery of Wheeling asked that the Book of Government be so changed as to admit the licensure of students at the end of the second year. Whereupon the Assembly submitted the following overture]:

Shall Part II, Chapter V, Section 2, of the Book of Government and Discipline be changed so that it shall read, "In ordinary cases no student of theology shall be admitted to trials for licensure until he has completed a course of theological study of *two full years* after the time of his admission by the Presbytery, and produced testimonials of good conduct and proficiency in his studies, and he shall be required to spend a third session at the Seminary"? Vol. VII, p. 225, 1889.

[On this overture the vote was: Ayes, 734; nays, 210.] Thereupon it was

Resolved, That the General Assembly does now enact that Part II, Chapter V, Section 2, of the Book of Government, be so changed that it shall read as follows: (As proposed in the overture.) Vol. VII, p. 414, 1890.

5. **Trials of Theological Students Need Not All Be Heard at the Time of Licensure.** (The striking out of Part II, Chapter 5, Section 4, first clause, "These trial exercises shall be heard at the time of licensure," was overture to Presbyteries, Vol. III, p. 16, 1869, when it was stricken out by the following vote: Ayes, 549; nays, 52; not voting, 21. Vol. III, p. 150, 1870.)

6. **"Temporary" Licensure.** "Can Presbytery, if it so wishes, grant a 'Temporary' license to a student who has finished only the first year in the Seminary? Would such action be consistent with the rules of the church governing in the matter of licensure?"

Your Committee recommends the following reply:

The Book of Government (Part II, Chapter VII), which deals with the licensure of probationers for the ministry makes no provision for temporary licensure other than the regular licensure which is itself for a limited period. It provides that "in ordinary cases a student of theology shall not be ad-

mitted to trials for a licensure until he has prosecuted theological studies for two full years.

However, Presbyteries, without requiring a student of theology to take the trials for licensure, do, under exceptional conditions, permit him to "exercise his gifts" by preaching during the summer recess, but such permission, if granted at all, should be limited to the vacation months when the course of instruction in the Theological Seminary is not in progress. Vol. XVIII, p. 350, 1933.

7. Requirements for Licensure Changed. The following report was adopted:

First, we find that the Overture submitted to the Presbyteries by the Seventy-Seventh General Assembly, was acted upon favorably by fifty-two presbyteries and therefore now becomes the law of the Church. The vote in the Presbyteries was unanimous in all instances but ten, totals: Yes, 1,161; No, 47. The Overture had to do with the licensing of probationers and the ordination and installation of ministers. The Book of Government and Worship, Chapter VII, Section 129, fourth sentence, shall henceforth read: "The Presbytery shall require him to present two exercises: a textual sermon and an expository lecture," and Chapter IX, Section 145, third sentence, shall in the future read: "He shall be required to present four exercises: two sermons—one of which shall be a lecture—on passages of Scripture assigned to him, and also a critical exegesis of a passage of Scripture and a doctrinal thesis." Vol. XIX, p. 28, 1936.

8. Licensures to Be Reported to the Assembly. *Resolved*, That Presbyteries be required to report to each General Assembly the names of persons licensed during the year, and to give account in each case of the number of sessions spent at the theological seminary, and the training given by the Presbytery itself. Vol. III, p. 529, 1873.

[This action was reaffirmed by the Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 184, 1875.]

Resolved, 3. That the action of the Assembly of 1873, requiring "Presbyteries to report to the General Assembly the names of persons licensed during the year, and to give account in each case of the number of sessions spent at the theological seminary and the training given by the Presbytery itself," be annulled. Vol. V, p. 39, 1879.

9. Licentiates Desiring to Attend the Seminary Are to Be Released from Appointments. *Resolved*, 3. That the Assembly will give no appointments to any licentiate during the sessions who wishes to attend the seminary.

4. That the Board be authorized to release from his appointments during the period of his attendance at the seminary, any licentiate who desires to secure the benefit of such attendance, provided the Board is able to fill his appointments by other missionaries. Vol. IV, p. 339, 1876.

[See also Students.]

LXVI. MARRIAGE

1. Sacredness of the Marriage Contract. *Resolved*, 2. That we enjoin our ministers to be faithful in the instruction of the people on the sacredness and binding character of the marriage contract. Vol. VII, p. 422, 1890.

2. Marriage with Irreligious Persons. *Resolved*, That it is the duty of parents to counsel and warn their children against the formation of such matrimonial connections, and that ministers of the Gospel should show from the Scriptures their dangerous tendency, with a diligence proportioned to the danger to which young people are exposed from the social influences with which they are surrounded. Vol. I, p. 224, 1861.

3. Marriage Within the Forbidden Degrees of Consanguinity. *Resolved*, 1. That ministers be instructed to bring this subject before the people in their

public ministrations, in order that the purity of the marriage relation be preserved.

2. That the Presbyteries and Sessions be directed by the proper exercise of discipline, to enforce the established principles of the Confession, in all cases where marriages have been contracted within the degrees forbidden by the law of God. Vol. II, p. 319, 1866.

[The Session of Cedarville, Presbytery of Xenia, memorialized the Assembly in reference to Chapter XXIV, Article IV, of the Confession of Faith, requesting such a deliverance as would secure uniformity of action or conformity to the law. The following action was taken]: It is submitted that the law on this subject is specific; that it should be a part of the Church's organic law; has recently been re-asserted by the Church, and inasmuch as no modification of the law, so as to require re-overture, is asked but only such a deliverance as would secure consistent action by the inferior courts; therefore,

Resolved, That faithful teaching be enjoined that infractions of the law may be prevented, and that violations of the law be dealt with by Sessions consistently with its spirit and design. Vol. IV, p. 446, 1877.

3. **Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Niece.** *Resolved*, That the foregoing question—Is it agreeable to the Word of God, and the Standards of the United Presbyterian Church, for a man to marry his deceased wife's niece?—be answered in the negative. Vol. II, p. 503, 1868.

4. **Overtures with Reference to Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Relatives.** *Resolved*, That the following question, a definite answer to which, yea or nay, shall be reported to the next General Assembly, be and hereby is, transmitted in overture to the Presbyteries of the Church, namely: Shall the declaration contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter XXIV, Section 4, "The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own, nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own," be repealed? Vol. III, p. 26, 1869.

[This overture was rejected by the following vote: Ayes, 127; nays, 563; not voting, 65. Vol. III, p. 150, 1870.] [This question was again submitted as follows]:

Although at the present time there does not appear to be any serious agitation throughout the Church on the subject of the memorial from the Presbytery of Chicago, yet it is not certain that this law receives the endorsement and approval of the Church. About thirty years ago the same question was overtured and negatively answered. There may have been considerations then apart from the real merits of the questions which influenced the Church in its vote. Certain it is that now whole Presbyteries, without a single exception, favor the repeal of this provision of the Confession of Faith; other large Presbyteries, with but few exceptions occupy precisely the same position. It is true that there may not at this present time be any particular cases of oppression by reason of this prohibition, but if, in the judgment of the Church, it have not scriptural authority, we should not attempt to maintain it among our Standards; we therefore recommend that the following be sent down in overture: "Shall the words, 'The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own, nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own,' of Section 4, Chapter XXIV, of the Confession of Faith, be repealed?" Vol. X, p. 27, 1900.

The result of the foregoing overture was as follows:

1. That the overture to repeal that part of Section 4, Chapter XXIV, of the Confession of Faith, which reads, "The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he may of his own, nor the woman of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than of her own," has received a clear constitutional majority of the votes of the Church, and, therefore, has been carried.

2. That this Assembly hereby ratifies the decision of the Presbyteries,

and declares that portion of Section 4, of Chapter XXIV, of the Confession of Faith that was in overture repealed. Vol. X, p. 254, 1901.

5. **Polygamous Converts Not Admitted to Membership.** [A memorial and petition were presented against the action of the Presbytery of Sialkot concerning the admission of converts from heathenism who have a plurality of wives to baptism and membership in the Church. As there has been no official communication from the Presbytery on the subject, the Presbytery was directed to report to the next Assembly their official action and the grounds on which it was based. Vol. V, p. 29, 1879. The Presbytery reported accordingly, and the Assembly took the following action]:

Resolved, 2. That the question really and properly brought before the committee and the Assembly is the following, which is expressed in another part of the paper: "Can a polygamist be received into the Church during its transition state in a polygamous country, with the express understanding that this polygamy is only tolerated, and that while in this state he (the polygamist) can never be admitted to any official position in the Church?"

On the question, as here stated, the committee reply in the negative, and declare that it is not proper to admit a polygamist to membership in the Church, even under the circumstances specified. Vol. V, p. 188, 1880.

6. **Mormon Polygamy.** We cannot be too strongly and persistently warned against this terrible menace to the home, which is stealthily working its way into the favor of many communities in our land.

Inasmuch as the National Reform Association has for over fifty years been an active force for national righteousness, and has, during the last year, made remarkable progress in its development and activities, particularly in its crusade against Mormon polygamy and its attendant evils, therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That we commend the National Reform Association as an organization of Christian patriots worthy of the confidence and support of our people, and that we recognize its leadership in the campaign against Mormonism and polygamy.

2. That we authorize the officers of this General Assembly to communicate to Congress our deep-seated conviction that an amendment to the Constitution forbidding polygamy should be immediately referred to the states for ratification.

3. That we approve the calling of the Third World's Christian Citizenship Conference at the close of the war, and a Preliminary Conference to meet June 23 and 28 this year in Pittsburgh, and that the General Assembly appoint two delegates to this Preliminary Conference. Vol. XIV, p. 447, 1918.

7. **Divorce.** *Resolved*, That these questions be referred to a select committee, to report to the next Assembly, viz: 1. Does a divorce, secured on the ground of wilful desertion, leave the party at liberty to marry again? 2. If not, and yet a member of the Church marries such a person in good faith and under the impression that it is entirely lawful, how far should a church court extend forbearance in such a case? Vol. III, p. 17, 1869.

[Majority and minority reports were presented, Vol. III, pp. 409-412, 1872, the former maintaining that "the Scriptures allow but one justifiable cause of divorce," viz., adultery, the latter concluding with the resolution, "that the doctrine of divorce is scripturally exhibited in the teaching of the Westminster Confession on the subject." These reports were referred to the next Assembly, by which their consideration was indefinitely postponed. Vol. III, p. 547, 1873.]

The Presbytery of Westmoreland asks that the necessary steps be taken to have the words, "or such wilful desertion as can in no way be remedied by the Church or civil magistrate," be stricken from Section 6, Chapter XXIV, of the Confession of Faith. For various reasons it is not thought best at the present time to submit such an overture to the Presbyteries; therefore,

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialists be not granted. Vol. VII, p. 20, 1888.

8. **Divorce Legislation.** *Resolved*, 2. That there is a loud call for some legislation to secure uniformity in the matter of divorce, and prevent the great and growing evils so appalling under the present regulations.

3. That this Assembly earnestly invokes State governments to take measures to secure such legislation, and allow divorce only upon scriptural ground. Vol. V, p. 40, 1884.

1. That we as a Church most emphatically condemn all laws relating to divorce, which permit the breaking up of the marriage relation on other than scriptural ground, and declare that the Nation and the people that permit such laws to exist are in imminent peril of the judgments of God.

4. That we advise all our people to use their influence in endeavoring to secure the repeal of all divorce laws that are contrary to the Scriptures, and the enacting of such State and National laws as shall recognize only scriptural grounds for divorce. Vol. VII, p. 422, 1890.

9. **Ministers Forbidden to Unite in Marriage Persons Unscripturally Divorced.** *Resolved*, 1. That in the judgment of this Assembly no minister should join in marriage any person who is known to have been divorced on other than scriptural grounds. Vol. VI, p. 40, 1884.

3. That it is contrary to the law of God for any minister or other officer to unite in marriage parties, one or both of which have been separated from former partners on other than scriptural grounds, even although the State may recognize such marriage as lawful. Vol. VII, p. 422, 1890.

10. **Licentiate May Not Perform the Marriage Ceremony.** Your Committee, to whom was referred the memorial from the Presbytery of Allegheny, asking the Assembly to give a deliverance on the question, "Is it lawful, from an ecclesiastical point of view, for a licentiate to solemnize marriage?" would report as follows:

The solemnization of marriage involves the possession of authority on the part of the person officiating. Such authority is given in ordination, not in licensure. It is, therefore, the judgment of your committee that the licentiate has not been authorized, and, from an ecclesiastical point of view, it is unlawful for him to do so. Vol. X, p. 854, 1903.

11. **Marriage and Divorce.** The following action was taken by the General Assembly of 1904 co-operating with the appeal of the Inter-Church Conference:

I. That in recognition of the comity that should exist between Christian Churches, it is desirable, and would tend to increase Christian unity, for each Church represented in the conference to advise and enjoin its ministers to refuse (where such refusal does not conflict with the Word of God on the subject of marriage and divorce, as taught in the standards of the United Presbyterian Church) to unite in marriage any person or persons, whose marriage such ministers have good reason to believe is forbidden by the laws of the Church in which either party seeking to be married hold membership.

II. That this Assembly hereby endorses the address and appeal of the Inter-Church Conference, and commends it to the serious attention of our ministers and congregations; and that pastors and sessions are hereby instructed to see that this action of the Assembly, together with said address and appeal, be read to their congregations on the first Sabbath of September.

III. That the Principal Clerk be, and is hereby instructed to issue the action of this Assembly, together with the address and appeal of the Inter-Church Conference, in such form as in his judgment will best give effect to the instruction embodied in the second resolution. Vol. XI, p. 45, 1904.

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly reaffirm the action of last year. (Minutes, 1904, p. 45.)

2. That we approve the action of the Inter-Church Conference and recommend "that ministers refuse to marry divorced persons, except the innocent party in a case where divorce has been granted on scriptural grounds, nor then until assured that a period of one year has elapsed from the date of the decision allowing the divorce."

3. That the appeal of the Inter-Church Conference be approved. Vol. XI, p. 270, 1905.

NOTE: Consult Chapter XLVI, Divorce and Re-Marriage. Chapter LXIII, Judicial Cases.

LXVII. MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH

1. **Terms of Admission to Membership.** The United Presbyterian Church has explicitly declared that an adherence to the Westminster Standards and to the declarations contained in her Testimony will be required of those seeking communion with her. Vol. I, p. 61, 1869.

2. **Tenderness in Admitting Members.** In the case of the admission of members, Sessions are affectionately recommended to use great tenderness toward the weak or such as are earnestly inquiring after the truth. Vol. II, p. 31, 1864.

3. **Jurisdiction of Church Courts Over Dismissed Members.** Have the courts of this Church jurisdiction over ministers and members dismissed to other churches equal to that exercised over ministers and members dismissed to other Presbyteries or congregations of the United Presbyterian Church? As the granting of a certificate of dismissal is not the same thing as excommunication or deposition and excommunication, and as it cannot take the holder of it out of the power of the court which granted it till it has been presented to another court and accepted by it; therefore,

Resolved, That the above question be answered in the affirmative. Vol. III, p. 158, 1870.

4. **Duty of Sessions to Members Removing.** *Resolved,* 1. That Sessions be enjoined to exercise a faithful oversight of the congregation, and of every individual member thereof, observing as far as may be possible the conduct of those who remove to other localities, frequently reminding them by letter, or otherwise, of their duty to continue in the communion and fellowship of the Church, and warning them not only of the danger of losing their standing in the Church, but of the dishonor they do to religion and the injury they bring upon their own souls.

2. That any member who, after being thus admonished, continues out of the communion of the Church for one year without furnishing satisfactory reasons to the Session, may be indefinitely suspended and his name stricken from the roll of members. Vol. V, p. 34, 1879.

1. That pastors and Sessions be urged to look after members removing from the bounds of their respective congregations, so that they may be saved to our branch of the Church. Vol. VI, p. 16, 1884.

5. **Blank Certificates for Members Removing.** *Resolved,* 2. That the Board of Publication be directed to consider the propriety of publishing, for the use of the Church, a book of blank certificates of membership, to include also the baptized membership, in which there shall be added to the form now in use, forms for notifying Sessions concerning persons certified to them, and for acknowledging their reception. Vol. VI, p. 17, 1884.

6. **Names of Members Removing Without Certificate to Be Erased from the Register.** *Resolved,* 3. That any member leaving a congregation without applying for the usual testimonials, and remaining away for two years, the Session in the meantime having no knowledge of his deportment, shall remove his name from the church' register. Vol. V, p. 34, 1879.

7. **Members to Be Reported.** We recommend the following action by the Assembly:

Resolved, That Sessions be directed to report as members all who would be entitled to certificates of good standing; and that they be urged to endeavor to keep temporarily absent members in touch with the activities of the Church, by securing from them, if possible, regular contributions to its general work. Vol. VIII, p. 31, 1892.

8. **Dismissal of Members.** There are only two ways recognized by our subordinate Standards by which connection with the Church can be dissolved, namely, certificate or censure. In such cases no formal trial is needed (see Chapter VI, Directory), but official action should be taken, because (1) That perchance along the line of His own ordinance God may grant to such repentance to the acknowledgment of the truth, and (2) that the Church may fulfill her mission as a witness to the truth. Vol. VIII, p. 720, 1895.

9. **Unpaid Subscriptions of Members Removing from One Congregation to Another.** *Resolved,* That when church members suffer the pastoral year to expire without withdrawing their names from the subscription list, Sessions are authorized to withhold the certificates of such withdrawing members until they pay all their pecuniary liabilities for the pastor's salary up to the time of their removing, and pay, also, their share of the benevolent contributions of the congregation wherein they are reported in the statistical table as being members. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

10. **Membership Covenant.** Overtures on a new Membership Covenant, submitted to the Presbyteries by the Assembly of 1903, having been rejected, the Assembly of 1904 adopted the following:

Third. That inasmuch as on the consummation of the union of the Associate and the Associate Reformed Churches, it was "agreed between the two Churches that the forbearance in love which is required by the law of God, will be exercised toward any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe to the standards of the United Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace and things wherewith one may edify another," it is the judgment of this General Assembly that this same gospel principle, which the fathers avouched in the day of their solemn covenant, should rule in the hearts of their children as they interpret and apply the distinguishing testimony of the Church in the case of those who now seek admission to her communion.

Fourth. That maintaining this historic position of the United Presbyterian Church, fortified by the deliverances of former General Assemblies, we affirm it to be the right and duty of sessions to receive into full Church membership those who apply for such privilege, even though they may not be able fully to subscribe to her standards, provided they give evidence of sincere and humble faith, and covenant to seek the peace, purity and prosperity of the Church, and to preserve inviolate their allegiance to Jesus Christ. Vol. XI, p. 29, 1904.

The deliverance of the last General Assembly, touching the terms of admission to the membership of the Church, is deemed sufficiently explicit to require no interpretation such as is asked for. It does not set aside our distinctive principles, but it does set aside the policy of an inflexible administration of these principles, leaving their enforcement in certain respects to the wise discretion of sessions. Vol. XI, p. 308, 1905.

11. **Fraternal Associate Membership.** The special committee appointed to formulate action for the General Assembly on the report of the Commission of the Alliance of Reformed Churches on "Fraternal Associate Membership," would recommend the adoption of the resolutions of said Commission:

1. That pastoral effort be constantly made to impress on Church members, customarily absent from home, the obligations of the Christian profes-

sion and their duty to wait faithfully on Gospel ordinances wherever in God's providence they may be.

2. That there be the endeavor to secure correspondence at stated intervals between absentee members and the home church, and, as well, a regular receipt of contributions for the Lord's cause.

3. That absent church members, whether traveling or localized, be given commendatory testimonials, such as were employed in the ancient Church, to be used as introductions in churches and wherever else there may be occasion for them.

4. That our congregations have a "strangers' committee," like that found in the United Free Church of Scotland, or a similar committee, charged to be on the lookout for visiting church members, to extend them a fraternal greeting and to assure them of a cordial welcome to the place of worship and to all the privileges of the congregation. Vol. XI, p. 308, 1905.

12. Pastors' Responsibilities for Members Removed to Other Communities. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That pastors from whose bounds members have removed are instructed to notify the nearest pastor to the location to which these members have gone of such removal.

Resolved, That all our pastors are hereby instructed, when any of their members have removed from their bounds, to report their presence to the pastor in whose bounds such persons have located, that he may attend to their spiritual wants, and that such persons shall be advised to associate themselves promptly with the congregation in which they are living. Vol. XI, pp. 309, 311, 1905.

LXVIII. MEMORIAL, THE LIMIT OF

A Case May Not Be Transferred to a Higher Court by Memorial. In the case of a memorial from the Session of the Second Church of Xenia, Ohio, the paper itself shows that this memorial was laid before the Presbytery of Xenia, and that said Presbytery took action thereon, which was not satisfactory to the memorialists. They now seek to bring their case from the Presbytery to this Assembly in an irregular manner. Your committee therefore recommend that the paper be returned to Rev. J. G. Carson, D.D., as Moderator of the Session, for the following reason:

Because a memorial is not one of the methods by which "every decision in any church court is subject to the review of a superior court," and by which a case may be brought from an inferior to a superior court. Book of Discipline, Chapter XII, Section 2. Vol. VII, p. 24, 1888.

On that part of the Xenia memorial in which a complaint is made of the action of the last Assembly in returning this memorial to the Moderator of the Session, your committee recommend the adoption of the following:

Inasmuch as we have not all the facts before us which influenced the last Assembly in its action on said memorial; therefore,

Resolved, That this memorial be published in the Minutes of this Assembly, and that we give no expression of opinion on the matter. Vol. VII, p. 222, 1889.

LXIX. MEN'S MOVEMENT

1. **Recognized.** Vol. XI, p. 594, 1906.
2. **Constitution.** Vol. XI, p. 724, 1906.
3. **Placed Under Board of Home Missions.** Vol. XIII, p. 35, 1912.
4. **Plan of Organization.** Vol. XIII, p. 427, 1913.

LXX. MINISTERIAL PENSIONS AND RELIEF, BOARD OF

1. **Board of Ministerial Relief**
 - (1) **Aged Minister's Fund.** [On the recommendation of the Board of

Home Missions, Vol. I, p. 369, 1862, a committee was appointed to prepare a plan for the establishment of a fund for the support of aged and infirm ministers, Vol. I, p. 345, 1862. This committee presented a report, which was adopted, creating "The Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund," requesting pastors to bring the subject before their people and take up a collection, and appointing a committee to mature plans for the management of the fund, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. I, p. 347, 1862. This committee reported a plan creating a fund for the relief of superannuated and disabled ministers, and the widows and families of deceased ministers, this fund to be raised by annual collections and placed in the hands of the Trustees of the General Assembly, to be disbursed on the recommendation of the Presbyteries having charge of the applicants, the fund to be managed by a committee of at least three of the Trustees, the chairman of whom should keep the subject before the Church; the Trustees to report to the General Assembly.

In order that there might be a permanent fund, the principal to be invested by the Trustees of the General Assembly, donations and legacies were solicited. Vol. II, p. 14, 1864.]

[A committee was appointed by the Assembly of 1868 to inquire into the propriety of making provision for the support of indigent widows of deceased ministers. Vol. II, p. 501, 1868. The plan reported was referred to the Presbyteries, Vol. III, p. 34, 1869, and was rejected. Ayes, 60; nays, 69; not voting, 13. Vol. III, p. 150, 1870.]

[The subject was again brought before the Assembly in 1873, when the Board of Ministerial Relief was established. Vol. III, p. 545, 1873.]

(2) **Charter of the Board of Ministerial Relief.** [Granted by the Court of Common Pleas, No. 2, of Philadelphia, Pa., May 8, 1875, recorded in the office for recording deeds for said county, in Charter Book No. 2, page 126, etc., and accepted by the General Assembly, Vol. IV, p. 163, 1875.]

The petition of John B. Dales, D.D., W. W. Barr, D.D., James McCandless, John Alexander, Wm. Getty, Wm. Arrott and George B. Shelton, all of the City of Philadelphia, and James Brown, of the City of Pittsburgh, respectfully represents:

1. That the United Presbyterian Church of North America has, by its General Assembly, appointed and constituted your petitioners, together with Henry Harrison, of the City of New York, a board or committee thereof to effectuate the ends hereinafter set forth.

2. That your petitioners, together with the said Henry Harrison, have heretofore, as a voluntary association, performed the trusts imposed upon them by their appointment, as aforesaid.

3. That the business of the said association, or board, would be greatly facilitated by their erection from a voluntary association into a corporation and body politic.

4. That your petitioners, therefore, desire to avail themselves of the provisions of an Act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approved April 29th, A.D. 1874.

5. That, under the provisions of said Act, they certify as follows:

i. That the proposed name of the contemplated corporation is, "The Board of Ministerial Relief of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

ii. That the purpose for which it is formed is the relief of disabled and superannuated ministers, and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers of the said Church.

iii. That the places of business of the proposed corporation are: First, the City of Philadelphia and second, such other places as may be designated by the General Assembly of said Church.

iv. That its existence is to be perpetual.

v. That there is no capital stock, and no subscriptions thereto, and consequently your petitioners cannot certify the residences of any such subscribers.

vi. That the number of its directors is nine, three of whom shall be elected annually by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America; the directors for the present year are your petitioners, and the said Henry Harrison, whose names and residences are herein set forth.

Your petitioners therefore pray, as follows:

i. That your Honors will decree, that three or more of the petitioners herein named, and named in the certificate of the recorder of deeds, hereunto annexed, having acknowledged this petition as their act and deed, and due proof of the publication of notice of intention to apply for the benefit of the above-named Act, having been required and heard upon the recording in the office of the recorder of deeds for Philadelphia, as well of this petition and the certificate of acknowledgment thereof, as the decree thereon, your petitioners shall be a corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

ii. That the corporate name of the said corporation shall be, "The Board of Ministerial Relief of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

iii. That by that name your petitioners and their successors in the above recited trust shall have perpetual succession.

iv. That by that name it shall have power to maintain and defend judicial proceedings.

v. That it shall have power to make and use a common seal and alter the same at pleasure.

vi. That it may hold, purchase and transfer such real and personal property as the purposes of the corporation may require, and may receive and hold any and all bequests, devises, or legacies which may be given to it, conditionally or unconditionally, in fee simple, or for a lesser estate; provided that it shall not hold real estate to an amount, the clear yearly value, or income whereof, shall exceed twenty thousand dollars.

vii. That it shall have power to appoint and remove such subordinate officers and agents as the business of the corporation requires, and to allow them a suitable compensation.

viii. That it shall have power to make by-laws, not inconsistent with law, for the management of its property, the regulation of its affairs, and the investment, funding and distribution of its moneys.

ix. That it shall have power to enter into any obligation necessary to the transaction of its ordinary affairs.

x. That it shall have all and singular the powers not herein above specified, which may be enjoyed by corporations created under and by virtue of the act aforesaid. And your petitioners will ever pray, etc. Vol. IV, p. 215, 1875.

Resolved, That the Charter of the Board of Ministerial Relief be so changed that the widows and orphans of our lay workers who have devoted their entire time to the work of the Church be allowed to receive aid on the same conditions as the widows and orphans of our ministerial workers. Vol. XIII, p. 709, 1914.

Resolved, 3. That according to its request the Board be given authority so to change its charter as to include in its management the Annuity Fund, thus establishing the two departments of Relief and Annuity; and as to include in its Relief Department regularly appointed and commissioned missionaries of the Church. Vol. XV, p. 20, 1920.

Resolved, That the Board be authorized to secure the necessary amendments to its charter to make this change (establishing and conducting a

Pension System and the change of the name of the Board to the Board of Ministerial Pensions and Relief) effective. Vol. XVII, p. 21, 1928.

3. **Constitution of the Board of Ministerial Relief.** [A Constitution for the Board of Ministerial Relief was adopted, Vol. IV, pp. 28, 76, 1874; repealed, Vol. IV, p. 183, 1875, being superseded by the general constitution of the Boards and the following new constitution]:

1. This Board shall be styled, "The Board of Ministerial Relief of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and shall be located in the City of Philadelphia.

2. The object of this Board shall be the relief of disabled and superannuated ministers, and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers of the United Presbyterian Church.

3. This relief shall be granted only to ministers who are in good standing in the United Presbyterian Church, and to the families, in said Church, of ministers who were in such standing at the time of their decease, and, ordinarily, relief shall not be extended to children over sixteen years of age. Vol. IV, p. 25, 1874.

4. **Regulations of the Board of Ministerial Relief.** [Adopted by the General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 183, 1875.]

1. **REGULATIONS.** 1. This relief shall be granted only to ministers who are in good standing in the United Presbyterian Church, and to the families in said Church of ministers who were in such standing at the time of their decease, and, ordinarily, it shall not extend to children over sixteen years of age.

2. All applications for relief shall be accompanied by a certified statement endorsed by the Presbytery to which the applicants belong, or in whose bounds they reside, stating the condition and circumstances of the applicants and every renewal of application shall be accompanied by a similar statement, including any changes that may have occurred during the year, and no appropriations shall be made in any case unless these conditions are complied with.

[*Amendment. Resolved,* 1. That the rules regulating the operations of the Board be so changed, that aid can be granted in cases of renewal, by simple application of Presbytery, signed by the Moderator and Clerk. Vol. VI, p. 17, 1884.]

3. While the responsibility of recommending applicants rests with the Presbyteries, and shall largely govern the action of the Board, yet the Board shall reserve to itself the right to appropriate according to the merits of each case and the state of the treasury.

4. The fund of this Board shall be created by annual contributions from the churches, from endowment donations, and from legacies.

5. All bequests and special donations, when not otherwise designated, shall be vested in a permanent fund.

6. The annual contributions and offerings from churches and individuals, and the interest from the permanent fund, shall form a contingent fund, which shall be used in carrying out the object of the Board.

ii. **BY-LAWS.** 1. The stated meetings of this Board shall be held quarterly, viz.: On the first Tuesday of July, October, January and April.

2. The election of the officers shall be at the first meeting after the General Assembly each year.

3. All moneys paid out by the treasurer shall be on the order of the Board or executive committee, signed by the president and secretary.

4. The following shall be the order of business: 1. Prayer. 2. Reading of minutes. 3. The report of the executive committee in writing. 4. The correspondence of the secretary. 5. The report of the treasurer in writing. 6. The reports of committees. 7. Applications for relief. 8. Granting of orders.

9. Unfinished business. 10. New business. 11. Adjournment. Vol. IV, p. 76, 1874, p. 183, 1875.

i. The Treasurer: (a) shall be elected for the term of one year at the April meeting of the Board. (b) Shall give an approved bond to the amount of five thousand dollars, the cost of said bond to be paid by the Board. (c) Shall receive a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum. (d) Shall deposit all moneys in a financial institution approved by the Board. (e) Shall make all deposits and draw all checks as "Treasurer of the Board of Ministerial Relief." (f) Shall have all checks countersigned by the President. (g) Shall report in full to each regular quarterly meeting of the Board.

ii. Investments: No investment or reinvestment of the permanent or endowment funds of the Board shall be made by the Treasurer without the written consent and approval of an advisory committee, consisting of two members, who shall be appointed at the first regular meeting of the Board each year, and whose term of office shall be one year.

iii. Auditors: Two auditors shall be appointed at the first regular meeting each year, who shall audit all letters containing remittances to the Board, and all the accounts of the Treasurer, and report quarterly to the Board.

iv. Securities: All securities of the Board shall be deposited by the Treasurer in an approved deposit company, subject to the order of the Board.

v. Advisory Committee: The Advisory Committee on Investment of Permanent Funds shall report at least annually to the Board as to the amount, nature and character of said investments. Vol. VIII, p. 721, 1895.

4. **Conditions of Grants to Beneficiaries.** 1. Grants to beneficiaries are made only on application of Presbytery. The Board reserves the right to accept or reject, or alter the amount as the state of the treasury, or other circumstances, warrant.

2. All moneys are remitted quarterly, in June, September, December and March.

3. Grants are made always for one year. Vol. V, p. 71, 1879. [For renewal, see above, under Reg. 2.]

5. **Presbyteries to Aid in the Work.** *Resolved*, 3. That Presbyteries be reminded of the importance of seeking out and reporting to the Board all requiring aid. Vol. VI, p. 17, 1884.

6. **Limitation of Grants.** *Resolved*, 3. That the Board be, and hereby is, instructed to limit the distribution of its funds to the objects designated in the charter. Vol. V, p. 361, 1881.

7. **Report of the Board.** *Resolved*, 2. That we request the Board to publish in their annual report, 1st, the number of disabled and dependent ministers; 2d, the number of dependent families; 3d, the whole amount each has received up to date, designating them by consecutive numbers; 4th, the whole amount disbursed to date; 5th, the amount of the endowment fund. Vol. VII, p. 216, 1889.

8. **Endowment Fund.** *Resolved*, 1. That the Assembly establish a permanent endowment fund, and aim, in the course of time, to increase it to the amount of \$50,000, including the amount already invested by the Board. Vol. IV, p. 448, 1877.

[The Assembly asked special donations for this fund. Vol. V, p. 26, 1879.] [The amount to be raised for the Endowment Fund was increased to \$100,000. Vol. VI, p. 678, 1887. This fund now amounts to \$92,000. Vol. VII, p. 706, 1891.]

9. **Mutual Aid Association.** [The Board of Ministerial Relief reported a plan for a Ministers' Mutual Aid Association. Vol. IV, p. 78, 1874. It was not adopted.]

10. **Changes in the Rules.** *Resolved*, 1. That the maximum annuity paid to beneficiaries be increased from \$200 to \$250.

2. That any honorary retired minister, who has reached the age of seventy years, and who has been engaged in the service of the United Presbyterian Church as a missionary of the Foreign, Home, or Freedmen's Board, or as a pastor or stated supply, for a period aggregating not less than thirty years, shall be entitled by such service to draw from the Board of Ministerial Relief, an annual sum for his support, without annual recommendation from his presbytery; that after due examination by the presbytery, it shall be the duty of the stated clerk of the presbytery to forward the application to the Board with his endorsement; and that then it shall be the duty of the Board to pay such applicant an annuity not exceeding \$250 during the remainder of his life, unless because of some change in his circumstances, the presbytery or the applicant himself shall otherwise direct, this sum being a substitute for the annuity allowed to ordinary beneficiaries.

3. That a standing committee of one or more, to be known as the Ministerial Relief Committee, shall be appointed by each presbytery whose duty it shall be to examine every application for aid, and report to the presbytery the result of such investigation.

4. That pastors and sessions be urged to put forth earnest efforts to increase the interest of the congregations of our Church in the work of this Board. Vol. X, p. 266, 1901.

Resolved, 4. That the class of life beneficiaries, established by the action of the Assembly of 1901, be so enlarged as to include any minister who may have served the Church in any important capacity and is in need. Vol. X, p. 856, 1903.

11. **Retirement Plan.** In order, therefore, to strengthen the Board of Ministerial Relief; to enable it to enlarge the scope of its benefits and to more effectively carry out the purpose for which it was organized, we recommend that the plan proposed by the Committee on Pastoral Settlements, amended in some minor details, which your committee has done, be incorporated in or appended to the rules and regulations of the Board.

1. In order to secure the full amount needed for such a fund, we recommend in addition to the present sources of supply, namely, donations, bequests, legacies, interest on moneys already invested, and appropriation by the General Assembly, that every minister in active work be required to contribute \$10 per annum, and every pastor and stated supply shall make an honest effort to have the congregation under his care contribute its full quota to this Board.

2. **Beneficiaries.** (a) All present beneficiaries of the Board of Ministerial Relief shall continue to enjoy these benefits as usual.

(b) Any other minister, incapacitated by the infirmities of age, or by permanent physical or mental disability, so that he cannot render active service, may be honorably retired by the Synod at the request of his own Presbytery, and shall then become a claimant on the funds to such an amount as the rules of the Board will allow. He shall be classified as a retired minister. The amount shall not exceed, in ordinary cases, the sum of \$10 per annum for each year of ministerial service in the United Presbyterian Church.

His widow shall receive three-fifths of the amount per annum that he received at the time of his death.

(c) Every orphan child of a deceased minister may receive not more than \$100 per annum until 16 years of age. When any such child has no natural guardian or protector, the Superintendent of Missions of the Presbytery in which said child resides, shall make such arrangement as may be deemed necessary to meet his or her circumstances and properly manage the grant.

(d) In case the claim shall exceed the income, each claimant shall be allowed a *pro rata* amount of the Funds contributed to the Board.

(e) Any minister leaving this denomination or who may be excommunicated, shall forfeit all claims upon these funds, but may receive what he has paid to the Board without interest. Vol. XII, p. 316, 1909.

The following recommendation was adopted:

4. We recommend the following as the amendment to section (b) of article II, as adopted by the General Assembly of 1909, concerning Ministerial Retirement Fund:

That in order to share in the benefits of the Retirement Fund, ministers now in regular standing in the United Presbyterian Church shall be required to begin payment into the same in accordance with the regulations already adopted, not later than July 1st, 1911.

Further, those entering our ministry shall be required, in order to share in the benefits of said Retirement Fund, to begin payments into the fund not later than three years after their entrance into the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church.

Further, Any minister now in regular standing in the United Presbyterian Church who shall fail to begin his payment into the fund prior to July 1st, 1911, or any one entering our ministry who shall fail to begin his payments into the fund within three years after his entrance into the ministry of the United Presbyterian Church, may afterward become a participant in the benefits of said fund by complying with the regulations governing the same but not to a greater amount annually than Ten Dollars multiplied by the number of years that he has paid into said fund, and

Further, That no minister shall be entitled to any portion of this Retirement Fund until he shall have made five annual payments to the said fund, except that in case a minister fails to make the five annual payments, upon his own request or request of his heirs endorsed by presbytery, the entire amount paid into the fund shall be refunded. Vol. XII, p. 624, 1910.

12. **Assistance Extended for Disabled Men Lay Missionaries.** *Resolved*, 5. That the Assembly authorize the Board of Ministerial Relief to extend its ministrations to disabled men lay missionaries under life appointment, or their families. Vol. XII, p. 631, 1910.

13. **Rules for Disbursement of Funds.** *Resolved*, 1. Ministers coming from other denominations shall render at least five years of service to our Church before their names or those of their widows or orphans may be placed upon the roll of beneficiaries.

2. A woman who marries a minister receiving aid from the Board shall be entitled, upon his death, to become a beneficiary, provided that such marriage shall have occurred at least five years prior to her husband's death.

3. No widow otherwise a beneficiary who may withdraw from the membership of our Church shall become ineligible as a beneficiary on account of such withdrawal, provided her application receive the endorsement both of the Presbytery within whose bounds she resides and the Board. Vol. XII, p. 934, 1911.

14. **Rules Applying to Ministers Coming From Other Denominations.** Ministers received from the following denominations—The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, The Presbyterian Church in the United States, The Reformed Presbyterian Church, The Reformed Church in the United States, The Reformed Church in America, The Associate Reformed Church, and The Presbyterian Church in Canada—may be placed upon the roll of this Board as beneficiaries upon the same conditions that govern our own ministers.

Ministers coming from denominations other than the Presbyterian family shall render at least five years of service to our Church before their names, or the names of their families, may be placed upon the roll of beneficiaries. Vol. XIII, p. 363, 1913.

17. **Annuity Fund.** The Board of Ministerial Relief submitted the following plan for a Ministerial Annuity Fund to the General Assembly of 1917:

In obedience to the direction of the last General Assembly, and in entire harmony with our thought that the Church ought to make larger provision for the retired minister and his dependent ones, your Board has given itself to the working out of a Pension Plan. We believe it to be equal to any of the plans of other Churches and within the reach of our United Presbyterian Church.

It is hereby submitted and is as follows:

First. That an Annuity Department of the Board of Ministerial Relief be created and operated under a separate charter to be obtained from the Court of Common Pleas under the Act of Assembly of April 29, 1874.

Second. That the name of the Fund be The Ministerial Annuity Fund of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

Third. That the purpose of the Fund be to provide and pay old-age and disability benefits to its members and death benefits to their families, the membership to be limited to ministers of the United Presbyterian Church of North America; regularly appointed and commissioned missionaries, both ordained and lay, of the Foreign, Home and Freedmen's Boards, and regularly appointed and commissioned lay missionaries of the Board of Publication, who have served the Board for at least ten years; and such other ecclesiastical workers of the Church as may be designated from time to time by the General Assembly.

Fourth. That the funds be provided by the rates and dues of the members, by contributions, gifts of individuals, churches, church societies and organizations, and from bequests or devise.

Fifth. That the benefits along the following lines be provided:

I. Old Age Annuity. 1. To the member, after coming to be 68 years of age, who has served the United Presbyterian Church at least thirty years:

(a) An annuity (provided for by his payments to the Fund) of \$100.

(b) An additional annuity as determined by the Board of Trustees, based on the contributions to the Fund received from the Churches and all other sources.

The total amount of this annuity as augmented by the aforesaid contributions to the Fund from the Churches and all other sources, may be increased to but shall not exceed, five hundred dollars (\$500).

2. To the member, after coming to be 68 years of age, who has served the United Presbyterian Church less than thirty years:

(a) An annuity (provided for by his payments to the Fund) of \$20, together with \$2.00 for each year of service to the United Presbyterian Church; but for the years between 20 and 29 inclusive there will be paid an additional amount as follows: For 20 years, \$1.00; for 21 years, \$2.00; and thereafter \$2.00 for each additional year of service until 29 years inclusive.

(b) An additional annuity as determined by the Board of Trustees, based on the contributions to the Fund received from the Churches and all other sources.

The total amount of this annuity as augmented by the aforesaid contributions to the Fund from the Churches and all other sources, may be increased to, but shall not exceed, one hundred dollars (\$100); together with \$10.00 for each year of service; plus five times the additional amounts provided for in the preceding paragraph (a), section 2, as applying to ministers serving from 20 to 29 years inclusive.

II. Disability Annuity. To the member becoming permanently disabled before the age of 63:

1. An annuity (provided for by his payments to this Fund) amounting

to \$20.00, together with \$2.00 for each year of service to the United Presbyterian Church over five years.

2. An additional annuity as determined by the Board of Trustees, based on the contributions to the Fund received from the Churches and all other sources.

The total amount of this annuity, as augmented by the aforesaid contributions to the Fund from the Churches and all other sources, may be increased to, but shall not exceed, one hundred dollars (\$100), together with \$10.00 for each year of service to the Church over five years. The total amount of the disability annuity shall in no case exceed five hundred dollars (\$500).

III. Widow's and Minor Children's Annuity. In case of the death of a member an annuity to the widow or minor children as follows:

1. For the widow, three-fifths of the annuity the husband was receiving; or if he died before the age of 68, then three-fifths of the disability annuity which he was receiving, or was entitled to receive, at the date of his death.

2. If the member leaves no widow but leaves minor children, three-fifths of the minister's annuity (as provided in the preceding section) will be equally divided among them, the share of each child ceasing when the child reaches the age of 21 or at its prior death, when the Fund will be relieved from all further claims for payment of the share paid to each of said children respectively.

3. In case of the widow's death or remarriage, the annuity theretofore paid to her will be paid to the minor children, if any, to be divided equally among them, subject to the limitations set forth in the preceding paragraph.

4. A widow and her children will not be entitled to the aforesaid annuity unless her marriage occurred during the member's years of active service, and before he had become an annuitant of the Fund.

From the above it will be noted that the annuity benefit paid for by the member is on the basis of \$100 of maximum annuity and the amount to be provided for by the Church at large is \$400, making a total of \$500.

Sixth. That members be allowed to take out additional units on the basis of \$100, without, however, giving them the right to participate in any additional benefits from the Church at large. By this plan, members desiring to provide for themselves an ultimate annuity of, say \$1,000, may provide for \$600 through their own payments and the additional amount of \$400 of annuity will ultimately be provided out of the church contributions and funds contributed for that purpose.

Seventh. In order to adequately launch this Fund we recommend the creation of a special fund of \$10,000 for the foundation and inauguration expenses, inasmuch as the contributions by the members, outside of the small portion provided in the rates for such purpose, cannot be used for expenses.

Eighth. In order to give the Fund stability and permanency and to assure its success, we recommend that an endowment fund be raised by special campaign amounting to \$500,000, the income from which to be used towards providing the additional annuities on the basis outlined above and towards the maintenance of the Fund, so that every man or woman joining will feel assured not only of the proper safeguarding of the funds which they themselves pay in as dues and the provision for the benefits purchasable by their dues, but also that they may feel that the Church stands solidly back of the plan and will provide the additional benefits contemplated under the plan.

Ninth. That this Annuity Fund be managed by a board of nine members chosen from the names of eligible persons presented to and approved by the General Assembly at its last annual meeting immediately preceding the annual meeting of the Fund, so that in so far as possible the Board of the Ministerial Relief Department and of the Annuity Fund be identical.

Tenth. That the amendments to the By-Laws of the Annuity Fund be valid only when they shall have been approved by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

Eleventh. That the Board of Ministerial Relief be constituted an Administrative Committee to put the Annuity plan into operation; administer such matters as may arise in connection with the inauguration of the Fund; to secure the requisite charter and to act with full authority until such time as the Board of the Annuity Fund shall have been duly constituted and empowered under its charter.

Twelfth. The schedule below shows the approximate annual premium to be paid by each member according to his age at the nearest birthday at the time of joining the Fund.

These rates will also apply where members take additional units as outlined in the sixth section.

AGE	ANNUAL	AGE	ANNUAL	AGE	ANNUAL
21	\$19.26	33	\$23.68	45	\$40.05
22	19.30	34	24.52	46	42.33
23	19.35	35	25.40	47	44.80
24	19.40	36	26.40	48	47.55
25	19.45	37	27.50	49	50.63
26	19.72	38	28.65	50	54.01
27	20.11	39	29.86	51	57.80
28	20.52	40	31.25	52	62.06
29	21.03	41	32.72	53	66.87
30	21.58	42	34.32	54	72.32
31	22.22	43	36.06	55	78.61
32	22.92	44	37.96		

For semi-annual premiums, add three per cent, and divide by two. For quarterly premiums, add six per cent, and divide by four. Vol. XIV, p. 289, 1917.

Resolved, 6. That the Annuity Department of the Board of Ministerial Relief, as submitted by the Board in its report (see above), be adopted and plans made to put the same in operation as soon as possible. Vol. XIV, p. 204, 1917.

The Annuity Fund was closed to new members October 1, 1928. Vol. XVII, p. 154, 1928.

18. *Pension Fund*. The Board of Ministerial Relief submitted to the General Assembly of 1928 the following plan for the Pension Fund:

I

THE AGE ANNUITY BENEFIT

1

How Age Annuity Benefits Are Determined and to Whom Paid

On and after attaining the age of sixty-five, upon retirement from active service, i.e., the relinquishment of any or all salaried relationship in connection with any service in the United Presbyterian Church of North America (hereafter referred to as the United Presbyterian Church) the members of the Pension Fund (hereafter referred to as the Pension Board) will grant to each member of the Fund an annuity equivalent to one-seventieth of the salary for each year of service during which the full members' and churches' payments have been made to the Fund by him and on his account after date of inauguration of Fund.

2

Minimum Annuity for Thirty-five Years of Service

If a member has been continuously in the service of the United Presbyterian Church since date of inauguration of the Fund and all of the members' and churches' payments have been made to the Fund by him and on his account, and he has served the United Presbyterian Church no less than thirty-five years, his annuity shall be at least six hundred dollars.

3

Minimum Annuity for Less Than Thirty-five Years of Service

If the service rendered as outlined in paragraph 2 is less than thirty-five years in the case of a member in service on (date of inauguration of the Fund), and the annuity earned by the yearly payments to the Fund by him and on his account does not amount to six hundred dollars it shall be increased by such proportional amount of the additional annuity as would have been required to bring the earned annuity up to the minimum outlined in paragraph 2 as the completed years of service bear to thirty-five years. In no case shall the additional annuity be provided unless the member shall have been ten years in the service of the United Presbyterian Church before retirement.

4

When Payments on an Annuity May Be Suspended

The Pension Board reserves the right to suspend the payment of an annuity if a member to whom an annuity has been granted resumes a salary relationship in connection with any service to the United Presbyterian Church.

5

Maximum Annuity

The Pension Board reserves the right to establish such a maximum annuity as shall be agreeable to sound actuarial practices, the maximum not to be less than two thousand dollars.

II

THE TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY ANNUITY BENEFIT

1

When Granted

Upon total and permanent disability occurring after one year of service under the Pension Plan and after one year's payments to the Fund by the member and on his account, and before reaching the minimum retirement age of sixty-five years, *provided*, that all payments due the fund by the member and on his account shall have been made, an annuity shall be granted to the member by the Pension Board.

2

Certification as to Disability

Total and permanent disability must be certified to by the medical authorities approved by the Pension Board, who shall have the right to call for proof of continued disability from time to time, but at intervals of not less than one year.

3

The Amount of the Disability Annuity

The full amount of the disability annuity shall be 40% of the average salary of the member during the last years of service up to five rendered under the plan, but in no case shall the disability annuity exceed 90% of the age annuity already earned or that would have been earned by the member on the basis of having continued in service up to age sixty-five on the average salary basis of the last years of service up to five rendered under the Plan.

The Pension Board shall have the right to limit the disability annuities granted to \$600 at the beginning of the operation of the Fund, and increase to the full amount at a later date as the experience and the resources may justify.

4

Transfer From Disability Annuity to Age Annuity

Should a disability annuitant attain the age of sixty-five years, the annuity shall be continued thereafter as an age annuity including such age annuity as may have been earned prior to disability.

5

Recovery From Disability

If it should turn out that the disability was not total and permanent and the disability annuitant should become able to resume active service, the disability annuity shall be terminated and payments to the Fund by the member and on his account resumed.

III

THE WIDOW'S ANNUITY BENEFIT

Annuity to the Widow of a Member

In the event of the death of a member, there shall be granted an annuity to the widow, which shall be one-half of the age annuity to which he would have been entitled at the time of his death, calculating his annuity on the basis of service rendered from the date of his marriage, if subsequent to the date of entering service, with a minimum of three hundred dollars (\$300.00), *provided*, that all the payments due the Fund by the member and on his account shall have been made, and that marriage took place before retirement.

The widow's annuity ceases upon death or remarriage.

IV

THE MINOR CHILDREN'S ANNUITY BENEFITS

1

Annuities to the Minor Children of a Deceased Member

In the event of the death of a member, *provided*, that all the payments due the Fund by the member and on his account shall have been made, there shall be granted annuities of \$100 each to the minor children of the member, payable to the mother or guardian on behalf of such minor children. Each minor child's annuity shall be payable until such child reaches the age of eighteen years, but at the discretion of the Pension Board may be continued thereafter as an educational allowance up to the age of twenty-one years, if such child is taking a course in some approved institution of learning.

2

Limitation of Annuities to the Minor Children

The widow's and the minor children's annuities, in the aggregate, shall not exceed the annuity which the member was receiving, or, to which he would have been entitled.

V

SALARY BASIS

The salary basis shall be the cash salary and other remuneration received by the minister or officer as such, plus 15% additional for free use of manse, if any.

If the minister receives salaries from more than one church, and a manse is furnished, the 15% shall be added to the cash salary paid by the church furnishing the manse.

VI

PAYMENTS TO THE PENSION FUND

1

Members' Payments

The yearly payment of the member shall be amounts equivalent to 2½% of the salary basis.

2

Churches' Payments

The yearly payment of the church or other salary paying organization (referred to herein as the church), shall be amounts equivalent to 7½% of the salary basis.

NOTE: Churches' payments should be regarded as items of congregational expense rather than benevolence.

3

How Payable

The payments of the member and of the church are due in monthly installments, in advance, during each year, payable direct to the Pension Fund.

4

Application of Members' Payments

All payments of each member shall be credited to his individual account and increased by interest additions to be applied towards providing an age annuity; or in event of prior death, toward providing a widow's annuity or other benefits. In no case shall the member or widow or other beneficiary receive less in benefits than the total amount of his payments to the Pension Fund.

5

Application of Churches' Payments

The churches' payments shall be administered on a group basis and applied towards providing the age, disability, widows' and minor children's annuity benefits supplementing the annuity benefits provided out of the member's payments. The churches' payments may be used to provide administrative expenses not otherwise provided for by other sources of income.

6

Return of Partial Payments

The Pension Board retains the privilege, if they do not have in their possession, at the close of each fiscal year, all of the payments due the Fund by the member and on his account, to return the parts of such payments made without interest to the source paying them. The pension system is not adjusted so that partial payments can be safely accepted.

VII

PAYMENT OF ANNUITIES

How Payable

The annuities shall be paid in monthly installments, in advance.

VIII

ELIGIBILITY FOR PENSION BENEFITS

1

Those Previously Retired

The pension benefits are not available for those who have retired from active service prior to (date of inauguration of the Fund).

2

Those in Active Service (Date of Inauguration of the Fund)

Those who are in active service on (date of inauguration of the Fund) are eligible for the full benefits outlined in the plan, including those based upon service rendered prior to (date of inauguration of the Fund), if before such date they, and their church, formally agree, in writing, to participate in the pension system, and the membership is consummated by making the payments due the Fund by the members and on his account during the first year of the operation of the Fund.

3

Those With Records of Prior Service But Who Have Not Qualified for Full Participation

Those who have records of service prior to (date of inauguration of the Fund) but who have not consummated membership in the pension system as outlined in paragraph 2, may enter membership at any time and receive pension benefits based upon service rendered thereafter.

4

Those Entering Service After (Date of Inauguration of Fund)

Those entering service after (date of inauguration of the Fund) shall enter the pension system as of the date of entering service and receive pension benefits based upon service rendered thereafter.

IX

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE PENSION FUND

The Pension Fund shall apply to ministers of the United Presbyterian Church devoting their lives to the service of the church; to missionaries of the Home and Foreign Boards; to teachers and administrators of Colleges;

and those serving other Agencies of the Church, whose qualifications and types of service are upon the same plane as that of the ministry.

The Pension Board shall be the final judge of qualifications and types of service.

Ministers of the United Presbyterian Church who are serving religious, welfare or educational Agencies or institutions, not classified as of the United Presbyterian Church are eligible as rendering detached service, upon a salary basis of \$1,200 or on other actual salary basis, according to the determination of the Pension Board in each classification.

X

RELATION TO THE PRESENT ANNUITY FUND

A.—The present Annuity Fund shall be closed to new members on October 1st, 1928.

B.—Those holding certificates of membership in the Annuity Fund shall have the privilege of keeping such membership by the payment of the regular dues and receiving benefits outlined under the plan, except that the provision for benefits upon withdrawal are hereby amended so that upon withdrawal from active membership in the Annuity Fund, the member shall be entitled to an amount equivalent to the total dues paid in by him, with interest at 4%, in lieu of all other benefits from the Annuity Fund.

C.—If membership in the Annuity Fund is carried, in addition to membership under the Pension Plan, such member shall be entitled to receive the earned annuity credits under the Pension Plan in addition to the annuity benefits provided through the Annuity Fund, with provision for minimum benefits such that any age annuity benefit provided on account of service rendered prior to (date of inauguration of the Fund) shall be inclusive in the churches' share of any annuity benefits granted on account of membership in the Annuity Fund, with the further provision that in any case the total disability annuity benefits from both Funds shall not exceed the total age annuity benefits to which the member would have been entitled.

XI

TERMINATION OF SERVICE

If the member withdraws from the service of the United Presbyterian Church he shall be entitled to receive as a withdrawal value the entire accumulations of his own payments, with interest, at a rate determined by the Board, but without further claim against the Fund for benefits of any kind.

XII

THE RIGHT TO ALTER AND AMEND

The Pension Board reserves the right to alter or amend, subject to the approval of the succeeding General Assembly, before such changes become effective, the benefits above outlined as they may find to be to the general advantage of the United Presbyterian Church and the general body of the members. Vol. XVII, p. 150, 1928.

Resolved, 2. That the Pension Plan as described in the report of the Board and the following program or schedule for putting it into operation be adopted:

The year following the Assembly of 1928, until the meeting of the Assembly of 1929, shall be employed by the Board in presenting the Pension Plan to the Church at large and in securing the agreement of both ministers and churches to enter the plan and make the

necessary payments. The assent of the majority of both ministers and churches is to be sought before putting the Plan into operation.

During the year following the Assembly of 1929, until the Assembly of 1930, there shall be a Church-wide campaign to secure the pledging of a fund of \$1,500,000 for financing prior service obligations, payment to the pledges to cover three years.

The Pension Plan to be put in operation as soon as practicable after the reporting to the General Assembly of 1930 of the raising of the \$1,500,000 Fund.

3. That the request of the Board be granted, that, in order that its name may more fully state the interests committed to it, the name be changed from the Board of Ministerial Relief of the United Presbyterian Church of North America to the Board of Ministerial Pensions and Relief of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and that the Board be authorized to secure the necessary amendments to its charter to make this change effective.

4. That the Memorial from Cleveland Presbytery concerning the relocation of the Board be not granted. It is our conviction that, whatever may have been the action of last year's General Assembly, it would be extremely unwise at this time to make such a change. The proposed Pension Plan can be most advantageously pushed to completion by those who have so carefully worked it out and planned it thus far. Vol. XVII, p. 21, 1928.

The following recommendations were adopted:

We recommend that the request of the Board be granted, and that the Pension Fund be put in operation as of April 1st, 1930, subject to the following provisions: The members' payments (2½%) and the Church's payments (7½%) which are due in monthly installments in advance, shall be payable from April 1st, 1930; and the Annuity payments in monthly installments shall be effective from April 1, 1930, to those who become eligible to receive them.

We recommend that, in view of the fact that the cash paid in and the subscriptions to the prior service fund have not reached the goal of \$1,500,000, and the Board is not in position to put the fund in operation with the minimum annuity benefits provided in the Plan—that is, age annuity of \$600, disability of \$800, and the widow's annuity of \$300—all subject to the provisions outlined in the Plan as to service and payments; but that on the basis of cash payments and pledges to the prior service fund aggregating \$800,000 minimum benefits be established as follows: Age annuity of \$400, disability annuity of \$400, and widow's annuity of \$200, subject to the provisions of the Plan as to service and members' and churches' payments.

We recommend that the General Assembly authorize the Board to continue its appeal for contributions and subscriptions to the prior service fund so as to complete it at the earliest possible date, and that it be authorized to make this appeal to any and all members of the United Presbyterian Church.

We recommend that the Board be authorized to increase the minimum annuity payments, above specified, from time to time as the additional contributions and subscriptions to the Prior Service Fund may justify.

Concerning the Memorials referred to this Committee from the presbyteries of Argyle, Mansfield and Rock Island, we recommend that the first part of the memorial from Mansfield Presbytery, requesting the payment of pension benefits at age 65 without retirement, be denied, as it would destroy the actuarial soundness of the Plan. The second part of said memorial is covered by the recommendation of the Board in reply to a memorial from Wheeling Presbytery referred to it by last Assembly. We recommend, therefore, that the General Assembly approve the Plan of beginning age annuities before retirement on the following conditions:

A member having attained the age of 65 may be granted his age annuity in whole or in part if he becomes pastor or stated supply of a congregation where the salary basis is less than the salary basis which he is giving up, *provided* that the total salary and age annuity do not exceed the salary basis given up, nor \$2,000; payment to the Pension Fund of the 7½% by the congregation and the 2½% by the member to be made on the salary basis paid by the congregation.

This special authorization and the recommendations of the Board relating to it from time to time shall be subject to review by the General Assembly.

In regard to Memorials from Rock Island and Argyle Presbyteries requesting extension of time for entrance to the Fund in order to be eligible to the supplemental amount from the prior service fund and the full pension benefits from the inauguration of the Plan, we recommend:

That the Board be authorized to grant full pension benefits to ministers and churches which before the Assembly of 1931 agree in writing to participate and pay the dues from the inauguration of the Fund, April 1st, 1930. Vol. XVII, p. 644, 1930.

19. **Foreign Missionaries to Participate in the Pension Fund.** 7. We approve the action of the Board of Foreign Missions in its decision to participate in the new Pension Plan on behalf of the missionaries and paid officers of the Board if and when this Plan is put into operation by action of the Assembly. Vol. XVII, p. 347, 1929.

20. **Reciprocal Agreement With the Presbyterian Service Pension Fund.** The following agreement was ratified by the General Assembly:

A reciprocal agreement has been arranged with the Service Pension Fund of the Presbyterian Church U. S. A., and has been approved by the respective Boards and is now presented for ratification by the General Assembly:

Whereas, Ministers are frequently called from the service of one of the churches of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. into the service of one of the churches of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and vice versa,

And *Whereas*, Without some adjustment of the pension relationships of the two Churches, this interchange of service might work not only hardship, but great injustice to many brethren,

THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT is made between the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. and the Board of Ministerial Pensions and Relief of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, to the effect that hereafter, this is to say, immediately upon the ratification of this agreement or understanding by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., and the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America:

(1) When the holder of a certificate in the Sustentation Department of the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. transfers to the service of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, he shall be entitled to the same withdrawal values which he would have enjoyed if he had withdrawn from the Sustentation Department, but remained in the service of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.

(2) When the holder of a certificate in the Annuity Fund of the United Presbyterian Church of North America transfers to the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., he shall be entitled to the same withdrawal values which he would have enjoyed if he had withdrawn from the Annuity Fund, but remained in the service of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

(3) When a participant in the Service Pension Plan of the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. transfers his ministerial standing to the United Presbyterian Church of North America, he shall have the privilege of leaving the accumulations of his own payments of the 2½% dues with the Service Pension Plan, and of retaining thereby credit for all pension credits earned on account of service rendered up to the date of the transfer of his ministerial standing.

(4) When a participant in the Pension Fund of the United Presbyterian Church of North America transfers his ministerial standing to the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., he shall have the privilege of leaving the accumulations of his own payments of the 2½% dues with the Pension Fund and of retaining thereby credit for all pension credits earned on account of service rendered up to the date of the transfer of his ministerial standing.

(5) It is understood and agreed that nothing in this agreement shall be construed to be retroactive so far as any minister or missionary is concerned who is now receiving a pension, or an annuity from either of the parties to this agreement and that it is only to apply, and to be construed as applying, from and after January 1st, 1931, and subject to the approval of the two General Assemblies.

(6) This agreement shall continue in operation, subject to amendment by mutual agreement between said Boards, or to termination, on a year's notice by one of said Boards to the other, with the proviso, however, that the interests of any member who has, during the operation of the agreement, transferred his ministerial standing from one of the churches to the other shall in no wise be affected by the termination of this agreement. Vol. XVII, pp. 923, 1034, 1931.

21. **Pension Clause in the Call of a Pastor.** The Assembly of 1938 submitted to the Presbyteries an Overture to amend the Form for the Call of a Pastor by inserting "and the payment of an amount equal to seven and one-half per cent of the salary in monthly or quarterly payments to the Pension Fund." Vol. XIX, p. 640, 1938.

The following recommendation was adopted:

Since there is a clear majority in favor of the overture, we recommend that the General Assembly declare its enactment as part of the Constitutional law of the Church. Vol. XIX, p. 963, 1939.

LXXI. MINISTERS

1. **Ministers From Other Churches.** (The following overture was submitted to the Presbyteries): Presbyteries shall carefully examine as to their doctrinal views all ministers and licentiates from other denominations applying for admission to this Church, and they shall subject those admitted from foreign Churches to a probation of not less than six months, previous to their settlement over any congregation. Vol. I, p. 358, 1862.

The vote on this Overture was: Ayes, 411; nays, 56; not voting, 7. Vol. I, p. 490, 1863.

No action was taken by the General Assembly, except the record of the vote. The rule does not appear in the Book of Government subsequently adopted.

For action on Ministers coming from other Churches and their participation in the funds of the Board of Ministerial Pensions and Relief consult article under this Board in Chapter LXX.

2. **Ministers Supplying in Vacancies.** *Resolved*, 2. That Ministers and

Licentiates be and hereby are forbidden to make any arrangements with congregations for preaching, except through the Presbytery under whose care such congregations may be. Vol. IV, p. 339, 1876.

5. That sessions of vacant congregations, in seeking to have their pulpits filled, together with ministers and probationers desiring employment or settlement, be directed to apply to the respective Presbyteries to have their services supplied, and also to conform to the rules of the General Assembly respecting Home Mission work. Vol. V, p. 20, 1879.

3. **Rights of Unemployed Ministers.** (The Presbytery of Keokuk asked for a rule that only ministers actually engaged in the work of the ministry be counted in the basis of representation in the Assembly. The Assembly took the following action): The rights and privileges, pertaining to the ministerial office are not founded on the exercise of that office. By ordination to the office of the ministry, authority to govern as well as to teach is conferred. The non-exercise of the right to teach does not in any way affect the right to govern. Vol. IV, p. 440, 1877.

4. **Increase of the Number of Ministers.** The Directors of the Allegheny Theological Seminary asked the Assembly to take steps looking to the increase of the ministry. A committee was appointed to have charge of this matter for the coming year, and to report to the next Assembly. The committee reported that a letter to the churches has been prepared and published in the Church papers, and, subsequently, by the Allegheny Seminary. Vol. VII, p. 215, 1889; p. 502, 1890.

Resolved, That we urge upon parents and pastors throughout the Church to use wise endeavors to turn the promising young men into the ranks of the ministry. Vol. VII, p. 460, 1890.

5. That ministers and elders, and especially our college professors, be urged to press upon young men the claims of God upon them for the work of the Gospel ministry. Vol. VII, p. 635, 1891.

The following recommendation was adopted:

II. In reply to the memorials looking toward a suitable, sufficient and efficient ministry we recommend that the Assembly appoint a Commission consisting of seven members to investigate the problem of an adequate supply of men for the ministry and an adequate support of men in the ministry and of the ministry in their old age. This Commission shall have authority to make such investigation of the personnel of the faculties, the curricula, and the methods of conducting the colleges and theological seminaries of the Church as may seem advisable. Its expenses shall be paid by the General Assembly on the warrant of the Principal Clerk. It shall report to the General Assembly of 1912 and shall publish its report or the substance of it at least thirty days before the meeting of the General Assembly. It is authorized to prepare and send out to pastors in the name of the General Assembly a letter urging them to make definite and persistent effort to lead young men into the work of the ministry. Vol. XII, p. 950, 1911.

For the findings of the Commission provided for in the above action see Vol. XIII, pp. 169-180, 1912.

The following recommendations on Recruiting for the Ministry were adopted:

1. That the United Presbyterian Church be called to pray earnestly and unceasingly to the Lord of the Harvest to thrust forth young men into the ministry from the homes of our Church.

2. That the parents of our Church be urged to present prayerfully, expectantly and intelligently to their sons the Christian ministry as a life investment and work.

3. That all of our pastors be asked to preach at least once a year on the claims of the ministry. That they seek out likely young men whom they may

influence by personal effort to enter the ministry. That they inform themselves, through the Board of Education and college authorities, as to the possibilities of young men of limited means securing the necessary college training.

4. That where Presbyteries have not done so, they appoint Presbyterial Committees on Recruiting Men for the Ministry, and that all such Committees be urged to use all resources and opportunities at their command in functioning.

5. That the Bible Chairs of our colleges be requested through the proper authorities to consider Recruiting for the Ministry an important part of their task.

6. That an effort be made to unify the efforts of the various agencies of our Church now visiting our colleges in the interest of Christian service so as to systematize and harmonize and make more logical and effective their appeal to young men. Vol. XV, p. 573, 1922.

5. **Ministers in Secular Pursuits.** [The Garnet Presbytery asked that the law of the Church be so amended as to exclude ministers who are devoted to secular pursuits from the right to vote in cases of discipline. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Desirable as this change may appear, we yet think that ministers, who are in good standing, cannot with propriety be deprived of this right. As long as they have the right to preach, they have, according to Presbyterianism, (which we hold to be the law of Christ,) a right to rule, and this includes the right to vote in cases of discipline. Vol. VII, p. 15, 1888.

6. **Inefficient Ministers May Be Removed.** *Resolved*, 5. That * * * Presbyteries be earnestly requested to exercise a more watchful care over the churches and promptly remove ministers or elders when it is known that congregations are declining because of their inefficiency. Vol. VII, p. 640, 1891.

7. **Record of Deceased Ministers.** *Resolved*, 3. That a brief record of deceased ministers be preserved in the minutes of the Assembly in suitable tabular form. Vol. IV, p. 171, 1875.

Resolved, 2. That the record of ministers deceased be published in the minutes from year to year. Vol. IV, p. 585, 1878.

Resolved, 3. That the report of the Permanent Committee on Narrative shall give, in statistical form, an account of the deceased brethren as to parentage, time and place of birth and death, collegiate and theological education, their places of labor and kind of employment, etc., etc. Vol. V, p. 359, 1881.

8. **Memorial Service for Deceased Ministers.** *Resolved*, 2. That the Permanent Committee [on Narrative] be instructed to carry out the arrangement for a memorial service, [viz.: That a memorial service for the dead be held each General Assembly under the direction of the chairman of the Committee on Narrative and State of Religion.] Vol. V, pp. 188, 242, 1880.

[The first Friday evening after the meeting of each Assembly, was set apart for the memorial services. Vol. V, p. 359, 1881. This service has not been held uniformly at this time.]

MEMORIAL ADDRESS. We recommend the adoption of a permanent rule, that the officers of the Assembly appoint the person to deliver the Memorial Address. Vol. VIII, p. 276, 1893.

9. **Ordination of Ministers.** Laying on of hands by ruling elders. [The Presbytery of Steubenville asked the deliverance on the following question: "Is the imposition of hands by ruling elders in the ordination of ministers required or permitted in our Book of Government?" The General Assembly adopted the following]:

In our judgment, ordination is valid in the case of ministers only as authorized by Presbytery in constituted capacity.

When so authorized, its administration by the imposition of hands is technically the act of Presbytery, if performed only by the presiding officer in the name and as the exponent of Presbytery.

This appears involved in a strict construction of Book of Government, Part II, Chapter 6, Article 2, Section 7, which also expressly points to a minister as the officer to preside on the occasion; as though in recognition of Part I, Chapter 4, Article 2, which directly imputes to "teaching elders" the power of ordination, and specifies for them a duty to "ordain successors."

Moreover, our Book, Part I, Chapter 5, Article 2, Section 5, indicates a Presbytery to be duly constituted if composed only of three ministers, and hence competent, without a ruling elder, to authorize and to administer ordination.

It is therefore respectfully submitted, that the imposition of hands on the part of elders not teaching is not required for the ordination of ministers, and as it is not required, and especially in view of the omission from the Book of any indication of such prerogative as pertaining to elders of the second rank, it is technically to be regarded as not permitted. Vol. V, p. 17, 1879.

The General Assembly of 1935 submitted an Overture to the Presbyteries on amending the Book of Government and Directory of Worship in the requirements for licensure and for ordination.

The vote on this Overture as reported to the General Assembly of 1936 was: Ayes, 1,161; nays, 47. On the amendment on ordination the vote was unanimous. The Overture was declared to have carried and was enacted by the Assembly.

The amendment on requirements for ordination made to Chapter IX, Section 145, reads: "He shall be required to present the following exercises: Two sermons (one of which shall be a lecture) on passages of Scripture assigned to him, a critical exegesis of a passage of Scripture and a doctrinal thesis." Vol. XVIII, p. 947, 1935; Vol. XIX, p. 28, 1936.

10. **A Record of the Ordination of Ministers.** *Resolved*, 8. That the second clerk be directed to collect, in such way as he may judge best, statistics to show the date of ordination of each minister in the Church, and the name of the Presbytery in which he was ordained, and report the same to the next Assembly. Vol. III, p. 137, 1870.

[This record was prepared and published with the Alphabetical List of Ministers in the Minutes of the General Assembly.]

Resolved, That the Second Clerk be instructed to publish the record of ordinations once in each volume of the Minutes. Vol. IV, p. 584, 1878.

11. **Withdrawal from the Ministry.** [The Presbytery of Butler submitted to the Assembly the following question: "A Gospel minister in good standing feels that it is the Master's will that he should withdraw from the active ministry and engage in some secular occupation. What steps should Presbytery take in order to enable him to do so and remove his name from the roll?"]

The memorial was referred to the Committee on Judiciary, which submitted a report, Vol. III, p. 233, 1889. After partial action the memorial was referred to a committee, to report to the next Assembly. This committee reported, Vol. VII, p. 500, 1890. After discussion, the paper was referred to a special committee, p. 405, 1890. The report presented by this special committee, p. 435, 1890, was referred to the next Assembly. When this report was taken up by the following Assembly, a substitute was entertained and adopted. It is as follows]:

On the subject of the Demission of the Ministry, which was brought before the Assembly of 1889, by the Presbytery of Butler, the following is the judgment of the Assembly:

I. Every one, who rightfully occupies the ministerial office, has been called to that position by the voice of Christ, the King and Head of the Church, Rom. x. 15, and Heb. v. 4. Ordination by a Presbytery is an official act, done in the name of Christ, setting a man apart to the office to which, it is judged, the Lord has called him.

The evidences on which a Presbytery bases its judgment as to a man's call to the ministry are mainly the possession of natural, acquired, and gracious endowments fitting him for the office; leadings of Providence guiding him in that direction, and a persuasion apparently wrought in the man's soul by the Spirit of the Lord that he is called of God to this office. It is quite possible that an applicant for ordination should be mistaken in his conviction concerning the call of the Lord, and a Presbytery may also be mistaken in its judgment of the matter, so that a man may come into the ministry by the mistakes of men and not by the will of God. When experience has made such a mistake apparent, it is plainly the duty of Presbytery to undo it by annulling the act of ordination and releasing the man from his office.

II. There may be cases where a man has been called by the Lord into the ministry for a time, but has been laid aside by some providence intervening, which unfits him entirely and permanently for the duties of his office, but leaves him with ability to serve the Lord in other ways. It would appear to be clearly the will of the Master, in such cases, that the man should be released from his office that he may be free to serve the Lord in those duties for which he is capable. In such cases the minister should himself ask to be released, but it is competent to the Presbytery to take the initiative if he does not. In this latter case the Presbytery should not take final action in releasing the minister without first obtaining his consent. These cases, however, are to be carefully distinguished from those where old age or other infirmities have partially or entirely rendered a minister unable for the duties of his office. It is evidently the will of the Lord that such servants of his should retain their office to the end of life, although unable to discharge the active duties of it.

III. There are, no doubt, instances where a man has been called and set apart to the ministry by the will of God but who, through neglect to cultivate his talents, or by yielding to the allurements of the world, has grown weary of his sacred office and desires to be released from his ordination vows. If a Presbytery should grant him such release without censure, it would be to become partaker of his sin. It is the duty of Presbytery in such cases to endeavor to reclaim the man to the path of duty, or, if failing in that, to inflict upon him the censures of the Church. Vol. VII, p. 630, 1891.

NOTE: Consult the Book of Government and Directory of Worship, Sections 162 and 163.

12. **Reading Sermons.** *Resolved*, That the Assembly expresses its decided disapprobation of this practice. Vol. II, p. 309, 1866.

13. **Presbyteries to Be Careful to Exercise Discipline.** *Resolved*, That this Assembly urge the presbyteries of the Church to be more careful and faithful in the exercise of discipline and in guarding congregations from the ministry of those whose influence might be injurious. Vol. XI, p. 873, 1907.

14. **Requirement of Ministers Leaving the Denomination.** *Resolved* 7, That presbyteries be instructed to exercise greater care in dismissing to other denominations men who have outstanding obligations to the Board, in every case notifying the Board of such contemplated action, and issuing letters of dismissal only when informed that there are no such obligations, or that they have been met to the satisfaction of the Board. Vol. XII, p. 937, 1911.

The General Assembly of 1914 adopted a resolution that repayment to

the Board of Education by ministers leaving the denomination be not required if the minister has given ten years of service to the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. XIII, p. 713, 1914.

The presbyteries were charged by the Assembly of 1941 to be careful in withholding of certificates of transfer from ministers joining other denominations until actually assured that these men have discharged the ten years of service they promised in case they were recipients of aid from the Board of Education during their seminary careers; or have made satisfactory adjustment with the Board of Education of such indebtedness. Vol. XX, p. 340, 1941.

15. Lay Workers May Not Exercise the Offices of the Ministry. The Presbytery of Pittsburg memorialized the Assembly to grant to Sabbath School lay workers the privilege to examine and receive members into the Church, administer baptism, perform wedding ceremonies and such other ministerial duties as the exigencies of the field may require.

Resolved, That the memorial be not granted. Vol. XIV, p. 36, 1916.

16. Emergency Call for the Services of Consecrated Laymen. 2. We view with alarm the shortage of ministers caused by the war and we recognize that the number of our vacancies will be greatly increased this coming year. We consider that this is a call from God to use more largely than we have the consecrated laymen who have gifts that hitherto have not been exercised. The Church must call them into more active service in supplying our vacant congregations. In answer to the Memorial of Xenia Seminary we recommend that the Assembly appoint an Emergency Supply Commission of fifteen members whose duty it shall be to exercise the spiritual authority of the Church in calling out such consecrated laymen and directing them to the places of work where they are so sorely needed, and that the National Service Commission be directed to finance the expense of this Commission to a sum not exceeding \$500. Vol. XIV, p. 455, 1918.

17. Ministers Receiving Calls to Reply Within Three Weeks. *Resolved*, 5. That any minister receiving a call from a congregation to become its pastor should ordinarily give his reply within three weeks from the time of the action taken by the congregation. Vol. XIV, p. 725, 1919.

18. Women May Not Be Ordained to the Ministry. 2. With regard to the Memorial from Cleveland Presbytery your Committee reports that there is no constitutional law of the Church providing for the ordination of women to the office of the gospel ministry, therefore, we recommend that the Memorial be not granted. Vol. XV, p. 40, 1920.

19. Protest Against Caricatures of the Ministry. Two Memorials are presented dealing with the same subject, one Memorial from the First Presbytery of Ohio and the other from Cleveland Presbytery. Both call attention to the ridiculing, caricaturing, and misrepresenting of the Christian ministry and Christian institutions by the owners and controllers of moving picture theaters, and the other Memorial includes mention of the frequent ignoring of the Church by the press, while a fair savoring of scandal is given wide publicity. Both Presbyteries Memorialize the Assembly to protest against the practice and to co-operate with other denominations to suppress this wrong.

Your Committee recommends that the recommendations of the Memorials be adopted, and that the Moderator of the Assembly appoint a Committee, or that a Committee be nominated by the Committee on Nominations, to voice to the Associated Press, the United Press, and other news-gathering agencies the protest of the Church against this attitude on the part of the press and the moving picture interests.

We recommend further, that this Committee urge on other denominations the appointment of similar committees, and that our Committee co-operate with other such committees for the suppression of this practice.

We recommend further, that pastors of our Church be urged to have the protest as voiced by our Committee printed in their local papers. Vol. XV, p. 296, 1921.

20. **Candidates for the Ministry to Have Full College Course.** The following action on a memorial from the Board of Directors of Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary was adopted:

That this General Assembly take action instructing the presbyteries of the Church not to accept as candidates for the ministry any applicants who have not had a full college course in a proper institution and instructing the Faculty of the Seminary to follow this rule in their enrollment of students. Vol. XVIII, p. 41, 1932.

21. **In Ordination of Ministers Ruling Elders May Lay on Hands.** To a memorial from Butler Presbytery the following answer was given:

Considering:

(1) That the ordination of a minister is by "the laying on of hands of the Presbytery";

(2) That the Presbytery consists of ministers of the Word and ruling elders;

(3) That in government and administration the ruling elder is the equal of the minister of the Word;

(4) That the Book of Government specifically mentions ordination as one of the associate duties of the minister, to be performed "together with the ruling elders."

Your committee recommends that the Assembly reply to the aforesaid Memorial that in the ordination of the ministers of the Word ruling elders should participate in the laying on of the hands. Vol. XIX, p. 341, 1937.

The above interpretation was confirmed by the Assembly of 1938. Vol. XIX, p. 644, 1938.

LXXII. MISSIONARY AND EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE

NOTE: See Chapter II, Administration, 5, II. Vol. XVII, p. 944, 1931.

LXXIII. MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. Authorized to Fill Vacancies

Resolved, 4. That the Moderator be authorized to fill all vacancies in permanent and special committees that may occur after the meeting of the General Assembly. Vol. XI, p. 557, 1906.

2. To Arrange Devotional Exercises

Resolved, 2. That the Committee on Devotional Exercises be abolished, and the arrangement of the religious exercises of the General Assembly committed to the Moderator. Vol. XI, p. 556, 1906.

3. To Serve in Leadership During the Year

Resolved, That our Moderator co-operate in so far as possible in the evangelistic and missionary conferences, authorized by this Assembly, thus coming in direct touch with large numbers of our people. Vol. XIII, p. 50, 1912.

Inasmuch as we recognize the great opportunity of the Moderator of the General Assembly for spiritual leadership in the entire Church throughout the year,

Resolved, 1. That we commend the course followed by the retiring Moderator, Dr. Bell, in magnifying his office by using it to encourage the Church activities and deepen the spiritual life during his term of office.

2. That, recognizing the peculiar fitness of our present Moderator for such leadership, we urge him to follow such courses as he may deem wise

for the great interests of the Kingdom, and we commend him and his services to the entire Church. Vol. XIII, p. 384, 1913.

4. **As a Commissioner to the Following General Assembly**

Resolved, That hereafter each Presbytery from whose membership has been chosen a Moderator of the General Assembly, is hereby recommended to choose him as a commissioner to the next succeeding Assembly. Vol. XVI, p. 624, 1926.

5. **To Confirm Certain Elections**

(1) **Synodical Superintendents of Missions.** The Assembly took the action empowering its Moderator to confirm the election of Synodical Superintendents of Missions nominated by Synods. Vol. XIX, p. 342, 1937.

(2) **Directors of Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary.** In answer to the question relative to the power of the Moderator of the General Assembly to confirm and declare elected Synodical nominees to the Board of Directors of Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary, your Judiciary Committee advises that the Assembly may delegate to its Moderator power to confirm and declare elected such nominees. Vol. XIX, p. 34, 1936.

The Assembly delegated to its Moderator the power to confirm and declare elected the nominees of the various Synods as members of the Board of Directors of Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary. Vol. XIX, p. 54, 1936.

LXXIV. MOUNTAIN WORK

1. **Undertaken in 1905.** The following recommendation was adopted:

We also recommend that our Church do her part in the interdenominational effort to evangelize the Mountain Whites.

NOTE: The work was to be begun during the summer. Vol. XI, p. 290, 1905.

2. **Women's Board to Co-operate With the Board of Home Missions.** *Resolved*, That we commend the spirit and enterprise of the Women's General Missionary Society, and authorize the said society to co-operate with the Home Board in work among the Mountaineers of the South; and, in case the Home Board is unable to prosecute the work, the Women's General Missionary Society be empowered to take it up. Vol. XI, p. 870, 1907.

3. **A Commission to Organize.** 5. In answer to the memorial from the Home Mission Board relative to the appointment of a commission control over the Mountaineer work of the Home Mission Board, we recommend,

That, inasmuch as the Mountaineer work is far removed from any of the organized presbyteries of our Church, and by reason of certain difficulties which exist under present conditions in the organization of congregations and the ordination of elders and missionaries; and inasmuch as the exercise of Presbyterial control is necessary in the conduct of that work on the field, the Second Synod be and is hereby directed to appoint a commission with power to license men to preach, to ordain ministers, to organize congregations and ordain elders, and to transact such other presbyterial business as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the work; said commission to be constituted as far as possible from missionaries in the Mountaineer work and to act with the concurrent advice and counsel of the Board of Home Missions. Vol. XIII, p. 724, 1914.

4. **Name Changed to Mountain People.** On the memorial from the First Ohio Presbytery, your Committee recommends that the request for the change of the word Mountaineer to Mountain People in the designation of the work among the mountain people of the South be granted. Vol. XIII, p. 1033, 1915.

10. The work in the mountain region of the Southland shall hereafter be known as "Mountain Work," and the commission in charge as the "Commission on Mountain Work." Vol. XIII, p. 1088, 1915.

LXXV. NATIONAL REFORM

1. **Religious Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.** *Resolved*, That we lament that there is not more distinct and full recognition of the existence of God, and the supremacy of His law, as revealed in the Scriptures, in our national constitution than it contains; that an amendment introducing a becoming recognition of God into it, at least the preamble or adopting act of the constitution, is much to be desired; and that we instruct our people that it is their duty, as Christian citizens, to favor and co-operate with every legitimate effort that may be made for this end. Vol. I, p. 498, 1863.

Resolved, 1. That, in the judgment of this Assembly, it is desirable, and a duty, that the constitution of the United States be so amended as to recognize the supremacy of God and His law, and of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in His character as the Governor of the nations.

2. That it be recommended by this Assembly to the ministers and other members of the United Presbyterian Church to co-operate in all proper measures with their fellow citizens for amending the constitution of the United States, so as to secure the accomplishment of this important end. Vol. II, p. 28, 1864.

Resolved, 1. That we cordially sympathize with that movement which has for its object such an amendment of our national constitution that it shall contain a distinct recognition of the true God; an acknowledgment of Jesus Christ as the Ruler of the nations; and the supreme authority of the sacred Scriptures.

2. That we recommend to all the members of the United Presbyterian Church to co-operate in all proper effort to secure the accomplishment of this desirable object. Vol. II, p. 493, 1868.

Whereas, God is the supreme source of civil authority, and his law as revealed, not only by the light of nature in reason and conscience, but also as more clearly revealed in the Scriptures, is the fundamental rule by which nations are to be guided in the conduct of their civil affairs; and, *whereas*, it pleased God in His eternal purpose to choose and ordain the Lord Jesus, His only begotten Son, to be the heir of all things, and Judge of the world, by virtue of which appointment He exercises a dominion over all created persons and things, which dominion all intelligent beings, to whom he has been revealed, are bound to acknowledge in their respective stations and relations; and, *whereas*, the constitution of the United States contains no explicit recognition of God, or of the supremacy of His law, or of subjection of the nation to the Lord Jesus Christ; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this omission, whether due to oversight or intention, is a serious defect in that otherwise excellent instrument, and one which should, by legal and constitutional means, be removed.

2. That the removal of this defect from our fundamental law is necessary to harmonize it with the Christian laws and usages of our people.

3. That the want of harmony between the principles on which our State constitutions and laws are founded, and those which underlie the constitution of the United States, cannot continue. The result will be and the nature of things must be, that our laws will be brought down to the level of the constitution, or the constitution will be elevated to the plane of our Christian legislation. Vol. V, p. 201, 1880.

Resolved, 2. That we commend the work of the National Reform Association to the sympathy and support of the members of our Church. Vol. V, p. 714, 1883.

Resolved, 1. That the various utterances of former Assemblies, relating to National Reform, be reaffirmed. Vol. VI, p. 432, 1886.

Resolved, 2. That pastors be recommended to keep this reform before

our people, and to afford opportunities for the presentation of this cause by the district secretaries, and to ask for it the liberal contributions of their congregations. Vol. VI, p. 675, 1887.

Resolved, 1. That we endorse and commend the National Reform movement, the aim of which is to secure a national acknowledgment of Almighty God as the source of all authority in civil government, of the Lord Jesus Christ as the Ruler of nations, and of his revealed will as the supreme standard by which to decide all moral issues in national life, and to place all the Christian laws, institutions and usages of the government upon an undeniably legal basis in the fundamental law of the land. Vol. VII, p. 422, 1890.

On a petition from the Secretary of the National Reform Association in behalf of the recognition of Christ and the Bible by political parties, etc.:

Resolved, That the petition be granted, and that it be signed by the Moderator and Clerk and returned to the petitioner. Vol. VII, p. 631, 1891.

Resolved, 1. That the aims of the National Reform Association meet our hearty approval, and that we commend it to the cordial support, both moral and financial, of the congregations under our care. Vol. VIII, p. 249, 1893.

3. That we commend the National Reform Association for the work of bringing the Christian Amendment before Congress during the past year. Vol. VIII, pp. 488, 489, 1894.

LXXVI. NEGROES

See Board of American Missions, CHAPTER VI

LXXVII. NEW WORLD MOVEMENT

1. Instituted on the Recommendation of the Missionary and Efficiency Committee as "The United Presbyterian Forward Movement," Adopted by the General Assembly:

We Therefore Call the United Presbyterian Church to a Forward Movement which shall mean the surrender of both life's personality and possessions to the high calling of Christian Stewardship and the laying of these humbly at the feet of the Master.

We ask the Assembly to give formal approval and indorsement to such a movement in its general features and to urge the Church to lend itself without limit or reservation to the fulfilment of what we believe is the clear and impelling voice of the Providence of God in this matter.

- I. Let this Movement bear the name of "The United Presbyterian Forward Movement."
- II. Let the intent of it be the effort, by the infinite help of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit, to go forward at once, and as rapidly as He shall lead, to the accomplishment of a Forward Movement in every department and field of our Church's activity.
- III. Let the scope of the Movement encompass a definite call to the Church to respond to the opportunities presented in the plans and undertakings of the leaders in the Church's missionary and educational agencies.

Details of the Plan follow. Vol. XIV, pp. 440-443, 1918.

On recommendation of a Special Committee the General Assembly adopted the following:

In answer to the Memorial on the Forward Movement presented to the General Assembly by the Secretaries of the Boards, and referred by you to the undersigned Committee, we would submit the following report for Assembly action:

Believing that the whole Church of Christ is being called of God to have

strong faith, high courage and deep devotion in this day of unparalleled need and opportunity; that in the upward path into which He is leading His entire Church our Saviour is summoning us to spiritual enlargement and zealous service as never before; and to the end that we may as speedily as possible occupy and evangelize our fields at home and abroad, as well as equip and endow our educational institutions:

We therefore heartily recommend for approval and endorsement the Memorial of the Secretaries of our Boards and of the Missionary and Efficiency Committee presented to this Assembly and that we take the following action:

1. (a) That a Committee be appointed to inaugurate and conduct a campaign during the present Church year, to secure the dedication of life, the enlistment of prayer and the necessary funds to occupy and evangelize the fields, and equip and endow the educational and missionary work under the control of the United Presbyterian Church at home and abroad, according to the necessities of the present and immediate future.

(b) That the amount of money to be secured and its application to particular needs shall be determined by careful calculation based upon thorough surveys of the fields, our understanding now being that it will probably be a sum of not less than \$10,000,000. It is understood that during the period of securing and payment of this fund no special funds shall be sought by any Board of the Church, and that all monies subscribed for and received by the "407" Movement shall be considered as part of the Foreign Board's participation in the Forward Movement Fund.

(c) That the Committee to carry through the campaign consist of the Corresponding Secretaries and Associate Secretaries of the Boards participating in the Church's missionary budget, the Executive Secretary of the Missionary and Efficiency Committee, and two members of the Women's Board. That this Committee be instructed to enlarge its membership by the addition of one representative of the President's Conference of our educational institutions, five laymen, four pastors, and two women from the Church at large.

(d) That the collecting and distributing of the monies contributed in the campaign be under the direction of this Committee.

2. Recognizing that the successful prosecution of this objective is fundamentally a spiritual problem and will bring great spiritual blessings; and that thorough preparation should therefore precede solicitation of funds, we recommend that this campaign to be conducted this current Church year shall consist first of a period of most careful education and inspiration on such subjects as intercession, stewardship, tithing, etc.; that solicitation of subscriptions and of funds shall be conducted in a given month; that payments may be made, if it is desired, during a period of three or five years. Allotments of proper shares shall be made for each Synod, Presbytery, and Congregation.

3. Inasmuch as God has recently encouraged us to believe that our Church is well able to perform this task, that this is The time when our entire Church will prayerfully and confidently enter upon this worthy endeavor, that other generations would count us untrue to our possibilities unless we do thus launch out, and because the love of Christ constrains us, we covenant with Him and with one another to give ourselves wholeheartedly to the answer of this—God's call. Vol. XIV, p. 707, 1919.

2. **The Program Continued.** The General Assembly adopted the following recommendations of the Central Committee on the New World Movement:

1. That the Assembly, by appointment, continue the New World Movement Central Committee for one year, approving the extension of the active financial canvass until July 15th, 1920. The Committee shall submit to the next Assembly a plan for the continuation of the work.

2. That, while rejoicing in the large degree of victory attained in the financial effort, we set ourselves afresh to the full realization of the goal set, which we believe to have in it God's call to us.

3. That painstaking effort be made to foster the spiritual objectives of this Movement throughout the five years contemplated, and into the years beyond.

4. That the Central Committee be made responsible for the continuance of an effective program, prosecuting it with due consideration as to the entire time of the five-year program.

5. We recommend that a Finance Committee composed of the following members: D. C. Wills, Chairman, Judge H. Walton Mitchell, G. E. F. Gray, D. M. Ogelvie, John C. Hill, and John R. McCune, ex-officio, shall be created, which shall have oversight of the distribution of the New World Movement funds in accordance with the purpose for which they were subscribed, as based upon the facts of the survey.

6. It is the sense of this Committee that there should be held a series of spiritual life conferences in connection with the fall meetings of Synods. We recommend that the Boards be asked to contribute toward the expense of these conferences in proportion to the amount received from the General Assembly budget, the amount not to exceed \$10,000. That a committee of five persons be appointed by the Central Committee to prepare plans and to conduct these conferences when their programs and plans have been approved by the Boards. Vol. XV, p. 26, 1920.

Resolved, That we strongly urge the pastors and people of our Church in this time of world crisis and opportunity to rally to the challenge of the Lord and to complete this work to the last item. Vol. XV, p. 41, 1920.

3. **Bonds for Financial Agents and New World Movement Treasurers.** *Resolved*, 6. That Presbyteries be required to place under bond their Financial Agents and New World Movement Treasurers. Vol. XV, p. 30, 1920.

4. **Officially Closed.** *Resolved*, (1) That this Assembly declare the N. W. M. officially closed with the date of March 31st, 1926.

(2) That all congregations be urged now to concentrate their supreme efforts upon the regular objectives of our denominational activities, represented chiefly by the regular Missionary Budget.

(3) That individuals and congregations are at liberty to apply the unpaid portions of their pledges in whole or in part to such local or denominational objectives as their conscience may direct. Vol. XVI, p. 607, 1926.

LXXVIII. OREGON, PRESBYTERY OF

The Presbytery of Oregon Recognized as a Part of the United Presbyterian Church. The Presbytery of Oregon signify their cordial reception of the Testimony and other doctrinal standards of the United Presbyterian Church; but, owing to their remote position, they reserve the right of final jurisdiction over all matters, except such as may be appealed directly to the General Assembly; and, moreover, reserve the right of sending delegates to the General Assembly, as they may deem expedient.

Resolved, That the General Assembly cordially acquiesce in the proposal of the Presbytery of Oregon, and regard it as one of the Presbyteries under its care. Vol. I, p. 107, 1860.

LXXIX. OVERTURES

1. **A Two-thirds Vote Necessary in Order to an Overture.** *Resolved*, 2. That in order to prevent and remedy this evil, [viz., the bringing before the Assembly subjects likely to require overture, or produce unnecessary or injurious agitation,] the Assembly do adopt it as a rule of procedure for the

future: That no subject shall be handed down in overture to the Presbyteries, except on a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Assembly present. Vol. III, p. 150, 1870.

Whereas, The Assembly of 1870 adopted it as a standing rule of procedure, that no subject shall be handed down in overture to the Presbyteries, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Assembly present; therefore,

Resolved, That any further action on the transmission of overtures is unnecessary. Vol. V, p. 16, 1879.

2. **Definition of "a Clear Majority."** [The Assembly was asked to give a definition of the expression "a clear majority of the votes of the whole Church," in Part I, Chapter V, Article IV, Section 5, of the Book of Government. The following was adopted]:

A vote is something different from not voting. One more than half the votes cast is evidently "a clear majority." The majority voting settles the matter, without reference to those not voting. They are then reckoned with the majority, according to Rule of Order, No. 65. Vol. V, p. 367, 1881.

3. **Overture on Amendment to the Law of Overtures.** [The General Assembly appointed a committee of five persons to consider the propriety of overting an amendment to the law of overtures, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. V, p. 740, 1883. The committee reported, and the General Assembly submitted to the Presbyteries the following overtures]:

Shall Section 5, Article IV, Chapter V, Part I, of the Book of Government be amended so as to read as follows:

No regulation affecting the doctrine, worship or government of the Church shall be adopted, until, by a two-thirds vote of the General Assembly, it shall have been transmitted in overture to the Presbyteries. A vote thereon shall be taken in each Presbytery, and carefully recorded, and, together with the number of members present when the vote was taken, shall be duly certified to the General Assembly. When an overture is approved by a majority of the members thus present, the General Assembly shall enact such regulation, unless peculiar circumstances, in view of two-thirds of the enrolled members, render it inexpedient.

The General Assembly shall have power to make such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section. Vol. VI, p. 16, 1884.

[The vote on this overture was: Ayes, 113; nays, 791. Twenty-one Presbyteries were reported as not voting. Whereupon the Assembly declared the overture not adopted.] Vol. VI, p. 224, 1885.

[Several Presbyteries asked that an overture be sent down to the Presbyteries on the law of overtures, specially with reference to changes in the mode of submitting an overture, and concerning who shall vote, and the manner of summing up the vote. The General Assembly, "while conceding the necessity for further legislation on this subject," was "of the opinion that the time had not yet arrived" for any action, and declined to grant the prayer of the memorialists. Vol. VII, p. 224, 1885.]

4. **The Moral Right to Change the Standards by Overture.** The memorialists represent themselves as loyal members of the Church, asking for protection in the rights which they claim were guaranteed to them as members of the Church. They say, "In accepting our profession of agreement with these standards, the Church guaranteed to us the right to all the privileges and immunities of membership, and came under solemn obligation to protect us in these privileges and immunities while we continue to adhere to this profession. But in permitting a different mode of worship to be introduced from that which the Church required us to profess and maintain as the only mode agreeable to the Word of God, that protection has been withdrawn

from us." They also say, "While the Church has a legal right under her law of overture to repeal the rule in her standards, excluding the use of instruments from worship, we believe she had no moral right to do so."

In answer to these claims, the Assembly asserts that the protection and privileges of the Church are guaranteed only to those who accept of her profession, and this profession plainly and distinctly involves the law of overture by which the rule upon this question has been changed, as these memorialists themselves admit, when they concede the Church the legal right to make the change. And the Assembly further declares that, as the legal right to make the change involves the moral right, when the Church in the exercise of the right repeals any of her laws she is under no obligation to protect those who are in opposition to the change thus made, excepting that of the law of forbearance in love. Vol. VII, p. 29, 1888.

Consult Book of Government and Directory of Worship, Chapter XVIII, Sections 78 and 79.

LXXX. PARSONAGES

Whereas, The necessity that each congregation should have a manse is so apparent and so pressing in most cases; therefore,

Resolved, That the Presbyteries under the care of this General Assembly be instructed to inquire of the Churches under their care what they have done, or what they propose doing, in behalf of this object, and that in order to awaken additional attention to the subject, that the Presbyteries address a pastoral letter to their Churches, urging upon the people the necessity of taking early and earnest action to erect manses, and thereby secure comfortable homes for their ministers. Vol. II, p. 298, 1866.

1. **The Parsonage Fund.** [The Associate Reformed Presbytery of Allegheny transferred to the Board of Church Extension a fund which was formed from the bequest of the late Mr. Thomas Hanna, of Allegheny, Pa. This was designated The Thomas Hanna Fund, and was made a loan fund for the erection of parsonages. The Assembly took the following action:]

Resolved, 1. That the Board be authorized to employ any portion of the Hanna Fund, which in its judgment, it may deem best, in the erection of parsonages. Vol. VI, p. 35, 1884.

Resolved, 2. That the Parsonage Fund of the Board of Church Extension be commended to the missionary societies and Sabbath-schools of the Church, as a special work, having a strong claim on their sympathies, and worthy of their liberal support. Vol. VI, p. 237, 1885.

2. **The Parsonage Fund Added to the General Fund.** [The Board of Church Extension reported that] In view of the transfer of the Parsonage work to the Women's Board, the Parsonage Fund has been added to the General Fund. Vol. X, p. 663, 1902.

3. **The Parsonage Fund Assigned to the Women's Auxiliary Board.** [The Board of Church Extension assigned the Parsonage Fund to the Women's Auxiliary Board as its special work in co-operation, under arrangements as to applications, appropriations and securities, which the General Assembly approved. Vol. VIII, p. 709, 1891.

The Board of Church Extension reported to the General Assembly that in consequence of the increase of parsonage building, an agreement has been made with the Women's Board for a transfer of the entire Parsonage Department of its work to the Women's Board, reserving the right to make parsonage grants in certain special cases. This action was approved by the General Assembly, and regulations for the management of the fund were adopted. Vol. IX, pp. 660, 613.] For earlier regulations see Vol. VII, p. 431, 1890.

4. **Regulations for the Parsonage Fund.** [The Board of Church Extension

sion reported an agreement with the Women's Board for the transfer of Parsonage Work and regulations for the same, which were approved as follows:]

Resolved, 7. That we approve of the transfer of the entire parsonage work to the Women's Board, and adopt the following regulations for the governing of the fund:

1. The Board of Church Extension assigns to the Women's Board the entire Parsonage Department, reserving the right to make parsonage grants in special cases in which other interests may require it to be so done.

2. Applications for parsonage aid shall be made to the Women's Board and all grants shall be subject to the regulations at present in force until otherwise ordered by the General Assembly, viz.:

(1) The Parsonage Fund shall be used to assist congregations which require aid from the mission funds of the Church, and not for congregations in general.

(2) Applications for aid from the Parsonage Fund shall be made by the trustees of the congregation, by authority of the congregation, endorsed by the Presbytery and approved by the superintendent of Missions of the Presbytery.

(3) Aid shall be granted only as a loan on security approved by the Board, a moderate rate of interest, the same to be repaid in installments according to the conditions named in the grant.

(4) The terms within which the loan shall be repaid shall be determined when the grant is made, but ordinarily, may not exceed ten years.

(5) All aid for parsonages shall be subject to the rule of the General Assembly concerning the title to Church property.

3. When a parsonage loan is made by the Women's Board, with the approbation of the Board of Church Extension, the Trustees of the General Assembly and the Board of Church Extension shall recognize such loan as a first lien on so much of the premises as may be used for the parsonage, until the same shall be satisfied. And in case of the failure of the congregation, the Board of Church Extension and the Women's Board shall have a pro rata interest in the proceeds of the sale of the property, as the interests of each may appear.

4. Inasmuch as the security for a loan for a parsonage erected on the church lot affects the property interests of the Board of Church Extension, notice shall be given to said Board of the amount of such loan and the time for which it is made.

5. A loan made by the Women's Board for a congregation to meet a debt on its church, and approved by the Board of Church Extension, shall be recognized by the Trustees of the General Assembly and the Board of Church Extension as a first lien on the property until the same shall be satisfied.

6. Appropriations for the erection of churches shall be made by the Women's Board on applications to the Board of Church Extension, approved by it and referred. Such grants shall be subject to all the regulations and conditions governing the Board of Church Extension. When both Boards make a donation, one mortgage covering both grants shall be taken by the Board of Church Extension, and each Board shall have pro rata interest in the property.

7. Neither Board shall make appropriation to a congregation already aided by the other Board without consultation and agreement as to the amount and conditions.

8. These regulations shall have the force of legal obligations without further legal papers. Vol. X, pp. 613, 660, 1902.

Trustees of Assembly to recognize legal obligations of the Board.

In view of the comity existing between the several Boards

Resolved, That in all matters involving legal obligations, the regulations of the General Assembly and the agreements and arrangements between any of the Boards should be recognized by the Trustees of the General Assembly and Boards affected as having the effect of legal obligations without the execution of legal papers. Vol. X, p. 614, 1902.

5. **Title to Parsonage Property.** [The General Assembly adopted a form for declaration of trust for parsonage property, similar to that used for churches. Vol. VIII, p. 711, 1895. See Church Property.]

LXXXI. PASTORS

1. How a Pastor May Be Called and Installed in an Isolated Congregation.

The Session of the Congregation of San Francisco ask to be advised in the steps they shall take in making out a call as they wish Mr. Gibson, your missionary, to become their permanent pastor. Owing to the facts that this congregation is not under the care of any Presbytery; that the person of their choice is laboring in their midst; and that he is the only ordained minister you have within hundreds of miles of them; your committee are of opinion that a somewhat unusual course should be taken in the case.

Your committee think that upon placing this congregation under the Presbytery of most convenient access, that Presbytery might either appoint Mr. Gibson himself to moderate in the call, or authorize some one of the ruling elders of that congregation to do so, and that, upon receiving and sustaining that call, and receiving by letter Mr. Gibson's acceptance of the call, the Presbytery might declare him the settled pastor of said congregation. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the congregation of San Francisco be placed under the care of the United Presbyterian Presbytery of Oregon.

2. That this Presbytery be directed to take measures, as soon as practicable, to consummate the wishes of the congregation. Vol. II, p. 397, 1867.

2. Presbyterial Oversight of the Payment of the Salaries of Pastors.

Resolved, That the Presbyteries be directed to use diligent means and measures to secure the full payment of the salaries of the pastors within their respective bounds. Vol. V, p. 720, 1883.

3. Pastoral Settlement. (1) The following plan was adopted:

1. We heartily approve the action of the General Assembly of 1908, (See Minutes, Page 41) in that it provides the machinery essential to any successful plan of pastoral settlement which would best secure the results desired.

2. If, however, any Synod does not see the way clear to nominate a Synodical Superintendent of Missions, it be requested to appoint a Synodical Committee of Missions, consisting of the Superintendents of Missions of the various Presbyteries, and a chairman who is particularly interested in that work, and this committee shall act under the rules adopted by the General Assembly of 1908; and said Committee shall meet at least once each year, and if there be but one meeting in the year, said meeting shall be held in connection with the annual meeting of Synod, and early enough before said meeting, so that it may transact all necessary business connected with it.

3. That each Presbytery shall report by its Superintendent of Missions to the Synodical Committee of Missions, all its unemployed licentiates, unsettled ministers and vacant congregations, and this committee shall carefully consider the particular needs of every congregation and mission station, their requests, and so forth. Also the qualifications of every minister and licentiate willing and ready for work, also their requests, if any, and shall arrange a schedule of appointments for at least six months if practicable; this schedule to furnish,

if possible, continuous employment for every man able and willing to work, and also to secure to every congregation and mission station the continuous service of a minister; and under ordinary circumstances no minister shall be assigned to any Presbytery for a period less than three months, and his term of service shall begin on the first Sabbath of the quarter immediately following the meeting of the Synod.

4. In case of competition for a man between two or more presbyteries, the committee to decide, after hearing the claims of the respective presbyteries, by a majority vote, where the minister shall go; the wishes of both ministers and congregations to be respected so far as possible.

5. The report of the committee, including the schedule of appointments, shall be presented to the Synod for adoption, and said report, when adopted, shall take effect immediately following the meeting of Synod.

6. That the dissolution of pastoral relationships and the termination of appointments of stated supplies shall take effect, under ordinary circumstances, at the same time throughout the Synod.

7. That each Synod shall hold a conference at each annual meeting on the home mission work within its bounds, considering carefully the report of the Synodical Committee, and shall adopt such measures as shall secure the greatest success of this work.

8. Synods may fix minimum salary to be paid by any pastoral charge.

9. The Superintendent of Missions of Synod in conjunction with the Superintendent of Missions of each Presbytery, shall have authority to act when special emergencies may arise.

10. The Corresponding Secretary of the Home Mission Board, together with the Superintendents of Missions of the various Synods, shall be a committee on transfers. Vol. XII, p. 337, 1909.

(2) The following recommendation and plan were adopted:

We recommend the creating of a General Assembly Committee on Vacancy and Supply, and also Synodical Committees and Presbyterial Committees of the same character, the composition and duties of which shall be as follows, viz.,

I. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON VACANCY AND SUPPLY

1. Composition of this Committee. This Committee shall consist of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions and six additional members, four ministers and two laymen, each to serve for a period of three years after the rotary plan. In the first election two of the six members shall be elected to serve for three years, two for two years, and two for one year.

2. The Duties of this Committee shall be as follows:

(a) To gather and conserve all data as to the desires of ministers and congregations touching matters of dissolution and settlement, and to supply this information with expert advice on request of interested parties.

(b) To submit a complete list of available ministers desiring settlement or transfer, and of vacant congregations or congregations desiring a change of pastors, to all Synodical Committees preceding their Annual Meeting, and at any other time by request.

(c) To work in co-operation with Synodical and Presbyterial Committees throughout the church in the adjustment of matters pertaining to vacancy and supply.

II. THE SYNODICAL COMMITTEE ON VACANCY AND SUPPLY

1. This Committee shall be composed of the Synodical Superintendents of Missions and the Presbyterial Superintendents of Missions of all the Presbyteries in the Synod.

2. The regular officers of this Committee shall be two, the Chairman

who shall be the Synodical Superintendent of Missions, and a Secretary who shall be one of their own number elected by the Committee.

3. This Committee shall hold a regular annual meeting the first week of May. Other meetings shall be called from time to time by the Chairman. All expenses of this Committee shall be met by the Synod.

4. The duties of this Committee shall be as follows:

(a) To keep in touch with the needs of congregations and ministers throughout the Synod.

(b) To report promptly all requests for settlements and transfers of ministers to the General Assembly Committee on Vacancy and Supply.

(c) To counsel with Presbyterial Committees on request, or as the needs may require, regarding the work in hand.

(d) To recommend appointments of supplies to all vacancies and congregations changing pastors within the bounds of the Synod, so far as the list of ministers will reach.

(e) To report these recommended appointments to the respective Presbyteries of Synod for Presbyterial consideration and action. Presbyterial action shall be necessary to confirm and legalize these appointments.

III. THE PRESBYTERIAL COMMITTEE ON VACANCY AND SUPPLY

1. Each Presbytery shall maintain a Committee on Vacancy and Supply of which the Superintendent of Missions shall be Chairman.

2. This Committee shall insist on an early settlement of all vacancies by pastor or stated supply, and in case of undue delay the Committee is empowered to appoint a supply without action of the congregation.

3. In cases of prolonged vacancy to weak congregations it shall be the duty of this Committee to recommend to Presbytery the advisability of grouping such congregations, or their transference to, or exchange with congregations of another denomination, or even their disbanding.

4. This Committee shall endeavor to bring every pastoral charge up to the salary minimum maintained by the General Committee of Home Missions.

5. This Committee shall discourage all candidating in the sense of putting one minister against another in competition for a vacant church. When a minister has been appointed to visit and preach before a congregation as a candidate he shall be regarded as the only man then under definite consideration; and, when he has been heard as often as the situation demands, the matter of his candidacy shall then be promptly disposed of by the congregation.

6. This Committee shall be held to strict account by Presbytery; fair dealing with ministers and congregations shall be required of it.

7. The Chairman of this Committee, the Presbyterial Superintendent of Missions, shall be provided with an expense fund of at least \$25 per annum; he shall be held responsible for the moderation of all calls; and he shall arrange for visit and consultation with each vacant congregation and mission station either by himself or some member of the Presbyterial Committee, or by the Synodical Superintendent of Missions, at least once a year, and as much oftener as the needs of the work demand.

IV. THE CONGREGATION

1. Churches needing pastoral settlements or desiring a change of pastors shall make their requests to the Synodical Committee through the Presbyterial Committee.

2. A Congregation desiring a pastor or stated supply from another Synod shall through the Presbyterial Committee notify the Chairman of its own Synodical Committee. He in turn shall communicate with the man himself

and with the Chairman of the Synodical Committee of the Synod to which he belongs that steps may be taken to make a satisfactory transfer.

3. Appointments of stated supplies arranged through the Synodical Committee shall be for one year, and shall be continued from year to year as long as advisable.

4. It shall be the duty of congregations to accept the men sent to them; and no congregation may refuse the appointee sent it except by permission of Presbytery.

V. THE MINISTER

1. Ministers wishing to change fields of labor shall prefer their requests through the Presbyterial Committee to the Synodical Committee.

2. Ministers may state their preference of fields and this preference shall be respected so far as possible.

3. Settlements and appointments shall ordinarily begin the first Sabbath of July, and stated supplies made for a fraction of a year shall terminate June 30th.

4. All ministers not engaged in some definite church work shall be counted eligible, and shall hold themselves ready for appointment unless excused from duty by their Presbytery.

5. It shall be the duty of every minister to accept the appointment given him unless he has grave reasons for declining; in which case the minister shall state his reasons to Presbytery and Presbytery's action shall decide the matter. Vol. XIV, p. 216, 1917.

The General Assembly Committee on Vacancy and Supply was discontinued by action of the 1923 Assembly. Vol. XV, p. 865, 1923.

(3) The following plan was adopted:

Preamble: *Whereas* there have been tendencies in our manner of filling vacancies and settling pastors which are manifestly inimical to the building of Christ's Church, and since we desire to secure greater justice for both congregations and ministers, together with a due subordination of their interests to the general welfare of the church, the Assembly directs that each Synod constitute a committee on Vacancy and Supply which shall act under synodical rules. For the sake of uniformity of practice throughout the Church, the following rules shall prevail.

I. The committee on Vacancy and Supply shall consist of the Superintendent of Missions from each presbytery, together with the Synodical Superintendent of Missions, if such officer exists, who shall be chairman of the Committee. In other cases the chairman shall be elected by the Committee.

II. A minister desiring settlement or change of pastoral charge may register his name with any or all committees on Vacancy and Supply. He may request a definite field. If asked he shall furnish information as to his education, experience, pastoral settlements, etc.

III. When a vacancy occurs in any Synod, the Superintendent of Missions in the presbytery where the vacancy is, and the Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall study the needs of the field and the particular fitness of the ministers who are available. Upon the first Sabbath of vacancy, or as soon thereafter as possible, the Synodical Superintendent of Missions or his appointee shall preach, and, after consultation with the session and the Pulpit Committee, shall recommend for their consideration, a group of men—not too large—who are especially fitted for the work. This recommendation shall receive careful consideration, by the congregation, although it does not preclude the consideration of other men.

IV. It is recommended to the Presbyteries that the Superintendent of Missions shall be the moderator of session in all vacant churches in his

Presbytery, and shall moderate all calls, except when it is impracticable for him to serve, he may appoint another minister to take his place.

V. All pulpit supplies and all candidates for vacant pulpits shall be secured through the Superintendent of Missions and the Synodical Superintendent of Missions.

VI. In the election of a pastor one man shall be heard at a time and voted upon. If the first man is not called his name shall be dropped. A second man shall then be heard and voted upon, and so on until a decision is reached. A strict observance of this rule is the only fair and honorable way to deal with men. It will also contribute largely to the harmony of the congregation.

VII. If it is desirable, a congregation may call a man for a definite period of years, ordinarily five or seven. At the end of that time the pastoral relationship shall be dissolved, unless there is an official request, and abundant evidence that the pastorate should be continued another term of years.

VIII. When a congregation has remained vacant for a period longer than six months, the Superintendent of Missions of the Presbytery may, upon recommendation of the Committee on Vacancy and Supply, appoint a Stated Supply until such time as an agreement may be reached. Vol. XVIII, p. 58, 1932.

(4) The following recommendation for the Revision of Pastoral Settlement Legislation was adopted:

Our study of this legislation and of the recommendations received from the presbyteries leads us to believe that some revision of the rules adopted in 1932 will serve to co-ordinate them with previous legislation and to make pastoral settlement procedure more uniform.

With this explanatory statement the committee presents for the General Assembly's consideration the proposed revision of our rules of pastoral settlement, as follows:

Desiring to secure greater justice for both congregations and ministers, together with a due subordination of their interests to the general welfare of the Church, the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America adopts the following revision of its rules on pastoral settlement, directing that these rules be "the appointed methods" called for in the Book of Government and Worship, Article 135, and that they, together with the constitutional provisions of the Book of Government and Worship, be prayerfully used under the guidance of the Holy Spirit in nurturing the spiritual welfare of the Church through the maintenance of effective pastoral care.

I. Pastoral Settlement Committee. The Presbyterial Committee of Missions shall have oversight of pastoral settlement, and shall be called the Presbyterial Committee of Missions and Pastoral Settlement, of which the Superintendent of Missions shall be chairman. It shall be charged with the responsibility of informing Sessions of vacant congregations and ministers seeking settlement of the rules of the Church governing pastoral settlement.

II. Pastoral Settlement Jurisdiction. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall have jurisdiction in the pastoral settlement of all congregations receiving aid from the Board of American Missions, and shall be assisted by the Presbyterial Superintendents of Missions in their respective presbyteries. The Presbyterial Superintendent of Missions shall have jurisdiction in the pastoral settlement of self-supporting congregations, and shall be assisted by the Synodical Superintendent of Missions.

III. Pastoral Settlement Procedure. A minister desiring settlement or change of pastoral charge may register with any or all of the Presbyterial Committees on settlement. Congregations and pastors desiring pastoral change or settlement shall apply, either jointly or singly, to the Superintendent of Missions under whose jurisdiction their settlement is, and shall provide all

needed information. When a congregation and (or) a minister apply for change of pastoral relations, the Presbyterian Committee shall co-operate in effecting such continuance, exchange or transfer as may seem helpful. In view of resettlement the Superintendent of Missions having jurisdiction, or his appointee, shall visit the congregation at the earliest possible date and shall consult with the session and the congregational pastoral settlement committee. He may suggest certain ministers for the vacancy; but such suggestion shall not preclude the consideration of other ministers by the congregation. Vacant congregations shall secure their pulpit supplies and candidates in co-operation with the Superintendent of Missions who has their settlement in charge.

IV. Moderation in Vacancy. If the Presbytery has made no other provision for a vacancy, the Presbyterian Superintendent of Missions, or his appointee, shall be moderator of the session and shall preside in the election of a pastor.

V. Congregational Hearing. A congregation may call a minister or a licentiate on a favorable knowledge of his qualifications without hearing him, or upon recommendation of its representatives who have heard him. When a congregation desires the hearing of ministers, the session or the special committee on pastoral settlement shall make selections from its list of available ministers. After the hearing, if the session so directs, an informative vote shall be taken by ballot of the members present on the question, Are you ready to call a pastor? If this vote, in the judgment of the session and the committee, is sufficiently favorable, the session shall petition presbytery to moderate a call. If the vote is unfavorable, another minister shall be heard; and the procedure shall be in the same manner. Those charged with pastoral settlement responsibility shall use care in avoiding competitive candidating.

VI. Pastoral Continuity. The Presbyterian Committee shall urge the value of early settlement in all vacancies; and in case of undue delay, upon the recommendation of the committee and with the advice and consent of the presbytery, the Superintendent of Missions shall have power to appoint a stated supply for the ensuing church year or such portion of the year as may remain.

VII. Term Pastorate. A congregation may call a pastor for a definite term of years; and at the end of such term the pastoral relationship shall be dissolved, unless the congregation and the pastor request a continuance for another term. Vol. XIX, p. 959, 1939.

LXXXII. PEACE

1. **International Arbitration.** *Resolved*, That it is the duty of the Church, and especially of the ministers of the Gospel, to labor in every proper way for the advancement of the cause of peace, and that we hail with heartfelt gratitude the effort now being put forth both in this country and in Europe, by eminent Christian statesmen and philanthropists, to provide a system of international arbitration for the settlement of difficulties that may arise between nations, and that we hereby pledge to our own government our hearty sympathy and co-operation in all proper efforts for securing this glorious result. Vol. IV, p. 319, 1876.

[A memorial was presented to the Assembly from a committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, asking the appointment of a delegate to a joint committee of Churches to petition the governments of the world in favor of peace. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That the petition be granted.

2. That ————— be appointed a delegate, who shall meet the delegates from other bodies addressed. Vol. VII, p. 631, 1891.

2. **The Prince of Peace.** *Resolved*, 1. That the Prince of Peace is worthy of our highest allegiance as the Supreme Ruler of the nation.

2. That we favor all such measures as look to the fulfilment of the prophecy and promise of universal peace.

3. That we specially favor the formation of unlimited arbitration treaties with other nations and pledge our influence for their adoption.

4. That we commend our national Congress for its refusal to increase, this year, the number of our warships, and express our hope that our Government shall lead the nations in the work of disarmament.

5. That Sabbath, December 22, 1912, be designated as Peace Day to be observed for the special promotion of peace, principles and sentiment. Vol. XIII, p. 45, 1912.

3. **International Peace.** *Resolved*, That our churches and colleges be urged to give more frequent and more serious consideration to the problem of International Peace and Arbitration. This Assembly officially endorses and adopts as the sentiment of this body the great plea and noble address on "The Church's Responsibility for International Peace," presented at the mass meeting on the evening of May 15, 1913, by Hon. J. A. McDonald, of Toronto, Canada.

We urge the wide circulation of this address, and we urge our ministry to encourage and reflect the sentiment that exists among the people in favor of international arbitration and peace.

We deplore and oppose the increase of armaments, and we urge our government to pursue a policy both in national and international affairs that will promote such conditions as will secure the relief to the people from the woeful burdens of war and preparations for war.

This policy we urge in the name of the great Prince of Peace. Vol. XIII, p. 367, 1913.

4. **Centenary of Peace with England.** *Resolved*, 1. That we heartily approve of the proposed celebration of the Treaty of Peace, (which brought the last war between Great Britain and the United States to a happy conclusion, and which was signed in Ghent, Belgium, December 24, 1814, and ratified February 17, 1815), by the American Church Peace Centenary Committee. We recommend that our Synods and Presbyteries co-operate as far as possible with the Committee in reaching all the Churches and Sabbath Schools and Young People's Societies belonging thereto.

2. That on the day indicated for the celebration, sermons shall be preached setting forth the blessings which one hundred years of peace have brought to the two nations and to the world, showing how superior human reason is to human passion in settling international disputes; and to impress upon the minds of the youth the great truth that the honors of peace are greater than the honors of war. Vol. XIII, p. 716, 1914.

5. **Disarmament.** We recognize that our Lord is the Prince of Peace; that the triumph of the Gospel means swords beaten into plow shares and spears into pruning hooks. We realize the awfulness of war in its cost of money and its greater cost of life. We favor such disarmament as may minimize the burdens in supporting the army and navy in so far as this can be done without imperiling our national safety.

We recommend co-operation with all organizations and influences that will lead to such disarmament, seeking ever to hasten the day when the nations shall learn war no more. Vol. XV, p. 286, 1921.

2. That President Coolidge be assured of the support of our people in his policy of seeking to secure honorable and peaceable settlement of international problems without recourse to the use of force. Vol. XVI, p. 896, 1927.

We express our appreciation of the President's activities on behalf of peace, and express our hope that he and the Congress of the United States will work earnestly for the limitation of armaments among the nations, and to give truer and more adequate expression to the cry of our people for the abolition of the curse of war. Vol. XVII, p. 664, 1930.

6. **World Court.** 4. We recommend that the Memorial of the Presbytery of Kansas City, relating to World Peace, be granted. We urge all our people to aid in every legitimate way the advancement of cordial world relations and the cultivation of the spirit of peace and good will in every department of life. We would commend especially the effort to secure the establishment of a World Court for the settlement of all national differences and the bringing about of conditions when war will become more and more improbable. We will hope and pray and work for a warless world, and so for such reduction of armament in all nations as is compatible for national safety. Vol. XVI, p. 35, 1924.

(1) That in view of the fact that all are more susceptible to the truths relative to war in times when peace prevails, we avail ourselves of every opportunity to put forth effort in preparing to avoid future wars, at this time while enjoying peace.

(2) That the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church go on record as endorsing the World Court as outlined in the Harding-Hughes terms and as endorsed by President Calvin Coolidge in his messages to Congress, and that we urge our United States Senators to vote favorably on this matter after sufficient time has been taken to reason together on the proposition after it has come up for consideration on December 17, 1925. Vol. XVI, p. 339, 1925.

7. **Make Every Effort for Peace.** Your Committee would recommend the Assembly's endorsement of part of the expressed conviction of the Executive Committee of the Federal Council as follows:

First, that the President should be authorized to place an embargo on arms, munitions, and credit to nations that send their military forces across the boundary line of other nations, or propose to do so.

Second, that the arms and munitions industry should be placed under government control and that the United States should join with other nations in exercising strict control of the international traffic in arms and munitions.

Third, that the United States should join with other nations in an honest effort to abolish all weapons designed primarily for aggressive purposes, and so by some comprehensive system of international armaments control render attempts at offensive warfare futile.

Fourth, that the United States should promptly join the World Court and should define the terms upon which it would be willing officially to relate itself to the League of Nations.

Fifth, that reciprocal tariff agreements should be negotiated by the United States with other nations and that the United States in co-operation with other governments should deal with all the economic issues that are causing international difficulty, suspicion, and hostility, with a view to removing the causes that make for war. Vol. XVIII, p. 654, 1934.

LXXXIII. PER DIEM

Resolved. That eight dollars be allowed to missionaries for each Sabbath spent in missionary service. Vol. I, p. 37, 1859.

In reply to a memorial for the reduction of the per diem, the General Assembly refused to take action. Vol. I, p. 349, 1862.

Presbyteries were directed to recommend congregations, as far as possible, to pay ten dollars per week. Vol. II, p. 42, 1864.

The compensation was advanced from ten dollars to twelve dollars per Sabbath. Vol. II, p. 314, 1866.

Two Presbyteries memorialized the Assembly to raise the per diem from twelve dollars to fifteen dollars. The memorials were not granted. Vol. II, p. 495, 1868.

The per diem of home missionaries should not be less than fifteen dollars. Vol. III, p. 534, 1873.

Resolved, That the per diem of home missionaries be fixed at twelve dollars. Vol. IV, p. 37, 1874.

Resolved, That fifteen dollars be fixed as the minimum price to be paid supplies, except where this amount, in the judgment of the presbytery, would be a hardship. Vol. XI, p. 870, 1907.

(3) That the per diem be fixed at twenty dollars. Vol. XV, pp. 35, 79, 1920.

LXXXIV. PRAISE BOOKS

1. Smaller Books

(1) **Music for Sabbath Schools.** *Resolved*, 4. That a committee be appointed to prepare and publish a book of selections of Psalms set to music, especially for the Sabbath Schools, it being understood that the version used be such as the Church has authorized. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

[The committee reported that one hundred and fifty selections had been made from the Psalms, to which an equal number of tunes, old and new in about equal proportion, had been adapted. The General Assembly expressed "high appreciation of the earnestness and diligence of the committee" and adopted the following:]

Resolved, 2. That the committee be instructed to carefully revise its work, keeping in view the principle of adhering exclusively to our authorized Psalmody, and publish it without any unnecessary delay.

3. That this committee be instructed to have special reference in all its selections of music to congregational singing, and to avoid such frequent repetitions and responses as are not clearly suggested by the language of the Psalms. Vol. V, pp. 16, 82, 1879.

[The committee reported that "the selections had been revised," and that "such changes in the work had been made as, in judgment of the committee, were necessary to bring it into harmony with the requirement of the Assembly."]

Resolved, That the Assembly appoint a committee, which is hereby directed before the issue of the next edition of "Bible Songs," so to revise the book as to make it conform to the instructions on that subject, given by the General Assembly of 1879, (see Minutes, vol. v, p. 16,) and report its revision to the next Assembly for approval. Vol. V, pp. 248, 191, 1880.

[The committee reported, "asking the Assembly to excuse them from undertaking the work that has been assigned to them. Two of the members of this committee were members of the original committee to prepare the book. They * * are not able to proceed further to revise the book without further and more specific instructions from the General Assembly. * * The majority (of the committee) are unable to undertake the work on account of the general principle involved. * * The principle of preparing and authorizing a 'book' of praise for the use of Sabbath schools, consisting of selections from the Book of Psalms, instead of the Book itself, is subversive of the position of the United Presbyterian Church on the subject of psalmody." The Assembly adopted the following:]

1st. That the request of the Committee on Revision of Bible Songs be granted.

2d. That the restrictions of the last Assembly placed upon the Board of

Publication be removed, and that the Board be authorized to publish "Bible Songs" to meet the demand of the Church. Vol. V, pp. 413, 346, 1881.

(2) **Bible Songs Revised and Enlarged.** 4. There seems to be a demand for a revision and enlargement of the Bible Songs. This little book has proved to be a help, and greatly improved the singing of our Sabbath schools. It will continue to do so even as it is, but there would be even greater advantage and improvement by adding to the selections made, with music adapted; therefore,

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be and hereby are instructed to take charge of this work at once, with instructions as follows, viz.: To revise the book now in use, add to the selections at least as many more, with suitable music, publish the new music in the quarterlies from time to time so far as possible, and take time to so perform the work that there may not be any occasion for another work of this kind for many years to come. Vol. VI, p. 670, 1887.

(3) **One Version of Each Psalm to Be Used in Bible Songs.** 4. That as the General Assembly directed the Board to "revise and enlarge the Bible Songs," we recommend that at least one version of each Psalm be selected, and that such portions thereof as may be most appropriate for ordinary use be set to music, taking into consideration the needs of the young people's work, and that the publication be hastened as much as possible. Vol. VII, p. 224, 1889.

[The committee completed its work in the early part of 1890, and the Assembly adopted the following:]

Resolved, 2. That the work of the committee appointed to revise the Bible Songs be heartily approved, and the thanks of the Assembly be and are hereby tendered to that committee for its arduous and praiseworthy work. Vol. VII, p. 433, 1890.

(4) **Denominational Imprint on Bible Songs.** [See, also, Psalter, The.] *Resolved*, That we approve the work of the Board in publishing its imprint on the Bible Songs and Psalters.

7. That the Board be directed to arrange as soon as possible for the publication of a special edition of Bible Songs without any denominational imprint, and at the same prices as charged for regular editions. Vol. VII, p. 433, 1890. [A third edition of Bible Songs, revised and enlarged, was published in 1901.]

(5) **Copyright on Bible Songs.** The Assembly of 1890 approved the conclusions reached by the Board that the copyrights on the Revised Psalms, Psalter, and Bible Songs should be retained. Vol. VII, pp. 473, 433, 1890.

(6) **Bible Songs No. 4.** This new and enlarged edition of the Bible Songs was published in 1917. Vol. XIV, p. 205, 1917.

(7) **Other Books of Praise.** The following books of praise were issued by the Board of Publication from time to time: Songs of the Ages, Children's Praise, Psalter Hymns, Evangelistic Songs, David's Harp (in Italian). Vol. XIV, p. 33, 1916; Vol. XV, p. 288, 1921; Vol. XIV, p. 449, 1918; p. 695, 1919.

(8) **Bible Songs Hymnal With Responsive Readings.** The Bible Songs Hymnal was published in 1927. Vol. XVI, p. 351, 1925; Vol. XVI, p. 617, 1926.

(9) **Bible Anthems.** Bible Anthems for the use of Choir were published by the Board. Vol. XV, p. 288, 1921.

2. Larger Books

1. **The Psalter.** *Whereas*, Uniformity in singing the praise of our Zion, in all our congregations, is desirable; and *whereas*, experience has proved that a Psalter prepared with appropriate music set to each psalm in the hands of every worshiper, is essential to the accomplishment of this end, and at the same time is an efficient aid to singing by the whole congregation; and, *whereas*, Rev. R. B. Robertson and Rev. John Gailey have with great care,

and we believe with a good measure of success, prepared such a Psalter, and are now ready to put it into the hands of our people;

Resolved, That we cordially commend this book to our people. Vol. III, p. 417, 1872.

[The Psalter was purchased by the Board of Publication.]

Resolved, 1. That the Board [of Publication] take steps to so revise the Psalter as to obviate the above difficulty, [viz.: often presenting the music on one side of the leaf and the words on the other.]

2. That a limited number of chants and anthems be inserted as an appendix, and that as regards the musical changes proposed, the Board be directed to consult the Committee on Selections. Vol. IV, p. 590, 1878.

2. **Revision of the Psalter.** *Resolved*, 2. That the Board [Publication] be directed to make, or have made, such revision of the Psalter as in their judgment shall be deemed wise and proper, and to submit the same to the next General Assembly for approval. Vol. VI, p. 37, 1884.

Resolved, 2. That the Board be directed to continue the work of revising the Psalter, and report to the Assembly at as early a period as is consistent with the requirements of the work. Vol. VI, p. 229, 1885.

[The Board reported progress, and the Assembly requested the completion of the work, and directed its publication as soon as completed. Vol. VI, p. 441, 1886. The Board reported to the Assembly that "the new Psalter has been published and is now before the Church." Vol. VI, p. 722, 1887.]

3. **Copyright on Psalter and Bible Songs.** [The Presbytery of Omaha memorialized the General Assembly to order the abandonment of the copyright to the Psalter and Bible Songs held by the Board of Publication. The Assembly took the following action]:

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be directed to take into consideration the questions suggested by the request of the Presbytery of Omaha, and act as it may deem best calculated to protect and promote the interests committed to its charge. Vol. VII, p. 211, 1889.

[The Board reported: "The Board expresses its judgment that these copyrights should be retained." The Assembly adopted the following]:

3. That the conclusions reached by the Board regarding its copyrights to the Revised Psalms, Psalter and Bible Songs be approved. Vol. VII, pp. 473, 433, 1890.

4. **The Denominational Imprint on the Psalter.** [The Presbytery of Omaha memorialized the General Assembly to direct the Board of Publication to publish the Psalter and Bible Songs without its imprint, or the name of the United Presbyterian Church upon them. The Assembly directed the Board of Publication "to take into consideration the questions suggested by the request of the Presbytery of Omaha, and act as it may deem best calculated to protect and promote the interests committed to its charge." Vol. VII, p. 211, 1889. The Board reported to the Assembly: "The Board believes it would not accrue to the advantage of our Church, or to the cause of Christ in any way, to leave off the imprint of the Board from the Psalter and Bible Songs." The Assembly took the following action]:

Resolved, 4. That we approve of the work of the Board in publishing its imprint on the "Bible Songs" and "Psalters." Vol. VII, pp. 474, 433, 1890. [See also, Bible Songs, Section 5.]

5. **Psalter Containing the Metrical Version of the Psalms Revised in 1909.** This Psalter with Responsive Readings was published in 1912. Vol. XII, p. 623, 1910; Vol. XIII, p. 370, 1913.

6. **Psalter Hymnal.** The Psalter Hymnal was published in 1927. Vol. XVI, p. 617, 1926.

3. New Praise Books

(9) The report of the Board also contains an item relative to a proposed

change in the Praise Books of our denomination. The International Council of Religious Education is now engaged in preparing a new version of the Bible to be completed by 1945. In this new version, the name of "Jehovah" will disappear, the usage to be followed being that of the authorized version, where "Lord" and "God" are terms employed for the Divine Name. In order that the usage of our English Bible be followed in our metrical Psalms, the Board asks the sanction of the General Assembly to amend the Psalms in this respect.

We feel that the change proposed by the Board is a proper and forward-looking one, and recommend that the requested permission be granted, with the additional suggestion that if new editions of our Praise books be issued, new songs be added at the discretion of the Board, and that certain songs now included but which have been found to be somewhat unsatisfactory, be deleted. Vol. XX, p. 352, 1941.

LXXXV. PRAYER, DAYS OF SPECIAL

1. **For Revival.** [A memorial from a convention held at Xenia, Ohio, was presented, asking the appointment of a day of prayer, and the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly, taking into consideration the great work which the Lord is giving us as a Church to do, together with the responsibilities which it involves, and overwhelmed with the sense of our obligations to Him for His unmerited favor in blessing the work of our hand in all the various fields of labor in which He has given to us to be co-workers with Him, and at the same time deeply conscious and ashamed of our own ingratitude and our vast shortcoming in this work, and of our unmeetness for the great responsibilities that are upon us for the future, by reason of the weakness of our faith and the power of unbelief in us, the want of whole-hearted devotion to the person and cause of our glorious Lord and Captain of our salvation, and our worldliness, and most earnestly desiring to embrace and improve the opportunities which He is offering to us in His providence, hereby calls the whole Church to unite in the observance of a day of special prayer, in which we will agree together in fervent supplication with thanksgiving and confession of sins to the Lord our God, beseeching Him to "be merciful to us and shine on us with His face," that in the way of enabling us to take hold of his covenant of grace and renewing our engagements to Him and to each other, we may receive a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit, for the removal of hindrances and difficulties, the restoration of mutual confidence and the revival of all grace in us, "that so His way may be known in the earth and His saving health among all nations."

2. That the first Wednesday of September, 1885, be designated for this purpose. Vol. V, p. 238, 1885.

2. **Moderator Appointed on Joint Committee to Seek Action by the President.** In response to a statement and resolutions by the Business Men's Counsel of Canada calling for a day of prayer, the Moderator of the Assembly was appointed to represent our Church on a joint committee to seek action by the President of the United States. Vol. XVII, p. 917, 1931.

3. **A National Day of Humiliation and Prayer.** The following action was taken:

We recommend, that we make known to sister Churches, met in national assembly, our willingness to concur with them in petitioning President Herbert Hoover for the appointment of a national day for humiliation and prayer. Vol. XVIII, pp. 32, 65, 1932.

4. **A Day of Humiliation, Confession, and Prayer, in Our Church.** The Moderator and Clerk of the General Assembly were authorized to appoint a

day of humiliation, confession, and prayer. Vol. XIX, p. 968, 1939; Vol. XX, p. 50, 1940.

LXXXVI. PRESBYTERIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Presbyterian Historical Society. *Resolved*, That the Assembly cordially commends the society to the enlarged liberality of all our churches and congregations. Vol. II, p. 12, 1864.

Resolved, That a copy of each of the publications of our Board of Publication be presented to this society to be preserved in its collection. Vol. III, p. 545, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That the records now on hand, and those which may be hereafter procured, be placed in the fireproof building of the Presbyterian Historical Society, when it shall be completed, for safe keeping, and that a copy of all those which may be printed be placed in our own publishing house.

3. That Presbyteries be requested to collect the histories of their own congregations, and have them bound in one or more volumes, with the history of the Presbytery, with a view of depositing them in the fireproof building already mentioned. Vol. IV, p. 301, 1876.

Resolved, 2. That we earnestly recommend every congregation which has not already contributed to its funds, to take up, on the first Sabbath of November, 1877, or as soon after as possible, a liberal collection to aid in securing for this society what it most needs; namely, a place of safety for what it has so successfully gathered. Vol. IV, p. 446, 1877.

Resolved, 2. That it be commended still to our people for donations to its collections, and for funds for its endowment. Vol. IV, p. 574, 1878.

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly hereby expresses its continued satisfaction with this society in its efforts to collect and place in secure position material of so much interest to the friends of Presbyterianism.

2. That a committee be appointed to co-operate with the society in its efforts to procure such material, and that the Synods and Presbyteries be recommended to continue their committees for this purpose, and thus further the interests of this society for the benefit of the entire Presbyterian family. Vol. V, p. 533, 1882.

NOTE: See Chapter LVII, under which the later provisions made for the preservation of United Presbyterian records are indicated.

LXXXVII. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES IN INDIA

1. **An Alliance of Presbyterian Churches in India.** [As early as January, 1871, a movement in favor of closer union among Presbyterians in India was begun. A meeting of delegates was held in November of the same year, to consider the advisability of forming a Presbyterian Alliance. It was agreed that, from time to time, general conventions of Presbyterian ministers and elders should be held for the purpose of consultation and co-operation in all that pertains to the extension of Christ's kingdom in India. At a general convention held at Allahabad in the next year, it was *Resolved*, That "without reference to an organic union, as speedily as possible, the different Presbyterian Churches in India should be consolidated together for consultation and co-operation in furtherance of a common evangelistic work, but in no degree compromising the position which they occupy in connection with their respective Churches at home." At subsequent meetings the purpose was defined to be: 1. To promote mutual sympathy and the sense of unity among Presbyterian Churches in India. 2. To arrange for co-operation and mutual help. 3. To promote the stability and self-support of the native Churches, and to encourage them in direct labor for the evangelization of India. 4. To prepare

the way for an organic union among the native Presbyterian Churches in India.

The First Council of the Alliance was held in December, 1877, the second in 1880, the third in 1883, the fourth in 1886, and the fifth in 1889. See Vol. VII, p. 502, 1890.]

2. **Appellate Power Refused to the Alliance.** [The second Council of the Presbyterian Alliance in India sent to all the supreme judicatories represented in India, asking the recognition of the appellate jurisdiction of the Alliance in certain cases in regard to native Churches, office-bearers, and members. The General Assembly took the following action]:

Resolved, 2. That it is the judgment of this Assembly, that it would not be expedient for it to recognize the appellate jurisdiction of the Alliance over any of its churches, office-bearers, or members; and that it, therefore, respectfully refuses the request of the Alliance, asking for such jurisdiction. Vol. V, p. 354, 1881.

3. **Union of the Presbyterian Churches in India Proposed.** [In 1889, by circular letter sent out by the Lahore Presbytery, a General Committee was formed to consider "the difficulties in the way of union, with the best method of overcoming them, and prepare a carefully matured plan of union, to be submitted to the Presbyteries." This General Committee, in which the majority of the Presbyterian bodies in India were represented, prepared a basis of union, and submitted it to the Presbyterian Alliance of India, by which it was approved and sent to the Presbyteries, to be transmitted to the home Churches for final consideration. It was transmitted to the General Assembly by the Presbytery of Sialkot with an adverse judgment. This basis provides as to polity and worship:

1. That a constitution shall be drafted, based upon the constitutions of the Presbyterian Churches in Europe and America.

2. That in all meetings of Church courts in which the United Presbyterian Church in North America is represented, Psalms alone shall be sung out of respect to their opinion, and also because the Psalms alone are a sufficient medium by which to express Divine praise.

3. Official members of these missions, refusing to sever their connection with the home courts, are to be only advisory members of the courts in India, while those severing this connection and submitting to the courts in India are to be full members. All shall be free to choose one of these relations.

4. The Synod is to be the court of last resort, except that it shall have power to refer cases to the General Assembly for advisement or decision.

The doctrinal basis is to consist: 1st, Of the Apostles' Creed; 2nd, The Nicene Creed; 3rd, A modern statement of doctrine, which is not yet prepared. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms and the Heidelberg Catechism are to be held in veneration, and as useful for edification. There is to be a General Assembly, with five subordinate Synods, embracing all the Presbyterian Churches in India.

In the judgment of the Assembly this basis, if adopted, would be an abandonment of the Standards of the Church for a creed not yet prepared, would authorize in India a confession of faith not accepted at home, and would sever the mission from the mother Church. It was therefore,

Resolved, That the Basis of Union of the Presbyterian Churches in India, submitted to this Assembly by the Sialkot Presbytery, be not approved. Vol. VII, p. 426, 1890. (For the Basis in full, and the action of the Sialkot Presbytery, see p. 502, 1890.)

LXXXVIII. PRESBYTERIES

1. Presbyteries Abroad

(1) **The Relation of Missionary Presbyteries to the Assembly.** *Whereas*,

The subordination and supervision of Church courts constitute a fundamental principle of Presbyterianism; and,

Whereas, Our foreign missionary Presbyteries, and the Presbyteries of Oregon and San Francisco, are not related to any Synod, and are not subject to have their proceedings reviewed by such a court; therefore,

Resolved, That our foreign missionary Presbyteries, and the Presbyteries of Oregon and San Francisco stand in the same relation to the General Assembly as that in which any Presbytery at home stands to its Synod, and that these Presbyteries henceforth be required to send up certified copies of their minutes annually to the General Assembly for revision; but it is understood that in cases of discipline, appeals cannot be entertained. Vol. IV, p. 189, 1875. [This paper was laid on the table.]

[See also Oregon, Presbytery of.]

[The question of the relation of the foreign mission Presbyteries to the General Assembly was referred to the Committee on Judiciary, and the following action was taken]:

Whereas, It is a fundamental principle in our Presbyterian polity that every subordinate court shall be under the control and subject to the revision of the superior courts; and,

Whereas, The Presbyteries of Egypt and Sialkot are isolated and without Synodical connection and control, and therefore their proceedings have not been subject to revision of a superior court; and,

Whereas, These Presbyteries, from the very necessity of the case, have practically Synodical powers; therefore,

Resolved, That the Presbyteries of Egypt and Sialkot be directed to submit to each General Assembly a certified copy of their records for revision. Vol. V, p. 29, 1879.

(2) **Minutes of Foreign Missionary Presbyteries.** *Resolved*, That the Presbyteries of Egypt and Sialkot be directed to submit to each Assembly a certified copy of their records for revision. Vol. V, p. 29, 1879.

1. That Presbyteries in foreign lands be directed to forward their minutes annually, in English translations. Vol. V, p. 200, 1880.

[The Missionary Association of Egypt asked that the Presbytery of Egypt be exempted from sending a copy of its minutes for revision. On this the action was]:

Resolved, That the Presbytery of Egypt, in view of the labor involved in a translation of the entire proceedings of its meetings, be excused, as requested, and be directed instead to forward a full abstract of the proceedings in English. Vol. VII, p. 416, 1890.

(3) **Organization of Presbyteries.** In the Synod of the Punjab, India:

Gujranwala, Vol. VII, p. 240, 1893.

Gurdaspur, Vol. VII, p. 240, 1893.

Lyalpur, Vol. XIII, p. 347, 1913.

Pasrur, Vol. XVIII, p. 907, 1934.

Rawalpindi, Vol. X, p. 821, 1903.

Sargodha, Vol. XIII, p. 347, 1913.

Sialkot, Dec. 18, 1856.

In the Synod of the Nile, Egypt; Egypt, organized April 13, 1860, separated into four Presbyteries May 11, 1899.

Assiut, Vol. X, p. 194, 1900.

Delta, The, Vol. X, p. 194, 1900.

Mellawi, Vol. XIX, p. 605, 1938.

Middle Egypt, Vol. X, p. 194, 1900.

Sudan, The, Vol. XIII, p. 347, 1913.

Thebes, Vol. X, p. 194, 1900.

In Ethiopia, authorized, Vol. XX, p. 37, 1940.

(4) **Preservation of the Records of Foreign Presbyteries.** *Resolved,* That in view of the danger to which these Presbyteries are exposed, of the loss or destruction of their papers, these copies of their minutes be placed in the charge of the United Presbyterian Historical Society, to be deposited with other valuable historical documents. Vol. V, p. 200, 1880.

(5) **Representation in the General Assembly.** Representatives are to be sent from Egypt and India in alternate years. Provision for the expenses is to be made from funds in America and in the field. Vol. XIX, p. 960, 1939.

2. Called Meetings. Matters of Business Must Be Specified

The following recommendation was adopted:

3. The Presbytery of Wheeling requests that it be made possible to consider by common consent at called meetings of Presbytery matters not specified in the call for the meeting. It is the judgment of your committee that such privilege would frequently be useful. The privilege should, however, be safeguarded by the requirement that any action on important matters not specified in the call must be subject to review at the first regular meeting, as there is usually only a fraction of the membership of Presbytery present at a called meeting. However, as this action involves a change in the Book of Government, it could only be effected by overture to the Presbyteries. We, therefore, recommend—That the Memorial be not granted. Vol. XIV, p. 37, 1916.

3. Changes in Presbyteries

Brookville dissolved. Vol. XV, p. 267, 1921.

Caledonia transferred to First Synod of the West. Vol. XV, p. 40, 1920.

Chillicothe became part of First Ohio Presbytery. Vol. X, p. 821, 1903.

Frankfort dissolved, reorganized, and finally dissolved. Vol. XV, p. 294, 1921; Vol. XV, p. 539, 1922; Vol. XV, p. 833, 1923; Vol. XVIII, p. 607, 1934.

Garnett united with Kansas City as Kansas City Presbytery. Vol. XVI, p. 591, 1926.

Hudson Presbytery organized. Vol. XIII, p. 691, 1914.

Illinois Central dissolved. Vol. XV, p. 833, 1923.

Idaho Presbytery organized. Vol. XII, p. 3, 1908.

Indiana and Indiana N.W. united as Indiana Presbytery. Vol. XVIII, p. 907, 1935.

Iowa N.W. and Cedar Rapids united as Cedar Rapids Presbytery. Vol. XV, p. 267, 1921.

Le Claire and Keokuk united as Keokuk Presbytery. Vol. XV, p. 267, 1921.

New Jersey Presbytery organized. Vol. XI, p. 845, 1907.

New Jersey and Hudson united as Hudson Presbytery. Vol. XIV, p. 675, 1919.

Oklahoma Presbytery organized. Vol. XI, p. 259, 1905.

Omaha and Pawnee united as Nebraska Presbytery. Vol. XVII, p. 623, 1930.

Pittsburg and Kansas City united as Kansas City Presbytery. Vol. XV, p. 3, 1920.

Princeton united with Indiana as Indiana Presbytery. Vol. XIII, p. 3, 1908.

San Francisco, November 8, 1869. Vol. III, p. 28, 1869.

Sidney name changed to Ohio N.W. Vol. XVI, p. 591, 1926.

Texas Presbytery organized. Vol. XIII, p. 3, 1912. Disorganized. Vol. XIX, p. 1, 1936.

Uncompahgre Presbytery organized. Vol. XIII, p. 3, 1912.

4. Commissions Restricted to Definite Matters Committed to Them

A Memorial from Keokuk Presbytery asks for a deliverance in regard to the legality of an Interim Commission of Presbytery. If legal, is it necessary to state place and time of meeting of this Commission? May all the powers of Presbytery be delegated to such a Commission?

Your Committee understands an Interim Commission to mean a Commission appointed by Presbytery to act upon matters that may arise in the interim between meetings of Presbytery.

The entire authority for the appointment of a commission is Chapter XIX of the Book of Government and Worship. It is the clear intent and meaning of the chapter that Commissions may be appointed only for specific purposes and to deal with definite matters which have been brought to the attention of the court, the nature of which is set forth in that chapter, and that no general phrase in said chapter can be construed to authorize a Presbytery to delegate all its powers to any Commission; but only such powers as may be necessary to enable it to deliberate upon and conclude the specific business committed to it.

Section 84 of Chapter XIX provides that it is necessary for the Court appointing a Commission to designate the time and place of its meeting for organization. Vol. XV, p. 302, 1921.

5. Constitution of Presbytery

Definition of "a Pastoral Charge." [The Presbytery of Westmoreland asked the General Assembly to define what constitutes a "pastoral charge," as the term is used in the Form of Government, Chapter V, Article II, Section 1. The report of the Committee on the Judiciary was adopted as follows]:

Your Committee are of the opinion that the phrase is here used in its common and ordinary sense. What this is, may be clearly ascertained from the uniform practice of the Church, and from its use in the constitution of the Board of Home Missions, which reads as follows: "Whenever practicable, mission stations and congregations shall be grouped together in convenient pastoral charges, and no station shall be recommended for aid which can be conveniently united with a neighboring station or congregation in one charge, for which no help would be necessary."

This language evidently teaches that a pastoral charge may consist of a number of congregations grouped by a Presbytery, and comprising one pastoral settlement, or so grouped by the Presbytery as to form a suitable charge for one pastor, and so grouped, also, on the ground that they are able and willing to support a pastor.

We therefore submit, for the adoption of the Assembly, the following:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly, a pastoral charge is a regularly organized congregation under a pastor, or a group of regularly organized congregations recognized by the Presbytery as under the charge of one pastor; or it is such a congregation, or such a group of congregations, as is able and willing, with or without aid, to support a pastor, and which, in the judgment of the Presbytery, would be suitable to form one pastoral settlement. And only such congregation, or group of congregations, according to our Book of Discipline, can be represented in a Presbytery by one ruling elder. Vol. V, p. 512, 1882.

[The Lake Presbytery presented a memorial to the General Assembly asking the submission of an overture to the Presbyteries for a change in the law on the constitution of a Presbytery—Section 1, Article 2, Chapter V, Part I of the Book of Government—so as to admit an elder from each session instead of from each "pastoral charge." The following was adopted]:

The change thus proposed has at least one thing to recommend it. It would secure in Presbyteries the representation of all the sessions in their

respective bounds. But while this is in itself desirable, it would be attended with this serious disadvantage, that the numerical equality between the ministers and the ruling elders in the Presbytery would be destroyed. Your committee is of the opinion that the proposed change, all things considered, is not desirable. We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the Lake Presbytery be not granted. Vol. VII, p. 15, 1888.

The Book of Government and Directory of Worship was amended by an Overture submitted to the Presbyteries and enacted by the Assembly of 1925 as follows:

In Chapter I, Article 53, substitute the word "session" for the word "congregation" in the phrase "of a ruling elder from each congregation," and strike out the words "or from each group of congregations which are united by Presbytery as a pastoral charge." Vol. XVI, p. 41, 1924; p. 349, 1925.

Pastors of Federated Churches Cannot Be Members of Two Presbyteries. First. A Memorial from Los Angeles Presbytery requested that in Federated Churches pastors who are in full and regular standing in other Reformed and Presbyterian denominations be received in full membership in our Presbyteries.

This would necessitate an overture to the Church. The Book of Government would have to be changed to include this provision. It would involve the allegiance of the pastor to two sets of church courses. In view of the limited number of congregations involved and our doubt as to the wisdom of the procedure we recommend that the petition be not granted. Vol. XX, p. 348, 1941.

6. Funds

Resolved, 5. That the General Assembly direct Presbyteries not to retain in any case more than 3 per cent of the total pledge of the Presbytery for Presbyterial and Synodical funds. Vol. XIII, p. 1091, 1915.

7. Representation in the General Assembly

(1) **When Members of Presbytery Are Debarred From Election as Commissioners to the General Assembly.** Be it ordered, that when any Presbytery adopts a rule debarring any member from taking his regular term as a Commissioner of the General Assembly, such member or members shall be thereby eliminated in calculating that Presbytery's representation in the General Assembly. Vol. XVI, p. 906, 1927.

(2) **Provisional Members of Presbytery.** We find in the Book of Government, Chapter XX, Section 88, that members of a provisional session, except in case of an elder duly installed in the congregation, may not represent the congregation as a member of the Presbytery. Since this case is analogous, your Committee unanimously recommends that the provisional member of the Presbytery of Uncompahgre be not seated as a Commissioner in the General Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 630, 1934.

(3) **Presbyteries Make Their Own Rules for Choosing Commissioners to the General Assembly.** 1. A Memorial has been received from the Presbytery of Colorado, asking that the Assembly suggest to Presbyteries a revision of their rules regarding the delegate roll, that the following be the uniform rule: "The Stated Clerk shall arrange and keep a delegate roll according to the date of each minister's last attendance upon General Assembly (from any presbytery). However, no minister shall ordinarily be eligible as a delegate until he has been a member of the presbytery for one year." To the General Assembly has been committed the fixing of the proportion of representation in the Assembly, but it is the inherent right of a presbytery to make all rules governing the election of commissioners. It is certainly beyond the jurisdic-

tion of the General Assembly to even suggest to presbyteries such a rule as proposed by the memorialists. Vol. XVIII, p. 360, 1929.

8. **Presbyterial Supervision of Vacancies.** *Whereas*, Our vacant congregations have so far drifted away from Presbyterial authority as to practically supply themselves, and thus destroy the efficiency of the Superintendent of Missions; we deem it necessary for the General Assembly to call the attention of the Presbyteries to its former deliverances on this subject. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That a Committee of Supplies be appointed in each Presbytery with the superintendent of missions as chairman.

2. Said Committee, after consultation with vacant congregations, shall appoint all the supplies.

3. Supplies desiring appointments shall seek them only through the Committee of Supplies. Vol. IX, p. 535, 1898.

LXXXIX. PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1. **Distinctive Principles of the Church to Be Maintained.** [Memorials relating to the distinctive principles of the United Presbyterian Church were presented from the Presbytery of Wheeling and various members of the Assembly. Whereupon the Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1st. That the General Assembly hereby declares anew its devotion to all the distinctive principles of the Church, and its determination, so far as in it lies, to have all under its supervision properly instructed in these principles, and to have them carried out by kind and faithful discipline.

2d. That the sessions of all the congregations throughout the Church be directed to see that the distinctive principles of the Church are properly taught in the Sabbath Schools under their care, and that pastors are enjoined to give careful and needed instructions upon these subjects in their public and private ministrations.

3d. That the sessions of the Churches be enjoined to be faithful in requiring the intelligent assent of those whom they admit to membership in the Church to all her distinctive principles, and to exercise the discipline which the Scriptures and the standards of the Church require in the case of any who violate these principles.

4th. That the Presbyteries are hereby enjoined to exercise proper Presbyterial care with respect to the distinctive principles of the Church, by seeing that sessions, of which they have the oversight, are faithful in the admission of members and the exercise of discipline; by Presbyterial conventions relating to these matters, and by such other means as may be best adapted to secure the end in view; and that they report their obedience to this injunction annually to the General Assembly, in connection with their report upon the Narrative and State of Religion. Vol. VI, p. 233, 1885.

Resolved, That the attention of Presbyteries and the Permanent Committee on Narrative and State of Religion be directed to the following action of the Assembly of 1885, viz.: That the Presbyteries, etc. [Resolution 4, above.] Vol. VI, p. 682, 1887.

Resolved, 3. That we urge pastors and Sessions to do all in their power to have members act consistently and in harmony with all the principles of our Church. Vol. VII, p. 434, 1890.

2. **Sessions to Have Liberty of Judgment in the Application of Distinctive Principles.** There are doubtless unnecessary local infractions of all our articles of faith, but such infractions are without the approval of the Church as a body. We recognize always that Sessions must be allowed the exercise of good common sense in the enforcement of all laws. The interests of the kingdom of Christ must ever be put first, but in subserviency to the interests of the kingdom, we believe our Church is loyal to all our distinctive principles. Vol. IX, p. 784, 1899.

3. **Annual Report to the General Assembly.** *Resolved*, 4. That Presbyteries are hereby enjoined to exercise proper Presbyterian care with respect to the distinctive principles of the Church, by seeing that Sessions, of which they have the oversight, are faithful in the admission of members and the exercise of discipline; by Presbyterian conventions relating to these matters, and by such other means as are best adapted to secure the end in view; and that they report their obedience to this injunction annually to the General Assembly in connection with their report upon the Narrative and State of Religion. Vol. VI, p. 233, 1885.

4. **Aid Not to Be Asked for Congregations Ignoring the Principles of the Church.** *Resolved*, That while this Assembly urges upon our members and congregations the great importance of faithfully maintaining the principles of our Church, the agencies to which the distribution of funds belong must act on the presumption that Presbyteries will recommend for aid only those congregations which are faithful to their profession, and active in their efforts to advance the interests of Christ's Kingdom; and Presbyteries are hereby urged not to recommend any congregation for aid, either to the Home Mission Board or Church Extension Board, which is known to ignore the principles of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. VII, p. 222, 1889.

5. **The Boards Do Not Have Presbyterian Supervision of Congregations.** The agencies to which the distribution of funds belongs must act on the presumption that Presbyteries will recommend for aid only those congregations which are faithful to their profession. Vol. VII, p. 222, 1889.

See Section 3, above.

6. **Presbyters May Propose a Change in the Principles of the Church.** The memorial asks the following question: "Can a minister or elder be and continue to be in good standing in the United Presbyterian Church, who proposes or votes to overturn the question of expunging any article of the Confession of Faith or of the Testimony, or any distinctive principle or ordinance of worship, held and observed by the said United Presbyterian Church, or who labors and votes in the Presbytery for such overturn after it has been sent down by the Assembly?"

The question of the memorialist is somewhat indefinite. We do not regard it as wise, ordinarily, for the Assembly to decide hypothetical cases, when the existing laws of the Church are sufficient for all practical purposes, if properly enforced.

Section 5, Article IV, Chapter V, of the Book of Government, reads as follows: "Before any regulation affecting the doctrine, worship or government of the Church shall be adopted or made binding, it shall be transmitted in overture to all the Presbyteries," etc. This language plainly implies that such matters are subject to the test of overture, and any member of the Church has a right to proceed in an orderly manner in the exercise of the privileges implied in this law. And according to the articles of union, the forbearance in love, required by the law of God, is to be exercised toward any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe to all the standards of the United Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace and things whereby one may edify another. Vol. VI, p. 663, 1887.

7. **Changes in Principles of the Church.** (1) *Secret Societies.* By the adoption of The Confessional Statement the matter of membership in all associations is left to the individual conscience. Confessional Statement, Article XXXV.

(2) *Restricted Communion.* By the adoption of The Confessional Statement the principle of restricted communion was changed to "all are to be invited to the Lord's Supper who have confessed their faith in Christ and are leading a Christian life." Confessional Statement, Article XXX.

(3) *Psalmody.* The following resolution was adopted:

A. 4. With respect to the memorial from the Presbytery of Monongahela:

This memorial presents the question—"Does the 18th Article of our Testimony prohibit the singing in our Churches of Scripture words other than the Psalms?"

The following answer is submitted: The 18th Article of the Testimony is the witness of the Church to that which should be the matter of praise in the formal worship of God. It testifies solely as to formal worship of God. It enjoins the use of the songs contained in the Book of Psalms. It disallows the use of the devotional compositions of uninspired men. It refrains from any expression as to the use of Scripture words other than Psalms. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we hereby declare that the 18th Article of the Testimony does not prohibit the singing of other inspired Scriptures than those of the Psalms in the public worship of God.

2. That the exercise of such freedom in the use of inspired Scripture for the purpose of impulse and instruction in the way of life and for the comfort of believers, shall be at the discretion and under the control of sessions. Vol. XIII, p. 731, 1914.

B. By the adoption of The Confessional Statement the principle of Psalmody was modified by the omission of "exclusive." Confessional Statement, Article XXVIII.

C. The General Assembly of 1927 adopted the following interpretation: Your Committee on Judiciary unanimously reports as follows:

We received from the Assembly a number of papers, some designated protests, some petitions, and some memorials. These papers all cite as illegal the action of the General Assembly of 1926 in ordering the publication of books of praise containing uninspired hymns, on the ground that Article 78 of the Book of Government and Worship requires overture to the Presbyteries of any proposal involving change in worship.

It is the judgment of this Assembly that the *real* proposal involving alteration or innovation in worship was regularly submitted in overture by the Assembly of 1924, received a clear majority in the Presbyteries, and was legally enacted by the Assembly of 1925.

The Church thus deliberately and by regular procedure substituted for the old Article, which contained a clause *excluding* uninspired hymns, an article which did *not* exclude them. In the discussions of the overtured Article the central point of interest was whether or not the Church desired to remove that old excluding clause. By a large majority the Church decided that it did so desire.

By this action the only legal bar to the use of uninspired hymns in formal worship was removed. Thenceforth there was no legal bar in the way of a congregation if it wished to introduce a hymnbook of its own choosing; and no legal bar if the General Assembly, in order to avoid confusion and secure uniformity, in order to prevent the inrush of unfit material, and in order to secure for the Psalms the place of pre-eminence in the Church's praise, saw fit to take steps to secure these ends. In taking these steps, including the action of the Assembly of 1926, which is complained of, the General Assemblies have proceeded upon the basis of a change in the Church's law of praise already made in the constitutional way.

It is the judgment of this Assembly therefore, that the Assembly of 1926 did not violate the constitutional law of the Church.

Your Committee recommends that the petition of the memorialists be not granted. Vol. XVI, p. 891, 1927.

XC. PSALMODY

1. **Ministers Are Not to Sanction Human Compositions in the Matter of Praise.** Is it consistent with our standards for our ministers to enter into any arrangements to unite in the public or social worship of God, where human compositions are employed as the matter of praise? It is not consistent with our profession to enter into any arrangements by which we may, in any sense, sanction or approve of the use of human compositions in the worship of God. Vol. I, p. 114, 1860.

2. **Paraphrases Are Not to Be Used as Songs of Praise in the Worship of God.** *Resolved*, 1. That the use of paraphrases as songs of praise in the worship of God is not consistent with the principles and usages of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. III, p. 419, 1872.

3. **Interpretation of the Law on Psalmody.** In the memorial the following question is asked: "Does the declaration of our Testimony on Psalmody, Article XVIII, permit members of the United Presbyterian Church to join in the singing of the compositions of uninspired men, in connection with religious services, held anywhere or under any circumstances?"

That Article XVIII clearly requires us to use only the songs contained in the Book of Psalms, in the worship of God, needs no argument; and that uninspired songs may be sung otherwise than as acts of worship is equally clear.

No definite rule can be laid down by which all can be enabled to determine between acts of worship and exercises of a kindred but less solemn character. Something must, therefore, be left to the good sense and Christian prudence of each individual.

The intention of others, with whom we may be expected to join in singing, will generally be a valuable help in determining this question. If they are engaged in worship according to their own declaration, then we, in joining with them, will be regarded as uniting in their worship. "But if any man may say unto you, this is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not," is a direction that may safely be followed in many things that are not properly classed with idolatry. We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That the question of the memorial be answered in the negative. Vol. VI, p. 680, 1887.

4. **An Amended Version of the Psalms.** *Resolved*, That the Board of Publication be authorized to prepare a revised edition of the metrical version of the Psalms now in use. Vol. I, p. 41, 1859.

[The Board of Publication presented versions of the Psalms to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That * * * be a committee, with the Board of Publication, on the subject of revising the present version of the Psalms.

2. That the whole subject of a revised edition of the Psalms be referred to the Board of Publication thus strengthened, that they publish the version as amended, and that they report to the next General Assembly. Vol. I, p. 114, 1860.

[The report of this committee was brought before the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That we highly approve the labors of this committee, and hereby send their amended version in overture to the Presbyteries under our care.

2. That in reporting on this overture, the Presbyteries are instructed to report to the next General Assembly: 1. On the overture, aye or no. 2. That should any Presbytery have objections to the amended version, they shall specify particularly to the General Assembly the grounds of their objection,

and should they desire any amendments or alterations, they shall make them in their own language.

3. That Presbyteries having objections or desiring alterations or amendments, shall communicate them to the committee on an improved version of the Psalms before the first of February, 1862; and that the committee be directed to take such suggestions into careful consideration, and embody such as meet their approbation into their report in full to the next General Assembly, for adoption, should the Assembly approve them. Vol. I, p. 221, 1861.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]: It appears: 1. That the amended version of the Psalms overtured to the Church is not adopted. 2. That a decided majority of Presbyteries are in favor of proceeding with the present effort under proper restrictions. In view of these conclusions:

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly refer the amended version of the Psalms to a select committee, consisting of three members.

2. That the committee be limited in the amendments which they shall propose to the removal of obsolete words, the correction of errors in grammar, errors of punctuation, and defective lines.

3. That this committee be instructed to report to the next General Assembly. Vol. I, p. 349, 1862.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly express their thanks to the committee for their services, and the progress made by them in improving our version of the Psalms.

2. That the proposed amendments be recommitted to the same committee, with instructions to report to the next Assembly.

3. That the Presbyteries be directed to forward to the committee such suggestions as may aid them in their work. Vol. I, p. 498, 1863.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the amendments proposed by the committee on amending the present version of the Psalms, together with those adopted at this meeting of the Assembly, be and they hereby are overtured to the Presbyteries for their consideration, with instructions to report thereon to the committee before January, 1865.

2. That Presbyteries be directed to report to said committee such amendments as they would desire to have made, whether these have been proposed by the committee or not.

3. That Presbyteries be further instructed to report yea or nay, whether they would be willing to accept the version as amended by the committee and Assembly, in case such additional amendments as may be suggested should not be adopted.

5. That the committee on amending our present version of the Psalms have our hearty thanks, that they be continued, and that they are hereby instructed to prosecute their work until they have amended the whole of the version, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. II, p. 36, 1864.

[This overtured version was not adopted. Yeas, 56; nays, 126. Vol. II, p. 160, 1865.]

[An amended version of the Psalms was published by the Board of Publication, concerning which the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the corrected edition of the authorized version of the Book of Psalms published by the Board of Publication, and laid on the table of this Assembly, be approved as the standard edition of our authorized Psalter.

2. That while approving of this book, the Assembly desires to express its

regret that the Board should have made this publication without the direction of the Assembly.

3. That the Board be directed not to proceed with the publication of the proposed series of Psalm Books, until it receives further direction from the Assembly. Vol. II, p. 165, 1865.

Resolved, 6. That the Board of Publication be directed to complete the work of amending the present version, according to the plan partially executed and approved by the Assembly at Washington, Iowa, in 1865. Vol. II, p. 490, 1868.

Resolved, That * * * be appointed a committee to complete the work of preparing an amended version of the Psalms, as committed to the Board of Publication by the last Assembly, and report their amendments to the next Assembly. Vol. III, p. 35, 1869.

Your committee, however, are of opinion that they [the amendments proposed to the old version] are more numerous than is desirable or necessary; and as great care should be taken not to impair the integrity of our present excellent version, or unnecessarily to change language dear and familiar to so many, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed, * * * to which these amendments shall be referred, with instructions to use them according to their best judgment, in amending the text of the present version in such a way as shall not impair its identity; and further, that they have authority to incorporate and publish an edition of the same as the authorized version. Vol. III, p. 144, 1870.

Resolved, 3. That said committee, with the Board of Publication, be directed to publish, at as early a day as possible, an edition of the present version, when amended as proposed above, with the new versions inserted in their proper places. Vol. III, p. 145, 1870.

Resolved, 1. That the revised edition of the present version of the Psalms and the new versions, published in the same volume, by direction of the Twelfth General Assembly, be authorized to be used according to the action of that Assembly.

2. That the committee are entitled to the thanks of the Assembly, and the Church, for the faithfulness and ability with which their duty has been performed.

4. That the present committee, * * * * be continued, to supervise and correct any typographical and verbal inaccuracies that may occur in the publication of this authorized edition. Vol. III, p. 284, 1871.

5. **A New Version of the Psalms.** *Resolved*, 1. That the version of the Book of Psalms now used by the United Presbyterian Church be retained without any change that would affect its integrity.

2. That to be used in connection with this, it is desirable to have an entirely new version of equal fidelity, and up to the present state of literature and laws of versification.

3. That a committee be appointed to take charge of this work, and either by selections from versions extant, or the labors of a competent person, endeavor to have such version in readiness to report to the next Assembly; that in this work, they be instructed to make fidelity to the original an object of special attention; and that, as they progress, they publish the results of their labors in the periodicals of the Church.

4. That this version, when reported to the Assembly, if deemed worthy, shall be overtured to the Presbyteries. Vol. I, p. 36, 1859.

Resolved, That the committee on the preparation of a new version of the Psalms be instructed to correspond with the other Churches who use the Book of Psalms, and endeavor to secure their co-operation. Vol. I, p. 36, 1859.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That * * * be a committee, and they be authorized to complete the work assigned them, and report to the next Assembly.

2. That in the meantime they shall publish the result of their labors in cheap pamphlet form, for the examination of the Church. Vol. I, p. 120, 1860.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly that they had prepared new versions of sixty-seven Psalms, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the new and improved version of a portion of the Book of Psalms, prepared by the committee appointed by the General Assembly of 1860, be overtured to the Presbyteries under our care.

2. That Presbyteries be instructed to examine it carefully and report to the next General Assembly. Vol. I, p. 223, 1861.

[The Assembly of 1862 instructed this committee to report progress to the next Assembly. Vol. I, p. 365, 1862. To the next Assembly the committee reported that they had prepared fifteen new versions, when they were continued, enlarged, and instructed to publish specimens of the versions prepared by them. Vol. I, p. 495, 1863. The committee reported to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That the further consideration of this version of fifteen Psalms be postponed till the question of the copyright of Abner Jones is satisfactorily settled. Vol. II, p. 27, 1864.

[Owing to the difficulty with Prof. Abner Jones concerning his copyright, a new committee was appointed, and the work of preparing a new version of the Psalms was begun anew]:

Resolved, 1. That * * * be appointed a committee to take charge of the preparation of a new version; that they be empowered to offer premiums for the best versions of the Psalms, and take such other measures as they may deem proper for attaining the end contemplated; and that they report to each successive Assembly such versions of any of the Psalms as they may judge suitable, which, when approved by the Church, shall be inserted in the Psalm Book, and be authorized to be sung in the worship of God.

2. That each Synod be requested to appoint, at its first meeting, one or two of its own members to act as corresponding and consultative members of this committee.

3. That this committee be enjoined to meet at their earliest convenience, and prosecute their labors with diligence; their respective Presbyteries, when necessary, supplying their pulpits in their absence. Vol. II, p. 37, 1864.

[This committee reported that they had prepared versions of sixty-three Psalms, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly highly approves the manner in which the committee intrusted with the preparation of a new metrical version of the Psalms has performed its work.

2. That in considering the versions of Psalms reported by this committee, the Assembly will proceed as follows: The moderator shall announce each version, beginning with the first; any member may move to strike out the version announced; if the motion prevail, the particular version under consideration shall be rejected; if not, or if no motion to reject be made, the version shall be declared approved.

3. That the versions now approved by the Assembly, viz.: All contained in the volume published by the committee on the preparation of a new version, be and hereby are overtured to the Presbyteries for their approval or rejection.

4. That the Presbyteries be and hereby are instructed as follows: First, to act on this overture as early as possible, before the fifteenth day of September next, at farthest, and to call special meetings for the purpose. Second, To vote aye or no on each version of a Psalm now overtured. Third,

To communicate their action, without delay, to the moderator, specifying particularly their objections to the versions they may reject. Fourth, To report to the next Assembly.

5. That the moderator be instructed to count the votes received by him, and transmit, on or before October 1, the result, together with the objections of the Presbyteries to rejected versions, to the committee on the preparation of a new version.

6. That the Assembly, earnestly desiring the completion of the work, and being persuaded that the versions now in overture will receive the approval of the Church, do hereby call upon the committee above mentioned to proceed, without delay, in the preparation of new versions of the remaining Psalms, and publish the result of their labors as soon as possible.

7. That such versions as may be thus published by the committee be and hereby are overtured to the Presbyteries for their adoption or rejection.

8. That Presbyteries be and hereby are instructed as follows: First, To vote aye or no on each version of a Psalm thus published. Second, To communicate their objections to such versions as they may reject, to the committee. Third, To report to the next Assembly.

9. That the Assembly hereby declares its earnest desire that the committee on the new version, the Presbyteries, and the next Assembly, will give the whole subject such prompt, earnest and careful attention, as shall be necessary to bring the work to a speedy close, and furnish the Church with a complete version suited to its wants.

11. That the Presbyteries be instructed to supply the pulpits of such of their members as are members of this committee while engaged in the work assigned them by the Assembly. Vol. II, p. 149, 1865.

[At the next Assembly, the vote of the Presbyteries on the overtured Psalms was counted, and the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the twenty-five versions, specified in the list as having a majority of three-fourths of the votes cast, be adopted, as amended by the committee.

2. That the versions which the Assembly shall not adopt at this meeting, except the fourteen specified in the list as rejected, be continued in overture until the meeting of the next General Assembly, together with the amendments adopted by the committee; and also the second volume be continued in overture.

3. That any versions which may be approved by this Assembly shall be considered subject to amendment until the whole work of preparing a new version is finally completed.

4. That any version finally receiving the sanction of the Church shall be incorporated and published with the present authorized version.

5. That it be distinctly stated by this Assembly that, in adopting a portion of the versions in overture, it is not intended to set aside the use of the present authorized version or any part of it, nor is it intended to require the introduction of the new versions into any congregation, nor even to encourage the introduction of them when this would be offensive to the people, or any considerable portion of them. It is also earnestly recommended to pastors and Sessions to do nothing rashly in this matter whereby the peace of congregations might be marred.

6. That the present committee to prepare a new version be released in compliance with their request, and that a special committee be appointed to nominate the members of a new committee. Vol. II, p. 306, 1866.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly, when the following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That all the versions of volume first, excepting seven, which have majorities below fifty, be adopted.

2. That these seven be referred to the committee to be amended, and that they then be sent down to the Presbyteries in overture.

3. That the amendments proposed by the committee be referred to the Assembly for their decision.

4. That all the versions adopted by the Assembly be still subject to amendments, and that Presbyteries be asked to send any alterations they feel ought to be made, to the chairman of the committee on the new version of the Psalms. Vol. II, p. 416, 1867.

Resolved, 1. That * * * be, and hereby are, appointed a committee to canvass and publish the votes of the Presbyteries on the overture of the new version of volume second.

That all the reports of Presbyteries now on the table of this Assembly be placed in the hands of the aforesaid committee.

3. That this committee be directed to procure, as soon and as far as practicable, the reports of the Presbyteries on the second volume of new versions now among the papers of the last Assembly.

4. That the chairman of said committee having ascertained the Presbyteries from which there is no report, he hereby is directed to notify the moderator or clerk of such Presbyteries, and call for their reports.

5. That all Presbyteries which have sent up their reports have leave to amend them, if they so desire.

6. That the committee close the reception of reports on the second volume of new versions, on the first day of November, 1867, and all Presbyteries which desire their voice to be heard in the decision must have their reports in by that date.

7. That on the first of November proximo, the committee shall proceed to canvass and make up the vote on each version, and shall publish in the papers of the Church the numbers of all the versions which shall have received a majority of two-thirds and over of the votes cast on each version.

8. That all versions of Psalms in the second volume thus sanctioned by such votes, shall, as soon as officially announced by the chairman of said committee, be held as authorized in the worship of the Church.

9. That the committee prepare such versions as are adopted for publication, in pamphlet form, by the Board of Publication. Vol. II, p. 414, 1867.

[At the next Assembly the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed; to which shall be referred the versions of Psalms in the second volume prepared by the committee, with instructions to select out of those having a majority over fifty, such as appear to be least liable to objection, and report the same to this Assembly, with a view to their being adopted, as authorized to be used in the worship of God. Vol. II, p. 502, 1868.

[At the recommendation of this committee sixteen versions were adopted. Vol. II, p. 508, 1868.]

[The following action was also taken]:

Resolved, 2. That * * * be, and hereby are, appointed a committee on revision, to which the versions now adopted shall be referred, for such modifications and amendments as they may think needful.

3. That the above committee report the result of their labors to the next Assembly for its action.

4. That * * * constitute the committee on versification.

5. That the versions overtured last year, and not adopted, be recommended to said committee, with instructions to revise carefully twenty versions and present them to the next General Assembly for overture to Presbyteries. Vol. II, p. 490, 1868.

[The committee on versification reported to the next Assembly that they had prepared twenty-eight additional versions, which were overtured to

Presbyteries. Vol. III, p. 15, 1869. These twenty-eight versions, with four exceptions, received the requisite majority, and were declared adopted. Vol. III, p. 145, 1870.]

[A committee was appointed to revise the versions already adopted. On the report of this committee, the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the corrections and emendations reported be referred to a committee of five, * * * with instructions to embody them, as their judgment may dictate, in a collection of versions to be published as soon as possible.

2. That the Assembly concur with the recommendation of the committee, except in regard to Psalm VI, 8s and 7s, and agree to strike out or rescind the action of former Assemblies adopting the following versions, namely: Psalms XX, C. M.; XXXIX, L. M., six lines; XLIII, L. M.; LXXXIX, L. M.; CXXXVII, L. M., and CXLVI, L. M., six lines; as being either altogether unnecessary, or not as faithful translations as others that have been adopted, or as faithful as can be made of these Psalms; and that the committee be directed to carry out this in preparing the next edition for publication. Vol. III, p. 144, 1870.

Resolved, That the work of preparing new versions be discontinued for the present. Vol. III, p. 144, 1870.

[The committee on versification, appointed by the Assembly of 1869, reported that they had prepared thirty-three new versions, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That, excepting the versions of Psalms XXXII, L. M., and LXXII, 10s, they be sent down in overture to the Presbyteries, with instructions to report their judgment, yea, or nay, to Dr. Beveridge, the chairman of the committee of five, already named, not later than December 1, 1870; and that they regard all having a majority of two-thirds as adopted.

2. That said committee be authorized to count the votes, and incorporate those adopted with the new versions already approved.

3. That said committee, with the Board of Publication, be directed to publish, at as early a day as possible, an edition of the present version when amended, with the new versions inserted in their proper places.

4. That the Board of Publication be directed to publish the overtured versions as speedily as possible, and transmit to the clerks of Presbyteries a sufficient number of copies to supply the ministers and elders of each Presbytery respectively. Vol. III, p. 144, 1870.

[This committee reported that twenty-six of these versions had received a majority of more than two-thirds, and had been incorporated in the revised edition of the Psalms, published by the direction of the Assembly. Concerning this revised edition of the Psalms, the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That the revised edition of the present version of the Psalms, and the new versions published in the same volume, by direction of the Twelfth General Assembly, be authorized to be used according to the action of that Assembly.

2. That the committee are entitled to the thanks of the Assembly and the Church for the faithfulness and ability with which their duty has been performed.

4. That the present committee, * * * be continued to supervise and correct any typographical and verbal inaccuracies that may occur in the publication of this authorized edition. Vol. III, p. 284, 1871.

[The history of the preparation of the new version of the Psalms is thus given by the committee]:

It is now forty-four years since the propriety of amending our version of the Psalms, and introducing additional duplicate versions, was suggested in the "Religious Monitor," Vol. I, pp. 497, 500. The proposal at the time met with little favor, but has never since been entirely forgotten. During the

twelve years since our union, committees have been again and again appointed to attend to this business. There have now been prepared and published by these committees 173 versions, not including twelve which were only republished with amendments. Of these 173, there have been adopted 145, and nearly all by majorities of more than two-thirds, and not a few almost unanimously. Seven of these have since, for various reasons, been dropped; leaving still 138 versions, embracing 117 Psalms, authorized to be used, in worship, by the Church. Vol. III, p. 313, 1871.

6. **The Introduction of the Amended and New Versions into Congregational Worship.** *Resolved*, 1. That the revised Psalms are commended to all our congregations, with increased confidence in their fidelity, excellence and peculiar fitness for the praise of the Churches at the present time.

2. That we do affectionately and sincerely recommend that all our congregations introduce the revised Psalms into all their worship, in private and in public, as soon as practicable.

3. That it is the deliberate judgment of this General Assembly, which we solemnly commend to the consideration of all our people, that by the early and harmonious introduction of the revised Psalms, they will contribute their best influence for the conservation and perpetuation of the Psalms of the Bible in the Church of God. Vol. III, p. 388, 1872.

Resolved, That it is the province of the Session to decide when the revised Psalm Book shall be introduced into the congregations. Vol. IV, p. 33, 1874.

7. **Selections From the Psalms to Be Published by the Board of Publication.** *Resolved*, That the Board of Publication be authorized to publish selections from the revised edition of the Book of Psalms for use in prayer meetings and Sabbath schools. Vol. IV, p. 189, 1875.

8. **Version and Copyright of Prof. Abner Jones.** [When the committee had printed sixty-seven selected and prepared versions, Prof. Abner Jones, who had published a version, gave notice that he would regard the publication of them an infringement of his copyright. Vol. I, p. 305, 1861. The Assembly appointed a committee to confer with him on the subject. P. 223. Prof. Jones presented to the Assembly of 1864 a memorial on the subject of his copyright, and the Assembly suspended further consideration of the versions then before it until the question of copyright was settled, and at the same time assured Mr. Jones that it would not do anything that would infringe his right or that of any other author, without permission and satisfactory compensation. It also appointed a committee to confer with Mr. Jones. Vol. II, pp. 27, 30, 1864. This committee reported to the next Assembly, and the Assembly again disclaimed any intention of interfering with the copyright of Mr. Jones, and approved the determination of the committee to avoid borrowing from his version. Vol. II, p. 159, 1865. Mrs. Jones proposed to the Assembly to sell the copyright of her late husband, and the Assembly appointed a committee to confer with her on the subject, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. II, p. 490, 1868. The subject does not again appear.]

3. That the Board is hereby instructed not to accept for publication in any of its periodicals any musical composition which alters the authorized wording of the Psalms in the construction of choruses, anthems, etc., but to require strict adherence to the forms of expression found in our metrical version, or in that of the prose version, in all the books of selections they publish; and that all publications of music for conventions and congregations be published by the Board. Vol. IX, p. 772, 1899.

9. **Copyright to the New Versions.** The publishers of the Sabbath School Quarterly of Chicago asked permission to use the revised edition of the Book of Psalms in making selections for their publication. The privilege was granted on condition they would give a like privilege concerning the music published with the selections. Vol. IV, p. 590, 1878.

See also Psalter, Section 3.

10. **The Psalter and Bible Songs.** See Bible Songs, and Psalter.

11. **A Conference of Psalm-singing Churches.** A communication was received from the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, asking the appointment of delegates to a conference of Psalm-singing Churches. The appointment was made. Vol. VI, p. 31, 1884. The conference was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., on September 25, 1884, and was composed of delegates from the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church. A paper was adopted to be transmitted to the different Churches represented, that they might express their judgment for the direction of a future conference. This paper was referred to a committee, but no further action appears. Vol. VI, pp. 220, 296, 1885.

12. **A Uniform Psalmody.** Your Committee, to which was referred a memorial asking for a metrical version of the Book of Psalms, which would be acceptable to all the Psalm-singing Churches of our country, would make the following report:

When our present version was in preparation, we earnestly invited the other Psalm-singing Churches to unite with us in the work, and would have gladly welcomed them then; and we still desire union with them in this respect. We therefore recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That a Committee of three persons be appointed to confer with a similar Committee, that may be appointed by our sister denominations, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. VIII, p. 267, 1893.

12. **A Psalmody Alliance Proposed.** [A paper was submitted to the Assembly, proposing the formation of a "Psalmody Alliance."] In the judgment of the General Assembly such an alliance could not bear more effective testimony for an inspired Psalmody than is now borne by the United Presbyterian Church. [The Principal Clerk was therefore instructed to reply that the Assembly respectfully declines to enter the proposed alliance.] Vol. VII, p. 35, 1888.

13. **The Joint Committee on New Metrical Version of the Psalms.** This Committee from various Churches was first appointed in 1893.

The General Assembly appointed representatives from the United Presbyterian Church from year to year and received reports of progress. This Committee concluded its work in 1910 with the action indicated in 18, below.

14. **Psalmody Conventions.** *Resolved*, That the General Assembly approve the request presented in these memorials, and will, at this meeting, appoint a committee of seven, with Prof. John McNaugher, D.D., as chairman, whose duty it shall be to make all suitable arrangements for the holding of two popular conventions during the year 1905, in the interests of a more general use of the Psalms as the Church's inspired songs of praise. This committee shall have power to fix definitely the times and places for these conventions; to prepare and publish a suitable program; to invite co-operation of other Churches at home and abroad, and to solicit private subscriptions to defray necessary expenses. Vol. XI, p. 841, 1903.

The following is part of the report submitted by the Committee in charge of the Psalmody Conventions and adopted by the General Assembly:

The committee appointed to arrange for two conventions during 1905 in the interest of Psalmody respectfully reports the accomplishment of this part of its duty. The first of these conventions met in the Sixth Church, Pittsburgh. It began on October 31st and closed on November 2d, holding seven sessions. The second met in the Second Church, Chicago, commencing on November 14th and closing on November 16th. The topics handled and the order of exercises were the same for both conventions, but each had its

own chairmen and speakers. The two programs show that fifty-four papers in all were presented, exclusive of the excellent introductory addresses of the various chairmen. These papers were broad enough in range to provide for every phase of the subject of Psalmody and display the strength of our denominational testimony. Definitely argumentative and doctrinal discussions were supplemented by others running along practical, literary, and historical lines, and these last were found to make no small contribution toward commending the exclusive use of the Psalms in Divine praise. In regard of quality the papers left nothing to be desired, reflecting great credit on those who prepared them and on the Church thus represented. They were of a scholarly, finished type, and though thoroughly positive and uncompromising in tone, they were free from the polemical and controversial spirit, so as to make a happy impression on visiting brethren from hymn-singing communions.

* * * (It was proposed that the addresses delivered in these conferences should be published and circulated as widely as possible. This was done.) * * *

The following recommendations are submitted:

1. That, since the convention volume provides a new statement and a convincing demonstration of our received belief in an inspired and authorized Psalmody, all pastors and sessions throughout the Church be advised to use every endeavor to secure its largest possible circulation in their respective congregations.

2. That, agreeably to the express petition of each of the Psalmody Conventions, there be established a Permanent Committee on Psalmody, to consist of five members chosen annually, three of them being in one vicinity, and the other two in different parts of the Church, said committee being empowered to take such measures from time to time as will tend to conserve and promote within our own bounds the matchless Psalmody of God's appointment, and as will bring to the notice of the other Churches their God-given heritage of sacred song. Vol. XI, p. 713, 1906.

15. **Permanent Committee on Psalmody.** Appointed. Vol. XI, p. 716, 1906.

A new committee was appointed according to the following resolution:

Second. That the Permanent Committee on Psalmody, as appointed last year, seems to have had nothing definite to do. We recommend that the Committee be discharged.

Third. That the Committee on New Version has made commendable progress in the work committed to it. We recommend, therefore:

First. That the report of the committee be adopted, and that the committee be continued.

Second. That this Committee shall be known hereafter as The Permanent Committee on Psalmody, to which shall be referred all matters pertaining to new versions of the psalms, psalmody conventions and the publication and dissemination of literature supporting our denominational testimony on the subject of psalmody.

Third. That the necessary expense involved in such work be authorized and the treasurer of the General Assembly be directed to pay the bills when they shall have been vouched for by the committee and the clerks of the General Assembly. Vol. XI, p. 885, 1907.

16. **A Revised Metrical Version of the Psalms, Reported by the Permanent Committee on Psalmody, Was Sent in Overture to the Presbyteries.** Vol. XII, p. 346, 1909.

This Overtured Version of the Psalms received the following vote: Ayes, 944; nays, 249.

The following action was taken:

Resolved, 1. That the Revised Version of the Psalms has been legally

approved by the Presbyteries, and that the book is hereby authorized as the **BOOK OF PRAISE OF THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA.**

Resolved, 2. That congregations shall be permitted to retain the present version if they so desire, and that the Board of Publication be authorized to still publish this version in the form of the present Psalter and Bible Songs to meet any demand which may be made for these books.

Resolved, 3. That, following the precedent set by the Assembly in 1870 in connection with the adoption of the present version, the Permanent Committee on Psalmody is authorized to make such minor changes in lines and stanzas suggested in criticism of the new version as shall commend themselves to the best judgment of the Committee, it being understood that these amendments shall not impair the integrity of the version and shall be acceptable to the other Churches represented in the matter. Vol. XII, p. 652, 1910.

17. The Presbyteries of College Springs and Xenia Asked That Certain Changes Be Made in the New Version of Psalms.

The following answer was adopted:

It is the opinion of your Committee that the prayer of the memorialists cannot be granted, because it is not competent for this Assembly to make these changes except by overture. The book as a whole was sent down in overture by the Assembly of 1909 as the proposed Book of Praise for the Church. The Presbyteries have accepted and complied with the direction of the Assembly and have recorded their votes. While it is true that for certain reasons and on certain conditions an Assembly may refuse to enact in the face of a majority of the votes of the Presbyteries, yet it does not appear that any such conditions have arisen to justify the Assembly in the exercise of this prerogative in this case. All the requirements of the law of overture have been met. The Presbyteries have honestly cast their votes. There is no sufficient reason to believe that if the vote were to be taken again the result would be different. Vol. XII, p. 652, 1910.

18. The Joint Committee on a New Metrical Version of the Psalms Adopted the Version Prepared by the Permanent Committee as Appears in the Following Report Which Was Adopted by the General Assembly:

Your Permanent Committee on Psalmody would respectfully report as follows:

On September the twenty-first (21st) nineteen hundred and nine (1909) the Joint Committee on New Metrical Version of the Psalms met in the Allegheny Theological Seminary, North Side, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, at the call of the chairman, the Reverend William J. Dey, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

The following denominations were represented in this meeting:

- 1st. The Presbyterian Church in Canada.
- 2d. The Presbyterian Church of North America.
- 3d. The United Presbyterian Church of North America.
- 4th. The Christian Reformed Church of North America.
- 5th. The Reformed Presbyterian Church (Synod).
- 6th. The Reformed Church in America (Dutch), represented by letter.

The committee was in session two days, during which time the Version prepared by the committee from the United Presbyterian Church was carefully considered. For months, the members of the Joint Committee had been in possession of copies of this Version, thus having had ample time for careful examination of its contents. Each came with suggestions. A few of these were adopted. These minor changes were made in accordance with the authority given the committee by the last General Assembly.

The Version was then adopted as the Metrical Version of the Joint Committee to be recommended for adoption by each of the denominations which had for years been working together for this production of a Uniform Metrical

Version of the Psalms. Only one denomination represented in the committee voted in the negative; viz.: the Reformed Presbyterian Church (Old School).

In accordance with instructions from the last General Assembly the committee from the United Presbyterians then had the New Version printed. Two copies were sent to each pastor, one for himself, and one for his session, and one copy to each minister without charge. Vol. XII, p. 790, 1910.

19. Changes in Principles

For the actions affecting Changes in Principles consult Chapter LXXXIX, Principles of the Church; and Chapter LXXXIV, Praise Books.

XCI. PUBLICATION AND BIBLE SCHOOL WORK, BOARD OF

A. Board of Publication

1. **Charter of the Board of Publication.** [Granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania; approved by the Governor, April 14, 1863, and accepted by the Assembly, Vol. I, p. 484, 1863.]

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, &c., that Rev. David R. Kerr, D.D., Rev. James Prestley, D.D., Rev. James Rodgers, D.D., Rev. John G. Brown, D.D., Rev. George C. Vincent, Charles Arbuthnot, James McCandless, James Robb and William Stevenson and their successors in office be and they hereby are constituted and created a body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name, style and title of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication; and by that name to have perpetual succession, to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in all the courts of law and equity, or before any Alderman or Justice of the Peace, in all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, matters and demands of whatever nature or kind the same may be, and to adopt and use a common seal, and the same to change at pleasure.

SEC. 2. That said corporation shall have power to take, hold, receive and possess goods, chattels, rights, credits, moneys and bequests; and use, sell convert and dispose of the same for the object and purposes hereinafter set forth. All conveyances of real estate shall be made to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, in trust for said United Presbyterian Board of Publication. *Provided*, That the net annual income shall not exceed \$20,000.

SEC. 3. That the object of said corporation shall be twofold: First, To purchase or print and circulate the Holy Scriptures, or parts of the Holy Scriptures, in the authorized version, together with the Psalms, in meter, according to the version approved by the United Presbyterian Church. Second, To select and publish such tracts, papers, periodicals and books as shall be a sound and suitable religious literature for Sabbath schools, ministers, congregations, and the community at large, and to take such measures as may be necessary for the distribution and circulation of the same.

SEC. 4. That, besides the general publication fund, said corporation shall keep a separate fund to be known by the title of the Bible Fund; and all donations and bequests made to that fund shall be so credited and applied to no other object than that specified in the first part of section third.

SEC. 5. That said Board of Publication shall be under and subject to the control of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, and it shall be their duty to report annually at the meeting of the said Assembly, for their approval, the amount of donations and bequests made throughout the year, to the Bible Fund, as well as to the general publication fund, what amount has been expended in each of these departments, and how expended, the state of the treasury, stock on hand, and any other items of information which it may be important for the Assembly to know.

SEC. 6. That the persons herein designated as incorporators shall, as soon as practicable, organize and elect a Board of Managers, not exceeding

nine in number, who shall determine the manner of electing members and officers of the Board, when the term of such members and officers shall expire, how vacancies of members and officers shall be filled, the time of meeting, the number necessary to constitute a quorum, and make rules, regulations and by-laws necessary to carry out the objects herein set forth. *Provided*, That said rules, regulations and by-laws be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, and the constitution and laws of the United States.

[A supplement to the charter of the Board of Publication was ordered by the Assembly, Vol. I, p. 484, 1863; granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, and approved by the Governor, April 18, 1864.]

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, &c., that the business of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication shall be under the control and management of a Board of nine managers, five of whom shall constitute a quorum; the said managers shall be elected by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, and shall hold their office for three years; but the term of office of the present Board shall expire as follows: The first three named, in one year from the time of their election, the next three in two years, and three members shall be elected hereafter annually.

SEC. 2. So much of the sixth section of the act to which this is a supplement, as is inconsistent herewith, be and the same is hereby repealed.

[An amendment to the charter of the Board of Publication was granted by the Legislature of Pennsylvania; approved by the Governor, April 3, 1872, and accepted by the General Assembly, Vol. III, p. 389, 1872.]

SECTION 1. Be it enacted, &c., that section second of said act of incorporation be and hereby is so amended as to read as follows, viz.:

"SEC. 2. That said corporation shall have power to take, hold, receive and possess goods, chattels, rights, credits, bequests and titles to real estate made or to be made, and to use, sell, convert and dispose of the same for the objects and purposes hereinafter set forth."

SEC. 2. That said Board of Publication shall have power to fill vacancies occurring in the interval between the meetings of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, the persons so appointed to hold office only till the meeting of said Assembly.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect and be of force when accepted by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

[The supplement to the charter, Section 1, was so amended as to make the Board consist of "fifteen managers, eight of whom shall constitute a quorum." Vol. V, p. 796, 1883; Vol. VI, p. 78, 1884.]

2. **Constitution of the Board of Publication.** [A constitution for the Board of Publication was adopted, Vol. I, p. 47, 1859, but it was superseded by the general constitution of the Boards and the following new constitution]:

1. This Board shall be styled "The Board of Publication of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," and shall be located in the city of Pittsburgh.

2. The duties and powers of this Board shall be to select and publish such tracts, papers, periodicals and books as shall be a sound and suitable literature for families, Sabbath schools, ministers and the community at large; to take proper measures for the widespread circulation of its publications, and to publish whatever the Assembly may direct. The affairs of the Board shall be so managed, that its liabilities shall not exceed its assets available within the year, and so as to furnish its publications at the cheapest possible rates. Vol. IV, p. 25, 1874.

3. **Regulations of the Board of Publication.** [Certain regulations were

recommended. Vol. IV, p. 89, 1874. The following were adopted. Vol. IV, p. 590, 1878]:

FIRST. Your committee would recommend that the Board of Publication be instructed to form by-laws, defining the duties of the corresponding secretary, viz.:

1. To edit any periodical authorized to be published by the Board.
2. To receive all matter for publication, and submit it, with his judgment, to the Board.
3. To conduct all correspondence with authors, and fix the price of copyright, subject to approval by the Board; to prepare all works for the press, and be responsible for the accuracy of the same.
4. To prepare the annual report of the Board to the General Assembly, containing a full statement of the condition, wants and work of the Board, said report to be submitted to the Board for approval at its last regular meeting previous to the meeting of the General Assembly; also, to prepare a report of more general character as to the work and condition of the Board, to be presented to the different Synods each year.
5. To be ex-officio a member of the permanent committees, except the auditing committee.

SECOND. Your committee would recommend that the Board be instructed to create the office of business manager, and that his duties shall be as follows:

1. This officer shall be under the more immediate control of the executive committee, and shall take charge of the Board's buildings, books, stereotype plates and other property, as the committee may direct.

2. He shall make all contracts for printing, binding, engraving, stereotyping and advertising; make all purchases of material used in the business; and give all orders for work or material on behalf of the Board, subject to the approval of the same committee.

3. He shall lay before the auditing committee, at its monthly meetings, all bills due by the Board.

4. He shall take charge of sales, and use all practical means to extend them; he shall give his undivided time to the Board, and not be allowed to engage in any other business; he shall receive all orders for books, and conduct all correspondence with booksellers, and other business correspondence.

5. He shall report to the corresponding secretary in full, as per forms adopted by this Assembly, the business of the year, in time for him to make his report to the Assembly and be adopted at the regular May meeting of the Board, previous to the meeting of the Assembly.

6. He shall report monthly to the Board the amount of the sales of each month, and any other information the executive committee may require. Vol. IV, p. 634, 1878.

Resolved, 1. That the blank forms prepared by this committee for annual exhibits be recommended for use.

2. That the Board have authority to provide a business manager who shall be directly responsible to the Board.

4. That the Board be authorized to make such provision for aid to the manager as will enable him to prosecute, systematically and efficiently, all the work connected with the publishing house, and that they take note of all matters to which attention is called by your special committee. Vol. IV, p. 590, 1878.

4. **The Board to Collect Material for a History of the Church.** *Resolved*, 3. That the Board be instructed to obtain all the material that they can for a complete history of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 223, 1861.

5. **The Board to Establish a Bible and Psalm Book Fund**

Resolved, 5. That the Board be authorized and directed to establish a fund, with a view to publishing the Scriptures, and along with them, an ap-

proved metrical version of the Psalms, when such a version shall have been prepared and adopted by the Assembly, and that the bequests and donations already made to the Board for this purpose be the commencement of this fund. Vol. I, p. 487, 1863.

Resolved, 6. That we recommend the establishment of a Psalm Book fund, to which special contributions may be invited, to enable the Board to make donations of Psalm Books as donations of Bibles with the Psalms are now made, and that \$1,000 be appropriated to this fund from the funds contributed to the Board during the year. Vol. III, p. 389, 1872.

6. The Board to Establish Depositories. *Resolved*, 6. That this Assembly recommends that a depository for the sale and distribution of the publications of the Board be established in each Synod subordinate to the Assembly, and that the location of such depository be under the direction of the several subordinate Synods respectively, and that ministers be urged to call the attention of the people to these publications. Vol. I, p. 487, 1863.

Resolved, 3. That in accordance with the memorial from the Presbytery of Delaware, and in order that the publications of this Board may be more easily obtained by all the members of our Church and all others who desire them, the superintendent be directed, upon application of Presbyteries, with approved security, to establish an agency within the bounds of each Presbytery, where all the publications of the Board may be obtained, at the lowest retail prices of the Board. Vol. III, p. 389, 1872.

Resolved, 3. That the Board is hereby directed to carry out the regulation adopted in 1863, and establish, as soon as practicable, depositories in the various Synods, with a view to supplying our people with a sound literature. Vol. V, p. 37, 1879.

7. The Board to Make Donations to Weak Congregations and Sabbath Schools. *Resolved*, 7. That the Board be and hereby is authorized to make donations of books and libraries to weak and indigent Sabbath schools, and that discretionary power be granted to it in the selection of such schools. Vol. I, p. 487, 1863.

Resolved, 3. That applications to the Board for donations to Sabbath schools in weak congregations and mission stations be made through the superintendents of missions in the Presbyteries, or if at all practicable, through the Presbyteries. Vol. III, p. 18, 1869.

Resolved, 3. That the Board be authorized to donate to missions, Sabbath schools, theological students and missionaries, in suitable books, an amount equal to the contributions made during the year. Vol. IV, p. 591, 1878.

8. The Board Authorized to Encourage the Preparation of Original Works by Paying for Manuscripts and Offering Prizes. *Resolved*, 2. That the Board be authorized to encourage the preparation of original works, by paying a reasonable price for manuscripts, which, in their judgment, are suitable for publication. Vol. III, p. 18, 1869.

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly heartily commend the Board of Publication in its efforts to increase our own Church's literature, and we do hereby authorize said Board to offer prizes for the best manuscripts from members of the United Presbyterian Church, said offers to be subject to the regulations mentioned in the printed statement of the Board to this Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 323, 1876.

9. The Board to Publish a Church Register and Blanks for the Use of Sessions, etc. *Resolved*, That in accordance with the petition of the Westmoreland Presbytery, the Board of Publication be authorized to prepare and publish a Church register and blanks for the use of Sessions, missionaries and financial agents, in such form and in such numbers as the exigencies of the Church may, in the judgment of the Board, demand. Vol. I, p. 487, 1863.

10. The Board to Establish a System of Colportage. [The General As-

sembly instructed the Board to establish a system of colportage. Vol. V, p. 37, 1879. The Board reported regulations for this work, and the Assembly approved the same. Vol. V, p. 231, 1880.]

11. Sabbath-School Publications Purchased. [The proprietors of the Sabbath school publications in general use in the Church proposed to sell them to the Board of Publication. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That the Board are hereby instructed to purchase these publications, and proceed as soon as possible to take them under their control and management, *provided* they can be purchased on equitable and satisfactory terms.

2. That in case the purchases are made, the appointment and compensation of the editor or editors of the periodicals shall be left, for the current year, to the Board, subject to the approval of the General Assembly. Vol. V, p. 197, 1880.

[The Board reported to the next Assembly that the purchase had been made.]

12. Consolidation of the Sabbath-School Committee and the Board of Publication. [A report was submitted to the General Assembly of 1882, by a joint committee composed of the Committees on Sabbath schools and the Board of Publication, recommending that the Permanent Committee on Sabbath Schools and the Board of Publication be consolidated. The subject was referred to a special committee to report to the next Assembly. This committee reported that the Sabbath school work would be made more efficient by the proposed consolidation, and submitted the following plan]:

i. The Supplement to the Charter of the Board of Publication shall be so amended as to place it under the management of a Board of fifteen (15) managers, eight (8) of whom shall constitute a quorum.

ii. The Board of Publication is hereby directed to appoint at its first regular meeting after the aforesaid amendment to the charter has been secured, and annually thereafter, six (6) of its members, who, with the editor of the Sabbath school periodicals, shall constitute the Sabbath School Committee of said Board, and it shall be the duty of this committee to have general oversight of the Sabbath school interests involved in the work of the Board, to prepare and present to the Board suitable action with reference thereto, and to perform, subject to the approval of the Board, all the duties now devolving upon the Assembly's Permanent Committee on Sabbath schools.

iii. The Board is also instructed to direct its editor to present the Sabbath school work, when practicable, to the Synods and Assemblies and in the Theological Seminaries, urging its importance, describing its improved methods of teaching and managing, and giving whatever other information will be likely to create for it a greater interest and promote its usefulness.

iv. The Board of Publication is hereby directed to secure such legal action as will carry these resolutions into effect.

v. The Permanent Committee is hereby declared to be dissolved so soon as the Board of Publication has been organized in accordance with the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, 1. That the plan of consolidation of the Board of Publication and the Permanent Committee on Sabbath schools, reported by the Committee on Consolidation, be adopted.

2. That the general constitution of the Boards of the Church be amended so as to read: "1. The several Boards now in existence shall each be composed of not less than nine members." Vol. V, pp. 796, 722, 1883.

13. The Board to Publish Tracts on the Work and Principles of the Church. *Resolved*, 3. That with a view of promoting an intelligent interest in the general work of the Church, the Board of Publication be instructed to

have prepared and published an inexpensive pamphlet on the subject. Vol. VI, p. 681, 1887.

6. That the Board be instructed to prepare and publish without delay, in tract form, a brief, concise and inexpensive statement of the doctrines and distinctive principles of our Church, suitable to put into the hands of young Christians and others not familiar with them. Vol. VII, p. 433, 1890.

14. **The Board to Publish Temperance Literature.** *Resolved*, 4. That the Board of Publication be instructed to prepare a tract, embodying the deliverances of the General Assembly on the subject of Temperance, and to provide such literature on present reform movements as may be suitable and demanded, for gratuitous distribution. Vol. VII, p. 638, 1891.

15. **Statistics of Contributions to the Board of Publication.** The General Assembly gave order that the column in the statistical tables headed "Publication" be discontinued, and that the contributions to this Board be included in "General Contributions." Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.

16. **Colportage Work.** *Resolved*, 6. That this General Assembly, in making appropriations to the Board of Publication, would arrange for colportage work among our foreign-speaking people. Vol. XI, p. 583.

17. **Branch Store at Denver, Colorado.** 3. For the better accommodation of our presbyteries in the far West, we recommend that this Board be and hereby is directed to establish a branch house in the city of Denver, Colorado, at the earliest possible moment. Vol. XII, p. 934, 1911.

NOTE: The store was established.

2. We recommend for adoption the following:

In view of the fact that the Western Department of the Board has been carried on at a financial loss to the Church, *Resolved*, That we approve the steps already taken and authorize the Board to complete the work of discontinuing the store at Denver. Vol. XIII, p. 1074, 1915.

18. **Sabbath School Work Transferred to the Board of Home Missions.** *Resolved*, 3. That all that part of the Sabbath school work which is clearly and closely related to the work of the Home Mission Board be placed under its care, with sufficient appropriation for effective work.

We further recommend that a Committee of Five be appointed to counsel with the Board of Publication and the Home Mission Board and arrange this transfer. Vol. XIII, p. 35, 1912.

19. **McElroy Bible Fund.** The Assembly took the following action:

1. With reference to the petition of the Trustees of the McElroy Bible Fund, your committee has held a separate hearing with each of the contending parties and find that the petition involves the interpretation of a written contract entered into between the parties in 1863. Your committee further find that there exists an honest difference of opinion between said parties as to their respective rights under said contract, and that the issues do not involve any question of faith, doctrine, or church polity, but only such questions as can be fully and finally decided between the parties, or in a court of civil law. Your committee, therefore, recommend—

That the matters raised in the petition, if not amicably adjusted, be taken into a court of law or submitted to arbitration, and that the petition for action by the Assembly be not granted. Vol. XIV, p. 36, 1916.

The McElroy Bible Fund Case was settled by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania by affirming the judgment of the lower Court in favor of the Board.

NOTE: For the details of this case consult the report of the Board of Publication. Vol. XV, pp. 96-101, 1919.

20. **Collection of Accounts.** The following recommendations were adopted:

II. *The Request of the Board of Publication.* In reference to the re-

quest of the Board of Publication for a deliverance in the matter of the collection of accounts of congregations, Sabbath Schools, and ministers, that are ignored by those involved. With appreciation especially of the moral obligation involved in such transactions and the necessity that all reproach to the cause of Christ arising from such conduct be carefully guarded against as well as that the interests of the Board be conserved; we recommend as a method of procedure in the collection of such accounts—

1. That after the usual methods pursued have been found unavailing the Board notify the Clerk of Presbytery having supervision in the case of the congregation or Sabbath School involved or of which the minister in question is a member, who shall notify the parties delinquent of the notification of the Board.

2. Having notified the parties involved, the Clerk shall be required, if no disposition to settle the account is manifested, to report the same to the Presbytery. We also recommend that each congregation appoint one purchasing agent through whose hands all accounts with the Board of Publication, so far as possible, shall be transacted. Vol. XIV, p. 466, 1918.

21. **Minutes of the General Assembly.** LVI, 19. See Chapter LVI, General Assembly, 19.

22. **Price of Periodicals.** *Resolved*, That the Board be instructed to reduce the price of all its publications, so far as in the judgment of the Board it is consistent with business safety. Vol. XV, p. 25, 1920; p. 560, 1922.

23. **Rentals Charged Church Agencies.** The matter of rentals charged Church Agencies by the Board of Publication was committed to a special committee to report to the next Assembly. Vol. XV, p. 578, 1922.

The Assembly of 1923 adopted the report of this special committee which found no basis for an agreement on the question of rentals. Vol. XV, p. 903, 1923.

24. **Becomes "The Board of Publication and Bible School Work."** By the adoption of the report on Adjustment and Reference, the General Assembly changed the name of the Board of Publication to the Board of Publication and Bible School Work and provided in the Board's organization for a Department of Bible School Work. Vol. XV, p. 851, 1923.

25. **Charter Amendments and Constitution of the Board.** The following Charter Amendments and Constitution of the Board were approved by the Assembly:

1. In pursuance of the action of the last General Assembly the charter of the Board has been amended in the matter of the title of the Board and other details. A new constitution also, with by-laws, has been adopted. A copy of the charter, as amended, and the constitution is submitted herewith for approval.

**Charter of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible
School Work**

Act 425 (1863 P. L. 425)

AN ACT

INCORPORATING THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF
PUBLICATION AND BIBLE SCHOOL WORK

As Amended February 11th, 1924

SECTION 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that Rev. David R. Kerr, D.D.,

Rev. James Prestley, D.D., Rev. James Rodgers, D.D., Rev. John G. Brown, D.D., Rev. George C. Vincent, Charles Arbuthnot, James McCandless, James Robb and William Stevenson and their successors in office be and they hereby are constituted and created a body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name, style and title of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work; and by that name to have perpetual succession, to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in all the courts of law and equity, or before any Alderman or Justice of the Peace, in all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, matters and demands of whatever nature or kind the same may be, and to adopt and use a common seal, and the same to change at pleasure.

As Amended February 11th, 1924

SEC. 2. That said corporation shall have the power to take, receive and possess real and personal property by purchase, gift, devise, bequest, or in any lawful manner, and to hold and administer the same, whether in the form of trusts, endowment funds, or otherwise, as may seem best to the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work in carrying on its work or any phase or part thereof, and, when deemed wise by the said Board, or for the interest of its work, to use, sell, convert or dispose of such property for the object and purpose hereinafter set forth. All conveyances of real estate shall be made to the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work. *Provided*, that the clear yearly rental value or income thereof shall not exceed Fifty Thousand (\$50,000.00) Dollars.

As Amended February 11th, 1924

SEC. 3. That the object of said corporation, the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work, shall be to promote the general cause of Christian education.

(a) By purchasing, printing, selling, distributing and circulating the Holy Scriptures or parts thereof, together with the Psalms in metre and other songs of praise approved by the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and under the same authority, the editing, publishing and circulating, both by donation and sale, all such religious papers, lesson helps, periodicals, books, praise books and other sound and suitable devotional literature as may be ordered by this Board or by the General Assembly of said Church; which shall be administered under the department of Publication.

(b) By cultivating the religious life in the homes, Bible Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, Week Day Schools of Religion; by providing for the more thorough and adequate training of Bible School officers and teachers and such kindred activities as may help to increase the Christian education of the youth of the Church and the community at large; by devising plans to increase the interest in Bible study through the organized Sabbath Schools, Vacation Schools, Week Day Schools of Religion, Teacher Training and other methods deemed to be wise; which shall be administered under the Department of Bible School Work.

Original Charter of April 14th, 1863

SEC. 4. That beside the general publication fund, said corporation shall keep a separate fund, to be known by the title of the Bible Fund, and all donations and bequests made to that fund shall be so credited, and applied to no other object than that specified in the first part of section three.

SEC. 5. That said Board of Publication shall be under, and subject to, the control of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church; and it shall be their duty to report, annually, at the meeting of the said Assembly,

for their approval, the amount of donations and bequests made throughout the year to the Bible Fund, as well as to the general publication fund, what amount has been expended in each of those departments, and how expended, the state of the treasury, stock on hand, and any other items of information which it may be important for the Assembly to know.

As Amended June 28th, 1883

SEC. 6. That the business of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication shall be under the control and management of a board of fifteen directors, eight of whom shall constitute a quorum. The said directors shall be elected by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and shall hold their office for three years, but the term of office of four of the nine directors chosen by the General Assembly of 1883 shall expire as follows: Reverends S. J. Shaw and J. M. Wallace in the year 1884; Reverend J. D. Sands and H. W. McKee in the year 1885, and five directors shall be elected hereafter annually.

**Constitution of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and
Bible School Work**

1. The Board shall be styled the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work. The Board shall have power to fill temporarily vacancies in its membership that may occur between the meetings of the General Assembly.

2. It shall consist of fifteen directors, who shall hold their offices for three years; eight of whom shall constitute a quorum. Of those first elected five shall go out of office annually in the order of their names; and thereafter five shall be elected annually by the Assembly.

3. The Board shall be located in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa. It shall meet monthly for the transaction of business, and as much oftener as necessary; and its first meeting shall be in the Board room located in Publication Building on the second Monday of June, 1923, at 11 A.M.

4. The object of the Board's work shall be to promote the general cause of Christian education throughout the Church and the community at large:

(a) By cultivating the religious life in the homes, Bible Schools and Young People's Societies in the Church, in vacation Bible Schools, and Schools for week-day religious instruction; by seeking to establish and extend home departments; by providing for more thorough and adequate training of Bible School officers and teachers, and by such other kindred activity as may help to increase the Christian Education of the youth of the Church and the community at large.

(b) By purchasing, printing, selling, distributing and circulating the Holy Scriptures, or parts thereof, together with the Psalms in metre and other songs of praise approved by the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and, under the same authority, by editing, publishing, and circulating, both by sale and donation, all such religious papers, lesson helps, periodicals, books, praise books, and other sound and suitable devotional literature as may be ordered by this Board or by the General Assembly of said Church, and by taking such measures as may be required or as may be necessary or desirable to secure a widespread circulation of its publications, the object being to promote Christian Education in the homes, congregations, schools, colleges and theological seminaries of the said United Presbyterian Church of North America, and in the community at large.

(c) By concerting and executing such measures as may be judged proper for increasing the particular funds which are or may be at the disposal of the Board for carrying out the object of its organization.

5. The funds of the Board shall be kept separate and shall be administered as follows:

(a) Any trust funds now held or hereafter to be received or created by the said Board shall be kept separate and shall be applied to trusts.

(b) That in addition to the trust funds above designated the said Corporation shall keep a separate fund to be known by the title of "The Bible and Praise Book Fund"; and all donations and bequests made to that fund shall be so credited, and shall not be applied to any other object than the purchasing, printing, circulating and donating of the Holy Scriptures and praise books.

(c) All other funds of the said Corporation, whether arising from rentals or other incomes from the business carried on by the said United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work, or from the sale of its tangible property assets, real, personal, or mixed, shall be held as a trust fund and shall be devoted:

(1) To carrying out the charter purpose as specified in Clauses A and B of Section III herein.

(2) To maintaining the physical property and plant of the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work.

(3) To maintaining a suitable reserve, which, together with the physical property, shall be and remain the basis of credit for the United Presbyterian Board of Publication and Bible School Work in its commercial business activities.

6. The Board shall annually transmit to the Assembly a report of its work, and shall embody therein such suggestions, touching the general cause entrusted to it, as it may judge advisable.

7. The Board shall manage its Department of Commercial Business so that the liabilities shall not exceed the available assets.

8. The Board shall have power to enact its own by-laws.

9. This constitution may be altered by a vote of a majority of all the delegates to any Assembly, notice of the same having been given at least one full day previously, *provided* that such alteration or amendment shall not be in conflict with the rights, powers and duties of the Board set forth in its charter as approved by the General Assembly. Vol. XVI, pp. 22, 115, 1924.

26. **Pamphlet Series.** The Board reported that it proposes to publish from time to time a series of booklets dealing with what are now called the Fundamentals. These booklets will be furnished gratuitously to ministers and elders on request and will be sold to others at the lowest price per hundred possible. Vol. XVI, p. 123, 1924.

Resolved, 4. That we rejoice in the quality of our publications and call attention to the booklets on fundamental subjects that are promised. Vol. XVI, p. 22, 1924.

NOTE: This Pamphlet Series has been continued through the years and commended by successive Assemblies.

B. Sabbath Schools

1. **Sabbath-School Statistics.** The General Assembly directed the Presbyteries to report the statistics of the Sabbath schools in their bounds, and gave instructions as to the items to be reported and the preparation and distribution of blanks. Vol I, p. 485, 1863. The Clerk of the Assembly was directed to prepare blanks for these statistics and furnish them to the clerks of Presbyteries. Vol. II, p. 34, 1864.

Resolved, 7. In order to secure more prominent attention to this vast and vital interest of the Church, your committee further recommend, if found practicable, that the statistical tabular sheet be so altered as to devote five

columns to the Sabbath school instead of two, these columns to be filled up as follows: 1. Number of schools. 2. Number of officers and teachers. 3. Number of scholars. 4. Number of books in library. 5. Amount collected. Vol. II, p. 500, 1869. [It was not found practicable to report the number of books in the library satisfactorily.]

2. In order that a full and satisfactory report may be made to each Assembly, we would suggest that the Assembly authorize the permanent committee to procure blanks to be sent to all pastors and superintendents, to be by them filled and returned to the permanent committee on or before the first of April each year. Vol. IV, p. 355, 1876.

1. That the matter of gathering statistics of Sabbath-school work be referred to the Second Clerk of the General Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 243, 1885.

[A column, "months open," was inserted in the table. By order of the Assembly it is discontinued. Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.]

2. **A Standing Committee on Sabbath Schools.** *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of the Moderator of the General Assembly annually to nominate for adoption a standing committee of five persons on the subject of Sabbath schools. Vol. II, p. 408, 1867.

3. **A Permanent Committee on Sabbath Schools and Its Duties.** *Resolved*, 5. That a standing committee of five members be appointed, to report to the next Assembly. Vol. III, p. 146, 1870.

Resolved, That a permanent committee of five members be appointed * * * whose duty it shall be to collect information in regard to the condition of Sabbath schools throughout the Church. This committee shall also inaugurate measures for the advancement of the interests of this work, such as suggesting to Presbyteries and Synods the propriety of holding Sabbath-school conventions, at which the claims of the object shall be presented and discussed; and to this committee all correspondence in relation to this cause by those engaged, or in any way interested therein, shall be addressed, said committee to report to the Assembly of 1872. Vol. III, p. 285, 1871.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the permanent committee on Sabbath schools to prepare or procure the preparation of suitable notes for the teachers and lesson papers for the scholars, and that they be directed to publish them in such periodical or periodicals of the Church as may be willing to admit them, or as the committee may deem best adapted to the purpose. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

Resolved, 3. That the Permanent Committee on Sabbath schools hereafter consist of nine members, three to serve for one year, three for two years, and three for three years, and three to be appointed each successive year to serve for three years. Vol. V, p. 35, 1879.

[On the reorganization of the Board of Publication the Permanent Committee on Sabbath schools was dissolved, and made a part of the Board. Vol. V, p. 797, 1883.]

4. **Members of Session to Labor in the Sabbath School, and in Their Official Capacity to Have the Supervision Over It.** *Resolved*, 3. That as the children of the Sabbath school constitute a most important part of the Church, and should therefore be under the special care of its overseers, we deem it in the highest degree essential that, whenever practicable, the members of Sessions should be laborers in the Sabbath School, and in their official capacity maintain such faithful and wholesome supervision over it, that it cannot fail to become a powerful auxiliary in building up the cause of the Redeemer. Vol. II, p. 499, 1868.

Resolved, 4. That it is the duty of the Session, to whom is intrusted the oversight of the congregation, to give special attention to the Sabbath school, and, in their official capacity, exercise a supervision over it, which will tend to its purity and efficiency. Vol. III, p. 33, 1869.

Resolved, 5. That the eldership of the Church should identify itself closely with the Sabbath school, and take part in carrying it on. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

Resolved, 1. That pastors and Sessions having, according to the Directory of Worship, the special oversight and control of the Sabbath school, should in every case be deeply interested in its work and welfare, and should use every means in their power to secure, if possible, the attendance of all the children of the school upon the regular services of public worship in the congregation. Vol. III, p. 580, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That pastors and elders be urged to devote themselves more entirely to this department of Christian Work. Vol. V, p. 716, 1883.

5. Presbyteries and Synods to Give Attention to Sabbath-School Work.
Resolved, 4. That the Presbyteries of our Church be and hereby are recommended to give increased attention to the Sabbath-school work; to secure more complete statistical reports of Sabbath-school operations: and, when practicable, hold occasional conferences on the subject, by which means we may hope to awaken an increased interest, and bring every available energy into operation, so that this garden of the Lord may be zealously and preservingly cultured, and become the nursery of the Church. Vol. II, p. 500, 1868.

Resolved, 9. That the Presbyteries and Synods of our Church interest themselves more in the growth and guidance of Sabbath schools, whether in settled congregations or mission districts. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

6. That it be recommended to the several Synods of the Church to appoint committees to correspond and consult with this committee of the General Assembly. Vol. III, p. 146, 1870.

9. That each Synod under the care of this Assembly be directed to spend at least one session each year in conference on this subject. Vol. IV, p. 168, 1875.

Resolved, 1. That Presbyteries be recommended to hold at least one Sabbath school convention each year, for the purpose of creating a deeper interest in this important work to help and encourage those who are engaged in it. Let the action of said Presbyterian conventions be reported to the permanent committee. Vol. IV, p. 355, 1876.

Resolved, 2. That Presbyteries be recommended to hold conventions in the interest of Sabbath schools, at least once a year, and that they appoint some efficient Sabbath school worker, whose duty it shall be to call such conventions, make all arrangements respecting them, and report results to the permanent committee. Vol. IV, p. 440, 1877.

Resolved, 9. That the office of Presbyterian superintendent of Sabbath schools be continued, that Presbyterian conventions be held under the direction of the superintendents, and that the permanent committee be directed to call a convention of Presbyterian superintendents at such time and place as may seem best, to be under the general direction of said committee. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

3. That Presbyteries be recommended to hold Presbyterian Sabbath-school Institutes, in which normal instruction and thorough training in practical Sabbath-school work shall be given by competent instructors. Vol. VII, p. 230, 1889.

6. Presbyterian Superintendents of Sabbath Schools and Their Duties.
Resolved, 2. That Presbyteries be recommended to hold conventions in the interest of Sabbath schools, at least once a year, and that they appoint some efficient Sabbath-school worker whose duty it shall be to call such conventions, make all arrangements respecting them, and report results to the permanent committee. Vol. IV, p. 440, 1877.

Resolved, 9. That the office of Presbyterian superintendent of Sabbath schools be continued, that Presbyterian conventions be held under the directions

of the superintendents, and that the permanent committee be directed to call a convention of the Presbyterian superintendents at such time and place as may seem best, to be under the general direction of said committee. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

3. That the Presbyterian superintendents hereafter be appointed, as the Financial Agents and superintendents of Missions now are, upon nomination by the Presbyteries and election by the Assembly. Vol. V, p. 187, 1880.

4. That Presbyterian superintendents be appointed as continuously as possible. Vol. V, p. 716, 1883.

6. That it shall hereafter be a duty of Presbyterian Sabbath-school superintendents to gather a summary of the reports of all the schools under their supervision for presentation to the Permanent Committee. Vol. V, p. 187, 1880.

6. That Presbyterian superintendents give all aid in their power to advance the cause of Sabbath schools, and to this end co-operate with the Committee on Sabbath schools of the Board of Publication in their published monthly reports. Vol. VI, p. 39, 1884.

1. That Presbyterian superintendents of Sabbath schools be directed to use all reasonable effort to have Teachers' Preparation Meetings held weekly in all the Sabbath schools of their respective Presbyteries, and to encourage the forming of Normal Classes for the training of teachers. Vol. VI, p. 439, 1886.

4. That Presbyterian superintendents be required hereafter to annually report the condition of all the schools under their supervision to their respective Presbyteries, as well as to the Permanent Committee on Sabbath schools, using the Committee's blanks for this purpose; and that each Presbytery be directed to inquire into the superintendent's diligence in this matter. Vol. VII, p. 32, 1888.

2. That Presbyteries be directed to exercise great care in the selection of Presbyterian Sabbath-school superintendents, who will faithfully perform the duties of their office and regularly and fully report to the Sabbath school Committee of the Board of Publication, the work of the schools under their care, and that the General Assembly refuse to confirm the nomination of any man as Presbyterian Sabbath-school Superintendent who has failed to render such report for two consecutive years. Vol. VII, p. 230, 1889.

6. As the highest possible degree of efficiency is important on the part of the teacher, we urge upon superintendents and teachers the value of teachers' meetings for study of the lesson also upon the Presbyterian Sabbath school superintendents to hold one or more convention or institute in each Presbytery during the year. Vol. VII, p. 415, 1890.

5. **Teachers in the Sabbath School to Be Members of the Church.** *Resolved*, 4. That the teachers should be members of the Church, and well known for their piety. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

6. **Teachers' Meetings.** *Resolved*, 3. That it is the duty of superintendents and teachers to hold monthly, or more frequent meetings, for conference and prayer. Vol. III, p. 146, 1870.

1. That Presbyterian superintendents of Sabbath schools be directed to use all reasonable effort to have Teachers' Preparation meetings held weekly in all the Sabbath schools of their respective Presbyteries. Vol. VI, p. 439, 1886.

6. As the highest possible degree of efficiency is important on the part of the teacher, we urge upon superintendents and teachers the value of teachers' meetings for study of the lesson. Vol. VII, p. 415, 1890.

3. We recommend the regular meeting at least once each month of officers and teachers for prayer and conference concerning their schools. Vol. VII, p. 654, 1891.

7. **Adult Classes in the Sabbath School.** *Resolved*, 4. That we earnestly recommend the forming of classes composed of adult members and adherents

of the Church, believing that the Sabbath school, according to the best idea, is an institution for the scriptural instruction both of the young and old, and that the adoption of this plan would overcome, in a great measure, the difficulty of retaining young men and women in the schools, inasmuch as they would then be encouraged to continue their attendance by the example of their parents and of other persons older than themselves. Vol. III, p. 391, 1872.

Resolved, 1. That the adult members of the Church be urged to embrace the opportunity for Bible study afforded by the Sabbath school, and thus not only obtain for themselves a better acquaintance with the Scriptures, but by their presence there remove one of the greatest hindrances to the attendance and retention of the children and youth in our Sabbath schools. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

8. **Normal Classes.** *Resolved*, 1. That in all cases in which it is possible, pastors or Sessions be directed to establish classes in their congregations for the training of teachers; that, along with the Bible, the Shorter Catechism be used as the basis of systematic doctrinal instruction in these classes, and that special lessons be given in the art of teaching. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

2. That pastors and superintendents be urged to establish normal classes for the special training of teachers, so that our standard of teaching may be raised higher. Vol. V, p. 35, 1879. [This was reaffirmed. Vol. V, p. 187, 1880.]

That it be recommended to pastors and Sessions throughout the Church that, in every congregation where it is practicable, Teachers' meetings be organized for the study of lesson, and that arrangements be made for the formation of normal classes, and that the progress of the work be reported to the Permanent Committee before the next meeting of the Assembly. Vol. V, p. 361, 1881.

4. In view of the great need of the highest possible degree of efficiency in Sabbath-school instruction, we again urge upon pastors and Sessions to use every suitable effort to organize in their respective congregations normal classes for the training of Sabbath-school teachers. Vol. V, p. 539, 1882.

3. That a further and more persistent effort be made to secure normal class study and teachers' meetings for the study of the lesson. Vol. V, p. 716, 1883.

1. That Presbyterian superintendents of Sabbath schools be directed to use all reasonable effort to encourage the forming of normal classes for the training of teachers. Vol. VI, p. 439, 1886.

[The Permanent Committee was authorized to prepare a manual for general use in normal classes. Vol. V, p. 187, 1880. The manual was prepared and published by the Board of Publication. Vol. V, p. 360, 1881.]

9. **The Bible to Be Used as a Textbook in the Sabbath School.** *Resolved*, 3. That our Sabbath schools be urged to use the Bible as ordinate to the Bible.

4. That the superintendents of Sabbath schools be urged to encourage each scholar to possess a Bible, and where necessary furnish Bibles to the scholars. Vol. VI, p. 38, 1884.

9. That in the Sabbath school we urge the use of the Bible, instead of the lesson leaves, on the part of both teacher and pupil. Vol. VII, p. 415, 1890.

10. **The Shorter Catechism to Be Studied in the Sabbath School.** *Resolved*, 3. That the Shorter Catechism should be carefully studied in all our schools, and that greater attention should be paid to the exercise of singing. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

Resolved, 5. That while the Bible is the great textbook, the catechisms, especially the Shorter and Brown's should be taught in the Sabbath schools. Vol. III, p. 580, 1873.

Resolved, 4. That in addition to these [uniform] lessons, we earnestly urge and recommend the study of the catechisms of the Church in all our

schools, and further, that the Bible be read as a regular exercise in all the classes. Vol. IV, p. 167, 1875.

Resolved, 5. That the persons selected to prepare the lessons be also directed to prepare lessons on the catechism and doctrines of the Church, to be taught in connection with the International Lessons. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

4. We recommend that, as far as possible, the Shorter Catechism be taught in every class in the Sabbath school. Vol. VII, p. 654, 1891.

11. Uniform Lessons for Sabbath Schools Recommended. *Resolved*, 4. That all the improved methods of teaching by means of "blackboard exercises," "object lessons," "uniform lessons," etc., be recommended to the teachers, with the suggestion that care be taken to adapt these matters to the situations in which it is proposed to employ them. Vol. III, p. 146, 1870.

Resolved, 2. That the Bible is the great textbook, and that the plan of uniform lessons for the whole school, with review, be recommended to the favorable consideration of the Sabbath schools throughout the Church. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

Resolved, 3. That all our people are earnestly urged to use the International Uniform Lesson Series, and to employ the papers published by the Assembly's committee. Vol. IV, p. 167, 1875.

12. Notes and Lesson Papers for the Sabbath School. *Resolved*, 5. That it shall be the duty of the permanent committee on Sabbath schools to prepare or procure the preparation of suitable notes for the teachers and lesson papers for the scholars, and that they be directed to publish them in such periodical or periodicals of the Church as may be willing to admit them, or as the committee may deem best adapted to the purpose. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

[The lesson papers and notes were prepared under the direction of the Permanent Committee until it was consolidated with the Board of Publication in 1883.]

13. Preaching to Sabbath-School Scholars. *Resolved*, 10. That the Assembly direct the attention of pastors to the importance of preaching the gospel to the children, and of urging upon parents the duty of more faithful religious training in the family. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

Resolved, 2. That pastors should study to adapt their sermons specially to the young, thus obeying Christ's injunction, "feed my lambs." Vol. III, p. 580, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That as the preaching of the gospel is the great instrumentality for the conversion of children, as well as older persons, pastors, elders, teachers, and especially parents, should see to it that the children of the Sabbath school attend upon the regular services of the Church; and in all cases where parents neglect to take their children with them to church, they should be admonished in regard to their duty in this matter, by those who have the spiritual oversight of them and their children. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

14. Books and Papers for the Sabbath School. *Resolved*, 5. That as many of the books and papers now in use in our Sabbath schools are calculated to engender a distaste for the Word of God, we earnestly recommend to superintendents and teachers the greatest care in the selection of Sabbath-school literature, and the use, as far as practicable, of the publications of our own Church. Vol. II, p. 500, 1868.

Resolved, 5. That as solemn responsibilities are connected with the religious education of the young, we earnestly recommend pastors, superintendents and teachers to exercise great care in the selection of libraries and Sabbath-school papers. Vol. III, p. 33, 1869.

Resolved, 2. That as the object of the schools is to impart religious instruction and train the children in the love of Christ and His Church, particular care should be exercised in regard to the management and the supply of books and literature. Vol. III, p. 146, 1870.

Resolved, 6. That libraries for the schools should be selected with the utmost care, or entirely dispensed with. Vol. III, p. 580, 1873.

Resolved, 3. That the attention of our ministers and intelligent laymen be directed to the importance of preparing and publishing suitable books for the Sabbath-school library, and that when any minister or member has become acquainted with a good Sabbath-school book he be requested to forward the title of it to the Board of Publication, that it may be more fully examined, and if approved, placed upon the lists of the publications kept by the Board for the use of the schools; and also that the Board be directed to publish, from time to time, a descriptive list of the books they have selected, and send a copy of said list to each pastor in the Church. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

Resolved, 3. That when libraries are used, and we recommend them in missionary schools especially, the most careful attention be given to the selection of the books distributed. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

[In 1880 the Board of Publication purchased the Youth's Evangelist and the Bible Teacher from private publishers and assumed the supply of the Sabbath schools with all needful helps.]

Resolved, 5. That we recommend to the patronage of our schools the Sabbath school publications of our own Church, and express our gratification on account of the general support which has been given them. Vol. VI, p. 439, 1886.

5. That our Pastors, Sessions and Sabbath-school workers, be urged to use our own Sabbath school literature in preference to all other. Vol. VII, p. 224, 1889.

15. Congregations to Provide Funds for Maintaining Sabbath Schools.

Resolved, 6. That our congregations should provide the funds needful for maintaining the schools. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

Resolved, 2. That the schools be recommended to look to the general funds of the congregation for their current expenses. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

5. That in our judgment the expense of maintaining our schools should in all ordinary cases be borne by the congregation, so that the full contributions of the schools may be directed to missionary objects. Vol. VII, p. 230, 1889.

5. It is our judgment that the expense of maintaining the school should be borne by the congregation, so that the full contribution of the school may be devoted to mission work. Vol. VII, p. 415, 1890.

16. Sabbath Schools to Be Kept Open During the Entire year. *Resolved*, 7. That every effort should be made to keep the schools open for as large a portion of the year as possible. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

Resolved, 5. That in order that all children may receive full benefit of the system of lessons, it is of great importance that Sabbath schools be kept open for the whole year. Vol. IV, p. 168, 1875.

2. Those Sessions who have not already done so are urged to make a fair and faithful trial of the very desirable plan of continuing throughout the entire year the Sabbath schools under their care. Vol. V, p. 539, 1882.

17. Mission Sabbath Schools. *Resolved*, 5. That we earnestly recommend the establishing and fostering of Sabbath schools in all our new mission stations, and that we call the attention of our missionaries and superintendents of missions to this matter. Vol. III, p. 392, 1872.

Resolved, 4. That the Sabbath school should be made more aggressive in its work, and that its special mission is to gather in and instruct those who have no religious training and no one to care for their souls. Vol. III, p. 580, 1873.

Resolved, 4. That every Sabbath school should be missionary in its character. All connected with it should be engaged in efforts to bring in neglected children. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

6. We recommend to pastors and Sessions, where practicable and ex-

pedient, the organization of mission schools in their immediate locality, for the better evangelizing the field, and for the growth in knowledge and grace of their members, these schools to be under the control of the Session. Vol. VII, p. 654, 1891.

18. **Contributions of Sabbath Schools.** Resolved, 6. That the Sabbath school children throughout the Church be requested to contribute to the support of one or more new missionaries in the foreign field. Vol. III, p. 33, 1869.

Resolved, 8. That scholars should be encouraged to contribute weekly for missionary and benevolent purposes, other than the wants of their own schools. Vol. III, p. 256, 1871.

Resolved, 3. That the permanent committee be instructed to specify through the papers of the Church, near the beginning of each quarter of the year, some object or objects to which they would recommend our Sabbath schools to appropriate their contributions, and that any who desire to obtain Sabbath school contributions for any particular object be requested to lay its claims before said committee, so that if they deem the object one of the most worthy and proper they may recommend it to the schools. Vol. III, p. 391, 1872.

7. That contributions should be made in all the schools weekly. Vol. III, p. 544, 1873.

4. That * * * an opportunity should be afforded the scholars at every session to contribute their substance for missionary work. Vol. IV, p. 43, 1874.

2. That the schools be recommended to apply all their contributions to general missionary and benevolent purposes, as best calculated to cultivate unselfish liberality on the part of the youth. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.

4. That all our Sabbath schools be requested to contribute to four special missionary objects during the year, beginning July 1, 1886, said special objects for each quarter of the year to be designated by the Boards of Home Missions, Church Extension, Freedmen's Missions, and Foreign Missions in the order named. Such contributions shall be forwarded at the close of each quarter to the Financial Agents of the respective Presbyteries. Vol. VI, p. 439, 1886.

4. That the plan of presenting some specific object—which has been so successful as a means of developing the liberality of our scholars during the past year—be continued; and that the Boards of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Church Extension and Freedmen's Missions, in the order named, designate a special object to which Sabbath schools shall contribute for the quarter. Vol. VII, p. 230, 1889.

4. That the Secretaries of each of the Boards to which contributions are set apart be requested to designate some special object for the contributions, and to send out information respecting the same that the interest of the scholars may be increased. Vol. VII, p. 415, 1890.

8. That the contributions of the schools during the year be appropriated quarterly, as heretofore, to the following Boards, and in the following order: 1st quarter, Foreign Missions; 2d quarter, Home Missions; 3d quarter, Church Extension; 4th quarter, Freedmen's Missions. Vol. VII, p. 654, 1891.

9. *Resolved*, That the contributions of that day [Missionary Day] be given to the four Mission Boards. Vol. VII, p. 654, 1891.

19. **Missionary Day in the Sabbath Schools.** *Resolved*, 3. That the last Sabbath of June, 1886, be appointed a Missionary Day in all our Sabbath schools, with the recommendation that special services be held in the interest of missions. And inasmuch as we have learned that provision has been made already for the purchase of a new boat for the use of our missionaries on the River Nile, that special contributions be made on that day for the payment of the expense of repairing the boat Ibis, all money contributed in excess of the amount necessary for this purpose to be divided equally between the Training Schools in our missions in Egypt and India. Vol. VI, p. 439, 1886. [A like

appointment of the last Sabbath of June as missionary day was made by the successive Assemblies. Vol. VI, p. 670, 1887; Vol. VII, p. 32, 1888; p. 230, 1889; p. 415, 1890; p. 654, 1891.]

20. **Day of Prayer for Sabbath Schools.** *Resolved*, 7. That the third Sabbath of October be observed as a day of special prayer for Sabbath schools and for the preaching of sermons to the children, and that pastors and sessions be urged to hold special services on that day in the interest of this important department of the Master's work. Vol. VI, p. 439, 1886. [A like appointment of the third Sabbath of October, as a Day of Prayer for Sabbath Schools, was made by each successive Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 670, 1887; Vol. VII, p. 32, 1888; p. 230, 1889; p. 415, 1890; p. 654, 1891.]

21. **A Weekly Sabbath-School Paper.** [The permanent committee was instructed to consider the feasibility of publishing a weekly Sabbath school paper and to take measures towards it, if the way seems clear. Vol. IV, p. 168, 1875. On the recommendation of the permanent committee, a committee was appointed to report on the practicability of establishing such a paper. Vol. IV, p. 440, 1877. This committee reported, and the Assembly resolved that it was inexpedient to undertake the work, believing that it could be more successfully conducted as a private enterprise. Vol. IV, p. 579, 1878.] Subsequently, the Board of Publication was authorized to purchase the periodicals of certain publishers. Vol. V, p. 197, 1880.

22. **Music for Sabbath Schools.** See Bible Songs in Chapter on Praise Books.

23. **Rotation of the Quarters for Contributions to the Boards.** *Resolved*, 5. That the General Assembly amend its rule designating the several quarters of the year to the four larger Boards, so that beginning July 1st, 1907, the quarters shall come in regular rotation each succeeding year as follows: 1907-08, Foreign Board, second quarter, Home; third quarter, Freedmen's Board; fourth quarter, Church Extension Board. 1908-09, Foreign, third; Home, fourth; Freedmen's, first; Church Extension, second, etc. Vol. XI, p. 581, 1906. See next item.

24. **Permanent Arrangement of Quarters for Contributions to the Boards.** *Resolved*, 8. That the plan of allotting the Sabbath-school offerings by quarters to the Budget Boards be fixed permanently as follows: April-June to Foreign Missions; July-September to Ministerial Pensions and Relief; October-December to American Missions; January-March to Education. Vol. XIX, p. 23, 1936.

25. **Sessions to Make Sabbath-School Reports to Presbytery.** *Resolved*, 4. That sessions be urged to take the oversight of forwarding annual reports of Sabbath schools to Presbytery, and that Presbyteries have an annual conference on the state of their Sabbath schools, based on the report of the presbyterial superintendent. Vol. XI, p. 863, 1907.

26. **Superintendents and Teachers of Sabbath Schools.** The General Assembly of 1910 submitted to the Presbyteries an Overture on amending the Book of Government and Directory of Worship in the sections pertaining to Superintendents and Teachers of Sabbath schools. Vol. XII, p. 651, 1910.

The vote on this Overture was: Ayes, 1,053; nays, 13.

The General Assembly enacted the following substitutions for Section 384 of the Book of Government and Directory of Worship:

"384. **Superintendent and His Duties.** The Superintendent shall be a person of known piety, and, if practicable, a member of the Session. Under the direction of the Session, he is the executive officer of the school and should do whatever is necessary for its good order, efficiency and success. He should also make provision for teachers' meetings as may be found practicable.

"385. **Teachers.** The teachers should be members of the church, of earnest piety and qualified to teach. They should make careful preparation for

their work, be regular in their attendance, diligent in securing the attendance of the scholars and in instructing them, faithful in their efforts to lead them to a knowledge of the truth and to a personal faith in Christ, and should visit them in their homes." Vol. XII, p. 950, 1911.

27. **The Bible School Department.** The action of the General Assembly of 1923 changed the name of the Board of Publication to the Board of Publication and Bible-School Work and established the Bible-School Department under this Board. Vol. XV, p. 851, 1923. See Item 25 above.

28. **Plan for Advancement of Bible Schools.** The following recommendations were adopted:

1. The adoption of "A Plan for the Organization of the Bible School" or a similar plan in which the essential elements of progressive Christian education and evangelism in Bible-school work shall be intelligently and effectively supervised, directed and encouraged.

2. A rational discrimination on the part of Bible-school teachers between Memory Work in which the mere verbal repetition is the important feature, and memory work which makes an immediate contribution to the spiritual needs and development of the children.

3. The organization of all classes in the Bible school whose members are above twelve years of age.

4. Regular monthly meetings of teachers and officers in which provision is made in each program for constructive work by each associate superintendent or supervisor.

5. A reference library of at least ten professional books to be used by the officers and teachers.

6. A careful consideration of the merits of the papers and Bible-school literature of our own denomination as essential to the progress and effectiveness of our denominational program.

7. More adaptable building accommodations for Christian education in the Bible school.

8. A greater interest in the work of training teachers, Vacation Bible Schools, and Weekday Religious Schools.

9. An investigation of the possibilities of the Bible-School Survey as furnished by the Bible-School Department.

10. A greater effort on the part of the Associate Superintendent of Education and Evangelism to adapt the course of study in the Bible school to the developing needs of pupils.

11. Adequate provision made for supplying appropriate teaching equipment such as maps, tables, etc.

12. Greater care, accuracy and promptness in submitting the annual Bible-school report.

13. More time, effort, and money used to render our Bible schools effective in the Christian education of our people.

14. More effective and adequate system of keeping Bible-school records.

15. Grades indicating the character of the work done to be submitted by the teacher to the superintendent each quarter.

29. **Bible-School Statistics to Appear in the Minutes.** *Resolved*, That the Statistical table entitled "Bible-School Record by Synods" as it appears in the Blue Book be incorporated in the Minutes of the General Assembly. Vol. XX, p. 29, 1940.

XCII. QUOTA OR GOAL

1. **Definition of "The Quota."** In reply to the memorial of certain brethren asking a definition of the term "quota," as applied to the contributions of the congregations to the Boards of the Church, your committee would submit the following: So far as the Assembly is concerned, the term is not employed.

Upon the representation of Boards, the Assembly from year to year makes appropriations for the work of the several Boards. The sums so appropriated divided by the membership of the Church give the average required of each, in order that the amount may be realized. But the Assembly has never proposed to assess either the individual members or congregations. All are to give as they are able—as the Lord has prospered them. In reporting the amounts contributed, the congregations are instructed to include all their contributions to the several Boards, irrespective of the agency by which they are gathered and the channel through which they are transmitted. If then the “quota” is to be recognized by the Assembly, it is the judgment of your committee that all moneys reaching the Boards through whatever channel transmitted, are to be reckoned as part of said quota. Vol. VII, p. 646, 1891.

Resolved, That the basis of appropriations for the year be changed from the annual rate of \$5.00 per member per annum to the rate of 10 cents per week per member, and that the excess so secured over the original appropriation be so distributed as to meet, so far as possible, the requests of the various Boards of Appropriations. Vol. XII, p. 34, 1908.

2. **Goal for Missionary Giving.** *Resolved*, That ten cents per week per member be set as a minimum goal for individual giving to the Missionary Budget. Vol. XIX, p. 943, 1939; Vol. XX, p. 26, 1940; p. 338, 1941.

XCIII. REED ESTATE

The undersigned would respectfully represent that the late William Reed, of Sewickley, Pa., in his will appointed Revs. D. S. Kennedy and Samuel Collins, and Mr. James R. Reed, trustees and executors “with power to perpetuate their succession,” and to employ a secretary and counsel. As neither Mr. Kennedy nor Mr. Reed could serve, Messrs, William P. Murray and F. C. Osburn were appointed and duly qualified in their places.

The will, after directing the sale of all the property and the payment of all debts and sundry personal bequests, provides, “That all the balance be appropriated as follows: The principal to be invested in some good and secure bonds, the interest to be divided yearly for thirty years, one-third to assist pious, indigent young men to get an education to fit them for the office of ministers of the Gospel in this country; one-third to go to assist weak and struggling congregations to build houses of worship, to be given as a loan from three to ten years, without interest, said loans to be made through the Board of Church Extension of the United Presbyterian Church of North America; and the remaining third to be paid to the Board of Foreign Missions, to be applied to the education of young men in foreign fields preparing for the ministry of our Lord and Saviour, if such there are, needing assistance among the natives attached to the Foreign Missions of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.” “After the thirty years before mentioned have expired, the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church may continue the distribution of the funds and interest for twenty years longer if, in their judgment, they will in that way be most beneficial to the cause of religion; or they may alter the proportion to the objects mentioned; or may apply it all to the home field or the foreign field; but in no case shall any of this fund be applied to support colleges, or confer a secular education, or to pay any part of ministers’ salaries, either for teaching or preaching, except in the case of foreign missions, for a short time, in case of an emergency.”

“After fifty years have expired the said General Assembly may appropriate the whole fund, then on hand, for the support of students studying at the different theological seminaries under their charge in this and foreign lands, so as to assist them according to their financial needs and abilities in all future time, so long as this fund shall last.”

"The acts of the trustees, heretofore appointed, shall be subject to the supervision of said General Assembly, to whom they shall report once in each year; and in the event of a majority of the trustees resigning or dying without electing their successors, the General Assembly at its next meeting, shall fill such vacancy; and in the event of said trustees not reporting to said General Assembly, said Assembly shall appoint a commission to examine the accounts of said trustees, and if anything is found wrong in their transactions shall take charge of the funds and papers until the next General Assembly, who shall declare the trustees' office vacant and elect others to fill the vacant place or places."

In accordance with the requirement in the foregoing extracts we would respectfully report to this General Assembly that the estate of Mr. Reed, which at the date of the will, January 8, 1875, was quite large, had at his death, October, 1887, by heavy losses and unproductive investments been greatly reduced. It consisted largely of wild lands in West Virginia and Missouri. These were covered with tax titles and other claims, requiring large sums and prompt action to save them from entire forfeiture. By selling certain tracts, for there was no cash, no stocks or bonds of any value belonging to the estate, money was raised to pay all known debts. Until within a few months it was not supposed that, after paying the debts and personal bequests, there would be any "residue" for the Church funds named. But the death of Mrs. Reed in January last, releasing some \$30,000, and a greater demand for the wild lands, render it probable that there will be a balance of thirty to fifty thousand dollars for these funds. Hence the occasion for this report.

To perhaps 400,000 acres of wild lands in West Virginia and Kentucky, costing large sums of money, the title is very doubtful. Some have been sold for taxes; steps have been taken to clear up these titles. To other tracts the titles are undisputed, and negotiations are on foot for their sale. It is hoped we will be able to report decided progress next year. Vol. VII, p. 512, 1890.

[The Trustees reported to the General Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 739, 1891.]

The matter referred to your Committee, has to do with the interpretation of the terms of a Will. The papers in the case are as follows:

1. A copy of the Last Will and Testament of William Reed, deceased, late of Sewickley, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

2. A resolution submitted to this Assembly for its adoption, which provides for the distribution of a fund created by the testator, for the benefit of certain objects defined in the Will.

3. A legal opinion denying the right of the General Assembly to distribute this fund at this time and in the manner outlined in the resolution.

4. Some correspondence between the officials of the three Church Boards interested in the administration of the fund.

Your committee wishes to preface its report, by assuring the Assembly that there is no friction whatever between the three Boards interested in the administration of this fund. It is purely a question (a) as to the interpretation of the terms of the will; and (b) as to a choice of options in regard to the further distribution of the income from the fund.

According to the terms of this Will, the residue of the William Reed estate is to be invested in bonds, the interest to be distributed annually for a period of thirty years, as follows:

One-third to be used in assisting worthy young men to secure a theological education.

One-third to be loaned to the Board of Church Extension, for weak and struggling congregations, to assist them in erecting suitable houses of worship; loans to be made without interest and for periods of from three to ten years.

One-third to be used in the education of a native ministry on the Foreign Mission field.

At the expiration of the thirty-year period, the General Assembly, by the terms of the Will, is given the following options:

1. To continue for another period of twenty years, the distribution of the income from the bonds, according to the original direction of the testator.

2. To continue the distribution of the income from the bonds, among the same beneficiaries but upon a new schedule of proportions.

3. To devote the entire income from the bonds to the Home field or to the Foreign field.

At the expiration of the twenty years, or fifty years after the Will became effective, the General Assembly is authorized to appropriate the whole fund, to the support of students studying theology in this country, or in foreign lands. The distribution to continue "as long as the fund shall last." It is the judgment of your Committee that the clause "long as the fund shall last" clearly defines the desire of the testator, to keep the bequest intact only until the expiration of the fifty years mentioned in the Will, or until 1937; at which time the General Assembly is authorized to use the entire fund, principal and interest, in assisting young men to prepare for the ministry.

It is the opinion of your Committee that the terms of the William Reed bequest forbid the division of the principal before the year 1937.

Wherefore, be it *Resolved*, 1. That it is the judgment of this Assembly, that no division of this fund is possible at this time.

2. That no change should be made in the original plan of the testator, for the distribution of the income from the fund. Vol. XIV, p. 225, 1917.

The following action was taken:

From the estate of William Reed, Sewickley, Pa., a fund was left in the hands of three trustees for a special purpose. Mr. Reed died in 1887, and two of the trustees have since died. That the property may be transferred by the remaining trustee we ask the General Assembly to adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, William Reed, late of Sewickley, Penna., who died October 21, 1887, by his Will dated January 8, 1875, since his death duly probated and recorded in the Register's Office of Allegheny County, Penna., in Will Book Vol. 33, page 1, which Will is made a part hereof by reference to said record, created a trust of his property as therein set forth and appointed three trustees who and their successors have administered said trust until the present time, the trustees last in office being William W. Scott, who died April 17, 1926, Frank C. Osburn, who died May 10, 1938, and Lee B. Purdy, who still survives, and,

Whereas, The assets of said estate now consist of

1. A lot of ground situate in the 13th Ward, Pittsburgh, Pa., fronting 12.77 feet on the North side of Frankstown Avenue by 120 feet in depth, having thereon erected a brick dwelling No. 7117 Frankstown Avenue, as described in Sheriff's Deed dated July 14, 1934, recorded in Deed Book Vol. 2544, page 224, and

2. A lot of ground situate in the 14th Ward, Pittsburgh, Pa., fronting 40 feet on the North Side of Darlington Road by 200.02 feet in depth to the center of a 20-foot alley, having thereon erected a two-story brick dwelling, No. 5541 Darlington Road, and a garage, as described in Sheriff's Deed dated March 7, 1936, and recorded in Deed Book Vol. 2556, page 245, said two properties having been acquired by foreclosures of mortgages held by said trust estate in which its funds had been invested, and

Whereas, Said Will provides that after 50 years have elapsed

the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America may appropriate the whole fund then on hands for the support of students studying at the different theological seminaries under their charge in this or in foreign lands so as to assist them according to their financial needs and abilities, and

Whereas, Said 50 years have elapsed and it is deemed best to terminate said trust and appropriate the whole fund for the support of the theological students as aforesaid, and

Whereas, By a special Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, a corporation has been created known as "Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," which corporation is the proper body to receive, hold, manage and dispose of property belonging to the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

Resolved, That said Lee B. Purdy, surviving trustee as aforesaid, be authorized and instructed to convey and transfer said two pieces of real estate to said "Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America," to the intent that same may be reconverted and applied to the purposes set forth in above recited Will. Vol. XX, p. 12, 1940.

XCIV. REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

1. Reformed Presbyterian Church, General Synod

Union with the Reformed Presbyterian Church. *Resolved*, That the committee on correspondence be instructed to inform the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, to meet in Philadelphia on the 25th instant, of the receipt of their communications to the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church, and the Synod of the Associate Church, referred to this Assembly by those bodies; to transmit to them a copy of the basis of union, and the action had upon it; and to invite them to take similar action, with a view to their becoming a part of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 30, 1859.

Gratefully acknowledging the goodness of the Head of the Church, in crowning our past efforts to promote union among those of "like precious faith" with such signal success, we would be encouraged to still further labors in the same great cause; therefore,

Resolved, That the committee on correspondence be directed to address, on this subject, both branches of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in our own land. Vol. II, p. 160, 1865.

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly have heard with no ordinary degree of pleasure the unfeigned desire of our brethren of the Reformed Church to enter into an organic union with us, that we sincerely reciprocate this desire, and most cordially concur in the sentiment so well expressed in the letter of their delegate, "that those who have the least to separate them ought first to come together."

2. That a committee be now appointed by this Assembly to confer with the committee which has already been appointed by them with regard to this desired union. Vol. II, p. 319, 1866.

Resolved, 1. That we hail with pleasure the proposal of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, to appoint committees to meet and confer together, with a view to effect a union between the two Churches.

2. That * * * be appointed a committee to meet with a similar committee of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and that a meeting be held on the thirtieth day of June next, in the First Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh. Vol. II, p. 510, 1868.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly a proposed basis, which

had been under discussion by the joint committee, Vol. III, p. 12, 1869, when the following action was taken]:

Resolved, That the committee be re-appointed to prosecute the work in which they have been engaged, should the Reformed Presbyterian Church see fit to continue the negotiation. Vol. III, p. 12, 1869.

[This committee reported the following basis, which was approved by the Assembly]:

Whereas, An organic union between the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church and the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church is most desirable and of the utmost importance to the maintenance and more general diffusion of the principles which they hold in common; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That these Churches agree to form an organic union on the basis of the principles embraced in common in their respective Testimonies, and the other subordinate standards.

2. That these Churches, when united, shall be called the United Presbyterian Church, consisting of the Reformed Presbyterian Church and the United Presbyterian Church, and that the Supreme Judicatory of the United Church shall be called the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America.

3. That the different Boards and institutions of the respective Churches shall not be affected by this union, but shall have the control of their funds, and retain all their corporate or other rights and privileges, until the interests of the Church shall require a change. Vol. III, p. 131, 1870.

2. Reformed Presbyterian Church [Synod]

(1) **Union With the Reformed Presbyterian Church (Synod).** [A memorial was presented, asking the General Assembly to open negotiations with the Reformed Presbyterian Church with a view to union. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That a committee of six be appointed by this Assembly, to meet with a similar committee to be appointed by the Reformed Presbyterian Synod at Newburg, if it should see proper to do so, to meet at such time and place as mutually agreed upon, to confer in regard to the subject of union of these two Churches, and report the result of their deliberations to the next General Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 683, 1887.

[The Committee reported]:

The Committees appointed by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church and the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, after full and frank conference, have agreed upon the following statement:

i. That the Churches which they represent, as they most firmly believe, harmonize in the maintenance of the doctrine embodied in the testimony of each Church, that our Lord Jesus Christ, as Mediator, is vested with authority over all creatures, and that His revealed will is supreme and ultimate law for nations, as well as for the Church and individuals; and that it is the duty of nations to acknowledge their relation of subjection to the Prince of the kings of the earth, and his authoritative law.

ii. The committees recognize the fact that the Churches which they respectively represent are not in harmony in the application of the above doctrine of Christ's dominion over the State.

The United Presbyterian Church, on the one hand, leaves it with the individual conscience to decide whether the nation does, or does not, so far comply with the requirements of the Word of God as to permit the followers of Christ consistently to take part in the administration of the government under the compact of the written Constitution of the United States.

On the other hand, the Reformed Presbyterian Church regards this written Constitution as an agreement from which all appeal to the authority of

Christ and His law in national affairs has been excluded, and as an agreement to administer the government without an appeal to the law of Christ as being over the Constitution and the nation itself, and on this ground requires her members not to become parties by any act to what she believes to be an immoral compact.

Holding, as these Churches do, to these diverging views in the practical application of accepted truth, it is the judgment of the committee that the way to organic unity is not yet open.

iii. Holding to the same great principles of truth, and differing only in their application, the joint committees express the hope that the closer brotherly co-operation in the Master's work at large, and the more earnest and united labors of the two Churches for the ascendancy of the principles of Christian government, will at length remove what at present seems to be the great barrier in the way of organic union.

The following resolution was then passed:

Resolved, That while we have not been able to formulate a basis of agreement to be submitted to our respective Churches, we are assured that this fraternal conference has been mutually helpful, and that it will tend toward ultimate union by discovering to us more clearly how fully we are in accord in great fundamental principles, and the precise point at which we diverge in the application of these principles. Vol. VII, p. 92, 1888. [The report was approved and the committee discharged. P. 334, 1888.]

(2) **Delegate to the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.** *Resolved*, 2. That a delegate be now appointed to proceed forthwith, as soon as the Assembly adjourns, to the meeting of that Synod, and carry our fraternal greetings and submit this action [with reference to union] to that body. Vol. VII, p. 683, 1887.

3. Reformed Presbyterian Churches

Union With the Reformed Presbyterian Churches. [A memorial was presented from a Union Convention held in Pittsburgh, Pa., asking for steps towards a union of the Reformed Presbyterian Churches. The Assembly]

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed as delegates by this Assembly to meet in joint council or convention with delegates from the above-named Churches, or either of them, for the purpose of forming a basis of union. Vol. VII, p. 434, 1890.

[The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church refused to appoint a committee, and no further steps were taken.]

The memorial of Concordia Presbytery, on the subject of union with other Psalm-singing Churches, recites reasons which seem to justify their petitions. Your committee presents the following:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly invites the Holland Christian Reformed Church, the Associate Reformed Synod of the South, the Associate Church, the Reformed Presbyterian General Synod, and the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, and any other Psalm-singing Churches known to be interested, to take steps looking toward a union of said Churches.

2. That these Churches be requested to appoint two persons each who shall act in the matter as the circumstances may warrant, in the preparation of a basis of the proposed union.

3. That this Assembly appoint two members to act for the United Presbyterian Church. The joint action of the committees of all these Churches shall be reported to the respective Synods and Assemblies appointing them.

4. That no action shall be binding on any of the Churches until the proposed basis shall be sent down in overture and be approved by the Church in the usual manner in such cases. Vol. VIII, pp. 478, 479, 1894.

XCV. REPORT OF PRESBYTERIES

1. **Reports of Presbyteries to Be Omitted From the Printed Minutes.** The committee on the publication of the minutes was ordered by the General Assembly to omit the reports of Presbyteries from the printed Minutes. Vol. II, p. 321, 1866.

2. **Blanks to Be Furnished Presbyteries for Their Annual Reports.** The Clerk of the Assembly was directed to prepare a printed blank "formula of report on narrative and state of religion," and send two copies to the clerk of each Presbytery, one to be filled and returned to the Assembly. Vol. II, p. 504, 1868.

3. As there exists great want of uniformity in the manner of reporting contributions to different objects, as, for instance, money contributed to college buildings, etc., is reported as if contributed to the Board of Education, and that spent upon repair of church buildings, parsonages, etc., as if contributed to the Board of Church Extension. We recommend that only moneys actually contributed to the Boards be reported in the columns bearing their respective names, while that contributed to college buildings, etc., be reported in column of general contributions, and that for church buildings, repairs, etc., be reported under congregational expenses. Vol. VIII, p. 273, 1893.

5. We recommend that uniform distinction be made in all reports between mission stations and preaching stations; that places of permanent and regular work only be denominated "Mission Stations," and places at which only preaching services are held at regular or irregular times be designated as "Preaching Stations." This will result in more accurate reports and more definite information on statistical reports. Vol. IX, p. 778, 1899.

The Permanent Committee on Narrative and State of Religion was instructed to prepare and distribute through the Second Clerk of the Assembly, blanks for congregational and presbyterial reports. Vol. IV, p. 15, 1874.

The Permanent Committee on Narrative and State of Religion was directed to prepare an outline for a report, specifying the general objects on which information is desired, selecting only such as will show the spiritual condition of the Church, the general drift of religious sentiment, and the friendly or opposing influences, to be sent to each Presbytery, a conference to be held on the subject, and a narrative prepared and sent to the committee. Vol. V, p. 241, 1880. [Each Permanent Committee prepares the blank according to its own judgment, and sends the copies direct to the Presbyteries.]

3. **Time for Forwarding Reports of Presbyteries.** *Resolved*, 2. That it shall be the duty of the Presbyteries to forward to the chairman of the committee [on Narrative and State of Religion] their reports on the state of religion in the Churches under their care, not later than the first day of May, each year. Vol. III, p. 518, 1873.

[This date was changed to "not later than the 20th of April." Vol. IV, p. 16, 1874.]

XCVI. RESTORATION OF OFFENDERS

In regard to the reference from the Synod of the Punjab, your committee would report: It is not necessary to state the case from which the reference springs. The main issue has to do with the restoration of an offender who is under suspension. The Book of Government and Discipline (Chapter IX, Article III, Section 3) is plain on this point. It is as follows: "Suspension may be for a definite time, but generally it must be indefinite in duration, and its removal must depend upon evidence of repentance." According to this regulation the one thing necessary to restoration is repentance, the sincerity of which has been manifested by a holy life for a sufficient length of time. The court that imposed the censure has jurisdiction to pass upon the evidences

of repentance and to remove or continue the censure, but in case the offender has removed from the bounds of that court, it should transfer the issuing of the case to the court within whose bounds the offender is living, and which can take knowledge of the evidences of his repentance.

We therefore recommend the Synod of the Punjab to follow this line of procedure in the case referred to in their reference. Vol. X, p. 46, 1900.

3. The case of H. J. Kyle came to the Assembly in 1900 from the Synod of the Punjab by reference. That Assembly returned it to the Synod, recommending it be referred to the court in whose bounds Mr. Kyle is residing for issue upon the basis of evidences of repentance. This court is the Presbytery of Delaware. It reports that it has examined the case, and, being satisfied of Mr. Kyle's repentance, has issued it by removal of the sentence of suspension and by restoration to the Gospel ministry. We therefore recommend the following action: *Resolved*, That the action of the Presbytery of Delaware, in restoring Mr. H. J. Kyle to the office of the Gospel ministry be approved, and that the Presbytery of Delaware be instructed to place his name on its roll. Vol. X, p. 256, 1901.

NOTE: Consult Book of Government and Directory of Worship, Sections 286-289.

RULES OF ORDER

Consult Book of Government and Worship, pp. 171-176

XCVII. RULING ELDERS

1. **Term of Office of the Ruling Elder.** [A memorial from the Presbytery of Cleveland, in relation to the election of elders for a limited term, was referred to the Judiciary Committee. This committee presented a report, which was adopted. For Resolutions 1, 2 and 3, see next section.]

Resolved, 4. That it is the duty of the Presbyteries to use all proper means to bring up the eldership of the Church to that standard of efficiency in their work, so imperatively demanded in the position which they are called to occupy.

5. That the Assembly enjoins Sessions and congregations to abide by the law of the Church in the election of elders.

6. That we heartily rejoice in the evidences, on the part of the eldership of the Church, of their increasing devotion to the work. Vol. III, p. 286, 1871.

The memorialists ask the Assembly to order and ordain that congregations may, at their own option, elect elders for a term of three or more years. This the Assembly has no right to do, without first securing an alteration of our Book of Government and Discipline. As it does not appear that any large number of our ministers and people desire such alteration, it does not seem expedient to overture the matter to the Presbyteries.

Besides, the question of electing elders for a limited term of service, and the mode in which unacceptable and inefficient elders may be retired from office, were acted on by the Assembly of 1871, and a distinct deliverance given.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the memorialists be not granted, and that they be referred to the action of the Assembly of 1871, in regard to the election of ruling elders and their removal from office. Vol. V, p. 515, 1882.

2. **Resignation of a Ruling Elder.** *Resolved*, 1. That an elder may resign his charge in a particular congregation, the same as a pastor, and that when he ceases to exercise his office in the congregation in which he is installed, it is his duty to resign; and that he is not regularly released from his obligations in that congregation till his resignation be accepted by the Session.

2. That it is the imperative duty of the elder to resign whenever his in-

fluence is so impaired from any cause, that he cannot exercise his office efficiently in the congregation in which he is installed.

3. That when it is evident that an elder has become generally unacceptable and inefficient in a congregation, it is the privilege of that congregation to ask him to resign; and if the end be not thereby accomplished, the congregation, in conjunction with the Session, may lay the matter before the Presbytery for their action. Vol. III, p. 286, 1871. [See also Sec. 1, above.]

The question submitted in the memorial from the Presbytery of Albany on the resignation of elders and deacons, is as follows:

"To whom shall the ruling elder or deacon offer his resignation when desiring to retire from active service; and what constitutional steps are necessary to complete the act?"

Resolved, 1. He shall offer his resignation to the Session, which is the primary court of the elder or deacon.

2. The same steps are to be taken in the case of the teaching elder. Book of Government, Part II, Chapter VI, Article IV. Vol. V, p. 720, 1883.

3. **The Resignation of an Elder Void When Improperly Required by Presbytery.** Under the order of Presbytery an elder offered his resignation and it was accepted by the Session. An appeal from the action of the Presbytery, taken by others, was sustained by the Synod. The question being raised as to the elder's position in the congregation, the Presbytery declared that he was still a member of the Session. See Dawson's Appeal, No. 1.

4. **A Presbytery May Release an Elder Without Petition.** The Presbytery of Allegheny asked the Assembly to give a judicial decision as to the method by which the relation between an elder and the congregation in which he is installed may be dissolved, when his usefulness is impaired in some way which does not affect his Christian character and standing in the Church.

In answer to this the Assembly quoted the action of the Assembly of 1871. [See Section 1, above, Resolutions 1, 2 and 3, and added the following]: Therefore,

Resolved, That in addition to the above in reference to the power of the Presbytery to release an elder when there is no petition from either congregation or Session, the Assembly declares that the Presbytery, in the exercise of its power "to order whatever pertains to the spiritual welfare and prosperity of the churches under its care," after careful inquiry as to the facts of the case, may release an elder when there is no such petition, if it deems such action to be necessary to the spiritual welfare of the congregation. Vol. VII, p. 232, 1889.

5. That Presbyteries be earnestly requested to guard against any undue haste in the organization of new congregations, and to exercise a more watchful care over the churches, and promptly remove ministers and elders when it is known that congregations are declining because of their inefficiency. Vol. VII, p. 640, 1891.

5. **The Training of Ruling Elders.** [The Synod of New York presented a memorial on the training of ruling elders. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That the proper professors in our theological seminaries be requested to give due attention to the instruction of students in the nature, duties and responsibilities of the office of ruling elder.

2. That we recommend each pastor to adopt some plan of systematic instruction, by which his Session may be trained to the highest possible efficiency in their duties.

3. That we recommend the faculties of our seminaries to appoint one or more of their number to prepare and put into the hands of the Board of Publication a manual on the eldership, suitable to be used by pastors in the instruction of their Sessions. Vol. V, p. 20, 1879.

5. That Presbyteries are cautioned against the hasty organization of congregations until persons qualified for the eldership may be found in the congregations. Vol. VII, p. 259, 1889.

6. **Status of a Certified Elder.** As an interpretation of the law of the Church, regarding the status of an elder who has received a certificate of dismissal and still retains it, it is declared that, though still an elder, he is not a member of any Session, and can become such only in the ordinary way, namely, by election and installation. Vol. IX, p. 519, 1898.

7. **Roll of Deceased Elders.** A petition has been referred to your committee from the elders in attendance at this Assembly, praying that hereafter a roll of the deceased elders be made each year, that this roll be read in connection with the memorial services of the Assembly, and published in the Minutes. The reasons for this request, assigned by the petitioners, seem good to your committee.

It is recommended that the prayer of the petitioners be granted. Vol. VIII, p. 483, 1894.

In reference to the resolution in regard to an Assembly Roll of Deceased Elders:

While these faithful servants of the Church are always worthy of honor, and their memories to be revered, yet, inasmuch as the ruling elder is a member of the congregation, ordained by the session, and reported to the presbytery, and,

Whereas, The minister is a member of the presbytery, ordained by it, and reported to the Assembly, therefore it is the duty of the presbytery to keep a roll of the elders, and of the Assembly to keep a roll of the ministers, and, inasmuch as it would require laborious and radical changes in our system for the Assembly to keep a roll of the deceased elders, we recommend that the request be not granted. Vol. XI, p. 897, 1907.

8. **Term of Office of Ruling Elders, Either for Life or for a Limited Term.** Consult Book of Government and Worship, Section 175.

9. **Existing Sessions Cease When New Session Is Installed.** The following action was taken:

2. Touching the request from Concordia Presbytery, this Assembly declares that in any congregation introducing the rotary system for the election of elders the existing session ceases to exercise administrative authority only when the new session provided for under the rotary system shall have been installed. Vol. XIII, p. 373, 1913.

10. **Introduction of the Rotary System.** 1. With reference to the Memorial from Monmouth Presbytery asking for an interpretation of Chapter 16, Section 174, of the Book of Government and Worship concerning the Rotary Eldership, there are two questions in the Memorial. First, "Does the adoption of the Rotary System by a congregation legislate the former session out of office?" The answer to this question is, Yes. Second, "Do the elders automatically become rotary elders to serve for an appointed term without reelection?" The answer to this question is, No. Vol. XIV, p. 715, 1919.

In reply to the Memorial from Arkansas Valley Presbytery, requesting an interpretation of the words in Section 174 of the Book of Government, we would say that the evident purpose of this Article is to fix a minimum term of service for those who may be elected to the office of ruling elder under the rotary system, and to provide against any embarrassing situations which might arise, did the terms of all the elders expire at the same time. In the inauguration of such a system, whatever the length of the term of office may be, it is taken for granted that the authority to elect for a full term also carries with it the authority to elect some men for such partial terms as may be required to meet the other conditions of the Article. The same common-

sense interpretation of the Article should be made in filling out unexpired terms when vacancies occur. Vol. XVI, p. 336, 1925.

11. Ruling Elders Not Members of Sessions May Not Be Delegates to Higher Courts. "May a Ruling Elder who is not a member of Session represent that Session officially in the Presbytery as a delegate, or represent the Presbytery officially in the General Assembly as a Commissioner?"

In response to this inquiry your committee reports as follows:

Ruling Elders sit in the meetings of Presbytery, not as representatives of the session, but as representatives of the congregation. (Book of Government, Part I, Chapter XV, Section 53.)

A Ruling Elder who is a member of a congregation, but not a member of its Session, has no official relation to the congregation (Book of Government, Part II, Chapter XVIII, Section 182, et seq.) and therefore is not qualified to represent the congregation in meetings of Presbytery.

Since official relation to a congregation is requisite to qualify a Ruling Elder to sit as a member of any court of the Church, a Ruling Elder without such official relation is not qualified to represent the Presbytery in the General Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 320, 1933.

Consult Book of Government and Worship, Sections 31-35 and 170-186.

12. Provisional Sessions. *Resolved*, [By the General Committee on Home Missions and Adopted by the Assembly,] 5. That Presbyteries are cautioned against the hasty organization of congregations until persons qualified for the eldership may be found in the congregations; and that until such persons be found the stations be governed by a provisional session. Vol. VII, p. 259, 1889.

Presbyteries should be directed to exercise greater care in organizing congregations, and, where necessary, appoint a provisional session that shall have authority in these new congregations until, in the judgment of the Presbytery, the congregations are able to govern themselves. Therefore,

Resolved, 6. That this Assembly appoint a committee of five, consisting of three ministers and two elders, which shall consider the whole subject of a provisional session, define its powers and its relations to the Presbytery, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 413, 1890.

[The committee submitted the following report, which was adopted by the General Assembly]:

In the enlargement of the Church new congregations are formed. These, especially in the mission field, are composed of those who have recently professed their faith in Christ, or have removed from other congregations, but recently drawn together, all comparative strangers to each other, and few of them with any considerable experience in Christian work. They are few in number, and may not have among them men qualified as yet to take charge of them as elders. But, even more than at a later time, they need the counsel, the instruction and the help which can be given by experienced "overseers of the flock." The missionary also needs the support of a body of elders, ready to receive the confession of those who believe, to administer the sacraments, and to exercise the care which belongs to their office, until some in the mission have attained that degree of experience, and have shown the Christian character, prudence and good judgment which qualify for permanent official position.

Experience has shown that, in many cases, premature organization has seriously impaired the life of the congregation. For the same reason that the spiritual welfare of a mission, or congregation, is better met by a stated supply than by supplies from Sabbath to Sabbath, a stated session, the same body of men having the oversight as long as there is need for it, is better than special appointments from time to time.

Also, by the death or removal of its elders, a congregation may be left without a session, and the circumstances may be such that this condition will

continue for a considerable period. Such a time is full of peril to the life of the congregation. The danger may be averted by the appointment of a session to have the oversight until the congregation is prepared to elect its own elders.

The power to make such provision for the care of a mission or disorganized congregation, is inherent in the Presbytery. "It belongs to the Presbytery to order whatever pertains to the spiritual welfare of the churches under its care." The wisdom of such an appointment has been shown by experience.

Such a temporary, or provisional, session is appointed to perform the duties of an ordinary session; that is, to receive members and have the spiritual oversight and care of the congregation and exercise discipline. But the Presbytery may restrict or enlarge its powers, according as circumstances may require.

It may exercise the powers peculiar to a commission of Presbytery only when distinctly so instructed by the Presbytery.

The provisional session derives its powers from the Presbytery, and exercises its authority by virtue of its appointment by the Presbytery and at its discretion. Being constituted for the work of a session, its proceedings are subject to review by the Presbytery, and those under its care have the same rights as under a regular session. But its members are not elected by the congregation or mission, and in the proper sense of the word are not officers in the congregation. Ordinarily they are not members of the congregation. They, therefore, cannot take part or vote in its meetings, and cannot represent it in the higher courts. But in the case of a congregation partially disorganized, its rights as to the higher courts are not lost by its temporary misfortune, and it may be represented by an elder of its own election who is a member of the provisional session.

The committee therefore submits the following to the General Assembly for adoption:

1. A Provisional Session is one appointed by the Presbytery for an unorganized mission, or for a congregation which has become partially or wholly disorganized.

2. The object of the Provisional Session is the oversight and care of the mission or congregation until such time as it may be prepared to elect its own elders and become invested with the powers and rights of an organized church.

3. The powers of a Provisional Session are such as may be defined in its appointment. If there is no such definition, it has the ordinary powers of a session as to the admission of members, the administration of ordinances, the spiritual oversight of the congregation, and the exercise of discipline. But it has not the power to organize a congregation by the election, ordination and installation of elders without the express commission of the Presbytery.

4. The Provisional Session is directly subject to the Presbytery and continues to exercise its powers at its discretion, and should report its proceedings, and submit its records for review, at every regular meeting of the Presbytery. The rights of members under its care are the same as under a regular session.

5. The Provisional Session is not a part of the congregation, or mission, its members have not a right to vote at its meetings, or represent it in the Presbytery. But in the case of a partially disorganized congregation an elder duly installed in it, who is a member of the Provisional Session, may be admitted to a seat in Presbytery as a member from a pastoral charge. Otherwise the mission or congregation may appear in the Presbytery by a commissioner.

6. When a Provisional Session has been discharged from its appointment, it should place its records in the hands of the Presbytery, to be trans-

mitted to the congregational session, and become part of its permanent records. Vol. VII, p. 733, 1891.

XCVIII. SABBATH

1. **The Desecration of the Sabbath.** *Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly hereby most earnestly warn our people against participating in, or giving countenance to, the desecration of the holy Sabbath.

2. That this Assembly recommends that ministers preach frequently on the importance of the proper observance of God's holy day. Vol. III, p. 31, 169.

[A committee was appointed to prepare an address concerning the violation of the Sabbath by railroad companies in the running of trains, and to forward a copy of their address to the officers of the railroad companies. Vol. IV, p. 584, 1878. This committee reported that the duty assigned had been performed, and on its recommendation the Assembly appointed a committee to co-operate with the International Sabbath Association in securing the better observance of the Sabbath. Vol. V, p. 21, 1879. This committee reported, and the Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That in the signs of an awakening interest and zeal on the part of professing Christians in behalf of the sanctification of the Lord's day, the Assembly finds reasons for encouragement, and for gratitude to the Lord of the Sabbath.

2. That the Assembly hereby exhorts all under its care to avoid current modes of Sabbath desecration, such as worldly conversation; social visiting; reading of secular newspapers, or of books unsuitable to the sacredness of the Sabbath; levity in the Sabbath school; neglect of public worship; unnecessary travel; and resorting to the postoffice to obtain or deposit mail matter.

3. That Sessions are hereby reminded of their duty to exercise discipline firmly, yet discreetly, in vindication of the law of the Sabbath, and to make diligent efforts to have the rising generation rightly taught and trained in reference to the sacredness of the Lord's day. Vol. V, p. 251, 1880.

[The General Assembly gave order for pastors to preach on this subject, and appointed a permanent committee to co-operate with the International Sabbath Association, and to report such measures as they may deem advisable to promote scriptural Sabbath observance. This committee reported, and the Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That in view of the prevalence and growth of Sabbath profanation, the friends of the Sabbath should be doubly watchful lest they unconsciously lose the sense of its sacredness; and parents should be at special pains, both by word and example and the just exercise of parental authority, to fortify their children against the influences which surround them adverse to the Sabbath, and to train them to a right observance of the Lord's day.

2. That pastors be enjoined to instruct their flocks diligently in reference to the duty, the nature and the privilege of Sabbath observance, and that Presbyteries be recommended not to overlook, in conferences which they may hold, the importance of the Sabbath question.

3. That while the Gospel is the great instrumentality for securing obedience to the law of God in all its parts, the importance of civil legislation, in affording protection against certain forms of immorality, is not to be denied or disregarded. Vol. V, p. 419, 1881.

Resolved, 1. That pastors of congregations, and supplies in vacant congregations, be enjoined to preach on this subject at an early day.

2. That Synods and Presbyteries be requested to hold conferences on this subject, and take such action as may be thought most proper to bring

this matter before our National and State Legislatures, and the various railroad companies in their respective districts. Vol. VI, p. 423, 1886.

Resolved, 1. That we hereby utter our earnest protest against all desecration of the Lord's day, by whomsoever and under whatever pretext, and that we earnestly urge upon our people the duty of remembering the Sabbath day to keep it holy, and that they carefully avoid giving any encouragement to those who profane the day.

2. That pastors be directed to faithfully and frequently instruct their people with regard to the nature, design and claims of the Sabbath. Vol. VI, p. 675, 1887.

3. That while recognizing the valuable aid of other organizations, we are convinced that the great instrumentality for the furtherance of Sabbath reform is the Church of Christ; and, therefore, we earnestly urge that pastors, officers and members see to it that judgment begins at the house of God; that first through practice and then through precept the Church may seek the preservation of the Sabbath. Vol. VII, p. 421, 1890.

8. While urging measures to guard the outworks of the defense of the Christian Sabbath, we confess before God the worldly-mindedness manifested in the homes of many professing Christians on the Sabbath day, and do recommend all our pastors, on or about the first Sabbath of next October, to preach sermons setting forth the great privilege and duty of being "in the Spirit on the Lord's day," and warning against such things as interfere with its being to all our people a day of spiritual uplifting. Vol. VII, p. 639, 1891.

4. That the General Assembly reaffirm its belief that the law of the Sabbath is a law of perpetual binding obligation upon all men.

5. That we call upon all members of our churches, members of young people's societies and Sabbath schools, together with all friends of God's law, to use their personal influence for the biblical observance of the day, by abstaining from the purchase and reading of the "Sunday" newspaper, from all riding of the bicycle for pleasure or recreation on the Lord's day, from all forms of amusement, from unnecessary visiting and all things that are unproductive of holiness in men, and to be faithful to religious duty and life.

6. That since there is a growing tendency toward the use of "Sunday" trains on the part of Christians, we enjoin our people from this flagrant violation of the law of the Sabbath, whether the travel be to expedite business, pursue pleasure, or attend religious conventions.

7. That we urge upon our pastors a more frequent presentation of the truth concerning the claims and obligations of the Sabbath, with special reference to its better observance in the homes of our people.

8. That the American Sabbath Union and the Women's National Sabbath Alliance, societies organized for the purpose of enlisting all Christian men and women in the work of conserving the American Sabbath, and also to organize auxiliary societies, and for the distribution of Sabbath literature and to use all methods for the quickening of the public conscience and awakening interest for the promotion of the biblical Christian Sabbath, receive our cordial endorsement and approval. Vol. IX, p. 294, 1897.

2. **The Opening of the Centennial Grounds on the Sabbath.** *Whereas*, The Commissioners of the Centennial Exposition have wisely resolved to keep the Exposition grounds closed on the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath; and,

Whereas, A determined effort is now being made to have this resolution reversed, and to have the grounds opened to visitors on the Lord's day; and,

Whereas, There is special reason, at this time, for all Christians to unite their efforts to maintain the sanctity of the Lord's day; therefore,

Resolved, That this General Assembly, representing the entire United Presbyterian Church of North America, protest most solemnly against the opening of the Centennial grounds on the Lord's day, and pledge ourselves

and our people to sustain the Commissioners in the noble stand they have taken on that subject. Vol. IV, p. 295, 1876.

3. **Closing the Philadelphia Permanent Exhibition on the Sabbath.** *Resolved*, That this General Assembly hereby instruct the Moderator and Clerk to convey to the managers the thanks of this Assembly for the noble stand they have taken in the observance of the Lord's day. Vol. IV, p. 456, 1877.

4. **The Opening of the Columbia Exposition on the Sabbath.** *Resolved*, 3. That we instruct our Moderator and Principal Clerk to petition the Directors of the Columbian Exposition, in the name of the General Assembly and of the entire United Presbyterian Church, to keep all the parts of said Exposition closed on the Sabbath day, that we as a nation may not be guilty of such transgressions of God's holy law as would necessarily attend their being opened, and that we may not set before the nations of the world an example of base ingratitude in return for His unspeakable goodness to this western world.

4. We urge all our congregation, which have not already done so, to send letters and petitions to the Directors of said Exposition, praying for the same end.

7. That the Moderator and Clerk of the Assembly be, and hereby are, directed to prepare and forward a petition to the next Congress of the United States, requesting that body, in the name of the Assembly and of the whole United Presbyterian Church, to enact such legislation as will prevent the opening of the gates of the Columbian Exposition on the Sabbath day. Vol. VII, p. 638, 1891.

The Committee on the Opening of the Gates of the Columbian Exposition on the Sabbath respectfully recommend the adoption of the following by the Assembly:

We, the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, in session in Monmouth, Ill., do hereby protest against the action of the Commissioners and Local Directory of the Columbian Exposition in resolving to open its gates on the Sabbath for the following reasons:

1. It is a violation of the Divine law. In respect to the sentiment of those who recognize the Sabbath of rest as instituted for the good of our own race, Congress expressed it as the will of the people that the gates of the Exposition should be closed on that day. That this is the will of the people has been indicated by the petitions of more than twenty millions of our people. There has been no evidence presented since that the will of the people has changed. The reopening of the question in Congress failed to secure any change in its action. The opening of the gates, therefore, on the Sabbath is a palpable violation of the law expressly prohibiting it.

2. That the opening of the gates on Sabbath is a breach of trust. The acceptance of the funds appropriated by Congress was the acceptance of the conditions attached to the appropriation. There was thus, in addition to the expressed will of Congress and through it the will of the people, a contract entered into by both parties, which neither of them can legally annul without the consent of the other. Those who sought the closing of the gates of the Exposition on the Sabbath rested in the faith that the contract would be honestly and faithfully fulfilled. Every principle of honor and integrity requires it.

3. The opening of the gates on the Sabbath is disobedience to the authority to which it is still subordinate. The Exposition is a national institution still subordinate to the government which gave it its legal existence, provided for its management, located it and aided its finances. The tendency of disregarding this authority is to alienate the law-abiding people and to make the Exposition dependent for success upon a class whose influence would be detrimental to all the interests and objects of the Exposition.

4. As securing additional force to this protest, we affirm that our rights,

which have been recognized and guaranteed by the acts, both of the Nation and the Exposition, have been, by the resolution to open the gates, wrested from us. We insist upon the fulfilment both by the Government and the Commissioners who have charge of the Exposition, of the pledge that it should not be opened on the Sabbath. We urge and entreat all who are under our charge, as Christian people, not to avail themselves of the privileges of the Exposition until it is finally agreed that it shall not be open on the Sabbath.

Resolved, That copies of this paper be signed by the Moderator and Clerk of this Assembly and forwarded to the Chairman of the Commission and of the Local Directory. Vol. VIII, p. 241, 1893.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this General Assembly that to attend the World's Fair, in case the gates are open on the Lord's day, would be a sin against our risen Lord and a compromise of our Christian testimony. Therefore, we pledge ourselves not to patronize the Fair by our presence or in any other way. Vol. VIII, p. 260, 1893.

5. **Sabbath Mails.** See Sections 7 and 8, below.

Resolved, 2. We instruct our Moderator and Principal Clerk to communicate, in the name of the General Assembly and the entire United Presbyterian Church, with Postmaster-General Wanamaker, and assure him of our hearty approval of the steps he has already taken in reducing the amount of labor in the United States postal service permitted, or required, on the Sabbath day; also of our hearty support in such additional measures in the same direction as he may be able to adopt. Vol. VII, p. 638, 1891.

6. **Sabbath Papers.** [The proceedings of the General Assembly which met at Topeka were reported by the *Daily Capital*. When it was understood that there would be a Sabbath issue containing the proceedings, the Assembly appointed a committee to wait on the publishers and request that the part of the edition for the use of the members and for circulation through them be dated on either Saturday, on which the work was done, or Monday, and not circulated until Monday. The publishers complied with the request. Vol. VI, p. 230, 1885.]

Inasmuch as the circulation and reading of newspapers issued on the Sabbath day are alarmingly on the increase, this Assembly deems it needful to utter its solemn protest against such invasion of the day of sacred rest under any pretext whatever, and this it does, not so much because of the Sabbath labor involved in their issue, as because of the wholesale desecration of the Sabbath involved in their circulation and general perusal. Vol. VII, p. 24, 1888.

Resolved, 5. We renew our protest against the "Sunday paper" as a secularizing and demoralizing agency in every home which it enters; as an agency also which employs a vast amount of unnecessary Sabbath labor, and especially because it employs a vast army of 50,000 newsboys, training them to become transgressors of law and to disturb the order and quiet of Christian homes and worshiping assemblies. Vol. VII, p. 638, 1891.

7. **Co-operation with Other Bodies for Sabbath Observance.** [The General Assembly appointed a committee to co-operate, in all proper ways with the International Sabbath Association in securing the better observance of the Sabbath. Vol. V, p. 21, 1879. The Assembly following appointed a committee of five to co-operate with the Association, especially in securing the abolition of the international postal service. Vol. V, p. 251, 1880. The Southern Presbyterian General Assembly asked co-operation in petitioning for the abolition of Sabbath mails, and the Assembly.]

Resolved, That this Assembly is ready to co-operate with other Churches, in every proper way, to secure the enforcement of legislation for the protection of Christian citizens in the enjoyment of their rights on the Lord's day. Vol. V, p. 536, 1882. The Assembly resolved to "take measures to secure the

co-operation of other denominations in remonstrating with the civil authorities against the transmission of the mails on the Sabbath and other forms of Sabbath desecration." Vol. V, p. 798, 1883.

The Assembly directed "the Moderator and Principal Clerk to address sister churches, in the name of the Assembly, so as to secure their co-operation in this matter," and appointed "a permanent committee to take this matter in charge." Vol. VI, p. 423, 1886.

This permanent committee was directed "to co-operate with the committee on Sabbath observance from the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and all similar committees which may be appointed by other denominations in this country and Canada." Vol. VI, p. 675, 1887.

Resolved, 1. That we will join with our brethren of the Evangelical Churches in making up the National Sabbath Committee. Vol. VII, p. 36, 1888. [See Sec. 9, below.]

8. **Petitions Against Sabbath Desecration.** [The General Assembly expressed itself in favor of petitioning Congress for the abolition of the international Sabbath postal service, approved the form of petition prepared by the International Sabbath Association, and directed the Principal Clerk to procure a sufficient number of copies to supply our congregations, and distribute them through the Clerks of Presbyteries. Sessions were directed to see that these petitions were signed and duly forwarded. Vol. V, p. 419, 181.]

Resolved, 2. That pastors and sessions be urged to bring this subject frequently before their congregations, and take immediate steps to circulate petitions and obtain signatures against Sabbath mails, and forward the same to the proper authorities. Vol. V, p. 536, 1882.

[The Moderator and Principal Clerk were directed to sign a petition to Congress for the suppression of Sabbath trains, mails and parades. Vol. VI, p. 236, 1885.]

4. That the Moderator and Clerk be directed to sign in behalf of the Assembly, the petition requesting Congress to pass a law instructing the Postmaster General to make no future contracts which shall include the carriage of the mails on the Lord's day. Vol. VI, p. 675, 1887.

9. **The National Sabbath Association.** [The General Assembly received a communication from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, proposing the formation of a National Sabbath Committee, on the basis of one member of the committee for every one hundred thousand, or major portion thereof, in the membership of the denominations taking part. The General Assembly, "heartily approving of the object in view," appointed a representative to the committee. Vol. VII, p. 35, 1888.]

[The representative reported, that at a meeting held in Washington, D. C., a permanent organization had been formed under the name of "The National Sabbath Association," and that the Association requested the appointment of five persons to represent our Church in its work. The Assembly adopted the following:]

Resolved, 2. That we hail with thankfulness and delight the auspicious beginning of this good work of restoring the Sabbath to its proper place in the affections and lives of the people of our land, and will hope and pray that, by the continued efforts of this Association and the co-operation of all of Christ's followers in our country, the time may soon come when the rulers and people of this great nation will "remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy."

3. That we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Sabbath Association over the good they have already accomplished, and express our earnest desire and hope that the speedy outcome of their work may be equal to the promise of the beginning.

4. That in response to the request of the Association, the Committee

on Nominations be directed to present the names of five persons to constitute a committee to co-operate with the Association in carrying on its good work. Vol. VII, pp. 226, 295, 1889.

[The National Association became "The American Sabbath Union," and was represented in the Assembly by a delegate.]

Resolved, That this General Assembly has heard with great interest the address and appeal of the Rev. Talbot W. Chambers, D.D., on behalf of the American Sabbath Union, and most earnestly do we urge the people throughout all our bounds and in all our churches to faithfully hold fast to the Lord's day as the holy Sabbath, and strive to keep it in all its letter and spirit. Most cordially also does the Assembly commend the above society to the confidence of our people in its efforts to promote the sanctification of the holy day. Vol. VII, p. 418, 1890.

2. That we hereby express our gratitude to God, whose Spirit is evidently arousing His people to combine for the preservation of the Sabbath; also, our appreciation of the work of the American Sabbath Union and like organizations in the several States, and we recommend that a committee of five be appointed to represent our Church in this Union during the coming year. Vol. VII, p. 421, 1890.

10. **Zeal for the Maintenance of the Sabbath.** In the action of every General Assembly, usually under the heading of reform may be found earnest expressions of concern for the proper observance of the Sabbath. The following is but one example:

5. Inasmuch as the keeping of the Sabbath is at once a means and evidence of holiness and inasmuch as the tendency of the times is to transform it into a continental Sunday, we recommend that earnest appeals go forth from every pulpit, Sabbath-school teacher and parent, for a more conscientious observance of the fourth commandment. Vol. XII, p. 49, 1908.

Resolved, 1. That as the recent, after-the-war, widespread attacks upon our Christian Sabbath by commercialized sports and amusements interests and many kinds of indefensible Sunday business, should be known and understood by our churches, this General Assembly requests the Lord's Day Alliance of the United States which officially represents the United Presbyterian Church, to prepare a suitable copy of all actions respecting Sabbath observance that shall have been taken by this Assembly and send the same to all our pastors with the urgent request that the Assembly's actions be read to their congregations.

3. That we earnestly request all pastors and churches in these reconstruction days to watch the courses of Sabbath desecration, having almost unlimited freedom because of the Sabbath laxity produced by the war, and to co-operate with the properly accredited workers and societies in the fullest and most practical ways to safeguard and preserve this priceless institution, the Lord's Day.

4. That this Assembly emphatically disapproves all secular uses of the Sabbath day, all games and sports and the Sunday newspaper, seriously menacing individual and home religion; commends employers who grant the weekly half-holiday to their employees, and urges upon all employers to secure for their employees, additional thereto, a full weekly rest day—the Lord's Day wherever possible, and we respectfully and earnestly request all public officials to enforce the laws which protect the Sabbath from desecration.

5. That this Assembly vigorously condemns the operation of motion picture show houses on the Lord's Day and all attempts to legalize them, and all other commercialized forms of Sabbath desecration, advises the churches everywhere against the carefully organized plans of the motion picture industry and baseball advocates to secure Sunday legislation for their business, and urges public officials to enforce the laws against these kinds of business—

so serious a menace to the true spirit of the Sabbath, the Bible schools and public worship and subversion of the higher morality of the state. Vol. XIV, p. 691, 1919.

11. **Sabbath-School Lessons on the Sabbath and Temperance.** The following recommendation was adopted:

The regular study of the subject of Temperance has undoubtedly been of wide influence in creating sentiment against intemperance. One of the greatest dangers threatening America today is the breaking down of the Christian Sabbath, and America needs regular instruction on the subject of the Lord's Day that the proper sentiment may be created and maintained.

While the Committee feels that both a Temperance lesson and a lesson on the Sabbath in each quarter would be inadvisable, we recommend that the Board of Publication be directed to alternate lessons on Temperance and The Sabbath, one each quarter, in their publications, so providing two lessons on each subject each year.

We recommend, also, that our representative on the International Lesson Committee recommend similar action to that Committee in its preparation of its next cycle of lessons. Vol. XV, p. 295, 1921.

SABBATH SCHOOLS

See Index

XCIX. SALARIES

1. **Salaries of Officers of the Assembly, Corresponding Secretaries, etc.** [A committee of five was appointed to take into consideration the whole subject of salaries of officers of the Assembly, secretaries, treasurers of the various Boards, and adjust the same on an equitable basis, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 456, 1877. This committee reported, when the following substitute was adopted]:

We recommend that officers be paid as follows: *Corresponding Secretaries of the Boards*—of Home Missions, \$800; of Church Extension, \$600; of Foreign Missions, \$500; of Freedmen's Missions, \$200; of Education, \$150. *Treasurers of the Boards*—of Foreign Missions, \$300; of Church Extension, \$75. *Officers of the Assembly*—Principal Clerk, \$75; Second Clerk, \$200; Assistant Clerk, \$25. Also that all other officers whose services are before us be paid their expenses in addition to our high appreciation and cordial thanks. Vol. IV, p. 587, 1878.

[The Presbytery of Westmoreland asked the Assembly to abolish the salaries of officers, etc., fixed in 1878; the Assembly refused to take any action. Vol. V, p. 194, 1880.]

2. **Payment of Salaries of Officers of the Assembly, etc.** [The General Assembly gave order that the salaries of the officers of the General Assembly; the secretaries and treasurers of the various Boards, be paid out of the General Assembly's Fund, on the order of the Principal Clerk. Vol. IV, p. 456, 1877. This action was rescinded. Vol. IV, p. 589, 1878. Without further action the salaries of the officers of the Assembly are paid out of the General Assembly's Fund, and the salaries of the Secretaries and Treasurers of the Boards are paid out of the funds of their respective Boards.]

3. **Salary of the Clerks of the Assembly.** See Clerks.

4. **Salary of Foreign Missionaries.** See Foreign Missions, Board of.

5. **Salary of Home Missionaries.** See Home Missions, Board of.

6. **Salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension.** The salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension was first fixed at \$200 per annum, and then, on reconsideration, was made \$300. Vol. III, p. 159, 1870. It was increased to the sum of \$500,

Vol. III, p. 391, 1872; to \$600, Vol. IV, p. 587, 1878; to \$800, Vol. VI, p. 233, 1885; to \$1,200, Vol. VII, p. 213, 1889; to \$1,500, Vol. VIII, p. 43, 1892; to \$1,800, Vol. X, p. 38, 1900; p. 268, 1901.

7. **Salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Education.** The salary of the Secretary of the Board of Education was raised to \$300. Vol. III, p. 418, 1872.

8. **Salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions.** The salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions was at first \$60 per annum, Vol. I, p. 121, 1860; it was increased to \$500, Vol. II, p. 157, 1865; it was changed to \$300, Vol. II, p. 320, 1866; and was made \$500, Vol. III, p. 497, 1872; increased to \$1,000, Vol. VIII, p. 495, 1894; to \$2,000, Vol. X, p. 622, 1902.

9. **Salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Missions to the Freedmen.** The Secretary of the Board of Freedmen's Missions was authorized to draw on the Treasurer of the Board for "\$500, for services rendered," Vol. II, p. 162, 1865; the salary was fixed at \$300, Vol. II, p. 320, 1866. At the request of the Secretary it was reduced to \$200 per annum, Vol. IV, p. 316, 1876; in the readjustment of salaries, it was continued at \$200 per annum, Vol. IV, p. 587, 1878; it was raised to \$300, Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.

10. **Salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Home Missions.** An order was given in behalf of the clerk of the committee of Home Missions for "\$30 for services of the year," Vol. II, p. 60, 1859; an annual salary of \$60 was given, Vol. I, p. 121, 1860; this was increased to \$500, Vol. II, p. 177, 1865; was changed to \$300, Vol. II, p. 320, 1866; was restored to \$500, Vol. II, p. 410, 1867; was raised to \$800, Vol. IV, p. 339, 1876; in the readjustment of salaries was continued at \$800, Vol. IV, p. 587, 1878; was raised to \$1,800 and expenses, on condition of giving whole time to the work, Vol. VI, p. 468, 1886; to \$2,500, Vol. VII, p. 259, 1889; changed to \$2,000, Vol. IX, p. 533, 1898; an allowance of \$200 for clerical assistance, Vol. X, p. 647, 1902.

11. **Salary of the Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Publication.** Fixed at \$200 per annum. Vol. VI, p. 681, 1887.

12. **Salary of Ministers.** *Resolved*, That the regulation of ministerial salaries belongs to Presbyteries, and does not properly come before the General Assembly. Vol. I, p. 38, 1869.

Resolved, 5. That \$1,500 should be the average salary of the ministers of this Church, and that no minister should receive less than \$1,000. Vol. III, p. 23, 1869.

Resolved, 3. That congregations be urged to give to their pastors a liberal support, and that the sum of \$1,000 should be the minimum for country pastors, and the sum of \$2,000 for pastors in towns and cities. Vol. III, p. 534, 1873.

13. **Salaries of the Treasurers of the Boards.** *Resolved*, 4. That the General Assembly cannot admit any claim for salary on the part of treasurers of the different Boards of the Church, not having authorized the payment of salaries. Vol. III, p. 269, 1871.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of the Foreign Board shall receive annually for his services, \$300; of the Home Board, \$200; of the Church Extension Board, \$100, and of the Freedmen's Board, \$75, until otherwise ordered by the General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 455, 1877.

[The salary of the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions was fixed at \$300, and increased to \$500, Vol. VIII, p. 504, 1894, and an allowance of \$500 for clerical assistance, Vol. X, p. 632, 1902; of the Treasurer of the Board of Church Extension at \$75, increased to \$200, Vol. VII, p. 641, 1891; the treasurers of the other Boards to be paid their expenses, Vol. IV, p. 587, 1878.] Salary of the Treasurer of the Board of Ministerial Relief was fixed by the Board at \$150, and reported to the Assembly. Vol. IX, p. 357, 1897.

[The Board of Missions to the Freedmen asked the General Assembly to fix a salary for the Treasurer of the Board and authorize the payment of the same. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, That the request of the Board be granted touching the salary of the Treasurer. Vol. VI, p. 30, 1884.

[Previous to the readjustment of salaries in 1878, the Treasurer of the Board of Foreign Missions was allowed a salary of \$300 per annum. Vol. IV, pp. 182, 1875; 306, 1876.]

14. **Publication of Salaries.** [On the memorial of the Synod of Iowa, the Clerks of the General Assembly were appointed a committee to] prepare and put in operation a plan for the publication in the Minutes of the General Assembly of the salary of each officer of the General Assembly and the Boards, naming each one, and classifying in the same way the salaries of missionaries, professors and teachers receiving salaries from the general funds of the Church. Vol. IX, p. 532, 1898.

[The committee reported, giving the salaries of the officers of the General Assembly and the Boards.] In regard to the salaries of missionaries there is so much diversity in the regulations of the several Boards, that a "classified" statement embracing all cannot be prepared. [A general statement of the regulations governing salaries of missionaries was given.] Vol. IX, p. 864, 1899.

We recommend that somewhere in the Minutes of the Assembly there be published the salaries of the Secretaries of the Boards, Synodical Superintendents of Missions, Seminary Professors, and others whose salaries are paid out of Church funds. Vol. XIX, p. 340, 1937.

15. **The Supplying of Vacant Congregations by Officers of the Church.** VI. Replying to the memorial asking that ministers who are not pastors and who receive a salary of \$1,500 or more from a board, an institution, or from any official position in the Church be required to turn over to the treasurers of their respective Boards or institutions the net amount received for filling appointments in vacant congregations we recommend that this matter be referred by the Assembly to the various boards and institutions of the Church to which it properly belongs with an expression of its judgment that boards and institutions should take prompt action for the correction of any abuses growing out of the supply of vacant congregations by their employees. Vol. XII, p. 951, 1911.

C. SECRET SOCIETIES

1. **The Position of the Church Clearly Defined.** [In answer to a request from the Presbytery of Cleveland the Assembly adopted the following]:

The position of the United Presbyterian Church in reference to secret societies has been so clearly defined in her Standards, and so frequently and positively affirmed by her highest courts, and so widely published through her periodicals, that any other or further action on the subject by the Assembly at this time is unnecessary. Vol. V, p. 21, 1879.

[In reply to a communication from the Secretary of the National Christian Association the Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 6. That the position of our Church on secret oath-bound societies, as set forth in our Testimony, and as expressed in past deliverances of the Assembly, is sufficiently clear and definite, therefore no further action is required. Also, with reference to questions of reform, former actions of the Assembly are deemed sufficient and no further action is required. Vol. VI, p. 31, 1884.

2. **Duty of Pastors and Sessions.** [The committee on Reform presented the following, which was adopted]:

Your committee are of the opinion that we should emphasize more than

we are now doing the position which we hold as a Church upon the question of secret societies. In face of the many evils growing out of the lodge system, and in view of the fact that our country's future welfare would seem to depend upon the overthrow of this system of iniquity, we would recommend that all our pastors and sessions be enjoined to unfurl the banner of our Church upon this question, so that the Church may be recognized everywhere as not in name only, but also in reality, a factor in the reform that would seek to rid the world of the oath-bound secret society. Vol. VII, p. 423, 1890.

[Report of the Permanent Committee on Reform]: The evils and dangers of secretism are as great as ever, and the agitation has not been as vigorous as could be desired. The country, however, has been startled into consideration of the dark subject by the recent terrible tragedy in the city of New Orleans. . . . It is hoped that the developments through the investigation into the methods of the Mafia and Cla-nagael may arouse the public to the dangers of secret combinations of every kind, in society. Vol. VII, p. 729, 1891.

3. **Free Masons and Odd Fellows.** *Resolved*, 1. That this Assembly regard adherence to the society of Free Masons, or to that of Odd Fellows, as inconsistent with membership in good standing in the United Presbyterian Church.

2. That all our Sessions be and hereby are enjoined to carry out by the faithful exercise of discipline, the principles set forth in the 15th Article, as interpreted in the foregoing resolution.

3. That this Assembly do most earnestly and affectionately exhort all the members of this Church to abstain from connecting themselves with any secret associations, believing they are unnecessary, and are calculated to operate injuriously on the interests of society, and that they do especially urge the ministers and elders of this Church to use their influence to keep our members from an incorporation with them. Vol. III, p. 25, 1869.

The Presbytery of Chartiers complains of the action of the last General Assembly on the same subject. The Presbytery expresses the opinion that the "Assembly did, inadvertently or otherwise, modify and limit the meaning and application of the 15th Article, by putting an interpretation on it which confines its disciplinary application to the societies of Odd Fellows and Free Masons." * * * One of the memorials, which gave rise to the action of last year, asked the Assembly "to declare distinctly, by name, what societies or associations are prohibited by the aforesaid article." This was, no doubt, considered impracticable, and as there could be no doubt as to the associations of Odd Fellows and Free Masons coming within the scope of the article, and as these are the most powerful, and, no doubt, the most dangerous secret associations in the country, we understand the object of the last Assembly to have been, to direct the attention of Sessions especially to them, without intending to restrict Sessions in the exercise of discipline, whenever the principle of the article in question is violated. The adoption of the following resolution, which is recommended by the committee, is all that seems needful on the subject:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly, the last Assembly did not and could not intend by their action to alter or limit, without overture, the principle of our Testimony on the subject of secret societies. Vol. III, p. 154, 1870.

4. **Odd Fellows.** "Does Article XVth of the United Presbyterian Testimony condemn the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and are Sessions to require, as a condition of admission to the Church from those who are connected therewith, that they withdraw from said Order?" Your committee have no hesitation in giving an affirmative answer to this inquiry. Those who become or continue members of this society not only violate the declaration in the Testimony, but also act in opposition to the unquestionable scriptural doc-

trine laid down in the Confession of Faith, Chapter 22, "Of lawful oaths and vows." Vol. I, p. 112, 1860.

In reply to the third point in the memorial we refer to the report of the Judicial Committee of the Assembly of 1860. The Assembly declared it to be the duty of Sessions to require, as a condition of admission to the Church, that persons connected with the Order of Odd Fellows withdraw from their connection, and that those who become or continue members of this society not only violate the declaration in the Testimony, but also act in opposition to the unquestionable scriptural doctrines laid down in the Confession, Chapter 22. The same remarks apply with equal force and obligation with respect to all other secret societies against which we testify. All that is requisite to secure uniformity is that Sessions faithfully apply the principles of the Church according to their obligations. Vol. I, p. 356, 1862.

5. **Patrons of Husbandry.** [Two memorials were before the Assembly, the first asking a definite answer to the question: "Is membership in the society known as the Patrons of Husbandry contrary to the 15th Article of the Testimony, and inconsistent with membership in the United Presbyterian Church?" The second asking the Assembly to give such instruction to the inferior courts as will be best calculated to secure uniform action throughout the Church, and strengthen the hands of those who are disposed faithfully to administer the principles of the Church on the subject of secret societies. The following was the action taken]:

Resolved, That the memorialists be referred to the action of the Assembly of 1869 on the subject of secret societies, and that this Assembly reaffirm the third resolution of said action, which is as follows:

"*Resolved*, That this Assembly do most earnestly and affectionately exhort all the members of this Church to abstain from connecting themselves with any secret associations, believing that they are unnecessary, and are calculated to operate injuriously on the interests of society, and they do especially urge the ministers and elders of this Church to use their influence to keep our members from an incorporation with them." Vol. III, p. 539, 1873.

Resolved, 1. That it is the duty of the members of the United Presbyterian Church to free themselves from all connection with the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, where such connection has been made.

2. That those of our people who may be connected with the Order are hereby most earnestly entreated to remember that by their profession they have come under solemn obligations to Christ to oppose secret societies.

3. That in case of obstinate adherence to the order, it will be the duty of Sessions to use their authority in the way of discipline. Vol. IV, p. 40, 1874.

6. **Union Leagues.** As your committee have not the necessary evidence before them, they are not prepared to express a judgment on the question whether the practice of the Union League is contrary to the rule of this Church in regard to secret societies; and, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the XVth Article of our Declaration and Testimony, which relates to secret societies, is sufficiently explicit and comprehensive, and that the application of its principles belongs primarily to the Church Sessions and Presbyteries. Vol. II, p. 30, 1864.

7. **Grand Army of the Republic.** [The Presbytery of Keokuk by memorial asked for a deliverance as to the lawfulness of membership in the Grand Army of the Republic. The question was referred to a committee to report to the next Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 14, 1884. The report of the committee was adopted as follows:]

The question submitted to your committee is as follows: "Is membership in the Grand Army of the Republic consistent with Article XV of the Testimony?" According to our understanding of this article, that only is in oppo-

sition to the principles contained therein which requires an unwarrantable use of an oath, or in which an obligation is imposed, the real nature and effect of which are not understood at the time it is assumed.

Your committee would answer the proposed question as follows, viz.: That whilst there are minor points of likeness in this association to the class of secret orders against which Article XV of the Testimony is intended to operate, yet the law does not clearly cover the case of membership in the Grand Army; because there is nothing in the obligation imposed, or in the manner of administering it, that partakes of the nature of an oath. Neither is the conscience bound by an unknown code of laws, because the constitution and laws of the association are open to the inspection of every one proposing to become a member.

There remains, however, the fact that its ritual and some other things are to be kept secret, in consequence of which it has an appearance of the evils opposed by the law, and also something of a tendency to weaken, rather than strengthen, the efforts of the Church to defend those principles. Therefore, in order to avoid the very appearance of evil, we think it is wise and proper to counsel the members of the United Presbyterian Church to stand aloof from this and all similar associations.

Your committee, therefore, submits for adoption the following:

Resolved, That the answer and counsel contained in this paper be and hereby is adopted, as expressing the views of this Assembly in relation to membership in the Grand Army. Vol. VI, p. 297, 1885.

8. **Junior Order of United American Mechanics.** [The Beaver Valley Presbytery asked the General Assembly to decide whether connection with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics is consistent with the Fifteenth Article of our Testimony.]

Resolved, That the memorialist be referred to the Minutes of the Assembly of 1885, in reference to similar associations, as our answer to this petition. Vol. VII, p. 631, 1891.

9. **Knights of Labor.** The Committee on Bills and Overtures, to which was referred the memorial of the Presbytery of Albany, finds it impossible to report anything of a decided character in regard to those associations known as "Knights of Labor," and other kindred associations, because we have no adequate knowledge of their true character, or of the forms and extent of the obligations which are assumed at the time of initiation.

There is, however, too much reason to believe that these associations require a surrender of personal liberty to act in accordance with the individual's own conscience of right and wrong, and hence are an entanglement and a snare, which we earnestly counsel all our members to avoid.

Your committee would have the Assembly direct all our sessions to carry out the rules of our Church in dealing with any members who have joined, or who may be about to join, any of the associations in question, as they shall obtain such positive information as will enable them to act intelligently in the case.

We recommend the adoption of the following, viz.:

Resolved, That we enjoin upon all our members to abstain from connection with any association which might lead to acts of violence, or to the invasion of the rights of property, or interference with the liberty of men to engage in honest labor where and when, and for whomsoever they may choose. Vol. VI, p. 436, 1886.

In view of the existing diversity in the interpretation of Article XV of the Testimony and in the application of it by sessions and in the admission of members of secret orders, and in view of the great multiplication of these orders and of their diversity in purpose and character, the General Assembly adopts the following as expressive of the mind of the Church on this subject:

Article XV of the Testimony continues to express the general sentiment of the Church and is hereby affirmed. Members of the Church of Christ ought not to have fellowship in associations which bind their members by oaths or affirmations to obey unknown obligations, and to immoral secrecy, or which establish a fraternal fellowship among men subversive of the unity of the body of Christ. It is especially obligatory upon Christians to stand aloof from the societies which, by their moral teachings and religious ritual, foster a belief in the salvability of men apart from the mediation of Christ. We condemn such organizations as most dishonoring to our Lord and injurious to men, and persons who, with knowledge of the truth concerning them wilfully adhere to such associations, shall not be received into Church membership. All such societies are included in the phrase of the Testimony, "Inconsistent with the genius and spirit of Christianity." The entire contents and bearings of the Article should be emphasized in the pulpit teaching, and the Testimony faithfully maintained by all.

This Article is not to be construed so as to exclude from the Church the membership of such societies as are not bound by oath or affirmation, do not pledge to secrecy in things unknown, or inculcate a Christless religion.

In the administration of this Article, as of others of the Testimony, sessions possess the right to exercise a wise discretion in dealing with such cases as may arise on their merits, and in such a way as may best promote the glory of God and the edification of the Church. It is supposed that sessions are composed of men of understanding, that they are acquainted with the principles which they have embraced, and that they are faithful to the trust committed to them as officers of the Church. They may safely be trusted in the exercise of this power as courts of the Church, being, of course, responsible for the manner in which they exercise this discretion. Vol. X, p. 265, 1901.

iv. A memorial from certain members of our Church asks the Assembly to modify the deliverance of 1874, declaring membership in the "Order of the Patrons of Husbandry" to be contrary to Article XV of our Testimony, and to declare applicable to it the deliverance of the Assembly of 1885 relating to the "Grand Army of the Republic," which deliverance was reaffirmed and made applicable to the "Junior Order of United American Mechanics" and "similar associations" in the deliverance of the General Assembly of 1891.

We recommend for adoption the following:

Resolved, That this Assembly reaffirm the following deliverance of the Assembly of 1873, viz.: "That this Assembly do most earnestly and affectionately exhort all the members of this Church to abstain from connecting themselves with any secret associations, believing that they are unnecessary, and are calculated to operate injuriously on the interests of society, and do especially urge the ministers and elders of this Church to use their influence to keep our members from an incorporation with them." Vol. VIII, p. 259, 1893.

The Judiciary Committee on the Memorial from the session of Americus, Kansas, Presbytery of Garnett, for instructions on the lawfulness of membership in the A. O. U. W., would respectfully report, that, in the absence of any direct testimony in regard to the object, usages, practice and laws of said association, "Ancient Order of United Workmen," we find it difficult to answer the memorialists satisfactorily, but would recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, That the principles of our Church, as enunciated in our standards and deliverances of our General Assembly, are sufficiently clear for the government of sessions and Presbyteries. Vol. VIII, p. 41, 1892.

We would call attention to the evil of secret societies, which statistics show to be on the increase. These institutions, which sap the life of the Church wherever they exist within her pale, threaten to usurp the prerogative of civil government, pervert the equity of our courts of justice, and invade the sanctity of the home, are active and aggressive. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we reaffirm our former deliverances upon this subject and enjoin our sessions to be vigilant and faithful in the application of the law against secret societies; and that instruction thereon be earnestly and timely given from the pulpits of the Church.

2. That we endorse the work being done by the National Christian Association in giving light upon this important subject. Vol. VIII, p. 727, 1895.

5. Concerning the memorial on membership in the society of the Modern Woodmen of America, that the memorialists be referred to the action of the General Assembly in regard to the Union League (recorded in the Minutes of the Assembly, Vol. II, page 30, 1864, in the Digest, page 282) as in every way applicable and satisfactory in this case. Vol. IX, p. 290, 1897.

2. That the action of previous Assemblies interpreting this article for the benefit of sessions, is as definite and satisfactory as any that can be made, and on that account no further deliverances are necessary. Vol. IX, p. 768, 1899.

Consult Chapter LXXXIX, Principles of the United Presbyterian Church, Item 7, Changes.

CI. SHORT STATEMENT OF DOCTRINE

A Committee was appointed by the General Assembly of 1914 to prepare a short statement of doctrine. Vol. XIII, p. 731, 1914.

This Committee reported to the General Assembly and a commission was appointed to whom the report of the Committee was referred. Vol. XV, p. 232, 1917.

The Commission submitted its Minutes to the General Assembly of 1918 in which it is recorded that the Commission adopted the Short Statement of Doctrine. For the Short Statement of Doctrine, consult the Minutes of the Assembly. Vol. XIV, pp. 471-476, 1918.

CII. SLAVERY

1. **The Rebellion the Result of Slavery.** *Resolved*, 1. That in the judgment of this Assembly, this wicked rebellion, which imperils the existence of the government, which aims to found a confederacy upon the ruins of crushed humanity, and which brutally assassinates and murders our fellow-citizens, is pre-eminently the result of the practical workings of American slavery. Vol. I, p. 364, 1862.

2. **The Emancipation of Slaves.** The committee appointed to confer with a similar committee from the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in relation to petitioning Congress on the subject of the emancipation of the slaves, recommended as the result of their joint meeting the adoption of the following petition, to be signed by the moderator and clerk of each body, and transmitted to the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled: The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, now in session in the city of Pittsburgh, Pa., and the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, now in session in the city of Allegheny, Pa., believing that the holding of human beings as slaves is a sin against the God of heaven, a manifest transgression of the law of him who came to preach deliverance to the captives, a gross violation of the rights of man, utterly irreconcilable with the principles of human liberty, destructive of the best interests of the land, a foul blot upon the national escutcheon, a prime cause of the existing atrocious rebellion, and if continued, a sure provocative of farther and greater judgments of God upon the nation, would earnestly appeal to the Congress of the United States to adopt at once all the measures competent to it to secure the immediate emancipation of all human beings now held in this oppressive and

degrading bondage in any part of this land, and, so far as such an act of justice may avail, avert the just indignation of God Most High, and secure the United States from the recurrence of any similar iniquitous assault upon our national civilization and liberties."

Resolved, That the foregoing action be transmitted to the Reformed Presbyterian Synod now in session. Vol. I, p. 363, 1862.

Resolved, That without expressing any judgment on the military importance or necessity, or the statesmanlike character, of the emancipation proclamation of President Lincoln, we hail it as obedience to the voice of God, calling us, as He did His ancient people, "Let the oppressed go free, and break every yoke." Vol. II, p. 31, 1864.

3. **The Use of Money Derived From the Sale of Slaves.** [Certain members of the United Presbyterian congregation of Calcutta received money derived from the sale of an estate in the State of Louisiana, consisting mainly in slaves. The amount received was too small to purchase and liberate any of the slaves sold. The Session asked the Assembly, "Can they, without a violation of the rules of the United Presbyterian Church, appropriate the money to their own use?"]

Resolved, That those members of the Calcutta congregation, who have received money derived from the sale of slaves, be directed to devote it, according to their best judgments, to the benefit of the colored race. Vol. I, p. 234, 1861.

CIII. SOCIAL SERVICE

A Joint Committee of the General Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church U.S., United Presbyterian Church, Presbyterian Church U.S.A., and the Synod of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church submitted the following Declaration on Christian Faith and Social Service:

OUR UNITED DECLARATION

In preparing this United Declaration, we use the words: "Christian Faith" to designate the teachings of the Holy Scriptures, the essential doctrines of which are held in common by all Evangelical Churches and are embodied in the ecumenical creeds of Christendom.

"Church" to designate an organized body instituted by Christ and exercising her corporate functions through her courts and officers.

"Social Service" to designate the practice of the principles set forth in God's holy law which regulate the relations by which men are bound together in the social order, this practice being a part of those good works of which our Confession of Faith teaches that they are only such as God hath commanded in his Holy Word and are done in obedience to God's command and are the fruits and evidence of a lively faith and at best cannot merit pardon of sin or eternal life at the hand of God.

Accordingly, our Churches unite in saying:

I

We believe that Man's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever, and that the first duty of all men is to seek God, to repent of sin, to accept the offer of salvation through Jesus Christ and to dedicate their lives unreservedly to His service.

II

We believe that, from the creation of man, God has ordained for us those social relationships which are to His glory and to the happiness and usefulness of mankind, and that in every age He has made known His will, that he that loveth God must love his brother also.

III

We believe that the moral principles upon which all social relations are based were written in the heart of man, when he was made in the image of God, that these principles have been obscured by sin and are revealed anew in the Holy Scriptures. Inasmuch as all evils, social and individual, have their source in human sin and selfishness, they can be remedied only by the divinely appointed plan for salvation from sin and through the divinely given motive which is the love begotten in our hearts through God's great love for us in the Gift of His Son.

IV

We believe that the Church, holding the Gospel of Jesus Christ, is not only the appointed means to salvation from eternal death, but that, with the State and the Family, she has a distinctive work to do in bettering the social relations of men in this present world. The power given to the Church is spiritual, ministerial and declarative, and her function, through the Word and Holy Spirit, is to inculcate and apply those principles and to quicken those motives which are essential to all true and lasting reform.

V

We believe that the social conditions of our day require emphasis upon the divine message for the following reasons:

1. The tremendous advance in our time of scientific discovery and invention and of commercial, industrial and civic enterprises by which men have been brought into closer relations of reciprocal dependence and service towards one another as individuals and towards society as an organized body.

2. The vast increase of wealth, its unequal, and, often unjust, distribution, and the consequent increase of the power of the privileged few to exploit their fellowmen for private and selfish ends.

3. The development of great business corporations which discharge many of the functions once belonging to individuals and as the result of this the weakening of the sense of individual responsibility for social wrongs.

4. The fostering or protection of vice as an instrument to private gain or to selfish ambition for place and power.

5. The submergence of large classes in ignorance and poverty so that the difficulty of reaching them with the message of Christ is greatly increased.

These reasons require that the Church of Jesus Christ, which takes its stand as Christ did against the sins of social injustice and tyranny, as well as against other forms of sin, should emphasize:

1. The duty of man towards his fellowmen as individuals and towards society with reference to the life that now is as well as to the life which is to come.

2. The duty of men to put into practice the Christian principles of Love, Justice, and Truth in all their social relations, economic, industrial or political; as officers or citizens of the State, as employers or employees, as capitalists and laborers, as stockholders or officers in corporations, and in all similar relationships.

3. The responsibility of men both for the manner in which they acquire positions, possessions and power in their social relations, and for the manner in which, as stewards of God, they use these, lest, in the great day of Judgment, they be found unfaithful.

4. The responsibility of every individual not only for those social wrongs to which he may be a contributing cause, but for those which, by his prayers and efforts, he could assist in abolishing.

5. The duty of Christian citizens to observe those principles of our religion which require that every man do his full share of the world's work;

which oppose injustice and tyranny, even when these are entrenched in the usages of our civilization; which lead men to endeavor to maintain themselves in a self-respecting, God-fearing way, this self-maintenance being understood to include a fair return for labor, sufficient to support the man and his family, conditions of labor, that are safe and healthy, opportunity to provide against illness and old age, and relief from labor on one day in seven; which lead to movements to secure childhood against forced labor, and woman against conditions degrading to womanhood.

6. The duty of every man to accept Jesus Christ and obey His teachings as the only cure for the injustice, tyranny and sins, now looming so large upon the world's horizon.

VI

We believe that, inasmuch as many of these evils are rooted in the past and have grown with the development of civilization, they can be cured only by concerted and organized efforts on the part of all good citizens. Our churches, therefore, should always encourage voluntary organizations for the betterment of social conditions and urge their members to co-operate in them, leaving private judgment to decide what means or methods, or what organizations, are best adapted to the promotion of these desirable ends.

Your Joint Committee would respectfully recommend to the General Assemblies and to the Synod which appointed it, that:

1. This report be adopted.

2. This report be printed by the Boards of Publication of our Churches, or by one of these Boards acting for the others, in the number of at least ten thousand copies, for distribution.

3. This report be transmitted to the supreme judicatories of our sister churches in the Federal Council for their consideration, by the Clerk of this Committee, Rev. D. F. McGill, Ben Avon, Pa.

4. Our Churches cordially recognize and encourage the Federal Council as affording a common ground where all who love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ may meet for conference and co-operation in the vast and holy enterprise of Christian Social Service, and, to the end that these conferences may continue to be truly Christian and this co-operation really effective, the representatives of our Churches in the Executive Committee of the Federal Council be directed to endeavor at all times to have the Federal Council distinctly recognize the great truths of the Christian Faith held in common by the Evangelical Churches and thus avoid and allay misunderstandings. Further, that these representatives be directed to report to the subsequent Assemblies and Synod the result of their endeavors. Vol. XIII, pp. 887-890, 1914.

The above report was adopted. Vol. XIII, p. 713, 1914.

NOTE: Consult Chapter LIX, Industrial Conditions.

CIV. SPEERS ESTATE

[Action concerning the Speers estate was taken by the Assemblies of 1870, 1879, 1880, 1890, and 1891. For references concerning the transfer of the estate to the General Assembly by the Associate Synod, see Associate Synod. The following memorial of the executors of the estate of Daniel Speers to the Assembly gives a full history of all proceedings in the case]:

The executors of the last will and testament of Daniel Speers, deceased, would respectfully represent that they need some action on the part of this General Assembly, in order to the final settlement of the estate of Mr. Speers, and they request that needed action be taken.

The following recital of facts will enable the General Assembly to determine what should be done in the case:

Mr. Speers died July 21, 1841. The sixth and seventh sections of his

will, bearing date January 16, 1841, and probated August 10, 1841, are as follows:

"*Sixthly*, I will and request that my real estate be supported in good order and condition for the term of fifty years, and shall be kept insured, and if destroyed to be rebuilt, and the balance and residue of my estate, real, personal and mixed, after provision being made for the payment of the bequests and expenses before named, I will and bequeath to the Reverend Synod of the Secession Church, of which body the Rev. Dr. Robert Bruce is a member, and the proceeds and avails thereof to be applied to the spread of the Gospel of Jesus Christ here and elsewhere, and for the support of pious young men who may need assistance while preparing for the Gospel ministry, in such a way as said Synod may consider will best advance the kingdom of Christ, and at the end of said fifty years the executors then acting under this will shall sell and dispose of my real estate, and the proceeds shall be appropriated to the above purposes for the objects before named, in such way and manner as the said Synod at a regular meeting thereof, or a General Assembly, if such should then exist, embracing said Synod, shall direct.

"*Lastly*, I nominate and appoint Dr. Robert Bruce, Rev. James Rodgers, and Rev. James Ramsey (members in said Synod), John Graham, Esq., William Bell, and Samuel George (the first named two being elders in that connection), and Malcolm Leech (an elder in the Presbyterian Church), executors of this my last will and testament, and request that they shall meet, at least once every year, to transact the necessary business, any four or more of whom, two being ministers, shall be qualified to do business, and on the death, resignation, or removal from the bounds of the sphere of action of any of said executors, from time to time, the survivors are requested and empowered to supply such vacancy by a vote at any regular meeting or meetings called for the purpose, and the person or persons so selected, keeping the same proportion of ministers and elders, shall be clothed with the same powers as the executors above named, and this will keep up a living board of executors until the provisions of this my last will and testament shall be fulfilled."

The annual income of the estate, till the union of 1858, was paid to the treasurer of the Associate Synod. From the time of the union till 1870, the yearly income was still paid to the treasurer of said Synod. The Associate Synod, at a meeting in 1870, took the following action with reference to the Speers estate. (Minutes, Vol. III, page 135.)

"To the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church: We are instructed by the Associate Synod to lay before you, for your consideration, the action of said Synod on the subjects of the Theological Seminary and funds, so far as it relates to the transfer of said interests to your care and supervision.

"i. That the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Associate Synod be directed to pay over to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the United Presbyterian General Assembly, the accrued rents and interests of the Speers estate, and hereafter these rents and interests, as they may accrue, to be employed in the manner following: One-third part in the aid of the cause of Home and Foreign Missions, and two-third parts to be placed at the disposal of the Board of Education, to be used in accordance with the rules and regulations of said Board. * * * * *Provided*, that in the distribution of that part of the interest of the Speers estate which is appropriated to the aid of students having the ministry in view, if one or more of the Theological Seminaries now under the care of the Synods of the United Presbyterian Church shall be put under the care and management of the General Assembly, then the students in attendance at said Seminary, shall have the preference in receiving assistance. And, *provided*, further, that in case neither of these institutions be

given to the General Assembly and the Assembly should deem it wise to establish a Seminary under its own care and control, then the students in attendance at said Seminary shall have the preference in receiving assistance.
* * *

"iii. That the Board of Trustees of the Associate Synod, being the only body invested with legal powers to make the transfer of property and funds contemplated in the above resolutions, the appointment by the Synod last year of a committee of five to adjust and settle its financial affairs, is hereby rescinded.

By order of the Associate Synod,
J. T. BROWNLEE, *Moderator*;
R. H. POLLOCK, *Clerk*."

The above action of the Synod was reported to the General Assembly, when the following action was taken: (Minutes, Volume III, page 141).

"The Committee on Finance report that the Associate Synod has directed the Board of Trustees of that Synod to pay over to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, the accrued rents and interests of the Speers estate, and the money that may accrue hereafter from these sources; that the appropriation of these moneys shall be one-third to Home and Foreign Missions, and two-thirds to the Board of Education of the United Presbyterian Church. Your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church most thankfully accepts the generous appropriation of the moneys arising from the accrued rents and interest of the Speers estate.

2. That the Trustees of this General Assembly be directed to receive and receipt for these funds.

3. That the Board of Trustees be instructed to pay over to the Board of Education two-thirds of the moneys thus received, and that the remaining one-third be divided as follows: Two-fifths to the Board of Home Missions and three-fifths to the Board of Foreign Missions."

Some time about the beginning of 1872, the executors learned that the persons commonly called "Protesters" were making preparations to enter suit against them, and it was thought unwise to pay over any more money till the threatened suit was decided. In due time the suit was brought, and by a decision of the Orphans' Court of Allegheny County, Pa., affirmed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, November 18, 1878, the United Presbyterian Church of North America was declared to be the legitimate successor of the Associate Church, so far as rights of property and trust relations were concerned, and the executors were ordered to pay the funds accruing from the Speers estate to the "Trustees of the Synod of the Associate Presbyterian Church of North America, subject to the control of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, for the purpose of the trust created by the will of Daniel Speers, deceased."

At a meeting of the Associate Synod, in 1879, the following action was taken: Vol. V, page 84.

"To the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, in Session at New Wilmington, May 30, 1879:

"The Associate Synod, by its unanimous action at the above named place and date, agreed to present to the Assembly the following representation, viz.: A number of years prior to the formation of the United Presbyterian Church by the union of 1858, a considerable legacy was bequeathed to the Associate Church by one Daniel Speers, of Pittsburgh; and one of the objects specified in the bequest was 'the education of pious young men for the ministry.' The Associate Synod, in order strictly to carry out the above named object, did for some years prior to the union pay to the Trustees of the Associate Theo-

logical Seminary, located at Canonsburg, and afterward at Xenia, that portion of said legacy devoted to the education of young men for the ministry. These payments continued for more than ten years after the union. About the year 1860, at the request of the Associate Synod, the Second Synod of the United Presbyterian Church assumed the educational control of said Seminary, with the understanding that said funds had been annually paid to the Trustees of the Seminary, and the expectation that the payment would be continued, which expectation was realized up to the year 1870. In the year 1866, and annually thereafter till 1870, the sum paid from this fund to the Trustees of the Seminary was \$1,000. At a meeting of the Associate Synod in 1870, without any recognition of the claims of the Seminary, or obligation to the Second Synod, which the Associate Synod had requested to assume the educational control of the Seminary, the fund was paid over to the United Presbyterian Church, with the request that it should be appropriated annually to the Board of Education. The Associate Synod is now convinced that its action was without due consideration, and that by it an injustice was done, not only to the Seminary at Xenia, but to the Second Synod, which was compelled to bear the principal burden of conducting the Seminary. This Synod also believes it to be more in accordance with the design of the will of the late Daniel Speers, that the fund should be appropriated to the Theological Seminaries of the Church. In this belief the Associate Church, originally entrusted with this legacy, appropriated its proceeds to her Seminary for many years prior to the union. These proceeds now amount annually to the sum of \$2,000. The Associate Synod, therefore, respectfully request the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church to consider the matter here presented, and if in accordance with her wisdom to adopt the following resolution, or something equivalent thereto, viz.:

Resolved, That the Board of Education be directed to pay to the Trustees of Xenia Theological Seminary, out of the funds of the Speers estate, transferred to them by the Associate Synod in 1870, the sum of \$1,000 annually, to be used in assisting pious young men in preparation for the Gospel ministry.

“Respectfully submitted by order of the Synod,

D. W. COLLINS, *Moderator*;

JAMES PRICE, *Clerk pro tem.*”

On this request, the General Assembly took the following action, Vol. V, page 38:

Your committee, to whom was referred the communication of the Associate Synod in reference to a disposition of a portion of the proceeds of the Speers estate, would respectfully submit the following:

Whereas, The Associate Synod has by a unanimous vote requested this Assembly to place a portion of the proceeds of the Speers estate at the disposal of the Theological Seminary at Xenia, for the support of pious young men who may need assistance while preparing for the Gospel ministry as per the terms of the will of the late Daniel Speers; and

Whereas, These Funds are bequeathed to the Synod of the Secession Church by the said Daniel Speers, and by the said Synod transferred to the Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church in 1870; and

Whereas, It may be presumed that the late Daniel Speers has in view the Theological Seminary of the Secession Church, then located at Canonsburg, the channel through which needy candidates for the ministry should receive the benefit of his legacy; and

Whereas, The said seminary did receive and pay out to her students the portion of the legacy intended for such purpose, many years prior to the transfer of these funds to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church; and

Whereas, More than \$10,000 of accrued interest have been paid over to the Board of Education by the Trustees of the Speers estate; therefore,

Resolved, That the Board of Education be directed to pay over to the Board of Trustees of the United Presbyterian Theological Seminary at Xenia, Ohio, the sum of \$6,000 out of the funds received by said Board of Education from the Speers estate, to be held by said Board of Trustees of Theological Seminary as a permanent fund, the income only of which shall be used for the support of pious young men who may need assistance while preparing for the Gospel ministry, in strict compliance with the terms of the will of the late Daniel Speers, by which will these funds have reached the Church.

At a meeting of the Associate Synod in 1880, the following action was taken, Vol. V, p. 249:

The following action was taken by the Associate Synod at its meeting this day, and directed to be transmitted to your body for information:

Whereas, The General Assembly of last year, in response to the action of the Associate Synod, requesting that the Board of Education be directed to pay over to the Trustees of Xenia Theological Seminary the sum of \$1,000 annually, for the purpose of assisting pious young men preparing for the Gospel ministry, from the proceeds of the Speers estate transferred to it by the action of the Associate Synod in 1870, instead of complying with said request, ordered the Board to make an absolute transfer of \$6,000 of its fund derived from said estate; and

Whereas, Said request was made under misapprehension in regard to the action of Synod in 1870, the minutes not being present; and

Whereas, The action of the last Assembly may cause some embarrassment to the Board of Education; therefore,

Resolved, That while gratefully acknowledging the kindness of the Assembly and the Board in acceding so far to the request of Synod, yet the Synod deems it expedient, and hereby does request the Trustees of the Xenia Theological Seminary to return the \$6,000 received from the Board of Education.

2. That the Treasurer of Synod is hereby directed to pay one-third part of the proceeds of the Speers estate in the manner following, viz.: First \$1,000 from this one-third part to the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Allegheny to aid in erecting a dormitory in connection with said Seminary; provided, however, that the title to said dormitory be vested in the United Presbyterian Church; and secondly, the entire aforesaid one-third part thereafter, until otherwise ordered, to the Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Xenia, to be used in aiding pious young men preparing for the Gospel ministry.

3. That so much of the action of the Synod in 1870 as is inconsistent with the above resolutions be and hereby is repealed.

By order of the Synod,

J. G. CARSON, *Stated Clerk*.

This paper was heard by the General Assembly, and ordered to be published in the Minutes, but the Assembly took no further action. Vol. V, p. 200.

During all the time since the union of 1858 the executors have been paying the annual proceeds of the estate to the Treasurer of the Associate Synod. While our past action is in accord with the terms of the union of 1858 and the order of the civil courts, yet it seems to us proper that it should be confirmed by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, that we may conform more distinctly with the terms of the will.

The fifty years, at the close of which, according to the will of Mr. Speers, the property is to be sold will expire July 21, 1891; and before the meeting of the next General Assembly arrangements for its sale should be in progress. No directions have been given for the sale of the real estate and other assets, and for the distribution of the proceeds. The will provides that this should be done "in such way and manner as the said Synod at a regular meeting

thereof, or a General Assembly, if such should then exist, embracing said Synod, shall direct." It seems to us that this General Assembly should give such directions.

We, therefore, under the advice of our attorneys, request the General Assembly in order to carry out the terms of the will, to adopt resolutions substantially as follows:

1. That the payments by the executors under the last will and testament of Daniel Speers, deceased, of the annual income of the estate to the Treasurer of the Associate Synod heretofore, be, and the same are hereby approved and confirmed.

2. That the said executors be, and are hereby requested and directed to carry out the terms of the said will, by the sale of the real estate and other assets of the estate of Daniel Speers, at the termination of the period fixed by him, at such time or times, at either public or private sale, and for such price or prices, and upon such terms as they in their discretion may deem right and proper, either with or without any order of the Orphans' Court of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, as the same may or may not be deemed necessary.

3. That the said executors be directed hereafter to pay the said annual income, and also the net proceeds arising from the sale of the said real estate, and other assets, directly to the objects named in said will, and in such way and manner as this General Assembly may direct, in strict compliance with the terms of the will. Vol. VII, p. 508, 1890.

[The following is the action of the Assembly, taken on the recommendation of a special committee to whom the above memorial was referred]:

Resolved, 1. That the payments by the executors under the last will and testament of Daniel Speers, deceased, of the annual income of the estate to the Treasurer of the Associate Synod heretofore, be and the same are hereby approved and confirmed.

2. That the said executors be and are hereby requested and directed to carry out the terms of the said will by the sale of the real estate and other assets of the estate of said Daniel Speers, at the termination of the period fixed by him, at such time or times, at either public or private sale, and for such price or prices, and upon such terms as they in their discretion may deem right and proper, either with or without any order of the Orphans' Court of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, as the same may or may not be deemed necessary.

3. That the said executors be directed to compute the entire proceeds of the Speers bequest, from the time at which the Assembly assumed control of rents and interests in 1870 to the final settlement of the estate (said computation to include the annual income from May, 1870, and also the net proceeds arising from the sale of said real estate and other assets), and to make such a distribution of these entire proceeds, past and future, as will give to the Boards of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Church Extension, and Freedmen's Missions one-half of the whole, that is, to each of these Boards one-eighth of the whole; and as will give also the other half of said entire proceeds, past and future, to the Board of Education, Xenia Theological Seminary, and Allegheny Theological Seminary, that is to each of these institutions one-sixth of the whole, to be by said Board of Education and Directors and Managers of said seminaries applied for the support of pious young men who may need assistance while preparing for the Gospel ministry. Vol. VII, p. 420, 1890.

[Memorials from the Directors of the Xenia Theological Seminary and the Associate Synod, asking a change in the distribution of the proceeds of the Speers estate, were referred to the Committee on Finance, and the following report of the committee was adopted by the Assembly]:

Two communications have been presented to the Assembly, with a view to the distribution of the Speers estate, different from that ordered by the last

Assembly. One of them comes as a memorial from the Board of Managers of the Xenia Theological Seminary, through a committee appointed by said Board to prepare and forward it. It demurs to the retrospective feature in the plan of distribution adopted by the last Assembly, and asks, for various reasons given, that disbursements in its favor, out of the income from 1870 to 1890, be not charged to it in the final accounting as part of its share of the proceeds. The other communication is a paper presented to the Assembly as "action taken by the Associate Synod in response to a memorial from the Board of Managers of the Xenia Seminary." It makes no reference to past income disbursed as proper to be considered in the final distribution. It contemplates disposition only of "all moneys now in the hands of the executors," and moneys yet to come into their hands from income and ultimate sale, and of the total proceeds already in hand and yet to be realized, it would have one-half divided equally between the Xenia and Allegheny Theological seminaries, and the other half entrusted to other institutions of the Church.

We refrain from discussing the reasons given by Committee of the Board of Managers of the Xenia Seminary, for amendment of the action of last year. But, while not endorsing the reasons given, we would cordially recommend that the change be made, which we understand the memorialist to ask, for we believe that the scheme of distribution, if amended as contemplated, would fully conform to the will of Mr. Speers, and make wise and most useful appropriation of his large bequest, while it seems more likely to harmonize in its support the members of this Assembly, and give satisfaction to the Church. We therefore, recommend that the Assembly adopt resolutions as follows:

1. That this Assembly express its high appreciation of all the painstaking precautions of the Associate fathers and brethren, since the union of 1858 to the present time, to secure the Speers estate to the United Presbyterian Church.
2. That without determining the relation of the Associate Synod, or its trustees, to the Speers estate, the executors are hereby authorized and directed to pay the entire Trust Fund, including income accumulating from date of last Assembly's action ordering distribution, and after deducting necessary expenses, to David W. Collins, David W. Carson, James McCandless, James G. Carson, John T. Brownlee, F. A. Hutchinson, Samuel Collins, Geo. M. Reed, and Jas. B. Lee, acting "Trustees of the Synod of the Associate Presbyterian Church of North America, subject to the control of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, for the purpose of the trust created by the will of Daniel Speers, deceased;" and said acting trustees are hereby made the fiscal agents of the General Assembly for the purpose of receiving said funds, and transmitting the same to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church; and said acting trustees and fiscal agents are hereby directed to transmit such funds, and every portion thereof, to said Trustees of the General Assembly, when and as rapidly as the same are paid over to them by said executors.
3. That the Trustees of the General Assembly be directed, as often at least as once a year (unless they may find so frequent a distribution to be inexpedient), until the final settlement of the state, to make distribution of the moneys thus entrusted to them; the distribution to be made to boards and institutions of the United Presbyterian Church and in proportions as follows: To the Boards of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, Freedmen's Missions and Church Extension one-half of the amount of each distribution; that is to each of these Boards one-eighth of said amount; and, as requested by the Associate brethren, to the Xenia and Allegheny Theological Seminaries one-half of the amount of each distribution; that is, to each of these seminaries one-fourth of the said amount, to be "applied for the support of pious young men, who may need assistance while preparing for the Gospel ministry."

4. That in consistency with these resolutions the third resolution of the action of the last Assembly, in adopting the report of its Committee on the Speers estate, be and hereby is repealed.

5. That copies of this action duly attested, be given to the executors of this estate; to the said David W. Collins, David W. Carson, James McCandless, James G. Carson, John T. Brownlee, F. A. Hutchinson, Samuel Collins, George M. Reed and James B. Lee, acting trustees aforesaid, and fiscal agents hereby appointed; and to the several Boards and Theological Seminaries above named as beneficiaries of this trust. Vol. VII, p. 633, 1891.

CV. STANDARDS OF THE CHURCH

1. **The Integrity of the Standards of the Church to Be Preserved.** The memorial [of the Presbytery of Boston] asks the Assembly to take steps to secure "a briefer form of sound words," evidently meaning by the phrase "sound words" the standards of the United Presbyterian Church. By the deliberate judgment of the Church, the Articles of the Confession of Faith are stated in as brief a form as is consistent with distinctness and fidelity to the truths which they enunciate. The same is true of the Articles of the Testimony, the Form of Government and Directory for Worship. To abbreviate the Catechisms, in our opinion, would be a simple marring of that which is recognized by a large portion of the evangelical Church as a brief summary of the whole Christian system. The memorial asks that which would in its nature interfere essentially with the integrity of our standards.

The tendency of the times is to break loose from what has hitherto been held by the Church as forms of sound words, and we are warned by this fact to exercise unusual watchfulness and tenacity respecting the present form of our standards.

Resolved, 1. That the request of the memorial be not granted. Vol. V, p. 529, 1882.

2. **A Summary of the Principles of the Church.** *Resolved*, 2. That while this request [for "a briefer form of sound words"] is denied, a committee of three be appointed to report to the next General Assembly a summary of our principles, for use in mission work. Vol. V, p. 529, 1882.

[The committee was continued, with instructions to publish their report in the meantime in the papers of the Church. Vol. V, p. 743, 1883.]

3. **The Standards of the Church May Be Changed by Overture.** See Principles of the Church, Section 5.

4. **Book of Government and Directory of Worship, Adopted May 30, 1911.** See Chapter XVIII.

5. **Confessional Statement, Adopted 1924.** See Chapter XXXIII.

CVI. STATE OF THE COUNTRY

Resolutions on the State of the Country During the Civil War. *Resolved*,

1. That the General Assembly do advise and exhort all the people under her inspection to "Search and try their ways and turn to the Lord. Let them cease to do evil and learn to do well." Isaiah 1:16.

2. That the clerk of the Assembly be directed, and hereby is directed, to forward to the President of the United States a letter in behalf of this Assembly; and after assuring him of our earnest sympathy and the sympathy of our people, and their readiness to co-operate with him in his endeavors to maintain the constitution and the integrity of the nation, to solicit him, in behalf of this Assembly, by his proclamation, to invite and call all the people of the United States to fasting, humiliation and prayer on _____ day of _____.

3. That the Assembly do earnestly recommend all the people under their care to confess and bewail, not only their own sins, but the sins of the land, and to be much in prayer in these times of trouble. Vol. I, p. 228, 1861.

Resolved, 2. That the true remedy for the evils which now surround us and threaten our national existence, lies in turning to the living God, acknowledging the sovereignty of Him who rules in the affairs of men, and in complying with the demands of His law, which requires that "liberty be proclaimed throughout all the land to all the inhabitants thereof," "then shall our light break forth as the morning, and our health shall spring forth speedily."

3. That this Assembly has an abiding confidence in the National Government; bids it Godspeed in suppressing this rebellion; and we pledge ourselves to its support in maintaining the principles of civil and religious liberty by all Scriptural means.

4. That a copy of this paper be transmitted to the President and heads of departments, to assure them of our sympathy and co-operation and to urge upon them the necessity of taking immediate and effective measures to remove the causes of our national troubles, that we may be restored to the favor of God. Vol. I, p. 364, 1862.

The paper * * * asks for the appointment of a committee to prepare an address to President Lincoln, Secretary Stanton, and Lieutenant-General Grant, embodying the following items:

1. An assurance of the deep sympathy and earnest co-operation of this Assembly, and of the people whom we represent, with the Government in its present trials and worthy efforts to maintain the principles on which it is based.

2. The great satisfaction we have enjoyed in observing their recognition of the facts "that God alone can organize victory," "that we need the Divine favor," and that we are warranted to expect this favor only in the way of a dutiful regard to His will as Governor among the nations.

3. An assurance that we gladly recognize this favor in the successes which have attended the movements of our armies on the Potomac and in Georgia, and that it is only in the continuance of this favor that we can hope for final success.

That an address of the nature contemplated in the paper of these brethren should go forth from this Assembly is highly proper. We therefore recommend for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare, at their earliest convenience, an address such as the paper of these brethren contemplates, and forward it to President Lincoln and his Cabinet. Vol. II, p. 31, 1864.

Resolved, 1. That with grateful remembrance of our late President, Abraham Lincoln, a great and good man, who, like Moses, under God, led a nation of people to the very borders of the land of liberty and rest, we also pledge to Andrew Johnson, our present Chief Magistrate, our cordial sympathy and support, in the hope that, like a Joshua, he will do right and accomplish, under God, the object of our desire, namely, the reconstruction of our Government on the broad basis of universal freedom.

2. As civil magistrates are designed to be a terror to evil-doers, it is the unanimous opinion of this Assembly that all punishments, defined by the constitution as deserved by traitors, should be visited upon the leading instigators and prosecutors of this rebellion. In Ezra vii 26, we read: "Whosoever will not do the law of thy God and the law of the king, let judgment be executed speedily, whether it be unto death, or to banishment, or to confiscation of goods, or to imprisonment." Mercy to the great civil and military heads of this rebellion would be cruelty to coming generations.

3. We earnestly recommend our people to exhibit every possible kindness

to all soldiers who have been maimed by this war, and to the widows and fatherless children of those whose lives have been sacrificed in this conflict for liberty and right.

4. That the stated clerk be instructed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, and to assure him of our heartfelt desires for his success in the work of reconstruction, in establishing order and peace, and in perfecting the emancipation of the African race in our land. Vol. II, p. 164, 1865.

NOTE: Consult Chapter LXXV, National Reform.

CVII. STATISTICS

1. **Items to Be Inserted in the Statistical Tables.** The General Assembly gave order concerning the items to be inserted in the statistical tables. Vol. I, p. 44, 1859.

Presbyteries were required to report the names of licentiates, students of theology, and correspondents for vacancies. Vol. I, p. 361, 1862.

It was ordered that the statistics of Sabbath schools be reported. Vol. II, p. 163, 1865.

The second clerk, in connection with the Corresponding Secretaries of the several Boards, was instructed to have blanks prepared, adapted to the several departments of the mission work. Vol. III, p. 20, 1869.

It was ordered that the column "salary by Assembly" be omitted; that "salary by Congregation" be changed to "salary of pastors," and that aid from the Home Mission fund be indicated by a star; that a column be added, "Amount paid Supplies," and that certain changes be made in the order of the tables. Vol. III, p. 136, 1870. These changes were carried out only in part.

Until 1866 the decrease of members by death was reported in a separate column. Vol. II, p. 163, 1865.

Resolved, 4. That the column "*Decrease*" be divided as follows: One column under decrease be designated "*By death*," one "*By removal*." Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.

Resolved, 3. That vacant congregations are requested to report only the amount paid out for supplies during the year, and not the fixed salary of the congregation when settled. Vol. VI, p. 20, 1884.

[The gathering of statistics of Sabbath schools was referred to the Second Clerk. Vol. VI, p. 242, 1885.]

Resolved, 2. That the column designated "Months open" [for Sabbath schools], "Salary by Assembly," "Board of Publication," be discontinued.

Resolved, 5. That contributions made to the Board of Publication be included in the report of general contributions. Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.

Statistics of the Missionary Societies were published, 1881-1887, but after the publication of such reports by the General Missionary Society was begun, the Second Clerk was authorized to discontinue the publication. Vol. VI, p. 434, 1886.

Resolved, 3. That the assigning one column for number of members of Young People's Societies, be approved. Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.

2. **Table of Congregations Contributing.** A table was prepared by the Second Clerk showing the number of congregations contributing to the several funds of the Church, and the Assembly gave order that it be published in the papers of the Church, Vol. IV, p. 450, 1877, and in the Minutes of the Assembly from year to year. Vol. IV, p. 584, 1878.

"*All the funds*" in this table is defined to mean "all to which appropriations are made by the Assembly." Vol. VII, p. 431, 1890.

3. **A List of New Organizations.** *Resolved*, That a list of new organiza-

tions be appended to the Minutes of this and future Assemblies. Vol. II, p. 511, 1868.

4. **A List of Licentiates.** *Resolved*, That an alphabetical list of licentiates, together with the Presbyteries to which they belong, be appended to the Minutes of this and future Assemblies. Vol. II, p. 511, 1868.

5. **A Record of Ordinations.** The Second Clerk was directed to prepare a record of the date of the ordination of every minister and the Presbytery by which he was ordained. Vol. III, p. 137, 1870

6. **A List of Congregations.** The Second Clerk was directed to prepare an alphabetical list of congregations and have it published in the Minutes. Vol. II, p. 396, 1872.

7. **Record of Deceased Ministers.** *Resolved*, 2. That the record of ministers deceased be published in the Minutes from year to year. Vol. IV, p. 171, 1875.

8. **A Record of Congregations.** A historical record of congregations was prepared by Dr. J. B. Scouler, and order was given that it "be published in the Minutes of the General Assembly this year." Vol. VI, p. 434, 1886.

9. **Vital Statistics.** *Resolved*, That the table of vital statistics prepared for this number be printed with the other tables. Vol. V, p. 539, 1882. [This table was continued for several years, but was discontinued, except where it appears in the Record of Ministers Deceased.]

10. **Average Salary of Ministers.** *Resolved*, 3. That in making up the average salary, clerks of Presbyteries be directed not to include the amount paid by vacancies for supplies. Vol. VI, p. 20, 1884.

11. **"Average per Member" Defined.** *Resolved*, 2. That the average per member, in computing congregational statistics, be based on the number reported at the close of the past year. Vol. VII, p. 431, 1890.

Resolved, 7. In computing congregational statistics, the average per member shall be based on the number reported at the close of the current year. Vol. VII, p. 637, 1891.

12. **Statistics Under the Charge of the Second Clerk.** *Resolved*, That, instead of the assistant clerk, who is elected annually and serves only during the sessions of the Assembly, a second permanent clerk be elected for the same term of office with the principal clerk; who, in addition to his duties during the Assembly, shall have special charge of statistics, shall take measures to secure full and correct reports from all the Presbyteries, shall prepare the tables for the press, and report to the Assembly all Presbyteries which fail to send in full and accurate statistics. Vol. II, p. 511, 1868.

13. **Blanks for Statistical Tables.** *Resolved*, 3. That the stated clerk be directed to have printed and to forward to the clerk of each Presbytery, at last three months previously to the meeting of each Assembly, two blanks for Presbyterial reports, and twice as many congregational blanks as there are congregations in each Presbytery, affixing to each blank such printed directions as may be necessary. Vol. I, p. 44, 1859.

Resolved, That the clerks of the Assembly be authorized to revise the blanks for congregational and Presbyterial reports, and to have them prepared and forwarded to clerks of Presbyteries in season for next year's reports. Vol. II, p. 511, 1868.

14. **Time for Forwarding Statistical Tables.** *Resolved*, 10. That clerks of Presbyteries be directed to have their statistical tables forwarded to the second clerk, so as to reach him not less than ten days before the meeting of the Assembly. Vol. III, p. 138, 1870.

Resolved, 1. That the Second Clerk be directed to forward blanks to clerks of Presbyteries, not later than the first of February; that Sessions be required to return their statistics to the clerks of Presbyteries, not later than the fifth

of April, and the clerks of Presbyteries to return theirs to the second clerk not later than the twenty-fifth of April. Vol. IV, p. 450, 1877.

2. That the attention of Pastors and Sessions be called to the importance of early forwarding their reports to the clerks of Presbyteries, in order that they may reach the Second Clerk at as early a day as possible. Vol. VII, p. 231, 1889.

Resolved, 1. That the publication in the Minutes this failure [to forward the statistical reports of Presbyteries within the above time] be made conspicuous by a star or some other sign which the clerk may prefer to employ for that purpose. Vol. V, p. 200, 1880.

15. **Close of the Statistical Year.** *Resolved*, 1. That the statistical year close on the thirty-first day of March, and that Sessions be required to forward their statistical tables to clerks of Presbyteries as soon thereafter as practicable. Vol. III, p. 396, 1872. [Reaffirmed, Vol. III, p. 546, 1873.] "Not later than the fifth of April." Vol. IV, p. 450, 1877.

16. **Summaries to Be Submitted to the Assembly.** *Resolved*, 2. That the Second Clerk be instructed to submit, if possible, to each General Assembly printed summaries of the statistics. Vol. V, p. 539, 1882.

17. **Summaries of Foreign Missions.** *Resolved*, 3. That . . . the Second clerk be authorized to publish in the Minutes of the Assembly only the summaries [of Foreign Missions] leaving the detailed statistics to be published in the reports of the Board. Vol. VII, p. 231. 1889. [The statistics of Foreign Missions were not published after 1889.]

18. **Statistics of Church Property.** See Vol. VII, p. 570, 1890.

19. **Salary Column in Statistical Tables.** Omitted by action of the Assembly of 1935. Vol. XVIII, p. 930, 1935.

Restored by action of the Assembly of 1937. Vol. XIX, p. 340, 1937.

20. **Indicate in Statistical Tables Participation in the Pension Fund.** *Resolved*, 4. That the Clerk of the Assembly be instructed to have indicated by some suitable symbol in the printed Annual Statistical report the congregations which are participating in the Pension Fund. Vol. XIX, p. 26, 1936.

21. **Special Statistics of Increases and Decreases in Membership.** The following recommendation was adopted:

We recommend that the Clerk of the Assembly be instructed to submit a blank for the Sessions to make report at the end of this church year giving the following information:

Members received by profession of faith	_____
Members received by re-profession of faith	_____
Members received by certificate from other United Presbyterian Congregations	_____
Members received by certificate from Churches of other denominations	_____
Total members received	_____
Members removed by death	_____
Members removed by certificate to some other United Presbyterian Church	_____
Members removed by certificate to the Churches of some other denomination	_____
Members removed by being "dropped" from the roll for inactivity, etc.	_____
Total members removed	_____

This information to be reported from each congregation, but summarized by the Clerk of the Assembly and included in the General Summary, for the purpose of making a study of such facts as may thus be presented, and to determine if there is enough value as to include this information each year in the statistical pages for each congregation. Vol. XIX, p. 946, 1939.

22. **Bible-School Statistical Tables to Appear in the Minutes.** *Resolved*, That the Statistical table entitled "Bible-School Record by Synods be incorporated in the Minutes of the General Assembly. Vol. XX, p. 29, 1940.

XVIII. STEWARDSHIP

The General Assembly answered a memorial from Chartiers Presbytery as follows:

Inasmuch as the policy of the Church now is to stress the idea of Stewardship and that the import of the Memorial is to designate a certain month, namely—February, in which this shall be done, both in the pulpit and by the press, therefore, your Committee recommends that the Memorial be granted. Vol. XV, p. 40, 1920.

NOTE: Consult Chapter XXIII, Christian Giving.

CIX. STUDENTS OF THEOLOGY

1. **Students Recommended to Attend the Colleges of the Church.** *Resolved*, That the ministers and elders of this Church be recommended to exert their influence, most earnestly, in promoting the Christian culture of the young under their care, and that all parents, who are seeking for their children a secular education, be urged to take care that those educational institutes, where they place them, be such as are under the influence of Christian principles, and, so far as practicable, such, also, as are favorable to the maintenance and propagation of the tenets of our Church. Vol. II, p. 11, 1864.

3. That we hereby express our fullest confidence in the ability and efficiency of the instructors in Allegheny and Xenia Theological Seminaries, and our conviction that the young men educated in these are quite as well equipped for the Gospel ministry, and better equipped for the ministry of our own Church, than those educated elsewhere.

4. That we affectionately urge students under our care to resist the temptations that fall in their way to go elsewhere, and thus avoid exposure to teachings and practices antagonistic to the faith we profess. Vol. VII, p. 28, 1888.

3. That we affectionately urge students under our care to attend our own colleges and seminaries, inasmuch as the training there received will better fit them for the ministry of the Gospel in our own Church, and because we have the fullest confidence in the ability and efficiency of the instructors in these institutions. Vol. VII, p. 229, 1889.

2. That we repeat and emphasize the action of former Assemblies in urging upon parents and students the importance of attending and patronizing our own colleges and seminaries, as especially equipped for preparing for the ministry and other work in our Church; and that we commend the action of Presbyteries in requiring the attendance of students under their care at our own Seminaries. Vol. VII, p. 652, 1891.

2. **Undergraduates Are Not to Enter the Theological Seminary.** *Resolved*, That Presbyteries be instructed not to permit students to enter the seminaries while prosecuting the collegiate course. Vol. III, p. 529, 1873.

3. **Theological Students Must Be Under the Care of a Presbytery.** *Resolved*, 3. That no student of the United Presbyterian Church shall be received in any of our seminaries until he has placed himself under the care of some Presbytery, and that after he has been received, he shall pursue his studies during the interval between the sessions under the direction of his Presbytery. Vol. II, p. 487, 1868.

4. **Unlicensed Students Should Not Preach.** *Resolved*, 1. That the Assembly regards with disapprobation, as irregular and of injurious tendency, the condition of matters alleged to exist in certain quarters, according to which

unlicensed students of theology undertake to officiate as preachers in the ordinary service of public worship.

2. That Presbyteries be, and they hereby are, charged to adopt prompt measures for the suppression of the disorderly state of matters indicated, resorting, if need be, to the exercise of judicial discipline on the actual offenders, and on those who make themselves accessory to their offense by appointing or inviting them to preach. Vol. IV, p. 592, 1878.

With reference to the memorial from Chartiers Presbytery, asking that such action may be taken by this Assembly as may be necessary to prevent theological students from accepting appointments to preach previous to licensure, we would recommend that unlicensed students be and hereby are enjoined to refrain from accepting appointments to preach, while in attendance at the Seminary, and that Presbyteries be required to see that this injunction is carried out. Vol. VII, p. 416, 1890.

5. **Preaching by Theological Students.** *Resolved*, 1. That Presbyteries be, and hereby are enjoined to use all lawful endeavors to check the growing tendency to disregard Presbyterian order, which prevails among our people.

2. That students of theology in our theological seminaries shall not be permitted to supply any of our vacancies, except through an arrangement with the superintendent of missions of the Presbytery to which said vacancy belongs.

3. That superintendents of missions shall not permit any student to supply such vacancies for less amount than the per diem fixed by the General Assembly. Vol. IX, p. 295, 1897.

2. On the other hand we would enjoin upon the faculties of our seminaries that they should give the fullest and freest expression of their judgment to the Presbyteries from which the students come on all questions pertaining to the spiritual, Biblical, and literary qualifications and attainments of these candidates for the ministry of the gospel. It is not designed that anyone called by the divine Spirit should be discouraged, but that each one should be led to consider well this high calling, and be induced to seek the highest possible equipment for this work.

3. In view of the grave importance of greater care in the introduction of young men into the ministry of the gospel, that a committee of three ministers be appointed, whose duty it shall be, during the coming year, to call the attention of the Presbyteries of the Church to the action of the General Assembly on the subject, and to suggest suitable measures for adoption by the Presbyteries; this committee to report to the next General Assembly. Vol. IX, p. 275, 1897.

6. **The Distinction Between Temporary and Permanent Licensure.** All licensures are limited and can be revoked by the Presbytery granting them, and should be when, in the judgment of that Presbytery it is found that the services of the licentiate are not for the edification of the Church. But the granting of a temporary licensure, as now practiced in many places, gives to the person receiving it as much liberty and authority as the regular licensure allowed by the Book of Government and Discipline, which we believe was not intended by the General Assembly in its action in 1885.

1. It is, therefore, the judgment of your Committee that that action should be repealed, and we so recommend.

2. That in all ordinary cases no licensure should be granted to any theological student until he shall have completed two full years at the theological seminary. Vol. IX, p. 518, 1898.

The Committee on the Judiciary reports that there was put into its hands a memorial from the Presbytery of Westmoreland, asking the General Assembly "to give a deliverance on the standing of a theological student in the congregation of which he was a member at the time when he was received as a student of theology, after he had been taken under the inspection of Presby-

tery as a theological student." Also a memorial from the Presbytery of Xenia, asking, "When does a student of theology pass from under the jurisdiction of the Session?"

In answer to these memorials the following is recommended:

Resolved, 1. That the standing of a theological student to the congregation remains unchanged after he has been received as a student of theology.

2. That a student of theology passes from the jurisdiction of the Session when ordained.

3. That when ordained the clerk of Presbytery shall notify the Session of the congregation, of which he is a member of the fact. Vol. IX, p. 759, 1899.

7. Students of Theology May Be Employed in Missionary Labor. [The Presbytery of Stamford asked that an overture be submitted on the employment of students of Theology in missionary labor. The following action was taken]:

We are of the opinion that our Book of Government and the action of the Assembly of 1878 are sufficiently explicit in placing the whole control and direction of students of theology in the hands of their respective Presbyteries. While our Book gives explicit direction as to the studies and licensure of students in all ordinary cases, it leaves much to the discretion of Presbyteries. It is our opinion that the employment of students in missionary labor, under the direction of Presbytery, may be of great service in the Home Mission field, and at the same time afford them the very best training for future pastoral work. We, therefore, offer the following resolutions:

1. That there is no necessity for an overture on this subject.

2. That when, in the judgment of Presbyteries, it would be advantageous, in the training of students under their care, to have them engaged in some appropriate mission work during vacation, they are at liberty to so employ them in connection with the Board of Home Missions. Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.

5. That our Presbyteries be recommended to fully employ their unlicensed students in evangelistic work during vacations. Vol. VII, p. 460, 1890.

8. Students of Theology to Be Trained for Sabbath-School Work. *Resolved*, 6. That the directors of our Theological Seminaries be directed to make suitable provision for the special training of the theological students for Sabbath-school work. Vol. VII, p. 230, 1889.

9. Exceptional Cases on Their Merits. (b) Regarding the request that the Board of Education rescind its rule refusing aid to theological students who are not college graduates, we recommend that the General Assembly considers this rule in general a good and wise one, but it recommends that the Board consider exceptional cases upon their merits and exercise its own judgment as to the wisdom of giving or withholding aid. Vol. XIV, p. 40, 1916.

10. Educational Requirements. *Resolved*, 1. That in view of the increasing number of young men seeking to enter the seminary without a college education, presbyteries urge upon candidates for the ministry the extreme desirability of a college education. Vol. XVII, p. 650, 1930.

Resolved, That this General Assembly instructs the Presbyteries of the Church not to accept as candidates for the ministry any applicants who have not had a full college course in a proper institution and instructs the Faculty of the Seminary to follow this rule in the enrollment of students. Vol. XVIII, p. 41, 1932.

11. A Clear Call to the Ministry Required. We recommend that the Assembly again call upon all our presbyteries to have a deep sense of conscientious regard in examining prospective students before certifying them to the Seminary and to affirm that it is the duty of the presbytery not to certify a student to the Seminary simply upon the grounds of personal friendship for the student nor on the grounds of a warm-hearted piety unless the presbytery

is also convinced that there are clear evidences that the Lord is calling him into the ministry. Vol. XIX, p. 337, 1937.

Consult Chapter CXV, Theological Seminaries.

CX. SUPERINTENDENTS OF MISSIONS

1. In Presbyteries

(1) **Election of Superintendents of Missions.** [Previous to the following order, superintendents of missions were appointed by the Assembly without Presbyterial nomination.] *Resolved*, That the clerks of Presbyteries be instructed to furnish the principal clerk, previously to the meeting of the Assembly, with a list of nominations for * * * superintendents of missions, with their post-office address, and that the clerk be instructed to report this list to the General Assembly for confirmation. Vol. III, p. 28, 1869.

Each Presbytery shall nominate annually to the General Assembly one of the ministers connected with it, for appointment of superintendent of missions for the Presbytery. Vol. IV, p. 160, 1875.

(2) **Duties of Superintendents of Missions.** [On the recommendation of the Board of Home Missions, in order that "the Church may be furnished with more full and definite information respecting our work," the Assembly adopted the following]: *Resolved*, 1. That the Assembly appoint a suitable person in each Presbytery as superintendent of missions within its bounds, to whom each of the missionaries receiving aid shall send quarterly reports concerning the condition and prospects of the work in his field of labor.

2. That it shall be the duty of said superintendent to condense and prepare for publication the information thus obtained, and forward it to the Executive Committee. Vol. II, p. 426, 1867.

10. * * * It shall be his duty to superintend the mission work in his Presbytery; to obtain quarterly reports from stations receiving aid, and from missionaries laboring in the Presbytery; to make a quarterly report, in the form approved by the Assembly, to the corresponding secretary of the Board of Home Missions; to receive from the treasurer of the Board, receipt for and distribute the money appropriated to aid congregations and stations; and in general to act as the organ of communication between the Board and the Presbytery, and perform such duties as the Presbytery may direct. Vol. IV, p. 100, 1875.

7. *Resolved*, That superintendents of missions be directed to report delinquent appointees to their respective Presbyteries, in order that they may be called to account for their delinquency. Vol. V, p. 242, 1885:

Resolved, 1. That hereafter the annual reports of the Presbyteries to the Board of Home Missions be made by the superintendents of missions of the several Presbyteries. Vol. VI, p. 468, 1886.

(3) **Accounts of Superintendents of Missions to Be Audited.** *Resolved*, That the Presbyteries be required annually to audit the accounts of the superintendents of missions. Vol. IV, p. 472, 1877.

(4) **Co-operate with Synodical Superintendent of Missions.** The Presbyterial Superintendent of Missions shall be nominated and elected as heretofore. He shall act as the assistant of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions within the Presbytery, shall bring to his attention such matters in the local field as may need his care, and, when authorized by the Synodical Superintendent, shall act for him in matters pertaining to the work of that office, and he shall be the member from his Presbytery on the Synodical Committee of Missions. Vol. XII, p. 41, 1908.

2. In the Synods

(1) **Provision for Synodical Superintendents of Missions.** The General Assembly of 1908 adopted a report on Changes in our Home Missions System of which the following is a part:

I. SYNODICAL SUPERINTENDENTS OF MISSIONS

1. Each Synod may nominate a minister to act as a Synodical Superintendent of Missions for a term of three years, and this nomination shall be reported to the next succeeding General Assembly for confirmation. Upon confirmation by the General Assembly he shall assume office on July 1st following.

2. The following shall be the duties of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions:

(a) It shall be his duty, subject to the direction and control of the Synod, to have general oversight of the vacancies and of all the Home Mission work within the bounds of the Synod.

(b) He shall consult with the Presbyterian Superintendents of Missions regarding the interests of the vacancies in their respective Presbyteries with a view to securing constant pastoral oversight and the earliest possible settlement of such fields; he shall also consult with them regarding fields for new work and, upon careful investigation, he shall report to the respective Presbyteries those fields which, in his judgment, ought to be occupied.

(c) He shall be the agent and representative of the Boards of Home Missions and Church Extension within the Synod, shall receive reports from all mission stations in the Synod, shall make such reports to the Board of Home Missions as may be required, and shall receive, receipt for, and distribute the money appropriated by either of the above named Boards to aid congregations or mission stations.

(d) It shall be the duty of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions to promote Systematic Giving within the Synod. He shall also aim to secure, in monthly payments, from all congregations of his Synod the full amount appropriated by the General Assembly to the general Missionary and Educational work of the Church.

3. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall give his entire time to the work, and he shall receive a salary which shall not be less than \$1,500.00 per annum, and necessary traveling expenses. This salary shall be paid out of a Superintendent's Fund to be appropriated by the General Assembly to the Home Mission Board for this purpose.

The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall be expected to collect from congregations and mission stations where he may preach a proportionate amount of the salary ordinarily paid in those fields. All amounts so collected by him shall be paid into the treasury of the Home Mission Board and shall be credited to the Superintendent's Fund. He shall submit to the Board each month an itemized statement of his receipts and expenses. Vol. XII, p. 41, 1908.

(2) **Synodical Committee of Missions.** The following recommendation was adopted:

2. If, however, any Synod does not see the way clear to nominate a Synodical Superintendent of Missions, it be requested to appoint a Synodical Committee of Missions, consisting of the Superintendents of Missions of the various Presbyteries, and a chairman who is particularly interested in that work, and this Committee shall act under the rules adopted by the General Assembly of 1908; and said Committee shall meet at least once each year, and if there be but one meeting in the year, said meeting shall be held in connection with the annual meeting of the Synod, and early enough before said meeting, so that it may transact all necessary business connected with it. Vol. XII, p. 337, 1909.

(3) **Synodical Superintendents of Missions to Co-operate with the Boards**

in Cultivating Interest in Missions and Education. 8. In the interests of a larger efficiency of the S.M. of the Synod, we recommend that to Section (d) in No. 2—Regulations for Synods be added—and shall be under the joint direction of the Boards while cultivating the general missionary and educational work of the Church. Vol. XIII, p. 36, 1912.

(4) **Synods "Shall" Elect Superintendents of Missions.** The General Assembly amended the Regulations for Home Missions by substituting "shall" for "should" in Chapter IV, Section 1, Division A, which thus revised would read: "Each Synod shall nominate a minister to act as Synodical Superintendent of Missions for a term of three years. Vol. XVI, p. 898, 1927.

(5) **Election and Duties of Synodical Superintendents of Missions.** 1. Each Synod shall nominate a minister to act as a Synodical Superintendent of Missions for a term of five years, and this nomination shall be reported to the next succeeding General Assembly for confirmation. Upon confirmation by the General Assembly he shall assume office on July 1st following.

2. The following shall be the duties of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions, except as modified by Section 4 below:

(a) It shall be his duty, subject to the direction and control of the Synod, to have general oversight of the vacancies and of all the Home Mission work within the bounds of the Synod.

(b) He shall consult with the Presbyterial Superintendents of Missions regarding the interests of the vacancies in their respective Presbyteries with a view to securing constant pastoral oversight and the earliest possible settlement of such fields; he shall also consult with them regarding fields for new work and, upon careful investigation, he shall report to the respective Presbyteries those fields which, in his judgment, ought to be occupied.

(c) He shall be the agent and representative of the Board of American Missions within the Synod, shall receive reports from all mission stations in the Synod, shall make such reports to the Board of American Missions as may be required, and shall receive, receipt for, and distribute the money appropriated by the above named Board to aid congregations or mission stations.

(d) It shall be the duty of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions to promote the entire program of the Board of Administration within the Synod. He shall also aim to secure, in monthly payments, from all congregations of his Synod the full amount of their pledge or the allotment made to the general Missionary and Educational work of the Church.

3. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall give his entire time to the work, and he shall receive a salary which shall not be less than \$3,000.00 per annum, and necessary traveling expenses. This salary shall be paid out of the Superintendent's Fund to be appropriated by the General Assembly to the Board of American Missions for this purpose.

The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall be expected to collect from congregations and mission stations where he may preach a proportionate amount of the salary ordinarily paid in those fields. All amounts so collected by him or paid to him for evangelistic services shall be paid into the treasury of the Board of American Missions and shall be credited to the Superintendent's Fund. He shall submit to the Board each month an itemized statement of his receipts and expenses. Vol. XVII, p. 32, 1928.

The following recommendations were adopted:

When a Synod nominates to the General Assembly a minister for appointment as Synodical Superintendent of Missions of the Synod for a term of five years, this nomination shall be reported to the next succeeding General Assembly for confirmation. Upon confirmation by the General Assembly, a Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall assume the duties of his appointment on July 1st following.

The duties of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall be as follows:

I. He shall be the Executive Officer of the Synod to perform such specific duties as Synod may assign to him, co-operate with all committees of Synod, desiring his assistance and offer such suggestions and recommendations for the advancement of the general work of the Synod as he may consider wise.

In each Synod a Synodical Committee of Missions shall be composed of the Superintendents of Missions of the various Presbyteries and the Synodical Superintendent, who shall be the chairman. In case a Synod should at any time be without a Synodical Superintendent, the Synodical Committee of Missions shall elect a Chairman to serve during the year. This Committee shall meet in connection with the Annual meeting of Synod, and at other times upon the call of its Chairman, or in case of his inability to act, upon the call of the Clerk of Synod. It shall be the duty of this Committee carefully to consider all the interests of the Home Mission work in the Synod, to assist the Synodical Superintendent in outlining and planning the work for the year, to make such recommendations to the Synod as the interest of the work may seem to demand, and in case of a vacancy in the office of Synodical Superintendent, to fill that office by appointment until the Synod can act in the regular way.

Within his Synod the Synodical Superintendent shall also co-operate with the Budget Boards of the Church in executing the yearly promotional program approved by the General Assembly and assist in the advancement of church-wide programs and campaigns of General Assembly Committees.

II. He shall work in co-operation with Presbyterian Superintendent of Missions in the oversight of vacant congregations and of all Home Mission work under the care of the Presbyteries and shall be the Executive Secretary of the Home Mission Committee of each Presbytery in the Synod.

While the Presbyterian Superintendent of Missions shall have the chief responsibility for the care and settlement of vacant, self-supporting congregations, he shall consult with the Synodical Superintendent of Missions regarding the interests of these vacancies with a view of securing constant pastoral oversight and the earliest possible settlement of such fields.

The Presbyterian Superintendent of Missions shall further assist the Synodical Superintendent of Missions within the Presbytery, shall bring to his attention such matters in the local field as may need his care, and when authorized by the Synodical Superintendent shall act for him in matters pertaining to the work of that office, and he shall be the member from his Presbytery on the Synodical Committee of Missions.

The following responsibilities shall belong especially to the Synodical Superintendent of Missions:

1. *The supervision and settlement of vacant Home Mission congregations.* (Appointments to preach and recommendations of candidates as pastor or stated supply shall be under his direction, subject to the authority of Presbytery or its Home Mission Committee.)

2. *The Oversight of work in Home Mission congregations.*

He shall hold an Annual Conference with the official boards of each Home Mission congregation as soon as possible after the adjournment of the General Assembly. In this Conference there shall be considered:

(1) The amount of financial aid granted the congregation for the ensuing year, beginning July 1st, and the conditions attached to the same.

(2) The financial conditions of the congregation, particularly the financial problems demanding special attention.

(3) The record of the congregation during the past year and any special problem existing.

(4) Such recommendations for the work of the year as the Board of American Missions may wish to suggest.

(5) Any special recommendations made by the General Assembly, or the Board of Administration, which should have the attention and co-operation of the congregation.

As the Agent and Representative of the Board of American Missions within the Synod, he shall receive reports from all Mission Stations in the Synod, shall make such reports to the Board of American Missions as may be required, and shall receive, receipt for, and distribute the money appropriated by the above named Board to aid congregations or Mission Stations.

3. *The discovery and investigation of promising new field*, and the supervision of work in connection with the organization of new Home Mission congregations.

4. *Co-operation with the Board of American Missions in its Church Erection work*. In promoting this work the Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall be the special agent of the Board in dealing with congregations requesting aid from the Church Erection Department; also in the purchase and sale of property, the collection and distribution of funds and in the transaction of any legal business requiring the services of a certified agent of the Board. In cases where a loan is granted by the Board he shall at an early date assist officers and congregations to adopt a wise and effective method of repayment.

5. *The assistance of Home Mission congregations in their applications for aid and in their conduct of the annual Every Member Canvass*. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall hold an annual conference with the Official Boards of each Home Mission congregation preceding the Every Member Canvass, and shall assist them in the preparation of their congregational and missionary budget, in fixing the amount of Home Mission aid to be requested and in planning a thorough and efficient Every Member Canvass.

III. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall give evangelism a foremost place in his work and shall co-operate with Synodical and Presbyterian Committees in the preparation and promotion of evangelistic programs, and shall assist pastors in evangelistic services and visitation evangelistic campaigns.

IV. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall co-operate in the promotion of the entire program of the Board of Administration within the Synod. He shall also aim to secure, in monthly payments, from all congregations of his Synod the full amount of their pledge or the allotment made to the general missionary and educational work of the Church.

V. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall submit to the Board of American Missions each month an itemized report of his services, his receipts and expenses. He shall also present to the annual meeting of Synod a written report of his work during the year together with such suggestions and recommendations for future work as he may consider wise.

VI. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall be members of the annual Home Mission Appropriation Committee, with full voting powers.

VII. In view of the Home Mission Council's five-year program of survey and adjustment now being carried on throughout the United States, which looks toward the merging or federation of Protestant groups, it shall be the duty of the Synodical Superintendent to represent his Denomination within the area of his Synod. He shall co-ordinate his efforts with those of the officers of the several Presbyteries of the Synod.

VIII. The Synodical Superintendents of Missions shall give his entire time to the work, and shall receive a salary of not less than Three Thousand Dollars per annum, in addition to necessary traveling expenses. The salary and expenses shall be paid out of the Synodical Superintendents' Fund, which shall be appropriated by the General Assembly to the Board of American Missions for this purpose.

IX. The Synodical Superintendent of Missions shall be expected to collect from vacant congregations and Mission Stations in which he may preach, the usual per diem paid for these services. All funds so collected by him, as well as those paid him for evangelistic services, except those received during vacation month, shall be forwarded to the Board of American Missions and credited to the Treasurer of the Synodical Superintendents' Fund. Vol. XVIII, p. 42, 1932.

(6) **The Synod of New York.** *Resolved*, That the Synod of New York be advised to nominate to the General Assembly of 1931 a man to fill the office of Synodical Superintendent of Missions for the Synod, or, failing to make this nomination, that the Synod submit in writing to that General Assembly the reasons for its failure to comply with the action of the Assembly. Vol. XVII, p. 649, 1930.

We had referred to us a report of a Committee of the Synod of New York presenting to the General Assembly reasons why the action of the Assembly of 1930 in requiring the nomination of a Synodical Superintendent of Missions to the Assembly of 1931 was not complied with, also a minority report signed by one member of the same Synodical Committee.

After a careful review of the history of the case, and hearing and questioning both the Chairman of the Synods Committee and the writer of the minority report, we find that the General Assembly of 1927 meeting in Washington, D. C., changed the requirements of the Assembly pertaining to the S. S. M., making the nomination of the same by the Synods to the General Assembly mandatory or obligatory instead of optional; and that the same Assembly in passing on a Memorial pertaining to the same Synod rules that the action of the Assembly required this Synod to nominate an S. S. M. We find also that the General Assembly of 1930 ruled that sufficient time had elapsed for the compliance of New York Synod with the will and action of previous Assemblies and advising them to proceed to the nomination or present to this Assembly reasons for non-compliance.

Your Committee, in reviewing the case, finds that the Synod of New York has repeatedly failed to comply with the requirements of the Assembly and particularly the action of 1930. And the reasons assigned in the paper before us, for failure to carry out the wishes of the Assembly, are deemed inadequate and the alleged lack of jurisdiction of the Assembly in the matter is a serious error on the part of the Synod of New York.

In the matter of the minority report, we find that the major contentions of the writer are true and correct and that the Synod of New York erred in failing to carry out the expressed wishes of the Assemblies of 1927 and 1930. We find also that in the light of actions of the Assemblies of 1927 and 1930 the Synod of New York had no option in the matter and now has no option in the matter, and should conform to the acts and rulings of the General Assembly in proper recognition of the authority and jurisdiction of the same.

However, because of the persistence of this matter and a very considerable confusion as to the duties of the office of the S. S. M. and the scope of his powers, and in order to clarify certain matters pertaining to the policy involved, we present the following two recommendations:

1st. That the General Assembly rescind and revoke all prior legislation or acts pertaining to the mandatory or optional character of this office in the policy of the Church in order that the acceptance of the policy by the Synods and the election of the S. S. M. may be optional.

2nd. That the Assembly appoint a Committee of Five who shall define to the Assembly of 1932 the duties of the office of the Synodical Superintendent of Missions. Vol. XVIII, p. 950, 1931.

The Moderator of the General Assembly reported to the General Assembly

of 1937 that he had confirmed the election of a Synodical Superintendent of Missions nominated by the Synod of New York. Vol. XIX, p. 312, 1937.

CXI. SYNODS

1. **Organizations of Synods**

New York, October 13, 1858.

Pittsburgh, October 7, 1862. Vol. I, p. 348, 1862.

First West, October 6, 1858.

Ohio, October 7, 1862. Vol. I, p. 358, 1862.

Second, October 15, 1858.

Illinois, October 12, 1858.

Iowa, August 30, 1860. Vol. I, p. 107, 1860.

Kansas, September 29, 1869. Vol. III, p. 10, 1869.

Nebraska, September 28, 1886. Vol. VI, p. 435, 1886.

California (Synod of Pacific, Sept. 13, 1877) name changed to Synod of California. Vol. VIII, p. 23, 1892.

Columbia, October 6, 1892. Vol. VIII, p. 23, 1892.

Nile, May 11, 1899. Vol. IX, p. 518, 1892.

Punjab, November 7, 1893. Vol. VIII, p. 46, 1892.

2. **Minutes of Synods.** *Resolved*, That Synods under the care of Assembly be and are hereby enjoined to submit to the General Assembly, for inspection, a record of their proceedings. Vol. II, p. 309, 1886.

Resolved, 3. That the Synods under the care of the Assembly be authorized, if in their judgment they think it best, to make a printed copy of their minutes, certified by the signature of the clerk, the official copy of the minutes. Vol. III, p. 380, 1872.

2. That the General Assembly hereby recommends to all the Synods to have their minutes published on paper of the same size as that on which the minutes of the General Assembly are published, and to have carefully prepared indexes appended to them. Vol. V, p. 38, 1879.

3. **Attendance of the Members of the Synods.** [The committee on Revision reported that the minutes of the Synods showed a large number of absentees. Whereupon:]

Resolved, 1. That the General Assembly urge a fuller attendance of ministers and elders at the meetings of our Synods. Vol. V, p. 718, 1883.

4. **Change of Synodical Boundaries.** (1) The Presbytery of Detroit was transferred from the Second Synod to the First Synod of the West. Vol. I, p. 123, 1860. And again from the First Synod of the West to the Synod of Ohio. Vol. VII, p. 628, 1891.

(2) vi. A memorial from the Synod of the Pacific, praying for the formation of a new Synod within its bounds.

In reference to this, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That the petition be granted, and that a new Synod be formed, to be called the Synod of Columbia, whose southern boundary shall be the northern boundary of the States of California and Nevada.

2. That this Synod hold its first meeting at Portland, Ore., October 6th, 1892, at 7:30 o'clock P.M., and be opened with a sermon, and constituted with prayer by Rev. S. G. Irvine, D.D., or, in case of his absence, by the oldest minister present.

3. That the Synod of the Pacific, thus changed, be hereafter termed the Synod of California. Vol. VIII, p. 23, 1892.

(3) On a change in the boundary between the Second Synod and the Synod of Illinois.

In consequence of changes in the condition of the congregations of the

Princeton Presbytery the Second Synod judged it better that the presbytery be dissolved and the congregations attached to convenient contiguous presbyteries. As this would involve the transfer of at least some of the congregations to the Presbytery of Southern Illinois, in the Synod of Illinois, joint action of the two synods was necessary. The Synod of Illinois, therefore, joined the Second Synod in a memorial to the General Assembly for such change in the boundaries of the Synods as would permit the transfer of the congregations involved to the Presbytery of Southern Illinois. Since that action, one congregation has been dissolved and other arrangements have been made for the formation of a pastoral charge, somewhat modifying the action proposed by the synods in their memorial. Also, the congregation of Princeton, by a unanimous vote, has expressed its wish to be connected with the Presbytery of Indiana, of the Second Synod. All interests would be subserved by making the state line the boundary between the synods. The following action is recommended to the General Assembly:

In view of the memorials presented and other statements made, the General Assembly gives order that the state line between Indiana and Illinois be, and hereby is, made the boundary between the Second Synod and the Synod of Illinois, and that the congregations of the dissolved Presbytery of Princeton, within the State of Illinois, be transferred to the Synod of Illinois, and those within the State of Indiana remain under the jurisdiction of the Second Synod. The respective synods are instructed to take order for the readjustment of the boundaries of the presbyteries hereby affected. Vol. XII, p. 49, 1908.

(4) The Presbytery of Caledonia was transferred from the Synod of New York to the First Synod of the West. Vol. XV, p. 40, 1920.

(5) Frankfort Presbytery. Frankfort Presbytery was transferred from the Synod of Pittsburgh to the First Synod of the West and consolidated with the Presbytery of Beaver Valley. Vol. XV, p. 294, 1921; p. 539, 1922.

The congregations and ministers of the former Frankfort Presbytery were returned to the Synod of Pittsburgh and the Presbytery was reorganized. Vol. XV, p. 574, 1922.

The Synod of Pittsburgh disorganized Frankfort Presbytery and the congregations were located in the Synod of Pittsburgh, the First Synod of the West, and in the Synod of Ohio. Vol. XVIII, p. 338, 1933.

5. **New Presbyteries and a Synod in India.** Your committee has had under consideration a memorial from the Presbytery of Sialkot, praying for the formation of two new Presbyteries within its bounds, and the formation of a Synod. In reference to this we recommend that the prayer of the petitioners be granted, and the following resolutions be adopted:

Resolved, 1. That a Presbytery be formed of the mission districts of East Gujranwala, West Gujranwala (including Jhang) and Jhelum, to be called the Presbytery of Gujranwala, the same to hold its first meeting at Gujranwala, the third Tuesday of October, 1892, at 5 P.M., and to be constituted with prayer by the oldest minister present.

2. That a Presbytery be formed of the mission districts of Gurdaspur, Pathankot and Zafarwal, to be called the Presbytery of Gurdaspur, to hold its first meeting at Gurdaspur, the third Tuesday in October, 1892, at 5 P.M., and to be constituted with prayer by the oldest minister present.

3. That these two Presbyteries, and the Presbytery of Sialkot, form a Synod, to be called the Synod of the Punjab, to hold its first meeting at Sialkot, the first Tuesday of November, 1892, at 5 P.M., and to be opened with a sermon and constituted with prayer by the Rev. J. S. Barr, D.D., or, in case of his absence, by the oldest minister present.

4. That the theological seminary, now under the care of the Presbytery

of Sialkot, be transferred to the care of the Synod of the Punjab. Vol. VIII, p. 46, 1892.

6. **Synod of the Nile.** That the request of the Presbytery of Egypt be granted and that the Presbyteries and Synods be organized at the time and place they designate, as follows:

1. The churches, stations, missionaries, ministers, pastors, elders, and other workers, located in the northern part of Egypt, commonly known as the Delta, extending from the Mediterranean Sea to the southern boundary of the Province of Gizek, and including the seven provinces of Lower Egypt, viz., Baheirah, Gharbiyah, Manniyah, Shaniyah (with the Suez Canal and the Peninsula of Sinai, from the Mediterranean and El Arirh), Dakaliyah, Kalyubiyah, and Giza, be organized into a presbytery to be called the Presbytery of the Delta (El Wagh, El Behri).

2. That the churches, stations, missionaries, ministers, pastors, elders, and other workers, located in the provinces of Beni Suef, Faiyum and Minyah, be organized into a Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of Middle Egypt (El Akahun, El Wasta).

3. That the churches, stations, missionaries, ministers, pastors, elders, and other workers, located in the Province of Asyut, be organized into a Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of Asyut.

4. That the churches, stations, missionaries, ministers, pastors, elders, and other workers, located in the provinces of Girjeh, Kena, the Frontier, and on towards the equator, be organized into a Presbytery, to be called the Presbytery of Thebes (El Akalim, Ulya).

5. That these four Presbyteries, as described above, be authorized to organize themselves into a Synod, to be called the Synod of the Nile.

6. That this Synod be representative, that it be composed of delegates from the Presbyteries aforementioned; the ratio of representation to be one minister and one ruling elder for every three ministers, and for the fractions over three, a Presbytery with less than three ministers to have one minister and one ruling elder.

7. That the Synod shall meet annually.

8. That the aforesaid Presbyteries and Synod be organized as follows:

(a) The Presbytery of the Delta at Cairo, Dr. Ewing or the oldest minister to preside.

(b) The Presbytery of Middle Egypt at Minyah, Dr. Strang or the oldest minister present to preside.

(c) The Presbytery of Asyut at Asyut, Rev. Tedrus Yuseef or the oldest minister present to preside.

(d) The Presbytery of Thebes, at Luxor, Rev. Aweidah Abd Esh Shahil or the oldest minister present to preside.

(e) The Synod of the Nile at Asyut, Dr. Watson or the oldest minister present to preside. Vol. IX, p. 518, 1892.

By request of the four Presbyteries composing the Synod of the Nile, the General Assembly of 1899 authorized them to organize the Synod as a representative body, composed of one-third of the members of the Presbyteries. The Synod now makes request to be constituted in the regular way, according to the rules of the United Presbyterian Church. The following action is recommended:

Resolved, That the request of the Synod of the Nile, to be composed of all the members of the Presbyteries, be granted. Vol. X, p. 263, 1901.

7. **Biennial Meetings of the Synod of the Pacific.** [The Presbyteries of San Francisco and Oregon memorialized the Assembly so to modify the law of the Church as to allow the Synod of the Pacific to meet biennially instead of annually. The General Assembly overtured to the Presbyteries the ques-

tion of the suspension of the rule so as to allow the Synod of the Pacific to meet once in two years.] Vol. IV, p. 573, 1878.

[The vote on this overture was: Ayes, 699; nays, 24; not voting, 12. Thereupon the General Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, That the law of the Church touching the meeting of Synods be, and is, in the case of the Synod of the Pacific, suspended so far as to permit said Synod, until otherwise ordered by the Assembly, or desired by the Synod itself, to meet only once in two years instead of every year. Vol. V, p. 20, 1879.

8. **Schedule of Meetings of Synods.** The following report of a special committee was adopted:

The Committee to confer with the Synods in reference to an arrangement of the times of their meetings to permit the representatives of the Boards and Permanent Committees of the General Assembly to attend the largest possible number, respectfully reports as follows:

After considerable correspondence with the Stated Clerks and others, a tentative schedule of the times of the meetings that would accomplish the object was submitted to all the Synods east of the Rocky Mountains. Those on the Pacific Coast could not be grouped with the others. Very careful consideration was given to the suggestions thus made. Some of the Synods made appointments in accordance with the schedule, but others found it impracticable to do so. In some cases the extent of the territory would make it impossible for the members to reach the Synod at a time that would permit a visitor to attend two Synods in the same week. The Synods on the Pacific Coast arranged their meetings to permit the desired object and invite the Secretaries to visit them.

All the Synods responded to the suggestions with great courtesy, and an evident desire to make the best possible arrangement. Vol. XII, p. 174, 1908.

9. **Territorial Trespass.** The following report was adopted:

The Judiciary Committee has had referred to it the petition of the Fair Avenue Church, Columbus, Ohio, under the care and inspection of the Presbytery of Muskingum, with a request to be transferred and placed under the care and inspection of the Presbytery of Xenia. This case, known as "The Columbus Case of Territorial Trespass," was before the General Assembly of 1906. (See report of Judiciary Committee, Vol. 11, No. 3, Page 586, Minutes of Assembly.) It reads in part as follows: "That the action of Muskingum Presbytery in receiving the pastor and congregation of Fair Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, within the bounds of Xenia Presbytery, was irregular and is not to be taken as a precedent by this or any other Presbytery."

We find that it is the prerogative of presbyteries to locate, organize and establish congregations and control all congregations within their bounds.

We find that the Fair Avenue congregation is located within the bounds of Xenia Presbytery, but at present under the control of Muskingum Presbytery. This is irregular and a violation of the laws of the Church.

We find that Xenia Presbytery, after due deliberation, and upon its own judgment and the judgment of the Secretaries of the Boards of Home Missions and Church Extension, refused to grant an organization for the establishment of a congregation in this locality.

We find that the history and the present strength of the Fair Avenue congregation has demonstrated that the judgment of Xenia Presbytery in refusing to grant the organization was good, and therefore it would be manifestly irregular and unjust to force this congregation upon her.

Therefore, due to the irregularity of the establishment of the Fair Avenue congregation, and its present condition having declined to a membership of twenty-one, of which number only about twelve can be counted on for active support, and due to the fact that this case is one of long standing in the various courts of the Church, therefore: We recommend that Muskingum Pres-

bytery be directed, at its first regular meeting following this Assembly, to take steps to dissolve at once the Fair Avenue congregation and also to take the necessary steps for the disposal of the property. Vol. XIII, p. 25, 1912.

10. **Synod of Pittsburgh as a Delegate Body.** In answer to a memorial from the Synod of Pittsburgh, that Synod was to be constituted as a delegate body, the basis of representation being one minister and one elder for each three or major fraction of three ministers on the roll of Presbytery. Vol. XV, p. 294, 1921.

According to the action of the Synod of Pittsburgh, the General Assembly *Resolved*, That the action of the General Assembly of last year, looking toward making the Synod of Pittsburgh a Delegate Body, be rescinded. Vol. XV, p. 569, 1922.

11. **Assembly and Delegate Fund Extended to Synods.** In view of the prime necessity for the gathering of the pastors and elders of the entire Church in meetings of warm spiritual atmosphere for prayer, counsel, and inspiration each year in the early autumn, as a fitting preparation for the activities of the year; and

In view of the experience of the past two years wherein the spiritual life conferences held in connection with the meetings of the synods produced such desirable conditions of spiritual uplift; and

In view of the fact that the success of these spiritual life conferences was due largely to the fact that provision was made to meet the traveling expenses of pastors so that it was possible for almost the entire number of pastors to be present; we recommend,

1. That the General Assembly hereby direct that the scope of the Delegate Fund be extended to include the payment of the railroad transportation of ministers and elders to the annual meetings of Synods, where a spiritual life conference is held in connection with the same.

2. That the rules, regulations and enactments adopted heretofore by the General Assembly for the operation of the Delegate Fund shall be applicable in every respect to the Delegate Fund as now extended, except as herein modified and changed.

3. That the benefits of the Delegate Fund shall be applicable to ministers and elders attending and constituting the respective Synods only when such constituents shall be in attendance at all sessions of the Synod and the spiritual life conference held in connection therewith, unless excused by the Synod's Committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence. The Assembly's rules adopted for absence shall govern.

6. That all Synods be directed to create a permanent committee on Delegate Fund and Leave of Absence whose duty it shall be to conduct the business of the application of the Delegate Fund and its benefits to its respective Synod, according to the provisions hereby enacted and in accordance with the rules and regulations provided for the Delegate Fund. Vol. XV, p. 584, 1922.

12. **Teachings in Synod's Educational Institutions.** Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Synods of our Church are hereby instructed to see to it that nothing contrary to the principles of the United Presbyterian Church is taught in any educational institution under their care. Vol. XV, p. 624, 1926.

13. **The Synod of New York and the National Lord's Day Alliance.** V. Inasmuch as the offices of the National Lord's Day Alliance are wholly within the bounds of the Synod of New York and the operations of this organization largely if not altogether within the bounds of New York Synod and inasmuch as we are urging larger participation of Synods in the life and work of the Church, and in accordance with the foregoing action in this report anent our Synods we respectfully direct the Synod of New York, if it deem such action wise and necessary, to investigate the affairs of the Lord's Day Alliance of

the United States and further, if this investigation is made and it is deemed wise, to call the attention of the Assembly of 1934 to any matters that might call for action. Vol. XVIII, p. 340, 1933.

14. **Synods Abroad.** (1) *Property of Congregations Dissolved.* The Memorial from the Presbytery of The Delta asks a modification of Overture IV, Section 2, which requires that when a congregation is dissolved, the trustees of the congregation shall transfer title to the property to the Trustees of the Assembly. They request that in the Arabic version of the Book of Government and Worship, they be authorized to substitute for "The Trustees of the Assembly" the words "the Trustees of the Synod of the Nile." Such permission cannot be granted without a new Overture, changing the Overture just adopted. The permission cannot be granted to our Foreign Synod without giving similar permission to the other Foreign Synod and perhaps also to the synods of the Home Church. To grant such permission would have very far-reaching and complicating results. Also laws of property and Church conditions are so different in foreign fields from what they are at home that it does not seem wise to take hasty action in such a complex matter. It is the judgment of your Committee that the Trustees of the Assembly is the proper body to which property rights in this class of cases, included in the new section of Chapter III, should be committed; also that the Trustees of the Assembly will heartily and sympathetically co-operate with the Trustees of Synod in individual cases, possibly making the Synod Trustees their agents in such matters. Believing, then, that the Trustees of the Assembly is the only body on which the Church can properly place this responsibility at the present time, we recommend that the request of the Presbytery of The Delta be not granted. Vol. XVI, p. 350, 1925.

The report of the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly as printed in the Assembly's "Blue Book" has also been referred to this Committee, and we recommend that the request of the said Board, as contained in paragraph 6, page 1, which reads as follows, be granted:

"On account of the impossibility of foreign corporations holding title to property in some of our mission fields, this Board requests the General Assembly to grant to the Synods of our mission fields the right to take over the property of disorganized congregations, and to exempt them from the rule that such property should revert to the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly." Vol. XVI, p. 910, 1927.

(2) **Greater Self-Determination.** A Memorial from the Synod of the Punjab requests greater self-determination in certain matters and raises questions as to property rights. Our action in these is as follows: 1. The General Assembly would be willing to consider at any time a Memorial from the Synod of the Punjab embodying a definite proposal with reference to any Ecclesiastical relations.

2. The General Assembly believes that the property registered in the name of the Synod of the Punjab is already adequately protected, and feels no further protective measures are necessary. We assure the Synod of the Punjab that its property rights are protected in exactly the same manner as those of all other Synods of the Church.

3. The General Assembly is informed by the Board of Foreign Missions that it does not hold in trust any funds belonging to the Gujranwala Theological Seminary. The General Assembly is also assured by the same Board that all funds held in trust by that Board for the education of theological students in India will continue to be administered with every care exactly according to the terms of the donors as it understands these in each individual case. Vol. XVIII, p. 639, 1934.

CXII. TEMPERANCE

1. **The Manufacture and Sale of Intoxicating Drinks.** *Resolved*, 1. That the business of manufacturing and vending intoxicating drinks, for drinking purposes, is injurious to the best interests of society, and therefore inconsistent with the law of God, which requires "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

4. That the practice of renting houses to be occupied by those who are engaged in the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks to be used as a beverage, or for any immoral purpose, is utterly inconsistent with the honor of the Christian religion. Vol. I, p. 411, 1859. [Reaffirmed, Vol. II, p. 16, 1864.]

Resolved, 1. That the Church is essentially a temperance society, and her members should use all their influence for the suppression of the liquor traffic, and encouragement should be given to all those who, by lawful means, are laboring to accomplish this great and noble result. Vol. III, p. 546, 1873.

Resolved, 1. That it is inconsistent with membership in the Church of Christ to use, or be engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Vol. IV, p. 185, 1875.

Whereas, The manufacture and traffic in intoxicating liquors is a great and growing evil, working the ruin of many, and filling the land with want and mourning; and, *whereas*, The Church should do everything to counteract its influence and seek its overthrow; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we, as an Assembly, recommend to all our Presbyteries to do all in their power to counteract the workings of this great evil.

2. That a committee be appointed to consider this matter, and make such recommendations as they think best, to the next Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 322, 1876. [For the report of the committee see Vol. IV, p. 493, 1877.]

Resolved, 3. That it is inconsistent with membership in the Church of Christ to be engaged in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; or in other way to aid or abet in the manufacture, sale or use of intoxicating liquors.

5. That the license of the traffic is incompatible with the welfare of the State; and that the State should seek its entire prohibition. Vol. IV, p. 494, 1877.

Resolved, 1. Drunkenness is an evil of giant proportions, having inhering and appalling malignity. It is strongly entrenched by custom, cupidity and appetite. It works widespread ruin in society and destroys men's souls and bodies.

2. The use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and the manufacture and sale of them for this purpose, are evils dishonoring to God and destructive to men.

3. To give aid or countenance to those engaged in this nefarious business, by furnishing them with the necessary materials, leasing to them property to be used in their business, signing their petitions for license, or in any other way, is to make ourselves "partakers of other men's sins."

7. Individual Christians should use all proper means for the suppression of the liquor traffic. Legal prohibition, moral suasion and the practice of total abstinence are demanded. Vol. IV, p. 583, 1878.

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly, in view of the many and terrible evils of intemperance, and the fact that the common traffic in, and the moderate use of intoxicants as a beverage, are the source of all these evils, hereby renews and reiterates all the action of our Church on these subjects, and does most solemnly warn our people, and all over whom we have an influence, to avoid the use of intoxicants of any kind, and in any quantity, as a beverage; also against all complicity with the traffic, by furnishing money,

selling materials directly to, or renting houses for, the manufacture or sale of intoxicants. Vol. V, p. 364, 1881.

Resolved, 1. That we regard the traffic in strong drinks as one of the greatest hindrances to the progress of the cause and Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. Vol. V, p. 740, 1883.

1. The liquor traffic is forbidden by the Word of God (Hab. ii. 15) and is a barrier to the growth of the Church, an enemy of the home and the State, and its legitimate fruit is, and has ever been, oppressive taxes, wretched paupers, cruel madmen, wasted fortunes, ruined homes and lost souls.

6. That the signs of the times in which we live, indicate that the liquor traffic is the next great evil, which the Lord of Hosts, in His great strength, has risen to destroy; and that a willing people, in this the day of His power, are rapidly coming to His help. So we thank God and take courage. Vol. VI, p. 433, 1886.

2. That we regard the traffic in intoxicating liquors as a sin against God and a crime against humanity; and condemn all forms of license, high or low, as morally wrong, laying the responsibility for the existence of the traffic upon the State, and urge upon our people the duty of acting with prayerful deliberation in the exercise of their citizenship, that they may not compromise their Christian principles or complicate themselves in any way with this evil. Vol. VII, p. 423, 1890.

2. **Total Abstinence.** *Resolved, 2.* That the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage has a tendency to lead to intemperance, and in most, if not all cases, results in intemperance in a greater or less degree, and, therefore, is inconsistent with the law of God, which not only forbids all sin, but all the "causes, means, occasions and appearances thereof, and provocations thereunto."

3. That Church Sessions have full authority, and it is their duty, to enforce the principle of total abstinence where, in the exercise of a sound discretion, they have reason to believe the safety of the individual and the honor of religion require it. Vol. I, p. 41, 1859. [Reaffirmed, Vol. II, p. 16, 1864.]

Resolved, 2. That it is the imperative duty of all the followers of Christ to abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks of every kind, and that such abstinence is necessary to a consistent Christian life. Vol. III, p. 546, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That every Church member should consider himself as pledged, by the obligations which he assumes, to total abstinence from all intoxicating liquors as a beverage. Vol. IV, p. 494, 1877.

Resolved, 2. The use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, and the manufacture and sale of them for this purpose, are evils, dishonoring to God and destructive to men.

7. Individual Christians should use all proper means for the suppression of the liquor traffic. Legal prohibition, moral suasion, and the practice of total abstinence, are demanded. Vol. IV, p. 583, 1878.

1. That this General Assembly . . . does most solemnly warn our people, and all over whom we have an influence, to avoid the use of intoxicants of any kind, and in any quantity, as a beverage. Vol. V, p. 364, 1881.

2. That we give anew our hearty and emphatic indorsement to the proposition that . . . total abstinence is the only rule for the individual. Vol. VII, p. 20, 1888.

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly recognizes the question of Temperance Reform, as one of the greatest moral issues of the times.

2. That we give our hearty and emphatic endorsement to the proposition that total abstinence is the only safe rule for the individual, and that the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic liquors as a beverage,

is the true method of dealing with the monstrous evil by the State. Vol. VI, p. 32, 1884.

The liquor traffic, as carried on in our land, is a curse to the individual, the Church and the State, an enemy of all human happiness, and a chief hindrance in the way of the Kingdom of the Lord. It is evil, and only evil, continually. Vol. VI, p. 675, 1887.

3. That we continue to endorse the proposition of former Assemblies, that total abstinence is the only safe rule for the individual, and prohibition by law of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, the true method of dealing with this terrible evil by the State. Vol. VII, p. 227, 1889.

3. **The Duty of the Church in the Temperance Reform.** *Resolved*, 4. That it is the duty of all Christians and good citizens to combine their efforts to secure thorough reformation on this subject.

6. That individuals, Sessions, Presbyteries and Synods be requested to use all possible means within their reach, to secure and promote temperance reform.

7. That those engaged in recent movements, having for their object temperance reform, have the sympathy and encouragement of this Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 494, 1877.

Resolved, 4. While, in instances in which it results, in some measure, from inherited infirmity, drunkenness may be regarded, to some extent, as a misfortune; it is at the same time a sin, a heinous sin, against God and a crime against society.

5. Mere human devices, whether pledge, or organization, or profession, while they may be in some degree helpful, are utterly inadequate to the complete and permanent reformation of the drunkard. The Gospel of Christ alone, introduced into the soul by the illuminating power of the Holy Spirit, can bring effectual deliverance from this and every other form of moral evil.

6. It is the duty of the Christian Church to sympathize with and earnestly promote all efforts for the reformation of the inebriate and the suppression of intemperance.

8. The Church of Jesus Christ is the divinely appointed agency, and through His strength, an adequate agency for the establishment of godliness, and righteousness, and temperance in the earth. Vol. IV, p. 583, 1878.

6. That we commend to all our congregations and Sabbath schools the importance of organized efforts and thorough instruction in all phases of the great temperance question. Vol. VI, p. 32, 1884.

It becomes the duty of Christians everywhere, with great unanimity, while differing as to methods, to place a united front against this terrible system of iniquity, and do all in their power to accomplish its overthrow. Vol. VI, p. 433, 1886.

We believe that recent developments in the war against the saloon call loudly to our Church to occupy even more advanced ground in her hostility to every form of license or taxation. Vol. VII, p. 423, 1890.

4. **Prohibition.** *Resolved*, 5. That the license of the traffic is incompatible with the welfare of the State; and that the State should seek its entire prohibition. Vol. IV, p. 494, 1877.

Resolved, 7. Individual Christians should use all proper means for the suppression of the liquor traffic. Legal prohibition, moral suasion, and the practice of total abstinence are demanded. Vol. IV, p. 583, 1878.

[The General Assembly petitioned the Senate of Pennsylvania to pass the House bill then before it, for a prohibitory amendment to the Constitution of the State. Vol. V, p. 343, 1881.]

3. That it is our fixed purpose as ministers and elders to prosecute the work of temperance reform until prohibition shall become the settled policy

of our nation and total abstinence the universal practice of the individual—that we will seek the accomplishment of the former of these objects by the exercise of our privileges and the discharge of our duties as citizens, and of the latter by the exercise of our privileges and the discharge of our duties as Church members. Vol. V, p. 534, 1882.

2. That as a civil remedy we regard absolute prohibition as the only efficient one for the great evil.

3. That as an Assembly, we regard “constitutional amendment,” as the only sure method of securing this most desirable result, and that we will urge upon our people the importance of seeking, in all right ways, to secure such amendment. Vol. V, p. 740, 1883.

7. That there can be no compromise with this evil; that absolute unconditional prohibition is the end at which we should aim, and the ultimatum which alone we are willing to accept. Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.

2. That, as it is in the power of the General and State governments, within their respective jurisdiction, to abolish and prohibit the liquor traffic, in their failure to do so, and in licensing, taxing or taking revenue of the liquor traffic, they become parties in the nefarious business, and are guilty of establishing and encouraging iniquity by law.

3. That it is the duty of the dominant political parties, and of all in authority in civil government, to submit the prohibition of the liquor traffic to a vote of the people under their care, and not to bow before the Moloch of the liquor power.

4. That we unhesitatingly declare ourselves for the prohibition of the liquor traffic, both State and National, and will labor by our counsels, our prayers and our votes, as God gives us to see the right, for its speedy accomplishment. Vol. VI, p. 433, 1886.

2. That we regard this traffic as an evil which can never be removed without political action, and that we regard its entire prohibition as the most pressing political question of the times; and that it therefore becomes our duty as Christian citizens, in the careful and prayerful use of the ballot, to meet this question directly. Vol. VI, p. 676, 1887.

2. That we give anew our hearty and emphatic endorsement to the proposition is the true policy for the State, and total abstinence the only rule for the individual.

3. That we rejoice in the progress made in many States toward securing the suppression of the liquor traffic by Prohibitory Constitutional Amendment, and pledge our hearty support to this plan for the overthrow of this great enemy of all that we hold dear. Vol. VII, p. 20, 1888.

3. That we continue to endorse the proposition of former Assemblies, that total abstinence is the only safe rule for the individual, and prohibition by law of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, the true method of dealing with this terrible evil by the State. Vol. VII, p. 227, 1889.

Inasmuch as the question of constitutional amendment prohibiting the liquor traffic is pending in the State of Pennsylvania, and is to be decided at a popular election, to be held on the 18th of June, next:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly heartily approves the proposed amendment and earnestly counsels all members and adherents of our congregations in Pennsylvania to work and vote for the enactment. Vol. VII, p. 209, 1889. [The Assembly issued a pastoral letter to be read in all the Churches before the election, p. 235.]

Resolved, 1. That we earnestly request Congress to speedily pass the bill introduced by Senator Wilson, and now pending in the Senate, subjecting all intoxicating liquors shipped into the several States to the laws thereof. Vol. VII, p. 410, 1890.

3. That we regard the recent decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States as determining the place which this question must henceforth occupy in politics, and making clear that nothing short of absolute prohibition, in both State and nation, can ever work deliverance from this great and growing evil. Vol. VII, p. 423, 1890.

5. **License for the Sale of Liquors Wrong.** *Resolved*, 2. That, as it is in the power of the General and State governments, within their respective jurisdiction, to abolish and prohibit the liquor traffic, in their failure to do so, and in licensing, taxing or taking revenue of the liquor traffic, they become parties in the nefarious business, and are guilty of establishing and encouraging iniquity by law. Vol. VI, p. 433, 1886.

Knowing that the Son of God was manifested, not to regulate but to destroy the works of the devil, we, His servants, declare:

1. That all measures of license or tax are wrong in principle and a failure in practice. Vol. VI, p. 676, 1887.

2. That any form of license or taxation of the liquor traffic is unscriptural in principle and contrary to good government, and ought to be discouraged by every Christian, philanthropist and patriot. Vol. VII, p. 227, 1889.

To license or tax the traffic is no remedy, and is wrong in principle. The privilege to sin and ruin manhood should not be sold at any price. The Son of God was manifested to destroy, not to regulate, the works of the devil.

In view of these facts we recommend the following action:

Resolved, 1. That we reaffirm the past utterances of the Church upon this subject, especially that of the Assembly at Springfield, Ohio, in 1889, viz.: "That any form of license or taxation of the liquor traffic is unscriptural in principle and contrary to good government, and ought to be discouraged by every philanthropist and patriot."

2. That partisan friendship for the saloon must be accepted as hostility to the Church, the home, and all that is valuable to society. No party is worthy the support of Christian men that fails to antagonize the saloon.

3. That we favor the abolition of the Government tax on intoxicating liquors, as making the nation a participant in the crime of drunkard-making, the revenue derived from this tax being the price of our brother's blood. Vol. VII, p. 651, 1891.

6. **The Duty of Christian Citizens.** *Resolved*, 3. That we recognize the new phases of this question, presenting themselves in the efforts of both friend and foe of the liquor traffic, and we accept the conflict as "an irrepressible" one, which it would be moral cowardice and treason to attempt to avoid.

4. That we approve the plan of obtaining both constitutional and statutory enactments to entirely suppress the manufacture and sale of intoxicants as a beverage; and hereby urge our ministers and people to co-operate, in all proper efforts, to secure such legislation as will speedily accomplish this end.

5. That we urge all our ministers and people, in casting their ballots, to support for office only such candidates as are practical temperance men, and who by their known character and position before the public, can be relied on to aid in securing and enforcing proper legislation on this subject. Vol. V, p. 364, 1881.

4. That it is the judgment of this Assembly that the members of our churches should, as Christian people, insist on the presenting of such men for legislative positions as shall represent them on this matter of temperance reform. Vol. V, p. 740, 1883.

2. That we regard this traffic as an evil which can never be removed without political action, and that we regard its entire prohibition as the most pressing political question of the times; and that it therefore becomes our duty as Christian citizens, in the careful and prayerful use of the ballot, to meet this question directly. Vol. VII, p. 676, 1887.

1. That the liquor traffic is an enemy to the home, to society, to the Church and to the State, and that the time has come when Christian people should cease to be indifferent, and unite their efforts, regardless of previous party affiliations, for its entire suppression. Vol. VII, p. 227, 1889.

2. That we regard the traffic in intoxicating liquors as a sin against God and a crime against humanity; and condemn all forms of license, high or low, as morally wrong, laying the responsibility for the existence of the traffic upon the State, and urge upon our people the duty of acting with prayerful deliberation in the exercise of their citizenship, that they may not compromise their Christian principles or complicate themselves in any way with this evil. Vol. VII, p. 423, 1890.

2. That partisan friendship for the saloon must be accepted as hostility to the Church, the home, and all that is valuable to society. No party is worthy of the support of Christian men that fails to antagonize the saloon. Vol. VII, p. 651, 1891.

iv. A memorial from the Presbytery of Keokuk, praying the Assembly to overture to Presbyteries the question whether an article shall be added to our Judicial Testimony on the subject of intemperance and the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage.

In regard to this memorial, your committee recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

That, while this Assembly recognizes the great evils referred to, and is as ready as previous Assemblies to declare and emphasize them, and warn the Church against them, she, in view of the many and pointed deliverances heretofore issued by our highest court, does not think it necessary at the present time to submit to the lower courts, for adoption as a term of communion, such an article as the memorialists desire. Vol. VIII, pp. 22, 23, 1892.

7. **Temperance Instruction in the Public Schools.** *Resolved*, 5. That while we rejoice in the good work done by the women's organization in disseminating literature and providing lectures, and thus helping to create and develop a correct public sentiment, we specially commend and second their efforts to secure, by State legislation, the introduction in our public schools of temperance textbooks, and instruction in regard to the effect of the use of alcohol on the human system. Vol. VI, p. 32, 1884.

8. **Temperance Meetings on the Sabbath.** *Resolved*, 4. While we deem it the duty of Christian ministers and people to aid in advancing the great cause of temperance reformation, yet, since all the ways and means employed are not such as are proper for the sacredness of the Lord's day, we would caution ministers and people against holding or attending such meetings on the Sabbath as are inconsistent with the sacredness of that day. Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.

5. That, * * * while not endorsing everything they [the Women's Christian Temperance Union] do, notably some of their Sabbath meetings, we rejoice in the great and good work they are accomplishing. Vol. VI, p. 433, 1886.

9. **Unfermented Wine and the Lord's Supper.** *Resolved*, 7. That this Assembly urge upon Sessions to provide only unfermenting, that is, unfermented, wine for use in the administration of the Lord's Supper. Vol. V, p. 365, 1881.

7. That we earnestly recommend Church Sessions to provide unfermented wine for communion purposes. Vol. VI, p. 32, 1884.

Resolved, That the action of the General Assembly of 1884, recommending Church Sessions to provide unfermented wine for communion purposes, be reaffirmed. Vol. VI, p. 661, 1887.

10. **Temperance and the Week of Prayer.** [In response to a memorial

from the National Committee of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the General Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That this Assembly does hereby petition the International Committee of the Evangelical Alliance to set apart one day of the Week of Prayer for 1881 to be devoted to the cause of temperance. Vol. V, p. 195, 1880. [Similar action was taken, Vol. V, p. 364, 1881; p. 534, 1882; p. 740, 1883; Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.]

Resolved, 5. That, * * * in case of the refusal of this request [for a day in the Week of Prayer] the Principal Clerk of the Assembly be authorized and directed to designate the day on which this subject shall be considered, and shall give notice of such designation through the papers of the Church. Vol. V, p. 535, 1882; p. 740, 1883. [Similar action was taken, Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.]

11. **Temperance and the International Sabbath School Lessons.** *Resolved*, 6. That we ask the Committee on International Sabbath School Lessons to frequently introduce this subject; or, if this is not done, that our own committee be directed to furnish the Church with these lessons. Vol. V, p. 364, 1881.

12. **United Effort with Other Denominations to Stay Intemperance.** [On certain memorials on the subject of temperance, the following action was taken]:

Resolved, 1. That we heartily endorse the sentiments of the memorialists as to the extent of this evil, the greatness of the danger, and the necessity for united and earnest effort to resist it.

2. That in order to secure concert of action, the Assembly instruct the delegates that may be appointed to other Churches to lay before them our desire as a Church to unite with them in devising and carrying out measures to stay the tide of intemperance in our land.

3. That, in the meantime, Synods and Presbyteries be requested to hold intercourse with similar courts of other denominations in their bounds, and seek their co-operation in such necessary measures as may be lawful and necessary to promote the cause of temperance. Vol. III, p. 271, 1871.

Resolved, 4. That the Assembly hereby appoints * * * as a committee of correspondence, to invite the co-operation of various ecclesiastical bodies of the Christian Church to unite, at as early a day as possible, in a national delegate convention, to secure a movement along the entire line, by the organization of a National Christian Temperance Alliance. Vol. IV, p. 41, 1874.

Resolved, 2. That it is the duty of the friends of God and humanity to combine their efforts for the suppression of intemperance and its removal from the Church and the country. Vol. IV, p. 185, 1875.

Resolved, 1. That a committee be appointed by this Assembly, to meet with similar committees from other evangelical Churches, to devise a plan for united effort in the cause of temperance, on the part of other Churches.

3. That the committee on correspondence be instructed to correspond immediately with other Churches, informing them of the appointment of the above committee, and of the time and place of meeting; and also requesting them to appoint similar committees to meet at the time and place named.

4. That our own committee be instructed to prepare a plan for our own direction in the work, if the other Churches do not respond to the invitation. Vol. IV, p. 494, 1877. [For the report of this committee, see Vol. IV, p. 633, 1878.]

Resolved, 9. That, * * * be appointed a permanent committee to confer with similar committees appointed by other evangelical Churches with regard to the best means of securing united effort in the case of temperance; such committee to meet at such time and place as may be agreed upon on consulta-

tion with the committees of other Churches; and report their proceedings to the next General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 583, 1878.

[This committee reported]:

Owing to the fact that your committee received no notice of the appointment of any similar committee from other Churches, there has been no meeting during the year, and consequently we have no report of "proceedings" to make. Vol. V, p. 12, 1879.

[Seven delegates were appointed to the National Temperance Convention, to meet at Saratoga, N. Y. Vol. V, p. 365, 1881.]

13. **Delegates to the American Temperance Congress.** [The General Assembly appointed five persons to represent the United Presbyterian Church in the American Temperance Congress, to be held in New York. Vol. VII, p. 409, 1890. For the report of the delegates, see p. 738, 1891.]

14. **The Women's Christian Temperance Movement Endorsed.** *Resolved*, 1. That we endorse the Woman's Christian Temperance movement as the movement of the whole Church—because it recognizes God, and seeks His interposition; because it assaults directly and personally, in the spirit of Jesus, the strongholds of this vice; because the movement has proved itself good, by creating a healthy public sentiment, by reducing the sale of intoxicants, by the joy it has brought to many a household, by the deliverance it has effected for many a victim, by restoring the operation of the Sabbath laws, by illustrating the power of the Gospel and of prayer, and by giving new life and energy to the pulpit.

3. That the Assembly believes that the reading of the Scriptures, prayer, the singing of Psalms, and earnest religious admonition and rebuke belong exclusively to no privileged class or sex, but devolve upon all members of the Church, male and female, and are to be used for the conversion of sinners and for the suppression of vice by all who love the Lord Jesus Christ. Vol. IV, p. 41, 1874.

4. That we recognize in the Women's Christian Temperance Union a powerful and most efficient ally in the war against this enemy of "God and Home and Native Land," and we bid them God speed in their patient, persistent, heroic and prayerful efforts to make effective their great battle cry, "The saloon must go." Vol. VI, p. 32, 1884.

6. We highly appreciate the spirit and work of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union, in its general aspect as carried forward through its ten thousand local auxiliaries, and bid our sisters God-speed in their brave endeavor "For God and Home and Native Land." Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.

5. That in the rapid progress now being made in the cause of temperance, much credit is due to the prayers and labors of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and while not endorsing everything they do—notably some of their Sabbath meetings—we rejoice in the great and good work they are accomplishing, and bid them God-speed. Vol. VI, p. 433, 1886.

We recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That seven persons, four ministers and three elders, be appointed by this Assembly to represent us in the World's Temperance Congress, which will meet in Chicago, June 5, 1893.

2. That we urge upon our people to break the bonds of partisanship, and make the foremost consideration in their exercise of the elective franchise to overthrow the liquor traffic.

5. Inasmuch as the existence of the prohibitory liquor law of one of the great commonwealths of our nation is in serious danger of being repealed or greatly modified in favor of the liquor traffic, as the result of the election to be held during the coming autumn for state officers and members of the legislature may determine; therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly extends its sympathy and pledges its moral

support to the friends of the prohibitory law of Iowa. Vol. VIII, p. 271, 1893.

15. **The Traffic in Intoxicants, Etc., in the New Hebrides.** *To the President of the United States:* The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, respectfully petitions the government of the United States, to take such active measures, as may be practicable to protect the natives of the New Hebrides Islands, against the injurious effects of the traffic in intoxicating liquors, fire-arms and ammunition.

It has come to the knowledge of the General Assembly, that the natives of the New Hebrides Islands have been largely brought under the influence of the Christian religion, and have been rapidly rising into its moral character and civilization. In consequence of this the islands have been opened to traffic with civilized nations. Advantage has been taken of this, to establish an extensive traffic in fire-arms, ammunition and intoxicating liquors, with most disastrous results, and unless the power interpose, demoralization and crime must continue to increase.

The General Assembly has great satisfaction in knowing that the government of the United States looks with favor upon the legitimate use of its power and influence in the interests of humanity, and although without colonial interest in the South Pacific has expressed its sympathy with, and cordial approval of, a joint movement by the different powers, for the suppression of this destructive traffic. The General Assembly, therefore, respectfully petitions the government to press the preparation of a convention by the Christian powers, for the protection of the natives of the New Hebrides Islands, and of other islands not already under protection, against the traffic which has already worked so much injury, and that the same may be made effective at the earliest possible date, and we will ever pray, etc. Vol. VIII, p. 257, 1893.

16. **Permanent Committee on Temperance.** *Resolved, Sixth.* That the memorial requesting the appointment of a Permanent Committee on Temperance, whose province it shall be to suggest plans for more effectual opposition to the liquor traffic, and to co-operate with like committees, appointed by other religious bodies, toward the overthrow of this great foe of God and man, commends itself to our judgment; and we recommend that the Committee on Nominations be directed to select such a committee, to consist of six members, two of whom shall serve for one year, two for two years, and two for three years; the vacancies to be filled in the same manner as they occur. Vol. XI, p. 29, 1904.

17. **Prohibition in Oklahoma.** *Resolved,* By the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, assembled in Washington, Iowa, on the 24th day of May, 1905, that we do hereby respectfully ask the Congress of the United States, in any new legislation providing statehood for Oklahoma and Indian Territory, to insert a provision for the prohibition of the liquor traffic in the entire new State, and thus keep faith with the Indians, and, at the same time, give the people of that new State the protection they so much need. Vol. XI, p. 306, 1905.

18. **Teaching Temperance in the Sabbath Schools.** *Resolved, 1.* That the Assembly recommend that Sabbath schools and congregations observe the fourth Sabbath of November as the World's Temperance Day, and that ministers, Sabbath school superintendents and teachers aim to make this observance interesting and profitable. It would be well for ministers to preach on the subject on that day, or as near that time as convenient.

We also suggest that Sabbath school superintendents and teachers secure tracts and booklets teaching temperance. Suitable literature could be distributed among pupils and others, and thus not only scholars and Christians in general, but also some who rarely or never enter a church, may be reached.

2. That this Assembly recommend that the Sabbath school offerings on the World's Temperance Day be devoted to the use of the Permanent Committee

on Temperance to an amount not exceeding one thousand dollars, and that the surplus of these offerings, if surplus there be, be given to the Board of Home Missions.

3. That a revival of pledge-signing be encouraged in our Sabbath schools and other societies and the general community. The pledge should embrace total abstinence and the avoidance of whatever tends to lead others into the snare of intemperance. "It is good neither to eat flesh nor to drink wine nor anything whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak." The Lord seems in his kindly providence to have set his approval to pledge-signing not only in this but in other matters.

4. In order that the Permanent Committee on Temperance may be in touch with the entire Church, it is recommended that each presbytery appoint one of their members as a representative with whom the Permanent Committee may communicate and through whom the committee may reach the entire Church.

5. That the Permanent Committee, at their discretion, may appoint one of their number to represent this Assembly before legislative bodies. Vol. XI, p. 306, 1905.

19. **Church Members and the Liquor Traffic.** The following report was adopted:

The Judiciary Committee would report with respect to the four papers which have been referred to it:

1. With respect to the special request of the Ministerial Association of the United Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh and vicinity, asking for a deliverance on the following,—“Is it consistent with membership in the United Presbyterian Church for an attorney to represent in court an applicant for a license to sell liquor; for a property holder to rent his property for a saloon or any immoral purpose; to sign an application for a liquor license; to hold membership in a Club that keeps and dispenses liquor to its members.”

We would answer that such acts are not in harmony with the attitude of the United Presbyterian Church nor with the deliverances of the General Assembly on the subject of intemperance and kindred vices, and that sessions are instructed to exercise discipline in accord with this deliverance. Vol. XIII, p. 730, 1914.

20. **The Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution.** The coming of Constitutional Prohibition within this year calls upon this General Assembly to thank God, who gave us the victory. The efforts of the liquor interests to nullify this provision of the Constitution call upon us also to gird ourselves for the finish-fight. The liquor traffic is outlawed but not dead.

The United Presbyterian Church has rung true on this question through all these years. We must not fail, therefore, in this finish fight. Be it resolved—

1. *Whereas*, prohibition is now part of the Constitution of the United States and is no longer to be looked upon as a political question but one of respect for and the enforcement of law, a question of the authority of the whole people expressed in the law, and *whereas* the brewers and their paid attorneys are making every possible effort to circumvent and nullify the law by making beer and wine an entering wedge for the return of the saloon, and *whereas* this beer and wine legislation would bring back the liquor traffic with the brewery to debauch and menace our political life, we hereby respectfully and earnestly petition each of the two great political parties of the United States to put a plank in their respective platforms to be adopted at their approaching National Conventions, declaring strongly for the maintenance and enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution and of the law enacted for its enforcement.

2. That we petition said parties not to nominate any man for the Presidency who is not known to be committed to this policy of "law and order."

3. That we ask the Committee on Nominations to nominate two committees of three persons each to attend these Conventions, representing this Assembly, and there to co-operate with like committees representing other denominations.

4. That inasmuch as the opponents of prohibition are bending their every effort to bring back this outlawed liquor traffic by breaking down laws already enacted and by gaining control of Congress and the Legislatures of the different States so that they might weaken enforcement, we recognize the impending crisis and pledge the support of the United Presbyterian Church to the Anti-Saloon League of America as it leads the temperance forces of our country in this fight for the supremacy of law and against the nullification of the Constitution. Vol. XV, p. 22, 1920.

21. **Conditions After the Repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment.** Sixth, the Liquor Question. This subject continues to hold a place of supreme importance in the life of the Church and the nation. The evils of the traffic in intoxicants are manifest on every side. The repeal of Prohibition did not repeal these evils nor change the character of the business. None of the claims of the repealists have been fulfilled. Our homes are invaded by a most insidious and persistent effort to make our people liquor-minded through advertisements in our newspapers and magazines and by means of the radio. Likewise many of the moving pictures are guilty in this particular. The saloon has largely come back with even more objectionable features than in the past. Public safety is being endangered by an increasing number of traffic and industrial accidents which increase life hazards and must inevitably increase insurance rates. Crime has been by no means lessened by encouraging the sale of that which has always been the chief breeder of crime.

Be it *Resolved*, that as a Church we continue our opposition both in resolution and action against the whole liquor traffic and that we call upon our members in life and by effort to uphold the standard of total abstinence in the matter of the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage. We also express the importance of education in our Sabbath school and other agencies of the Church with reference to the evils of intoxicants. We give our endorsement to the National Anti-Saloon League and the National W.C.T.U. and other accredited agencies in their efforts to bring about the return of prohibition. We urge the passage by Congress of the Capper Bill touching the prohibition of liquor advertisements. Vol. XVIII, p. 949, 1935.

CXIII. TERMS OF COMMUNION

1. **Explanation of the Sixteenth Article of the Testimony.** On the memorial from the Second Synod of the West, relative to certain modifications of the sixteenth article of our Testimony, the Committee on Bills and Overtures report:

It is well known to those who are familiar with the history of the Church, that the faith and practice of both Churches, previously to the union in which the United Presbyterian Church originated, were in accordance with the principles of restricted, in opposition to latitudinarian communion. This article did not, therefore, introduce a new principle into the United Church, but defined more explicitly than had previously been done, the ground which both parties occupied before the union was formed. And it is well known to those who took an active part in the establishment of the union, that without an article of this kind, that union which gave rise to such hallowed joy could not have been effected. And now, after this union has been brought about, as the result of much and fervent prayer, and long and laborious efforts, is it wise to endanger the peace of the Church by attempting to effect a change? Does not mutual

good faith require that we should abide by the covenant which brought us together?

The memorial desires the Assembly to modify the sixteenth article of our Testimony, "so as to concede to Sessions the authority of applying the principles of it, as their own discretion may direct."

Your committee are unable to see the necessity for such a modification. This authority Sessions already possess. It is supposed that Sessions are composed of men of understanding, and that they are acquainted with the principles which they have embraced; and they must of course exercise their discretion in the application of these principles as cases may occur. Sessions, of course, are responsible for the manner in which they exercise this discretion; but the right to exercise it is unquestionable.

The memorial further desires the Assembly to declare that "Sessions be not authorized to receive to communion any but such as would be received to permanent membership." To give such a deliverance is surely unnecessary. No such authority is now enjoyed; and we are not aware that any Session asks for such authority. If it should come to pass that any Session shall ask for such authority, it will then be time enough for the Assembly to say whether it shall be granted.

The sixteenth article of our Testimony lays down the general rule on the subject of communion, by which the Church is to be governed in all ordinary cases. It was not designed to make provision for cases of an extraordinary nature. When cases of this kind occur, Sessions, in the exercise of a wise discretion, must dispose of them as may be for the peace and edification of the Church.

Your committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the sixteenth article of our Testimony defines, in a manner sufficiently explicit, the general law of the Church on the subject of communion, and no modification which would change its character is required at the present time. Vol. II, p. 488, 1868.

2. **Adherence to the Standards to Be Required of Those Seeking Communion with the Church.** *Resolved*, That the interests of the United Presbyterian Church demand not the preparation of a new creed, either in form or in fact, but the faithful application of the principles contained in her standards. Vol. I, p. 61, 1859.

* * * The United Presbyterian Church has explicitly declared that an adherence to the Westminster standards, and to the declarations contained in her Testimony, will be required of those seeking communion with her. * * * The United Presbyterian Church claims to be honest in making the declarations contained in her Testimony; and those who will not give her credit for honesty in her profession, certainly could not desire to enjoy her fellowship; nor is it likely they would be satisfied with any explanation which she could give of her received principles. * * *

Resolved, That on the subject of the distinctive principles of the United Presbyterian Church, no further deliverance, than that which is contained in her Testimony for the truth, is at present necessary. Vol. I, p. 61, 1859. [Re-affirmed, Vol. I, p. 119, 1860; Vol. I, p. 355, 1852.]

The memorialists ask three questions: First, Are our distinctive principles, as well as the doctrines of grace, terms of communion? Second, Is it consistent with our standards to extend communion in sealing ordinances to persons retaining membership in Churches holding principles inconsistent with our professions? Third, Should a Presbytery tolerate such practices by the ministers and Sessions under its care?

The Assembly cannot but express its surprise that such questions should ever have been propounded. It is not possible to return a more explicit affirma-

tive answer to the first, or negative answer to the second, than is given in the Testimony of the Church, as adopted at the formation of the Union.

In the introduction of the Testimony, it is stated that an "adherence to the Westminster standards, and to the declarations contained in the following Testimony, will be required of those seeking communion with us." And in the 16th declaration, we find the following: "We declare that the Church should not extend communion in sealing ordinances to those who refuse adherence to her profession, or subjection to her government and discipline, or refuse to forsake a communion inconsistent with the profession she makes." These are the authoritative statements of the doctrine and order of the Church. The Assembly cannot make them any clearer or more emphatic. While the courts of the Church may and ought to exercise forbearance in love towards those who cannot fully subscribe to these declarations, yet they may not tolerate determined opposition to them, or wanton practical violation of them.

The Church has thus clearly set forth the law on this subject; the administration of it is left to the inferior courts. It is their manifest duty, in meekness and love, to do all they can to persuade all under their care to walk orderly. In case, however, of violation of the law, wantonly persisted in, as the last resort, recourse must be had to regular judicial process in the proper courts. * * * The Assembly regard the Testimony of the Church as sufficiently explicit. It does not appear that any deliverance that can be made will render its meaning any plainer or more pointed. The carrying out of the principles of the Church is vested in the inferior courts, and not in the Assembly. Whether or not, therefore, our Testimony is duly administered, will depend on the faithfulness of Sessions, Presbyteries and Synods. Vol. I, p. 113, 1860. [Reaffirmed, Vol. I, p. 355, 1862.]

It has long since been distinctly declared by the Assembly, that what is wanted in the United Presbyterian Church, is not the amendment or modification of our ecclesiastical standards, but the exercise of brotherly love and the honest and faithful application of our avowed principles. And it is the business of the courts of the Church to see that the principles embodied in these standards are faithfully applied in practice.

Resolved, That the former action of the General Assembly renders it unnecessary that any further deliverance should be given at this time, on the subjects to which the memorialists refer. Vol. I, p. 482, 1868.

Resolved, 2. That we regard it as inconsistent with that integrity which should characterize the followers of Christ to espouse a profession, and under the garb of that profession to assail its well known and acknowledged principles.

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Assembly, persons are not to be tolerated in the communion of the Church avowing a determined opposition to the standards, which we are most solemnly pledged to maintain. Vol. II, p. 307, 1866.

[See also Hill's case, McCune's case, and Secret Societies.]

3. Sessions Must Exercise a Wise Discretion in Admitting Persons to the Communion of the Church. In the case of the admission of members, Sessions are affectionately recommended to use great tenderness towards the weak, or such as are earnestly inquiring after the truth. Vol. II, p. 31, 1864.

The memorial desires the Assembly to modify the sixteenth article of our Testimony, "so as to concede to Sessions the authority of applying the principles of it, as their own discretion may direct."

Your committee are unable to see the necessity for such a modification. This authority Sessions already possess. It is supposed that Sessions are composed of men of understanding, and that they are acquainted with the principles which they have embraced; and they must, of course, exercise their discretion in the application of these principles as cases may occur. Sessions, of course, are responsible for the manner in which they exercise this discretion;

but the right to exercise it is unquestionable. * * * The sixteenth article of our Testimony lays down the general rule on the subject of communion, by which the Church is to be governed in all ordinary cases. It was not designed to make provision for cases of an extraordinary nature. When cases of this kind occur, Sessions, in the exercise of a wise discretion, must dispose of them as may be for the peace and edification of the Church. * * *

Resolved, That the XVIth Article of our Testimony defines, in a manner sufficiently explicit, the general law of the Church on the subject of communion, and no modification which would change its character is required at the present time. Vol. II, p. 488, 1868.

4. **Forbearance in Love Defined.** And further, she [the United Presbyterian Church] has distinctly affirmed that the forbearance in love, which the law of God requires, is to be exercised towards those who follow the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another; and not to those who determinedly oppose the standards of the Church. And such forbearance has always been exercised in both branches of the united body. Vol. I, p. 61, 1859.

While the courts of the Church may and ought to exercise forbearance in love towards those who cannot fully subscribe to these declarations, yet they may not tolerate determined opposition to them, or wanton practical violation of them. Vol. I, p. 113, 1860. [Re-affirmed, Vol. I, p. 355, 1862.]

And, finally, in the consummation of the union, in the joint action of the two Synods, it is distinctly declared, in reference to that forbearance which is to be exercised, that "it is agreed between the two Churches that the forbearance in love which is required by the law of God will be exercised towards any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe the standards of the United Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace and things wherewith one may edify another."

Here it is very plainly declared that the forbearance which is to be exercised in love is simply that which the law of God requires; nothing less; nothing more. And does any one object to the exercise of such forbearance? Then, towards whom is this forbearance to be exercised? Not towards those who are troublers of Israel; not towards those who openly oppose the doctrines subscribed in our standards; not towards the advocates of error; but towards those whose minds, though they may not be able fully to subscribe some of our distinctive principles, are yet open to conviction; who, in the meantime, demean themselves in an orderly manner, following the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another. Vol. I, p. 118, 1860.

In answer to the second point in the memorial, we refer the brethren to the explicit statement made by the Assembly of 1860, Vol. I, pp. 113, 118, from which it will be seen that the forbearance intended to be exercised in all such cases is not of that character which in any degree gives countenance to the advocates of error, or to those who are openly opposed to the doctrines of our standards. But at the same time, we lay down this necessary rule as the result of that charity that "rejoiceth in the truth," yet "beareth long and is kind," viz.: That those who have not such a degree of light respecting any article of our distinctive principles as would lead them fully to embrace it, whose minds are yet open to conviction, who are seeking to know the truth, who are not determinedly opposing the principle, and who conduct themselves in an orderly and Christian manner, may be admitted and retained in the fellowship of the Church. This has been the common faith and practice of the bodies comprising the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. 1, p. 355, 1862.

According to the articles of union, the forbearance in love, required by the law of God, is to be exercised toward any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe to all the standards of the United Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace and

things whereby one may edify another. Vol. VI, p. 663, 1887. [See section following.]

5. **The Terms of Communion May Be Changed.** The memorial asks the following question: "Can a minister or elder be and continue to be in good standing in the United Presbyterian Church, who proposes or votes to overture the question of expunging any article of the Confession of Faith or of the Testimony, or any distinctive principle or ordinance of worship, held and observed by the said United Presbyterian Church, or who labors and votes in the Presbytery for such overture after it has been sent down by the Assembly?"

The question of the memorialist is somewhat indefinite. We do not regard it as wise, ordinarily, for the Assembly to decide hypothetical cases when the existing laws of the Church are sufficient for all practical purposes, if properly enforced.

Section 5, Article IV, Chapter V, of the Book of Government, reads as follows: "Before any regulation affecting the doctrine, worship or government of the Church shall be adopted or made binding, it shall be transmitted in overture to all the Presbyteries," etc. This language plainly implies that such matters are subject to the test of overture, and any member of the Church has a right to proceed in an orderly manner in the exercise of the privileges implied in this law. And according to the articles of union, the forbearance in love, required by the law of God, is to be exercised toward any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe to all the standards of the United Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace and things whereby one may edify another. Vol. VI, p. 663, 1887.

6. **The Terms of Communion Changed.** The Terms of Communion were changed by the adoption of The Confessional Statement in 1924, where it is stated that the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is to be administered "to those who have confessed their faith in Christ and are living a Christian life." The Confessional Statement, Article XXX.

CXIV. THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

[The General Assembly addressed a petition to the President of the United States] for the distinct acknowledgment of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Supreme Ruler of our nation, in the proclamation which calls us as a Christian nation people to the worship of Him, in whose presence we can find acceptance only through the mediation of the Saviour. Vol. VII, p. 422, 1890.

Inasmuch as there seems to be a studied effort upon the part of the Chief Magistrate to ignore the name of Christ in the annual Thanksgiving Proclamation; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Moderator and Clerk be instructed to issue a Thanksgiving Proclamation in the name of Christ, to whom all thanks are due, and that the day appointed be the day chosen by the President of the United States.

2. That pastors be requested to read said proclamation from the pulpit in connection with the annual Thanksgiving service.

3. That a committee be appointed to bring the whole subject before the religious bodies of the United States. Vol. VII, p. 631, 1891.

Standing Rule for Annual Thanksgiving. Inasmuch as there is no suitable Christian acknowledgment in the thanksgiving proclamations of our President and the great majority of our State Governors, whereas there should be in all such documents due mention of the Lord Jesus Christ, by whom alone any worshiper can come with acceptance into the presence of God; and,

Inasmuch as there is usually defect in the recitals of mercies bestowed upon the nation, and in the suggestions regarding objects of supplication; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Moderator and the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly be instructed to issue at the proper time a thanksgiving proclamation of becoming phraseology, wherein there shall be recognition of Christ's mediatorial claims, and recommendations regarding praise and prayer; and that the day named in the proclamation be the day appointed by the President of the United States.

2. That pastors be requested to read this proclamation in connection with thanksgiving services. Vol. VIII, p. 705, 1895.

3. Concerning a standing rule in regard to the annual thanksgiving proclamation.

(a) That the Moderator and the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly shall issue to our Church, in the name of the General Assembly, annually (except as hereinafter provided), a thanksgiving proclamation supplementary to that of the President of the United States, and in this proclamation shall appoint for public worship and thanksgiving the day chosen by the Chief Magistrate of the nation.

(b) This Assembly proclamation shall always contain distinct reference to the recommendation of the President, and this reference shall be of a deferential nature, devoid of all unnecessary criticism.

(c) This Assembly proclamation shall include explicit mention of the Lord Jesus Christ, as the one through whom alone God can be approached with acceptance, and it shall also detail in appropriate terms the spiritual mercies, no less than the temporal favors, with which the Church and the world at large have been blessed.

(d) In case the President's proclamation at any time shall, in the judgment of the Moderator and the Principal Clerk of the Assembly, contain explicit recognition of the spiritual blessings and the mediation of Christ, then these officers shall commend to the Church the President's proclamation, and shall not for that year issue anything supplementary to it. Vol. IX, p. 290, 1897.

CXV. THEOLOGICAL SEMINARIES

1. **Theological Seminaries Under the Care of the Assembly.** [A memorial asking the Assembly to inquire into the expediency of taking the seminaries under its control and of consolidating them, was referred to a special committee. The report of this committee, which was laid on the table, closed with these resolutions]:

Resolved, 1. That it is inexpedient for the Assembly to take any steps toward assuming the immediate supervision of the theological seminaries of our Church.

2. That it is not expedient to consolidate the theological seminaries into one, or even two.

3. That the Committee on Overtures be directed to report what general rules should be adopted by the Assembly, for securing uniformity in conducting the theological education of the Church. Vol. I, p. 441, 1862.

[The following question was overtured to Presbyteries]: Shall the General Assembly have the power of establishing and regulating the theological seminaries of the Church? Vol. I, p. 361, 1862. [The vote on this overture was: Ayes, 243; nays, 230; not voting, 12. Vol. I, p. 490, 1863.]

[The report of 1862 was taken from the table by the Assembly of 1864, Vol. II, p. 9, 1864, when the following action was taken]:

Whereas, Your committee are informed that the Book of Government and Discipline, soon to be laid before the Assembly, contains a declaration of principles, concerning the Assembly's power over and duties unto the theological seminaries of the Church; therefore,

Resolved, That no action be taken by the Assembly upon this subject until

after the adoption of a Book of Government and Discipline. Vol. II, p. 11, 1864.

The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, feeling that the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom in her hands require that the theological seminaries of the Church be under her supervision, does hereby adopt the following as a basis of action in bringing these under her control and direction: It belongs to the General Assembly—1. To determine the number and location of her seminaries. 2. To fix and arrange the course of study. 3. To determine the number of professorships, and designate the class of studies belonging to each. 4. To elect the board or boards of directors. 5. To fill the chairs, and fix the salaries of the respective professors.

In case any Synod or Synods having a seminary under their care wish to place it under the care of the General Assembly, it may be done in the following manner:

1. The constitution of said theological seminary shall remain in full force after the transfer, until the General Assembly shall prepare and adopt a new or an amended constitution.

2. That the board or boards of directors and trustees shall continue the same as at the time of the transfer, until otherwise directed by the General Assembly.

3. That the professors shall retain their respective chairs until said chairs shall be vacated by resignation, death or removal.

4. That all moneys, obligations, stocks and property, personal and real, belonging to such seminary, shall be transferred to the General Assembly, to be expended in the interests of said seminary, or consolidated seminary, into which it may be merged by the General Assembly.

5. That when the Synod or Synods owning such seminary shall have complied with the above action, and have notified the Principal Clerk of the General Assembly of their action in this transfer, such seminary shall be considered thenceforward under the supervision of the General Assembly.

6. That the Principal Clerk shall give notice, through the papers of the Church, of the transfer of such seminary or seminaries, when notified thereof.

7. That the respective Boards having control of the seminaries shall be notified of this action. Vol. III, p. 149, 1870. [The above action is known as the "Enabling Act."]

1. In the judgment of this Assembly, the theological seminary at Monmouth, Ill., has complied with the conditions of the "Enabling Act," adopted by the last Assembly, and has been placed under the control of the General Assembly; but it is inexpedient for this Assembly to perform any acts of government over that seminary. The Assembly, therefore, leaves its management for the time being with its board of directors.

2. *Whereas*, It is questioned whether the theological seminaries at Newburgh and Xenia have fully complied with the "Enabling Act" of the last Assembly, this Assembly declines to recognize them as under its control.

3. That the "Enabling Act" be continued in force, and amended so as to provide that—

i. No seminary shall be removed from its present locality or consolidated with any others without the consent of the Synod or Synods heretofore controlling it.

ii. That the responsibility of providing for the pecuniary support of any seminary shall not rest on the General Assembly, but each one on its board of directors.

iii. That title to the property of each seminary shall be vested in a board of trustees, in the place where the seminary is located, appointed by a board of directors elected by the General Assembly.

iv. In order to a complete transfer, all the property, which the Synod or Synods controlling any seminary have a right to transfer, must be placed under

the control of the General Assembly; but no transfer shall be deemed complete until all the seminaries have been transferred, according to the terms of the "Enabling Act," as hereby amended.

4. In expectation that all the seminaries of the Church shall be placed under the control of the General Assembly, this Assembly refers the statutes reported by the joint committee to the next Assembly, and requires all seminaries that may be placed under the Assembly's control to report to that Assembly.

5. In the judgment of this Assembly, the authority vested in the General Assembly by the Form of Government, Article IV, Section 3, includes:

- i. The confirming of the election of professors by directors or Synods.
- ii. The fixing of the term, sessions and course of study.
- iii. The regulation and conduct of examinations. Vol. III, p. 258, 1871.

Resolved, 1. That the "Enabling Act" of the Twelfth General Assembly, as amended by the Thirteenth, be continued in force, in the hope that the way may yet be made clear for placing all our seminaries more completely under the care of the Assembly. Vol. III, p. 528, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That the committee be appointed, whose duty it shall be to tender to the respective Synods, at their approaching meetings, the provisions of the "Enabling Act" of 1870, and request favorable action in reference to the transfer of the theological seminaries to the care of the General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 27, 1874.

Whereas, Six out of the eight Synods of the Church have approved of the transfer of the seminaries to the control of the General Assembly, according to the terms of the "Enabling Act" of 1870 and 1871; and,

Whereas, The interest of theological education of the United Presbyterian Church requires such transfer; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the "Enabling Act" be recognized as still in force.

2. That a committee of three be appointed by this Assembly to bring the whole subject before the Synods that have not yet approved this measure, and in case they act favorably, to report to the next Assembly statutes for the government of the seminaries, and a plan for completing the transfer. Vol. IV, p. 185, 1875.

It appears from the report of the committees placed in our hands, that the Synod of New York judges such transfer inexpedient at the present time. The Synod of Ohio has given no deliverance upon the subject. The First Synod of the West has rescinded her action, previously taken, approving of the transfer. We recommend the following:

Resolved, That this Assembly refer the whole subject to some future General Assembly, when the action of the Synods may appear more favorable. Vol. IV, p. 319, 1876.

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to report to the next Assembly what steps are necessary to place our theological seminaries under the control and direction of the General Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 655, 1891.

2. **Change of Name.** The name Allegheny Theological Seminary was changed to Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Vol. XIII, p. 379, 1913.

3. **Consolidation of Theological Seminaries.** [This subject was discussed by a committee of the Assembly. Vol. I, p. 440, 1862.]

Resolved, That the Synods be requested to report to the next Assembly, whether they are in favor of uniting the theological seminaries of our Church into one or two; and, if in favor, then report the conditions of such consolidation. Vol. II, p. 309, 1866. [Several Synods reported, but no action seems to have been taken by the Assembly.]

Proposals of consolidation of the two Theological Seminaries were introduced into the General Assemblies of 1914, 1919, and 1926, but no action was taken. Vol. XIII, p. 718, 1914; Vol. XIV, p. 706, 1919; Vol. XVI, p. 624, 1926.

During the World War, the Assembly of 1918 took the following action, but the Synods did not act on the recommendation:

The prospects for this coming year are for a greatly reduced attendance on account of the war. Very few students are in sight for the new class next fall. If the war should continue another year or two it seems certain that both our seminaries will be practically emptied of students. This creates a condition which the Church, if she is to be wise and true to her mission, must face now and make provision for.

We submit the following recommendations:

1. That in the judgment of this Assembly the time has come for the permanent union of the two seminaries, and therefore this Assembly recommends that the controlling Synods of the two Seminaries and the Board of Directors of Pittsburgh Seminary and the Board of Managers of Xenia Seminary take under consideration at their next meetings the matter of devising a plan for the permanent union of the two Seminaries. Vol. XIV, p. 454, 1918.

4. **Union of Theological Seminaries.** The project of the union of Xenia and Pittsburgh Theological Seminaries was approved. The details of this union were to be first submitted to the controlling Synods. Vol. XVII, p. 335, 1992.

Resolved, 2. That the basis of union of Pittsburgh and Xenia Theological Seminaries as prepared by the Joint Commission of the two Seminary boards, and approved by the controlling Synods, be adopted. The basis of union is as follows:

I. We recommend the adoption by the controlling Synods of the following basis of union which was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary at its last meeting and which was tacitly approved by the Board of Managers of Xenia Theological Seminary in case of the General Assembly could not grant the Memorial of Xenia Seminary to provide the financial means for its continuance:

1. That Xenia and Pittsburgh Theological Seminaries be combined under the name of "The Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary of the United Presbyterian Church of North America." The united seminary is to be located in Pittsburgh on the present site of the Pittsburgh Seminary until such time as it may be possible to move the seminary to a more desirable location in the Pittsburgh district.

2. That the united seminary shall be under the management of a Board of Directors appointed by the General Assembly with due recognition of the numerical strength of the synods now controlling the two institutions. The new Board of Directors shall choose a Committee of Management or an Executive Committee from its own members.

3. That the faculty of the united seminary shall consist of not more than eight professors at the beginning, with Dr. John McNaugher as president. Members of the present faculties who may not be chosen to professorships in the new institution are to be made professors emeritus with salaries of \$2,000.

4. That if the plan of union be approved by the directors of the two institutions each board appoint five commissioners to constitute a joint commission of ten, which joint commission shall be charged with the working out of all further details connected with the union of the two seminaries.

5. That a program of expansion and enlargement shall be adopted by the united seminary as the goal toward which it shall be striving in the future. This program of purpose and scope and expansion

is to be prepared by Dr. Karr of the Xenia faculty and submitted to the joint commission for its approval.

II. To carry out the provisions of the foregoing basis of union the commission recommends the adoption of the following:

1. In carrying out the intent under number two of the Basis of Union, we recommend that the Board of Directors consist of 35 members to be chosen on the following basis: Each Synod to have one representative for every 5,000 church members or major fraction thereof, it being understood that each Synod have at least one representative and that there shall be chosen from among the ministers and/or ruling elders of the respecting Synods. The Synods shall nominate their representatives on the Board of Directors to the General Assembly for election. The members of the Board of Directors are to be elected for three years. The Synods are requested to make nominations at their meetings in 1929. The Board of Directors are empowered to change their number as the changed membership of the Synods may require. The new Board of Directors shall meet in June, 1930, at the call of the officers of the joint commission, said officers to be officers of the meeting of directors until the new board is organized.

2. In carrying out the intent of paragraph number three of the basis of union, we recommend the election of the following to be members of the faculty, each commission having named the members of its faculty for the new faculty: From the Pittsburgh faculty, Rev. John McNaugher, D.D., Rev. D. F. McGill, D.D., Rev. W. R. Wilson, D.D., and Rev. Robert N. Montgomery, D.D. From the Xenia faculty, Rev. Robert M. Karr, D.D., Rev. J. L. Kelso, D.D., Rev. G. B. McCreary, D.D., and Rev. J. H. Webster, D.D.; and the retirement of the following as professors emeritus with annual salaries of \$2,000 each: From the Pittsburgh faculty, Rev. J. D. Rankin, D.D. From the Xenia faculty, Rev. M. G. Kyle, D.D., and Rev. Jesse Johnston, D.D.

We further recommend that the Synods give to the joint commission upon the advice and counsel of the faculty, power to act on the assignment of chairs.

We further recommend that in subsequent elections of professors the Board of Directors nominate the professors to the Synods for election and the Synods submit their election to the Assembly for its approval.

3. In carrying out the intent of paragraph number five of the basis of union we recommend the adoption of the following statement of purpose and scope and enlargement as the goal toward which the united seminary shall strive:

(1) The purpose of the seminary shall be to instruct candidates for the gospel ministry, ordained ministers of the gospel and such as may be preparing for other special lines of Christian service, in the knowledge of the doctrines of the Scriptures, and the order and institutes of worship taught therein and summarily exhibited in the standards of the United Presbyterian Church of North America; to cherish in them the life of true godliness, and to cultivate the gifts which Christ, the Head of the Church, confers on those whom He calls and ordains to the ministry, to the end that there may be raised up a succession of able, faithful and godly ministers of the gospel and of other Christian workers.

(2) The general scope of the seminary shall include the maintenance of the Divinity School with standard three-year course; pro-

vision for substantial work in the Graduate School, especially for students in residence and other educational features to be suggested by the faculty for approval by the Board of Directors, as need appears and as financial provision may be made.

III. To carry out the provisions of the foregoing, we recommend that the buildings and grounds of Xenia Seminary be sold and the proceeds returned to Endowment Funds; that the endowments of the two seminaries be merged and that efforts to secure added funds for endowment and buildings as necessity may arise, be authorized.

3. We recommend that in accordance with this basis of union, the Assembly elect the following Board of Directors, having been nominated by their respective synods:

4. That the election by Synods of the members of the faculty of the Pittsburgh-Xenia Seminary as named in Article II, paragraph 2, of the Basis of Union, be approved. Vol. XXVII, p. 650, 1930.

Suitable exercises celebrating the merger of the two Seminaries were held on October 9, 1930. Many institutional delegates honored this event with their presence.

5. **Proposed Statutes for the Government of Theological Seminaries.** [Such statutes were prepared by a committee appointed for this purpose, and published by order of the General Assembly. Vol. III, p. 258, 1871.]

6. **Curriculum of Study in Theological Seminaries.** [A committee, appointed with a view of securing uniformity in the curriculum of our colleges and seminaries, presented a report to the Assembly of 1866, Vol. II, p. 308, 1866, which was recommitted. The committee reported to the Assembly of 1867, Vol. II, p. 421, 1867, when their report was referred to the next Assembly, by which it was adopted.]

Resolved, 4. That the course of study shall be—

i. The reading and critical analysis of the Bible in the original languages, as a regular exercise throughout the whole course.

ii. Biblical History and Antiquities.

iii. Sacred Geography and Chronology.

iv. Ecclesiastical History and Church Government.

v. Systematic, Didactic and Polemic Theology.

vi. Sacred Rhetoric.

vii. Pastoral Psychology.

viii. Composition and Delivery of Discourses.

ix. Evidences of Christianity.

x. Lectures on Experimental and Practical Religion. Vol. II, p. 487, 1868.

Resolved, 3. That the course of study should be carefully arranged so as to include all the essential parts of a complete course, suited to the demands of the times, of exegetical, systematic, historical and pastoral theology.

4. That the professors in our seminaries be requested to take this subject into immediate and careful consideration; and, at their earliest convenience, to meet for the arrangement of such a course of study, and the designation of textbooks to be used in it; this meeting not to be later than on the first Wednesday in August, so as to give due time for doing all that may be judged practicable or desirable in the matter, and announcing the result before the opening of the next session; their conclusions to be reported to the next Assembly for approval or amendment. Vol. III, p. 528, 1873. [Their report was adopted as follows]:

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY. *Resolved*, 1. That it is inexpedient to designate any special textbook in the department of systematic theology, aside from the Scriptures and our subordinate Standards, to which, of course, constant reference should be had; and that it is wise to allow, in the method of in-

struction a wide latitude for the individual tastes and preferences of the professors.

2. That the entire system of theology be divided into three sections, which shall be studied in their order, in as many sessions, so as to complete, in three years, the entire regular course, and that the same section be studied each year in all the seminaries, the first section to close with the topic of the Divine Decrees, the second with that of the Offices of Christ, the third to end with the close of the commonly recognized system.

3. That, *whereas*, it is ascertained that in three of the seminaries the second of the aforesaid sections would, according to present arrangements, form the subject of instruction during the next session, therefore that section shall be the subject of tuition in all the seminaries during the ensuing regular session.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT AND HISTORY. *Resolved*, 1. That the attention of the students during the first session be occupied with the History of the Old Testament Church; during the second, the Organization of the New Testament Church and its History to the Reformation; and during the third, the Reformation and the history following to the present time.

2. That the Bible, with Kurtz, or such other works as may be considered useful in different parts of the course, be used as textbooks.

BIBLICAL CRITICISM AND HERMENEUTICS. *Resolved*, 1. That, as far as possible, the Greek Testament shall be read over in the course of three years—the Gospels forming the section for the first year; the Acts, with the Epistles to the Romans and the Corinthians for the second year; and thence to the close of the New Testament for the third year; and that, in addition, certain portions be selected, each session, for particular exegetical examination.

2. That, in view of present arrangements in the seminaries, the second of the foregoing sections shall form the subject of study for the ensuing session.

3. That the reading of the Hebrew Scriptures shall be in the following order of sections, namely: The historical books in the first session; the books of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon in the second, and the remaining books in the third session—the professors to exercise their discretion in selecting from time to time portions within the divisions just specified, and that the first section furnish the subject of study during the ensuing session.

4. That in the department of Biblical Criticism and Hermeneutics, the professor shall, by lectures or otherwise, labor to familiarize the students under their care with the great questions claiming consideration in connection with these subjects.

PASTORAL THEOLOGY. *Resolved*, That in the department of pastoral theology the course shall be divided into three parts, one for each session, in the following order, namely: For the first year the Directory for Church Government; for the second year Homiletics; it being understood, however, that each student shall have exercises in the composition and delivery of sermons, in reading and public speaking, through the whole course of the seminary; and for the third, the Directory for Worship and the pastoral work generally.

ADVANCED COURSE. *Resolved*, That the licentiates shall be required to give special attention to present forms of skepticism and unbelief, Church discipline, exercises in sacred rhetoric, and whatever else may be needed to complete their seminary training for the work of the ministry in both the home and foreign fields. Vol. IV, p. 87, 1874.

5. Additions to the Curriculum. *Resolved*, 1. That the proper professors in our theological seminaries be requested to give due attention to the instruction of the students in the nature, duties and responsibilities of the office of the ruling elder. Vol. V, p. 20, 1879.

6. That the directors of our theological seminaries be directed to make

suitable provision for the special training of the theological students for Sabbath school work. Vol. VII, p. 230, 1889.

That a committee be appointed by this Assembly to consider plans for securing additional training of students in the seminaries for evangelistic work, and report upon the same to the Synods having oversight of the seminaries and to the next General Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 653, 1891.

The following recommendations were adopted:

First. We recommend that the present standards for graduation, including Hebrew and Greek, be maintained by the Seminaries.

Second. We recommend that the Faculties of the Seminaries be given the privilege, in exceptional cases, of certifying men to the Presbyteries, who may be unable to complete the work for graduation, indicating their character, the amount of work covered, and the standard of excellence; leaving it to the Presbyteries to decide whether or not the standard is sufficiently high to warrant the ordination of the candidate.

Third. We recommend that the Faculties of the Seminaries consider the advisability of offering two diploma courses; one to be known as the Classical Course, including Hebrew and Greek, those completing this course, receiving not only the diploma but also the degree of Bachelor of Divinity; the other course to be known as an English Course, those completing it receiving at graduation the diploma only.

Fourth. We further recommend in order that the ministry of the Church may be most efficiently equipped for their work in the times in which we live, that the Faculties, as soon as it is possible to do so, offer strong courses in Comparative Religions, Religious Education, Sociology, and allied subjects. Vol. XIV, p. 30, 1916.

The following recommendations were adopted:

1. That the Seminaries be empowered to provide two courses of study, the first to include Greek and Hebrew, carrying the regular classical diploma; the second substituting for Hebrew in the Junior year a strong course in Apologetics, Bible Ethics and Philosophy of Religion, to be known as the Greek-English Course, carrying a diploma which shall designate this course as the one pursued.

2. That the B.D. degree be eligible only to ministers, who have completed the A.B. course or its equivalent and a Classical course in a Seminary; or to students pursuing the Classical course whose grade is not under 85 per cent. These students shall not be permitted to take more than four hours a week in this B.D. course during their seminary terms. The work required for the B.D. course shall be an assigned course of study of not less than 360 hours, 240 of which shall constitute a major and 120 a minor. The person taking this course shall be required to present a thesis on some phase of his major course to the department under which it was taken.

3. That the Seminary Term begin on the first Wednesday after the 17th of September and close on the first Wednesday or Thursday after the first of May. Vol. XIV, p. 214, 1917.

Resolved, 1. That the request of the Pittsburgh Seminary that the action of their Board in approving the Faculty's recommendation awarding the title of B.D. to those who take the course of Greek-English be the same as to those who take the Hebrew, be endorsed.

2. That the action of Pittsburgh Seminary in adding the Chair of Missions, be approved. Vol. XV, p. 293, 1921.

Resolved, 2. That the joint Memorials of Pittsburgh and Xenia Seminaries, asking the General Assembly to restore Hebrew, as a required study for all students entering the Seminary for the regular course of instruction, be granted.

3. That the Memorial from the Pittsburgh Seminary, asking the General

Assembly to bring pressure to bear upon our own colleges to give the study of Greek a larger place in the requirements of the A.B. course, be granted. Vol. XVI, p. 30, 1924.

7. **Term of Study in Theological Seminaries.** *Resolved*, 1. That the term of study in our theological seminaries shall be three years, and the length of the sessions seven months, commencing on the first Tuesday of September and terminating on the fourth Thursday of March. Vol. II, p. 486, 1868.

Resolved, 6. That the term of study in all our seminaries shall be four annual sessions of six months each, beginning on the first Tuesday of October, annually, and that Presbyteries should enjoin on their students and secure from them all reasonable diligence in study during the vacations of the seminaries. Vol. III, p. 258, 1871.

Resolved, 1. That this General Assembly hereby modifies the regulations adopted by the last General Assembly, requiring four terms of theological study of six months each, by substituting three terms of seven months each, and an advanced course, which shall be optional for students of the fourth year. Vol. III, p. 422, 1872.

Resolved, 1. That the term of study prior to licensure in our seminaries be three years of seven months each, beginning on the first Wednesday of October.

2. That for the benefit of licentiates who have gone through the aforesaid term, there shall be an advanced course of three months, beginning on the first Wednesday of October. Vol. IV, p. 86, 1874.

Resolved, That hereafter the seminary sessions begin on the first Wednesday of September, and continue seven months. Vol. IV, p. 319, 1876.

Resolved, That the term of study hereafter in the theological seminaries of the United Presbyterian Church shall be three years of eight months each, beginning with the first Wednesday of September, and ending with the last Wednesday of April. Vol. VII, p. 432, 1890.

Resolved, (2) That the recommendation of the Seminary Board that the Seminary year be lengthened two weeks according to the following rule: "The Seminary term shall begin the third Wednesday of September and continue for 34 weeks, including holidays"—be granted. Vol. XVIII, p. 41, 1932.

8. **Examination of Students in Theological Seminaries.** *Resolved*, 5. That the examination in our seminaries be conducted with written questions, to be prepared for each seminary under the direction of its board of superintendents; these questions for each session, to cover the subjects studied in it, and to be put into the hands of the students at its close for written answers, and that for an approved examination satisfactory answers to at least two-thirds of the questions proposed be required. In cases of failure, a second examination may be allowed at a convenient time. Vol. III, p. 528, 1873.

9. **The Election of Theological Professors.** [The Synod of New York and the Second Synod interpreted the action of the Assembly of 1871 [5: 1, above,] as requiring the election of professors in the Theological Seminaries to be reported to the General Assembly for confirmation, and reported their action in the election of professors in their seminaries. The action of these synods was confirmed by the General Assembly.] Vol. III, p. 381, 1872.

[The election of three professors in the Theological Seminary at Xenia was reported by the Second Synod, and the election to their respective chairs was confirmed.] Vol. IV, p. 319, 1876.

[The Managers of the Xenia Theological Seminary reported the election of a professor, and the Assembly confirmed the election.] Vol. V, p. 179, 1880.

[The Managers of the Xenia Theological Seminary reported the election of a professor.] This report was received and ordered to be printed in the minutes. [The following also was adopted]:

Resolved, It is not required of the Board of Managers of our seminaries to report the election of professors to the General Assembly. Vol. VII, pp. 403, 418, 1890.

Resolved, That no action be taken affecting the control of the seminaries at present, but that these two questions be and hereby are sent down in overture to the Presbyteries, and that the Presbyteries be and hereby are directed to report their judgment thereon by reporting the number of votes on each question, for and against:

1. Shall the General Assembly have the veto power in the election of professors in our theological seminaries?

2. Shall the General Assembly have the power to remove a professor for unsoundness in the faith?

Respecting the overtures in regard to the Assembly control of theological seminaries: There have been placed in the hands of your committee the tabulated vote of the Presbyteries on the overtures, and the following memorials on this general subject, viz.: One from the Directors of Allegheny Seminary praying, for reasons given, that the Assembly shall not enact the overtures as part of the organic law of the Church; also memorials from the Synods of Pittsburgh and Ohio, objecting to overturing to the Presbyteries a matter in which, it is alleged, they have no rights; also one from Chartiers Presbytery, praying that the Assembly, if it shall enact the overtures as organic law, shall adopt certain definitions and instructions respecting its application; also one from Argyle Presbytery, asking the disposal of the overtures according to the Book of Government and Discipline; also one from Allegheny Presbytery praying that the overtures be not enacted as constitutional law and that committees of the General Assembly be appointed to negotiate with the Synods; also one from the Allegheny Presbytery asking the Assembly to require the directors of the seminaries to report annually on all matters coming within the oversight of the Assembly.

In regard to the overtures and in answer to these memorials, your committee respectfully submit the following: The whole number of Presbyteries voting on each overture is 60. The whole number of votes cast on the first overture is 1,062. Of these, 743 are affirmative and 319 are negative. The majority for this overture is 424. There is, therefore a clear majority of the votes of the whole Church in favor of the first overture.

The whole number of votes cast on the second overture is 1,065. Of these, 784 are affirmative and 281 are negative. The majority of this overture is 503. It appears therefore, that both these overtures have been carried by a clear majority of the votes of the whole Church. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That these overtures be, and hereby are, enacted as a part of the constitutional law of the Church.

2. That in order that these overtures may find proper place and expression in our Book of Government, the following question be and hereby is overtured to the Presbyteries with instructions to vote yea or nay on its adoption, viz.: "Shall Part I, Chapter V, Article 4, Section 3, be amended by inserting immediately after the words, 'course and term of study,' the following words: 'To confirm or veto the election of professors to any of our theological seminaries, and to remove for unsoundness in the faith, to be judicially determined in the way provided by our Book of Government and Discipline, any professor from said seminary.

3. That this action is not to be understood as interfering with rights vested in the Synod having control of the existing seminaries of the Church, further than may be indicated in the language of the overtures themselves.

4. In answer to the memorial of Allegheny Presbytery, this Assembly shall require the directors of the seminaries to report annually on all matters coming within the oversight of the Assembly.

5. We recommend that a committee of five be appointed by the Assembly to negotiate with the Synods having control of the theological seminaries, with a view to the adjustment of any apparent or alleged discrepancies between this action and their chartered rights. Vol. VIII, pp. 716-717, 1895.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures has examined the returns of the Presbyteries on the overture on seminary control.

The following Presbyteries have not made any report: Cedar Rapids, Egypt, Gujranwala, Gurdaspur, Sialkot, and Westmoreland. The Presbytery of Xenia reported the vote in a twofold form, but in neither form is the vote a direct one on the overture as submitted, and therefore cannot be counted. But the result is not affected thereby. The vote reported from the other fifty-eight Presbyteries is as follows: Yeas, 882; nays, 20; total, 902. There is, therefore, a clear majority of the votes of the whole Church in favor of the overture. Therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the overture submitted by the last General Assembly be and hereby is enacted as a part of the constitutional law of the Church, and Part I, Chapter V, Article 4, Section 3, of the Book of Government, is amended by inserting immediately after the words, "course and term of study," the following words: "To confirm or veto the election of professors to any of our theological seminaries, and to remove for unsoundness in the faith, to be judicially determined in the way provided by our Book of Government and Discipline, any professor from said seminaries."

2. That all future editions of the Book of Government shall be printed according to this amendment. Vol. IX, p. 21, 1896.

We, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, 1. That all permanent funds for the foreign seminaries be held by the Board of Foreign Missions, and that the same be safely invested in this country.

2. That hereafter the title to property in Egypt, bought for the use of the seminary or other institution of the mission, be taken in the name of the Board of Foreign Missions, and that in India such title be in the name of a properly registered body, and not in the name of individuals as trustees.

3. That the subject of the control of these seminaries be referred to the Board of Foreign Missions, with instructions to report suitable regulations, by which the power of control given to the General Assembly may be properly exercised.

4. That until such regulations are adopted, the Board of Foreign Missions shall be regarded as in charge of these seminaries, so far as to report to the General Assembly the names of the professors, the changes in the faculties, the number of students, and the course of study, with the changes that may be made in it. Vol. IX, p. 378, 1897.

V. The committee, appointed to negotiate with Synods having control of the seminaries, with the view of adjusting any apparent or alleged discrepancies between the action of the General Assembly on the overtures and their chartered rights, report that the Synods in control of the seminaries of Allegheny and Xenia have transferred to the Assembly the measure of control over the seminaries, contemplated in the overtures, by adopting the following amendments to their constitutions:

"The election shall be subject to confirmation or veto by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. The Board of Directors shall report to the next following General Assembly the name of the professor elected and the professorship to which he is chosen. In case the election is confirmed, the professor shall be inaugurated. In case of a veto, the Board of Directors shall take steps to fill the vacancy, as above provided. If the General Assembly to which an election shall be reported does not veto the same, it shall be held as confirmed."

"The permanent transfer of a professor from one chair to another shall be considered an election, and shall be reported to the General Assembly for confirmation or veto."

"The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America shall likewise have power to remove any professor for unsoundness in the faith, to be judicially determined in the way provided in the Book of Government and Discipline of the United Presbyterian Church, and in case of such removal, the Board of Directors shall take steps to fill the vacancy so created."

The General Assembly having enacted the overtures submitted to the Presbyteries, these amendments now become part of the permanent constitutions of these seminaries.

Your committee recommends the following action:

Resolved, 1. That the Assembly approves of, and expresses its gratification at the promptness and unanimity with which the Synods have amended the constitutions of their seminaries, so as to conform to the new relations in which they stand to the Assembly.

2. That it shall be the standing rule of the Assembly that the election of a professor shall be reported to the next Assembly following the election, and not later than the third session of the Assembly and action to be taken not later than the fifth day of the meeting, notice having been given at least one day previous.

3. It shall also be a standing rule of Assembly that if the Assembly, to which the election of a professor is reported, does not veto said election, it shall be held as confirmed.

4. The permanent transfer of a professor from one chair to another shall be considered an election, and shall be reported to the General Assembly for confirmation or veto.

vi. In relation to the theological seminaries located at Cairo, and Sialkot, there are peculiar complications as to the management of these schools and tenure of property, making it impossible to formulate present action. Therefore we recommend the continuance of the Committee on Seminary Control to report to the next General Assembly.

vii. Concerning the theological department of Knoxville College, we recommend that the relation of that department to the General Assembly be referred to the Committee on Seminary Control to report to next Assembly.

viii. The Board of Managers of the Xenia Theological Seminary report the election of Rev. J. D. Irons, D.D., to the chair of Hebrew and Old Testament Literature.

Resolved, That this Assembly confirms the election. Vol. IX, pp. 44-45, 1896.

3. We express our pleasure that a training school for Christian workers has been opened in connection with our seminaries, and also at the encouraging report of the work done in this department. We most heartily commend this department to all who can avail themselves of this opportunity for better equipment for Christ's service. Vol. IX, p. 274, 1897.

3. That it shall be the duty of the faculties of our Theological Seminaries to keep a faithful record of the attendance of students upon recitations, and at the close of each term, report the excused and unexcused absences from recitations of each student, to the Presbytery to which he belongs. Vol. X, p. 277, 1901.

4. That, in order to secure greater efficiency on the part of those who desire to fit themselves for becoming religious teachers of their people, the Board be authorized to organize a department of theology in connection with Knoxville College, as soon as the same may be practicable. Vol. VIII, p. 253, 1893.

Resolved, That the Directors in control of the seminaries be allowed to exercise their discretion as to the time of opening and closing of the sessions, *provided* that the term of study be not shortened, and that the Directors report to the Assembly their action in this matter.

10. **Bible Training School.** *Resolved*, 9. That this General Assembly expresses its approval of the project of the establishment of a Bible Training School in connection with and under the direction of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Vol. XV, p. 26, 1920.

11. **Entrance Procedure.** *Resolved*, 4. That persons admitted as students in full standing to our theological seminaries shall be graduates of a standard Liberal Arts College, and shall present the following as evidence of their Christian character and their promise of acceptability and usefulness in the ministry:

a. A letter from the pastor and session of the congregation of which the student is a member, certifying his membership in that church, and his character, scholarship and general fitness for the ministry.

b. A recommendation from the Presbytery whose supervision he seeks.

c. A transcript of his scholastic record in the educational institutions attended by him, together with a certification from the President or Dean of the institution last attended as to his special attainments, integrity and general fitness for the ministry.

d. Satisfactory letters of commendation from at least two of the five persons whose names are submitted in the application.

e. That financial assistance be granted theological students on the basis of service to be rendered, rather than on account of the financial need of the student. Vol. XVII, p. 338, 1929.

12. **Moderator to Confirm Election of Directors.** The Assembly delegated to its Moderator the power to confirm and declare elected the nominees of the various Synods as members of the Board of Directors of Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary. Vol. XIX, pp. 34, 54, 1936.

CXVI. TOBACCO

The Use of Tobacco. *Resolved*, That the use of tobacco is demoralizing in its tendency, and should, therefore, be discountenanced by all who profess the Christian religion. Vol. III, p. 159, 1870.

The memorial of certain ladies of Monmouth, in reference to the use of tobacco, presents a matter of great importance, and one worthy of the serious consideration of this Assembly; therefore,

Resolved, That this Assembly heartily endorse the sentiments set forth in the memorial; that we hail this memorial as the harbinger of a better day, we trust not far distant, when the energies of the Church shall be turned against the use of tobacco, as they are now against the use of intoxicating liquors; and that said memorial be published in the papers of the Church. Vol. IV, p. 42, 1874.

[In view of the above action the General Assembly of 1879, Vol. V, p. 41, declared further action unnecessary.]

[Eighteen Presbyteries asked that licensure be refused to students of theology who are addicted to the use of tobacco in any form, one asked for the same rule in the ordination of ruling elders, and one asked for measures to secure abstinence from the use of tobacco and the cessation of its sale by merchants. The Assembly refused the prayers of the memorialists on the ground that it had not the legal power to enact the exclusive rule asked for, and adopted the following]:

Believing the use of tobacco to be an evil, harmful to the body, a waste

of God-given substance, and that in many cases it seriously impairs usefulness; therefore, we would

1. Earnestly and affectionately exhort all ministers, elders, licentiates and students of theology, who are addicted to this habit, to discontinue it and thus "abstain from all appearance of [this] evil."

2. We would urge all officers in the Church, and heads of families and all who have the care of the youth of the Church, to use every possible influence to restrain the young from forming a taste for tobacco.

3. We would finally ask all under our care who are engaged in raising, manufacturing or selling tobacco, in any form, whether they can glorify God by so doing, and if they cannot, then we say, "Brethren, cease to do evil and learn to do well." Vol. VII, p. 17, 1888.

In view of the large vote on the overtures against tobacco, [see below] and the growing conviction that the use of tobacco in any form is injurious to mind and body, and damaging to the moral sensibilities; that it is an evil example to the young, a sinful waste of money, and specially unseemly in ministers of the gospel; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That Presbyteries be instructed to look carefully to this matter in the training of candidates for the ministry, and to take the use of tobacco into serious consideration in determining their fitness for that holy office.

2. That our Ruling Elders be admonished to consider the influence of their example in this matter upon those over whom the Holy Ghost has made them overseers, and that those who in the future are called to that office be earnestly exhorted to abstain from this evil.

3. That pastors and sessions be instructed to urge upon all our people the propriety and duty of abstaining from the use of tobacco in any form. Vol. VII, p. 432, 1890.

[The Presbytery of Central Illinois asked for an overture looking to the prohibition of the use of tobacco by the members of the Church. The memorial was not granted. Vol. VII, p. 414, 1890.]

We have witnessed with sorrow and disgust the success of the tobacco dealers in securing the co-operation of the Government in issuing tobacco both in cigarette and other forms to the soldiers in this country and abroad.

Resolved, 1. That we commend the National W.C.T.U. for their refusal to co-operate in this business in the name of patriotism.

2. That we urge our people to stand for the right in the firm conviction that the use of tobacco in any form is no less injurious now than it was in times past. Vol. XIV, p. 693, 1919.

2. **Overture on Licensing and Ordaining Students Who Use Tobacco.** [The Presbytery of Conemaugh memorialized the Assembly to submit an overture concerning the licensure and ordination of students, and the ordination of elders-elect, who use tobacco. In view, also, of the number of memorials presented to the preceding Assembly on the subject, the General Assembly submitted in overture the following amendment to the Book of Government]:

Add to Part II, Chapter V, Section 2, the following: "No student who is addicted to the use of tobacco in any form shall be admitted to license." Vol. VII, p. 217, 1889.

[The vote on this overture was:] Ayes, 435; noes, 518. Therefore, *Resolved*, That the overture is not adopted. Vol. VII, p. 414, 1890.

3. **Overture on the Ordination of Elders-elect Who Use Tobacco.** [In response to the memorial as above stated and in connection with the overture relating to students of theology, the General Assembly submitted the following overture as to the ordination of persons to the eldership who use tobacco:]

Add to Part II, Chap. VII, Article I, Section 4, the following: "No one

shall be eligible to the office of ruling elder who is addicted to the use of tobacco in any form." Vol. VII, p. 218, 1889.

[The vote on this overture was:] Ayes, 322; noes, 631. Therefore, *Resolved*, That this overture is not adopted. Vol. VII, p. 414, 1890.

[A resolution on the use of tobacco by ministers, elders and students was referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures. For the report on it, see Vol. VII, p. 432, 1890; Section 1, above.]

CXVII. TREASURERS

1. **The Treasurer of the Assembly to Attend All Meetings of the Assembly.** *Resolved*, That the Treasurer of the Assembly be requested to attend, if possible, all the meetings of the General Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 432, 1886.

2. **Treasurer of the Assembly, pro tem.** The Principal Clerk was directed to act as Treasurer pro tem., when the Treasurer of the General Assembly was absent. Vol. IV, p. 434, 1877.

2. **The Election and Duties of the Treasurers of the Boards.** 3. The several Boards shall elect annually all other necessary officers, [i.e., all officers except the corresponding secretary,] and shall require such security of their treasurers as may in each case be judged necessary.

7. The treasurers of the different Boards shall keep accounts, in proper form, of all moneys, whether for the general work, or special funds, and shall, through the Board, report annually to the General Assembly the exact condition of the several funds, giving a detailed and classified statement of all receipts and disbursements, which shall be published in the minutes of the General Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 22, 1874.

3. **The Treasurers to Keep Their Accounts with Presbyteries, and Not with Congregations.** *Resolved*, 6. That our treasurers be recommended to keep their accounts of moneys received, except in special cases, with Presbyteries, through the financial agents, returning their receipts to the financial agents from the bounds of whose Presbyteries the funds are contributed.

7. That financial agents be directed to cease, except in special cases, asking the treasurers to credit particular churches and individuals, and to ask only that funds be accredited to their several Presbyteries. Vol. I, p. 494, 1863.

Resolved, That congregations or individuals, forwarding subscriptions to the various Boards, should do so through the financial agents of their respective Presbyteries, and that the treasurers of such Boards acknowledge the same as received from such Presbyteries. Vol. II, p. 162, 1865.

[It was ordered, Vol. II, p. 322, 1866, that the treasurers publish their receipts monthly in the papers of the Church. This was made the special duty of financial agents,] and that it be not part of the duty of the general treasurers to publish receipts of funds. Vol. III, p. 416, 1872.

3. **Reports of the Treasurers to the General Assembly.** The General Assembly gave order that the committee on Finance prepare a summary of the reports of the treasurers for publication in the minutes. Vol. II, p. 21, 1864.

Resolved, 2. That they [the treasurers] report to the Assembly only the summaries of receipts, so as to show the amount received from each Presbytery and from legacies and special donations, and also of expenditures under general heads; as salaries, buildings, traveling expenses, etc., so as to show clearly the use made of the money intrusted to their care. Vol. II, p. 322, 1866.

[Similar action was taken. Vol. III, p. 416, 1872.]

[The treasurers were instructed to present to the Assembly classified reports. Vol. III, p. 416, 1872. Order was given that they present printed classified reports. Vol. III, p. 533, 1873.]

[The treasurers were instructed to furnish the clerks of the Assembly with a classified report of the receipts and payments, for publication in the minutes,

within two weeks of the adjournment of the Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 21, 1874.] [This summary has been forwarded to the General Assembly in place of the detailed report, and printed in the appendix to the minutes.]

Resolved, 7. That the Boards of our Church, their treasurers and all who have the handling of the moneys of the Church, be and they hereby are directed hereafter to conform to the established rules of the Assembly, which requires them to make annual reports, with itemized statements therein, of all their receipts and disbursements of money during the year, and that said reports shall be audited by at least two of the members of each Board before they are presentable to the General Assembly, and we recommend that said itemized reports be published for the information and encouragement of the Church. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

6. **The Reports of the Treasurers to Be Audited.** *Resolved*, 2. That the accounts of each Board shall be audited by not less than two members of the Board, and that vouchers shall, in all cases, accompany the reports. Vol. III, p. 23, 1869.

Resolved, 4. That, hereafter, all the Boards of the Church be requested to conform to the direction of the Assembly, in reference to the auditing of their treasurer's reports. Vol. IV, p. 21, 1874.

It shall be the duty of each Board to audit its treasurer's accounts at the close of each year. Vol. IV, p. 22, 1874.

7. That said [annual] reports shall be audited by at least two members of the Board before they are presentable to the General Assembly. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

7. **Treasurers to Keep Bequests and Permanents Funds Invested.** *Resolved* 5. That all Treasurers and other custodians of Church funds be and they hereby are directed to keep all moneys and financial securities invested in United States bonds or other undoubted and equally safe securities, such as can at all times on short notice be converted into cash.

6. That while the will and directions of all donors should be strictly respected and explicitly obeyed in regard to the disposition of all legacies, bequests and donations of all kinds, we recommend and direct that all moneys belonging to the Church, which are not accompanied by limitations or restrictions, shall be kept for the use of the Church, invested in such available securities as can on short notice be converted into cash. Vol. V, p. 199, 1880.

8. **Central Treasury for the Transmission of Funds.** The Missionary and Efficiency Committee was authorized to receive remittances from Financial Agents and to transmit to the respective Boards. Vol. XIII, p. 393, 1913.

The Board of Administration was authorized to elect a treasurer, if, in the interest of efficiency and economy, the Board think best. Vol. XVII, p. 948, 1931.

CXVIII. TRUSTEES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Duties of the Trustees of the General Assembly. *Resolved*, 1. That a committee consisting of one from each Synod be appointed to nominate * * * persons to be elected a Board of Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America. It shall be the duty of said Trustees to act as corporators, who shall take the proper steps to procure from the State of Pennsylvania articles of incorporation for said General Assembly, under which said Trustees shall hold in trust, for the use and benefit of the several funds of the Church, all lands, tenements, permanent funds and other property, under the supervision and direction of the General Assembly.

2. That said Trustees be requested, as soon as possible, to prepare, under good legal counsel, in conformity to the laws of the States, blank forms for bequests to the various funds of the Church, and that they shall

secure their permanent publication in all the periodicals of the Church, in connection with a full statement of all the benevolent objects to which the Church is expected to contribute. Vol. I, p. 37, 1859.

[For the act of incorporation, see General Assembly.]

2. The Trustees to Secure the Claims of the Board of Church Extension.

From the statement of the Board of Church Extension, it appears that in some cases the title to the property of congregations and missions, aided by the Board, is vested in the Trustees of the General Assembly; and the Board is, therefore, without direct security for its claims; therefore,

Resolved, That the following regulations be made:

1st. That the trustees of the General Assembly carefully protect all the interests of the Board of Church Extension, in the properties to which they hold the title.

2d. That the Trustees of the General Assembly shall transfer all the proceeds of the sales of Church property to the Board of Church Extension, that they may be applied to the same general work for which the money was at first contributed. Vol. V, p. 742, 1883.

3. The Trustees to Take Action to Retain Church Property. *Resolved*, 7.

That this Assembly direct the Board of Church Extension, or the Trustees of the General Assembly when the Board of Church Extension is prevented by law from taking the necessary action, to act promptly in the name of the Church in all cases where, in their judgment, counsel and financial help are necessary to secure the use of and retain the property of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. VII, p. 413, 1890.

4. Trustees Not Members of the Boards. The General Assembly hereby directs that hereafter the Board of Trustees of the General Assembly be so constituted as to be entirely independent of the other Boards of the Church, and that said Trustees shall have the right to call for a financial report from, and to audit the accounts of these Boards at any time. Vol. XIII, p. 390, 1913.

CXIX. THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA

1. Formed by the Union of the Associate and the Associated Reformed Churches. [At different times, the Associate Synod and the Associate Reformed General Synod entered into correspondence with reference to a union, but without definite results. At length a basis of union was prepared by a convention of members of the Reformed Churches, held in Pittsburgh, Pa., April 11, 1855, and was submitted to their respective Synods. This basis was: "1. The Confession of Faith, Catechisms, larger and shorter, together with the Presbyterian Form of Church Government, commonly called the Westminster Standards, excepting Chapter 20, Section 4; Chapter 20, Section 8, and Chapter 31, Section 2; the amended form of these to be printed in columns parallel with the original." (These amendments were the same finally adopted.)

2. "As there are other bodies professing adherence to these standards, from which we remain in a state of separation, for the purpose of exhibiting our reasons for maintaining a distinct organization, as well as witnessing for what we consider the truth of God, we agree to receive a Testimony, which shall be equally a term of communion as the Confession of Faith, etc., set forth in the same form as the Confession." [The following was proposed as the draft of said Testimony]:

On Psalmody. It is the will of God that the songs contained in the Book of Psalms be sung in his worship, both public and private, to the end of the world, and in singing God's praise, these songs shall be employed to the exclusion of the devotional compositions of uninspired men.

On Communion. The Church should not extend communion in sealing

ordinances to those who refuse adherence to her profession or subjection to her government and discipline, or who refuse to forsake a communion inconsistent with the profession which she makes.

On Slaveholding. Slaveholding, that is, the holding of unoffending human beings in involuntary bondage, considering and treating them as property, and subject to be bought and sold, is a violation of God's law, contrary to both the letter and spirit of Christianity, and therefore not to be tolerated in his Church.

On Secret Societies. All associations, whether formed for political or benevolent purposes which impose on their members an oath of secrecy, or an obligation to obey a code of unknown laws, are inconsistent with the genius and spirit of Christianity, and the members of the Church should have no fellowship with such associations.

On Covenanting. Public social covenanting with God is a moral duty. The observance of it is not required at stated times, but on extraordinary occasions, as the providence of God and the circumstances of the Church may indicate. It is seasonable in times of great danger to the Church, in times of backsliding, or in times of reformation when the Church is returning to God from a state of backsliding. When the Church has entered into such covenant transactions they continue to bind posterity to faithfully adhere to and prosecute the grand object for which such engagements have been entered into.

3. As we are not aware of any differences between the bodies proposing union on church government or discipline each shall continue to practice according to that which it has been accustomed, until the Church can prepare a book of discipline and church government from those already in use.

4. That the United Church shall from time to time as in their wisdom they may judge necessary, issue documents calculated to illustrate and defend any article of their public profession, or testimonies and warnings against departures from the faith or declensions in practice which may arise. It being understood that such documents are no further terms of communion than as they set forth the principles embraced in this our public confession. And in the meantime, that the United Church shall carry with her all such documents as have been issued by our separate organizations, until something better adapted to existing circumstances can be prepared. *Evangelical Repository*, 1885, p. 641.

[This basis was adopted by the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church, amended as follows]:

On Communion. Communion in sealing ordinances may not, in ordinary circumstances, be extended to any who openly avow principles which are inconsistent with a faithful testimony for any revealed truth respecting doctrine, worship or Church government; and in no case should a person be admitted occasionally to sealing ordinances but through the Session, and on the same terms on which applicants are received into stated communion.

On Secret Societies. All associations, whether formed for political or benevolent purposes, which bind their members by oath to obey and keep secret laws and principles, the nature and tendency of which are not known to them when they take such oath, are inconsistent with the genius and spirit of Christianity, and are to be avoided as ensnaring and dangerous. *Minutes* 1855, pp. 29, 30, 33, 34. For the basis as thus amended, see *Minutes of the Associate Synod*, 1855, pp. 109-111.

Resolved, 1. That the Church of Jesus Christ is bound, as a faithful witness for the truth, to exhibit plainly and explicitly all the principal of her public profession in a creed or confession, and that there are times when these principles are assailed and misrepresented, when it becomes the duty of the Church to declare, explain and defend them by the emission of a testimony, which latter is to be made a term of communion only so far as it

contains the principles of the Church's confession, and is necessary or useful in ascertaining and determining what the true principles of the confession are.

2. That in addition to the above principles we express our hearty approbation of the distinctive testimony-bearing of our forefathers of the Secession in Scotland, and, also, particularly in this country, our firm adherence to the same duty, and belief that there are, now at least, as great causes for the duty as formerly.

"3. That, in the judgment of this Synod, the proposal of the Pittsburgh convention, to carry with them the Testimony of the Associate Church, the occasional testimonies of the Associate Reformed Church, with other documents issued by these Churches, out of all which there should be hereafter prepared fixed standards, leaves the principles of the Church uncertain, and in a state of imminent peril.

"4. That we judge it premature to overture the said basis; but we are willing to continue our correspondence with these brethren for the purpose of preparing permanent standards for the Church, of which the articles agreed upon at Pittsburgh shall constitute a part.

"5. That in accordance with the mutual agreement and understanding of the Associate and Associate Reformed Synods, respecting the matter of a testimony for the United Church, besides the subjects embraced in the five articles recently adopted at Pittsburgh, we present the following additional subjects, on which articles should be prepared for insertion in the Testimony, viz.: The Plenary Inspiration of the Scriptures; the Sonship and Deity of Christ; the Covenant of Works; the Fall of Man; the Obligation of the Covenant of Works Upon Men in Their Natural Estate; the Suretyship and Satisfaction of Christ; the Nature of Faith and Repentance; the Gospel Offer; Imputed Righteousness for Justification; Believer's Deliverance From the Law; the Work of the Holy Spirit, and the Headship of Christ." 1855, p. 109.

The following resolutions were also adopted:

Resolved, 1. That the Synod approves of the five articles on Psalmody, Communion, Slave-holding, Covenanting, and Secret Societies, adopted by the convention in Pittsburgh, as amended in the article on Secret Societies, by substituting, "members of this Church shall have no fellowship," etc., instead of "members of the Church should," etc., as suitable to be incorporated in the Testimony of the United Church.

"2. That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a testimony embracing the articles of the convention, and such others as they may deem necessary, and that said committee be empowered to correspond with the delegates of the Associate Reformed Church, and General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, and that the committee report on the first day of the next meeting of Synod." 1855, p. 111.

The basis prepared by this committee was amended, and the following action was taken: Ayes, 110; nays, 19.

Resolved, 1. That we approve of the Testimony as amended, as a basis of union with the Associate Reformed and the other sister Church with which we have been negotiating for union.

"2. That it be transmitted to the Associate Reformed Synod, and if approved by them, sent down in overture to the Presbyteries and Sessions, to report thereon at the next meeting of the Synod. 1856, p. 98.

The General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church took the following action, one vote being recorded in the negative.

"*Whereas*, The Union of the different portions of the Church of Christ in one body, as far as practicable, is a most desirable object; and,

"*Whereas*, The Associate Presbyterian Church has presented to this Synod a basis of union, on which it is proposed to unite these two Churches in one body; and,

Whereas, This document, though it may contain some things in relation to which there is some diversity of opinion among brethren who are united in their adherence to the great truths of the Gospel, and which, therefore, might properly be made matters of forbearance; yet as the declarations, which are the terms of communion, contain nothing which is inconsistent with our ecclesiastical standards; therefore,

Resolved, That this basis be cordially recommended to the prayerful consideration of the Presbyteries under our care, that they may report their judgment thereon, either adopting it as it is, or proposing such amendments as may seem to them necessary, to render it more perfect." 1856, p. 13.

For the vote of the Presbyteries on this overture, see Associate Synod, 1857, p. 75; Associate Reformed General Synod, 1857, pp. 23-25.

The Associate Synod took the following action: Ayes, 104; nays, 13; not voting, 10.

Whereas, A large majority of the Presbyteries are in favor of adopting, even though no amendments be made; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the basis which has been in overture be, and hereby is, adopted as the basis of union with the Associate Reformed Church; the declarations without amendment, and the argument and illustration in their amended form as a useful guide to the meaning of the declarations.

2. That it be transmitted to the Associate Reformed Synod for their concurrence. Min. 1857, p. 76.

[The words, "as a useful guide to the meaning of the declarations are not found in the official record of the Synod, but were added to the communication to the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church by the committee, they being well assured that they were so adopted by the Synod.] Min. Gen. Synod, Associate Reformed Church, pp. 12-13; Min. Associate Synod, p. 76, note.

This action, as submitted to the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church, contained the following additional words: "As a guide to the meaning of the declarations"; the committee being well assured that they had been adopted, although not found in the official record. 1857, p. 76, note.

The General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church adopted the following: Ayes, 66; nays, 36; not voting, 7.

Whereas, The consummation of a union of the Associate and Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches is a high duty and of great importance to the maintenance of the peculiar principles held in common by these Churches; and,

Whereas, The Testimony proposed to us by the Associate Church as a basis of union contains no principle which is not already embodied in the standards of the Associate Reformed Church, or has in some form received her sanction; and,

Whereas, It is not doubted that the wisdom of the United Church will effect any modification of the Form of Church Government, or the Directory for Worship of the Westminster standards, necessary to harmonize them with the common faith and practice of the two Churches, or any desirable modification of the formula of questions to applicants; and,

Whereas, A majority of the Presbyteries of the Associate Reformed Church have declared themselves in favor of receiving the basis as it is, rather than to fail of obtaining this union; and,

Whereas, It is believed that the great mass of the people in both of these Churches anxiously desire it; and that their spiritual interests urgently require its speedy consummation; and,

Whereas, Finally, it is to be feared that if the present overture should be rejected, the accomplishment of this object will be long postponed, and the heart-burnings and contentions between these Churches, in former years, be to

some extent revived, and similar evils be produced among ourselves; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That the Associate Reformed Church does hereby declare her acceptance of the Testimony proposed as a basis of union by the Associate Synod, and overtured by the General Synod of 1856 to the Presbyteries, in the confidence that any modifications or amendments necessary to harmonize said basis with the faith and practice held in common by the two Churches, or render it more entirely acceptable, will be in due time effected by the United Church; and in the confidence that reasonable forbearance will be exercised towards any member of either body that may feel constrained to dissent from any article in the basis.

"2. That a committee of one minister from each subordinate Synod be appointed to communicate this action to the Associate Synod, and in conjunction with a similar committee of that Synod, if it shall see proper to appoint one, to agree upon and recommend the necessary measures for the immediate consummation of this union." 1857, p. 11.

The General Synod also adopted the amendments to the argument and illustration in the basis submitted by the Associate Synod.

Certain members entered their protest against the action adopting the basis of union. For the protest and answer, see Min. Gen. Synod, 1857, pp. 17, 27. Certain other members entered their dissent. *Ibid.*, p. 18.

This action of General Synod being received, the Associate Synod adopted the following:

Whereas, The General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church has accepted the basis which has been in overture, as a basis of union; and

Whereas, They have repeatedly reaffirmed that the doctrines contained in this Testimony are those to which they adhere; and,

Whereas, We believe the time has arrived, in the good providence of God, when the unhappy division which has long separated these sister Churches should be healed; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we cordially reciprocate the confidence expressed by these brethren respecting mutual forbearance, it being distinctly understood that under the plea of reasonable forbearance no one be permitted to teach or to act in opposition to the doctrine of the United Church.

"2. That a committee of five be appointed by this Synod, to act conjointly with any committee of the Associate Reformed Synod, and empowered to make all necessary arrangements as to time, place and manner for the final consummation of this union.

"3. That we have great reasons to express our gratitude to God who has led these Churches to such a happy result in their efforts for union." 1857, p. 85.

The General Synod, being ready to adjourn before the Associate Synod has taken its final action on the basis of union, gave order for the next meeting, and adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That should the terms on which this Synod accepts the Basis of Union be satisfactory to the Associate Synod, this Synod hereby appoints a committee to call an aggregate Synod of the Associate Reformed Church, in the city of Allegheny, immediately before or after the meeting of the next General Synod as may be necessary; that they be clothed with power to take such steps as may be necessary to the consummation of this union, and that they are hereby instructed to communicate our action to the Associate Synod as soon as practicable. 1857, p. 26.

At the following meeting of the Associate Synod the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, The union of the Reformed Churches has been for many years the subject of very serious and prayerful consideration, both with individuals and Church courts, which we trust has been blessed of God to the end of

affecting such a degree of Christian unity as warrants their union in one body; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That without reference to any past deliverances of either of these bodies, any farther than said deliverances indicate our oneness, we hereby agree to unite on the Westminster Confession of Faith received in the Testimony of the United Church, Catechisms, Larger and Shorter, Form of Presbyterial Church Government and Directory for the worship of God, with such modifications as may be found necessary from the word of God, together with the testimony technically known as the Basis of Union as the doctrinal standard and terms of communion of the United Church.

"2. That in respect to any brethren now in either of these Churches who may not be able fully to subscribe these standards, forbearance in love is required by the law of God, while they do not openly oppose, but practically conform themselves to those standards, and follow the things that make for peace, and the things whereby one may edify another." 1858, p. 67.

Also, as explanatory of the action taken:

Resolved, That as there is, in the preamble to the resolutions for the consummation of the union, a reference to former deeds of the two Synods, which, in the view of some, might be understood as limiting our acceptance of the basis as a term of communion in the United Church, we hereby disclaim any such interpretation of it, and declare that our union with the General Associate Reformed Synod shall be predicated upon this understanding of said preamble." 1858, p. 72.

The joint committee on the consummation of the union submitted a report to the two bodies. The report was amended and adopted by each Synod, and is known as "The Adopting Act." In the Associate Synod the vote on the first part of the preamble was, ayes, 117; nays, 44; not voting, 7. Of those voting in the negative, nine afterwards formally withdrew their dissent. 1858, p. 66, 78, 85. The final vote in the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church was, ayes, 93; nays, 4. Those voting in the negative entered their protest.

The Adopting Act is as follows:

Whereas, It is understood that the Testimony submitted to the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church, by the Associate Synod, was proposed and accepted as a term of communion, on the adoption of which, the union of the two Churches was to be consummated; and,

Whereas, It is agreed between the two Churches that the forbearance in love which is required by the law of God will be exercised towards any brethren who may not be able fully to subscribe the standards of the United Church, while they do not determinedly oppose them, but follow the things which make for peace, and things whereby one may edify another;

Resolved, 1. That these Churches, when united, shall be called The United Presbyterian Church of North America.

"2. That the respective Presbyteries of these Churches shall remain as at present constituted, until otherwise ordered, as convenience shall suggest.

"3. That the Supreme Court of this Church shall be a General Assembly to meet annually, to be composed of delegates from the respective Presbyteries, the number of delegates to be according to the proportion of the members constituting each Presbytery, as now fixed by the rules of the Associate Reformed Church, until a change shall be found expedient.

"4. That there shall be subordinate Synods, and these shall be the same as those now existing in the Associate Reformed Church, to which Synods the different Presbyteries in the Associate Church shall attach themselves for the present, according to their location, *provided* that the separate Synods and Presbyteries of the said Associate Reformed and Associate Churches shall also continue as at present constituted, until otherwise directed.

"5. That the General and subordinate Synods shall be regulated according to the rules presently in force in the Associate Reformed Church, until the United Church shall see fit to alter such rules.

"6. That the different Boards and institutions of the respective Churches shall not be affected by this union, but shall have the control of their funds and retain all their corporate, or other rights and privileges, until the interests of the Church shall require a change.

"7. That these and other regulations found necessary, being agreed upon by the respective Synods at the present meeting in the city of Allegheny, the two Synods shall meet at such a place as shall mutually be agreed upon, and after addresses by Dr. Rodgers, Dr. Pressly, Rev. Mr. Smart and Rev. Mr. Prestley, be constituted with prayer by the senior moderator, after which a moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the United Church." Associate Synod, 1858, p. 77; Associate Reformed General Synod, 1858, p. 29.

The arrangements for the formal consummation of the union, prepared by a joint committee, were adopted by each Synod, and also the following in relation to the meeting of the first General Assembly:

"*Resolved*, 3. That the first United General Synod be held in Xenia, Ohio, on the third Wednesday of May, 1859, at 7:30 o'clock, P.M." Associate Synod, 1858, p. 75; Associate Reformed General Synod, 1858, p. 33.

In pursuance of the joint action of the Associate Reformed and Associate Synods on the subject of union, these Synods met on the 26th of May, 1858, in the City Hall, Pittsburgh, for the consummation of their union.

Having adjourned at their respective places of meeting, the two Synods met at the corner of Smithfield street and Seventh avenue, and marched in procession to City Hall in double file—one consisting of the members of the Associate Reformed Synod and the other of the members of the Associate Synod. In the Hall, the services were introduced with an earnest and impressive prayer by Rev. Joseph T. Cooper, D.D.

After some time spent in hearing addresses suited to the occasion by Drs. Rodgers and Pressly, and Revs. J. Smart and J. Prestley, and in prayer and praise, Rev. Donald C. McLaren, D.D., moderator of the Associate Reformed General Synod, on motion to that effect, extended, in the name of his brethren, to Rev. Joseph T. Cooper, D.D., moderator of the Associate Synod, the right hand of fellowship, accompanying the action with a brief and very appropriate address, to which the latter made an impressive response.

The first Synod of the United Presbyterian Church was then, according to the previous arrangement, constituted with prayer by Dr. McLaren—the senior of the two moderators.

Rev. John T. Pressly, D.D., was chosen moderator, and Rev. Samuel Wilson, clerk, pro tem.

On motion of Rev. J. P. Smart, the Synod adjourned to meet in Xenia, on the third Wednesday of May, 1859, at 7:30 o'clock, P.M.

Closed with the benediction by the moderator. Associate Synod, 1858, p. 100. Associate Reformed General Synod, 1858, p. 64.

2. **Identity of the United Presbyterian Church with Its Predecessors.** Certain persons who refused to enter the union of 1858, and commonly known as the "Protesters," entered suit against the executors of the will of Daniel Speers for the possession of his estate. By a decision of the Orphan's Court of Allegheny County, Pa., affirmed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, November 18, 1878, the United Presbyterian Church of North America was declared to be the legitimate successor of the Associate Church, so far as rights of property and trust relations are concerned, and the executors were ordered to pay the funds accruing from the Speers estate to "the Trustees of the Synod of the Associate Church of North America, for the purpose of the trust created by the will of Daniel Speers, deceased." Vol. VII, p. 509, 1890.

Robert Mackey, of Guernsey county, O., by will executed May 17, 1856, made certain bequests to the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church and to the United Presbyterian Church of Oregon, subject to the life use of his widow. After the death of the widow in 1884, the heirs-at-law brought suit to recover, upon the ground that at the time of the bringing of the suit the beneficiaries named in the will had no legal existence, and that the union of the Associate and the Associate Reformed Churches, under the name of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, saved vested rights only at the time of the consolidation. The Court held:

First. That by the union in 1858 of the Associate Reformed Church and the Associate Presbyterian Church, commonly known as the "Seceder Church," the Associate Reformed Church did not lose its identity; and the United Presbyterian Church of North America is the legitimate successor to the two ecclesiastical organizations which formed the union, and that the united bodies under the new name preserved their ecclesiastical connection, maintained their identity, and saved all property rights of the Associate Reformed and Associate Presbyterian Churches.

Second. That the union of 1858 was duly accomplished in strict conformity with the laws of the general organisms of both Churches.

Third. That the substantial identity of the United Presbyterian Church of North America with, and its legitimate succession to, the Associate Reformed Church have been conclusively established, both by the ecclesiastical and civil courts. Identity of ownership of Church property being established, identity in trust relations necessarily follows:

The Court, therefore, awarded one-half of the fund to the trustees appointed by the General Assembly of 1855, [see Vol. VI, pp. 230-238] one-fourth to the treasurer of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, and the remaining one-fourth to the Presbytery of Oregon, in conformity with the true intent and meaning of the will. Vol. VI, p. 744, 1877. Compend of Legal Decisions Relating to Title to Church Property. P. 10.

3. **A Committee Appointed to Prepare a History of the United Presbyterian Church.** [In view of the approaching centennial anniversary of the national independence, and in accordance with the action of other Churches, the General Assembly appointed a committee] to prepare a complete history of the United Presbyterian Church, showing: 1. Its origin, progress and present statistics. 2. Its principles. 3. Its home and foreign missionary work. 4. Its educational interests. Vol. IV, p. 26, 1874.

[This committee reported to the next Assembly that meetings had been held and arrangements made for the preparation of papers on the subjects assigned to them, and asked that the committee be enlarged and that provision be made for the publication of the papers. These requests were granted.] Vol. IV, p. 187, 1875. The enlarged committee was continued and reported to the Assembly that progress had been made. The committee was continued, and the Board of Publication was instructed to publish the papers in a suitable volume. Vol. IV, p. 362, 1876.

Resolved, That the committee appointed by the Eighteenth General Assembly to prepare a history of the United Presbyterian Church, be instructed to complete their work, if it be not already done; and that the Board of Publication be directed to publish it without delay. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879. [These instructions were repeated by the following Assembly. Vol. V, p. 196, 1880. No later report appears.]

4. **Histories of Congregations, Presbyteries and Synods.** [The Permanent Committee on Old Records reported that many histories of congregations, Presbyteries and Synods had been prepared, and gave a list of them. Vol. IV, p. 631, 1878.]

4. That Presbyteries be instructed to see that the histories of their

congregations are collected at once, and, for the present, placed in the keeping of the different Clerks of Presbyteries. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879.

3. **The Board of Publication to Secure and Publish Old Records.** *Resolved*, 1. That the Board of Publication be instructed to secure the records of the Associate Presbyterian, and of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Churches, and United Presbyterian Church.

2. That the Board be instructed to arrange for publication of so much of these records as may be deemed of general utility, and to publish them as soon as the funds can be procured for defraying the expenses.

3. That the Board be instructed to obtain all the material that they can for a complete history of the United Presbyterian Church. Vol. I, p. 223, 1861.

5. **A Permanent Committee Appointed to Collect and Deposit Old Records.** *Resolved*, 6. That in order to preserve the various records of the Church from being scattered and lost, a committee * * * be appointed to collect and deposit in some safe and convenient place: 1. The records of the Associate and Associate Reformed Presbyteries and Synods as far as practicable. 2. The records of Presbyteries which have been dissolved. 3. All documents pertaining to the history of our Church. Vol. III, p. 396, 1872.

Resolved, 2. That this committee be authorized to receive and receipt for all the records of Synods and Presbyteries formerly in connection with the Associate and Associate Reformed Churches which have been dissolved, and that all persons in possession of these records be requested to forward them at once to the chairman, or some member of the committee.

4. That this committee be directed to deposit such records and historical documents as come into its hands, in the safe of the United Presbyterian Book Rooms, in the city of Pittsburgh, and that the superintendent of these rooms be charged with their proper care and keeping.

5. That this committee be authorized to receive as a donation, or to purchase such historical documents as in the judgment of a majority of its members are necessary to preserve a knowledge of the planting, growth, labors and struggles of the Associate and Associated Reformed Churches in this country, with a view to furnishing material for future history, and for effecting said purchases be authorized to draw through the principal clerk upon the treasurer of the Assembly to an amount not exceeding \$75.00, as these purchases may be made. Vol. III, p. 517, 1873.

Resolved, 2. That the records now on hand, and those which may be hereafter procured, be placed in the fireproof building of the Presbyterian Historical Society, when it shall be completed, for safe keeping, and that a copy of all those which may be printed be placed in our own publishing house. Vol. IV, p. 301, 1876.

7. That the committee be directed to construct a vault for the preservation of histories and records, in our Theological Seminary building at Allegheny, or, if a suitable place can be found for it, in our Board of Publication building in Pittsburgh, at a cost not to exceed three hundred dollars. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879. [The use of the vault of the Board of Publication was procured. Vol. V, p. 247, 1880.]

[The permanent committee on the preservation of old records reported as follows: Vol. III, p. 516, 1873; Vol. IV, pp. 37, 1874; 227, 1875; 359, 1876; 491, 1877; 630, 1878; Vol. V, pp. 81, 1879; 246, 1880. The committee was discharged, inasmuch as the Assembly has established a historical society. Vol. V. 196, 1880.]

6. **Records of Associate and Associate Reformed Presbyteries and Synods.** [A list of these records and the persons holding them, is to be found, Vol. IV, p. 631, 1878; Vol. V, p. 81, 1879.]

3. That as the old records of the different Presbyteries and Synods, by

direction of the Assembly of 1876, are to be retained in present hands until the work of preparing histories is completed, Presbyteries be directed to place the records of their Associate and Associate Reformed predecessors in the possession of their respective Clerks, who shall be held responsible for their safe keeping. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879.

7. **United Presbyterian Historical Society.** *Resolved*, 5. That this Assembly recommend the formation of a United Presbyterian Historical Society, and hereby authorize the committee on old records to organize such a society, and report to the next Assembly. Vol. IV, p. 595, 1878.

[The committee reported that the organization had not been effected, and the Assembly renewed the action of the previous Assembly. Vol. V, p. 40, 1879. The committee prepared a constitution for a historical society, and reported it to the Assembly.]

Resolved, 4. That this Assembly proceed to organize a United Presbyterian Historical Society, by adopting the constitution referred to above, and by electing nine persons to constitute a Board of Managers, in accordance with its provisions, Vol. V, p. 196, 1880. [The constitution of this society is to be found, Vol. V, p. 247, 1880. For report of the Board of Managers, and by-laws, see Vol. V, p. 412, 1881.]

8. **Historical Record of Organizations.** [The Second Clerk reported a record of the organization of the Presbyteries and Synods of the Associate and Associate Reformed Churches, Vol. IV, p. 563, 1878, when the following action was taken:]

Resolved, 1. That the record of organizations be printed in the appendix to the minutes. Vol. IV, p. 594, 1878. [The publication of this record was deferred till the next year, in order to secure greater completeness. It is given, Vol. V, p. 85, 1879; amendments, p. 255, 1880; p. 607, 1882.]

[For a historical record of the organization of the General Assembly, of the Synods and of the Presbyteries of the United Presbyterian Church, see Vol. V, p. 593, 1882.]

Resolved, 1. That Rev. J. B. Dales, D.D., Rev. Jas Price and Elder John Means be appointed a committee to co-operate with the Presbyterian Historical Society in the effort to collect material for the history of our own branch of the Presbyterian Church.

2. That, in view of the fact that our own Historical Society is prepared to receive and take care of manuscript records, our judicatories be recommended to give the preference to our society, in seeking safe keeping of their records. Vol. VIII, p. 43, 1892.

9. **Business Use of "United Presbyterian."** With regard to the memorial of the Presbytery of Omaha, asking the Assembly to express its opinion as to the propriety of the use of the title, "United Presbyterian," by individuals and corporations in purely business transactions, your committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That in our opinion it is advisable that corporations and individuals should avoid applying the title, "United Presbyterian," to enterprises over which the Church has no control, and which are purely of a secular and business character. Vol. IX, p. 291, 1897.

10. **The United Presbyterian Church of Oregon Admitted.** The Associate and the Associate Reformed Presbyteries of Oregon entered into a Union on the 20th of October, 1852, under the name of "The United Presbyterian Church of Oregon." The Basis of Union was: The Work of God as the only rule of faith and practice, and the supreme and final authority for the regulation of doctrine, worship and government; the Westminster Confession of Faith, and Catechisms, Larger and Shorter, with the judicial acts of the antecedent Churches as valuable memorials of the zeal and fidelity of these witnesses for the truth, that which is common to them to be regarded as the

exhibition of the faith of the United Church; all matters of previous separation to be held as matters of private opinion and Christian forbearance; the Form of Government and Directory for Worship in use by both Churches, with such modifications as might be required by the circumstances of the United Church; that a Summary of Principles agreed upon, with the Form of Government and Directory for Worship, shall constitute the terms of admission to the fellowship of the United Church; that in the ordination of ministers and ruling elders, they shall be required to declare their approbation of the entire standards of the United Church. The Summary of Principles embraced the following subjects: God; The Decrees of God; Man's Original and Fallen State; Redemption; The Application of Redemption; the Perseverance of the Saints; The Resurrection of the Body; Practical Religion; The Duties of Church Members. For the Basis in full see The Evangelical Repository, December, 1852, pp. 368-370; The Christian Instructor, January, 1853, p. 131; The United Presbyterian, September 26, 1889, p. 614.

This Union was approved by the General Synod of the Associate Reformed Church, Minutes, 1853, pp. 28, 29, but was disapproved by the Associate Synod, Minutes, 1853, pp. 62, 68. This body continued as an independent Presbytery until May 5, 1859, when it adopted the Basis of Union of 1858, and was admitted to the jurisdiction of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, May 25, 1860, as the Presbytery of Oregon, with the reserved right of final jurisdiction in cases of discipline, and also the right of sending delegates to the General Assembly as it might find expedient. Vol. I, pp. 107, 188, 1860.

In the case of the contested will of Robert Mackey, the Court held that no rights were impaired by this union with the United Presbyterian Church, and that the Presbytery of Oregon is identical with "the United Presbyterian Church of Oregon," and gave order for the payment of the bequest accordingly. Vol. VI, p. 744, 1887.

11. **Historical Tablet.** The Assembly of 1918 authorized the Committee on Historical Records to procure and erect a bronze tablet at the place in the city of Pittsburgh where the United Presbyterian Church was formed May 26, 1858. Vol. XIV, p. 480, 1918.

A bronze tablet bearing the following inscription was unveiled July 29, 1920:

IN THE CITY HALL OF PITTSBURGH
FORMERLY OCCUPYING THIS SITE
THE UNION OF
THE ASSOCIATE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AND THE ASSOCIATE REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WAS CONSUMMATED ON MAY 26TH, 1858
FORMING THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF NORTH AMERICA

Vol. XV, p. 44, 1920.

CXX. UNION OF CHURCHES

1. **Union of Presbyterian Churches.** [On the memorial of the Reformed Presbyterian Synod, delegates were appointed to a convention for prayer and conference on the subject of union among the various branches of the Presbyterian family. Vol. II, p. 404, 1867. The proceedings of this convention were laid before the Assembly, when five delegates were appointed to meet with a like number appointed by the other Churches, with instructions to endeavor to obtain such terms of union as would not involve any relinquishment of the principles of our profession. Vol. II, p. 493, 1868. The joint committee,

composed of delegates from the United Presbyterian Church, the Presbyterian Church, N. S., and the Presbyterian Church, O. S., adopted the following basis, which was submitted to the Assemblies]:

1. The Old and New Testament Scriptures are acknowledged to be the inspired Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. The Westminster Confession of Faith, as the same has been modified by the Churches here represented, in its doctrines concerning the powers of the civil magistrate, together with the Larger and Shorter Catechisms, shall be received and adopted as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures.

3. The United Church shall receive and adopt the Presbyterian form of Church government.

4. *First*, It is the will of God that the Book of Psalms should be used by the Church in His worship to the end of the world. And the united body shall, at the earliest practicable day, prepare as faithful and acceptable a version of those Psalms as may be, for the use in the churches.

Secondly, Any of the churches desiring to use the Psalms exclusively in the service of song shall always have the right, unchallenged, to do so. Vol. III, p. 29, 1869.

[The following action was taken by the Assembly]: *Whereas*, In the negotiations between the United and the Old and New School Presbyterian Churches, a Christian spirit has been manifested, and also an evidently increasing regard for the distinctive principles of the United Presbyterian Church; and,

Whereas, This General Assembly is not prepared to adopt the basis of union presented by the joint committee, yet in the confidence that a mutual interchange of views in a truly Christian spirit would be productive of much good; therefore,

Resolved, That, without expressing approval of all the results, and while regarding as seriously defective at least one of the conclusions, namely, that pertaining to Psalmody, reached by the joint committee, a report of whose proceedings has been submitted to us, this Assembly agree to continue their committee to confer, according to instructions given by the last Assembly, with similar committees which may be appointed by other branches of the Presbyterian family. Vol. III, p. 29, 1869.

[The joint committee failed to meet.] On the 4th of August, the time appointed by the preceding convention, a meeting was held in Pittsburgh. On this occasion a majority of the committee of the United Presbyterian Church were present, but only one member of the Old School, and not one of the New School Presbyterian Church, were in attendance. In consequence of the failure of our brethren to attend at the time appointed nothing could be done. The convention consequently adjourned *sine die*. Vol. III, p. 132, 1870.

[Another committee was appointed, Vol. III, p. 145, 1870, who reported as follows]: The joint committee met in Pittsburgh, March 7, 1871, and continued its session until the 9th. A most delightful spirit pervaded the devotional exercises of the committee, and the very full and free discussions had with reference to the points of difference between the two bodies were characterized by the utmost friendliness and cordiality.

In one of the early conferences the United Presbyterian branch of the committee submitted the following as a basis of union:

The Westminster Standards as the general basis, with these additional propositions:

1. The Psalms of the Bible, in the best possible version, are to be the authorized Psalmody of the Church.

2. In all ordinary cases the sacraments are to be restricted in their administration to those over whom the Church has authority.

3. All associations, whether formed for political or benevolent purposes, which impose upon their members an oath of secrecy, or an obligation to obey a code of unknown laws, are inconsistent with the spirit and genius of Christianity, and Church members ought not to have fellowship with such associations.

After some consideration given to the subject matter of this basis, it was referred to the Presbyterian branch of the committee, who subsequently reported, recommending the following as general terms of union:

The Westminster Standards as the general basis, with these additional propositions.

1. That we regard the "Psalms and Hymns and Spiritual Songs" of the Bible as peculiarly entitled to our consideration and use in public and private worship, because of their divine inspiration, and we reaffirm our testimony in their favor as authorized by the Word of God.

2. That in all ordinary cases the sacraments are to be restricted in their administration to those over whom the Church has authority.

3. That the genius and spirit of Christianity furnish the best incentive, the highest motive, and the truest basis for all work of benevolence and reform, and that the Church, in her organized capacity, is the most efficient agent for the prosecution of this work, and should be preferred by all who love our Lord Jesus Christ.

It was finally and unanimously decided in joint committee, in view of the impossibility of fully reconciling divergent views, that the two bases be submitted to the respective Assemblies.

In thus submitting our report, your committee would say, that while unable to come to a perfect agreement on the propositions before us, we were greatly gratified and encouraged by the nearness to an agreement at which we arrived, and we do most earnestly commend the union of our Churches to the continued consideration of our Assemblies. With this view, we recommend the appointment of committees for further conference and negotiations on the subject, with such instructions accompanying the appointment as by the Assemblies may be deemed desirable. Vol. III, p. 313, 1871.

2. **Informal Overture on Union with Churches of the Presbyterian and Reformed Family.** The General Assembly of 1914 submitted an overture to the Presbyteries on several questions pertaining to union with Churches of the Presbyterian and Reformed Family. The vote reported to the Assembly of 1915 indicated that union was not desired and that it is desired that "The United Presbyterian Church continue its separate and independent existence on the basis of its accepted faith and usages." Vol. XIII, p. 1082, 1915.

3. **Closer Relations with the Presbyterian Church in the United States.** The General Assembly of 1926 appointed a committee on closer relations with the Southern Presbyterian Church. Vol. XVI, p. 854, 1926.

A proposed basis of union with the Southern Presbyterian Church was submitted to the Presbyteries for advice or amendments. Vol. XVII, p. 55, 1928.

The following report, as amended, was adopted:

We have considered with care the reports of our Presbyteries, and have noted with deep interest the action of the Southern Presbyterian Assembly in overturning the amended Basis of Union to the constituent Presbyteries for adoption.

We recommend:

1. That this Assembly express its appreciation of the cordial and fraternal spirit manifest in the recent overturning action of the Southern Assembly.

2. That the General Assembly record its conviction that union with the Southern Presbyterian Church is desirable, *provided* the union be a real union without the loss of any considerable minority in either denomination.

3. That the Assembly express its approval of the amended Basis of Union, insofar as it has been developed, as reported by the Joint Committee.

4. Since the Presbyterian reports do not indicate that the time is quite ripe for the submission in formal overture of the question of organic union, we recommend that Assembly's Committee on Closer Relations be authorized to prosecute its work more vigorously, in order that, the Lord willing, the way may be prepared for a true and happy union of our two denominations through the development of mutual acquaintance and brotherly love.

5. That the whole Church be requested to continue in earnest prayer that the will of God in this matter of Church Union may be most clearly known and His purpose therein be fully accomplished. Vol. XVII, p. 359, 1929.

4. **Presbyterian Unity.** (1) *Committee Appointed.* The General Assembly of 1929 adopted the following:

We recommend that the Committee on Closer Relationship with the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. shall continue their negotiations during the coming year with the purpose of cultivating a better understanding and a warmer friendship, and that the Committee be heartily commended for their splendid service.

The advantages of a union of all members of the Presbyterian family, if a satisfactory basis of union can be drawn, requires no argument. The memorials put into the hands of your Committee indicate that a move toward such a union would be supported with much enthusiasm. The one question is as to the best method of initiating such a movement. Many are of the opinion that such a proposal would be more cordially accepted if it came from a small Church like our own. Believing that the time has come when conditions require the defining of the attitude of our Church on the matter of union, and that the membership of our body is desirous of an announcement of policy, we recommend the following:

The union of all bodies of the Presbyterian family is ideal and most desirable, if it can be accomplished without losses which would more than counterbalance the gains. Since it is conceded that the United Presbyterian Church is in a peculiarly advantageous position to approach other Churches in this matter, the Assembly should appoint a Committee of seven members, to be known as the Committee on Presbyterian Unity, who shall invite other bodies of the Presbyterian family to appoint committees to meet with them, to consider the matter of a Presbyterian Church, including all such bodies, and if the time seem ready our Committee co-operate with other committees in preparing a basis of union; a report to be made to the General Assembly as soon as possible. Vol. XVII, p. 361, 1929.

(2) *Interest Reaffirmed. Resolved:* I. That the United Presbyterian Church, having taken the initiative in bringing the members of the Presbyterian family together for conference, to discover, if possible, a satisfactory basis of union, reaffirm the purpose expressed by the last Assembly to prosecute the negotiations with other Presbyterian and Reformed Churches in an earnest effort to discover whether such an agreement can be reached.

II. That the General Assembly support the recommendation of the Pittsburgh conference:

(a) That we approve organic union with other Presbyterian and Reformed Churches on the basis of the existing standards of the uniting Churches.

(b) That our representatives be instructed to co-operate with committees of other Presbyterian and Reformed Churches to prepare a complete plan to make this organic union effective, to be submitted for adoption to the properly constituted authorities of these Churches.

III. That the committee on Presbyterian Unity be given authority to request assistance from members of our Church, who may be regarded as

experts in such matters, when details of a plan of union are being considered. Vol. XVII, p. 648, 1930.

(3) *Participating Churches.* At their meeting last year four of the supreme judicatories of the Presbyterian and Reformed Churches in the United States took action on the project of organic union. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America, and the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America gave it their approval and instructed duly appointed Committees to proceed with the preparation of a plan for effecting the union, this plan to be submitted for consideration when perfected. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U. S., established a Committee, whose membership represented each of the Church's seventeen Synods, to sit with the delegates of the other Churches and share in drawing up a Basis of Union. The General Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S., meeting triennially, had no session last year, and besides, was engaged at the time in union interchange with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ and the Evangelical Synod of N. A. However, the Committee of that Church charged with responsibility in matters pertaining to church union felt free to co-operate informally with the Committees of the other Presbyterian and Reformed Churches. Vol. XVII, p. 929, 1931.

(4) *Three Withdrawals.* For various reasons that were deemed by them sufficient, three of these bodies withdrew from the negotiations that were in progress, restricting conference to the United Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, the latter being the Church with which we are most closely affiliated. Our General Assemblies in 1932 and 1933 were duly advised of the fact of this limitation, but notwithstanding they approved the completion of a Plan of Union between these two churches and the presentation of this Plan to the General Assembly of 1934 for action. Vol. XVIII, p. 771, 1934.

(5) *Final Action.* The second recommendation of the Report, viz., "That the Plan of Union be submitted to the presbyteries in overture," was lost by a vote of 113 for and 123 against.

The Plan of Union was ordered placed in the files of the Clerk of the General Assembly.

The Committee on Presbyterian Unity was dismissed with the sincere thanks of the Assembly. Vol. XVIII, p. 632, 1934.

5. **Church Relationships.** The Assembly authorized the appointment of a Permanent Committee of five members on Church Relationships. Vol. XIX, p. 974, 1939.

The Committee on Church Relationships was continued and was authorized to confer with the representatives of any other church or denomination on any matter or matters concerning church relationships that may be brought to it. Vol. XX, p. 44, 1940.

CXXI. WAR

We deplore and oppose the increase of armaments, and we urge our Government to pursue a policy both in national and international affairs that will promote such conditions as will secure the relief to the people from the woeful burdens of war and preparations for war.

This policy we urge in the name of the great Prince of Peace. Vol. XIII, p. 367, 1913.

We recognize that our Lord is the Prince of Peace; that the triumph of the Gospel means swords beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. We realize the awfulness of war in its cost of money and its greater cost of life. We favor such disarmament as may minimize the burdens in

supporting the army and navy in so far as this can be done without imperiling our national safety.

We recommend co-operation with all organizations and influences that will lead to such disarmament, seeking ever to hasten the day when the nations shall learn war no more. Vol. XV, p. 286, 1921.

We recommend that the memorial of the Presbytery of Kansas City, relating to World Peace, be granted. We urge all our people to aid in every legitimate way the advancement of cordial world relations and the cultivation of the spirit of peace and good will in every department of life. We would commend especially the effort to secure the establishment of a World Court for the settlement of all national differences and the bringing about of conditions when war will become more and more improbable. We will hope and pray and work for a warless world, and so for such reduction of armament in all nations as is compatible for national safety. Vol. XVI, p. 35, 1924.

CXXII. WEEK OF PRAYER

1. **Observance of the Week of Prayer Recommended.** *Resolved*, 6. Feeling that God has approved and signally blessed the exercises in connection with the world's prayer meetings, we would recommend that the second week of January, 1862, be spent in religious exercises. Vol. I, p. 216, 1861.

Resolved, 1. Believing that the world's prayer meetings, which have been held by various Christian denominations for several years past, have been productive of much good, we recommend that the second week of January, 1863, be observed as a week of prayer by the people under our care. Vol. I, p. 353, 1862.

Resolved, 11. That in view of the signal blessings that followed the special season of prayer during the past winter, and the need which there is at home and abroad for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, that all our Churches be urged to observe the week of prayer in the beginning of 1867. Vol. II, p. 302, 1866.

Resolved, 9. That we renew our recommendation to all our congregations to spend the first week of January in supplicating the outpouring of the Divine Spirit upon the Church and the world. Vol. II, p. 416, 1867.

[The General Assembly appointed a committee to prepare a program for the Week of Prayer. Vol. VI, p. 27, 1884.]

2. **One Day of the Week of Prayer Set Apart for Temperance.** The Assembly petitioned the International Committee of the Evangelical Alliance to set apart one day of the week of prayer for 1881 to be devoted to the cause of temperance. Vol. V, p. 195, 1880. [This petition was renewed, Vol. V, p. 364, 1881; p. 534, 1882; p. 742, 1883; Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.]

[The Assembly also gave order that if the request for one day of the week of prayer for temperance, were not granted, the Principal Clerk should designate one day for this purpose, and recommend its observance by our people. Vol. V, p. 535, 1882. This act was repeated, Vol. V, p. 740, 1883; Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.]

CXXIII. WHITE GIFT

NOTE: The White Gift Offering was reported in 1920 to have amounted to \$45,230.79. The White Gift was first mentioned in the Minutes in 1918.

7. That the White Gift Christmas Offerings shall this year be devoted to relief work as the need may appear, and shall be distributed by the Missionary and Efficiency Committee. Vol. XV, p. 30, 1920.

The special offerings made at the Christmas season and called the White Gift Fund have been kept by the Missionary and Efficiency Committee in a separate account. Though the amount was about \$6,000 less than last year,

a total of \$36,311.37 was contributed to various relief and missionary agencies, notably the Near East Relief, the American Bible Society, and the Reformed Churches of Czecho-Slovakia and Hungary, although designated gifts to other causes were dispatched according to wishes of the donors.

We would recommend the following:

1. That the American Bible Society be made a participant this year in the White Gift offerings for such a percentage of the undesignated gifts as will, with its designated gifts received through this Council, make a total of \$10,000.

2. That the remainder of the undesignated White Gift offerings be applied to relief work as the need may appear, all designated gifts being applied to the causes for which they are designated.

3. That the Near East Relief and the Reformed Churches of Czecho-Slovakia be earnestly recommended to the congregations and Sabbath Schools for their continued sympathetic and liberal support through the White Gift offerings. Vol. XV, p. 897, 1923.

The American Memorial Church in Hargicourt in France. It is a matter of special gratification that this large White Gift offering makes possible the completion of the Memorial Church in France in honor of the devotion of our own youth who laid down their lives for the cause of liberty and humanity. This church will be known as "The American Memorial Church in Hargicourt," and will have on its wall a memorial tablet bearing the following inscription:

BUILT BY THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES
OF NORTH AMERICA IN MEMORY OF THOSE HEROIC AMERICANS
WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN FRANCE FOR LIBERTY AND
HUMANITY AND THE PEACE OF THE WORLD

Vol. XV, p. 309, 1912.

7. That the Board of Administration be directed to charge five per cent of the amount handled for the administration and promotion of the Assembly and Delegate Fund, the Assembly Certificate Fund, and the White Gift Fund. Vol. XX, p. 27, 1940.

CXXIV. WOMEN'S GENERAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY

1. **The Organization of the General Missionary Society.** [Missionary societies were at first organized chiefly for the support of the foreign mission work, and received the commendation of the General Assembly. Vol. III, p. 407, 1872; Vol. IV, p. 36, 1874; p. 182, 1875. Mrs. Sarah F. Hanna, who devoted herself very largely to the work of organizing societies, submitted to the General Assembly a draft of a constitution for the organization of a General Women's Missionary Society. This was amended and endorsed by the Assembly, and a number of ladies were associated with her as a committee to effect the organization. Vol. IV, p. 188, 1875. This committee was continued by successive Assemblies, 1876, 1877. The word "foreign" was stricken from the constitution and the Society opened to all mission work. Vol. IV, p. 305, 1876. It was ordered that societies make their contributions through the Financial Agents, Vol. IV, p. 594, 1878, and also that the congregational and Presbyterian societies shall be subordinate to the sessions and Presbyteries having jurisdiction. Vol. V, p. 39, 1879. Annual General Missionary Conventions composed of delegates from the Presbyterian societies, began to be held in 1884. The General Assembly approved of the organization of a Board appointed by the General Society, Vol. VI, p. 436, 1886, and, with certain amendments, adopted the Constitution prepared by the Society, Vol. VI, p. 679, 1887.]

2. **Relation of the Women's General Society to the General Assembly and the Other Boards.** Article II of the Constitution of the Society: "This Society

and its Board in all work shall be under the control and subject to the authority of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church." Vol. VI, p. 679, 1887.

Article IX of the Constitution: "The Women's General Missionary Society and its Board shall undertake none of the regular work of any of the Boards of the Church without the advice of such Board and in harmony with it." Vol. VI, p. 679, 1887.

[The Constitution as approved by the Assembly was adopted by the General Missionary Society. Vol. VII, p. 91, 1888.]

3. **The Charter of the Women's General Missionary Society.** A Charter was obtained in Allegheny County, Pa., for the Women's General Missionary Society, December 8, 1888. Vol. VII, p. 290, 1889.

Resolved, 4. That it is the judgment of this Assembly that the Missionary Board should either obtain a new charter or have its present charter so amended that it shall be in name and in fact, an auxiliary Board, holding all its property in trust for the United Presbyterian Church, and subject to the direction, disposition and control of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, said property to inure to the trustees of the General Assembly of said Church. Vol. VII, p. 642, 1891.

We recommend for your adoption the amendments proposed by the Committee on the Charter of the Women's General Missionary Society, as follows:

Change Article II, defining the object of the corporation, so as to read: "The corporation is formed for the purpose of co-operating with the Boards of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, in the support of missions and medical missionary institutions, and of erecting mission churches and homes for missionaries in this and other countries, subject to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

Change Article VI, defining the membership, so as to read: "The corporation has no capital stock. The members thereof shall be composed of delegates chosen by the several Presbyterian missionary societies of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, who shall serve for one year, and of the persons who may be chosen as directors of this corporation."

In Article VIII, after the word "purpose," insert, "and the manner in which special meetings may be called."

We also recommend the following by-law:

"The Board of Directors shall have power to enter into agreements and make regulations for co-operation with the other Boards of the Church, subject to the approval of the General Assembly and Missionary Society, to make purchases of real estate, and to sell and convey the same, to sign notes and obligations for the corporation, and to use the corporate seal, attested by the President and Secretary of the Board, and shall report the same to the society. Provided that no obligation shall be given or conveyance made without a two-thirds vote of the Board." Vol. VII, p. 497, 1894.

4. **Missionary Societies to Forward Contributions Through Their Own Treasurers.** *Resolved*, That the resolution directing that all contributions shall be made through the financial agents of Presbyteries be hereby changed so as no longer to apply to missionary societies, and that the Assembly recommend that these societies make all their contributions for missionary purposes through their own Presbyterian treasurers. Vol. VII, p. 220, 1889.

5. **Junior Missionary Societies.** 7. That we approve the proposed consolidation of all Junior Societies under the direction of the W. M. S. and recommend that the completion of a constitution for such consolidated society be left in the hands of the W. G. M. S., and the General Committee of Young People's Work. Vol. XI, p. 589, 1906.

6. **The Board of Directors of the Women's General Missionary Society.**

(1) **The Organization of the Women's Auxiliary Board.** [The establishment of a Women's Board was brought to the attention of the General Assembly of 1884, which, without committing the Assembly to the measure, appointed a committee to consider the subject, and, if the way be clear, to report a plan for the organization to the next Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 40, 1884. This committee reported that the Women's Convention recently held had expressed itself as averse to such an organization, and therefore no action was taken. Vol. VI, p. 298, 1885. At the third annual meeting of the Women's General Missionary Society, the establishment of a Board was agreed upon, to be styled "The Women's Auxiliary Board," "no work to be undertaken without the advice of the regular Boards of the Church." At the same time fifteen ladies were appointed as members of this Board. The General Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 2. That we cordially approve the purpose of the Women's Missionary Board as auxiliary to the Boards of the General Assembly and to be conducted according to their concurrent advice. [At the same time, in order to prevent confusion and the possibility of collision, the Assembly appointed a committee to confer with the members of the Auxiliary Board in relation to their proposition, with power to draft a constitution for such a Board, if they deem it proper, and report to the next Assembly.] Vol. VI, p. 436, 1886.

[This committee reported that certain amendments to the Constitution of the Women's General Missionary Society and the By-laws of the Board had been agreed upon, and had been adopted by the General Missionary Society. The amendments were approved by the Assembly. Vol. VI, p. 679, 1887. By-law first of the Board was amended to read:] "The Board shall take charge of the missionary work of the General Society; devise ways and means for carrying on that work; give aid to all the various departments of missionary work undertaken by the regular Boards of the Church, in sending out foreign missionaries, supporting native helpers, Bible women, and children in schools, and supporting teachers in the home field; and for this purpose it shall receive and disburse all money, which shall be contributed or placed in its charge by auxiliary societies."

(2) **Relation of the Auxiliary Board to the General Assembly and the Other Boards.** *Resolved*, 2. That we cordially approve the purpose of the Women's Missionary Board as auxiliary to the Boards of the General Assembly, and to be conducted according to their concurrent advice. Vol. VI, p. 436, 1886.

Resolved, 2. . . . That the Women's Board be directed to report annually to the Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 221, 1889.

[Some misapprehension as to the exact meaning of the action of the Assembly in relation to the transfer of the medical work in the foreign fields to the Auxiliary Board was reported as existing and the Assembly appointed a committee to report to the next Assembly such regulations as may seem necessary to harmonious co-operation among all the Boards. Vol. VII, p. 428, 1890. This committee reported that no general regulations were necessary, and submitted regulations for the medical work in the foreign field. Vol. VII, p. 35, 1891. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 2. That no action should be taken which would tend to divide the control of the work belonging to any of the Boards of the Church, Home or Foreign.

3. That we express the conviction that the members of the Women's Auxiliary Board should be elected by the General Assembly in a manner similar to that governing other Boards.

4. That it is the judgment of this Assembly that the Women's Missionary Board should either obtain a new charter or have its present charter so amended that it shall be in name and in fact an Auxiliary Board, holding all its prop-

erty in trust for the United Presbyterian Church, and subject to the direction, disposition and control of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, said property to inure to the trustees of the General Assembly of said Church.

5. That a Committee of five be appointed to confer with the Women's Board to more clearly define the relation of the Women's Board to the General Assembly and to the other Boards, in keeping with the foregoing recommendations. Vol. VII, p. 642, 1891.

(3) **Power of the Women's Board.** 1. That the report of the committee be printed in the minutes.

2. That in order to carry out the first recommendation of the report, the Women's Auxiliary Board, in conjunction with the officers of the General Assembly, take legal counsel, looking to the amendment of the present charter, or the securing of a new one, which will embody these recommendations of the committee, viz.:

"First. The Society shall be under the control and direction of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church.

"Second. The property, real and personal, of said Society shall be held by it in trust for the United Presbyterian Church, and in the event of the dissolution of the Society shall inure to the Trustees of the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, to be appropriated by them to the objects and uses for which it was contributed;" and that when the draft of such amended or new charter is secured, it shall be submitted to the Women's General Missionary Society and to the General Assembly for their approval before being submitted to the Court.

3. The relation of the Women's Board to the other Boards of the Church is understood to be auxiliary. It has, therefore, properly, charge of such matters as may, from time to time, be committed to it by any of the Boards or by the General Assembly.

4. As the General Assembly of 1889 (see minutes, page 220, resolution 2) transferred the management of the medical work in foreign fields to the Women's Board, the following rules should govern their relations to the Board of Foreign Missions:

(1) The Women's Board may, from time to time, as there shall be need, nominate to the Board of Foreign Missions, for appointment by said Board, suitable persons to be employed as medical missionaries. The missionaries when thus appointed and their salaries fixed, shall be subject to the rules of the Board of Foreign Missions and of the Missionary Associations, as other missionaries are; it being understood that the entire expense of the medical work shall be provided for by the Women's Board. That this may be done, the Missionary Associations shall be instructed to send separate estimates of the whole expense of the medical work directly to the Women's Board, and the said Board may, if they so desire, remit direct to the Missionary Associations for the same.

(2) In cases in which the support of other female missionaries is provided by the Women's Board, said Board may nominate to the Board of Foreign Missions, for appointment suitable persons for the work. When these missionaries shall have been finally appointed by the Board of Foreign Missions, they shall be subject to the rules of said Board and of the Missionary Associations in the foreign field, and their salaries shall be paid through the Board of Foreign Missions. Vol. VIII, pp. 29-30, 1892.

(4) **Transfer of Missions to the Women's Board.** (The Board was authorized to complete the negotiations for the transfer of the mission to the care of the Women's Auxiliary Board, to be prosecuted as a special work, under the primary jurisdiction of the Oregon Presbytery. Vol. VII, pp. 451, 460, 1890. This transfer was made under the following regulations):

Resolved, That this work is hereby transferred to the Women's Board with the following understanding:

1. This action takes effect from July 1, 1890.
2. In the management of the work the Women's Board shall sustain to the Presbytery of Oregon, to which the primary control and supervision of the Warm Springs Indian Mission belongs, the same relation now sustained by the Board of Home Missions.
3. The house erected at Warm Springs Agency as a home for the missionary shall be held by the Board of Home Missions in trust for the Women's Board; the free use of said house to be given to the Missionary as heretofore and in case of sale the proceeds of the entire property to be paid to the Women's Board.
4. All stated reports from the missionaries and all applications on behalf of the mission shall be made to the Women's Board, through the Presbytery of Oregon, and payments shall be made and accounts kept by the Women's Board.
5. The Women's Board shall annually, in the month of April, make to the Board of Home Missions a general statement of the condition of the mission and of the cost of its support during the year ending with the 31st of March preceding.
6. When Missionaries are to be appointed or removed, and in all other cases involving changes in the mission work or in the methods of its management, the Women's Board shall not take final action until the matter has been submitted to the Board of Home Missions for counsel and advice.
7. The Board of Home Missions agrees to give advice and assistance, when called upon, in the management of the work. Vol. VII, p. 670, 1891.
8. With reference to the special request of the Board that it be authorized to begin work among the Indians in Eastern Oklahoma, we recommend that the Assembly approve this project. Vol. XX, p. 357, 1941.
9. Points of Agreement between the Women's Board and the Board of Foreign Missions in Relation to Missions.
See Chapter LIV, Foreign Missions, Item 25. Vol. XI, p. 301, 1905.
10. Joint Tenure of Property by the Women's Board and the Board of Freedmen's Missions.

The following report was adopted:

There has been referred to your committee a memorial from the Board of Freedmen's Missions and the Women's Board, asking for the establishment of certain rules relative to the joint property interests of the two Boards. We recommend for adoption the following rules, which have been agreed upon by the above mentioned Boards:

1. Where a donation is made by the Women's Board for the erection of buildings on the property of the Freedmen's Board, such donation shall be subject to the approval of the latter Board.
2. Where the Women's Board has made a donation according to the above regulation and buildings have been erected on the property of the Freedmen's Board, the Freedmen's Board shall recognize the amount of the donation as a first lien on so much of the premises as may be used for said building.
3. In case of the failure of a mission and the abandonment of the field where the Women's Board has expended money for buildings, the Freedmen's Board and the Women's Board shall have a pro rata share in the proceeds of the sale of the property as the interests of each appear.
4. These regulations shall have the force of legal obligations without further legal papers. Vol. XI, p. 287, 1905.
7. **Women's Board and the Work Among Our Alien Population.** 3. In reply to the request of the Women's Board and the Board of Home Missions as to the meaning of the action of the last Assembly "that the work among our

alien population be committed to the Board of Home Missions, with power to make it a special department with regulations adapted to the work; and that congregations carrying on such missions be instructed to report to the Board," it is proposed that the action had immediate reference to the work of the Assembly's Committee. But inasmuch as the work is one and the unity of it should be carefully maintained and as there might arise a situation that would involve misunderstanding, the Assembly directs that the Board of Home Missions by conference with the Women's Board provide for a wise adjustment of the work carried on by them among foreigners and in all the fields in which they are mutually interested, so as to secure the utmost harmony and efficiency in this growing enterprise.

NOTE: The action referred to in the above is to be found in Vol. XII, p. 338, 1909. Vol. XII, p. 646, 1910.

8. **Parsonage Loans.** *Resolved*, 3. That with the appended explanation we make the following request of the Parsonage Department of the Board:

It is with a high degree of appreciation that we note the extent of the work carried on through the parsonage department during the past year, as also during all the years of the Board's operations. The disbursements of this department for the past year were \$32,605.75, a sum considerably larger than for other years. This the Board was able to expend through balances from former years.

While we recognize the utility of this department to the general welfare of the Church in providing comfortable homes for many home missionaries, yet we believe it possible to make the grants for this work upon such terms as will be easier for the missionaries to meet, and which will not seriously hamper the work of this department.

We would recommend, therefore—

That we request the Women's Board to take under advisement the matter of extending the term of years for which parsonage loans are made; and, if it is at all practicable to extend the period of time for which such loans are made, we would recommend that in no case shall a pastor be required to pay more than \$200 per annum, and that all loans be adjusted to this standard. Vol. XIII, p. 717, 1914.

9. **Advisory Members of the Board of Administration.** 4. The General Assembly directs the publication in its annual Minutes of the names of the President and Secretary of the Women's Board as Advisory Members of the Board of Administration. Vol. XVII, p. 940, 1931.

10. **Corresponding Members of the General Council of the Presbyterian Alliance.** The following recommendations were adopted:

Now, as to the communication filed by the Secretary: It has to do with relationship with the Alliance of Reformed Churches; a quotation from the minutes of that body in its meeting in Montreal last summer will explain: "The Council recognizes the International Union of Women's Missionary Societies of the Reformed Churches as the official women's organization of the Alliance: it resolves that constituent churches through their Supreme Courts (and, if possible, upon the nomination of the several women's organizations in the said churches) may appoint a number of representative women as Corresponding members of General Councils, in such ratio as may be determined by the Council, with liberty to speak—but not to vote, unless they hold places in the Council itself as ministers or elders."

The ratio adopted allows one representative from our Church—which is in the class of fewer than 1,400 congregations.

We recommend that the Assembly approve participation of the Women's Board in the Council as thus provided.

We recommend that the Women's Board nominate a member for appointment by the Assembly of 1939 to represent them in the next quadrennial Council, which will be held in 1941. Vol. XIX, p. 647, 1938.

CXXV. WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

Resolved, 4. That we recognize in the Women's Christian Temperance Union a powerful and most efficient ally in the war against this enemy of "God and Home and Native Land," and we bid them Godspeed in their patient, persistent, heroic and prayerful efforts to make effective their great battle cry, "The saloon must go."

5. That while we rejoice in the good work done by the women's organization in disseminating literature and providing lectures, and thus helping to create and develop a correct public sentiment, we specially commend and second their efforts to secure, by State legislation, the introduction in our public schools of temperance text books and instruction in regard to the effect of the use of alcohol on the human system. Vol. VI, p. 32, 1884.

6. That we highly appreciate the spirit and work of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union. Vol. VI, p. 240, 1885.

5. That in the rapid progress now being made in the cause of temperance, much credit is due to the prayers and labors of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and while not endorsing everything they do—notably, some of the Sabbath meetings—we rejoice in the great and good work they are accomplishing, and bid them Godspeed. Vol. V, p. 433, 1886.

Resolved, That the General Assembly reiterate its denominational attitude as expressed in previous Assemblies and that congregations be urged to give continued moral and financial support to all agencies looking to the maintenance and enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment, especially commending to them the W. C. T. U. Vol. XVII, p. 941, 1931.

Resolved, Second. That we endorse a five-fold educational program of the National W. C. T. U., namely, first, the deepening of the spiritual life; second the opposing of liquor by intensive education in schools and churches and the abolition of the liquor traffic by law—national, state or local; third, laying greater emphasis on character building; fourth, citizenship education on the curse of drink; fifth, education tending toward peace. Vol. XIX, p. 55, 1936.

Resolved, 1. We record our appreciation of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and kindred organizations and urge their continued support by our congregations. Vol. XX, p. 359, 1941.

CXXI. YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

1. **Organization of Young People's Work.** [A convention, composed of delegates from the Young People's Societies of the Church, held in Allegheny, Pa., asked the General Assembly to take charge of the work among the Young. The Assembly adopted the following]:

Resolved, 1. That a permanent committee of five be appointed to give general direction to the work among our young people with authority to prepare and publish a constitution for young people's societies, in harmony with the principles and usages of the United Presbyterian Church, and that the name at the head of the committee retired each year and another name be added at the foot.

2. That the matter of the selection and publication of a periodical to be devoted to this work, be committed to the committee provided for in the first resolution.

3. That the holding of Young People's Institutes in various localities in the Church be encouraged. Vol. VII, p. 214, 1889.

4. That, recognizing the great benefit to the Church in the organizations

of the young for spiritual work, pastors and sessions are earnestly recommended to avail themselves of this efficient agency for the extension of Christ's kingdom. Vol. VII, p. 228, 1889.

The General Assembly also appointed a General Secretary of Young People's Work. Vol. VII, p. 430, 1890.

Resolved, 1. That we view with pleasure and hereby express our gratitude to God for the wonderful awakening during the past year among our young people, and for their enthusiastic devotion to Christian work.

3. That the Permanent Committee should make an effort, through the Presbyterian Sabbath School Superintendents, to systematize the work of holding conventions.

4. That the Young Christian should be exclusively devoted to the interests of the young people's organizations.

5. That we approve the action of the Permanent Committee in taking steps to prepare a Manual for the instruction and assistance of our young people in their work. Vol. VII, p. 430, 1890.

Resolved, 1. That we express gratitude to God for the increasing interest manifested by Our Young People, and for their loyal devotion to the work of the Church during the year.

2. That we commend and approve the work of the Committee on Young People's Work, as presented in the annual report. Vol. VII, p. 648, 1891.

[The Permanent Committee on Young People's Work reported a Constitution for a general organization of the Young People, which has been adopted by a General Convention. It was adopted by the Assembly. Vol. VII, p. 648, 1891. Its leading articles are as follows]:

ARTICLE I. Name. This Assembly shall be called "The Institute of Our Young People of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

ARTICLE II. Ecclesiastical Status. The Institute shall be subject to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and in accordance with principles hereinafter contained, shall be under the immediate supervision of a joint Committee of ten persons, five of whom shall be appointed by the General Assembly, and five elected annually by the Institute, and the General Secretary of Young People's Work shall be, ex-officio, a member of this committee. The person who stands first in the Assembly's portion of the committee shall be Chairman. [This joint committee shall be known as the General Committee on Young People's Work. Article VI.]

ARTICLE III. Object. The Institute shall be a training school for young Christians, and its object shall be three-fold: To instruct in Bible study, and practical piety; to create and stimulate enthusiasm in Christian life and work, especially in promoting the growth and prosperity of the congregations of the United Presbyterian Church; and to promote greater spirituality.

ARTICLE IV. Membership. Section 1. All persons attending the Institute and members of organizations under the supervision of the Institute, shall be members thereof, having the privilege of conference and debate, and of voting upon all matters except executive business.

Sec. 2. Two duly accredited persons from each Presbyterian Convention and each Young People's Society in the congregations and educational institutions of the United Presbyterian Church, however they may be organized, or without organization, shall be delegate members; and these delegate members and no others shall have the right to vote upon executive business. Vol. VII, pp. 648, 724, 1891.

[The Committee also reported a constitution for Presbyterian conventions, which was amended and adopted. Vol. VII, pp. 648, 727, 1889.]

Revised Plan of Organization

The following plan was adopted by the Assembly:

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

ARTICLE I.—NAME

This Assembly shall be called "The Convention of the Young People's Christian Union of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

ARTICLE II.—ECCLESIASTICAL STATUS

The Convention shall be subject to the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church of North America, and in accordance with principles hereinafter contained, shall be under the immediate supervision of a Joint Committee, three of whom shall be appointed by the General Assembly, and three elected annually by the Convention. Provided, however, the members of the General Committee in charge at the adoption of this revised plan of organization (1911), shall complete their respective terms of office, and the General Committee for the year 1911-1912 shall thus consist of the four holding over under appointment of the General Assembly and four to be elected by the Convention. The General Secretary of the Young People's Work, the Tithe Secretary, and the Treasurer, shall be ex-officio members of the General Committee.

This committee shall be known as "The General Committee on Young People's Work in the United Presbyterian Church." The person whose name stands first on the Assembly's portion of the Committee shall be chairman.

ARTICLE III.—OBJECT

The convention shall be a training school for young Christians, and its object shall be three-fold: To instruct in Bible Study and practical piety, to create and stimulate enthusiasm in Christian work, and life, and to promote greater spirituality.

ARTICLE IV.—MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. All persons attending the convention, members of organizations under the supervision of the convention shall be members thereof, having the privileges of conference and debate and voting on all matters except executive business.

Section 2. Two duly accredited persons from each Presbyterial Convention and each Young People's Society in the congregations and educational institutions of the United Presbyterian Church, however they may be organized, shall be delegates. Presbyterial Corresponding Secretaries, members of the General Committee, and officers of the Convention are also, by virtue of their office, delegates to the convention. These delegates and no others shall have the right to vote on executive business.

ARTICLE V.—OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of the Convention shall be a President, Recording Secretary, Press Secretary, Treasurer, and Tithe Secretary.

Section 2. The President of the Convention shall be the person whose name stands first on the list of the Convention's portion of the General Committee, and shall preside at the Convention following the one at which he is elected.

Section 3. Officers of the Convention, except the President, shall be elected by a standing vote at the first regular business session of the Convention. The Recording Secretary and the Press Secretary shall each be elected for a term of one year; the Treasurer and Tithe Secretary for a term of two years or until a successor is duly elected.

ARTICLE VI.—COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Convention shall at each meeting elect, by nomination and standing vote, three persons from the United Presbyterian Church to act conjointly with the three persons appointed by the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, as the General Committee on Young People's Work.

Section 2. The President, as soon as convenient after the opening, shall appoint and announce a committee of five persons on Resolutions.

Section 3. The Convention may, at any time, appoint committees to perform special duties not hereinafter assigned.

(ARTICLE VII.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. The President shall preside over the sessions of the Convention. During his temporary absence he may appoint someone to act in his place. If he is called away from the Convention, it shall elect, by standing vote, a temporary President.

Section 2. The Recording Secretary shall keep a roll of the delegates and a docket of all business of the Convention, shall make an accurate record of the proceedings, and read all documents before the Convention for action.

Section 3. The Press Secretary shall assist the Recording Secretary, and shall afford all the facilities needed by the Press reporters to insure an accurate and complete report of the proceedings of the Convention.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall keep in charge all funds of the Convention, and shall disburse the same only upon the order of the General Committee.

ARTICLE VIII.—DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEES

Section 1. The General Committee on Young People's Work shall have in charge the arrangements for the meetings of the Convention, preparation of the program, the publication of the literature of the Young People's societies, and shall present a report of its work at each meeting of the Convention, and also to the General Assembly. It shall also be a committee on credentials, to prepare a roll of delegates for the Recording Secretary. It shall also be a nominating committee to present candidates for the offices of the Convention, but each delegate to the Convention shall have equal right to present additional candidates.

Section 2. The Committee on Resolutions shall prepare resolutions expressive of the sentiments of the Convention on any matter deemed desirable by the members of the Convention, and shall, by direction of the Convention, frame any desired recommendations to the General Committee on Young People's Work. It shall report in full to the same meeting of the Convention that appoints it.

ARTICLE IX.—STATED MEETINGS

The Convention shall meet annually at such times and places as may be determined upon by the General Committee on Young People's Work.

ARTICLE X.—METHOD OF BUSINESS

Section 1. Business shall be transacted in accordance with the appended abstract of parliamentary laws.

Section 2. Upon the assembling of the Convention at each meeting, the Chairman of the General Committee shall preside during the opening exercises as provided for in the program, also during the making out and calling of the roll and the election of officers.

Section 3. Business shall be of two kinds—Deliberative and Executive.

Section 4. Executive business shall consist of the following only: (a)

Adoption of Minutes. (b) Changes in the Constitution. (c) Election of officers. (d) Authorizing the collection and payment of moneys. (e) Election of members of the General Committee. (f) The adoption of Recommendations to the General Committee.

Section 5. The Convention shall resolve itself into Executive session at any time merely by the announcement by the President when executive business is proposed.

Section 6. Upon executive business all members may debate, but only delegates may vote.

Section 7. All other business, than hereinbefore specified as executive, shall be deliberative, and upon it all members shall be privileged both to debate and to vote.

ARTICLE XI.—AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The Constitution of the Convention may be amended in the following manner: Two-thirds of the delegates at any meeting may recommend the desired change to the General Committee, which shall have power, by a two-thirds vote to make the desired change, subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

Section 2. If the Convention desires amendments to the Constitution of a local society, or of the Presbyterial Convention of the Young People's Christian Union, it shall proceed in the same manner as for the amendment of its own Constitution.

We respectfully submit the following resolutions for your adoption:

1. The approval and adoption of the Annual Report of the General Committee.

2. The acknowledgment and commendation of the work of the General Secretary in the zealous and faithful discharge of his duty; and also the members of the General Committee.

3. That we express our high esteem of the character of The Christian Union Herald, and our sincere appreciation of its editor.

4. That we express our hearty commendation of the text-book, "God's Plan of World Redemption"; and we recommend that every society, which has not already done so, plan for the study of this book.

5. The endorsement of the suggestion in the report of the General Committee, that, "whenever practicable, efficient young laymen" be chosen to the office of Presbyterial Secretary of Young People's Work.

6. The effort to increase the efficiency of the Presbyterial Secretaries above that of simply receiving and forwarding reports, by specifying among the duties belonging to this office: (a) That of visiting each congregation within his presbytery each year, and presenting the interests of Young People's Work; (b) The responsibility of securing and assisting an annual presbyterial convention; (c) And an effort to secure from his presbytery as large an attendance as possible upon the National Convention. Vol. XII, p. 939, 1911.

The following recommendation was adopted:

9. We recommend that the Constitution of the National Convention of the Young People's Christian Union, as amended at Silver Bay, N. Y., July 28, 1925, be adopted. Vol. XVI, p. 638, 1926.

The report of the Young People's Department to which reference is made in the above recommendation is as follows:

The constitution for the National Convention of the Young People's Christian Union, as revised at Silver Bay, July 28, 1925, was adopted by the Committee of Directors of Young People's Work in their annual meeting in Chicago, September 9, 1925, was approved by the Board of Education, May 11, 1926, and is hereby submitted for approval to the General Assembly.

Worship, Instruction, Service and Recreation are the four divisions in the comprehensive program for societies adopted at Silver Bay. It is in line with the best thought of the day in religious education circles. Vol. XVI, p. 693, 1926.

The following recommendation was adopted.

1st. From the Presbytery of Monongahela and the Presbytery of Rock Island Memorials proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Y. P. C. U. to be known as Article V—National Council, reading as follows:

The two presbyterial representatives from each presbytery together with the Presbyterial Secretaries of Young People's Work, the officers and members of the Committees of the National Convention, the Committee of Directors, the Secretary and the Treasurer of Young People's Work, shall constitute a National Council which shall serve in an advisory capacity both to the Committee of Directors and to the Convention. The Chairman of the National Council shall be the retiring member of the Committee of Directors chosen by the National Convention.

Should there be in attendance upon any National Convention delegates from one or more congregations of a presbytery that has not sent duly accredited delegates to the Convention, such congregational delegates may elect not more than two of their number who, on approval of the Committee of Directors, shall represent their presbytery in the National Council.

That the numbering of Articles V to XI, as at present be so changed as to give their proper sequence.

The Amendment has the endorsement of the National Convention at Mountain Lake Park, three presbyteries and one synod. Your Committee recommends that it be granted. Vol. XVII, p. 670, 1930.

2. **Contributions and Special Evangelistic Work.** *Resolved*, 3. That our Young People are to be commended for their action in opposing the endorsement of special evangelistic, or benevolent work, and in recognizing the Boards of the Church as the only proper channels through which their general contributions should be directed. Vol. VII, p. 648, 1891.

3. That the Constitution of the Society be so amended that the name may read "Our Young People's Christian Union."

4. That the General Secretary be elected for the term of one year, and that his duties be defined and understood to be advisory in his relation to the other members of the committee; also that he be recommended to attend the conventions of our young people whenever practical, and the young people be recommended to arrange for his presence wherever this may be found convenient.

In addition, the committee requests the General Assembly to direct Clerks of Presbyteries to report for publication in the Minutes, along with the names of the Financial Agents, Superintendents of Missions, and Presbyterial Sabbath school superintendents, the names of Presbyterial Corresponding Secretaries of young people's conventions. Vol. VIII, p. 27, 1892.

1. That the General Committee of the Y. P. C. Union be and is hereby directed to institute a Sabbath observance department in the work of the Union, the object of which shall be a better knowledge of the claims of the Sabbath on the individual, the obligation to keep it holy in conduct and conversation, and the present and eternal reward bestowed upon all who remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Vol. IX, p. 781, 1899.

3. **General Secretary.** *Resolved*, 5. That the term of the General Secretary hereafter be made two years instead of three, and that he be eligible to one re-election. Vol. XI, p. 589, 1906.

The title of the Secretary of the Christian Union was changed to Secretary of Young People's Work. Vol. XII, p. 323, 1909.

The following recommendation was adopted:

4. That we recommend the appointment of a full-time Secretary for Young People's Work who shall assume the present duties of the General Secretary and shall further the work of the Young People by conducting training institutes in the various Presbyteries and societies; the expenses of this added work to be assumed half by the General Committee and half by the Board under which this work shall be classified. Vol. XV, p. 576, 1922.

By the act of the Assembly of 1923 the Department of Young People's Work was made a part of the Board of Education and the Secretary of Young People's Work should co-operate with the General Secretary of the Board.

Consult Chapter XVII, Item 7. Vol. XV, p. 852, 1923.

The Secretary of Young People's Work is to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, being elected for a term of three years. Vol. XVI, p. 903, 1927.

The General Secretary and the Chairman of the General Committee were made ex-officio members of all Synodical Committees on Young People's Work. Vol. XI, p. 589, 1906.

4. **Presbyterial Conventions.** *Resolved*, 1. That there should be a Presbyterial Convention held annually in each Presbytery, even when conditions are not ideal. Vol. XIII, p. 1074, 1915.

5. **General Recommendations on Young People's Work, Adopted by the General Assembly:** (1) Be it *resolved*, That a communication be made to the United Society of Christian Endeavor and the several proper denominational authorities for Young People's Work; that there be constituted a joint committee to prepare uniform prayer-meeting topics, with the understanding that denominations are free to vary as may be necessary.

a. That this Committee consist of one member from each of the organizations included.

b. That the United Society of Christian Endeavor be requested to convene the Committee.

(2) That we recognize the advisability of working toward a grading of membership in the Young People's Societies by age, as follows: understanding that there is some degree of flexibility in the application of the standard: Junior, 8-13; Intermediate, 14-17; Senior, 18-30.

(3) That we recommend to all denominational and inter-denominational societies that the subject of full life service, such as the ministry and missionary service, Christian teaching and deaconess work, be aggressively presented, and that a definite time be set apart for the emphasis of this subject in the prayer-meetings and conventions.

(4) That the matter of standards of efficiency be referred to the Committee on Topics, if such be constituted, for report.

(5) That we recommend for the perpetuation of this meeting: First, that the several authorities of the denominational agencies make provision for the appointment of one representative for each denomination; Second, that the United Society of Christian Endeavor make provision for the appointment of one representative for itself, and not more than four representatives for denominations not otherwise represented.

3rd. We would recommend that Christian Endeavor Societies of our denominations be requested to become Y. P. C. U. Societies that there may be a uniformity of name as well as of work throughout the denomination. Where this change is impracticable or impossible these Christian Endeavor Societies should furnish an annual report of their activities to the General Secretary of the Y. P. C. U. through the Presbyterial Secretary; such report to be made on our denominational blanks.

4th. We would recommend that every Y. P. C. U. and C. E. Society of the denomination put forth effort to send representatives to the national convention to be held in Philadelphia, June 28 to July 2nd. We are the more inclined to urge the consideration of this recommendation when we note a renewal of interest in these conventions as evidenced by the attendance upon them, and by the fact that in the last three Conventions 150 young people dedicated themselves to God's service where and as He might please to use them.

5th. We would recommend that the General Assembly declare itself as desiring that there should be a Young People's Convention held in every Presbytery of the Church at some time during the ensuing year.

6th. We recommend that Presbyterial Secretaries be urged to secure and forward at the proper time full and accurate reports of each Young People's Society in the Presbytery, as the report of the past year shows no report from 25 societies, incomplete reports from nearly 100 societies, and no report from one entire Presbytery.

7th. We recommend that Presbyterial Secretaries be urged to extend and stimulate Young People's Work, especially within the bounds of their own presbytery.

8th. We recommend that Presbyteries exercise care in the selecting of Presbyterial Secretaries; and that, when the interests of the work demand, they proceed immediately to many any necessary change in the office; and that when there is any change in the office the General Secretary shall be notified immediately; and that time be granted to the Presbyterial Secretary, at least once a year, to present the Young People's work to the Presbytery. Vol. XIV, p. 24, 1916.

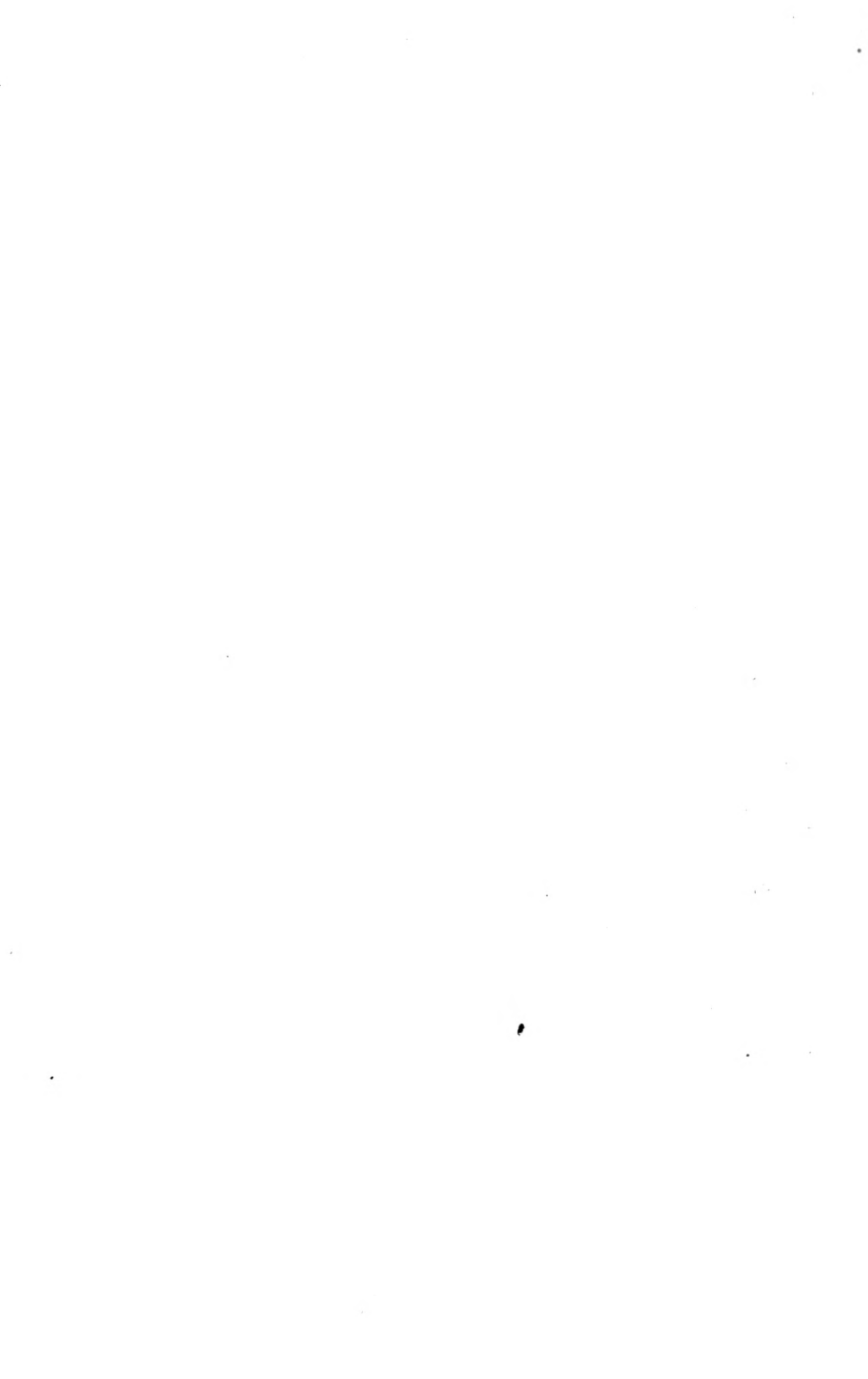
6. **Communion Service at National Conventions.** The Assembly hereby authorizes the holding of an annual Communion Service at the National Young People's Convention. The National Chairman is instructed to select and constitute a National Committee on Young People's Work to select and constitute a Session. Vol. XIX, p. 46, 1936.

7. **Classification of Societies.** We call attention to the classification of the young people's groups as Pioneers, Builders, Fellowship, and Forum, and the efficient leadership for each group, and recommend:

1. That the leaders of our youth be urged to study the needs of the various age groups, and select topics and other materials in the light of such needs.

2. That the attention of sessions be drawn to the necessity of having a capable sponsor for each society. Manifestly a pastor cannot serve several societies as sponsor at one time. With the number of societies increasing in many congregations under the new system, consecrated lay leaders, youthful in spirit, who will work with young people, must be found.

3. That all youth societies, other than junior, be reminded that they should co-operate with the Y. P. C. U. organization in their Presbytery, and should render an annual report to the Y. P. C. U. Affiliation with the Christian Endeavor Unions or other outside agencies should not keep a society from sharing in denominational fellowship and activities. Vol. XIX, p. 653, 1938.



GENERAL INDEX

NOTE: The references are to pages.

- Absence
 - From Meetings of Presbytery, 30.
 - Leave of, excuses, 285.
 - Permanent Committee on Leave of Absence, 98.
- Abstinence, Total, 471.
- Academies, Endowment, 219.
- Accounts
 - Auditors Include Schedules, 109.
 - Endowment Funds, Reporting, 109.
 - General Instructions, 109.
 - Securities, Stocks and Bonds, Mortgages, 109.
- Administration, 109.
 - Alternates to Meeting of Board, 118.
 - Board, 109.
 - Charges for Handling Certain Funds, 117.
 - Charter of Board, 111.
 - Designated Gifts and Special Appeals, 117.
 - Meetings of Board, 111, 115.
 - Membership of Board, 109, 111, 114.
 - Beginning of Term, 116.
 - Responsibility Defined, 110.
 - Predecessors of Board, 111.
 - Reorganization of Board, 116.
 - Responsibility of Board, 110, 115.
- Admission of Church Members, 24, 41.
- Admission of Ministers from Other Churches, 51.
- Admonition, 67, 87.
- Adoption, 12.
- Adult Non-Communicating Members,
 - Duty of the Church to, 24.
- Affirmation, Form of, 65.
- Aged Ministers' Fund, 333.
- Aliens, 118.
- Alliance of Reformed Churches Holding the Presbyterian System, 105, 229.
 - Withdrawal from, 231.
 - Renewal of Relations, 231.
- Alliance of Presbyterian Churches in India, 228.
- Alternates of Commissioners, 278.
- Amendment of Constitutional Law, 34.
- Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, 45, 358.
- Amendments to the Book of Government, 187, 188, 189, 308.
- Amendments to Motions, 100.
- American Bible Society, 118.
- American Indians, 118.
- American Missions, Board of, 120.
- Original Boards, 120.
 - Board of Home Missions, 120.
 - Charter, 120.
 - Constitution, 121.
 - General Committee, 121, 122, 123.
 - Authority of, 129.
 - Home Missionaries, 126.
 - Moving Expenses of Home Missionaries, 129.
 - Per Diem of Home Missionaries, 129.
 - Regulations, 124.
 - Sliding Scale, 125.
 - Special Missionaries, 127.
 - Special Missions, 128.
 - System of Home Missions, Changes in, 129.
 - Utah Gospel Mission, 130.
- Board of Church Extension, 130.
 - Aid Given, 132.
 - Charter, 130.
 - Constitution, 131.
 - Declaration of Trust, 137.
 - Funds, Special, 134.
 - Funds Subject to Annuity, 134.
 - Funds from Disorganized Congregations, 135.
 - Funds, Permanent, 138.
 - Regulations, 131.
 - Salary of Secretary, 137.
- Board of Missions to Freedmen, 138.
 - Charter, 138.
 - Constitution, 139.
 - Evangelistic Work, 141.
 - History, 139.
 - Tenure of Property, 142.
 - Work in the North, 142.
- Organization of Board of American Missions, 142.
- Boards Consolidated, 142.
- Holding Boards, 143.
- Departments, 144.
 - Department of Home Missions, 144.
 - Aliens, Work Among, 144.
 - Appropriations for Parsonage Rent, 144.
 - Exemption from Sliding Scale, 144.
 - Home Missionaries, Appointment, 144.

- Rent for Home Missionaries, 145.
- Regulations on Obligations to Missionary Budget, 144.
- United Presbyterian Ministers Called, 144.
- Withholding Aid, 145.
- Department of Church Erection, 145.
- Rules for Appropriations, 145.
- Temporary Financing of Building Projects, 146.
- Department of Negro Work, 146.
- Insurance on Buildings, 146.
- Knoxville College, 146.
- Amusements, 146.
- In Army and Navy Camps on Sabbath, 147.
- In Church Colleges, 147.
- Biblical Standard, 147.
- Dancing, Theatrical Exhibitions, 146.
- Games and Shows on Sabbath, 147.
- Anderson, Dr. W. B., Memorial, 147.
- Angels, 8.
- Anniversaries, 148.
- Quarter Centennial, 148.
- Semi-Centennial, 150.
- Seventy-fifth, 157.
- Centennial of the Nation, 158.
- Centenary of Presbyterian Church, 158.
- Temperance Centennial, 158.
- Annuities, 158.
- Appeals, 66, 68, 69, 71, 72.
- From Decision of Moderator, 306.
- Parties, 306.
- Parties to Be Heard, 307.
- Papers Amendment, 307.
- Right to Vote, 307, 308.
- Presbyteries May Appeal Directly to General Assembly in Exceptional Cases, 308.
- Limitation of Appeals, 308.
- A Case May Be Settled Pending the Appeal, 309.
- Particular Appeals, 309.
- Of Rev. David H. Curry, 309.
- Of James Dawson and Others, 310.
- Of James Donaldson, 311.
- Of Rev. J. C. Evans, 311.
- Of Rev. J. I. Frazer, 312.
- Of Rev. R. Gailey, 312.
- Of Rev. Henry Gordon and Others, 312.
- Of Alex. Grant, 313.
- Of Adam Green, 313.
- Of Revs. W. R. Hutchison and J. W. Dorrance, 313.
- Of Rev. C. T. McCaughan, D.D., 313.
- Of Rev. William C. McCune, 314.
- Of Rev. J. P. McKee, D.D., 315.
- Of the Marshalls, 315.
- Of Mrs. Mary A. Patterson, 315.
- Of Rev. George A. Roseberg, 316.
- Of L. V. Smith, 316.
- Of Rev. Charles B. Smyth, 316.
- Of Rev. J. T. Tate, 317.
- Of Mr. Paden, 317.
- Of the Presbytery of New York, 317.
- Appropriations, 159.
- Committee on, 159.
- Method for Making, 159.
- Army and Navy, 160.
- Army Canteen, 160.
- Camp Pastors, 161.
- Chaplains, 161.
- Christian Commission, 161.
- National Service, 160.
- Student Military Training, 161.
- Assembly, See General Assembly, 277.
- Assistant Clerk, 95.
- Associate Church and Associate Reformed Church, 502.
- Associate Pastors, 46.
- Associate Reformed Synod of the South, 162.
- Correspondence with, 162.
- Co-operation with in Mission Work, 162.
- Co-operation in Home Missions, 163.
- Union with Proposed, 163.
- Assurance, 13.
- Atonement, 11.
- Baptism, 14, 167.
- Administration of, 76.
- Arian, 167.
- Duty of Christian Parents, 167.
- Formula of Questions, 168.
- Immersion, 76, 167.
- Infants, 167.
- Not to Be Repeated, 167.
- Papal, 167.
- Benediction, 75.
- Beneficence, Systematic, 79, 193.
- Bequests, 324.
- Bible, The, 8, 169.
- American Standard Version, 169.
- In Public Schools, 169.
- Shorter Bible, 169.
- Chair of Bible in Our Colleges, 170.
- Bible Songs, see Praise Books, 373.
- Bills and Overtures Committee, 97.
- Boards of the Church, 34, 36, 170.
- Necessity, 36.
- Powers, 36.
- Incorporation, 36.
- Reports, 37.
- Relation to Antecedent Boards, 170.
- General Constitution of, 170.

- Amendments to, 171.
- Legal Obligations, 171.
- Consolidation of, 171.
- Enlarged Service of, 172.
- Reorganization, 173.
- Budget Boards, 177.
- Funds for, 182.
- Distribution of Estates, 182.
- Administration Expenses of, 183.
- Itemized Statements, 183.
- Treasurers' Reports to Be Audited, 184.
- Conferences of, 184.
- Principles of the Church, 184.
- Secretaries to Visit Synods, 185.
- Vacancies in, 185.
- Honorary Members of, 185.
- Beginning of Term of Office, 185.
- Tenure of Office, 185.
- Book of Government and Worship, 19.
- Temporary Arrangement, 186.
- Preparation of, 186.
- Amendments to, 187.
- New Book Adopted, 187.
- Changes Occasioned by Confessional Statement, 187.
- Amendments to New Book, 187.
- Sabbath School Superintendents and Teachers, 188.
- Baptism of Adults, 188.
- Forms to Be Included in, 188.
- Requirements for Licensure and Ordination, 189.
- Quorum of a Congregation, 189.
- Burial of the Dead, 81.
- Business, Order of, in General Assembly, 99.
- Call, The Gospel, 11.
- Call to Office, 25.
- Call of a Pastor, 45.
- Call Addressed to a Settled Minister, 49.
- Candidates for Licensure, 44.
- Case without Process, 64.
- Catechism, 190.
- Shorter Catechism Revised, 190.
- Shorter Catechism for Children, 190.
- Causes, How Carried from Lower to Higher Courts, 68.
- Caution in Receiving Accusations, 60.
- Censures, 66.
- Certificates of Dismission for Members, 43.
- For Ministers, 51.
- Challenge of Members of a Court, 64.
- Challenge of Witnesses, 65.
- Charge to Court by Moderator, 62.
- Charges against a Minister, 63.
- Chaplains, 161.
- Charters of Boards, 36.
- Administration, 111.
- American Missions, 120, 130, 138, 142.
- Education, 246, 247
- Foreign Missions, 263.
- Ministerial Pensions and Relief, 334.
- Publication and Bible School Work, 397.
- Women's General Missionary Society, 519.
- Charters of Congregations, 222.
- Charter of the General Assembly, 190.
- Children of Professed Believers, 24.
- Children of Foreign Missionaries, 267, 268, 269.
- Children, Sermons for, 411.
- Chinese Mission, 192.
- Christ,
 - Headship (or Kingship) of, 23.
 - Revelation of His Will, 23.
 - Appointments of, 23.
 - Second Coming of, 17, 197.
- Christian Giving, 193.
- A Part of Worship, 193.
- Proportionate, 193.
- One-tenth, 193.
- Thank-offerings, 193.
- Special Gifts, 194.
- Avoid Doubtful Means, 194.
- Information for, 194.
- Duties of Pastors and Sessions, 194.
- Payment of Salaries, 194.
- Permanent Committee on, 195.
- Plan for, 195.
- Weekly, 196.
- Christian Leaders in Praise Service, 75.
- Christian Union Herald, 211.
- Advertisements in, 211.
- Constituency to be Served, 212.
- Church, The, 15, 23.
- Church Extension, 130.
- Church Music, 197.
- Under Control of the Session, 28, 197.
- The Singing of Praise, 74.
- Repeating Tunes, 198.
- Chanting, 198.
- Instrumental Music, 198.
- Instrumental Music Law Repealed, 199.
- Final Action, 206.
- Charity and Forbearance Enjoined, 208.
- Praise Books, 373.
- Church Buildings
 - Use of Controlled by Sessions, 28, 213.
 - Necessity and Sacredness of, 73.

- Church Government, Scriptural Form of, 24.
- Church Members
 Characterization of, 24.
 Admission of, 41.
 Dismission of, 43.
- Church Order, 15.
- Church Papers, 209.
- Church Property, 213.
 Held by Deacons, Trustees, 213.
 Title of, 213.
 Under Control of Session, 213.
 Title to Parsonage, 214.
 Declaration of Trust, 214.
 Tenure of, 214.
 To Be Defended in the Name of the Church, 214.
- Of Disorganized Congregations
 In America, 214.
 Abroad, 215.
- Presbyterial Approval Required for Purchase of Land and Erection of Buildings, 215.
- Sale of Property Increased in Value, 215.
- Selection of Locations, 215.
- Citations in Judicial Processes, 61.
- Civil and Ecclesiastical Courts, 216.
- Civil Government, 16.
- "Clear Majority," Defined, 362.
- Clerks
 Of a Church Court, 28.
 Of the General Assembly, 216.
 Term of Office, 216.
 Duties, 216.
 Salary, 216.
- Office of Second Clerk Discontinued, 217.
 Assistant Clerk's Salary, 217.
- Colleges of the Church, 217.
 Chair of English Bible in Each, 217.
 Greek in Courses, 218.
 Loyalty to Principles of the Church, 218.
 Objectives, 218.
 Control of, 218.
 Visitation to, 218.
 Amusements in, 147.
- Commencement of Judicial Process, 60.
- Commissions, 219.
 Defined, 35.
 General Purposes, 35.
 Members of, 35.
 Quorum of, 35.
 Officers of, 35.
 Duties Defined by Court Appointing, 35.
 Rules Governing Procedure of, 35.
 Records of, 35.
- Rights of Dissent, Protest, Appeal, and Complaint, 69.
- Commissioners to General Assembly, 277.
- Committee of the Whole, 98.
- Committees, Permanent, 98, 220.
- Committees Standing, 96, 220.
- Common Fame, 60, 61.
- Communion, Terms of, 41.
- Complaints, 68, 70, 319-322.
- Confederation of Evangelical Churches, 236-239.
- Confessional Statement, 5-18.
 Preparation of, 221.
 Submitted and Enacted, 221.
- Congregation
 Defined, 23, 40.
 Organizing of, 40.
 Relocation of, 41.
 Dissolution of, 41.
 Charter for, 222.
 Debts of, 223.
 Federated, 223.
 Ministers of Other Churches in Federated, 223.
 Forwarding Missionary Funds, 223.
 Missionary Treasurer of, 224.
 Organized Mission, Reported as, 224.
 Quorum of, 58, 224.
 Obligation to Missionary Budget, 224.
 Free Pews, 224.
 Committee on Pastoral Settlement, 224.
 Relation of Trustees and Session to Church Property, 225.
 Trustees to Be Members of, 225.
 Trustees to Manage Church Property, 225.
- Congregational Meetings, 58.
 Notice of, 58.
 Limitation of Business in, 58.
 Quorum in, 58.
 For Ecclesiastical Purposes, 58.
 For Business Purposes, 58.
- Congregational Registers, 29.
- Congregational Rolls, 29.
- Congregational Reports to Presbytery, 29.
- Constituting Courts, 27.
- Constitutional Law: Enactment and Amendment of, 34.
- Contumacy: Suspension for, 62-64.
- Corresponding Members of Courts
 Of Presbytery, 29.
 Of Synod, 31.
- Corresponding Churches, 225.
 Expenses of Delegates to, 226.
 Discontinued, 226.
 Resumed in Special Cases, 226.

- In India Referred to Synod of Punjab, 226.
- Corresponding Secretaries, 227.
- Election and Term of Office, 227.
- Right to Speak in General Assembly, 227.
- Whole Time, 227.
- Council of Christian Education, 228.
- Council, General, 228.
- Councils, General, of the Churches, 228.
- Alliance of Presbyterian Churches in India, 228.
- Alliance of Reformed Churches Holding the Presbyterian System, 229.
- Expenses of, 230.
- Withdrawal from, 231.
- Renewal of Relations with, 231.
- Co-operation in Home Mission Work, 232.
- Articles of Agreement, 232.
- Co-operative Work, 234.
- Joint Committee on Christian Education, 235.
- Representatives Elected for Four Years, 235.
- Merger, 235.
- Women Corresponding Members of Council of, 236.
- Confederation of Evangelical Churches, 236.
- Not Entered, 236.
- Conference on, 236.
- Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, 237.
- Participation in, 237.
- Activities of, 237.
- Charges Relating to, 238.
- Method of Support, 238.
- Lay Members of, 238.
- World Council of Churches, 238.
- World Evangelical Alliance, 239.
- Counsel in Judicial Cases, 63.
- Representation by Counsel, 63.
- Those Debarred as, 63.
- Voting Rights Forfeited by, 63.
- Courts of the Church, 27.
- Names and Authorization of, 27.
- Nature and Relations of, 27.
- Method of Constituting, 27.
- Officers of, 27.
- Covenanting, 239.
- Creation, 8.
- Credentials of Commissioners to the General Assembly, 33.
- Creed, Use in Public Worship, 74.
- Curriculum of Study in Theological Seminaries, 491.
- Dancing, 146.
- Deacons, 240.
- Authorization of, 26.
- Nature of Office, 27.
- Duties of, 27.
- Qualifications of, 27.
- Board of, 27.
- Women Eligible to Office of, 27, 240, 242.
- Election of, 56, 241.
- Term of Office of, 56.
- Ordination and Installation of, 56.
- Dissolution of Official Relation of, 57, 241.
- Dead, Burial of, 81.
- Debate in the General Assembly, 100.
- Declinature, 242.
- Deed of Church Property, 213, 214.
- Delegate Fund, 279-288.
- Delegates to the General Assembly, 277-279.
- Delegates to Corresponding Churches, 225, 226.
- Denominations in Church, 23.
- Deposition, 67, 87, 88.
- Desecration of the Sabbath, 428.
- Digest of the Deliverances of the General Assembly, 106, 242.
- Directory for Worship, 73, 243.
- Discipline, 59.
- Defined, 59.
- How Exercised, 59.
- Administrative, 59.
- Judicial, 59.
- Dismissed Members, Jurisdiction of, 43, 60.
- Dismissed Ministers, Jurisdiction of, 60.
- Dismissal of Members, 43.
- Method of, 43.
- Limitation of Certificates, 43.
- Jurisdiction over Certified Members, 43.
- Removal from Roll, 43.
- Dismissal of Ministers, 51.
- Certificate of Standing, 51.
- Effect of Continued Absence, 51.
- Where a Presbytery Becomes Extinct, 51.
- Limitation of Certificates, 51.
- Dissents, 68.
- Dissolution of Pastoral Relation, 50.
- Authorization of Presbytery Needed, 50.
- By Petition, 50.
- Without Petition, 50.
- Final Procedure, 50.
- Pastor Emeritus, 51.
- Dissolution of Official Relation of Ruling Elders, 55.
- By Expiration of Term, 55.
- By Removal, 43, 55.
- By Session or Presbytery, 55.
- By Resignation, 56.

- Dissolution of Official Relations of
Deacons, 57.
By Expiration of Term, 57.
By Removal, 43, 57.
By Session, 57.
By Resignation, 58.
- Divesture of a Minister, 51.
- Divine Healing, 245.
- Divine Purpose, 8.
- Divine Revelation, 7.
- Division of Question, 100.
- Divorce and Remarriage, 80, 245, 327-331.
- Edicts, 47, 49, 54, 56.
- Education, Board of, 246-257.
Charter of, 246-248.
Constitution of, 248.
Regulations of, 249.
Agency for Handling Educational Money, 252.
Aid to Literary Students, 253.
Aid to Literary Institutions, 253, 254.
Aid to Medical Students, 254.
Beneficiaries May Not Use Tobacco, 254.
Beneficiaries to Be Reported, 255.
Chair of Bible in the Colleges, 255.
Competitive Examinations, 255.
Day of Prayer for Colleges, 255.
Educational Institutions to Report to, 255.
Faculties to Report to, 255.
Married Beneficiaries, 256.
Popular Meeting in the General Assembly, 256.
Presbyteries to Exercise Care, 256.
Repayment of Aid by Ministers Leaving the Denomination, 256.
Travel Expense of Students, 256.
- Elders, Ruling. See Ruling Elders, 423.
- Elders, Teaching. See Ministers, 350.
- Election, 9.
- Election of Pastors. See Pastors, 365.
- Election of Ruling Elders. See Ruling Elders, 423.
- Election of Deacons. See Deacons, 56, 241.
- Elective Franchise, 257.
Instruction on, 257.
Extended to Colored People, 257.
Women's Suffrage, 257.
- Emeritus Pastor, 51.
- Episcopacy, 24.
- Evangelism, 257.
- Evangelists, 258.
Authorization by Presbytery Necessary, 30, 52, 259.
Ecclesiastical Responsibility of, 52.
- Ministerial, 52.
Ordination of Ministerial, 52.
Non-Ministerial, 52.
Responsibility of Congregations, 52.
Unlicensed Students, 258.
Institute for Training, 258.
Training in Seminaries, 258.
- Everlasting Life, 17.
- Evidence in Judicial Process, 65.
- Excommunication, 67.
- Extraordinary Officers of the Church, 25.
- Faith, Saving, 11.
- Family, The, 16.
- Family Worship, 78.
- Fasting, 74.
- Finance, 259.
- Financial Agents, 259-262.
Election of, 259.
Duties, 259.
Contributions through, 260.
Acknowledge Receipt of Money, 260.
Blanks for, 261.
General, 261.
Date of Final Remittance of Year, 262.
Bonds for, 262.
- Forbearance in Love, 262.
- Foreign Missions, Board of, 363-377.
Charter of, 263.
Constitution of, 263.
Laymen on, 264.
Associate Secretary of, 264.
Regulations of, 264, 265.
Rules of Finances of, 265.
Manual of Instructions for Missionaries, 266.
Outfits, Salaries, and Allowances for Missionaries, 266-269.
Return of Missionaries, 269.
Salaries of Returned Missionaries, 269.
Allowance to Widows of Missionaries, 269.
Allowance to Children of Missionaries, 269.
Training of Native Missionaries, 270.
- Education of Native Women, 271.
Syria Mission, 271.
Women's Foreign Missionary Societies, 271.
Special Work, 272.
Missionary Associations, 272.
Medical Work Transferred to Women's Board, 272.
Monthly Publication, 272.
Itemized Statement of Expenses of, 272.
Mission to Upper Nile, 272.
Transfer of Rawal Pindi, 273.

- Gibson, Trust Fund, 273.
 Semi-Centennial of, 273.
 Agreement of Women's Board and, 274.
 Synod of Punjab and Fraternal Correspondence in India, 275.
 Charter for Assiut College, 275.
 Aid for Medical Students, 275.
 Four Hundred and Seven Movement, 275.
 Abyssinian (Ethiopian) Mission, 276.
 "Rethinking Missions," 276.
 Christian University at Cairo, 276.
 Forfeiture of Office on Reception of Certificate, 43.
 Funeral Services, 81.
- Gambling, 277.
 General Assembly, 277-296.
 Authorization, 27.
 Rank and Designation of, 33.
 Members of, 33.
 Credentials of Members, 33, 278.
 Size of Presbyterial Delegations to, 33, 277, 278.
 Delegates from Other Bodies to, 33.
 Moderator of, 27, 33.
 Powers and Duties of, 33.
 Time of Meetings of, 34, 277.
 Ceases to Exist When Dissolved, 34.
 Quorum of, 34.
 Opening and Closing of, 34.
 Records of, 34.
 Final Court of Jurisdiction, 69.
 Charter, 190.
 Officers of, 95.
 Alternates of Commissioners, 278.
 Expenses of Commissioners, 279.
 Commissioners' Regular Attendance, 279.
 Printing and Stationery for, 279.
 Delegate Fund, 279-286.
 General Assembly and Delegate Fund, 286-288.
 Blue Book of Reports, 288.
 Certificates, 288-291.
 Ruling Elders Not Members of Session Not to Be Commissioners to, 291.
 Commissioners to, from Egypt and India, 291.
 Provisional Member of Presbytery May Not Represent That Presbytery in, 291.
 Communion Service in, 292.
 Pre-Assembly Conference, 292.
 Manual of, 292.
 Minutes of, 292-295.
 Patriotic Service in, 295.
 Place for Meeting of, 295.
- Popular Meetings in, 295.
 Reduction of Number of Representatives of, 295.
 Transportation Secretary of, 296.
 Vice Moderator to Be Elected, 296.
 General Review and Control, 69.
 God, 7.
 God's Word, The Study of, 13.
 Gospel Call, The, 11.
- Head of the
 Historical Records, 296-300.
 Committee to Prepare History, 296.
 Histories of Congregations, Presbyteries, and Synods, 296.
 Old Records Collected by Board of Publication, 296.
 Permanent Committee on, 297, 298.
 Records of Associate and Associate Reformed Presbyteries and Synods, 297.
 United Presbyterian Historical Society, 297.
 Historical Record of Organization, 298.
 Service Theological Seminary Memorial, 298.
 Tablet Commemorating Organization of the Church in Pittsburgh, Pa., 299.
 Memorial Tablet at Octoraro Church, 300.
 Fireproof Vaults for, 300.
 Holy Scripture, 8.
 Holy Spirit, The, 10.
 Home Missions, Department of, 144.
 Home Religion, 300.
 Hymns, 385.
- Immersion, Baptism by, 76.
 Imposition of Hands, 25, 356.
 Incorporation of Boards, 36.
 Incorporation of Congregations, 38, 58.
 Indians, American, 118.
 Industrial Conditions, 301, 302.
 Committee on, 301.
 The Church and the Labor Problem, 301.
 Knights of Labor, 302.
 Infant Children of the Church, 24.
 Injunction, Rights of, 30.
 Installation,
 Of an Ordained Deacon, 57.
 Of an Ordained Ruling Elder, 55.
 Of an Ordained Minister, 49.
 Instituting of a Judicial Process, 61, 62.
 Instrumental Music, 199.
 Interchurch World Movement, 302.
 Explanation, 302.
 Action, 302.

- Indebtedness, 303.
- Intermediate State, 17.
- International Interests, 303.
 - League of Nations, 303.
 - Irish Question, 304.
 - International Protestant League, 304.
 - Court of International Justice at the Hague, 304.
- Introduction of Corresponding Members of Courts, 29, 31.
- Jews, Missions Among, 304.
- Judgment, The, 17.
- Judicial Cases and Decisions, 306-324.
 - Deliverances on Appeals, 306-309.
 - Appeal from Decision of Moderator, 306.
 - Parties to an Appeal, 306.
 - Parties Must Be Heard, 307.
 - Papers in Case of Appeal May Be Amended, 307.
 - Right of Members of Lower Court to Vote in Case of Appeal, 307.
 - Rights of a Member of a Court Pending an Appeal Affecting His Seat, 308.
 - Presbyteries May, in Exceptional Cases, Appeal Directly to the Assembly, 308.
 - Limitation of Appeals, 308.
 - A Case May Be Settled Pending the Appeal, 309.
 - Appeals to the General Assembly, 309-319.
 - Complaints, 319-322.
 - Petitions, 322.
 - Questions,
 - The Legality of an Interim Commission of Presbytery, 322.
 - Ecclesiastical and Civil Courts, 323.
 - Standing of a Student, 323.
- Judicial Judgment Without Process, 64.
- Judicial Jurisdiction
 - Transfer of to New Court, 39.
 - Original, 60.
 - Over Dismissed Members, 43, 60.
 - Over Dismissed Ministers, 60.
 - Where Congregations Become Extinct, 60.
 - Where Presbytery Becomes Extinct, 60.
 - Irregular Withdrawal from, 65.
 - Final Court of, 69.
- Judicial Process, Commencement of,
 - Preventive Measure by Court, 60.
 - Justification of Process, 60.
 - Procedure in Personal Offenses, 60.
 - Procedure in General Offenses, 60.
- Procedure in Cases of Common Fame, 60.
- Time Limit for Prosecution, 61.
- Only One Trial for Same Offense, 61.
- Judicial Process, The Parties
 - In Cases of Common Fame or Written Information, 61.
 - Original Parties, 61.
 - Responsibility of Accuser, 61.
- Judicial Process, Formal Instituting of
 - Form of Charge, 61.
 - Plurality of Charges, 61.
 - Presentation of Charge, 61.
 - Citation of Witnesses, 61, 62.
- Judicial Process, General Conduct of Trial
 - Charge of Moderator, 62.
 - Objections and Pleas, 62.
 - Presentation of Evidence, 62.
 - Arguments Heard and Judgment Given, 62.
 - Burden of Proof on Prosecutor, 63.
 - Qualified Voters, 63.
 - Records and Copies, 63.
 - Representation by Counsel, 63.
 - Those Eligible as Counsel, 63.
 - Questions and Exceptions, 63.
 - Right of Private Sessions, 63.
 - Proving of Uncharged Offense, 63.
 - Temporary Suspension, 63.
- Judicial Process in Case of Ministers
 - Necessity of Faithfulness, 63.
 - Commencement of Process, 63.
 - Offenses Beyond Bounds of Presbytery, 63.
 - Offenses Unknown to Presbytery, 64.
 - Penalty of Contumacy, 64.
 - Rights of Accused, 64.
- Judicial Process, In Case of Probationer, 64.
- Judicial Process, Grounds of Challenge, 64.
- Judicial Process, Want of Quorum, 64.
- Judicial Process, Exceptional Cases
 - Judgment Without Process, 64.
 - Parties in Appeal, 65.
 - Irregular Withdrawal from Jurisdiction, 65.
- Judicial Process, Evidence
 - Admissable Evidence, 65.
 - Kinds of Evidence, 65.
 - Proof of Charge, 65.
 - Competency and Credibility of Witnesses, 65.
 - Right of Challenge, 65.
 - Form of Oath or Affirmation, 65.
 - Separate Examination, 65.
 - Member of Court as Witness, 65.
 - Examination of Witnesses, 65.

- Record of Testimony, 66.
 Weighing of Evidence, 66.
 Records of a Church Court as Evidence, 66.
 Witnesses from Other Jurisdictions, 66.
 Testimony by Commissioners, 66.
 New Evidence in Appeal, 66.
 Evidence Discovered After Judgment, 66.
- Judicial Process, Sentences
 Definition of, 66.
 Execution of, 67.
 Degrees of Censure, 67.
 Admonition, 67.
 Rebuke, 67.
 Suspension, 67.
 Deposition, 67.
 Excommunication, 67.
- Judicial Process, Restoration of Offenders
 Conditions of, 68.
 Jurisdiction in, 68.
 Method of, 68.
 Ministers, or Other Church Officers, 68.
- Judicial Process, Dissents and Protests, 68.
- Judicial Process, Removal of Case to Higher Court
 Modes, 68.
 Final Jurisdiction, 69.
 Standing of the Inferior Court, 69.
 Cases Before a Commission, 69.
 Review and Control, 69.
 References, 70.
 Complaints, 70.
 Appeals, 71.
- Jurisdiction of the Church in General, 24.
- Justification, 12.
- Kingship of Christ, 23.
 Law of Christ, 23, 24.
 Law of God, 13.
 Legacies, 324.
 Permanent Investment of, 324.
 General Rule on Bequests, 325.
- Licence of Candidates for the Ministry
 Necessity of, 44.
 Examination and Trials for, 44.
 Mode of, 44.
 Limitations of, 45.
 Release from, 45.
 Withdrawal of, 64.
 Presbyteries Exercise Care in, 325.
 Uniformity in, 325.
 Time of, 326.
 Temporary, 326.
 To Be Reported, 326.
- Life Everlasting, 17.
 Lord's Supper, 14.
 Administration of, 77.
- Manual of General Assembly, 91.
- Marriage,
 Solemnization of, 80.
 Those Prohibited, 80, 327.
 Sacredness, 327.
 With Irreligious Persons, 327.
 With Deceased Wife's Sister, etc., 328.
 Polygamist Not to Be Received into Church Membership, 329.
 Mormon Polygamy, 329.
 Divorce, 329, 330.
 Ministers Forbidden to Marry Persons Unscripturally Divorced, 330.
 Licentiates May Not Perform the Marriage Ceremony, 330.
 Marriage and Divorce, Co-operative Action on, 330.
- Members of the Church, 331-333.
 Characterization of, 24.
 Admission of, 41.
 Dismission of, 43, 332.
 Removal from Roll, 43, 331.
 Covenant of, 41.
 Their Fellowship, 16.
 Certificate Blanks, 331.
 To Be Reported, 332.
 Subscriptions, 332.
 Pastor's Responsibilities for, 333.
- Memorial, The Limit of, 333.
- Men's Organizations, 37, 333.
- Metrical Version of the Psalms, 74.
- Ministerial Pensions and Relief,
 Board of, 333-350.
 Aged Ministers' Fund, 333.
 Charter of, 334-336.
 Constitution of, 336.
 Regulations of, 336.
 Conditions of Grants by, 337.
 Presbyteries to Aid, 337.
 Limitation of Grants, 337.
 Report of, 337.
 Endowment Fund, 337.
 Change in Rules, 337.
 Retirement Plan, 338.
 Assistance for Disabled Lay Missionaries, 339.
 Rules, 339.
 Ministers from Other Denominations, 339.
 Annuity Fund, 340-342.
 Pension Fund, 342-349.
 Foreign Missionaries Participate in Pension Fund, 349.
 Reciprocal Agreement with Presbyterian Service Pension Fund, 349.
 Pension Clause in the Call of a Pastor, 350.

- Ministers, 350-356.
 The Office of, 15.
 Nature of the Office, 25.
 Duties of the Office, 25.
 Qualifications for the Office, 26.
 Special Appointments of, 26.
 Judicial Process Against, 63.
 From Other Churches, 350.
 Supplying in Vacancies, 350.
 Rights of Unemployed, 351.
 Increase in Number of, 351.
 In Secular Pursuits, 352.
 Inefficient, May Be Removed, 352.
 Ordination and Installation of, 46, 352.
 Record of Ordination of, 353.
 Record of Deceased, 352.
 Memorial Service for Deceased, 352.
 Withdrawal from the Ministry, 51, 353.
 Reading Sermons, 353.
 Presbytery to Exercise Discipline, 353.
 Requirements of Ministers Leaving the Denomination, 354.
 Lay Workers Not to Exercise the Office of, 355.
 Emergency Call for Laymen, 355.
 Receiving Calls to Reply within Three Weeks, 355.
 Women May Not Be Ordained, 355.
 Caricatures of the Ministry, 355.
 Full College Course for, 356.
 Ruling Elders Lay on Hands, 356.
 Ministers and Probationers from Other Churches, 51.
- Minutes,
 Of Sessions, 29.
 Cf Provisional Sessions, 36.
 Of Presbytery, 31.
 Of Synod, 33.
 Of General Assembly; 34.
 Of a Commission, 35.
 Review of, 69.
 Use as Evidence, 66.
- Missionary and Efficiency Committee, 112.
- Missionary Presbyteries, 29.
- Moderator,
 Office of, 27.
 General Powers of, 27.
 Of Session, 28.
 Of Presbytery, 29.
 Of Synod, 31.
 Of General Assembly, 33.
 Of Commissions, 35.
- Moderator of the General Assembly
 The Office of, 33.
 Authorized to Fill Vacancies, 356.
 To Arrange Devotional Exercises, 356.
- To Serve in Leadership During Year, 356.
 Commissioner to Next General Assembly Recommended, 357.
 To Confirm Certain Elections, 357.
 Synodical Superintendents of Missions, 357.
 Directors of Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary, 357.
 Mountain Work, 357.
 Undertaken, 357.
 Women's Board and, 357.
 A Commission to Organize, 357.
 Change of Name, 357.
- National Reform, 358.
 Religious Amendment to National Constitution, 358.
 Negroes, Work Among, 138-142, 146.
 New Congregations, Organization of, 40.
 New Location of Organized Congregations, 41.
 New Presbyteries, Organization of, 39.
 New Synods, Organization of, 39.
 New World Movement, 359-361.
 Instituted, 359.
 Program Continued, 360.
 Bonds for Financial Agents and Treasurers of, 361.
 Officially closed, 361.
- Oath, Affirmation, Vow, 15, 65.
- Offenses
 Classified and Defined, 59.
 Beyond Bounds of Presbytery, 63.
 Unknown to Presbytery, 64.
- Office in the Church, 25.
 Qualifications for, 25.
 Admission to, 25.
- Officers of the Church, 25.
 Extraordinary, 25.
 Ordinary and Permanent, 25.
- Order, Church, 15.
 Order of Public Worship, 74.
 Ordinances of Public Worship, 74.
- Ordination
 Necessity of, 25.
 Nature of, 25.
 General Method of, 25.
 By Commission, 35.
- Ordination and Installation of Ministers
 Trials and Examinations, 46.
 Edict, 47.
 Presentation of Objections, 47.
 Formal Service, 47.
 Presbyterial Enrollment, 47.
 Installation of Ordained Minister, 49.
 Ordination Without Pastoral Charge, 49.

- Ordination and Installation of Ruling Elders
 Examination, 53.
 Edict, 54.
 Presentation of Objections, 54.
 Formal Service, 54.
 Record of Proceedings and Enrollment, 55.
 Ordination Not to Be Repeated, 55.
 Installation, 55.
- Ordination and Installation of Deacons
 Examination, 56.
 Edict, 56.
 Presentation of Objections, 56.
 Formal Service, 56.
 Record of Proceedings and Enrollment, 57.
 Ordination Not to Be Repeated, 57.
 Installation, 57.
- Ordination and Installation Not to Be Separated, 48.
- Ordination of Evangelists, 48, 52.
- Ordination of Missionaries, 48.
- Ordination of Ministers from Non-Evangelical Churches, 52.
- Ordination, Withdrawal from, 51.
- Oregon, Presbytery of, 361.
- Organization of a Synod, 39.
- Organization of a Congregation, 40.
- Overtures
 On Change of Standards, 34, 362.
 On Information, 35.
 Vote Necessary in Order to Overture, 361.
 Definition of "Clear Majority," 362.
 Amendment to Law of Overtures, 362.
- Papers, Church, 209.
- Parsonages, 363-365.
 Each Congregation Should Have a Parsonage, 363.
 Parsonage Fund, 363.
 Parsonage Fund Assigned to Women's Board, 363.
 Regulations, 363.
 Title to Parsonage Property, 365.
- Parties in Appeals, 65.
- Parties in Judicial Process, 61.
- Pastors,
 Election of, 45, 365.
 Presbyterial Oversight of Payment of Salaries of, 365.
 Pastoral Settlement Plan, 365-370.
 Pastor Emeritus, 51.
 Assistant, 46.
 Of Federated Churches, 382.
- Pastoral Charge, Definition of, 381.
- Pastoral Visitation, 79.
- Peace, 370-372.
 International Arbitration, 370.
 International Peace, 371.
 Prince of Peace, 371.
 Centenary of Peace with England, 371.
 Disarmament, 371.
 World Court, 372.
 Every Effort for, 372.
 Per Diem, 372.
 Personal Offenses, 60.
 Places of Worship, 73.
 Pleas in Judicial Proceedings, 62.
 Praise, 14, 74, 75, 28, 78.
 Praise Books, 373-376.
 Smaller Books, 373, 374.
 Bible Songs, 373.
 One Version of Each Psalm, 374.
 Denominational Imprint on, 374.
 Copyright, 374.
 Bible Songs Hymnal, 374.
 Larger Books, 374-376.
 Psalter, The, 374.
 Revision of Psalter, 375.
 Copyright, 375.
 Denominational Imprint on, 375.
 Revised Version of Psalms in, 375.
 Psalter Hymnal, 375.
 New Praise Books, 375.
- Prayer, 13, 74, 75.
 Meetings for, 73, 78.
 Days of Special, 376.
- Preaching the Word, 76.
- Presbyterian Alliance, 229-236.
- Presbyterian Form of Government, 24.
- Presbyterian Historical Society, 377.
- Presbyterian Churches in India, 377, 378.
- Presbyterian Churches, Negotiations for Union with, 512-516.
- Presbytery, The
 Authorization of, 29.
 Definition of, 27.
 Members of, 29.
 Special Organization of, 29.
 Corresponding Members of, 29.
 Moderator of, 27, 29.
 Powers and Duties of, 30.
 Meetings of, 30.
 Called Meetings of, 30.
 Special Meetings of, 30.
 Meetings of at Synod, 30.
 Meetings Limited to Territorial Bounds, 30.
 Quorum of, 31.
 Opening and Closing of, 31.
 Records and Reports of, 31.
 Revision of Records of, 31.
 Organization of New, 39.
- Presbyteries, 378-383.
 Abroad, 378.
 Relation to the General Assembly, 378.
 Minutes of, 379.

- Organization of, 379.
- Preservation of Records of, 380.
- Represented in the General Assembly, 380.
- Called Meetings, Business of Specified, 380.
- Changes in, 380.
- Commissions of Restricted to Certain Business, 381.
- Constitution of, 381.
- Pastors of Federated Churches Cannot Be Members of Two Presbyteries, 382.
- Funds of, 382.
- Representation in the General Assembly, 382.
 - When Members Are Debarred from Election as Commissioners, 382.
 - Provisional Members of Presbytery Not Eligible for Election as Commissioners, 382.
 - Presbyteries Make Own Rules for Choosing, 382.
- Presbyterial Supervision of Vacancies, 383.
- Principles of the United Presbyterian Church, Distinctive, to Be Maintained, 383.
- Liberty of Sessions in Applying, 383.
- Aid for Congregations Observing, 384.
- Presbyteries May Propose Changes in, 384.
- Changes in,
 - Instrumental Music, 384.
 - Restricted Communion, 384.
 - Psalmody, 384.
 - Secret Societies, 384.
- Private Baptism, 77.
- Private Offenses, 59.
- Private Sessions in Judicial Cases, 63.
- Private Worship, 78.
- Probationers for the Ministry, 44.
 - Necessity for Licensure, 44.
 - Examination and Trials of, 44.
 - Mode of Licensure of, 44.
 - Oversight of, 45.
 - Ecclesiastical Standing of, 45.
 - Limitation of Licensure of, 45.
 - Release from Licensure of, 45.
 - From Other Churches, 51.
 - Charges against, 64.
- Protests, 63.
- Providence, 8.
- Provisional Sessions, 36.
 - Appointment of, 36.
 - Members of, 36.
 - Powers and Duties of, 36.
 - No Representation in Presbytery, 36.
- Responsibility to Presbytery, 36.
- Records and Reports of, 36.
- Proxy Voting Forbidden, 45, 53, 56.
- Psalmody, 386-397.
 - Human Compositions Not Sanctioned, 386.
 - Paraphrases Not to Be Used, 386.
 - Interpretation of the Law of, 386.
 - Amended Version of the Psalms, 386.
 - A New Version of the Psalms, 388.
 - Commended to Congregations, 393.
 - Selections from, 393.
 - Version and Copyright of Prof. Abner Jones, 393.
 - Copyright of the New Version of the Psalms, 393.
 - Conference of Psalm-singing Churches, 394.
 - A Uniform Psalmody, 394.
 - Alliance Proposed, 394.
 - Joint Committee on New Metrical Version of Psalms, 394.
 - Psalmody Conventions, 394.
 - Permanent Committee on, 395.
 - Overture on New Metrical Version of Psalms, 395.
 - Change in Principle of Exclusive Use of Psalms, 397.
- Public Offenses, 59.
- Public Prayer, 75.
- Public Reception of Church Members, 42.
- Public Worship, Order of, 74.
- Publication and Bible School Work,
 - Board of, 397-415.
 - Charter of, 397, 403.
 - Constitution of, 398, 405.
 - Regulations of, 398.
 - Collect Material for a History of the Church, 399.
 - Establish a Bible and Psalm Book Fund, 399.
 - Establish Depositories, 400.
 - Donations to Weak Congregations and Sabbath Schools, 400.
 - Publish a Church Registry for Sessions, 400.
 - Establish a System of Colportage, 400, 402.
 - Purchase Sabbath School Publications, 401.
 - Sabbath School Committee Consolidated with, 401.
 - Publish Tracts, 401.
 - Publish Temperance Literature, 402.
 - Statistics of Contributions to, 402.
 - Branch Store at Denver, Colorado, 402.
 - Sabbath School Work Transferred to Board of Home Missions, 402.

- McElroy Bible Fund, 402.
 Collection of Accounts, 402.
 Minutes of the General Assembly, 403.
 Price of Periodicals, 403.
 Rentals Charged Church Agencies, 403.
 Pamphlet Series, 406.
 Sabbath School Statistics, 406.
 Standing Committee on Sabbath Schools, 407.
 Permanent Committee on Sabbath Schools, 407.
 Sessions and Sabbath Schools, 407.
 Presbyteries and Synods and S. S. Work, 408.
 Presbyterial Supt's of S. S., 408.
 Teachers in S. S. to be Members of the Church, 409.
 Teachers' Meetings, 409.
 Adult Classes, 409.
 Normal Classes, 410.
 Bible, the Text Book, 410.
 Shorter Catechism to be Studied, 410.
 Uniform Lessons Recommended, 411.
 Notes and Lesson Papers, 411.
 Preaching to Sabbath-School Scholars, 411.
 Books and Papers, 411.
 Congregations Provide Expense Funds for S. S., 412.
 Sabbath Schools Open Entire Year, 412.
 Contributions of S. S., 413.
 Missionary Day in S. S., 413.
 Day of Prayer, 414.
 Weekly S. S. Paper, 414.
 Music for S. S., 414.
 Rotation of Quarterly Contributions to Boards, 414.
 Permanent Order of Quarterly Contributions to Boards, 414.
 Sessions Report on S. S. to Presbytery, 414.
 Superintendents and Teachers, 414.
 Bible School Department, 415.
 Plan for Advancement, 415.
 Bible School Statistics in the Minutes, 415.
- Quota or Goal in Giving, 415.
- Reading of Scriptures in Public Worship, 74.
- Rebuke, 67.
- Reception of Ministers from Other Churches, 51.
- Records
 Of Sessions, 29.
 Of Provisional Sessions, 36.
- Of Presbytery, 31.
 Of Synod, 33.
 Of General Assembly, 34.
 Of a Commission, 35.
 Review of, 69.
 Use of as Evidence, 66.
- Reed Estate, 416.
- References to Higher Courts, 70.
- Reformed Presbyterian Churches, 419
 General Synod
 Union with Proposed, 419.
 Synod
 Union with Proposed, 420.
 Delegate to, 421.
 Union with Proposed, 421.
- Regeneration, 11.
- Release from Ministerial Vows, 51.
- Release from Obligations of License, 45.
- Removal of Judicial Cases to Higher Courts, 68.
- Removal of Minister from One Charge to Another, 49.
- Removal of Names from Roll of Congregations, 29, 43.
- Repentance, 11.
- Reports of Presbyteries, 422.
- Resignation
 Of Pastors, 50.
 Of Ruling Elders, 56.
 Of Deacons, 58.
- Responsive Reading of Scripture, 74.
- Restoration of Offenders, 68, 422.
- Resurrection, 17.
- Revelation, 7.
- Review and Control, 69.
- Rotation in Ruling Eldership, 53.
- Rules of Order, 99.
- Ruling Elders
 Authorization of Office of, 25.
 Powers of Office of, 26.
 Duties of, 26.
 Eligible to All Offices, 26, 27.
 Rights of Ordination of, 26.
 Qualifications Required in, 26.
 Ministers Eligible as, 26.
 Election of, 53.
 Term of Office of, 53, 423.
 Permanent Standing of, 53.
 Ordination and Installation of, 53.
 Dissolution of Official Relation of, 55, 423, 424.
 Training of, 424.
 Status of a Certified, 425.
 Roll of Deceased, 425.
 Existing Sessions Cease When New Session Is Installed, 425.
- Rotary System of, Introduction of, 425.
- Not Delegates to General Assembly Unless Members of Session, 426.
- Provisional Sessions, 426.

- Sabbath, The, 14, 73, 428-434.
 Desecration of, 428, 432.
 Closing of Centennial Grounds on, 429, 430.
 Opening of Columbia Exposition, on 430.
 Mails on, 431.
 Papers, 431.
 Co-operation with Other Bodies for Observance of, 431.
 National Sabbath Association, 432.
 Zeal for Maintenance of, 433.
 Sabbath School Lessons on, 434.
- Sabbath Schools, 397-415.
 Under Control of Session, 37.
 Appointment of Officers and Teachers, 37.
 Purpose of, 37, 79.
 Superintendent of, 79.
 Teachers in, 79.
 Devotional Exercises in, 79.
 Offerings of, 79.
- Sacraments, The, 14.
 Baptism, 76.
 Lord's Supper, 77.
- Salaries, 434-436.
- Salvation, 9.
- Sanctification, 12.
- Saving Faith, 11.
- Scriptures, The Holy, 8.
 Authority of, 23.
 Public Reading of, 74.
 Responsive Reading of, 74.
- Seasons of Worship, 73.
- Second Advent, The, 17.
- Secret Societies, 436-441.
 Position on Changed, 384.
- Security of Believers, 12.
- Sentences in Judicial Processes, 66.
- Session, The (See Ruling Elders)
 Authorization of, 27.
 Definition of, 28.
 Members of, 28.
 Moderator of, 27, 28.
 Powers and Duties of, 27, 28.
 Convening of, 29.
 Meetings of, 29.
 Constituting of, 27.
 Opening and Closing of, 27.
 Quorum of, 29.
 Supplemented by Outside Elders, 29.
 Records of, 29.
 Revision of Records of, 29.
 Rotation Among Members of, 53.
 Provisional, 36.
 Meetings for Prayer, 78.
- Service, Christian, 18.
- Short Statement of Doctrine, 441.
- Sick, Visitation of, 80.
- Silent Prayer in Worship, 74.
- Sin of man, The, 8.
- Singing of Praise, 74.
- Slavery, 441.
- Social Order, 16.
- Social Service, 442.
- Special Appointments of Ministers, 26.
- Special Organizations, 37.
- Speers Estate, 444-451.
- Standards of the Church
 The Integrity of, 451.
 Summary of, 451.
 May Be Changed by Overture, 451.
- Book of Government and Worship, 451.
- Confessional Statement, 451.
- State, The, Appointment of Days of Worship by, 73.
- State of the Country, 451-453.
- Statistics, 453-456.
 Items to Be Included in, 453.
 Table of Congregations Contributing, 453.
- List of New Organizations, 453.
- List of Licentiatees, 454.
- Record of Ordinations, 454.
- List of Congregations, 454.
- Record of Deceased Ministers, 454.
- Record of Congregations, 454.
- Vital, 454.
- Average Salary of Ministers, 454.
- Average Per Member Defined, 454.
- Blanks for, 454.
- Time for Forwarding, 454.
- Close of Statistical Year, 455.
- Summaries of Submitted to the Assembly, 455.
- Summaries of Foreign Missions, 455.
- Of Church Property, 455.
- Salary Column, 455.
- Participation in Pension Fund to Be Indicated in, 455.
- Special Statistics, 455.
- Of Bible-Schools, 456.
- Stewardship, 456.
- Students of Theology, 456-459.
 Care in Receiving and Training of, 43.
- Qualifications Required in, 43.
- Presbyterial Oversight of, 43.
- Attendance of at Colleges of the Church, 456.
- Undergraduates Not to Enter Seminary, 456.
- Under Care of a Presbytery, 456.
- Unlicensed Students Should Not Preach, 456.
- Preaching by, 457.
- Temporary and Permanent Licensure, Distinction between, 457.
- May Be Employed in Missionary Labor, 458.

- To Be Trained for Sabbath School Work, 458.
 Exceptional Cases on their Merits, 458.
 Educational Requirements, 458.
 A Clear Call Required, 458.
 Superintendents of Missions in Presbyteries, 459.
 Elections of, 459.
 Duties of, 459.
 Accounts of, 459.
 Co-operate with Synodical Superintendents of Missions, 459.
 Superintendents of Missions in Synods,
 Provision for, 460.
 Synodical Committee of Missions, 460.
 Co-operate with the Boards, 460.
 Synods Shall Elect, 461.
 Election and Duties of, 461.
 Synod of New York and the Election of, 464.
 Suspension, 67.
 Synod, The
 Authorization of, 27.
 Definition of, 31.
 Members of, 31.
 Corresponding Members of, 31.
 Moderator of, 27, 31.
 Powers and Duties of, 27, 32.
 Meetings of, 32.
 Called Meetings of, 32.
 Quorum of, 32.
 Opening and Closing of, 32.
 Records of, 33.
 Revision of Records of, 33.
 Final Court of Jurisdiction, 69.
 Organization of New, 39.
 Synods
 Date of Organization of, 465.
 Minutes of, 465.
 Attendance of Members of, 465.
 Change of Boundaries of, 465.
 Synod of the Nile, 466, 467.
 Biennial Meetings of Synod of the Pacific, 467.
 Schedule of Meetings of, 468.
 Territorial Trespas of, 468.
 Delegate Body, 469.
 Assembly and Delegate Fund Extended to, 469.
 Teachings in the Synod's Educational Institutions, 469.
 Synod of New York and National Lord's Day Alliance, 469.
 Synods Abroad, 470.
 Greater Self-Determination of, 470.
 Systematic Beneficence, 79, 80, 193-196.
 Teaching Elders (See Ministers)
 Temperance, 471-481.
 Manufacture and Sale of Intoxicating Drinks, 471.
 Total Abstinence, 472.
 Duty of the Church in Temperance Reform, 473.
 Prohibition, 473.
 License for Sale of Liquors Wrong, 475.
 Duty of Christian Citizens, 475.
 Instruction on in Public Schools, 476.
 Meetings on the Sabbath, 476.
 Unfermented Wine in the Lord's Supper, 476.
 Week of Prayer and, 476.
 Sabbath School Lessons on, 477, 479.
 United Efforts with Other Denominations on, 477.
 Delegates to Temperance Congress, 478.
 Women's Christian Temperance Union, 478.
 In New Hebrides, 479.
 Permanent Committee on, 479.
 Prohibition in Oklahoma, 479.
 Church Members and the Liquor Traffic, 480.
 Eighteenth Amendment, 480.
 Conditions After Repeal of Eighteenth Amendment, 481.
 Temporary Suspension, 63, 64.
 Terms of Communion, 41.
 Explanation of the Sixteenth Article of the Testimony, 481.
 Adherence to the Standards, 482.
 Sessions to Exercise Wise Discretion, 483.
 Forbearance in Love Defined, 484.
 Terms of Communion May Be Changed, 485.
 Changed, 485.
 Testimony in Judicial Process. (See Evidence.)
 Thanksgiving, Public, 74, 78.
 Thanksgiving Proclamation, 485.
 Theological Professors.
 Election of, 38, 494-498.
 Transfer of, 38.
 Those Eligible as, 38.
 Removal of, 38.
 Theological Seminaries
 Necessity of, 37.
 Relation to Synods, 37, 487, 488.
 Relation to the General Assembly, 38, 486-488.
 Change of Name of Allegheny to Pittsburgh, 488.
 Consolidation of, 488-491.
 Curriculum of Study in, 491-494.
 Term of Study in, 494.

- Examination of Students in, 494.
 Bible Training School in, 498.
 Entrance Procedure, 498.
 Moderator to Confirm Election of Directors of, 498.
 Time Limit
 For Certificates of Members, 43.
 For Certificates of Ministers, 51.
 For Licensure, 45.
 For Judicial Prosecution, 61.
 For Notice of Appeal or Complaint, 69, 70, 71.
 For Reasons for Appeal or Complaint, 69, 70, 71.
 Tobacco, Use of, 498.
 Transfer of Minister by Act of Presbytery, 50.
 Treasurer, Duties of, 27.
 Treasurer of Assembly to Attend All Meetings of the Assembly, 500.
 Treasurer of the Assembly Proper., 500.
 Election of Treasurers of the Boards, 500.
 Treasurers to Keep Accounts with Presbyteries, 500.
 Reports of Treasurers to the General Assembly, 500.
 Reports of Treasurers to Be Audited, 501.
 Treasurers to Keep Bequests and Permanent Funds Invested, 501.
 Central Treasury for Transmission of Funds, 501.
 Trial, a Judicial, Conduct of, 62-67.
 Trials
 For Licensure, 44.
 For Ordination, 46.
 Triumph, Final, 18.
 Trustees of the General Assembly
 Duties of, 501.
 To Secure the Claims of the Board of Church Extension, 502.
 To Take Action to Retain Church Property, 502.
 Not Members of the Boards, 502.
 Trustees of Congregations
 Place of, 38.
 Powers and Duties of, 38.
 Not Ecclesiastical Officers, 38.
 Should Be Members of the Church, 38.
 Union with Christ, 12.
 United Presbyterian Church of North America, 502-512.
 Formed by Union of Associate and Associate Reformed Churches, 502.
 Basis of Union, 502-508.
 Consummation of the Union, 508.
 Identity of with Its Predecessors, 508.
 Committee to Prepare a History of, 509.
 Histories of Congregations, Presbyteries, and Synods, 509.
 Old Records to Be Secured and Published, 510.
 Permanent Committee to Collect and Deposit Old Records, 510.
 Records of Associate and Associate Reformed Presbyteries and Synods, 510.
 Historical Society of, 511.
 Historical Record of Organizations, 511.
 Business Use of "United Presbyterian" name to be avoided, 511.
 The United Presbyterian Church of Oregon Admitted to, 511.
 Historical Tablet in Pittsburgh Marking the Place Where Union of 1858 Was Consummated, 512.
 Union of Churches, Proposals for Of Presbyterian Churches, 512, 513, 514.
 Informal Overture on, 514.
 Closer Relations with Presbyterian Church in U. S., 514.
 Presbyterian Unity, 515, 516.
 Committee on Church Relationships, 516.
 Unity of the Church, 23.
 Vacancies, 28, 29, 45, 50, 365-370.
 Versions of Psalms, 74, 374, 375.
 Vice Moderator, Office of, 28.
 Visitation
 Of Church Members, 28, 79.
 Of the Sick, 80.
 Visible Church, The, 23, 24.
 Vows, 15.
 Of Members, 44.
 Of Marriage, 80.
 Of Ministers, 46.
 Of Ruling Elders, 53.
 Of Deacons, 56.
 War, 516.
 Week of Prayer, 517.
 White Gift, 517.
 Withdrawal
 Of Licensure, 64.
 Of Ministerial Ordination, 51.
 Witnesses in Judicial Process
 Citation of, 61.
 Competency and Credibility of, 65.
 Administration of Oath to, 65.
 Women Eligible as Deacons, 27.
 Women's Organizations, 37.
 Women's General Missionary Society, 518-524.

- Organization of, 518.
Relation of to the General Assembly, 518.
Charter of, 519.
Missionary Societies to Forward Contributions through Their Own Treasurers, 519.
Junior Missionary Societies, 519.
Board of Directors of, 519.
Organized at First as Women's Auxiliary Board Approved and Instructed, 520.
Power of Women's Board, 521.
Work Among American Indians, 521, 522.
Agreement with Board of Foreign Missions, 522.
Joint Tenure of Property with Board of Freedmen's Missions, 522.
Work Among Freedmen, 522.
Work Among Aliens, 522.
Parsonage Loans, 523.
Advisory Members from on Board of Administration, 523.
To Nominate a Member as Corresponding Member of the Council of the Presbyterian Council, 523.
Women's Christian Temperance Union, 524.
Worship
Definition of, 73.
Object of, 73.
Medium of, 73.
Necessity and Duty of, 73.
Outward and Visible, 73.
Kinds of, 73.
Directory for, 73.
Seasons of, 73.
Places of, 73, 74.
Ordinance of, 74.
Order of, 74.
Young People's Work, 524-531.
Organization of, 524-529.
Contributions and Special Evangelistic Work, 529.
General Secretary, 529.
Presbyterial Conventions, 530.
General Recommendations on, 530.
Communion Service at National Conventions, 531.
Classification of Societies, 531.



Princeton Theological Seminary Libraries



1 1012 01187 4908