

About Washington

It is generally known among our pastors that the Executive Committee has had its eye on Washington, D. C., as a possible point for national home missions activity, and that Regional Superintendent Frank J. Davis recently spent some time there, making a survey of its possibilities.

The Executive Committee was pleased with the work that Brother Davis did. President Baker writes, "I am pleased and encouraged by what Brother Davis has uncovered in Washington." They are also pleased with his comprehensive and careful report of findings.

The facts that stand out are these:

1. There are possibly as many as 100 persons in Washington and vicinity with some Advent Christian background. Less than half of these persons attended the Davis meetings, but enough to indicate that a reasonable nucleus could be rallied.

2. Many of this number are transient (soldiers, sailors, workers in government departments, etc.) who could not be counted upon for a permanent work.

3. On the part of those who may be regarded as permanent residents, there appeared some interest in the establishment of an Advent Christian church. Some indicated that they would support such a work, but Brother Davis was disappointed in the number.

4. The probable cost of the project surprised the committee. It appears that the national capital will prove an expensive place to develop.

With these facts before them, the National Council and Executive Committee have felt that more study should be given to this proposition before committing the denomination to it. In particular is it considered desirable that, if possible, additional local leadership should be recruited. The committee has therefore requested Regional Superintendent Clarence Kirby, of Jacksonville, Florida, to spend a couple of weeks in Washington with this object in view.

The Committee has by no means abandoned the idea of a national home mission project in the nation's capital. An Advent Christian church in Washington is desirable. We wish to be sure of two things, however, before we proceed: (1) that now is the propitious time, and (2) that our money can be more wisely invested there under present conditions than at some other strategic point.

The Oakland Convention

By P. H. JAFFARIAN

The Pacific Coast Advent Christian Association convened at Oakland, California, from October 12 to 15. In connection with these meetings there was also held a specially called meeting of the Pacific Advent Christian Publication and Mission Society

on Friday, October 13th. Much preparation had preceded these meetings. Many prayers had been offered in their behalf, asking for heavenly guidance, since important matters which were of vital concern to the Advent Christian people on the Pacific Coast were to be considered.

In this region we have four conferences, composed of comparatively few churches. These churches are widely scattered, stretching all the way from Sumas, Washington, on the Canadian border, to San Diego, California, near the Mexican border.

The above-named two Societies had heretofore served the regional interests of the denomination in this area. The annual meeting of each society was held in a different location and at a different time, and their delegate bodies were drawn largely from the same constituency. With this set-up there was a duplication of officers, effort, appeals, authority, etc. Distances, travel expense and time affected a proper representation at both meetings. It was apparent to all that our Pacific Coast work lacked co-ordination. It needed unification.

With this end in view the joint meetings were held this year. The merging of two separate corporations was proposed. Many legal steps were necessary, constitutional changes required, etc. But all necessary steps prior to the meetings were taken, and when finally the delegates converged upon Oakland, everything was in readiness. It was an expectant group, looking forward to a program of *Advance*.

After careful consideration of the matters at hand, the votes for the merger were taken, and we are happy to state that in both societies the votes were unanimous.

The surviving corporation is known as the Pacific Coast Advent Christian Association. A Board of Directors, composed of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a Member-at-large, was named. The membership of this Board is composed of representatives from each Conference, and it is under mandate to hold at least two meetings each year aside from the annual meeting. The Board will exercise general supervision over the denominational interests on the Pacific Coast and considerable responsibility with designated authorities have been delegated to it.

Officers were elected as follows: President, P. H. Jaffarian; Vice President, Alvin E. Lobb; Secretary, R. E. Stanley Hunt; Treasurer, Samuel J. Dodge; and Member-at-large, Dennis L. Moss. This Board is to hold its first meeting at Oakland in January.

Preaching services were held each evening and thrice on Sunday. The sermons were timely and helpful. A large delegation was present and the church was filled to overflowing on Sunday. It was a joy to have our beloved missionary, Hannah Stocks, in our midst and we were all deeply moved by her message telling of her escape from China. The Oakland Convention will long be remembered

and we trust that the consolidation of our forces will prepare the way for a greater development of the Advent Christian Church on the Pacific Coast.

Reorganization in the Southland

By CLARENCE L. KIRBY

"Too much machinery" has been the feeling of many of us for some time when thinking of the numerous organizations in our body. For a couple of years some of us in the South have been talking of consolidating our work. We realized the need of the organizations in the beginning, but felt that better work could be done with less machinery.

The official heads of three organizations—the Advent Christian Press, the Southern Association of Advent Christian Conferences (SAC), and the Southern Council of Christian Education—sought for a basis of consolidation. At the Advent Christian Press meeting in August, 1943, a committee was appointed to formulate such a basis.

At the meeting of the Southern Council of Christian Education last August, the plan was presented and approved. The following day it was adopted by the Advent Christian Press. At the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Advent Christian Conferences in November, it was approved. With this last approval, the Council of Christian Education and the SAC ceased, and consolidation is now in effect.

Under the charter of the Advent Christian Press, the Southern Advent Christian Association is set up to meet jointly with the Press, and is composed of the same delegate body. It may have separate sessions, but ordinarily it will not. At the annual meeting of the joint bodies, members for the following boards will be elected as terms expire: the Board of the Advent Christian Press, the Board of Christian Education, and the Board of Home Missions. The two last named boards will elect an executive secretary who shall administer the affairs of the boards. The chairmen and the secretaries of the three boards are a committee for co-ordinating the work of the Press-Association.

Many advantages will result from this consolidation, chiefly that only one delegate body will be necessary to elect the boards for all phases of our work.

We are delighted to see that the Pacific Coast area has taken a similar step. Many of us feel that the same step needs to be taken in the denomination as a whole. The boards of directors of all national institutions; e.g., the Home and Orphanage, Aurora College, New England School of Theology, the American Advent Mission Society, and of a denominational publishing house, should be elected by the General Conference, and should compose the corporation of these institutions. We feel that there should be a national W. H. & F. M. Society in fact, instead of an Eastern regional society serving

as a national society, and that the national society should meet at the same time and place as the General Conference.

Distances in our body make it imperative that we have fewer delegate bodies for the control of what is of interest to all of us. Why make it necessary to send delegates, or be without representation, to so many corporations? Much more interest would be manifest in the General Conference if all national institutions were controlled by it. Naturally a majority of the members of the boards would of necessity live in the area adjacent to the institution controlled. Let us cut the machinery and do more business for the Lord.

Ministerial Conferences

Aurora College resumed the series of annual ministers' conferences, which had been interrupted by the war, by inviting the pastors of the Middle West to meet at the school November 14-17, 1944. While the attendance was somewhat below expectation, this was explained by the fact that several of the pastors of the area were in revival meetings. In the neighborhood of 30 ministers and theological students attended or participated in the various services. Nine scheduled classes per day plus the chapel service and closing devotional period each evening kept the men busy with "refresher" courses and inspirational interludes.

Is not this a suggestion for our other regions? As a matter of fact, two or three such pastors' institutes have been held elsewhere: e.g., in Boston and Jacksonville, Fla. There are in each section of the country qualified leaders—seminary and university men—well equipped for this type of work. If thought desirable, and if such conferences could be arranged at different times of the year, the Executive Secretary and possibly faculty members from our two schools might be available to help.

Other denominations insist upon their pastors' taking "refresher" courses at more or less regular intervals and arrange such institutes for this purpose. There is no reason why we should lag behind our sister groups in this important service to our ministry. In areas where the holding of such conferences is not the natural function of existing institutions, the regional Board of Councillors of the General Conference would doubtless be glad to arrange for such.

Pet Peeves of a Preacher

One of my pet peeves is a preacher who, in reading from the Bible, pronounces the word *saith* in two syllables, as though it were spelled *sayeth*. It should, of course, be pronounced to rhyme with the corresponding forms, *says* and *said*; i.e., as if it were spelled like the proper name *Seth*.

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— AT —

165 CALUMET AVENUE

AURORA, ILLINOIS

CLARENCE H. HEWITT, M.A., D.D.

EDITOR

Denominational Problems**II. Relationships**

One criticism that may be leveled at us Advent Christians is that we are too parochial. We become so concerned with the work in our own parishes that we undervalue our relationships to other churches and to the denomination as a whole. Relationships are an important part of denominational life, and no denomination is in a healthy condition when such relationships fail to be recognized, or fail to contribute health and blessing to the denominational life.

We are part of a great church army battling under the banner of Truth for the Captain of our salvation. Each church is a company; each conference is a regiment, each region is a division, and the five regional divisions make up the denominational army, with General Conference as the General Staff.

Admitting at once—and wholeheartedly—that strict military organization is inconceivable and undesirable in a Protestant church army, a certain analogy nevertheless exists. No army can be victorious unless certain relationships are recognized and certain obligations assumed on the part of each soldier and each company toward other units of the army. So, if we are to have a victorious church army, there must be a recognition on the part of each church member and of each church that they are part of a greater whole, with relationships and obligations.

There must be an *esprit de corps*, a sense of enthusiastic loyalty to the whole army—and to its leaders—which springs from a sense of belonging to a unified whole, and of certain relationships between the various units of the body, and of obligations flowing from these relationships.

Denominational relationships work both ways. On the one hand, there are relationships of local churches to the larger units: state conferences, national and regional institutions, and the national body or General Conference. Flowing from these relationships are also certain obligations. Our problem is to get our people individually—including our ministers!—as well as the various units, to recognize and to accept these relationships, and to assume the obligations that arise out of them.

Let us consider first, the relationships of the

smaller to the larger units, and the ensuing obligations.

In general, the relationship is that of parts to the whole. The obligation in general, like the function of organs to the body, is that of ministering to the life and well-being of the whole. To be specific, the obligations of the local church to the annual conference are (1) to send wisely chosen delegates to every session; (2) to furnish up-to-date and complete reports on the blanks provided for this purpose; (3) to participate actively in the work of the Conference, carrying out to the best of its ability its share of the Conference program. Moving one step higher, the obligation of the local church to national and regional institutions includes: (1) welcoming representatives of such institutions and permitting appeals to be made in their behalf, and (2) contributing to their support. And to our General Conference the responsibility of the local church includes (1) furnishing regular reports and (2) assuming its fair share of the financial support of the General Conference program, both national and regional.

Let us consider now the relationship and obligation of the state conference to the larger units. The relationship is again that of a part to the whole, and the function or obligation is that of contributing to the life and well-being of the whole. Specifically, this obligation of the state conference to the regional organization is two-fold: (1) to send delegates to the regional meetings, and (2) to accept the regional program and to participate loyally in it. The state conference sustains much the same responsibilities to the General Conference. These responsibilities include: (1) sending delegate representation, both ministerial and lay, (2) accepting the national program, once it has been adopted, and participating loyally in it, (3) fostering an interest in General Conference and its program on the part of its member churches, and (4) adopting and effectively using the Uniform Report Blanks, which are furnished free of charge by the General Conference. How important this fourth point is may be seen by reading the article elsewhere in this issue on the new Manual.

We must press on, however, to consider the other side of this problem: the relationships and obligations of the larger denominational units to the smaller.

Between all of these larger units and the local church the relationship is that of the whole to its various parts or member units. And in general the obligation of these larger units is to foster the interests of, serve the needs of, and furnish protection for, the smaller units.

We may illustrate from the case of the General Conference and the local church. The relationship of the General Conference to the local church involves the obligation to foster interests. Every effort made by General Conference to strengthen and advance our denomination contributes to this end, for by giving us a forward-looking program it stimulates morale among the pastors and church members gen-

erally. A strengthened denominational life inevitably raises the tone of local church life.

Let us be more specific. The whole-to-part relationship involves the obligation of serving the needs of the churches. There can be no doubt that General Conference is discharging this obligation. A partial list of the direct contributions of General Conference to local church needs during the last three years includes such items as (1) outlines for special preaching programs on doctrinal and evangelistic themes, (2) the General Conference study courses, which many of our pastors have used with good results, (3) pieces of literature either for free distribution or at low prices. The former sort includes three leaflets or pamphlets, *How to Read the Bible*, *The Unnamed Sin*, and *What Is Adventism?* A new series of twelve two-color tracts along evangelistic and spiritual lines will soon be produced under General Conference auspices. (4) Model constitutions for Advent Christian churches are recommended, and copies furnished free. (5) Plans and literature for Tithing Campaigns are provided. (6) The services of two competent National Evangelists are offered with no other obligation to the local church than entertainment and an offering.

Finally, there is the obligation to protect. When a soldier falls ill or is wounded, he is cared for by the Army. In a church army, the large unit of right has a similar responsibility, just as in the body, the organism as a whole contributes to the healing of an injured part. The service of the larger unit in this regard should be welcomed and used by the smaller units. We may illustrate in two ways. (1) In a case of serious division within a local church, the larger unit (state conference, regional association or General Conference) is rightfully responsible to offer counsel and aid in solving the problem, that if possible, the wounded member may be healed. (2) Unworthy ministers. A church that is without a pastor is sometimes victimized by an unworthy minister who is seeking a place for himself. The larger units again have a clear responsibility to protect the endangered church. In order to implement both these obligations, many of our churches, at the suggestion of General Conference, have placed in their church constitutions articles which obligate the church to seek the aid of higher units in the settlement of serious internal disputes, and to seek counsel and advice of responsible denominational officials before calling a pastor.

Whether we as individuals like it or no, relationships do exist within a denomination. They work in both directions. These relationships determine obligations. The recognition and acceptance of such relationships and of the obligations flowing from them is essential to a healthy and thriving denominational life.

"He drew a circle that shut me out,
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout;
But love and I had the wit to win,
We drew a circle and took him in."

New Church Builders Union Helps Baltimore

A new Advent Christian Church, the first of our faith in the state of Maryland, has recently been organized under the leadership of Rev. Robert Gerald. While there is record of Second Adventist meetings in Baltimore in connection with the "Millerite" movement and a little later, there has never been any organized Advent Christian work in this city of nearly a million people. The Executive Secretary, as related elsewhere in these columns, has recently visited this group. He was favorably impressed with the quality of people Pastor Gerald has gathered about herself and with the prospects before the infant church.

The New Church Builders Union meets its first real test in connection with this Baltimore work. It will be remembered that this Union is a loose affiliation of several hundred persons who have pledged themselves to make a contribution—large or small—to the erection of a new Advent Christian church in a new field whenever called upon to do so by the directors of the Union. The directors are a committee appointed by the National Council of Home Missions, which is one of the standing Boards of the General Conference. The present directors are Rev. J. H. Crouse, Rev. C. L. Kirby and the Executive Secretary.

Pursuant to the vote of the directors, the official call for help for Baltimore has been mailed to the Union's membership. At this writing—only a few days later—forty gifts have come in, totaling \$327. This is an average of \$8 per gift, which is very good indeed. However, since one check for \$150 is included, this is perhaps higher than can be expected. If the average can be held to at least \$5, and if all members respond, a real lift will be given to our Baltimore friends.

The Baltimore church has already voted that the property, when erected, shall be deeded to the denomination. Such action will be required of all churches aided by the Church Builders Union. This is only a sensible provision. No church building erected with the aid of the New Church Builders Union will ever be stolen from us, either by irresponsible lay leadership or by self-seeking preachers.

The New Church Builders Union present membership list should be quadrupled. It easily can be quadrupled, with the aid of faithful pastors. So far the membership has been recruited largely from the Midwest and South. Where are the East, the Appalachian and the Pacific Coast? What with the prospect that new buildings will soon be needed in such places as Pittsfield, Mass.; Savannah, Ga.; Washington, D. C.; Charlotte, N. C.; National City, Calif.; Sacramento, Calif., and other places, we should have at least two thousand members. Pastors, let us hear from you. Send in the membership cards. One pastor has written us that he will not be satisfied until his church people are signed up one hundred per cent!

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EDITOR

DENOMINATIONAL PROBLEMS**Closer Supervision of Churches and Ministers**

In this editorial, may the Executive Secretary talk quite frankly and in strictest confidence with the ministers of our beloved denomination? We wish to discuss a problem of paramount interest to our body, and in order to do so effectively it seems needful to refer to certain matters which it would be desirable not to broadcast generally.

For years your Executive Secretary has believed that a greater degree of supervision on the part of the denomination over its member churches and ministers would be desirable. The experience of the last three years has convinced him even more strongly. He feels that he would be recreant to trust not to call the attention of the leaders of our group to the situation and to a possible solution.

The fact is that both our ministers and our churches need a closer degree of supervision than we have hitherto felt that as a congregational body we could give them. The trouble is not that we are a congregational body that that we have obeyed the letter of congregationalism rather than the spirit of it. We have been lacking in imagination, and have failed to understand the elasticity of the congregational system.

The gravity of our problem may best be brought home by three actual cases within recent memory. We are referring to these incidents without rancour and without prejudice to the churches concerned. We can scarcely hope to conceal the identity of these cases from all of our readers, but we can and do ask that they refrain from publicizing them.

A few years ago a certain church where the interest was at a low ebb was looking for a "live wire" to put them back on the map. Someone recommended a free lance who happened to be "available." The brother proved to have at least one thing in common with Melchizedek: denominationally, he had "neither father nor mother," being "without descent" as to ordination. But because he was a "live wire," he was taken-in, despite the fact that he could present no letter of recommendation or transfer from any recognized denominational group. He claimed to have accepted our truths. It was not long, however, before his people were being

led into certain excesses which have periodically troubled us, and natural immortality was being preached from the pulpit. After some years, this "live wire" went out from us, because he was not of us, leaving a church shaken in its loyalty to the group.

In another church, where division had weakened the work, a consecrated minister led a campaign to pay off a heavy mortgage. Quite a sum of money was solicited from the denomination at large because the building was a memorial to a fallen leader. No sooner was the campaign a success and the enterprising pastor had moved to a larger field than the local leadership sold the property in which so much denominational money had just been invested and put it into a much poorer property which has since been sold. It was a fatal mistake. The church in question has been non-existent for some time.

We cite still a third example. A church once called as pastor a brother who was undergoing mild discipline from his conference. From this action there developed a rift between the church and the conference which persisted over a period of years. Eventually the church dropped the name *Advent Christian* and became just another independent Bible church. Net result: a minister, a good congregation and a valuable church property lost to the cause.

Summing up: Church A called a perfect stranger without proper investigation and denominational endorsement; in Church B, weak-kneed and blundering local leadership sold a valuable property in which considerable denominational money had been invested without seeking advice and counsel of denominational leaders; in case C, both minister and church acted in total disregard of their moral obligation to the larger body. Need I point out that all these cases root back to our vaunted congregationalism? Can you imagine any of them happening in a connectional body, such as the Methodist or Presbyterian?

On the other hand, the possibilities of what can be done under adequate supervision is illustrated by another trio of actual cases.

Church D. Located in the metropolis of its state. It had once been a thriving church but for various reasons it had reached a low ebb and was in imminent danger of being closed. The regional board of the General Conference stepped in, and with the consent of the local group installed an aggressive pastor and underwrote the program financially. Today this is one of the best churches in its region.

Church E. Located in an enterprising manufacturing city. An Advent Christian Church of average size, it became financially weakened during the depression to the point where it felt unable to support a pastor. A Sabbath-keeping brother was secured to supply the pulpit, which he did for many months. While this might be construed as an opportunity for the church to win an admired speaker from the bondage of legalism, it was interpreted

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DENOMINATIONAL PROBLEMS

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by the Board of Councillors of the region as a potential source of peril. The Board accordingly offered to cooperate in calling and supporting an Advent Christian pastor. As a result a fine young man was settled there and the work came back nicely. This church is now perhaps in the best condition it has ever been.

Church F. Located in one of America's most renowned large cities. A small membership erected a fine church and church school plant, then found itself unable during the depression to pay out. Arrangements had practically been completed to sell to another denomination when again the regional Board of Councillors stepped in with needed leadership. A pastor was secured and a campaign was started to pay off the debt. Today this church owns its property and is in good shape spiritually as well as financially.

Summary: in each of these cases an actually or potentially dangerous situation was relieved and a strategic church was saved to the denomination because the local group consented to a form of helpful denominational supervision.

Better supervision of local situations is needed (a) when, for the good of both pastor and church, a charge should be made, (b) when division within the church threatens its continued existence, (c) when tragedy has overtaken the church in the form of a scandal involving the pastor, (d) when a church is disintegrating because of a long pastorless period, (e) when a church has become so weakened it can no longer support a pastor alone and needs either mission aid or to be placed with another church on a circuit.

Perhaps, however, the need is not for special supervision in certain crises to save churches, but for a form of continuous supervision in order to avoid such crisis. Quite possibly—as some writers in our papers have suggested—we would profit by a full-fledged episcopal system like that of Methodists and Evangelicals. But there is little use speculating along that line because there is little likelihood that we will ever have it.

We are congregationalists, and we are going to remain congregationalists. But there is one thing we can do. We can become better congregationalists,—as good as the Congregationalists themselves. Like them we can take advantage of the elasticity of the congregational principle, we can expand our system of congregational government so as to include within its framework joint church—denominational responsibility in the matter of church—pastor relationships, together with a recognition of denominational responsibility for the welfare of the local church when it is threatened by serious difficulty and that it may rightfully exercise supervision at that point.

This may be a wild dream. But I hope the time will come—and soon—when we shall adopt the feature of the state or area superintendency that is

working so well for the Congregational-Christian churches, in that our regional superintendents will be recognized as sustaining a definite advisory-supervisory relationship to the churches of their region.

I hope the time will come—and soon—when our churches will neither call a pastor nor ask a pastor to resign without first securing the counsel and approval of the regional superintendent and his board.

I hope the time will come—and soon—when no minister will resign a pastorate or accept a call without the advice and approval of his regional superintendent or board.

Unless our pastors and our churches will be willing to discipline themselves in some such moderate fashion as this, unless we are willing to bring our own congregational independency within some such self-imposed limits as the Congregationalists themselves are finding good and useful, I can see ahead of us only confusion worse confounded, only a sad record of multiplying losses.

Are we big enough to take such a step of advance?

Pastoral Changes

Boryk, John. Millville, Fla., to West Jacksonville, Fla.

Daniels, Harry L. Port Clyde, Me., to Sunshine, Deer Isle, Me.

Dial, W. Z. Acting pastor, Mendota, Ill.

Fillinger, Robert. N.E.S.T. to Port Clyde, Me.

Harper, Moss. Morganton, N. C., to Valley, Rt. 2, Carrollton, Miss.

McKnight, Willsie J. Aurora College, to Kansas City, Kan. 1937 No. 24th St.

Northup, Arthur B. Westfield, Mass., to Bristol, Conn. 10 Summit St.

Osborne, Victor. Friendship, Me., to Peace Dale, R. I. 35 Sweet Fern Lane

Rowe, Gard L. To Lynn, Mass.

Sapp, F. O. To Lewiston Orchards, Lewiston, Idaho.

Schaumburg, J. J. To Modesto, Calif. 508 Sierra Drive.

Shepard, Hugh. Barbour's Chapel, N. C., to Millville, Fla. Box 368

Spaulding, Leonidas M. Detroit, Mich., to be superintendent of Vernon Home, South Vernon, Mass.

Withrow, Clarence M. Adria, Va., to Clovis, N. M. 1218 Calhoun St.

HE PLEADS FOR A SEMINARY

We have permission to pass on the following paragraph from a personal letter to the Executive Secretary, written by one of the outstanding young ministers of New England. The writer is a graduate of the New England School of Theology and had pursued graduate study on the seminary level with credit to himself and to the denomination. He believes, apparently, that we need a seminary of our own. This is what he writes:

DEFEATISM AND ADVANCE

[A resume of President Baker's opening address at Charleston on Sunday morning, June 30, 1946]

It is very evident that the Program Committee requires the speakers at this conference to take a realistic attitude toward the present status of our denominational enterprise. And not only they, but the Advent Christian believers in America and in the world, are counting upon us to provide them with an adequate leadership in these critical days of time.

A topic such as this one which has been assigned to me requires a careful analysis of our denominational conditions. The *Advent Christian Manual*, which should be in every one of our homes, provides us with the detailed status of our body as it is today. To wish that those statistics were more voluminous or to idly philosophize why they do not portray a greater advance in service is useless, unless it will enable us to more wisely face the future. We are a small, widely scattered people with an unpopular message, yet, thank God, some of His choicest saints are to be found in our ranks.

Whether we advance now or allow the spirit of defeatism to overwhelm us is primarily a matter of denominational morale. Certainly no army can be expected to advance when permeated by an attitude of defeatism. And certainly no church group can be expected to advance in Christian service without a plan for action and an organization through which to act. We recall the theme of one of our earliest sermons although the details have now been forgotten: "Morale is Vision Plus Valor."

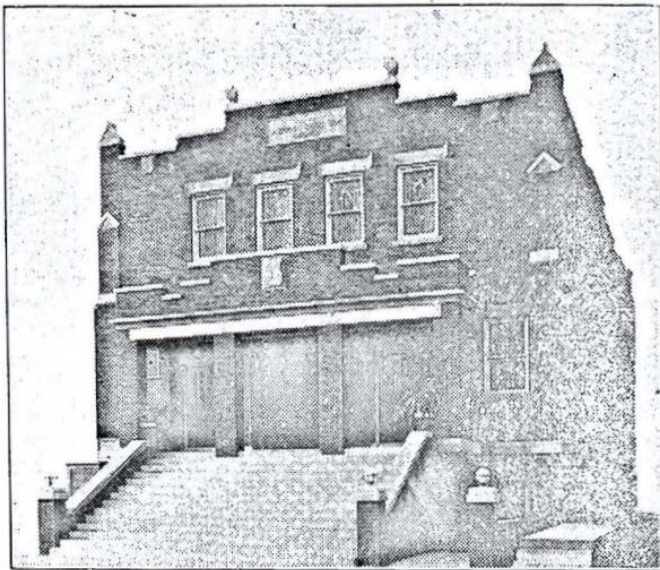
Strengthening Our Morale

The most potent binding factor in our Advent Christian brotherhood today is the doctrinal basis of our fellowship. We believe that basis to be scriptural, logical and defensible. And we must have able, kindly, and convincing exponents of those doctrines in pulpit, press and over the radio. We should expend our energies upon presenting "Those things most surely believed among us," rather than upon the "anise and cummin" of the debatable issues involved in those doctrines.

Unless our Christianity is something more than doctrinal theory we have failed to comprehend the meaning of that term, and we have certainly failed in an adequate appropriation of the grace of God. Nothing so enhances the cause of Christ as the exemplification of His

new commandment of love,—that love which covers a multitude of sins and which prompts us to *talk up* rather than *talk about* one another. No single denominational group has a corner on the wonderful grace of God for the demonstration of Christian ethics. Let us appropriate that grace to the fullest extent of our ability to comprehend and our capacity to receive and to exercise.

Our morale can be strengthened by a proper attention to our denominational polity. When there are too many wheels to turn for the power available there can be no production of goods. We have too many organizations



FIRST ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH, CHARLESTON, W. VA.

within our organization for the good of the body. All of our denominational interests and endeavors should head up in the Advent Christian General Conference of America. In the matter of church-pastor relations a swing toward some more episcopal form of government would help our morale. We recall the condition of affairs in the period of the Judges when "every man did that which was right in his own eyes." On the other hand we note the error of church government in the dark Middle Ages of Christianity. We are compelled to believe that our New Testament supports some sort of an episcopal rather than a congregational form of church government. The casualties have been many and serious in the history of the Advent Christian church because we have largely followed the congregational method.

The Call to Advance

We should advance in the heralding of our glorious message of the return of Christ and of life only in Him.

Our message is a different message and that fact justifies our separate entity.

We should advance in both home and foreign mission work, always respecting the fact that there can be no foreign work unless there is a home base; and that our workers need to be adequately trained in our own schools so that they will know and preach the faith.

We should advance in the production of denominational literature. We should enable some of our able thinkers and writers to have the necessary freedom from other duties to provide us with essential propaganda and literature.

We should advance by the cumulative power of team work. Whatever progress we have achieved in recent years must be credited to the power of cooperation. More and bigger mergers are needed such as we have had on the Pacific Coast. Personal and provincial interests should be made subservient to the larger well-being of the whole body.

We should advance in the spirit of denominational patriotism. To neglect our message is to invite defeatism. To neglect our organization is to invite defeat. We should carefully select the best leaders available and when they have been chosen we should uphold their hands. There are surely Christian statesmen available in each respective region. Our program of service should respect the times in which we live in the matter of methods and equipment.

Conclusion

Because of the nature of my assignment I have dealt largely with the human element in our denominational life. God is still on the throne and His Spirit and grace are available, but of those matters other messengers will speak. God and the Great Head of the Church are looking to us to fulfill our mission. They are ready to guide us if we will but use our heads and hearts. If all that we do here at Charleston is to gossip about our failures, God will have to exercise an extraordinary grace to be able to forgive us for the time and energy spent in assembling in this beautiful capital city of West Virginia.

"Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward" (Exodus 14:15).

WEALTH

By ALVIN E. LOBB, D.D.

Writes the chronicler of Cecil Rhodes, the founder of Rhodesia, South Africa: "Rhodes died worth between twenty-five and forty-five million pounds. He could have made one hundred million if he had wanted to." His wealth was largely made in the diamond fields of Kimberley. "Who but Rhodes would have thought of basing an empire on the sale of engagement rings?"

Rhodes never knew where he stood financially. "He wrote his checks on scraps of paper and then forgot to whom he had given them, or the amounts he had paid. He kept his script in all sorts of places, was perpetually overdrawn, but no bank ever refused to honor his signature." He kept his secretaries in constant turmoil. Once he gave a friend who was in difficulty, "Six signed, blank promissory notes, saying, 'whatever I have got is yours to back you if you need it.'"

But how much vaster is the wealth of our God. The cattle upon a thousand hills belong to Him. It is He who has made the heavens and the earth. And yet, God is bidding for our faith, faith in Him and His Word. "Ask of Me," He says, "and I will give thee..." He is honored, indeed, when our faith asks mightily of Him. He delights in impossibilities, our impossibilities, yet "all things are possible with Him."

If the signature of Cecil Rhodes was treasured by individuals and even the world's strongest banks, should not the promises of our God be of infinitely greater importance and worthy of our highest faith and acceptance? "For all the promises of God are in him yea, and in him amen, unto the glory of God by us" (2 Cor. 1:20).

WASHINGTON IS GRATEFUL

The First Advent Christian Church of Washington has expressed itself in no uncertain way as to how it feels with regard to the decision of our General Conference to purchase the beautiful building in which they have been worshipping as a permanent home for our work in the national capital. The General Conference office has released the following letter of appreciation which it has received from the Washington group. To The Advent Christian General Conference of America, Dr. C. H. Hewitt, Secretary.
Brethren:

By a vote taken on July 11th, the members of the First Advent Christian Church of Washington, D. C., expressed their heartfelt gratitude to their many faithful supporters throughout the Nation who have manifested a vital interest in the Washington work and to the General Conference for its recent action taken with a view toward acquiring the fine church building where services are now being held under rental arrangements. Conference ownership of this property would afford excellent facilities and liberty to hold services at the most appropriate hours.

A further pressing need is for more devoted local people and capable workers to support and to carry on the work. Let all who care pray that God's Spirit may deeply stir many indifferent hearts in Washington to the end that there may be also a spiritual edifice altogether worthy of the Cause which it represents, and an occasion for rejoicing on the part of all who, in love for Jesus, have sacrificed to advance this work.

Faithfully yours,

HOWARD E. PROCTER

LAURA E. PROCTER

Committee.

Thirteen •

Advent Christian ADVANCE

QUARTERLY BULLETIN OF THE ADVENT CHRISTIAN GENERAL CONFERENCE

Volume 5

October, 1948

Number 2

Recommendations As To Changes In Church Polity

We present herewith the final draft of "Recommendations as to changes in Church Polity" as adopted at the recent biennial session of the General Conference in June, 1948:

"I. Form of Government

"We recommend that our form of government remain congregational, but that we proceed to strengthen it at its weakest points by borrowing suitable elements from other forms, especially as these have been tested with satisfaction by other congregational bodies as follows:

"II. Titles to Church Properties

"1. We recommend that General Conference initiate a campaign to persuade local churches to insert in their articles of incorporation, or at least in their constitutions, a reversion clause, or, better still, a trust clause.

"2. We recommend a similar campaign for an article providing for perpetual membership in an Advent Christian conference in good standing with, and a member of, the Advent Christian General Conference, or its successors.

"3. We recommend that all such clauses, whether of reversion, trust, or membership, shall contain a specific statement that they cannot be amended or repealed; also that the article an amendments shall specifically exempt such section from its provisions.

"III. Method of Calling Pastors

"1. We recommend that the General Conference go on record as declaring that, while the right of the local church to select its own pastor is unquestioned and is to be maintained, yet, for their own protection against unknown unsuitable or unfit ministers, as well as in the best interests of the denomination at large, this right or liberty should always be exercised subject to denominational approval.

"2. We recommend that, in order to implement this principle, our churches be urged to insert in their constitutions an article to the effect that in calling a pastor, the official board or pulpit committee shall consult with the officials of the Conference to which the church belongs, and/or the Regional Superintendent and Board of Councillors and secure from them the names of recommended candidates and submit these names to the congrega-

tion. If the church should reject these names, other names would be submitted, the idea being that a minister shall not be called to the pastorate who has not been approved for this particular church by the Regional Superintendent and the President of the conference acting in conjunction with their respective boards. It shall be understood that the Official Board may also suggest a candidate, and that in such cases approval will be given unless the majority of the Regional Board have serious doubts concerning the candidate or his usefulness in that particular field.

"IV. Change of Pastors, when Desired by the Pastor

"1. We recommend that General Conference should make it clear to both ministers and churches that one of the functions of the regional superintendency is to serve in a liaison capacity to counsel both ministers, churches and conferences in regard to contemplated changes.

"2. We recommend that ministers should rely upon the counsel and assistance of regional superintendents when they desire a change instead of unofficial and unapproved channels.

"V. Change of Pastors, when Desired by the Church

"1. We recommend that General Conference should bring to the attention of the churches that in case of serious dissatisfaction the Official Board of a church may quietly ask the Regional Superintendent to initiate a change. Only in the most extreme cases should a church go thru the pangs of voting a pastor out, or of asking for his resignation.

"VI. Manual of Approved Procedure

"We recommend that General Conference appoint a commission to draft a proposed Standard of Approved Procedure for the guidance of conferences and churches; that if and when such a standard shall be approved by General Conference, it be submitted to the conferences for ratification; and that if three-fourths of the conference ratify it, it shall then become the approved standard for the whole body, even though its use would be optional, and would not have the force of binding law. Such a Manual of Approved Procedure would be published (perhaps bound together with the statistical Manual) and would doubtless prove very useful as a guide to both ministers and to the churches and conferences in the several problem situations that arise, as well as the normal activities of church and conference life."

also from the pastors in charge of the national new city church projects in Columbia, S. C., and Fresno, Calif. The report was accepted.

The first business session on Tuesday convened at 1:15 p.m. Dr. Alvin Lobb read a letter from Dr. Z. Charles Beals in appreciation of the greetings sent him by the General Conference two years ago. The conference stood in honor of the veteran missionary, while prayer was offered by Dr. L. J. Carter.

Following this, the convention divided into regional conferences, reconvening at 2:35 p.m. for the election of officers. The president appointed R. L. Crews and F. E. Toothe as tellers, with Joseph Johnson and R. S. Bezanson as assistants. The election of officers resulted as follows:

President, Dr. Lee E. Baker
 Secretary, Dr. C. H. Hewitt
 Treasurer, Dr. J. Wm. Denton
 Eastern Vice-president and Regional Superintendent, H. L. Faulkingham
 Councillors: J. A. Johnson, J. H. Shaw, L. J. Carter, A. C. Ainsworth

Midwest Regional Superintendent, R. L. Chambers

Councillors: W. V. Randolph, J. W. Denton, W. H. Huls, L. M. Spaulding

Pacific Regional Superintendent, A. E. Lobb
 Councillors: Frank Scott, Herbert H. Holland, R. E. S. Hunt, P. H. Jaffarian

Southern Regional Superintendent, C. L. Kirby
 Councillors: Miss Ollie Page, G. W. Shepard, J. E. Boryk, B. A. L. Bixler

Appalachian Regional Superintendent, F. J. Davis

Councillors: J. W. Gardner, S. E. Thurlow, V. L. Harrison, H. D. Baxter

The Nominating Committee reported through its chairman, C. W. Parmley. The nominations for committees were accepted, and they were elected as follows:

Board of Christian Education: Susie W. Davis, Arthur B. Northup, Ella B. Patten, Leon A. Bohy, Willard Preslar, E. M. Drew, Gordon O. Reed, C. L. Kirby. (This committee later chose Gordon O. Reed as its chairman.)

Educational Board: T. P. Stephens, E. K. Gedney, B. A. L. Bixler, A. E. Lobb, G. L. Vannah.

Program Committee: C. W. Parmley, D. L. Campbell, R. L. Chambers, L. E. Baker, S. E. Thurlow.

Member Board of Pensions (4 years): J. H. Crouse.

Members of Corporation (4 years): I. F. Barnes, H. E. Thompson, J. W. Denton, G. L. Vannah, C. O. Farnham, C. W. Parmley.

Member Judiciary Committee (10 years): G. A. Osman.

Member International Lesson Committee: T. P. Stephens.

The report of the Work-Study Group on Christian Education was presented through its secretary, Robert C. Hewitt. H. L. Faulkingham reported the findings of the Work-Study Group on Missions, V. L. Harrison for the Group on Evangelism and Radio, J. H. Crouse for the Group on Advent Christian Literature, C. W. Parmley for the Group studying the Conduct of Worship and Carlyle Roberts for the Group on Post-War Work and Policy. These reports were all referred to the Business Committee for recommendation to the Convention.

The report of the A. C. Tithing Association was presented by B. J. Dean, outlining a proposed tithing campaign, to be introduced by a denomination-wide contest for the best posters and for the best manuscripts for tracts and leaflets along tithing lines. The report was accepted and the plans as outlined by Bro. Dean were approved, with enthusiasm.

P. H. Jaffarian reported for the Board of Pensions. The report was partly of an historical nature and partly an exposition of certain features of the plan. It closed with a financial statement, a summary of which follows:

Statement of Financial Condition, as of May 31, 1944

Assets:			
Cash:			
Savings Account	\$4,886.01		
Checking Account	1,576.78		
Due from participating churches	188.52		
Total assets			\$6,651.31
Liabilities:			
Deposits by Class II Ministers			\$1,206.50
Funds:			
Reserve for Class II Ministers	\$1,206.50		
Reserve for Class III (ministerial relief)	675.38		
General Reserve	2,473.01		
Unrestricted fund balance	1,089.92		
Total Funds			5,444.81
Total Liabilities and Funds			6,651.31

Voted to adopt the report. (The complete report will be published in pamphlet form as a matter of publicity.)

Dr. Vannah reported for the Committee on Army and Navy Chaplains, as follows:

Shortly after the United States entered the war, our attention was called to the fact that some of our pastors who were interested in volunteering for chaplaincies in the armed services were experiencing difficulty. The Secretary of the General Conference corresponded with the Chief of the Bureau of Chaplains in Washington, who informed him that as a matter of army policy ministers were

Travel	1,836.61	1,527.61	3,364.22
Board Meetings	633.14	751.50	1,384.64
Pension Fund	90.00	150.00	240.00
Printing	369.10	913.81	1,282.91
American Bible Society	171.56	80.95	252.51
Fort Worth Riverside Advent Christian Church, Revolving Loan	3,000.00	—	3,000.00
American Baptist Home Mission Society Chaplaincy Costs	210.00	205.00	415.00
New Church Builders' Union, Accommodation	82.00	5.00	87.00
Advent Christian Publication Society	590.00	70.00	660.00
National Protestant Council	—	25.00	25.00
Powers Estate	—	697.36	697.36
Unclassified	247.44	145.56	393.00
Total Expenditures	\$16,485.97	\$14,236.50	\$30,722.47

Following the report of the Auditor, Lewis-Christman Company, accountants, the Treasurer's report was accepted with the understanding that mimeographed copies be provided and distributed as early as possible in the session.

The reports of the Regional Superintendents, H. L. Faulkingham, W. V. Randolph, F. J. Davis, C. L. Kirby, and P. H. Jaffarian, were read and accepted.

The report of the Program Committee was read by its chairman, H. H. Holland, and was accepted.

The report of the corporate body, the Advent Christian General Conference of America, Incorporated, was presented by Dr. G. L. Vannah, who was given an ovation as he came to the platform, when it was announced by the President that he was closing forty years of relationship with the New England School of Theology. The report was accepted.

The report of the Advent Christian Tithing Association, as presented by B. J. Dean, was accepted.

The convention was then adjourned to divide into regional conferences to meet again at 6.30 p.m. for the election of officers.

Upon reconvening at 6.35 p.m. the report of the Nominating Committee was presented by its chairman, R. L. Chambers.

It was voted to accept the report, after deleting the sections dealing with the Board of Publications and the Council on Foreign Missions.

It was then voted that the report of the Nominating Committee, as amended, serve as the official ballot for the election.

R. C. Polk and E. V. Carpenter were appointed as tellers.

The ballots were marked and collected and Clayton Dilworth was appointed to assist the tellers, who retired for the process of tallying the votes cast.

Meanwhile the reports of the regional conferences resulted in the election of the regional boards of councillors as follows:

East: H. L. Faulkingham, Vice-President and Regional Superintendent; R. C. Hewitt, A. B. Northup, G. S. Stone, D. G. Osborne.

Midwest: N. B. Melvin, Vice-President and Regional Superintendent; J. H. Shaw, R. M. Bezanson, W. V. Randolph, H. H. Holland.

South: C. L. Kirby, Vice-President and Regional Superintendent; S. P. Owens, G. A. Arthur, J. L. Sentz, G. W. Saunders.

Pacific Coast: P. H. Jaffarian, Vice-President and Regional Superintendent; A. E. Lobb, L. A. Bohy, S. J. Dodge, Marcus Trumbo.

Appalachian: F. J. Davis, Vice-President and Regional Superintendent; Roberta Gerald, Amos Lowe, F. L. German, E. A. Gilpin.

The meeting was then recessed until the close of the evening program. The tellers not being ready to report, another recess was taken until the ringing of the bell brought the delegates together at 10.05 when the report of the tellers showed the election of the following officers, boards and committees:

President: Lee E. Baker.

Secretary-Treasurer: C. H. Hewitt.

Members of the Corporation: M. H. Farnum, R. C. Joyner, R. A. Watkins, N. S. Richardson.

Board of Christian Education: Susie W. Davis, M. C. Crouse, A. B. Northup, Ella B. Patton, Jean Corkindale, G. P. Singleterry, J. H. Shaw.

Commission on Homes and Orphanages: J. A. Cargile.
Judiciary Board: I. F. Barnes (an unexpired term), H. J. Wilson.

Board of Pensions: P. H. Jaffarian.

Powers Estate Trustees: L. E. Baker, C. H. Hewitt, C. L. Kirby, Fred Kudlata, W. F. Preslar.

Program Committee: R. C. Polk, A. B. Northup, R. M. Bezanson, P. E. Friedmann, Mrs. Ina Hart.

Board of Social Action: W. F. Preslar, E. T. Bodwell, C. E. Hewitt, J. T. Tate, R. C. Chriss.

Nominating Committee: W. S. Baxter, J. P. C. Johnson, G. F. Richardson, W. D. DeVoe, H. K. Shepard.

Member of International Lesson Committee: Fim Murra.

Voted to adjourn to 9.00 a.m., Monday.

Monday, June 19, 1950

The General Conference reconvened at 9 a.m. Monday, June 19, 1950, in Lowry Chapel, with the President in the chair.

The President called upon A. H. Bucknam, Jr. to escort Rev. Hugh K. Shepard, the newly elected Editor-Manager of the *Present Truth Messenger* and the Secretary-Treasurer-Manager of the American Advent Christian Home and Orphanage, to the platform. P. H. Jaffarian greeted Brother Shepard on behalf of the General Conference.

Voted, that the Secretary cast the unanimous ballot of the delegate body for Amos Lowe as an additional member of the corporation.

The Secretary was instructed likewise to cast a ballot for G. O. Reed as an additional member of the Board of Christian Education.

Condensed General Conference Minutes

(Continued from page 3)

through the regions. He may, upon consultation with the Executive Committee, appoint an Office Manager to conduct the detailed operation of the headquarters office.

Sec. 5 will be the present Sec. 2 on the duties of the Vice Presidents.

Sec. 6 (Now Sec. 3) It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to provide for the management and execution of the financial and all other activities of this body between biennial sessions. It shall elect the Executive Secretary, determine his salary and approve the budget of the headquarters office.

Article VII, Sec. 4. The appointment of salaried employees by boards, committees and co-operating societies which receive subsidies from the General Conference budget shall be made in collaboration with the Executive Committee of the General Conference.

Article VIII. A Judiciary Committee of five members (one from each of the five regions) shall constitute a final Court of Appeal to hear all cases which have failed to find adjustment in the local church, or in the local conference, or in the local region, or cases referred to them by the Executive Committee of the General Conference. (Second paragraph unchanged.)

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The following actions were taken upon recommendation of the Business Committee (with amendments from the floor in a few cases):

Voted, that our Conferences adopt the policy that any candidate for a license to preach or for ordination to the ministry should be a member of a church in the Conference which licenses or ordains him, and that no licensed or ordained minister should hold credentials or be permitted voting privileges in more than one Advent Christian Conference at the same time; but he must belong to the Conference in which he holds his pastorate or carries on other ecclesiastical work, unless the work be of national or regional scope, in which case he would hold his credentials in the Conference wherein he principally resides.

Voted, that the plan for Ministers' Health and Accident Insurance inaugurated by the Central Region and the Western Washington and British Columbia Conference with the Ministers Life and Casualty Union be broadened to a national program, and that our churches be urged to accept the responsibility of paying all or half of the premiums for their pastors' policies.

Voted, that the Executive Secretary as elected by the Executive Committee shall not be a member of the Executive Committee, and that should

a member of this Committee be elected to the Executive Secretaryship, he shall resign from the Committee.

Voted, that to implement the new Article IV, Section 7 of the By-Laws concerning the Board of Christian Education, the election of its eight members at the 1960 biennial session take place as follows: Group 1: One member each from the Southern, Eastern, and Midwestern Sunday School Councils and one representative of the Youth Fellowship, to hold office for a two year period only. Group 2: One member each from the Pacific Coast and Appalachian Sunday School Councils, one representative of the Youth Fellowship, and one member at large, to hold office for a four year period. Thereafter these groups to be elected for four year periods in alternate biennial sessions.

Voted, that we accept the National Advent Christian Youth Fellowship as a national co-operating society.

Voted, that in view of the many changes taking place within our denomination, and the increasing and rapid growth of many of its activities, making a frequent contact with our delegate body desirable, we continue holding biennial sessions of the General Conference for the present.

Voted, that the "buzz session" having proved to be so effective a part of this General Conference, it be made a part of the next biennial session.

Voted, that the Executive Secretary include in his program for publicizing major denominational changes and actions, the holding of workshops for pastors and key laymen in the different regions, and in the Conferences if feasible.

Voted, that the Executive Committee of the General Conference be instructed to study the proposal to finance denominational enterprises by a United Budget for a period not to exceed one year of the 1958-60 biennium; that if an acceptable plan is then developed, it be sent to the Conferences and churches for study and acceptance; and that, if general acceptance of such a United Budget is indicated, it be inaugurated at the beginning of the 1960-62 biennium.

Voted, that the Executive Committee make a study of procedures for establishing some adaptation of a Presbytery-type government for our denomination, whereby the forward progress of the denomination as a group may be implemented by making it possible to focus its resources on common objectives, and whereby effective control over aberrant behavior on the part of ministers, churches and Conferences with respect to denominational standards and loyalty may be attained. This study is to be embodied in recommendations to be submitted to the Conferences

and churches during the second year of the biennium for their consideration, with the prospect of leading to the adoption of some such agreed-upon proposal at the next General Conference.

Voted, that the minutes of the interim meetings of the General Conference Executive Committee and the Advisory Council be duplicated before the opening of General Conference sessions, made available to the delegate body, and not read at General Conference.

Voted, that the minutes of the future sessions of General Conference be duplicated at the end of each day's session and that these duplicated minutes be made available to the delegate body, but not read at the end of the Conference.

Voted, that as a means of conserving time for debate, the minutes of the present General Conference session should not be read, but referred to the Executive Committee for approval.

Voted, that the Board of Christian Education cause to be prepared, and made available to the local churches, systematic Bible study courses that could be used for home study.

Voted, that we accept the invitation of the Central Region to hold the 1960 General Conference in that region and on the campus of Aurora College.

Voted, that inasmuch as the receipt of Fifth Sunday offerings has for about forty years been a source of "living endowment" upon which the American Advent Christian Home and Orphanage has depended for much of its support, the regions, Conferences and churches of the denomination are urged to continue this established custom, in accord with the previous actions of the General Conference reserving this date for offerings for this institution.

Voted, that because the biennial General Conference affords a valuable contact of delegates and others with the denominational organizations, and because oral presentation imparts vital information more effectively than the typewritten page, officers of groups presenting reports be allowed a maximum of two minutes to point out salient or important items in their printed reports, should they feel it important to do so, and that printed reports be distributed at the beginning of General Conference.

Voted, that a revolving loan fund to provide for the legitimate capital needs of churches and other denominational agencies be created by the Executive Committee, following studies to determine the best possible methods of creating and operating such a fund. Such a fund is to be created to provide both a source of capital funds and at the same time a safer place where Advent Christian people can place their savings so that they can gain a reasonable interest, have their savings available when needed, and at the same

time have their money used in the expansion of the work of the Church by using their funds to build and strengthen churches rather than putting it out to groups where it may be used to finance purely secular projects.

Voted, that the Treasurer be instructed to remunerate Frank J. Davis in the amount of \$15.00 for expense in making the fine map of our denominational spread that has found such excellent use in this Conference.

Voted, that a copy of the actions taken at this Conference be sent to every church in the denomination by means of extra copies of the *Advance* or separate printing.

Voted, that the officials of each Conference of the denomination be urged to hold discussion groups at which representatives of each church in the Conference will be asked to be present, and at which discussion of the actions of General Conference will be made, the actions explained, and plans laid by which they may be carried out in the Conference; these representatives in turn to conduct discussion groups in their churches or with the church boards.

Voted, that the General Conference reaffirm its action of June 21, 1944 that all co-operating societies and General Conference Boards contemplating field visitations for any purpose shall clear through the regional superintendents before requesting dates and appointments; and that the following special days or periods be recognized and reserved for these agencies, namely: January, Aurora College Birthday Appeal; Second Sunday in February, Board of Christian Education; Fifth Sundays, American Advent Christian Home and Orphanage; Second Sunday in March, Vernon Advent Christian Home; May, American Advent Mission Society; Thanksgiving Week, Advent Christian Publications, Incorporated; First Week of February, National Advent Christian Men's Fellowship; and National Youth Week of America.

Voted, that the General Conference headquarters shall be established in the Central Region, and that the Executive Committee be authorized to accept the offer of Aurora College with respect to a lot for a headquarters building.

Voted, that the matter of the type and specific nature of the headquarters building be committed to the Executive Committee with power to act.

Voted, that the Committee on Nominations be instructed to provide two names for every elective position for which they select nominees.

Voted, that all campmeeting and older youth camp and institute leaders be urged to set aside one night, preferably Sunday night, for emphasis on Home Missions, to be followed with an altar call for volunteers for home mission

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J. HOWARD SHAW

EDITOR

A More Closely-Knit
Denominational Set-Up

Many Advent Christians are coming to feel that a key factor in our greater growth is a stronger and better co-ordinated denominational organization. By vote of the delegates at the 1958 session, the Executive Committee was instructed to "make a study of procedures for establishing some adaptation of a Presbytery-type government for our denomination, whereby the forward progress of the denomination as a group may be implemented by making it possible to focus its resources on common objectives, and whereby effective control over aberrant behavior on the part of ministers, churches and conferences with respect to denominational standards and loyalty may be attained."

A considerable amount of work has been done in pursuance to this vote, President Edwin K. Gedney and J. Ronald Schoolcraft acting as a subcommittee in the matter. While general discussion of the proposals throughout the denomination has not reached the point where final action can be expected at the 1960 session, the matter will surely come on the floor for discussion—probably in the form of a motion to appoint a commission to continue the study and to finalize the recommendations. The following resume will give some indication of the nature of the proposals which are taking shape through this study:

The local church would be directly responsible to and under the governance of an Advent Christian conference, with the right of appeal to the region and the General Conference.

All ministers would be responsible to the local conference, with the right of appeal to the region and General Conference. Churches would agree to recognize only ministerial leadership approved by the conference and other respective denominational authority.

Title to church property would be vested in a central denominational agency by inclusion of appropriate reversion clauses in deeds.

The name, "Advent Christian," would be protected to prevent its use by split-off groups.

The congregational meeting would be the basic governing body of the local church, presided over by a moderator other than the pastor. Re-

quirements for membership and voting privileges would be uniform throughout the denomination.

The local church would agree, in its constitution, to accept the authority of the conference.

Three classes of ministerial workers would be recognized: ordained minister, licensed preacher, and Christian worker. The requirements and qualifications for these respective ministers would be uniform throughout the denomination. Each ministerial worker would place himself under the care of the conference in which he works.

The ministerial committee of the conference would be vested with extensive responsibility. It would be elected by the conference, would include lay members, and its members would be ineligible to serve more than three consecutive years. This committee would be the agency through which the conference would deal directly with ordination, calling, installation, recall, removal and disciplining of ministerial workers. It would have the power to visit churches to inquire into difficulties within them. If requested to do so by contending parties in a church, or if directed to do so by the conference, it could act to correct difficulties or to adjudicate differences. It would sit in joint session with the pastoral committee of a local church in selecting nominees for the pastorate, for interim pastor, or for stated supply; and no such minister could be called by a church unless approved by the conference ministerial committee.

The conference, directly or through its ministerial committee, would have the power to remove ministers when, in consultation with the regional superintendent, it judged that the welfare of church or pastor required such action.

The conference would receive the request of a pastor to resign from a church, or the request of a church to be relieved of a pastor. Its decisions would be final, subject to appeal to the regional association.

The regional association would correlate the work of its member conferences, constitute an agency of appeal as indicated above, have power to inquire into difficulties and to take action to correct situations within member conferences or other denominational organizations within the region, and exercise general spiritual oversight of the Advent Christian cause within the region.

The regional association would work with the national director of home missions in developing and extending the denomination in the region through the organizing of new churches and the assisting of new or other qualifying churches.

Although the foregoing summary is drastically condensed, it may be useful in pointing up some of the salient aspects of the proposals for reforming our denominational organization. This is a matter which deserves the considered and prayerful thought of every responsible and concerned Advent Christian.

CONDENSED MINUTES OF GENERAL CONFERENCE

The thirty-fifth biennial session of the Advent Christian General Conference of America was held at Park-of-the-Palms, Keystone Heights, Florida, June 21-25, 1958, with President Lee E. Baker presiding.

The following convention committees were appointed by the Chair: *Credentials*: R. M. Bezanson, Travis Carter. *Business*: E. K. Gedney, G. F. Richardson, Gene T. Gandee, W. F. Preslar, R. N. Keepers, R. S. Bezanson, C. W. Anderson. *Resolutions*: Paul Vannah, John Cargile, Orville Facemyer, Clio Thomas, H. L. Faulkingham.

The roll call revealed the presence of 112 voting members. Later reports of the Credentials Committee indicated 150 seated at the time of election, and 168 as the highest voting strength. The courtesies of the floor were extended by vote to all visiting Advent Christians.

The minutes of Executive Committee meetings since the adjournment of the 1956 General Conference session were read by the Secretary.

The Treasurer's reports of General Conference and New Church Builders Union funds were presented and adopted as audited.

Reports of co-operating societies and General Conference boards were presented and adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Committee on Nominations presented its report, distributing a mimeographed ballot. Voted, that this report become the nominating ballot for this General Conference session. Several nominations were made from the floor. The following were appointed as Tellers: Earl Crouse, Clio Thomas, Joyce Thomas, Douglas Lobb. The complete election was as follows:

President: Edwin K. Gedney

Recording Secretary: Herbert H. Holland, Sr.

Vice Presidents: J. Ronald Schoolcraft, Arthur B. Northup, Nelson B. Melvin, Joe Tom Tate, Joseph P. C. Johnson

Boards of Councillors:

Appalachian: Willard Preslar, Orville Harvey, Kenneth Andrews, Amos Lowe

Eastern: Raymond Bowden, Jr., Howard Shaw, Robert Hewitt, George Stone

Midwest: Glennon Balsler, William Cargile, Fred Kibler

Pacific Coast: Elwell Drew, Bonnie Arnold, Samuel Dodge, Alton Crouse

Southern: Wilson Waters, Walter Randolph, Leonard Boston, Clyde Shepard

Members of the Corporation: Maurice Amnott, John Cargile, Elwell Drew, Louia Gransee, Paul Vannah

1960 Program Committee: Hal Vannoy, Ray-

mond Bowden, Jr., Marshall Bezanson, Ronald Bezanson, Milford Butterfield

Board of Christian Education: Richard Polk, Wendell Stearns, Ruth Hanna, Earl Crouse, Travis Carter, Elwell Drew, Milford Butterfield, Louia Gransee

Board of Pensions: P. H. Jaffarian

Board of Publications: W. E. Thompson, Benjamin Tibbetts, Norval Richardson, Carlyle Roberts

Member of International Lesson Committee: Linden J. Carter

Board of Education: Moses Crouse, Chairman; Weldon Chambers, Arthur Northup

Committee on Nominations: Roland Griswold, Carlyle Roberts, Nelson Melvin, Leon Bohy, George Polhill, Jr.

Trustees of the Powers Estate: Lee E. Baker, John Crouse, Louia Gransee, Howard Shaw, Hugh Shepard

Board of Social Action: Clarence DuBois, Jr., James A. Johnson, Weldon Chambers, Grace Hudson, Chester Joyner

Judiciary Committee: Moses Crouse

REVISION OF BY-LAWS

Upon recommendation of the Business Committee, and with some amendments from the floor, the By-Laws were amended to read as follows:

Article II, Sec. 1. Each Conference designated in Article I shall be entitled to two delegates to any regular or special meeting of this body for each 400 church members or any major fractional part thereof belonging thereto; each delegate being entitled to one vote; provided, however, that each Conference shall be entitled to at least two delegates. Half of said delegates shall be laymen.

Sec. 2. Each co-operating organization designated in Article I which makes provision in its By-Laws for representation on equal terms for all regions shall be recognized as a National Co-operating Society and shall be entitled to two delegates at any regular or special meeting of this body. All other co-operating societies named in Article I shall be recognized as Regional Co-operating Societies and shall be entitled to one delegate. Each delegate shall be entitled to one vote.

Article IV, Sec. 1. The elective officers of this body shall be a President, five Vice Presidents, who shall serve as Regional Superintendents of General Conference activities in their respective regions, and a Recording Secretary; the Vice Presidents to be chosen one from each of the five regions.

Sec. 2. (a) The President, the Vice Presidents,

sentence: "For the purpose of conference representation, anyone other than an ordained minister or a licentiate serving a pastorate shall be eligible to serve as a lay delegate."

Article IV, Section 1, by deleting the phrase, "who shall serve as Regional Superintendents of General Conference activities in their respective regions;" and inserting the phrase, "who shall be the elected presiding officers of the five respective regions."

Article IV, Section 6, by striking out the latter part of the article, beginning with the words, "The Executive Secretary," and substituting the following words: "The Regional Field Director or other representative nominated by each region shall be the nominees from the respective regions for election to the Council, and their successors in the regions shall automatically succeed them on the Council. The Executive Committee shall appoint the chairman of this Council from the Council's members."

Article IV, Section 7, to read as follows: "(b) This Board shall be responsible for creating curriculum materials for the Sunday schools and other materials pertaining to all forms of Christian education in the local churches. It shall have advisory supervision of all forms of Christian education pertaining to local churches and their subsidiary societies, including the issuing of certificates and diplomas in teacher training and leadership training, and the preserving of records of the same. It shall prepare a biennial statistical report of Christian education activities and program throughout the denomination. This Board shall also nominate to the General Conference the denominational representative on the International Lesson Committee."

Article IV, Section 13, by adding the phrase, "and those positions provided for in Article IV, Section 7."

Article IV, Section 14, (a), by substituting for the word, "Superintendent," the words, "General Conference Vice-Presidents," and by substituting for the words, "Conferences as provided in Article XII, Section 7," the word, "association."

Article V, Section 4, by changing the final sentence to read: "The Executive Secretary shall be a member ex-officio of all Boards and Committees of the General Conference for the purpose of counseling with them."

Article XII, by changing the Order of Business as follows:

1. Devotions
2. Welcome and Response
3. Organization
4. President's Address
5. Reports

6. Report of Committee on Nominations
7. Election of Officers and Boards
8. Reports of Committees
 - a. Business
 - b. Resolutions
9. Approval of minutes
10. Adjournment

Article I of the By-laws of the Advent Christian General Conference of America, Incorporated, by striking out the address: "160 Warren St., Boston, Massachusetts," and inserting the address: "200 Stockbridge Rd., Lenox, Massachusetts."

LIST OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

- President:* Edwin K. Gedney
Recording Secretary: Herbert H. Holland, Sr.
Vice Presidents: J. Ronald Schoolcraft, Arthur B. Northup, Nelson B. Melvin, Joe Tom Tate, Joseph P. C. Johnson
Boards of Councillors:
Appalachian: J. K. Andrews, O. L. Harvey, G. F. Robinson, C. M. Withrow
Central: W. Cargile, K. E. Dotson, G. C. Preslar, K. Whitley
Eastern: M. S. Amnett, R. W. Bowden, Jr., R. C. Hewitt, G. S. Stone
Pacific: Mrs. B. Arnold, L. A. Bohy, S. J. Dodge, N. S. Richardson
Southern: D. R. Batson, R. N. Keepers, F. G. Scurry, J. K. Thomas
Members of the Corporation: R. M. Beecroft, R. C. Hewitt, G. F. Richardson, C. B. Roberts
Program Committee for 1962: P. M. Vannah, Chairman, J. H. Crouse, D. D. Johnson, N. S. Richardson, G. W. Stearns, W. W. Waters, Jr.
Board of Christian Education: E. M. Drew, Chairman, I. E. Adams, K. E. Dotson, L. R. Gransee (for two years), C. H. DuBois, F. W. Clothey, F. E. Crouse, E. M. Drew (for four years)
Board of Pensions: L. E. Baker
Board of Publications: R. A. Watkins, C. W. Noble, G. A. Aulis, Jr.
Member of International Lesson Committee: Mrs. G. O. Reed
Board of Education: I. E. Adams, Chairman, Donald Cates, A. E. Lobb
Committee on Nominations for 1962: L. L. Boston, Chairman, J. H. Crouse, D. D. Johnson, C. W. Noble, N. S. Richardson
Trustees of the W. F. Powers Estate: J. H. Crouse, Chairman, M. A. Carter, L. R. Gransee, J. H. Shaw
Board of Social Action: J. E. Crimi, Chairman, J. A. Baucom, J. P. Carter, R. E. Griswold,

Advent
Christian

ADVANCE

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J. HOWARD SHAW
EDITOR

SPECIAL REPORT ISSUE

This issue of ADVANCE is a special edition dedicated to bringing to every Advent Christian church a comprehensive report and evaluation of the actions adopted at the 37th biennial session of our General Conference. This may be the final issue of this organ of the General Conference office. If proposals presently under discussion and negotiation are put into effect, a denominational newspaper will be published for national distribution. In this event, of course, the materials which have been carried in ADVANCE since it or its predecessor, ADVENTISM ON THE MARCH, first appeared in 1938 will be carried in the newspaper. ADVANCE will then have served its purpose, which was to reach all parts of the denominational constituency in a way which other publications were not equipped to do because of limited circulation, and to publish much "public relations" material of General Conference for which there was not space in other papers.

We offer a single request: Please see that ADVANCE is made available to all interested readers in your church! This paper is mailed at General Conference expense to pastors, church clerks and a large list of officials throughout the denomination. In order to reach more members, bundles are also mailed to churches for distribution to those comprising the official boards and to other vitally interested persons. If there are not enough copies for all who desire them, we suggest that when you have read this copy you pass it on to someone else who would like to have the information it provides.

BASIC PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE SUBJECT OF SPECIAL STUDY

~~Steps were taken by the delegate body of General Conference to approach the question of "denominational reorganization" from a broader standpoint than had been previously envisioned. While a general outline of proposed changes in the structure of the denomination had been widely discussed for over three years,~~

it was decided that such organic changes should be preceded by a review of the basic philosophy of the denomination. Accordingly, it was voted "that the Executive Committee of General Conference appoint a committee of five members who shall make a thorough study of the purposes and objectives of the Advent Christian Denomination, preparing an adequate working philosophy to encompass the church, the conference, the region, the cooperating societies, and the General Conference, and shall report their findings to the Advisory Council at their June 1963 meeting. This committee, with such additions or subtractions as the Executive Committee shall consider advisable, shall furthermore, after preparation of the above proposed philosophy, review the proposals for denominational reorganization, prepare model constitutions consistent with such proposed philosophy, for churches, conferences, and regions, and shall make recommendations thereof to the 1964 session of General Conference." (See page 17 for list of those appointed to this committee.)

Subsequent action by the delegates required "that the Executive Committee take adequate steps to insure the dissemination to the churches, at the earliest possible moment, of information pertaining to the projected philosophy and plan of reorganization."

ADVISORY COUNCIL APPROVES UNITED OUTREACH GOALS

At the annual meeting of the Advisory Council of General Conference on June 22, with a full voting strength of 23, the budget figures of the national denominational programs included in United Outreach, totaling \$469,506.00, were received and a table of allocation was approved. The Council also adopted a comprehensive biennial program for the denomination, subject to the addition of certain items not available at that time. Other major items of Council business were the receiving of the report on the denominationwide poll respecting the United Outreach program, the adoption of recommendations to the delegate body with regard to the continued enlistment of churches and the further development of the United Outreach movement, and the setting up of a "Table of Special Days" (a list of denominational observances and dates) which was also recommended to the delegate body for adoption.

Three distinct actions with regard to United Outreach financial goals were voted by the Advisory Council and are reflected in the table below. First, the figures submitted by the component programs were received, discussed and

are tentative, at best, and must be further refined by smaller groups seeking the continued leading of the Holy Spirit as He works through corporate processes.

The summarizing of these reports is obviously a difficult and dangerous task, and one which the chairman has approached with genuine fear and trembling. He begs your sympathy and understanding as he attempts to interpret your sentiments as conveyed to him by the reports. Appreciation is expressed for the willingness with which all leaders, resource persons and recorders accepted their responsibilities, and discharged them with efficiency and grace. Your chairman hopes that the Buzz Sessions will be continued in future Conferences.

SESSION I — 11 a.m., Saturday, June 23, 1962

Question: How is the historic purpose of the Advent Christian denomination related to present day needs and problems?

The reports indicate a sharp sense of appreciation for the historic ministry of the millennial movement out of which our denomination arose. Several groups made a distinction, however, between the purely factual declaration of the imminent return of Christ in 1843-44 and the deeper purpose which was to prepare men and women to meet Him in peace. Several groups reported the opinion that our responsibility to restore the great truth of Christ's personal return to the church and the world has been accomplished but that we have a continuing mission to win the lost by the dynamic of conditionalism. Strong sentiment for the retention of our denominational identity was reported. Concern regarding an unwarranted "inferiority complex" was expressed by several groups.

Considerable concern for our relationship to the church universal was reported and there is obviously a strong tide of sentiment favoring closer cooperation with other evangelical Christians. In one way or another, six of the reports are explicit in urging that "separation" be not equated with "isolation," and that cooperation with other churches replace a type of competition which has too often marked our attitudes. The need of the world is too great and urgent for us to fight alone; we must march with the army.

One group was urgent in asserting that conditionalism, by its very nature, demands concern for the whole man—body, soul and spirit. This, they said, requires us to involve ourselves more directly in the social application of the gospel.

There was a considerable body of sentiment concerning better indoctrination of our people through preaching, Bible study, literature, correspondence courses, etc.

On the whole, it seems fair to assert that the reports from these sessions reveal an appreciation for our denominational traditions, intelligent but humble realization of past mistakes, a somewhat hazy but real concern for our on-going mission, and a growing sense of responsibility for our part in the completion of the Great Commission.

No specific recommendations to the Business Committee emerged from these sessions.

SESSION II — 4 p.m., Saturday, June 23, 1962

Question: ~~Should denominational reorganization along the lines discussed in the articles (by Secretary J. Howard Shaw) be adopted by the Advent Christian church?~~

All reports from these sessions reflect spirited — and sometimes heated — discussion of this question. There can be no doubt that a large number of our people, both laymen and ministers, are dissatisfied with our present machinery for cooperative work. The old cliché that "we have plenty of organization; all we need to do is use it" does not represent the sentiment of our thoughtful people as revealed by the "Is some kind of reorganization embodying stronger central government needed . . . ?" Only one group gave a "no" answer to this question. There appears to have been considerable reporting of "case studies" involving incidents illustrating congregations and individual ministers. Most of the problems cited center in pastor-church relationships and church property holding.

As might be expected, questions regarding mechanics dominated much of the Buzz Session time. The groups also aired their fears regarding undesirable "outside" domination, less local church autonomy, substitution of conformity for freedom of initiative, possibility of actual secession in one or two cases. On the positive side, the prayerfully devised attempt to strengthen conference-church relations in southern California and West Virginia gave encouraging substance to this dream which persistently calls our people toward a more closely-knit community.

A specific proposal which appeared in several reports was that local congregations be asked to constitutionally accept an agreement to make no pastoral changes without consultation with conference and regional officials. This would seem to be a short but definite step toward the desired goal.

Three groups gave unequivocal approval to the proposition that local church property should be protected, so far as denominational interests are concerned, by having their property held in trust by a responsible denominational organization. This policy is widely misunderstood, how-

ever, both in respect to benefits and to legal problems involved.

The familiar "Yes, but not now" answer appeared rather frequently in the reports. Sentiment seems strong, however, for a program of education pointed toward a definite date when some form of reorganization might be achieved. One group called for "action" by this conference. Another suggested that the policy be implemented on a pilot basis in conferences where favorable sentiment has already been developed. It would seem desirable that this General Conference create a Study Committee to report at the 1964 session.

OVER 500 AT WARM BEACH

Registration of delegates and visitors at the Warm Beach meeting of General Conference for its thirty-seventh biennial session reached the unexpected high of 542. The final report of the Credentials Committee, Rev. Joseph Baucom and Mrs. Luella Johnson, indicated a voting strength of 166. This compares with 183 at the 1960 session in Aurora, Illinois, and is very gratifying in view of the many extra hundreds of miles traveled by most of the delegates to reach Warm Beach, Washington.

Of the voting members, 119 were delegates from 24 Conferences, 17 represented National Co-operating Societies, 15 represented Regional Co-operating Societies, 8 were Regional Councilors, and 7 were members of the Executive Committee. Of the Conference delegates, 48 were ministers and 71 laymen. Of the total voting strength, 76 were ministers and 90 laymen.

The following were reported by the Credentials Committee as voting members:

Conferences:

Connecticut & Western Massachusetts: I. E. Adams, G. F. Sturdevant, Mrs. R. C. Hewitt, M. H. Farnum, B. C. Lyman, R. W. Emerson
 Eastern North Carolina: Rev. & Mrs. T. J. Ellis, Miss Fern Ellis, I. J. Ellis, Mrs. G. E. Bogue, Mrs. G. W. Shepard, Thurman Rivenbark
 Georgia: Rev. & Mrs. J. L. Sentz, Rev. & Mrs. J. P. C. Johnson, Norma Nell Johnson, Mrs. Betty Keepers, Miss Janette Page
 Hoosick Valley: Clinton Taber, Mrs. James Loghry
 India: D. Victor Sadhanandam
 International: Mrs. Ella Merrill, Rev. Beulah Rediker
 Maine: Rev. & Mrs. M. S. Amcott, Rev. Albert C. Libby, Rev. Everett E. Pender, Harold Patterson, Leon Corliss, Mr. & Mrs. Merritt Morey, Mr. & Mrs. Leon Hammond, Rev. B. D. Tibbetts, Miss Evangeline Stockford
 Massachusetts: J. A. Baucom, E. C. Bingham, D. A. Dean, Mrs. E. K. Gedney, Mrs. C. L. Kirby, K. T. Leist
 Missouri Valley: Harlie Goodwin, Okley Kinder
 New Hampshire: Raymond Gay, Glenwood Jordan, Ronald Walton, Mr. & Mrs. Crane Morrison, Mrs. Arthur Pottle
 New York: Rev. & Mrs. Earl Sims
 North Central: Rev. & Mrs. R. F. Denius, Mr. & Mrs. William Baumann, Jr.
 Northern California: George Teshera, Irma A. Harrison

Ohio: Rev. & Mrs. Leon McElhane, Rev. & Mrs. Robert Wilmoth
 Oklahoma: Alice Crosswell
 Piedmont: Rev. & Mrs. W. F. Preslar, Rev. & Mrs. Roland Griswold, Rev. & Mrs. Harold Crocker, Mrs. Frank Harris, Cecil Nobe, Mrs. Greely Chapman
 Prairie States: Moses Crouse, Rev. & Mrs. Donald Mace, W. C. Reas, Clyde Hewitt, W. C. Boutwell, Ronald Thomas, S. H. Perry
 South Carolina: Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Bryan, Mr. & Mrs. W. M. Swindler, Sr., Mrs. Lyda Mohr
 South Georgia and Florida: Ina Gaston, Frank Tothc, Wilson Waters, Jr., Agnes Folsom, Irva Griffith, Donald Cates, Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Gillette, Albert Crosby, Mr. & Mrs. W. W. Waters, Sr., Ruth Howell, Susan Key, J. Ronald Schoolcraft, Fred Stokes, Sr., Liella Belger, Polly Reed, Ella Auten
 Southern California: E. M. Drew, Barron Knechtel, A. P. Bowden, Walter Shirley
 Virginia: Rev. & Mrs. R. G. Hughes
 West Virginia: Glennon Balsler, Mrs. Helen Gandee
 Western Washington and British Columbia: Rev. Norval Richardson, Earl Crouse, Mrs. Luella Johnson, Thomas Isaac
 Willamette Valley: Gertrude M. Shide, Oliver P. Lucas

National Co-Operating Societies:

A. C. Men's Fellowship: Mark Trumbo
 A. C. Tithing Association: M. L. Peters, Mrs. W. C. Boutwell
 A. C. Home and Orphanage: J. A. Cargile, J. P. Carter
 American Advent Mission Society: C. L. Kirby, Ruby Leite
 Aurora College: J. E. Crimi, G. F. Richardson
 Life and Advent Union: Rev. & Mrs. Gibson C. Lockward
 Vernon Advent Christian Home: Mrs. E. E. Pender
 Woman's Home & Foreign Mission Society: Mrs. Helen Lyman, Mrs. Clarissa Rollins
 Berkshire Christian College: Rev. A. C. Ainsworth, O. C. Collins
 National A. C. Youth Fellowship: David Vignali

Regional Co-Operating Societies:

Appalachian A. C. Association: Mrs. Weldon Chambers
 Central A. C. Mission Society: E. T. Bodwell
 Eastern A. C. Council of Christian Education: Mrs. J. H. Collins
 Eastern Regional Association: L. A. Ross
 General Eastern Youth Fellowship: James Loghry
 Midwest A. C. Council of Christian Education: K. E. Dotson
 Midwest Woman's Home & Foreign Mission Society: Mrs. K. E. Dotson
 General Midwestern Youth Fellowship: Priscilla Allen
 Appalachian W. H. & F. M. Society: Mrs. H. S. Vannoy
 Pacific Coast A. C. Association: Donald Wrigley
 Pacific Coast Sunday School Union: Mrs. Irene Richardson
 Pacific Coast W. H. & F. M. Society: Mrs. Alvin Lobb, Jr.
 General Pacific Youth Fellowship: D. B. Keepers
 Southern Association of Conferences: R. N. Keepers
 General Southern Youth Fellowship: W. C. Nickerson

Boards of Councilors:

Appalachian: G. T. Gandee, Hal Vannoy
 Central: J. M. Hanna, W. W. Holland
 Eastern: R. C. Hewitt
 Pacific Coast: Mrs. Kathleen Schwarzhaus, Mrs. Geraldine Olsen
 Southern: J. K. Thomas
 Executive Committee: E. K. Gedney, N. B. Melvin, A. B. Northup, J. T. Tate, I. Clyde Shepard, V. M. Burt, H. H. Holland, Sr.