

Plans and Recommendations Adopted by the General Conference

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF., MAY 11-28, 1922

GRATITUDE AND CONDOLENCE

1. WITH deep gratitude to God we look back over His many mercies and providences in preserving His people and prospering His work in the earth. He has delivered us from the ravages of war. He has commanded His angels to stay the winds of strife once more. He has vouchsafed to us a little time of peace in which to press the conquests of the cross. He has sustained our courage and our liberality in time of financial stringency. He has gone out marvelously before His messengers to open the way for gospel advance. He has multiplied evidences that the finishing of the work and the coming of Jesus hasten greatly. We praise and adore His great name, and pledge ourselves to renewed diligence in serving and in giving till He calls us to our eternal home.

2. We look with deep sorrow upon the passing to rest of many valiant comrades in service, some in the prime of manhood and womanhood, some like a shock of corn fully ripe. We desire to mention some of these by name, and to express our deep-felt sympathy to sorrowing relatives and friends:

George I. Butler, R. C. Porter, Edith M. Graham, J. H. Morrison, Pauliasi Bunoa, C. L. Taylor, H. W. Kellogg, J. H. Paap, E. W. Snyder, C. F. Lowry, Dr. Law Keem, Mrs. G. A. Irwin, L. D. Santee, Mrs. S. N. Haskell, K. C. Russell, Mimi Scharffenberg, D. T. Shireman, J. Erzberger, G. F. Haffner, Worthie Harris Holden, O. E. Reinke, R. T. Sisley, Jennie L. Ings, E. Manalaysay, C. B. Hughes, Mrs. O. A. Olsen, A. O. Burrill, M. C. Israel, Dr. M. G. Kellogg, Addie S. Bowen, F. Peabody, M. S. Burnham, Dr. Estella Houser, Edith Bruce, Eugene Leland, Harry Armstrong, J. D. Gillett, Mrs. J. P. Anderson, S. F. Swenson, Norman Wiles, W. H. Saxby, and W. H. Smith.

Printed in the U. S. A.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT

MISSIONS PUBLISHING FUND

We recommend, That we heartily approve and continue to develop the Missions Publishing Fund, by which our publishing houses devote a per cent of their annual earnings, and our people dedicate the profit on a day's sale of literature, or their earnings for the day, or both, to mission publishing houses throughout the world, and that we add the following provisions and extensions:

THE 1923 CAMPAIGN

The demand on this fund for 1923 will be very heavy, as we shall be finishing the investment in the India office, should erect additions to the Shanghai and Korean plants, may begin the erection of a building near Buenos Aires, where we have already secured land, should complete the additions to the Brazilian plant, shall be erecting a factory near Paris for our French printing, ought to do something definite for Italy, must build or buy in Bulgaria, and shall doubtless be called upon to do large things for Russia. In addition, there are the constantly growing demands for equipment and working capital with which to enter new language areas. We therefore suggest that the responsible committees in every land make liberal provisions for the carrying out of this campaign in harmony with the general plan, leaving details and dates for them to decide.

EXTENSIONS

That beginning with 1923, every self-supporting Seventh-day Adventist publishing plant unite in devoting a definite percentage of its earnings, in addition to its tithe, to the Mission Press Extension Fund, it being understood that where a managing board deems it unsafe so to devote the full 50 per cent in addition to the tithe, a lesser amount, which, it is hoped, will not be less than the tithe and 15 per cent of its earnings, be accepted. Boards will kindly inform the General Conference of any change they make, that plans may be made accordingly.

That the scope of this fund be so enlarged as to make it available for the building of homes

for managers, superintendents, and editors, when, in the judgment of the responsible committees and of the General Conference, such homes are necessary.

REPORTING PLANS

That the 1923 Budget requests from mission press establishments be accompanied by estimated receipts from Biggest Day earnings and gifts, the actual amount so received to be reported at the close of the year, the overflow being subject to subsequent appropriation. It is understood that the receipts for 1921 and 1922 in mission press territory as well as elsewhere are to be reported, although in many instances they will be used in the fields where raised.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, The growth of the work of the Home Missionary Department throughout the field has resulted in a constantly increasing volume of office work; therefore,

1. *We recommend*, That an associate secretary be provided to assist in the general work of the Department, and that such office and field assistants be appointed as the work may require.

WHEREAS, There is now a lack of uniformity throughout our churches in the matter of handling the funds raised for missionary activity, and recognizing the church treasurer as the chosen official of the church to receive and record all such general funds; therefore,

2. *We recommend*, That the church treasurer receive and receipt all first Sabbath and other home missionary offerings, and that at least once each month, the said funds be placed in the hands of the missionary secretary, and a receipt taken for the same. This is not, however, intended to apply to individual subscriptions or orders, which should properly be handled by the missionary secretary.

3. That our foreign church papers publish regularly as far as possible, matter for the first Sabbath service, this material to be provided by the General Conference Home Missionary Department.

WHEREAS, The Harvest Ingathering for missions is essentially a great spiritual campaign,

and we believe that a shorter campaign will yield greater results; therefore,

4. *We recommend*, (a) That the duration of the campaign be officially limited to a maximum of six weeks, the particular period to be decided by each union conference according to the local conditions, but in harmony with the plan of the General Conference; and,

(b) That the service goal of a minimum ten hours' service in Ingathering work be emphasized in Harvest Ingathering plans.

WHEREAS, The General Conference Home Missionary Department promotes the official annual Harvest Ingathering campaign for missions; therefore,

5. *We recommend*, That no other campaign be conducted for the solicitation of money by Harvest Ingathering methods from the public, for home or foreign missions without the sanction of the union conference or union mission committee.

CHURCH OFFICERS' INSTITUTES

Recognizing that the success and marked progress of our work has been due in large measure to the fact that for years we have conducted institutes and conventions for ministers, departmental secretaries, and colporteurs, making it possible financially for these workers to attend these educational features of our work, and in view of the fact that church officers also are recognized as educators and leaders of this movement, and that the success of our work is largely dependent upon their co-operation and intelligent support; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That each local conference conduct at least one church officers' convention a year.

2. That the instructors of such institutes be the union and local conference presidents, and such union and local conference departmental secretaries as may seem best for the upbuilding of all departments in the local church.

3. That such representatives be invited from each church as may be deemed advisable in the judgment of the conference officials.

4. That the conference and the local churches unite in providing railroad fare and entertain-

ment, making it financially possible for those who are invited to attend.

CHURCH MISSIONARY COMMITTEE

Recognizing the urgent need of the utmost simplicity in the organized plan of the missionary movement in our churches, and in order to facilitate the successful development of their evangelical work;

We recommend, That the church board or church officers, together with the church school teacher and the Missionary Volunteer secretary, constitute the missionary committee.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, The spirit of revival is one of our greatest present needs in the work of God; and,

WHEREAS, A revival of Christian education is of prime necessity in all our homes and churches; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That the Educational Department and all our conferences co-operate in general plans to bring about such a revival the coming summer.

2. That our objectives be the arousing of our people anew to the supreme benefits of Christian education, and of pushing still farther toward our goal of bringing every Seventh-day Adventist boy and girl into our own schools.

FOREIGN EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE

WHEREAS, The development of our work in foreign lands depends largely on the education of native workers on their native soil; and,

WHEREAS, The work of our teachers is seriously hampered by the lack of textbooks and other educational literature suited to their needs, especially in Catholic and heathen lands; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That our leaders in these fields make provision in their budgets for an educational textbook and literature fund, or otherwise provide some definite way of meeting this great need.

2. That in the development of such literature, the widest counsel be taken to the end of making it of the best and most permanent character

possible, and that it include suitable selections from the spirit of prophecy.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, The scattered condition of our work and workers in both schools and field makes it imperative that we gather together in representative capacity at suitable times to maintain the unity of the work and to improve our plans for greater efficiency; and,

WHEREAS, We have had no such conference since the spring of 1919; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That the Educational Department, in counsel with the General Conference Committee and with our conference leaders in the field, be authorized to hold a representative educational conference in the summer of 1923.

2. That our conferences and mission fields across the seas be invited to send to this conference such representatives as may be found advisable.

TENURE OF OFFICE FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS

WHEREAS, The present policy of electing the teachers in our colleges and academies on a yearly basis produces a serious condition of unrest in the middle of each school year, and seriously handicaps administrators in planning their future work and policies; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That the presidents of our colleges, junior colleges, and seminaries be elected for a term of four years, the same as other union conference workers.

2. That the principals of academies be elected for a term of not less than two years.

3. That newly appointed teachers be elected on a yearly basis for the first three years, and that thereafter, when they have proved efficient teachers in schools of all grades, they be elected or appointed on the basis of continuous tenure of service, like that of other conference and institutional employees, as arranged by the board.

4. That school boards and appointing bodies reserve the right to remove any teacher or administrator for sufficient reasons, and upon due notice.

5. That when it becomes necessary to drop any teacher or administrator for any reason not disqualifying said person for service elsewhere, sufficient time and care be taken to avoid, if possible, leaving such person without employment or other satisfactory arrangement.

6. That when administrators or heads of departments contemplate resigning or otherwise withdrawing from their service, sufficient notice, preferably six months to a year, be given to the proper authorities, to enable them to supply their place without detriment to the work.

CONTACT OF SCHOOLS WITH MISSIONS

WHEREAS, Our colleges are putting the mold on most of the workers now going to the mission fields; and,

WHEREAS, Most of the heads of our colleges and college departments have never been in a mission field; therefore,

We recommend, That our college boards and the Mission Board co-operate in devising some plan whereby some of our college men may be granted leave of absence at suitable times to visit a mission field for the purpose of becoming acquainted at first hand with their problems, their working conditions, and the kind of education needed by the workers under preparation in our schools.

SCIENCE AND RELIGION

WHEREAS, for many years, there has existed a widespread tendency, among the higher institutions of learning throughout the world, to teach and propagate theories of science which are antagonistic to the word of God; and,

WHEREAS, The world has become accustomed to listen with the most profound respect to the opinions and beliefs of scientists and scientifically trained people; and,

WHEREAS, Many recent discoveries in various departments of science are of a nature to disprove these anti-Christian theories and to discredit them in the eyes of scientifically informed persons; therefore,

We recommend, That our physicians and our advanced science teachers improve every suitable opportunity to let the public know that

they are disbelievers in the popular theories of evolution, relative to the origin of things, and that they have abundant scientific reasons for taking this position.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

We recommend, 1. That in the homeland and throughout the regions abroad, conference officials, ministers, and workers of every rank unite to make the Sabbath school the great auxiliary God designed it to be in teaching His word, in deepening the spirituality of His people, and in soul-saving.

2. That we recognize the following as standards to be worked for continually in every place, worthy of the support by example and precept, of all our workers:

a. Every believer an enrolled member of the Sabbath school.

b. Every member studying the Sabbath school lesson daily.

c. Every teacher studying to become more efficient in methods of teaching.

d. Every teacher a soul-winner.

e. The needs of the mission field a part of the program in every school.

f. Every school doing its best to reach the goal in offerings to missions.

3. That as Sabbath school workers we pledge ourselves to higher ground in study, higher ground in experience, and higher ground in service.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

WORK OF SECRETARY

WHEREAS, The work of the Medical Department embraces many and varied important interests, institutional, educational, professional, financial, and spiritual, with great possibilities of development in missionary service; and,

WHEREAS, The successful administration of its work calls for an adequate supply in its secretarial force; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That the Department be strengthened by the appointment of a physician as a full-time medical secretary, and that among his duties the following be included:

a. To give counsel on General Conference Committee problems involving medical questions.

b. To maintain general oversight of departmental work, including that carried by assistant secretaries.

c. To be an *ex-officio* member of the board of management of the College of Medical Evangelists, keeping in close touch with its work, spending a portion of each year as instructor in the college, aiding it in securing the proper class of students, and helping to place its product to the best advantage.

d. To be responsible for the promotion of the Medical Extension Fund among our institutions, practitioners, nurses, and others.

e. To visit foreign fields, and give counsel in the establishment and conduct of medical work.

f. To work with the Educational Department in developing physical subjects in our school curriculum and the general health features of school work.

g. To be responsible for annually sending out health suggestions for camp-meetings, and for a series of uniform health studies, and to aid in supplying efficient health workers.

h. To give special attention to promoting the sick-relief plan.

ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

2. That an associate secretary, who may or may not be a physician, be appointed, who shall give full-time service to the Department, and that his duties shall include the following:

a. To carry in a general way the responsibilities of the secretary in the latter's absence from the office or from the country.

b. To be responsible for the details of public health educational lines, looking up material, such as literature, charts, etc., and placing it within the reach of workers.

c. To promote plans for the development of a health literature of our own, aiding as far as departmental help goes, our publishing houses in getting it out and circulating it.

d. To be responsible for the promotion of stereopticon health lecture bureau.

e. To do field work, either in camp-meetings or otherwise, as may be necessary.

f. To give counsel and aid to local and union conference medical secretaries.

g. To aid in the promotion of centralized purchasing.

ASSISTANT SECRETARIES

3. That two assistant secretaries be appointed for institutional work for America, one for the territory east of the Rocky Mountains, and one for the territory west of the Rocky Mountains, including Western Canada and Mexico. Their duties shall include the following:

a. To aid in supplying workers, both professional and general, to our sanitariums, and in the promotion of institutional work.

b. To aid in the development of technique and general methods in our sanitariums, and in maintaining standards in sanitarium, hospital, and treatment-room work.

c. To give assistance and counsel to sanitarium boards, and to endeavor to meet with said boards when questions of importance require it.

SECRETARY FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION

4. That an assistant secretary for medical education be appointed, whose duties shall include the following:

a. To represent the College of Medical Evangelists in the General Conference Committee.

b. To give counsel regarding medical qualifications and legal requirements of the different States and countries.

c. To aid in securing appointees for home and foreign fields.

SECRETARY FOR TRAINING SCHOOLS

5. That an assistant secretary to have special oversight of the work of our training schools be maintained. Her work shall also include the following:

a. General oversight of the home nursing classes.

b. Responsibility for the details of school health inspection in our church schools, working with the Educational Department in promoting the same.

c. Attention to calls for superintendents of nurses and other nursing help required by institutions or by the fields.

d. Keeping in touch with nurses connected with our academies and colleges, helping to maintain standards of efficiency in organization and training.

DIVISION AND CONFERENCE SECRETARIES

6. That Divisional medical secretaries be appointed, and as soon as possible, union conferences employ a medical secretary, preferably a physician.

7. That as rapidly as feasible, local conferences appoint a medical secretary, preferably a nurse or lady physician. If a nurse, she is recommended to devote her full time to medical missionary work. She should be qualified to examine school children, hold cooking schools and home nursing classes, assist in tent and hall efforts, and visit the sick in conjunction with members of the home nursing classes.

COMMITTEE OF DEPARTMENT

8. That the administrative committee of the Medical Department be constituted as follows:

a. Secretary of the Medical Department.

b. Associate secretary of the Medical Department.

c. Assistant secretary for the Eastern institutions.

d. Assistant secretary for the Western institutions.

e. Assistant secretary for medical education.

f. Assistant secretary for training schools.

g. Treasurer of the General Conference.

And that this committee be brought together for counsel concerning the larger problems of interest in medical extension work, in promoting institutional interests, in laying plans for the collecting of funds, in preparing a budget for the relief of field needs in medical extension work, and any other such problems on which the various secretaries desire broader counsel.

FULLER ORGANIZATION

WHEREAS, There is a generally recognized need among us for more active medical mission-

ary work, and for a fuller organization of the Medical Department; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That the General Conference Medical Department Committee consist of —

a. The departmental General Conference medical secretaries.

b. The medical superintendent, business manager, and superintendent of nurses in each regularly organized and denominationally recognized medical institution.

c. The medical secretaries of the union conferences.

d. A few members at large to be chosen by the General Conference Committee.

e. The president and dean of the College of Medical Evangelists.

STATEMENT FOR FALL COUNCIL

2. That the administrative committee of the Medical Department, together with five other men, be appointed by the General Conference Committee to draw up a statement to be presented to the General Conference Autumn Council of 1922, to embody:

a. A declaration of our medical and health principles.

b. Plans for recognizing loyal self-supporting workers as having a part in our denominational medical work.

c. Plans for enlisting the co-operation of institutional and self-supporting medical workers in raising the Medical Extension Fund.

HEALTH REFORM

WHEREAS, It has been emphasized to this people "that many have backslidden from their former loyalty to health reform principles;" and,

WHEREAS, It is stated very specifically that "those who have received instruction regarding the evils of the use of flesh foods, tea and coffee, and rich and unhealthful food preparations, and who are determined to make a covenant with God by sacrifice, will not continue to indulge their appetite for food that they know to be unhealthful;" and,

WHEREAS, In many localities, the recent converts to our message have not been thoroughly

instructed in the teachings of the Testimonies, and the importance of this instruction regarding healthful living, and as a consequence, are living in disregard of them; and,

WHEREAS, It is further stated regarding a reformation along these lines, that "this is a work that will have to be done before God's people can stand before Him a perfected people," and that "the principles that were given us in the early days of this message are as important and should be regarded just as conscientiously today as they were then," and that "it is now time to take the light from under the bushel and let it shine forth in clear, bright rays;" therefore,

Resolved, That we as ministers, physicians, and other medical workers, with deep sincerity deplore our backsliding and our failure in not faithfully teaching these principles to those coming within the sphere of our influence, and we do hereby pledge ourselves with whole-hearted consecration to a renewed loyalty and devotion to the heaven-born principles of health reform committed to this people.

RATIONAL METHODS

WHEREAS, This denomination has received, through the spirit of prophecy, a great volume of very explicit instruction regarding the nature and underlying causes of disease and concerning its prevention and treatment by rational methods; and,

WHEREAS, For a number of years, there has been an increasing tendency among our people to disregard this plain instruction as to the cause, prevention, and treatment of disease, and the adopting by many of our people of the ideas and practices of certain cults who advocate unsound and irrational theories of disease and its treatment, which are in direct disregard of the instruction of the spirit of prophecy; be it

Resolved, That as a denomination, we view with grave concern the growth of teaching and practices so utterly at variance with the fundamentals of rational healing methods, and we pledge ourselves to counteract, by teaching and example, the baneful influence of all spurious and counterfeit systems in the treatment of disease.

MEDICAL EXTENSION FUND

WHEREAS, There are coming to us unprecedented calls for the relief of suffering humanity in many fields; and,

WHEREAS, The medical work is the avenue of the church for dispensing this ministry of mercy; and,

WHEREAS, The growth of our foreign work calls for much-needed health institutions, dispensaries, and medical workers; therefore,

We recommend, That a fund be created to meet these needs, to be called the Medical Extension Fund, amounting to at least \$100,000 in 1923, and that we begin at once to raise such a fund, said funds to be raised and dispensed in the following ways:

1. That we invite all sanitariums and medical institutions to pay a tithe of their net gain, and make it a part of this fund.

2. That we ask our sanitariums and other medical enterprises throughout the world whose indebtedness does not exceed 25 per cent of their assets, to appropriate 50 per cent or more of their net earnings to this fund, in addition to the tithe.

3. That our medical institutions whose indebtedness exceeds 25 per cent of their assets, give such proportion of their net gain, in addition to their tithe, as their circumstances will justify.

4. That we call upon all medical workers, physicians, nurses, and sanitarium employees to contribute to this fund liberally of their earnings.

5. That the special emergency needs of funds, institutions, and workers called for by the fields, be met by appropriations from the extension fund, and a budget be prepared by the General Conference Committee in consultation with such representatives of the institutions contributing to the fund as may be in attendance at any Autumn Council.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

In order that both the home and the foreign fields may receive efficient help in the promotion of our young people's movement;

We recommend, That an associate secretary be provided for the Missionary Volunteer Department.

STANDARD OF ATTAINMENT CLASSES

WHEREAS, Our army of youth, if rightly trained, will become a mighty factor in heralding the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour; therefore,

We recommend, That our ministers and other qualified workers, wherever possible, organize and conduct Standard of Attainment classes, and so far as practicable, lead the members to utilize the training thus afforded in giving Bible studies to those not of our faith.

SOUL-WINNING

WHEREAS, It is our earnest desire and purpose to strengthen and enlarge the evangelistic and soul-winning phase of our departmental work; and,

WHEREAS, It is understood that it is a vital part of the duty of a conference Missionary Volunteer secretary, not only to win souls, but to lead and train our young people in this great work; therefore,

We recommend, That wherever possible, the conference Missionary Volunteer secretary conduct soul-winning efforts in our churches, with the purpose of winning unbelievers, as well as our own young people, enlisting the Missionary Volunteer Society in the work of distributing literature, in visiting neighbors and friends, and in other personal work.

We further recommend, That this important work be considered when Missionary Volunteer secretaries are to be selected.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DEPARTMENT

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DAY

We recommend, 1. That one Sabbath each year be maintained as Religious Liberty Day.

a. That a special program be prepared by the Religious Liberty Department on religious liberty principles and issues.

b. That a special offering be taken for the maintenance and extension of the religious liberty work.

c. That the local conferences retain and utilize this fund exclusively for the purpose for which it is given.

"LIBERTY MAGAZINE"

2. That each local conference be encouraged to continue to send the *Liberty Magazine* to the legislators, State and county officials, and, to the extent that the Religious Liberty Fund will permit, to other influential persons.

WORK IN OTHER LANDS

3. That on account of the great need and the exceptional opportunities for religious liberty work in Europe and in South America, these fields be encouraged to appoint suitable men who can do effective religious liberty work before legislative and judicial bodies in those countries.

COURSES OF STUDY

4. That more attention be given to the study of religious liberty principles in our educational institutions, and that suitable studies and literature be prepared for this purpose.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARIES

5. That each union and local conference arrange for one of its workers to be a religious liberty secretary, so that the departmental work may be made effective when religious legislation and other issues are pending.

NORTH AMERICAN NEGRO DEPARTMENT

Appreciating the great benefit that is derived from departmental conventions and institutes held occasionally by the several departments; therefore,

We recommend. That the Negro Department hold a convention-institute in the year 1924, time and place to be decided by the General Conference Committee, at the proper time.

BUREAU OF HOME MISSIONS

WHEREAS, The work among the various nationalities that have come to North America is making rapid advancement and is constantly extending to new languages; and,

WHEREAS, Our aim should be to strengthen and unify this work; therefore,

We recommend, 1. That the superintendents of the various departments of the Bureau of Home Missions be associate secretaries of the Bureau, and that they, with the secretary of the Bureau, constitute a Bureau of Home Missions advisory committee.

2. That persons appointed to lead out in any particular language of the Miscellaneous Language Department be known as directors, and that they, with the secretary and associate secretaries of the Bureau, be a committee of counsel for the Bureau.

3. That when the work in any one language shall have attained a membership of 1,500, it then become a department of the Bureau of Home Missions.

WORK FOR JEWISH PEOPLE

WHEREAS, The blessing of the Lord has rested upon the literature which has been circulated among the Jewish people; and,

WHEREAS, The spirit of prophecy has instructed us that the best way to reach this people is with the printed page, and experience has demonstrated the truthfulness of this statement; and,

WHEREAS, Of the fifteen million Jews scattered in all parts of the world, nearly thirteen million read the Yiddish, or the language of the land in which they sojourn; therefore,

Resolved, That we request the General Conference Committee to give careful consideration to the plan of internationalizing the Yiddish, that the millions of Jews in Europe, Africa, South America, and Australia may learn the truths of the third angel's message, and to prepare proper instruction for our churches in those lands, that the brethren and sisters may know how to labor among this people.

MINISTERIAL COMMISSION

WHEREAS, The obvious need of the hour is an effective ministry to challenge the sinful conscience of a judgment-bound world; and,

WHEREAS, Our experience as a church has proved that great advantages result from the specific study of each phase of activity, thus

effectively fostering and promoting special lines of work; and,

WHEREAS, We believe that the time has come, in the providence of God, for the establishment of a medium for the interchange of plans, methods, and information, and for the definite strengthening of the gospel ministry; and,

WHEREAS, We believe further that this can be accomplished without the creation of additional machinery in either union or local conferences, but would function through existing leadership; we therefore respectfully,

Recommend, The establishment of a Ministerial Commission, the secretary of which shall be a general field secretary, working under the direction of the General Conference Committee, and, whose duty it shall be,

1. To collect valuable facts and information relating to the work of ministers and Bible workers, both at home and abroad, and in rural and urban spheres, and who shall gather information on the problems of the minister's work for the church and the world, co-operating with the General, union, and local conferences as a counselor.

2. To form the medium for the interchange of ideas, methods, and information between ministers on problems pertaining to their sacred calling.

3. To give special attention to the encouragement of the desire on the part of young men in training for the gospel ministry in our educational institutions, that the material drawn upon to meet our ever-growing demands shall be charged with a burning passion of soul.

THE HOME COMMISSION

We recommend, That the committee known as the Home Commission be continued, to consist of the secretary of the Commission, and the secretaries of the Educational, Sabbath School, Missionary Volunteer, Home Missionary, and Medical Departments, and in addition, such other members as may seem advisable, the development of the work being left to the General Conference Committee as the needs may require.

ON FINANCE

DEPRECIATION STANDARD

WHEREAS, The advisability of giving consideration to the rate of depreciation on equipment in publishing houses, sanitariums, and educational institutions, has been suggested; therefore,

1. *We recommend*, That the following committee be appointed to give consideration to this question: the General Conference auditors, together with M. F. Knox, L. M. Bowen, C. W. Irwin.

INSURANCE BASIS

WHEREAS, The question has been raised as to the advisability of a reappraisal, for insurance purposes, of inventory valuations made before the war, inasmuch as the cost of replacement of buildings at present would be much in excess of the original cost of such property, and as many properties are insured on the basis of 80 per cent of the original cost; therefore,

2. *We recommend*, That the General Conference auditors be asked to investigate the present status of the insurance situation as regards the relation of our present inventory valuations to the amount of insurance risk carried, and give counsel as to the plan that should be followed in the future.

FINANCIAL POLICY

WHEREAS, The critical financial situation that has surrounded the business activities of the world with a shroud of uncertainty for the last two years has been felt most keenly in all departments of our work, both at home and abroad, and requires us to continue to plan most carefully for the future; and,

WHEREAS, Under the blessing of God, through the constant adherence to our financial policy of operating and extending our work on a no-debt plan, we have been enabled in our Mission Board to meet the present financial depression successfully; and,

WHEREAS, We find in the homeland that such work as has been conducted strictly in harmony with the denominational policy, is in an excellent condition, thus re-emphasizing the sound-

ness of the principles that we have enunciated; therefore,

3. *We recommend*, (a) That in our Mission Board activities, we faithfully continue to operate and extend the work on the same policy that has brought us so safely through these years of depression.

(b) That we call upon and urge our conference, mission, and institutional executives throughout the world to see that all extensions and enlargements planned for the present work are made in accordance with the approved working financial policy of the denomination.

(c) That in making distribution of the relief funds which become available from year to year, we ask our administrative officials to remember that the chief and original purpose of such moneys is to liquidate outstanding liabilities.

REDUCTION OF BONUS

We recommend, That the bonus on workers' salaries be reduced from 25 per cent to 20 per cent, it being understood that this reduction will take effect July 1, 1922.

SUSTENTATION FUND

We recommend, That the General Conference Executive Committee give consideration to the problem presented by the growing number of applicants for the benefits of the Sustentation Fund, and that definite plans properly to safeguard the funds be prepared for presentation at the next Fall Council.

GIFT TO THE BIBLE SOCIETY

Be it resolved, That we indorse the action of the General Conference Committee that the appropriation to the work of the American Bible Society be provided regularly in the annual budget of appropriations made at the General Conference for missionary work; and in view of our missionary activities throughout the world,

We recommend, That the annual appropriation for this Bible enterprise, which already is \$1,000 a year, be increased as may be found possible, taking into consideration many other responsibilities, at the Autumn Council, when appropriations are made.

We recommend, That in view of the pressing needs of the Bible Society in carrying on its work, we authorize the treasurer to present our check for \$500.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEV- ENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I — NAME

This organization shall be known as the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

ARTICLE II — OBJECT

The object of this Conference is to teach all nations the commandments of God and the everlasting gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The membership of this Conference shall consist of:

a. Such union conferences and union missions as have been or shall be properly organized and accepted by vote of the General Conference in session.

b. Such local conferences and properly organized missions not included in any union conference or in any union mission as have been or shall be properly organized and accepted by vote of the General Conference in session.

Sec. 2. The voters of this Conference shall be designated as follows:

a. Delegates at large.

b. Regular delegates.

Sec. 3. Delegates at large shall be:

a. All members of the General Conference Executive Committee.

b. Such representatives of mission fields who are not regular delegates as may be present and as may be recommended by the division fields, such credentials to be ratified by the General Conference in session.

c. Such representatives of missions of the General Conference and of general institutions and departments of work, and such general laborers and field secretaries as shall receive dele-

gates' credentials from the Executive Committee of the General Conference, such credentials to be ratified by the General Conference in session. The number of these delegates thus seated shall not exceed 25 per cent of the regular delegates in attendance.

Sec. 4. Regular delegates shall be such persons as are duly accredited by union conferences and union missions, and by local conferences and properly organized missions not included in any union conference or union mission.

Sec. 5. Each union conference and union mission shall be entitled to one delegate, in addition to its president or superintendent, without regard to numbers, an additional delegate for each local conference or organized mission in its territory, and an additional delegate for each one thousand or fraction thereof of its membership.

Sec. 6. Each local conference and local mission not included in a union conference or union mission shall be entitled to one delegate without regard to numbers, and one additional delegate for each one thousand members or fraction thereof.

ARTICLE IV — OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Sec. 1. The regular officers of this Conference shall be a president, vice-presidents, a secretary, an associate secretary, a treasurer, an associate treasurer, and an auditor, who shall be elected by the Conference.

Sec. 2. President: The President shall act as chairman of the Executive Committee, and labor in the general interests of the Conference, as the Executive Committee may advise.

Sec. 3. Vice-Presidents: The Vice-Presidents shall preside over the division fields to which the General Conference has elected them, and shall assist the President in administering the affairs of the Conference as may be directed by the General Conference in session, or by the General Conference Committee.

Sec. 4. Secretary and Associate Secretary: It shall be the duty of the Secretary and the Associate Secretary to keep the minutes of the proceedings of the General Conference sessions

and of the General Conference Committee meetings, and to collect such statistics and other facts from union and local conferences and missions, as may be desired by the Conference or by the Executive Committee, to maintain correspondence with the fields, and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to such office.

Sec. 5. Treasurer and Associate Treasurer: It shall be the duty of the Treasurer, or in his absence, of the Associate Treasurer to receive all funds of the General Conference, and disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee of the General Conference, and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the Conference or by the Executive Committee.

Sec. 6. Election of Officers: All officers of the Conference, and the members of the Executive Committee except presidents of union conferences and superintendents of union missions, shall be chosen by the delegates at the regular quadrennial sessions of the General Conference, and shall hold their office for the period of four years, or until their successors are elected, and appear to enter upon their duties.

ARTICLE V — EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1. At each regular session the Conference shall elect an Executive Committee for the carrying on of its work between the sessions.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary, the Associate Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Division Secretaries, the Treasurer, the Associate Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, the Division Treasurers, the Statistical Secretary, the General Field Secretaries, the Division Field Secretaries, the Presidents of the union conferences, the Superintendents of union missions, the Secretary and Associate Secretary in charge of each duly organized General Conference Department, namely, the Publishing, Medical, Educational, Sabbath School, Religious Liberty, Young People's Missionary Volunteer, Home Missionary, North American Negro, and Bureau of Home Missions, the Di-

vision Departmental Secretaries, the ex-Presidents of the General Conference having credentials from this Conference, and other persons not to exceed fifteen in number.

ARTICLE VI — INCORPORATIONS AND AGENTS

Sec. 1. Such incorporations may be authorized by the General Conference in session, or by the General Conference Executive Committee as the development of the work may require.

Sec. 2. At each regular session of this Conference, the delegates shall elect such trustees of corporate bodies connected with this organization as may be provided in the statutory laws governing each.

Sec. 3. The Conference shall employ such committees, secretaries, treasurers, agents, ministers, missionaries, and other persons, and make such distribution of its laborers, as may be necessary effectively to execute its work.

Sec. 4. The Conference shall grant credentials or licenses to ministers and missionaries except in division fields, in union and local conferences, and in organized union missions.

ARTICLE VII — SESSIONS

Sec. 1. This Conference shall hold quadrennial sessions at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall designate by a notice published in the *Advent Review and Sabbath Herald* in three consecutive issues at least four months before the date for the opening of the session.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee may call special sessions of the General Conference at such time and place as it deems proper by a like notice as of regular sessions, and the transactions of such special sessions shall have the same force as those of the regular sessions.

Sec. 3. The election of officers, and the voting on all other matters of business shall be by *viva voce* vote unless otherwise demanded by a majority of the delegates present.

ARTICLE VIII — BY-LAWS

The voters of this Conference may enact By-Laws and amend or repeal them at any session thereof, and such By-Laws may embrace any provision not inconsistent with the Constitution.

ARTICLE IX — AMENDMENTS

This Constitution or its By-Laws may be amended by a two thirds' vote of the voters present and voting at any session; provided that, if it is proposed to amend the Constitution at a special session, notice of such purpose shall be given in the call for such special session.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I — DIVISION SECTIONS

Sec. 1. The General Conference shall conduct its world-wide work in division sections, each section to operate within a specified territory in harmony with the policy of the General Conference.

Sec. 2. Union conference and union mission field organization shall be preserved, and such fields, together with all other organizations and institutions within the territory, shall be responsible to the respective division committees.

Sec. 3. The division fields shall be North America, Europe, the Far East, Africa, South America, Southern Asia, Australasia, and Inter-America. The boundaries of these division sections shall be subject to adjustment at any regular biennial council.

ARTICLE II — VICE-PRESIDENTS

Sec. 1. Vice-Presidents shall be elected as follows to their respective fields: one for general administrative work, one for North America, one for Europe, one for Africa, one for Southern Asia, one for the Far East, one for Australasia, one for South America, and one for Inter-America.

Sec. 2. The General Vice-President shall assist the President in his administrative work as the Executive Committee may direct. The Vice-President for North America shall work under the direction of the General Conference Committee.

Sec. 3. The Vice-Presidents elected for the divisions outside of North America shall act as chairmen of the division committees operating in their respective fields, and shall have charge of the work in those fields under the direction of the division committees.

ARTICLE III — ASSOCIATE SECRETARIES

Sec. 1. The term "associate secretary" shall be used to designate the Secretary elected to be associated with the Secretary of the General Conference, or such secretary or secretaries as may be elected to be associated with any Departmental Secretary, in carrying the primary responsibilities of his office.

Sec. 2. An associate secretary shall be elected to share the work of the General Conference Secretary. Such Associate Secretaries shall also be elected as may be deemed necessary to assist the Departmental Secretaries in the conduct of their work.

ARTICLE IV — ASSISTANT AND DIVISION SECRETARIES

Sec. 1. The term "assistant secretary" shall be used to designate the person elected to assist the Secretary and the Associate Secretary of the General Conference in carrying on their work in the headquarters office. The term "division secretary" shall be used to designate the persons elected to serve in the division fields.

Sec. 2. One Assistant Secretary shall be elected to serve at the headquarters office. Division Secretaries shall be elected, one for the European field, one for Africa, one for Southern Asia, one for the Far East, one for Australasia, one for South America, and one for Inter-America.

Sec. 3. The Division Secretaries shall work under the direction of the division committees. It shall be their duty to keep the minutes of the division committee meetings, to furnish to the Secretary of the General Conference a copy of their minutes, to collect information and to make such reports as may be required, and to do such other work as usually pertains to such office.

ARTICLE V — ASSISTANT AND DIVISION DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES

Sec. 1. The term "assistant departmental secretary" shall be used to designate such persons as are appointed to assist the Departmental Secretaries and their Associate Secretaries in the Departmental work of the general office.

Sec. 2. Division Departmental Secretaries

shall be elected for the respective division fields and shall labor under the direction of the division committee.

ARTICLE VI — GENERAL FIELD SECRETARIES

Sec. 1. The term "general field secretary" shall be used to designate such persons as may be employed by the General Conference to travel extensively both at home and abroad in the interests of the general work.

Sec. 2. Such General Field Secretaries shall be elected as may be deemed necessary to assist the officers of the General Conference in carrying on the world-wide work, and they shall labor under the direction of the Executive Committee.

Sec. 3. Such Division Field Secretaries shall be elected as may be deemed necessary to labor in the divisions under the direction of the division committees.

ARTICLE VII — ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT TREASURERS

The Associate and Assistant Treasurers shall be elected to share with the Treasurer the work of his office. They shall perform such duties connected with the Treasury Department as may be assigned to them by the Treasurer or by the Executive Committee, and in the absence of the Treasurer shall have full power to act as treasurer of the Conference in harmony with the policy and plans of the head of the Treasury Department. They shall have authority to sign checks under instruction of the Treasurer.

ARTICLE VIII — DIVISION TREASURERS

Sec. 1. The term "division treasurer" shall be used to designate the treasurers elected for the respective divisions outside of North America.

Sec. 2. Division Treasurers shall be elected as follows: One for Europe, one for Africa, one for Southern Asia, one for the Far East, one for Australasia, one for South America, and one for Inter-America.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of the Division Treasurers to receive and disburse the funds of the General Conference made available for their territory, under the direction of the division committee, and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to such office.

ARTICLE IX — EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sec. 1. During the intervals between sessions of the General Conference, the Executive Committee shall have full administrative power, with authority to grant credentials and licenses, and to fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur in its offices, boards, committees, or agents, by death, resignation, or otherwise. The Executive Committee shall also have power to withdraw credentials or licenses by a two thirds' vote of the members present and voting at any regular council meeting.

Sec. 2. A majority of the full membership of the Executive Committee, including the President or any other officer of the General Conference appointed temporarily as chairman, is empowered to transact business at any time and place. Any seven members of the Executive Committee, including an officer of the General Conference, shall after due notice to available members, constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee, and shall be empowered to transact such executive business as is in harmony with the general plans outlined by the committee at the designated place of meeting of the Executive Committee as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 3. All meetings of the Executive Committee, except majority meetings, shall be held at the general headquarters, or at such other place as may be definitely arranged by a majority meeting of the Executive Committee, or by the quorum of at least seven members meeting in regular session at general headquarters.

Sec. 4. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the ranking officer of the Conference who may be present at headquarters, and such officer, or any member of the committee appointed by him, shall act as chairman of the meeting.

Sec. 5. Minority meetings of less than seven members of the Executive Committee may be held at the general administrative office for the transaction of necessary routine business, but actions taken at such meetings shall not be final until the minutes of such meetings have been approved in a regular session of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X — DIVISION COMMITTEES

Sec. 1. In each division outside of North America, a division committee shall be constituted as hereinafter provided, for the transaction of business pertaining to the division.

Sec. 2. The members of a division committee shall be the Vice-President, the Division Secretary, the Division Treasurer, the Presidents of union conferences, the Superintendents of union missions, the Division Field Secretaries, the Division Departmental Secretaries, and any other members of the General Conference Committee present. Other persons may also be appointed as members by the division committee.

Sec. 3. The actions taken by division committees pertaining to the administration of affairs in the division field, shall be considered final, provided they are in harmony with the plans and policy of the General Conference as set forth in the Constitution and By-Laws, and in its Executive Committee actions at regular Autumn Councils.

Sec. 4. It shall be arranged as far as practicable for each division field outside of North America to send its Vice-President or one of its officers to the annual councils of the General Conference Executive Committee.

Sec. 5. Five members of a division committee, including the chairman, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 6. As the Australasian field consists of only one union organization, the time and extent of the development of the division feature of that organization shall be optional with the Australasian Union Conference, it being understood that until the divisional feature is developed, the President of the Australasian Union Conference shall be a Vice-President of the General Conference and the Australasian Union Conference will function as a division of the General Conference in all phases of its relation to the world movement.

ARTICLE XI — CORPORATION BOARDS

At each regular session of the General Conference seven persons shall be elected as a Board of Trustees of the General Conference Corporation. These Trustees shall also constitute the Board of Trustees of the General Conference Association.

ARTICLE XII — DEPARTMENTS

Sec. 1. The Departmental Secretaries and Associate Secretaries elected by the General Conference shall work under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Conference and shall occupy an advisory relation to the field.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall appoint a representative departmental committee of counsel for each department. Such committee shall in each case be composed of the secretaries of the department, the secretaries of departmental work in the divisions, and of such departmental leaders in union conferences and institutional work as the Executive Committee may deem necessary.

ARTICLE XIII — AUDITORS AND AUDITS

Sec. 1. The General Conference Committee shall appoint such Auditors as may be necessary to do the auditing which should properly come under the supervision of the General Conference Committee.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall have the accounts of the General Conference and of its legal corporations audited at least once each calendar year, and the Auditors shall report upon the same to the Executive Committee annually. The Auditors shall report also, for the full quadrennial period, to the General Conference at its regular sessions. The General Conference Auditors shall also be made available for auditing the accounts of union conferences and general institutions.

ARTICLE XIV — WAGES AND EXPENSES

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall appoint annually eight persons not in its employ who, with the officers of the General Conference, and not less than seven presidents of union conferences, shall constitute a committee to audit the expense accounts of employees, and to fix their wages for the succeeding year.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall have power to make such adjustment from time to time in the wage of clerks, stenographers, and other routine workers as may be necessary.

ARTICLE XV — FUNDS

Sec. 1. The funds of the General Conference shall be as follows:

a. A tithe of the tithe receipts of the union conferences and union missions and of the local conferences and missions not included in union conferences and union missions.

b. Regular mission offerings.

c. Special donations.

d. Such percentage of the regular tithe of local conferences as may be determined at a joint meeting of the Executive Committee and conference presidents.

e. Surplus tithes which may be appropriated by local and union conferences for the mission fields.

f. A tithe of the profits of publishing houses, sanitariums, and other profit-earning institutions which are under the control of the General Conference, or which, because of the character of their work, have more than local influence and responsibility. Such percentage of the annual profit also of these institutions, after deducting the tithe, as may be arranged by joint council of the Executive Committee of the General Conference with the Board of Management of the institution.

g. Such percentage of the funds of union conferences and missions and of institutions and tract societies, as may be arranged by the General Conference Committee in counsel with conference presidents, the same to be known as the Sustentation Fund for the support of aged and infirm workers, and for the dependent widows and orphans of workers.

ARTICLE XVI — APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 1. The Executive Committee shall make its appropriations for home and foreign work at the Autumn Councils, said appropriations to be based on budgets from the fields requiring financial help.

Sec. 2. Appropriations shall be made subject to the receipt of the full amount of funds estimated in the General Conference budget. In case of a shortage, the distribution shall be on a pro-rata basis to all the interests represented in the budget.

Sec. 3. Appropriations for major permanent investments shall be held in trust for the purpose for which the appropriation was desig-

nated. In case the project is abandoned the funds shall revert to the General Conference. Other funds appropriated to division fields shall be administered by the division committees.

Sec. 4. All funds raised in division fields, except the regular funds belonging to the General Conference, as indicated under Article XV, may be used for the advancement of the work in the fields in which they were raised.

Sec. 5. General Conference funds in all the world shall be made available to meet the annual appropriations of the General Conference. Fields requiring appropriations shall receive not less than the amount of their mission funds till such time as finances shall permit the General Conference to retain such funds for general distribution.

ARTICLE XVII — FINANCE

Sec. 1. The Treasurer of the General Conference shall carry a reserve fund to tide over a possible financial depression, equal to one fourth the regular appropriations of the preceding year, said reserve fund to be held in cash and in readily convertible securities.

Sec. 2. The Executive Committee acting through its legal agency the General Conference Corporation, shall have power to make such annuity contracts as may seem desirable; but all moneys obtained in this way shall be invested in securities, and not be made available for appropriation until the annuity contracts have expired.

Sec. 3. The tithes and mission offerings received by the General Conference shall be held as a trust for appropriation to the work of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. It shall not be within the prerogative, therefore, of the General Conference Committee, the Treasury Department, nor of any agent or agency of the denomination, to loan these funds to private individuals, to indorse notes, sign bonds or other securities, or in any way to divert the funds of the General Conference from their intended purpose.

Sec. 4. The basis for computing per-capita funds shall be the membership at the close of the second preceding year as published in the report of the Statistical Secretary.