

ACTS OF SYNOD

OF THE

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

HELD JUNE 19-27, 1912

AT ROSELAND, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS



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WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION, JUNE 19.

Article 1.

On Wednesday morning, June 19, at 10:00 o'clock the Synodical Assembly was called to order at the Third Christian Reformed Church, Roseland, Chicago, Illinois, by Rev. J. Groen, Vice-President of the Synod of 1910, who, on the previous night, led the prayer service at the Second Church, and spoke on Revelation 12.

Article 2.

Rev. J. Groen open the meeting with the singing of Psalm 122:3, reads Psalm 122, and addresses the assembly as follows:

Honorable and beloved Brethren in Christ, Delegates to Synod, Honorable Professors, Brothers as Delegates and Committees appointed by the previous Synod to present their reports and advices:

In the name of the convening churches we bid you a hearty welcome, and wish you the greatest blessing of God in your work.

We can find no portion of Scripture more appropriate as a motto for your assembly, and to the Classes by whom you were delegates, and the congregations, than the last verse of the Psalm that was read to you: "For the sake of the house of Jehovah our God I will seek thy good."

Meditate on this glorious word of the saintly harpist for a moment.

In the first place, it was spoken by an office-bearer, a king of God's people, a prophet of the Lord. If this word should be the pronouncement of the heart of every member of God's church, it is above all fitting to be upon the lips of all the watchmen on the walls of Zion. The welfare of Zion should especially be the heart's desire.

In the second place, this outpouring is preceded by an accurate cognizance of God's house, Jerusalem. He has numbered her towers, and observed her bulwarks. Only those who know God's congregation and her concerns are qualified to seek her good. From all these delegates in fairness it is expected that basic investigation will cause them to become informed concerning all the matters which Synod must consider.

In the third place, the motive for seeking the good for Zion is controlled by love, and love for the house of God, but above all the love to God himself. Oh, of what value is our zeal on the ecclesiastical plane, unless we are controlled by love, we are a sounding brass or a clanging symbol.

In the fourth place, his seeking for good follows upon prayer. Our prayer must precede our action. In prayer the necessary strength and courage and wisdom are sought. No more as praying without works, no more as working without praying can any good be expected.

May it in a short time plainly be seen that this word of David controls every heart. In your discussions and decisions may there shine forth a light that this Synod may be a blessing for our churches. Permit us to mention a few matters wherein an noble, unselfish, and devoted disposition should shine through.

In the first place, we would center your attention upon a worthy election of officers. Some ecclesiastical assemblies in our country have defaced themselves by means of selfish strife at the opening of the assembly to obtain the most prominent places. Up until now we have been spared publicly from such agitation, such seeking after vain honor.

In the second place, endeavor in all your discussions and debates to be controlled by calmness, modesty, and appreciation for one another, forbearance, indulgent, with maintaining the truth.

In the third place, that the peace of Jerusalem may be impressed upon every heart,

and sought by you as gold that is mined. No false peace at the expense of truth, but grounded in truth, love, and justice.

In the fourth place, preserve the precious deposit entrusted to us as a Reformed Church. We have a glorious confession of faith, written with the life blood of the martyrs, and an expensive heritage of our forefathers. Let us then preserve that deposit, preserve it not as an heirloom, a curiosity, but as a banner lofted high, also for our new fatherland, which has lost its reformed origin and history almost entirely, in order that it may be led back to its Puritan origin.

In the fifth place, let us not only preserve the principles of the fathers, but continue to build on these principles, seek to develop them, and build, not with hay, straw, and stubble, but with gold, silver, and precious stones. As a small denomination, offshoot of the secession in the Netherlands, and born here, there is danger to become a sacrifice to a cramped, narrow-minded conservatism. No, we must develop the glorious yet primitive principles of our fathers.

In the sixth place, since according to the Agenda of this Synod important questions with respect to Church Polity and Church Government shall be discussed, let us be mindful of the fact that all churches of Reformed origin are in danger of two rocks, namely, on the one hand by Independentism, and on the other by Collegialism.

Independentism does not take into consideration enough of the God-willed federal relationship which must exist between various local churches, and place them loosely next to one another, drives them to a strong individualism, and loses out of sight the solidarity that should exist. Collegialism, however, undervalues the autonomy of the local congregation, and considers them only as parts of a great organization, wherein all the power and the offices are concentrated.

In the seventh place, Synod will have to give special attention to instruction, not only that which is given in Catechism, Sunday School, and elementary Christian Schools, but also the Academy, the College, and the Theological School.

That Synod may be mindful not only to expose our people but also directly our Church, that it may be willing to help these various institutions through our churches will all effort, and also endeavor so to guide the matter so that that which is not actually the work of the churches, if at all possible be entrusted to others,

so that the Church may exclusively devote itself to calling to which the King calls her.

In the eighth place, let Synod reveal itself that the love of Christ presses our churches to real Mission zeal. The angels in heaven would have felt highly honored to have received the great commission from the risen Saviour. It was vouchsafed to the Church. Our churches also received that command. Let us with joy fulfil that command, and exert ourselves to do that work, on the one hand according to the fixed, Biblical, Reformed principles, and as far as method is concerned, as is fitting for practical, skilful Americans.

Finally, let this Synod reveal in its correspondence with other denominations clearly that our denomination has a broad, loving, and appreciative heart for other churches who differ with us to a greater or less extent in doctrine and church polity, and through our deeds contradict the unjust reproach that we in a narrow-minded conservatism imagine ourselves to be the true Church, and that we despise all other denominations. That this especially comes to light when a delegate from the Reformed Church in America come to bring the greetings of his Church, that we not only see and appreciate the good in others, but that it also pains us with respect to the unnatural separation of a denomination which is united to us with so many natural and spiritual ties.

May God grant you, beloved brethren, the grace to be able to perform your work with faithfulness and pleasure, and that the results of your work may show that you have not only sought the good for Zion, but also found it.

### Article 3.

After prayer by Rev. Groen the credentials are presented. The following brethren delegated to Synod appear to be presents:

#### Classis Grand Rapids East

Revs. J. J. Hieminga, W. P. Van Wyk, D. Vander Ploeg;  
Elders R. Van Noord, S. S. Postma, M. Schans.

#### Classis Grand Rapids West

Revs. H. Beets, E. Breen, F. Doezena;  
Elders K. Boersma, M. Ruster, Y. Veenstra.

Classis Hackensack

Revs. L. S. Huizenga, J. M. Ghyssels, J. A. Westervelt;  
Elders Lambert Bewkes, Leonard Breen.

Classis Holland

Revs. R. L. Haan, K. Kuiper, E. J. Tuuk;  
Elders A. G. Rinck, A. Peters, A. J. Wibalda.

Classis Hudson

Revs. F. Fortuin, J. B. Hoekstra, E. J. Krohne;  
Elders P. Pausma, Jas. Gardenier, J. J. Ver Meulen.

Classis Illinois

Revs. D. H. Kromminga, W. Borgman, S. S. Vander Heide;  
Elders S. Dekker, F. Visser, J. De Boer;

Classis Muskegon

Revs. P. D. Van Vliet, J. Post, J. Dolfin;  
Elders F. Kniphuizen, W. Korfker, M. Trap.

Classis Orange City

Revs. N. Burggraaf, J. Timmermann, M. Vander Heide;  
Elders B. De Jong, Y. R. Mulder, D. Zwagerman.

Classis Ost Friesland

Revs. G. L. Hoefker, A. W. Meyer;  
Elders T. Kromminga, L. Ahrenholz, H. P. Eekhof.

Classis Pacific

Revs. P. J. Hoekenga, J. Vander Mey, O. Vriesman;  
Elder E. Eerkes.

Classis Pelle

Revs. G. W. Hylkema, G. De Leeuw, I. Van Dellen;  
Elders H. A. Van Zante, J. Pothoven, D. A. Van Zante.

Classis Zeeland

Revs. A. Keizer, D. R. Drukker, T. Vander Ark;  
Elders D. Van Loo, H. Smit, J. Steigenga.

Article 4.

The credentials are accepted. The theological professors are seated as pre-advisors of the assembly. Also

a few of the literary professors at the request of the Curatorium are granted an advisory vote with matters pertaining to the College.

Article 5.

The following officers are chosen:

President - Rev. A. Keizer  
Vice-President - Rev. I. Van Dellen  
First Clerk - Rev. J. B. Hoekstra  
Second Clerk - Rev. J. Timmermann

Article 6.

The officers take their place on the podium. The president speaks a few words of thanks and welcome.

Article 7.

The President closes with prayer after it is decided to meet again at 2:00 p.m.

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WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Article 8.

Opening Devotions. Thereafter the president read the Public Declaration to the assembly which responds by saying yes.

Article 9.

Decided to meet from 8:00 to 11:30 a.m., and from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m., with a 15 minute recess morning and afternoon.

Article 10.

After it had been decided to work through pre-advisory committees, the president appoints the following persons to serve the assembly with the mandate to appoint committees for various matters: Revs. E. Breen, W. P. Van Wyk, K. Kuiper, M. Vander Heide, E. J. Krohne, and Elders A. G. Rinck, F. Kniphuisen, and Y. R. Mulder.



Further the president appoints as Committee on Appointments: Revs. H. Beets, E. J. Tuuk, S. S. Vander Heide, J. Dolfin, J. J. Hiemenga, D. R. Drukker, and Elders K. Boerema, M. Schans, and D. Van Loo.

Reception Committees: Rev. H. Beets and Rev. J. M. Ghysels.

Obituary Committees: Dr. R. L. Haan and Elder J. J. Ver Meulen.

#### Article 11.

A letter is read from Rev. J. W. Brink, President of the last Synod, stating that distance and the needs of the mission field kept him home, and expresses best wishes for Synod and the Church it represents. Received as information.

#### Article 12.

The following Reports were received as informations:

1. Synodical Committee, Supplement I.
2. Curatorium, Supplement II.
3. General Fund for Domestic Missions, Supplement III.
4. Heathen Missions, Supplement IV.
5. Jewish Missions, Supplement V.
6. Emeritus Fund, Supplement VI.
7. Church Help, Supplement VII.
8. De Wachter Committee, Supplement VIII.
9. The Committee for the Union Movement, which has no report and is continued.
10. The Reports of the Deputies ad Examina are received as information, and the action of the Deputies is approved.
11. Reports are filed by the followings:
  - a. Dr. H. Beets delegate to the Gereformeerde Kerken and the Christian Reformed Church in the Netherlands.
  - b. Rev. Danhof as delegate to the Associate Presbyterian Church.
  - c. Rev. D. H. Kromminga as delegate to the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Synod.
  - d. Rev. De Vries as delegate to the Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian (Covenanter) Church.
  - e. Rev. W. Stuart as delegate to the Reformed Church in America.

As far as necessary the reports were placed in the hands of the Committees of Pre-advice. (Of. Art. 13).

#### Article 13.

The Committee for the appointment of the Committees of Pre-advice presents the following appointments, which are received and approved:

1. The Theological School and Colleges: Revs. K. Kuiper, E. Breen, W. P. Van Wyk, E. J. Krohne, J. Timmermann, J. Vander Mey, R. L. Haan, and Elders S. S. Postma, Y. Veenstra, J. De Boer, F. Kniphuizen, H. A. Van Zante.

Pre-advisors: Professors L. Berkhof and J. G. Vanden Bosch, and Rev. F. Doezeema as Stated Clerk of the Curatorium. To report Monday 2:00 p.m.

2. Heathen Missions: Revs. P. J. Hoekenga, J. Dolfin, D. H. Kromminga, T. Vander Ark, and Elders Y. R. Mulder, P. Pousma, D. A. Van Zante, A. G. Rinck.

Pre-advisors: Prof. G. D. De Jong and Rev. M. Van Vessum, secretary of the Committee for Heathen Missions. To report Friday 8:00 a.m.

3. Domestic Missions, Argentina, and Mormon Missions: Revs. I. Van Dellen, J. J. Hiemenga, N. Burggraaf, G. L. Hoehker, J. Vriesman, L. S. Huizenga, and Elders E. Eerkes, D. Zwagerman, J. Steigenga, J. Pothoven.

Pre-advisors: Prof. F. M. Ten Hoor. To report Friday 2:00 p.m.

4. Jewish Missions: Revs. S. S. Vander Heide, J. A. Westervelt, G. De Leeuw, and Elders S. Dekker, B. De Jong, J. J. Vermeulen, H. Smit.

To report Thursday 2:00 p.m.

5. Publication Matters: Revs. D. R. Drukker, G. W. Hylkema, J. Post, and Elders A. Peters, R. Van Noord, T. Kromminga, L. Breen. Pre-advisor: Rev. J. Manni.

To report Thursday at 4:00 p.m.

6. Church Orders: Rev. E. J. Tuuk, F. Fortuin, W. Borgman, F. Doezeema, M. Vander Heide, A. W. Meyer, Dr. H. Beets, and Elders A. J. Wibalda, K. Boerema, M. Schans, M. Trap.

Pre-advisors: Prof. W. Heyns.

To report Tuesday at 8:00 a.m.

7. Varia and Protests: Revs. D. Vander Floeg, J. M. Ghysels, P. D. Van Vliet, and Elders W. Korfker, L. Beeuwkes, Jas. Gardenier, De Van Loo.

Pre-advisors: Prof. W. Heyns.

To report Tuesday at 2:00 p.m.

Article 14.

Decided not to meet Thursday morning so that the Committees of Pre-advise can work on their assignments.

Article 15.

Closing Devotions.

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THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION, JUNE 20.

Article 16.

Opening Devotions.

Article 17.

With a few revisions the minutes are approved.

Article 18.

Dr. Kirkbride, representative of the American Bible Society, is presented. After stating that he came as a substitute for Dr. John Fox, who was hindered, he gives a brief report of the work of this Society, and requests Synod for material support from the congregations.

In fitting words this address is responded to by Dr. H. Beets. He speaks especially of the gratitude for the help and cooperation which the Society has shown in the printing of the translation in the Navaho language by Rev. L. P. Brink.

Dr. J. W. Brooks, representative of the Chicago Tract Society, addresses the assembly pointing out the extensive and not unblest work among the various nationalities in this land and also elsewhere. With appreciation he thanks the assembly for the support received and would gladly see that this would be continued with zeal in the future.

Rev. P. D. Van Vliet responds with fitting words, and among other things applauds especially the use of the Heidelberg Catechism, and stating that the congregations surely would not withhold their support.

Article 19.

Rev. W. De Groot reports with respect to a protest against the Synod of 1908 by H. Hendriks and wife. Having been informed concerning this matter from every angle, the advice is given to consider this matter concluded, since the above named persons with the approval of the congregation of Outlerville have affiliated with a neighboring congregation. This advice is approved by Synod.

Article 20.

The next order of business is the report of the Committee pertaining to Jewish Missions, Rev. C. De Leeuw reporter. Before this report was finally decided, with the unanimous advice of the joint committees of Domestic, Heathen, and Jewish Missions the following principle of Missions was adopted:

"The calling and sending of missionary pastors shall take place by a local church, however, if circumstances require, then the calling and sending shall be done by a combined number of churches in a manner decided upon by the churches themselves, and in harmony with Synodical and Classical Rules."

Article 21.

The Report of the Committee for Jewish Missions is considered, adopted, and approved as follows:

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

There were three matters which your committee was called upon to consider:

1. An overture from Classis Orange City as follows:

"Synod endeavor to establish a Reformed mission among the Jews, and, if such appears to be impossible, it will not request a collection for the Chicago Hebrew Mission."

2. An overture from Classis Hackensack as follows:

"Classis recommends that Paterson be chosen as the place for conducting Jewish Mission work by the denominations:

- a. Because in Paterson there are English-speaking churches to which converts can be referred.

- b. Because it is financially possible to assume the Paterson Hebrew Mission work.
  - c. Because the great Jewish population in Paterson and surroundings."
- (Cf. Supplement IX to these Acts.)

3. The Report of the Committee for Jewish Missions appearing on page 20 of our Agenda. (Cf. Supplement IX of these Acts.)

After a discussion of all this material your Committee presents the following advice:

I. That our denomination begin its own mission among the Jews. Year after year our people show more love for this Mission, and we believe that our Church is strong enough spiritually and financially at the present time to begin this work. Every Synod shows that there is an urge for our own mission. A mission that proceeds from a society never gains the full support of our people. And, if this work is done by our own Church, then it proceeds along purer lines, and then there will be more sympathy gained among our people for this cause. Adopted.

II. As places for labor your Committee advises Chicago and Paterson. In Chicago attempt to take over the Northwest Side Branch of the Chicago Hebrew Mission, and in Paterson the Paterson Hebrew Mission can readily be taken over by our Church.

Decided:

Synod will support Paterson with \$1,000.00 annually until the next Synod; in Chicago we shall continue to support the work, but in the next two years to obtain its own mission.

III. In agreement with the declaration of Synod that "the calling and sending of missionary pastors shall take place by the local church, however, if circumstances require, then the calling and sending shall be done by a combined number of churches in a manner decided upon by the churches themselves, and in harmony with Synodical and Classical Rules," your Committee advises that the endorsement of this matter be mandated to the five deputies for this Mission.

Adopted. (See the names of the deputies, Art. 75.)

Article 22.

Rev. G. W. Hylkema reports on Publication Matters. The Report is adopted as follows:

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

I. In the report of De Wachter Committee (Supplement VIII), point 7, your committee found the proposal: "Synod grant the Committee the right to make the Mailing List the possession of the Church, in order to prevent difficulties in the event it might be necessary to have De Wachter printed by other people."

Your Committee advises Synod to grant De Wachter Committee this right.

1. In order to prevent great difficulties should another printer receive the contract, or if it should be necessary to change printers.

2. In order to make better stipulations in a new contract with an eye on the Mailing List. Adopted.

II. On the Agenda under overtures of the Committee for Supervision of De Wachter we found proposal No. 1: "To delete the date of termination of the subscription placed on the address of De Wachter which is sent to the subscribers."

Your Committee advises that Synod not enter into this matter but abide by the decision of 1910.

a. Because the Business Manager can now better control the agents.

b. Because now the subscribers can better know to what date their subscription has been paid. Adopted.

III. A second proposal from the Committee for Supervision: "To dispense with a permanent editor for missions, in view of the fact that an abundance of material is sent in without the need of an editor, and more can be obtained."

Your Committee advises that such be done based upon the grounds stated in the Agenda, and also that the articles from our own mission field can be placed more quickly

than if the material first has to be processed by a department editor.

(Placed in the hands of the Committee for Heathen Missions. Cf. Art. 25, I, 3.)

IV. Concerning the 3rd proposal of the Committee for Supervision, point a.

To appoint a general agent for De Wachter and dispense with regional agents.

Point b.

To appoint a Business Manager who shall devote all his time to administration and advertising, with the exception of most local agents.

The Committee advises not to take up this matter but abide by the present method of administration.

1. Because the change would not be to the advantage of De Wachter, since the costs of the administration would be remarkably increased, and no important improvements would be gained.

Adopted.

Point c under the proposal III: "If it would not be desirable to give the entire publication and administration of De Wachter or to let out the same for a specific amount.

Your Committee advises also not to take up this matter because the Church would then to a great extent surrender its control of De Wachter.

Adopted.

V. From Classis Pacific the following overture: "Synod review Acts 1910, Art. 71, I. in this sense that each co-editor remain fully responsible for his own department, also what pertains to the placing or not placing of the article sent in."

Your Committee advises that Article 71, I, Acts 1910 to be revised as follows: Reflection of the articles of various departments be sent to the Editor-in-Chief, and who will send these reflections to the departmental editor with his own judgment.

Should there be a difference of opinion between the departmental editor and the Editor-in-Chief with respect to the placing or not placing of an article, then it shall be placed

in the hands of the Committee of Supervision, which shall make the final decision. Adopted.

VI. From three Classes there are proposals that Synod provide for its own Sunday School roster.

The advice of your committee is that Synod so decide, and appoint a Committee of five persons, which shall set up a Sunday School roster for a few years, and submit the same for the judgment of the next Synod.

Adopted with the following grounds:

1. According to the overtures on the Agenda it appears that a great portion of our people feel the need for our own Sunday School roster.

2. Because we have to take into consideration the particular needs of our youth, who, in contrast with the American youth, receive Christian instruction, and in any event catechetical instruction.

3. Because in the judgment of the committee a Sunday School roster should be so applied to stress the covenant idea more strongly.

4. Besides our Sunday School roster must take into consideration our feastdays, our missions, and other particularities of our denominational life.

(For members of the committee see Art. 75).

VII. There is also an overture that the Sunday School lessons no longer be published in De Wachter.

Your committee advises that Synod so decide because the lessons will be published in pamphlet form anyway, and be used in the Sunday School. Adopted.

VIII. The committee found the following overture in the Agenda: "That Synod have the reports of the Committees of Pre-advice printed, so that each delegate may have a copy, in order that they may better judge the issues."

Your committee advises not to enter into this matter because of the cost for printing and also the lack of time would make the execution of this overture impossible.

Rejected, and



Decided: That henceforth copies of the reports be printed or by other means, and appear before the assembly.

IX. There is an overture on the Agenda that Synod shall make provision that the Acts be published in such a way that they are lucid and complete.

Your committee advises that since there is no concrete proof of neglect given as evidence, Synod do not enter into the matter.

Decided that all reports which are presented shall be printed in the Acts unless Synod decides otherwise.

X. In the report of De Wachter Committee, point 8, it recommends the re-appointment of the entire Wachter personnel as far as editors is concerned.

Your committee proposes that the editors of the various departments be re-appointed with this understanding that they are not to use their columns for advertising their own publications.

In connection herewith your committee advises that Synod decide that only one review of a publication appear in De Wachter. Adopted, and

Rev. A. Keizer is re-appointed as editor-in-chief, besides the brethren Revs. J. B. Heekstra, J. Bolt, J. Vander Mey, and H. Vander Werp for their various departments.

XI. In the report of the Committee of Consultation with the Board of Directors of the Banner of Truth Publishing Co., the following advice is presented: That Synod purchase The Banner, and that for the following reasons:

a. After investigation it appears to the Committee that the price for the sale of The Banner is to be considered fair, considering that the receipts through contributions and advertising in the previous year cover the amount amply for taking over.

b. From a statement that the Committee received, it appears that the financial condition of The Banner is of such a nature that it is beginning to show a profit, a profit that will increase remarkably as the circulation of this paper increases, which is very well possible, since the number of subscribers

is at present half of the number of De Wachter.

c. The other conditions for our Church taking over The Banner offer no objections for purchasing this paper. They are:

1. The paper continue to be the representative of the English speaking congregations of our denomination.
2. If at all possible the paper continue to appear in its present format, and be printed with the same quality of paper.

The first of these conditions is very natural.

The second takes into consideration the fact that all periodicals of English speaking churches are published in book format, and at the same time a better quality of paper is used than the Dutch papers for printing.

If our Church is to publish a paper in the language of the land, then it is very desirable that it wears the same dress as the other American periodicals..

Your committee advises Synod:

1. To buy The Banner for the sum of \$5,000.00, which is the asking price of The Banner of Truth Publishing Co., and at the same time accept the conditions presented by The Banner

With this understanding that with the payment of this price it also becomes the proprietor of the accounts which subscribers and advertisers owe The Banner, as well as office supplies, and the bills payable according to the statement of The Banner Publishing Co. to your Committee be paid by The Banner Publishing Co.

And besides with this understanding that the Church pay 20% of the sum each year, which shall be taken from De Wachter treasury, and that without interest.

2. If Synod so decides then your committee further advises that The Banner be placed under the supervision of the same Committee that has supervision over De Wachter.

3. If Synod adopts this last regulation, then your committee further advises that the Committee of De Wachter be expanded to six members, and that Synod be aware of the necessity of adding to this Committee men with business capacity.

After discussion in Executive Session Synod decides not to purchase The Banner.

Article 23.

Closing Devotions.

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FRIDAY MORNING SESSION, JUNE 21.

Article 24.

Opening Devotions.

Article 25.

Rev. J. Delfin reads the report of the Committee of Pre-advice for Heathen Missions. It is acted upon point by point, and adopted as follows:

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Your committee has the following to report:

I. Proposals from the Board of Heathen Missions.

1. Synod decide if, and if so, under what conditions graduates of the Training School and Missions Helpers can be placed in office.

In connection herewith we must note the question of Classis Hackensack, p. 17 on the Agendas: "Classis asks Synod if the time is not yet there for the ordination of native helpers among the Navahe tribe?"

Since this is a matter of great importance, and because at present there is not yet need for a specific declaration from Synod, your committee advises: To refer this back to the Board with the instruction that it serve the next Synod with well circumscribed advice.

Adopted.

2. Synod empower the Board to buy the claims of Miss K. Resbach and Mrs. O. Hartog-Wezeman. These are situated in the immediate neighborhood of the Rehobeth complex, necessary for their welfare, and were especially bought for the good of the Mission.

While these claims have significance for our mission, and while they were specially, by means of investigation and advice from the Board purchased many years ago for the profit of the mission,

your committee advises that Syned adopt the proposal of the Beard.  
Adopted

3. The Conference would like to have one of its missionaries become the editor for the department of missions in De Wachter. The Beard gives for consideration whether it would not be better to have one of its members take over this department.

Because it is of great importance that regular ~~regular~~ contributions to De Wachter be written, your committee ~~is of the~~ opinion that there should be a departmental editor for missions in order to prevent difficulties, and therefore advises that the Beard of Heathen Missions appoint one of its own members.

This advice is not adopted, but instead thereof the following substitute is adopted; "Whereas there is sufficient reading material for the department of missions, Syned decides, with thanks for the labors of the co-editor, to place the reading material for this department under the control of the editor-in-chief.

4. Syned instruct the Beard to build a chapel at Black Rock, 3 miles from the village of Zuni, by the new government school, as also the building of a parsonage for the missionary among the Zunis, in order to use the old parsonage as a school building for which there is pressing need.

Considering the work that is carried on at Black Rock in the government school, and considering the need for a new place for the parsonage of Rev. Fryling, your committee advises that this proposal of the Beard be adopted. Adopted.

5. Syned consider an increase of salary for missionaries Fryling and L. P. Brink by 25%.

Taking into consideration the high cost of living, the increase in their families, as also their perseverance in their work, your committee advises: To set the maximum salaries of these brethren at \$1,500.00, and to reach this maximum in three years by an increase of \$100.00 per year. Adopted.

6. Syned consider the report for the further expansion of the mission work among the Navaho Indians,

(Of. De Wachter of June 19, 1912 and Supplement XVI), and instruct the Board to open the new stations as finances permit in the order which the Board deems most advisable.

Having noted on the map of the entire Navaho country, having heard the explanation of the various mission posts, occupied and proposed, having taken into consideration the report, your committee felt it was impossible to choose between one station and another, and thus advises: To instruct the Board to open new stations as finances permit, and in the order which the Board deems most advisable. Adopted.

7. Training School.

1) Synod consider whether this school is to remain at Tohatchi.

Since this school has been in existence only for a year and a half, and the workers on the mission field as yet are but few, your committee was of the opinion that it is not desirable at this time to decide that the permanent location be at Tohatchi, and therefore advises Synod that for the time being the Training School remain at Tohatchi. Adopted.

2) To instruct the Board to determine from year to year the number of students to be accepted according to the need of the mission field.

Understanding the great importance who are to be admitted to this school, and considering that the churches are to be represented in this admittance, your committee advises that the Board determine from year to year the number of students to be admitted to this school according to the needs of the missionfield. Adopted.

3) Having accepted 7, 1, your committee advises not to enter into the question: "Whether it would not be desirable to transfer the Literary Department to Rehoboth as well as the teaching personnel in order to save expenses." Adopted.

4) If Synod decides the all the training take place at Tohatchi

then it should consider the recommendation of the Conference in this matter.

a. To provide a qualified instructor in the arts, willing also to study theological courses, so that in the absence of the missionary, he will be able to take over.

b. Provide for a competent housekeeper for the school.

Grounds:

1. The site previously chosen appears to be the most suitable.

2. The equipment for such a school is there, such as room, class rooms, furniture, and sleeping quarters.

3. A permanent location for this important work will create greater appreciation for this in our Church by means of the development of these matters.

4. Through language study, experience, etc., Missionary L. P. Brink appears to be that man to instruct these young men to work among their own people, the Navahoes.

Adopted. The Board instructed to execute a and b.

8. Synod empower the Board to send delegates, preferably from their own number, to the Home Mission Council. (Banner of February 1, 1912).

Since this is necessary in order to be able to profit from others who work among the Indians, and who report at this Council, your committee advises to adopt this proposal. Adopted,

9. The Board urges the appointment of a Field Secretary.

Since our mission is gradually getting larger in scope, and since we have decided to expand our work, it is to be understood that correspondence and finances expand so much, that it is necessary to obtain an man who can devote his entire time to the cause of Heathen Missions. Therefore your committee advises: Synod appoint a Field Secretary, who shall be a member of the Board ex officio.

Rejected.

Article 26.

Closing Devotions.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Article 27.

Opening Devotions.

Thereafter there is a continuation of the discussion with respect to the matter of Heathen Missions, specifically the CONCEPT OF THE MISSION ORDER. It was finally received and adopted as found in Supplement X of the Acts.

Further it was discussed and decided:

I. Concerning the missionary courses mentioned in the Mission Order, to abide by the decision of 1910, (p. 43, VI) for the same reasons mentioned there.

II. Concerning the Form for the installation of missionary ministers of the Word, decided to abide by the present functioning, p. 108 of the Church Order, with this understanding that the first paragraph read as follows:

"It has been made known to you that our brother N. N. chosen by .....to the Ministry of the Word among the (Heathen) (Dispersed) and recently examined by the Honorable Classis with good results, now to be ordained a Missionary Minister of the Word."

III. Concerning a letter from brother A. Vander Wagen at Zuni, N. M., by which he addresses himself to Synod with the request that the way be opened for him whereby he may attain to his life's goal, Synod adopts the advice of the committee, namely, to abide by the decision of 1910 (Art. 48, p. 34, a, of the Acts).

Article 28.

Rev. C. Vriesman reports for the Committee of Pre-advice concerning Domestic Missions, South America, and the Mission among the Mormons.

I. Domestic Mission Matters.

Esteemed Brethren:

Your Committee with respect to Domestic Missions has the honor of presenting to you the followings:

In the first place, the proposals of the Committee of the General Fund. (Supplement III.)

1. The Committee recommends the following subsidies of the Classes:

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Classis Muskegon        | \$1,000.00 |
| " Ostfriesland          | 500.00     |
| " Pacific               | 4,000.00   |
| " Hackensack and Hudson | 2,000.00   |
| " Grand Rapids East     | 500.00     |
| " Grand Rapids West     | 450.00     |
| " Pella                 | 2,000.00   |
| " Illinois              | 500.00     |

Your committee recommends to grant this. Adopted.

2. From the report of the Treasurer of the General Fund for Domestic Missions it appeared that there is not a proportionate giving for this cause by the various churches and Classes. Because of this your Committee of Pre-advice recommends that Synod urge to live up to Art. 53, 1, d, Acts 1908, where it was decided that the last two of three collections for Domestic Missions shall be for the General Fund.

Your committee has seriously studied this matter, and wishes first of all to make as plain as possible to Synod what the actual situation is. From this it will appear to you that the purpose for which this Fund was established is not fully attained because it appears that generally it is not understood that this General Fund serves to help needy Classes. As matters now stand one gets the impression that many Classes, also where they are able to help themselves, believe they have the right to receive support from this Fund, when they perform a measure of mission work in their own midst, or are called upon to assist a needy church.

Classis Grand Rapids West puts as much in the General Fund as it receives from the fund; Classis Grand Rapids West receives one third in return; Classis Illinois, one fifth; and Classis Ostfriesland about one eighth. In the light of this it is with difficulty to state that these Classes are in need of help from the General Fund, because a Classis which puts as much or more in a certain fund than what it receives in return, could get along just as well without receiving support from the fund.

According to the opinion of your committee the ideal should be that the various Classes who asked for no support and received no support from the fund, and believes that each Classis should have this as a goal. Yet in this matter we did not dare to bring a proposal, since we feared that the means could be worse than ailment



because the idea, so deep-rooted, is that each one must receive something in return, if he has contributed to the Fund.

We fear that Synodical decisions in themselves will bring no improvement. In their own circles the Classes must first of all awaken the thought that the General Fund serves to help those who cannot help themselves,, and secondly to awaken sympathy for the great work of Domestic Missions.

On this last matter we want to place all emphasis. Statistics point out that there is not enough love for this highly necessary work. Classis Illinois, for example, gives 23¢ per family, and receives 1/5 in return, so that it actually is granting support of 17¢ per family; Classis Grand Rapids West gives 28¢ per family and receives the same amount in return. So this Classis does nothing for the general cause. And these two Classes in their own circle do give something for weaker congregations and the Mission, but very little when compared what Classes Pella and Pacific contribute. Classis Holland gives 42¢ and Classis Zeeland gives 53¢, and receive nothing in return, but at the same time need give little in their own circles, while Orange City gives 57¢, for works performed in its own midst. Classis Pella gives about \$2.00 per family, and yet gives 82¢ per family for the General Fund, and Classis Pacific gives almost \$3.00 per family in its own circles, and gives 32¢ per family for the General Fund.

This disease is found in the center of the denomination, for reasons that can be explained. They are ignorant of the mission field and therefore lack enthusiasm. Hence it is necessary that consistories and ministers provide that an awakening in the congregation <sup>take place</sup> to increase its offerings, and make it plain why this should take place. Our people can and will do this, if it only knows that and why it is necessary.

Your committee believes that besides action being taken by Classes, Consistories, and Ministers, improvement can be made, if Synod would adopt the following proposals:

1. Synod mandate the Committee for the General Fund to present the needs of needy Classes emphatically and continually in our church periodicals; and constantly keep contact with Classes and consistories, so that they, where they are delinquent, be spurred on to be more zealous in their support of needy churches.

We believe this is necessary because ignorance of and therefore lack of sympathy keeps the pocketbooks closed. In this manner the cause of Heathen Missions is promoted systematically and talentedly, and such should also take place with respect to Domestic Missions.

2. Furthermore, your committee again proposes that Synod urge that Art. 53, General Rules of the Acts of 1908, be strictly followed, so that the last two of the three collection be taken for the General Fund for Domestic Missions.

It is necessary that the delegates take this into consideration, and emphasize this when they make their reports to their respective Classes.

Finally, your committee must propose another measure to Synod in the event the Committee of the General Fund is not in a position to grant the full amount of the subsidies.

Classis Pacific requests \$4,000.00, which was granted, and to mention another example, Classis Illinois \$500.00. Thus far in case there is a shortage the subsidies are paid out on a pro rata basis. But consider if only a half is received, then Classis Pacific gets \$2,000.00 and Classis Illinois \$250.00. One at once feels that this is not fair. In this way Pacific will be short \$2,000.00, and Illinois only \$250.00. This is more strongly seen when one considers that Classis Pacific consists of only 400 families and Classis Illinois 2,000 families. Then Classis Pacific to meet the deficit in the subsidy would have to contribute \$5.00 extra and Classis Illinois 25¢.

We believe that such disbursements of funds may no longer be perpetuated, and that the Committee for the General Fund should be instructed that when a shortage occurs, to disburse the funds according to the needs and the ability to give of the needy Classes. Then it would have to take into consideration what each family should contribute to meet the deficit, with what each family has already contributed in its own circle and for the General Fund together, with the peculiar circumstances of the field, and also somewhat with the financial ability of the congregations of the respective Classes in general.

3. Finally, we present to Synod the following proposal: That the Committee for the General Fund in the event of a deficit no longer disburse on a pro rata basis of what has been granted, but according to the needs of the needy Classes.

Adopted.

3. The committee further recommends that the Rules for the Committee of the General Fund be revised that the committee only meet once in two years in order to save expenses.

Your committee advises so to do.

Adopted.

## II. South America. (See Supplement XV.)

Concerning South America the Synodical Deputies advise in De Wachter of June 12: That this Synod again appoint deputies, and then give them a mandate in conformity with that of the Netherlands. Because, namely:

1. to request all the churches in the name of Synod to take a collection for the brethren in Argentina;
2. to serve the Argentine colonies as much as possible with advice, and
3. in accordance with the request of the churches of Argentine to establish a closer relationship between their churches and those in America.

This instruction then discharges our General Domestic Mission Fund for subsidies for South America, and gives the deputies the authority to take a collection for South American use in consultation with the deputies in Netherlands, and distribute proportionately what they do for subsidy, church building, evangelization, De Wachter, etc., as circumstances permit. It surely is difficult for Synod to foresee two years ahead of time concerning all particular matters, e.g., the subsidy of Buenos Aires, the purchase of buildings at Rosario, and whether the beginning of the work there should be done as in Buenos Aires with a Christian School principal, or as at Tres Arroyos by calling a minister, etc.

With respect to this material Synod decides:

1. To appoint deputies for this work. (Of. Art. 75.)
2. To recommend to all our churches to take one collection once every two years for this cause, giving the deputies the authority concerning the distribution of the proceeds thereof in consultation with the deputies in the Netherlands Gereformeerde Kerken in the most appropriate manner, and further to serve the brethren in South America with advice.

With respect to point 3 above not to enter into the matter since the churches of Argentine have already made a similar request to the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands.

### III. Mormon Mission

Concerning the mission among the Mormons we find the following request from Classis Pella in the Agenda: "Classis requests Synod to give moral and financial support for the mission among the Mormons."

Your committee advises that Classis Pella receive \$1,000.00 annually for this work. This would bring the subsidy for Classis Pella to \$3,000.00. Adopted.

### IV. Prevention of Dispersion.

Finally we find in the Agenda an instruction from Classis Pacifics: "Synod put forth efforts to prevent as much as possible the dispersion of our Dutch people by forming a Bureau of Information in the interests of those who desire to move."

Your committee advises that Synod appoint a committee to investigate the matter and report at the next Synod. Adopted. (See Art. 75 for the Committee).

### Article 29.

With respect to the instruction of Classis Zeeland wherein Rusk is recommended for annual subsidy of \$100.00 is not considered, since it does not belong here.

### Article 30.

Synod decides to adjourn until Monday June 24, at 2:00 p.m. Since several delegates appear to be absent, it is decided to call the roll every morning.

Closing Devotions.

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### MONDAY AFTERNOON SESSION JUNE 24.

### Article 31.

Opening Devotions.

Article 32.

The chairman announces that because of the death of his father, Rev. J. Vander Mey was called upon to leave Synod and will not attend the further sessions.

It is decided to enforce an existing decision not to grant traveling expenses to those delegates who leave early. This does not apply to Rev. Vander Mey.

Article 33.

The roll is called. Rev. L. S. Huizenga from Classis Hackensack is absent.

Article 34.

Rev. K. Kuiper, the writer of the Sunday School lessons, is thanked for his faithful labor up until now for writing these lessons for De Wachter.

Article 35.

Rev. H. Fryling and Rev. G. Broene are seated with advisory vote.

Article 36.

Rev. W. P. Van Wyk reports for the committee for matters pertaining to the Theological School and College. The report is discussed point by point, received, and adopted as follows:

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

The committee of pre-advice for the Theological School and the College has the honor of presenting the following advice:

I. Concerning the relationship between the Church the Theological School and the College, your committee finds the following instructions on the Agenda (pp. VI-XII) from

Classis Zeeland

- " Grand Rapids East
- " Grand Rapids West
- " Holland
- " Illinois
- " Muskegon
- " Orange City
- " Pacific
- " Pella
- " Hudson
- " Hackensack

Consistory, Pease, Minn.

Below is the report of the Curatorium (Cf. Supplement II, 5, e).

After consideration of all the matters, and proceeding from the decision that all instruction in theology for future Ministers of the Word remain with the Church (Cf. Acts 1910, Art. 51, p. 38) your committee advises:

A. Synod declares:

1. That principally it is correct that the College (Preparatory School and College proper) proceed from a Society, further that the Church cannot and may not transfer until a Society shall have been established, which gives a sufficient guarantee that it will have a Reformed stamp, scholarly standard of instruction, and financial responsibility.

2. That the Church is ready to transfer the College (Preparatory School and College proper) to a Society, as soon as it can provide such a guarantee.

3. That that the Church will leave the literary instruction of the future Ministers of the Word to the college provided:

a. The Society, which supports and regulates the College, will submit itself to ecclesiastical supervision to be determined later.

b. That the Society present sufficient guarantee that the instruction given at the College shall be sound and Reformed.

c. That the Society pledge itself to give consideration to the concerns of the Church, and with the special demands which are required who wish to be admitted to the study of Theology.

This third point your committee advises, because it believes:

a. That in this manner the Church has the necessary guarantee that the concerns with respect to Literary training will be taken into consideration.

b. That the College can best freely develop itself according to its nature.

c. That in this way all unnecessary expenses are avoided.

Adopted.

B. Synod instruct a committee to consist of a member appointed by each Classis, and to present to the next Synod well circumscribed advice concerning:

1. The organization of a Society (ies) for secondary and higher education.

2. The transfer of the College (Preparatory School and College proper) to the Society (ies) to be organized, and further stipulations. Adopted.

C. That Synod having considered:

1. That the College at present is fully the property of the Church;

2. That the Church has brought the College to its present flourishing condition under the blessing of the Lord;

3. That the Church will not transfer the College to a Society except under safe provisions;

4. That the development of the College in the transition period may not be hindered but promoted----

earnestly urges that not only by word but also by deed, shown by the entire Church that it is prepared to cooperate in this development. Adopted.

II. Concerning a President for the College your committee finds instructions from Classes Grand Rapids West, Muskegon, Zeeland, and the report of the Curatorium (5, d, 1). After consideration of these matters, your committee advises:

A. Not to appoint a President for the College, because:

1. We have not yet sufficiently considered the desirability of a president such as are found in American colleges, nor of our ideal of a College President;

2. We do not know whether a possible Society which in the future shall obtain the College, desires to have a president; nor whether the man, whom we appoint, would meet the approval of the Society;

3. Our College has only a small number of students, so that it cannot be said that the College needs a President. Adopted.

B. Considering that the Church has great interest with respect to Higher Education in general, Synod appoint an Educational Secretary to promote the cause of higher education in the manner to be determined. That the appointment of this Secretary be permanent and with the possible separation of the College and the Seminary, he remain the responsibility of the Church.

In this manner the Church should very well be able to promote the cause of higher education and at the same time guarantee the office of the Secretary should he be a minister.

Synod make the following regulations for the Educational Secretary:

1. The Educational Secretary devote all his time and talents by means of conversations, lectures, sermons, and press articles to promote the moral concerns of our institution.

2. The Educational Secretary take note of young people who seem to have a good aptitude for study, and urge them with care to study at our institution.

3. The Educational Secretary endeavor to obtain finances for our institution by regular offerings, gifts, and legacies.

To solicit gifts outside our own circles, he shall receive the approval of the Curatorium in doubtful cases.

4. The Educational Secretary to receive an annual salary of \$1,600.00 and traveling expenses, with two months vacation.

5. The Educational Secretary shall be under the supervision of the Curatorium, and have faculty seating with advisory vote.

6. With the eventual death or sickness or old age of the Educational Secretary, the same Emeritus financial regulations shall apply to him and his family as for the Professors and their families.

Adopted.

(For gross appointments see Art. 60.)

C. With reference to the report of the Curatorium the committee still has the following advisories concerning the appointment of Professors:

1. (Report of the Curatorium 5, b). Synod declare that Art. 56, VII, 3, Acts 1910, only speaks of the qualifications of the Professors, but not concerning appointments.

2. Synod taking note of the failure of the last Synod to appoint Prof. Johannes Broence, rectify this failure by considering Prof. J. Broene appointed until the Synod of 1916. Adopted.



3. Synod re-appoint Mr. J. Van Haitema for a period of six years as Professor of Organic Sciences.

Article 37.

Closing Devotions.

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TUESDAY MORNING SESSION, JUNE 25.

Article 38.

Opening Devotions. After which the minutes are read, and with certain corrections are approved. The roll is called. All the delegates are present.

Article 39.

Continuation of the committee of pre-advice for the Theological School and College.

The following was received and adopted:

D. Synod appoint Mr. J. Nieuwdorp as Instructor in Inorganic Sciences for a period of two years for a salary of \$900.00, with these provisions:

1. Mr. Nieuwdorp is granted a leave of absence the first year without salary.
2. Approaching September, 1913, Mr. Nieuwdorp give evidence that he has a least 4 majors in College Physics, whereof of 1 is a major in laboratory work. (Of. Art. 63.) Adopted.

IV. Concerning the increase in salaries for the Professors there are instructions from Classes Grand Rapids West, Muskegon, Orange City, and Pacific, as also advice from the Curatorium. (See the Report of the Curatorium, 5, f.)

Your Committee advises: Synod increase the salaries of the Professors at our School.

1. The salaries of the Theological Professors be set at \$1,600.00.
2. The minimum salary of the Literary Professors be \$1,000.00, and the maximum \$1,600.00.

3. The regulation of the salaries of the Literary Professors be determined as follows: These Professors receive an increase at once of \$200.00, and thereafter an increase of \$100.00 per year until the maximum is reached. This rule only obtains when the Professors meet the demands required of them. (Cf. Acts 1910, p. 45.) The Curatorium shall also take into consideration with this regulation qualification and experience.

4. Synod make the increase insalaries of the Professors retro-active for one year. Adopted

5. Synod grant the principal a gratification of \$100.00 for the special work with respect to his principalship. Adopted.

V. Concerning the quota for the Theological School there are instructions from Classes Grand Rapids West and Holland and advice from the Curatorium (5, f, f.)

Your committee advises: The quota be increased to \$1.00 per family. Grounds:

1. The income for the School the last year was not sufficient.
2. The salaries of the Professors must be increased.
3. A thorough, scholarly training for our students and our future ministers makes this necessary. Adopted.

VI. Your committee still has the following matters to advise:

1. Instructions from Classes Pella, Hudson, Grand Rapids East, Holland, Illinois, Muskegon, Orange City, and Pacific, and of the Curatorium (5, g) concerning the sale of the Theological School building, your committee advises:

Synod for the present do not sell the school building since the Church does not appear ripe to take such action.

Adopted.

2. Instruction from the Consistory of Grand Haven I concerning the number of Curators.

Your Committee advises not to consider this matter.

Grounds:

1. The manifold work of the Curatorium.
2. The difficult questions that are pending.

Adopted.

3. With respect to an instruction from Classis Grand Rapids West concerning pleading for the concerns of higher education, your committee advises:

Synod make no further provision for this because the Curatorium has already requested Brothers to do this, and the Educational Secretary has also been instructed to do this.

Adopted.

4. Concerning Classical Correspondents as Classis Pella proposes, your committee advises not to consider this matter, since provision for this has been made by the appointment of an Educational Secretary and the increase in the quota

Adopted.

In connection with the article of the report of the Curatorium for the commemoration that on January 19, 1913, the fact that the Heidelberg Catechism will be 350 years old, your committee advises: Synod recommend the commemoration of this fact.

Adopted.

Article 40.

Closing Devotions.

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#### TUESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Article 41.

Opening Devotions.

Article 42.

The Synodical Treasurer, Rev. J. Noordewier, reports:

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Balance, June 1910  | \$ 396.87       |
| Receipts, 6 Classes | <u>1,286.63</u> |
| Total               | \$1,683.50      |
| Disbursements       | <u>1,054.98</u> |
| Balance             | \$ 628.52       |

With the payment of certain bills, such as for the Agenda etc., there is a balance of about \$300.00. (Cf. Art. 73 for the quota).

Article 43.

Rev. J. Post and elders S. S. Postma and S. Dekker are appointed to audit the books of the Treasurer. (Cf. Art. 70.)

Article 44.

Dr. Meyer speaks in the interests of the Chicago Hebrew Mission, and points out the influence of this Mission, and the fruit seen upon the work, and heartily thanks the Christian Reformed Church for its support.

Rev. De Leeuw responds.

Article 45.

Rev. J. C. McKnight, delegate from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of America addresses Synod. He speaks briefly about the principles and works of the church.

Dr. H. Beets responds, and points out various matters in which both denominations are in agreement.

Article 46.

One matter from the Committee of Pre-advice on Varia from Classis Hackensack, concerning which the Committee on Appointments would like to have a decision: (P XXVI).

"That hereafter the Synodical Stated Clerk, the Synodical Committee, the Heathen Mission Committee, The Synodical Home Mission Committee, De Wachter, and Jewish Mission Committee be appointed by the Synod directly, and not through a Committee of Appointments.

- a. in order that each member of Synod may have a better opportunity than heretofore to express his preference,
- b. in order that more deliberate and careful consideration be given these appointments which are of such great importance for the welfare of the whole Church."

Rejected.

Article 47.

The Committee of Pre-advice for Varia, Emeriti, and Protests

presents its report through Rev. J. M. Ghysels. The report is acted upon point by point, received, and adopted:

1. 1. Since the Emeritus Board deemed it advisable to support a suffering brother, your committee advises that the action of the Board be approved with thanks. Adopted.

2. Your Committee advises the recommendation of the Board to support the following persons from the Emeritus Fund be approved:

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Mrs. M. J. Bosma                 | \$400.00 |
| Rev. Vanden Bok                  | 400.00   |
| Rev. G. Broene                   | 300.00   |
| Rev. R. Drukker                  | 250.00   |
| Mrs. Temple                      | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Broekstra                   | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Remeyn                      | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Langereis                   | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Van Vlaanderen              | 200.00   |
| Orphans of Rev. J. F. Van Houten | 200.00   |
| Mrs. E. R. Haan                  | 150.00   |
| Mrs. Stadt                       | 150.00   |
| Mrs. A. Van Houten               | 150.00   |
| Mrs. Stuit                       | 100.00   |

Adopted. (Of. Supplement VI for the Report of the Board, and Art. 75 for the members of the Committee.)

3. Your committee found the following instruction on the Agenda from Classis Pella: "Synod increase the amount for our Emeritus ministers and Emeritus ministers' widows and orphans by 20%." Your committee advises to leave the amount as is, and that there be no follow through with respect to the instruction of Classis Pella, for the following reasons:

a. because there was no request for an increase from the Classical Correspondent, Classis, or Consistory.

b. because by further information from the Board, the amount granted appears to be reasonable.

c. because the Board is in a position to make an increase at any time if circumstances make this necessary, even as the Board has always done.

d. because there was never a complaint made to the Board.  
Adopted.

II. On the Agenda the committee found the following information from Classis Muskegon: "Classis Muskegon brings

to the attention of Synod that Rev. G. G. Haan on January 10, 1912, present a request for emeritation to Classis, and that Classis having heard the request of Rev. G. G. Haan and the testimony of three physicians decided to grant the request." Your committee advises to approve the action of Classis Muskegon. Adopted.

III. The following instruction was received from Classis Holland: "Synod declare what attitude consistories must take for those who advocate socialism." Your committee advises that this instruction be referred to the Committee for Labor Movements and Unions, and that it report to the next Synod concerning this matter.

The following was adopted by Synod: "The consistories take the same attitude as they do against all those dissenting from our principles."

IV. Your committee found the following instruction on the Agenda from Classis Illinois: "Synod endeavor to cooperate with other Christian denominations in America for the declaration of a National Day of Prayer for Crops by the government of our country."

Since Synod decided earlier something concerning this (Acts 1906, Art. 103), a decision that evidently was not executed, that Synod instruct the Synodical Committee to endeavor to cooperate with other denominations to obtain action from the government. Adopted.

V. The following instruction was received from Classis Illinois: "Synod attempt if possible to obtain as much uniformity as possible in repayment to the Student Fund so that it will be the same throughout the entire denomination." Your committee advises that Synod can make no binding decision in this matter since the regulation of the Student Fund is left to the Classes, yet that Synod declare that such uniformity is desirable, and that therefore advises the various Classes to attempt among themselves to obtain the desired uniformity. Adopted.

VI. Classis Hackensack sent the following instruction to Synod: "That Synod investigate into the nature of the Society known as the Junior Order of Mechanics." Your committee

advise Synod to refer this matter back to Classis Hackensack, because the rule of our Church is that each Classis shall itself make an investigation, when it deems this to be necessary.

Adopted.

VII. The following request was found on the Agenda from Classis Orange City: "Classis requests Synod to approve the division of Classis."

a. Because it is difficult to meet with such a large number of delegates (47) especially for lodging.

b. Because of the voluminous amount of work there is not sufficient time to take care of it efficiently.

The following division is requested:

1. Classis Orange City: Bemis, Volga, Carnes, Le Mars, Leota, Edgerton, Hancock, Sibley, Hospers, Ireton, Middelburg, Orange City, Prinsburg, Sanborn, Sheldon. 15 congregations, 700 families, 10 ministers:

2. Classis Sioux Center: Corsica, Doon, Ebenezer, Friesland, Harrison, Hull, North Dakota, Hull, Iowa, Lebanon, New Holland, Platte, Rock Valley, Sioux Center, Inwood, Andover, Lark, Grand Forks, Wiinepeg. 17 congregations, 800 families, 12 ministers.

Your committee advises Synod to grant this request of Classis Orange City based upon the grounds stated, leaving any further changes in the division to the Classis.

Adopted.

(Continued in Art. 52.)

Article 48.

Closing Devotions.

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WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION, JUNE 26

Article 49.

Opening Devotions.

Article 50.

The minutes are read and approved.

Article 51.

The roll is called, and all are present.

Article 52.

Continuation of the Committee of Pre-advice for Varis, Emeriti, and Protests. (Cf. Art. 47.)

Your committee found the following on the Agenda:

VIII. Classis requests that Synod grant permission for the organization of an English-speaking Classis in Michigan and Illinois.

Grounds:

- a. The English-speaking congregations are strong enough, consisting of 8 in Michigan and 2 in Illinois.
- b. With respect to the language. For consistory members it is difficult to express themselves in the Dutch language.
- c. They face questions where it is preferable to consult each other.
- d. Because it is preferable that as one body they stand together, because united they can have a greater influence on American life than separately.

(Classis Grand Rapids East.)

Synod give permission to form a new Classis consisting of English-speaking congregations, which is their desire.

Grounds:

1. These congregations are strong enough for the formation of a Classis. The 8 congregations in Michigan with the 2 in Illinois have 937 families. Classis Hackensack consists of 5 congregations and 193 families; Classis Pacific 394 families; Classis Ostfriesland 462 families.
2. These congregations have their own peculiar concerns as well as their own peculiar difficulties, flowing from their own particular circumstances, which makes it necessary that they may be able to discuss them in an official way, and with binding authority for their churches.
3. They should jointly have a missionary in order to promote their concerns at such places and in such a manner so that the welfare of the entire denomination is promoted, and no area be lost because of failure to work there, but rather that it be regained and expanded.
4. The elders are more and more hindered through the language problem to take part in the discussions at Classis, and thereby cannot do justice by their delegations.



5. This element, as strong as those here meant, have the right to representation on Synodical Committees and assemblies. Just as well as the American speaking brethren in the East and the Germans in the West.

6. The Classes to which they belong are numerically the highest in the denomination and should be diminished, in order that a balance and an equitable representation may obtain in order to protect and promote the general ecclesiastical life.

7. Finally, these churches have necessity laid upon them to organize in order that they may form an ecclesiastical assembly, which, as an authoritative body, much more than dispersed congregations, can exert influence in the best way in the language of the land, and as such in the purpose of God to reach our people more directly and bring them over; the being of a Calvinistic salt and light in our nation. (Classis Grand Rapids West.)

Synod decide that the English-speaking congregations from Michigan and Illinois, or the first-mentioned alone, be permitted to organize as an English-speaking Classis. The reasons are: a) the numerical strength of the congregations. b) Because the Classes in which these congregations reside are becoming so large, that in any event division will be necessary. c) Mutual needs of these congregations and their particular concerns and questions which they have to consider. d) The language question.

(Consistory, Muskegon IV.)

Your committee advises to grant the request of Classes Grand Rapids East and Grand Rapids West, and of the Consistory of Muskegon IV; although the committee has certain objections, it nevertheless recommends not to refuse the request upon the following grounds:

a. Because it has been requested by two Classes Grand Rapids East and Grand Rapids West.

b. Because Synod generally grants the request for the forming of new Classes.

c. Because it is true that English-speaking congregations have their own peculiar concern among one another as well as the peculiar difficulties which flow forth from their particular circumstances.

d. Because it is true as time goes on it becomes more difficult for the elders of these congregations to speak in the Dutch language.

In place of the recommendation of the committee of pre-advice the following substitute motion is adopted:

Synod decides not to grant the request for the formation of an English-speaking Classis since the matter apparently has not been sufficiently prepared, from which it appears that the

Synod cannot judge how many congregations should belong to this Classis.

IX. Church Help. In the Report of the Committee for Church Help the following proposals were found:

a. "Synod appoint ministers only for the Committee for Church Help." Your committee advises Synod not to make it a rule that only ministers serve on this committee. Decided not to enter into this matter.

b. "Synod appoint alternates for the members of the Committee for Church Help." The Committee advises that Synod so decide. (For committee members see Art. 75.) (Report for Church Help, Supplement VII.) Adopted.

X. Protests.

1. A brother protests against a decision of Classis Muskegon. Since this brother (J. v. d. M.) had every opportunity to protest to Classis Muskegon, and has not done so (according to the testimony of the Stated Clerk), your committee advises that Synod declare that this protest is not receivable. Adopted.

2. A member of the congregation at Oak Harbor, Wash., filed a protest (J. H. O.). Your committee advises not to receive this protest, since this person did not inform Classis of his intentions. Adopted.

3. There was a protest from an Elder (D. C.) from the congregation of Lodi, New Jersey.

Since your committee does not have complete certainty that this protest has been presented to the Classis, and since the grounds appearing in the protest were not considered as sufficient, your committee advises not to consider the matter. Adopted.

4. Your committee received a letter from a baptized member (K. v. d. V.), who wished to be restored as a baptized member.

With respect to the request of this person it was decided to refer him to what was decided in Art. 63, 3, of the Acts of 1910, and to advise him to present himself to the consistory of East Paris. Adopted.

5. With respect to a protest from a member of the congregation of Douglas Park, the following advice of the committee was adopted:

a. Synod approve the actions of the Classical Committee, since they apparently rest on good grounds, and are the result of basic and extensive investigation by the committee.

b. Synod declare that the brother can partake of the Lord's Supper provided he acquiesces in the actions of the Classical Committee; however, should he not do such, he shall have to be dealt with as an unreconciled individual.

6. The protest from the Consistory of Bauer, Michigan, was considered by your committee. The protest is as follows:

"Protest against Classes Grand Rapids West and Zeeland with respect to the matter of granting permission to build a church at North Blendon, upon the following grounds: The church is only three and a half miles from the church at Bauer, which has been built on a location designated by Classis. With such a church the field of work decreases whereby such a church has its existence. The church at North Blendon now has the obligation and the right to half the distance, which is a mile and three-quarters. It is clear enough that a church under such circumstances as found here cannot exist. Thus also without permission they have taken away families from Bauer without legal grounds, and thus have transgressed the eighth commandment. For the future this also is to the disadvantage of North Blendon, while the distance to Borculo is too far, and is not far enough to build a church between the two.

"This church was also build immediately next to a Reformed Church, whereby needless bitterness was provoked, and has done more harm than good to the cause of the Lord.

"We addressed ourselves to the previous Synod, which said it was too early; and now that the church is built it is surely too late. Our request therefore is, that Synod only declare its disapproval, so that this sin will not be laid to the account of the entire denomination."

The Consistory of the Congregation of  
Bauer, Michigan.

Per W. R. Smidt

Your committee advises:

Synod only declare that the church of North Blendon should have been built farther from Bauer. Adopted.

IX. The Committee for Examination and Investigation for

the Improvement of Dutch Psalm-singing handed in the following report. (Supplement XIII.)

Your committee proposes to Synod that it adopt the following advice from the reports:

"Synod having heard the report of the Committee for Psalm-singing

acknowledging, that for a long time a need existed for improvement in our psalm singing;

considering, that the love of our young people has cooled off with respect to joining in the singing of the Dutch psalms;

of the opinion, that the monotonous, dragging manner in which for a long time the psalms have been sung, one of the chief reasons why the love is waning and disappearing;

considering, that it would be advisable for our churches to prepare themselves for a return to the original psalm tunes:

a. to awaken among our young people a love for the Dutch psalms in our Dutch speaking congregations;

b. to prevent unnecessary offence to the older people of the congregation,

DECIDE, to urge the consistories strongly to make provision in the catechism classes and Sunday School to learn psalm verses than has been done formerly, and by means of repetition see to it that they are retained by the children;

that in the catechism classes and the Sunday School the memorized psalms be sung with half and whole notes according to the setting by Steenhuis;

that the young people of the congregation be awakened to sing the psalms on whole and half notes; to encourage the organization of choral societies, for the special purpose to sing the Dutch psalms according to the arrangements of Steenhuis.

Adopted.

XII. The following request has been made by Classis Zeeland:

"Decision of Classis Zeeland: In connection with the desire for the improvement of church singing declared by the Synod of 1910, and supported by the committee which it appointed; in connection with the undersigned of "The Psalms, New Version, etc., Classis Zeeland decided in its session of May 8, that its delegates to Synod by means of this decision to request that this Synod would recommend the use of this book to the churches, societies, etc.

"Upon the following grounds:

1. The translation was approved by the previous Synod.
2. The music is acknowledged by musicians as sedate, stately, and in the spirit of the Psalms.
3. The editor was a member of the translation committee, and has composed the same for the Church.
4. Besides the book having a new translation for every psalm, it also has the tunes of the best known Dutch psalms according to the Acquoy-Steenhuis method, and the songs of Zacharias, Mary, and Simeon.
5. The book has a translation, with the exception of the Dutch tunes, with here and there, as in our Dutch psalmbook, a repetition of beautiful tunes, which fosters what head and heart retains.
6. By incorporating in this book the occurring Dutch psalm tunes, the old and beautiful Dutch psalm tunes will be retained as precious heirlooms in our English-speaking churches; our older Dutch people will more readily be able to follow the English service of praise; and this also will be a means to maintain the bond between the Dutch and English churches.
7. Whereas Synod urges improvement in congregational singing, the general use of this book in the churches, schools, and societies, will be an excellent medium for eliminating many gospel hymns; to restore the psalms to a place of honor, and will lead to an improvement of the general more or less monotonous psalm singing, since the Dutch tunes found in this book are set in the Acquoy-Steenhuis method, with whole and half notes, as they were sung in the days of Calvin, and which in his times had a strict control in the service of praise in the Reformed Churches.

Your committee advises not to consider this matter, but to leave to the congregations for the time being the free choice of psalm version and music; Synod, however, urge the English-speaking congregations to endeavor as much as possible to come to unanimity in the use of the psalms and fitting music.

This advice is not adopted, but

Decided; Synod appoint a committee of five persons to study The Psalms of Rev. H. Vander Werp and others which are still to appear, and report to the next Synod. (See Art. 75 for the committee.) Continuation Varia, Art. 57.)

Article 53.

Decided that the Committee for Appointments furnish a type-written copy of the various nominations, so that before a decision they can be discussed.

Article 54.

Closing Devotions.

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WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Article 55.

Opening Devotions.

Article 56.

Rev. H. Walkotten is present in the place of Rev. T. Vander Ark.

Article 57.

Continuation of Varia, etc. (Art. 52.)

XIII. Report of the Committee for the Simplification of the Forms for the Sacraments to be used on the mission field is considered. (Agenda, pp. 80 ff.) (See Supplement XI.)

The use of these forms as mentioned is approved. But the advice of the committee is also adopted that similar action as that which led to the existence of these forms must be prevented in the future.

XIV. Classis Grand Rapids East requests Synod to hold the next meeting of Synod in Grand Rapids.

Since the congregations of Roseland, Chicago, Ill., made a request to meet in Roseland again, their request is granted to meet in Roseland.

XV. Classis Holland sent the following instruction to Synod: Synod decide to form Particular Synods because of the manifold work of Synod.

The committee gives to Synod for consideration whether this

in the long run would be desirable, and advises, that before it comes to a decision, to appoint a committee to report to Synod with a well informed report. Adopted.  
(Cf. Art. 75 for committee members.)

XVI. With respect to the report of the Committee for the translation of the Confessions into English (Agenda, P. 13, ff.), it was decided to approve the work of the Committee, and to adopt the translations as given. (Cf. Supplement XI.)

XVII. With respect to the report of the Committee with reference to Catechism Books and Method of Instruction (Cf. Supplement XIV.) it is decided:

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1. For advanced classes to use the Compendium and the Heidelberg Catechism.

2. For the elementary classes Borstius, Dyksterhuis, and Donner. And for the English-speaking congregations the series of Revs. Beets and Bosma are recommended in accordance with the report.

3. Concerning the Method proposed in the report it is decided: Synod accept the advice of the Committee and urge the consistories to take notice thereof, with the exception of granting a diploma.

#### Article 58.

Rev. W. L. Phillips, representative of the National Christian Association addresses Synod with respect to the work of the Association, and thanks Synod for the Support given by the congregations.

Rev. Westervelt responds and wishes them God's further Blessing.

#### Article 59.

Rev. H. Frvling is given the floor, speaking about his work among the Indians, to which the president responds with fitting words.

#### Article 60.

The Committee of Pre-advice with respect to Calvin College and the Theological Seminary presents a gross for Educational Secretary (Art. 36, II, II) in alphabetical order; Dr. H. Beets, Rev. B. H. Einink, Dr. R. L. Haan, Rev. J. J. Hiemenga, Rev. W. Stuart, and Rev. J. Vander Mey,

to elect one of these for Educational Secretary. Should the one elected decline, then the Curatorium is empowered to choose one from the remaining number, without specifically being bound to this list. Dr. H. Beets is elected as Educational Secretary.

Article 61.

The Obituary Committee reports the following:

Esteemed Brethren:

It is with regret and a feeling of sorrow when we remember that some of our brothers ministers were taken away by death.

The first to pass away was Rev. E. Broene, who for many years used his talents with heartfelt devotion for the Church.

Having come to the ripe age of 67 years, Rev. E. Broene felt necessitated to ask for his emeritation because of sickness. Not long afterward he obtained the rest. The Lord took him from the militant church and transferred him to the Father's house.

Furthermore, just a few weeks ago news reached us that Rev. M. J. Bosma, after a lengthy illness, was translated from time to eternity.

We also think of this loss with regret. Rev. M. J. Bosma was so young.

Yet his abbreviated service has been a great blessing along with his press activities.

Whereas the hand of the Lord was felt by us through the departure of these brethren, and the Church, which they served, and relatives and friends were cast into deep sorrow, Synod nevertheless wishes to submit itself humbly to the will of its Lord and King.

In the Name of the Committee,

J. J. Vermeulen, Reporter.

Adopted.

Article 62.

The Committee of Pre-advice for Church Order present the following report by its reporter, Rev. W. Borgman. It was acted upon and adopted as follows:



Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Your Committee for Pre-advice for Church Order matters has the honor of presenting the following advice to Synod:

I. With respect to the draft of the Committee for the Revision of the Church Order (p. 28, ff., Agenda):

1. Synod declare that although one of the committee members, Brother Fortuin, did not receive that last part of the Report for the Revision of the Church Order, nevertheless, with an eye to the circumstances, namely, the necessity of placing the report in the Agenda, as also the long distance of the brother, that it is legally before Synod.

2. Considering that by three members of this committee, each has separately submitted a critique concerning the work of the four signers of the Revision Draft, Synod grant these three brethren the right to submit their Draft to the Churches. Furthermore, that Synod appoint a new Committee for the Revision of the Church Order, which is to give serious consideration to the draft that has been presented, as well as the critique of the three committee members, and also the eventual remarks concerning this by Consistories and Classes, which must be submitted before June 1, 1913, and to work out a full report to be submitted to the Synod of 1914. The Committee to have as its advisor, Prof. W. Heyns, and which shall make complete remarks why and how it was so decided in the submitted draft, and the report to be placed in the Agenda.

Adopted.

The Committee (Cf. Art. 75) receives the following mandates:

1. That concerning the disputed points no new articles or revisions be made.

2. That as much as possible adhere to the Church Order of Dort and the revised Church Order of the Gereformeerde Kerken of the Netherlands, 1905:

1) In-so-far as it concerns matters that do not need specific revision with an eye to the special American situations, and

2) And so far as the above mentioned Netherlands revision makes no decision with respect to disputed points.

3. That it scrupulously differentiate between Church Order and Ecclesiastical Pronouncements.

4. That it make its draft as brief as possible.

Instructions:

1. Instruction from Classis Grand Rapids West. "Since there is a gap in the Questions with respect to the Public Profession of Faith in our Church, since no question is asked as is found in question 81 of the Catechism concerning misery and redemption as necessary for participating in the Lord's Supper, but only with respect to doctrine, gratitude, and discipline, Classis proposes that the first question be followed by the following:

'Do you confess that you, in conformity with doctrine are displeased with yourself through the grace of God because of your sins, and place your trust in Christ Jesus and also his Promises as all that is necessary for salvation?'"

And then furthermore as found in the Church Order, p. 65, Par. 9, 2 and 3.

And "Synod decided to make a change in the questions that are asked with respect to Public Profession of Faith, and appoint a Committee to serve the following Synod with advice."

Your Committee advises that Synod also charge the Committee for the Revision of the Church Order, to give consideration to changes in the Form for the Public Profession of Faith according to the instruction of Classis Pacific and to give attention to the instruction of Classis Grand Rapids West for the inclusion they request. Adopted.

The Instruction from Classis Muskegon.

"Synod declare that the certificate of membership to a sister congregation are members of the church which sent the certificate, or belong to the congregation to whom the certificate was sent, as long as there has been no acknowledgement that the certificate has been accepted," Synod refer this to the Committee for the Revision of the Church Order. Adopted.

3. Instruction from Classis Grand Rapids East: "Since it is inconsistent to refuse the baptism of children of baptized members, and yet considers these parents as members of the Church, Classis requests that an age be established, that for members who refuse to make public profession of faith, shall be erased as members of the Church, namely, such baptized members with whom the Consistory has worked as required.

The advice of your committee is that Synod declare that to establish the age of baptized members when they must be erased should be left to the prudence of the consistories, since circumstances vary so much that it is difficult to establish a general rule, but to urge the consistories, that with persistence and disobedience to the command of the Lord: "Do this in remembrance of me," the end result must be erasure.

Adopted.

4. Instruction from the Consistory of Alpine Avenue, Grand Rapids, Michigan: "Synod grants its approval with respect to a decision of the consistory that E. F., a person who is separated from his first wife, and married another abandoned woman, yet now has repented and has been converted, be admitted to the full fellowship of the Church."

The advice of the committee is: Synod declare that this instruction is not admissable, since it is not in the province of Synod to approve consistorial decisions.

Adopted.

#### 5. Request of Classis Orange City:

"Synod devise a Form to be used for the erasure of disobedient baptized members by appointing a committee of 3, which shall present a draft to the Synod of 1914.

#### Grounds:

- a. Baptized members are members of the congregation as well as confessing members;
- b. The significance of this membership will be understood more clearly;
- c. The action of erasure will create more seriousness and interest."

Adopted. (For members see Art. 75.)

6. Instruction from Classis Grand Rapids East: "Synod appoint a committee to investigate whether and how it is possible on Biblical grounds, that persons who have been divorced on unbiblical grounds, and married again later, can be received in the fellowship of the Church, after having come to whole-hearted conversion."

Upon the basis of many similar instances taking place in these days, and the differing actions of the consistories in these matters, Synod decide to appoint a committee of 3

members to consider this material, and report to the next Synod.  
(See Art. 75 for committee.) Adopted.

Article 63.

A letter from Mr. J. Nieuwdorp is read (Art. 39, IV), wherein he informs Synod that he accepts the appointment as instructor in inorganic sciences.

Article 64.

A protest is filed addressed to the President of the United States against permitting a particular form of dress for government schools among the Indians.

It is decided that by means of the Board of Heathen Missions attention be given to the above mentioned communication, that this permission be withdrawn.

Article 65.

Closing Devotions.

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THURSDAY MORNING SESSION, JUNE 27.

Article 66.

Opening Devotions.

Article 67.

The minutes are read and approved.

Article 68.

It is decided to print the Improved Mission Order in the Acts only, and not the Concept Church Order, nor the report concerning the purchase of The Banner.

The Report of the Jewish Mission is considered, as well as the Simplified Forms, and such reports, which were too late to be printed in the Agenda, but did appear in De Wachter.

Article 69.

The delegates of Classis Pacific, Rev. Hoekenga and Elder Eerkes have left, which Synod disapproves.

Article 70.

The Report of the Committee to examine the books of the Synodical Treasurer, Rev. J. Noordewier, (Art. 43). A motion of thanks is made by unanimous vote for the many years of devoted service by the Treasurer.

Article 71.

The Committee for the Revision of the Church Order receives the thanks of Synod for its manifold labors.

Article 72.

Continuation of Church Order Matters (Art. 62).

7. Instructions from Classes Hudson and Muskegon concerning Deputies ad Examina: "Synod return to the decision of 1910 to give approval to the vote of the Synodical Deputies:

Grounds:

- a. That a Classis has no competence to grant to others, than only those, who have been legally delegated to the Classis by the Churches, to grant the vote of approval, and
- b. that, although the Classis was competent, that in this instance could not give a vote of approval, whereby the above-mentioned deputies, while the purpose of the Churches is that they represent all the Churches would be nullified," and

"Synod review the decision in Art. 74, p. 68, and again abide by the decision of the Synod of 1908, p. 35, Art. 54, III, according to the advice of the committee given in this matter to the Synod, 1910, Art. 74.

Grounds:

Because the accepted ministers of the Word are eligible for a call for the entire denomination and not only for the Classis, which Arts. 4 and 49 of the Church Order of Dort specifically declare."

In this material your committee advises:

- a. That Synod accept the proposal of Classis Hudson with its grounds not to give the Synodical Deputies ad Examina the vote of approval.
- b. It establish the following rules for the Deputies ad Examina:

1. The Deputies ad Examina are appointed by Synod, one from each Classis. Each Classis shall nominate one deputy and one alternate.

2. Each peremptory examination must be attended by three deputies from the neighboring Classes.

3. At the end of the examination, having the opportunity to ask questions, these deputies shall present joint motivated advice.

4. If the vote of Classis differs from that which the deputies advised, and are not able to come to a mutual agreement, Synod shall decide the matter. In the interim the ordination of the candidate shall be postponed, and in the meantime no congregation of another Classis may call him nor be examined by another Classis.

5. The Deputies ad Examina are to report their actions to Synod.

6. The traveling expenses of the deputies shall be paid from the Synodical Fund. Adopted.

8. Instruction Classis Pella: "Classis proposes to Synod to delete Paragraph 3 from Art. 22 from the Church Order of Dort, because the rule is adopted in Paragraph 2, and it is not desirable to regulate exceptions."

Synod is advised to adopt this proposal.

Adopted.

9. The Instructions from Classes Grand Rapids West and Orange City concerning the improvement in the Rules for Church Visiting

"Synod decide to include in the questions for Church Visiting whether a post-communion service is regularly preached;" and

"1. Letter a in 'the questioning before the full consistory be read as follows: Is.....one a free text, and the other the regular order of the Catechism...'"

"2. Under letter a there be added letter b in the Rules: Does the Consistory determine for the reading services also

the reading material, as the sermons of the ministers are determined; and in these services are sermons read <sup>to be</sup> exclusively from ministers of known Reformed Churches?"

3. And letter p read: "Are collections taken for accredited causes determined by Classis and Synod?"

Your committee advises Synod:

a. that the question whether post communion sermons are regularly preached be inserted;

b. that a change be made in point 1 as proposed by the instruction of Classis Orange City;

c. that point 2 of the instruction letter b follow letter a and reads: "Does the Consistory for reading services also determine what is to be read?"

d. that point 3 of the instruction letter p be adopted unchanged.  
Adopted.

10. Instruction from Classes Ostfriesland and Holland: "Synod decide that the question in Art. 41 of the Church Order of Dort: 'if the Consistory has anything in which it needs the advice of Classis;' be deleted, since xxx this instruction can be placed on the credentials." and "Synod provide a new edition of Art. 41 of the Church Order of Dort so that the content and intent be in conformity with our current times, and in particular the sentences:

a. whether our schools are cared for;

b. and finally, whether there is something wherein the consistory needs the advice and the help of Classis."

With respect to these two instructions your committee advises that Synod make no decision with respect to this matter, but to call this to the attention of the Revision Committee with respect to the edition of this Article in the Revision Draft.

Adopted.

11. Instruction Classis Holland: "After each Synodical Assembly, where changes have been made in the Church Order, these changes be printed in pamphlet form for the convenience of the Churches."

Considering that the Church Order is to be revised the committee advises that this matter also be placed in the hands of the Revision Committee.  
Adopted.

12. Instruction from the Consistory of Bauers: "Synod decide to reduce the number of delegates to two from each Classis, and to meet annually, especially for the benefit of Missions and the School, and order to place in the hands of the Classes all matters of significance and general interest, with the addition of the motives for taking these decisions, in order that these Classes may first of all make a decision.

With respect to this three-fold proposal of the Bauer Consistory, your committee advises not to consider this matter:

a. With respect to the reduction of delegates: negative, since the Consistory did not furnish grounds for the institution of this reduction; positive, because it promotes the concern of the churches, that each Classis for the time being be represented by 6 delegates.

b. Because with respect to the annual assembly of Synod, the experience of other churches teaches, that not enough time is found to test the new rules that are of importance in practice.

c. To return significant proposals to the Classes, would really rob Synod of the decisions taken. Adopted.

13. Instructions from Classes Hudson and Hackensack to hasten the new edition of the Church Order. "Synod hasten the edition of the new Church Order in both languages, Holland and English." And, "Synod order the translation into English of our revised Church Manual (Church Order of Dort.) to be effected with all possible speed."

Since too much haste in the edition of the new Church Order undoubtedly would work to the detriment of the churches, Synod decide not to enter into this matter. Adopted.

14. Instruction from Classis Hackensack concerning the New Church Orders: "That in the new English translation of the Church Manual such foreign phrases as are found in the Holland, 'Deputaat ad Examina, Consulens, Praeparatoir, Peremptoir, Attest, Ex Bonis Publicis, Censura Morum, Curatorium, Agendum, Visitatores,' etc be avoided as much as possible and good English expressions be substituted."



Your committee advises that Synod grant the request of Classis Hackensack to use as little as possible strange words and expressions in the new English translation.

Article 73.

The Synodical Treasurer announces that the quota for Synodical Expenses is increased from 14% to 16% per family. (Cf. Art. 42.) The distribution is as follows:

|         |                   |          |
|---------|-------------------|----------|
| Classis | Grand Rapids East | \$287.84 |
| "       | Illinois          | 329.76   |
| "       | Hudson            | 205.44   |
| "       | Ostfriesland      | 73.92    |
| "       | Grand Rapids West | 342.88   |
| "       | Muskegon          | 288.00   |
| "       | Zeeland           | 189.28   |
| "       | Pacific           | 63.04    |
| "       | Holland           | 342.88   |
| "       | Orange City       | 230.96   |
| "       | Pella             | 121.92   |
| "       | Hackensack        | 30.88    |

Article 74.

Synod requests that Committees for Synod present their reports as much as possible by means of delegates to Synod.

Article 75.

The Report of the Committee of Appointments. Reporter Rev. E. J. Tuuk. It is acted on and adopted as follows:

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Your Committee for Appointments has the honor of presenting the following to Synod for its approbations:

1. Synodical Committee: Revs. J. Groen, J. Timmermann, J. B. Hoekstra.
2. Synodical Treasurers: Rev. J. Noordewier.
3. Committee for Church Help: Revs. J. Vander Mey, J.

Manni, R. Bolt; alternates: Revs. P. J. Hoekenga, W. Borgman, J. M. Ghysels.

4. The Emeritus Board (two to be appointed); elders S. S. Postma and F. Kniphuizen.

5. Representative for the National Christian Association: Rev. W. Stuart.

6. Committee for the General Fund for Domestic Missions: Revs. W. P. Van Wyk, E. J. Krohne, I. Van Dellen; alternates: Revs. W. Stuart, G. Westenberg, H. Ahuis.

7. Jewish Missions (Art. 21); Revs. E. Breen, J. I. Fles, J. R. Brink, elders J. Meeter and C. Kleinhuizen.

8. Committee for Supervision of De Wachters: Rev. J. Manni, elder A. Bosch, Prof. W. Heyns, Rev. J. J. Hiemenga.

9. Appointments of delegates to Corresponding Churches is left to the Synodical Committee, which is to take into consideration distances and expenses. (Cf. Acts 1910, Art. 67, XIV.)

10. Board of Heathen Missions: Revs. H. Walkotten, H. M. Van der Ploeg, M. Van Vessel, J. Dolfen, Dr. H. Beets; alternates: Revs. D. R. Drukker, E. J. Tuuk, R. L. Haan, H. Tuls, J. J. Hiemenga.

11. Committee for Labor Movement and Unions: Rev. J. Groen, Prof. K. Schoolland, Prof. G. D. De Jong, Elder E. Hekman and elder Y. Veenstra.

12. Committee for Mission Lesson to be submitted every three months instead of a Temperance Lesson: Revs. J. W. Brink, D. H. Kromminga, L. S. Huizenga.

13. Committee to work in conjunction with the Committee of the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands with respect to South America: Revs. J. Groen, J. Wyngaarden Dr. J. Van Lonkhuijen.

14. Committee for Sunday School Lessons: Revs. H. Keegstra,

H. Vander Werp, S. S. Vander Heide, K. Poppen, J. A. Kett, K. Kuiper, P. Jonker.

15. Committee to devise plans for the prevention of the dispersion of our Dutch people in the West and Northwest of our country, (Art. 28, IV; Revs. P. J. Hoekenga, Jacob Bolt, A. J. Brink. (Cf. Report of the Committee of Pre-advice for Domestic Missions.)

16. Committee for the final revision of the Church Order: Revs. I. Van Dellen, J. Manni, W. P. Van Wyk, D. R. Drukker, H. Keegstra, E. Breen, Prof. W. Heyns. advisor. (Cf. the Report of the Committee of Pre-advice for Church Order.)

17. Deputies ad Examinas:

Grand Rapids East: Rev. J. Groen

Grand Rapids West: Rev. L. Velkamp; alternates: Rev. D. De Beer.

Pella: Rev. G. De Leeuw; alternates: Rev. A. J. Brink.

Holland: Rev. R. La Haan; alternates: Rev. M. Van Vesseem.

Hudson: Rev. K. Van Goor; alternates: Rev. E. J. Krohne.

Ostfriesland: Rev. B. Nagel; alternates: Rev. A. Ahuis.

Muskegon: Rev. P. D. Van Vliet; alternates: Rev. H. Tuls.

Zeeland: Rev. J. Smitter.

Hackensack: J. A. Westervelt; alternates: Rev. J. M. Ghysels.

Orange City: Rev. J. Timmermann.

Illinois: Rev. J. Manni.

Pacific: Rev. J. Vander Mey.

18. Curators:

Grand Rapids East: Rev. J. J. Hiemenga; alt.: Rev. W. P. Van Wyk.

Grand Rapids West: Dr. H. Beets; alternates: Rev. E. Breen.

Pella: 4 years - Rev. I. Van Dellen; alt. Rev. H. Danhof.

2 years - Rev. A. J. Brink; alt.: Rev. O. De Leeuw.

Classis Holland: Dr. R. L. Haan; alt.: Rev. W. D. Vander Werp.  
Rev. E. J. Tuuk; alternate for Rev. W. De Groot.

Classis Hudson: Rev. F. Fortuin; alt.: Rev. E. J. Krohne.  
Rev. J. Keizer, alt. for Rev. J. B. Hoekstra.

Classis Oostfriesland: Rev. H. Ahuis; alt.: Rev. H. C. Bode.  
Rev. B. Nagel, alt. for Rev. G. Hoefker.

Classis Muskegon: Rev. H. Keegstra; alt.: Rev. J. Dolfin.  
Rev. H. Tuls, alt. for Rev. B. H. Einink.

Classis Zeeland: Rev. A. Keizer; alt.: Rev. H. Walkotten.

Classis Hackensack: Rev. J. A. Westervelt; alt.: Rev. L. S. Huizenga.

Classis Orange City: Rev. J. Timmerman; alt.: Rev. H. J. Heynen.

Classis Illinois: Rev. J. Manni; alt.: Rev. W. Stuart.

Classis Pacific: Rev. J. Vander Mey; alt.: Rev. M. Borduin.  
Rev. P. J. Hoekenga; alt.: Rev. C. Vriesman.

19. Your committee advises that Synod discharge the Committee appointed to correspond with Classes Oostfriesland and Hackensack concerning the singing of hymns. Reason: The Committee has attempted to do something, but practically it appeared that the matter could not be executed.

20. Committee for English Psalmbooks, (Art. 52, XII): Rev. K. Poppen, Mr. S. Winsemius, Mr. H. Jurgens, Rev. H. J. Kuiper, Rev. G. L. Hoefker.

21. Committee for Particular Synods (Art. 57, XV): Prof. L. Berkhof, Rev. F. Fortuin. Rev. G. De Leeuw.

22. Committee to devise a Form for the Erasure of Baptized Members (Art. 62): Prof. G. D. De Jong. Rev. L. Veltkamp, Rev. G. J. Haan.

23. Committee for reconsideration of persons in fellowship with the Church, who obtained divorce on unbiblical grounds, (Art. 62,) (Instruction from Classis Grand Rapids East); Prof. F. M. Ten Hoor, Rev. B. H. Einink, Rev. G. L. Hoefker.

Article 76.

Closing Devotions.

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THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Article 77.

Opening Devotions.

Article 78.

Agenda Article on page XXIII: From Classis Hudson:

"Synod declare whether Classis Hudson (Articles 11, 14, 15, 17, 22, 27, 30, 36, 38, 39, 43, and 84) in the case of Northside Passaic has applied itself justly, since Northside needs such a declaration with respect to the lawsuit of church goods."

After discussion the following was decided:

a. That the Consistory of the congregation North Side, Passaic, New Jersey, had the right to postpone the installation of newly elected elders and deacons because of objection, and to make further investigation.

b. That correctly the term of the old consistory members was lengthened, so that it would have an opportunity to make a declaration whether the objections against the newly elected members were legal.

c. That the retiring consistory members, because of the illegal installation of the newly elected consistory members by Rev. Vanden Heuvel, continued legally in office, and were recognized as legal consistory members and trustees by Classis Hudson.

d. That the articles of the Church Order of Dort. mentioned above in-so-far as they have reference to the above three points have been legally applied by Classis.

Article 79.

Prof. De Jong addresses Synod with a word of thanks for the increase in salary.

Article 80.

The three consistories of Roseland are requested to thank the congregations for their hospitality in receiving the delegates. The organist and the custodian are also addressed with a word of thanks for their willing work on behalf of Synod.

Article 81.

The President addresses a word to the Assembly, declaring that we have much to be thankful for with an eye to the burning questions that were pending. This is also no wonder since we are called to increase in the knowledge and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It also concerned questions that were not superficial but which had to be dug out. Therefore it is the calling of the Church to be a lighting light and a salting salt. Now we are small and weak, but with an eye upon the Lord we are called upon to go forward.

We might finish our work at Synod in good time. We therefore also thank the Lord that He might guide the Committee of Pre-advice in their good reports.

We also thank the pre-advisors who might serve Synod by their contributions.

And now we are ready to depart, each one to his own field of labor. God lead us and be near to each one of us.

The Vice-President speaks a word of thanks to the President for his good leadership, and with thanks to God, who granted him light and wisdom.

Finally, Psalm 133:1 was sung and the President closed with thanksgiving.

A. Keizer, President  
I. Van Dellen, Vice-President  
J. B. Hoekstra, First Clerk  
J. Timmermann, Second Clerk

True Copy: Henry Beets, Stated Clerk

SUPPLEMENTS.

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SUPPLEMENT I.

REPORT OF THE SYNODICAL COMMITTEE

TO THE SYNOD OF 1912.

Esteemed brethren:

During the last Synodical year your Synodical Committee had comparatively little of importance to do, since the Lord spared our denomination graciously from any radical events that called for special action. Everything proceeded according to the customary manner. In 1911 the Stated Clerk was delegated to the General Synod of the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands assembled in Zwolle, and also the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church in the Netherlands assembled in Utrecht, according to the decision of Art. 67, IV, 1, p. 60, Acts 1910. Although these Christian Reformed brethren dealt with our delegate with distinction and with joy greeted him with outstretched hand, they did not see the way open to them to enter into correspondence which included transfers of membership. This appears from the following official decision:

"Synod after broad discussion concerning the request of the Christian Reformed Church in the North America decided that it would willingly accept the offered correspondence, but with an eye to the difference in doctrine which exist between the Gereformeerde Kerken in our fatherland and in the Christian Reformed Church in North America, cannot acknowledge mutual acceptance of membership."

At the General Synod of Zwolle, attended by your delegate with much pleasure and instruction, he spoke about "Our Difficulties and the Matters in which the Gereformeerde Kerken and the Reformed people can be of help to us." (Acts of the General Synod, Art. 39 and Supplement XVI.)

At the request of Classis Hudson our deputy pleaded the cause of Domestic Missions at Hoboken and Ellis Island with the following encouraging results:

Decided: "that Synod recommend the endeavors of Classis Hudson of the Christian Reformed Church of North America for the establishment of a Christian Home for immigrants and seamen (at Hoboken) in the interest of the churches." (Art. 59, Acts of the General Synod at Zwolle, and Supplement XLVI.)

The following deputies were appointed to the corresponding churches in America for this year:

The General Synod of the Reformed Churches in America,  
Rev. W. Stuart.

The General Presbyterian Assembly at Seattle, Washington,  
Rev. J. P. Hoekenga.

The Associate Presbyterian Church at Washington, Iowa,  
Rev. H. Danhof.

The Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church at Morning Sun, Iowa, Rev. H. De Vries.

The General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church at Cincinnati, Ohio, Rev. D. H. Kromminga.

A request from Rudyard, Michigan, for a denominational wide collection for the building of a parsonage was referred to the Classis and the Church Help Fund.

Classis Grand Rapids East was so kind as to deposit the minutes of the former undivided Classis in the Synodical Archive, something which is recommended in similar cases with respect to minutes of disbanded churches with an eye to the future.

After much correspondence, we were fortunate, especially through the efforts of Senator William Alden Smith, to obtain a permit from the Commissioner of Immigration, for the benefit of our missionary at Hoboken and Ellis Island.

With thankfulness for the confidence you have shown in your Committee, it now places its mandate in your hands. The term of the Stated Clerk continues until 1914.

J. Groen, President  
K. Van Goor  
J. Timmermann

Henry Beets, Stated Clerk.



SUPPLEMENT II.

REPORT OF THE CURATORIUM OF THE THEOLOGICAL  
SCHOOL AND CALVIN COLLEGE TO  
THE SYNOD OF 1912.

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

The Curatorium has the honor and the pleasure to present the following report of to Synod:

As formerly this report of the Curatorium may begin with a word of thanks to the Father of lights for the many favors shown to us in the last two years, since the last Synod. As is seen from the examinations, the professors as well as the students earnestly pursued their studies. Students, who have continued their studies elsewhere, have received a good reputation. Four of our candidates, who went to Princeton last year to take a post-graduate course, have all receive "cum laude" in their examinations, and the professors there declared that with respect to the students, who pursued post-graduate courses, our students gave indications that they were best informed.---Some students found themselves necessitated to discontinue their studies because they feared that they would not be able to attain the goal. No one, However, has left the school, because he thought the instruction was purposeless or insufficient. Where necessary discipline was exercised. A couple of students made themselves guilty of misconduct, whereof of one of the students has left the school, whereas the other was dismissed. Considering the number of our students, our school continues to expand. In the Literary Department 169 students were given instruction in the Preparatory School, 33 in the College, and 24 in the Theological Seminary, a total of 226 students.

1. The Faculty.

We can inform you that Mr. J. Van Haltsma, appointed by the former Synod for a period of 2 years as instructor, accepted this appointment, and we can inform you that Mr. Van Haltsma declined a very excellent and honorable appointment from elsewhere. We have the following faculty in our Theological School and College: Prof. G. K. Hankes, Emeritus, as librarian, F. M. Ten Hoor, Wm. Heyns, L. Berkhof, and G.D. De Jong, as professors in Theology

and in the Literary Department A. J. Rooks, A.M., K. School-land, J. G. Vanden Bosch, A.M., B. K. Kuiper, A.B., A. E. Broene, A.B., Wm. Rinck, A.M., J. Broene, A.M., and J. Van Haitema, A.B.

## 2. Curriculum.

Concerning the curriculum there is not much to report, considering that of late no changes have been made. We can, however, report that the Curatorium has decided that the seven-year course applies only to those who have enrolled after the lengthening of the course, and that the old rule applies to the others, unless they desire the longer course.

## 3. The Examinations.

In September 1910, 56 applicants were accepted, 18 for the seminary preparatory course; 16 for the teacher's course, and 21 for the college course. In June 1911, 14 students were admitted to the seminary, and 14 were declared eligible for a call. Of the 14 there were 4 who decided to continue their studies at Princeton Seminary. In 1911 there were 63 applicants accepted, 16 for the seminary preparatory course, 14 for the teacher's course, and 33 for the college course. In June 1912 eight students were admitted to the seminary, and five were declared eligible for a call.

## 4. Finances.

### a. The Theological School

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| Balance       | \$ 1,542.12      |
| Receipts      | <u>18,720.69</u> |
| Total         | \$20,262.81      |
| Disbursements | <u>19,503.42</u> |
| Balance       | \$ 759.39        |

### b. Library

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Balance, May 31, 1911 | \$ 68.21        |
| Receipts              | 247.67          |
| Outstanding funds     | <u>5,800.00</u> |
| Total                 | \$ 6,115.88     |

|               |       |             |
|---------------|-------|-------------|
| Disbursements |       | \$ 453.98   |
|               | Total | 5,661.90    |
| Deficit       |       | (138.10)    |
|               | Total | \$ 5,800.00 |

c. Calvin College

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Balance, May 31, 1911 | \$32,884.31 |
| Receipts, 1911 - 1912 | 1,336.82    |
| Total                 | \$34,221.13 |
| Outstanding Funds     | 32,150.00   |
| Balance, May 31, 1912 | \$ 2,071.13 |

d. Campus

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Unpaid balance, May 31, 1911   | \$ 4,224.50 |
| 1911-1912, Receipts of pledges | 1,940.00    |
| Unpaid balance                 | \$ 2,284.50 |

e. Building Fund

|                                  |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance, May 31, 1911            | \$ 826.22   |
| Receipts from G.R. congregations | 536.51      |
| Gift from Illinois               | 50.00       |
| Balance, May 31, 1912            | \$ 1,412.73 |

f. General Student Fund and Dollar Fund

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Balance                    | \$ 89.47 |
| 1911 - 1912, Receipts      | 634.55   |
| For the Theological School | 724.02   |

5. Synod is requested to consider the following matters:

- a. Synod decide that henceforth the receipts of the General Student Fund be placed in the Fund for the Theological School.
- b. That Synod agree to the decision of the Curatorium in view of the decision of the Acts of Synod 1910, Art. 56, VII, 3, that the professors who have been appointed for a definite period of time to be considered to have received tenure appointments.

c. Synod re-appoint Mr. J. Van Haitema for a term of six years for organic sciences, and appoint a teacher for inorganic sciences.

d. Educational Secretary.

1. The Curatorium advises Synod not to enter into the proposals on the Agenda from various Classes to appoint a president for the College, but to proceed with the appointment of an Educational Secretary.

Grounds: a. Because the work of such a College President, in the ordinary sense of the word, exercises too great an influence in the course of events, for which reason in some circles of our American Colleges this question is the order of the day.

b. Because the relationship between the Theological School and the College has not yet been firmly established, and should the time come, as many desire, to separate the College from the Theological School, then thereafter when the College is placed in the hands of such a Society, the question of a College President shall arise.

2. The appointment of this Educational Secretary be permanent, and in the event a minister of the Word is appointed and accepts the same, that he remain a minister, even as the Theological Professors, considering that he continues to be active in the work of the Church.

3. The task of the Educational Secretary shall be: a. To devote all his time, talents, and efforts for dialogues, lectures, sermons, and press articles in the interests of the ethical concerns of our institution for the promotion of the same. b. Seek to interest students for our institution. c. To gather funds: (1) by means of enrolment; (2) to interest people to remember our Theological School and College in their wills; (3) to interest people in making an annual contribution to the college; (4) to interest wealthy people to give larger amounts in a lump sum for buildings, alcoves, etc., with the privilege of having them named after them.

4. The salary be set at \$1,600.00 with traveling expenses added, a vacation of two months, the time of which is to be made in consultation with the Curatorium, under whose supervision he will be.

5. That he be seated with the faculty with advisory vote.

6. In the event of his death, or sickness, or resignation because of age, the rules of emeritation for professors

applies to him and his family.

e. With respect to the Theological School and the College the Curatorium advises the following to Synod: 1. Because the College is the property of the Church, that the Church also provide for it in a substantial and complete manner. 2. As soon as a Society for Higher Education has been established and offers sufficient guarantee for the continuation of the College and the Reformed character of instruction, the College be transferred to such a Society. 3. The Church retain completely the preparation for the ministry of the Word, and as soon as a Society is capable of taking over the College, the Church confer with the Society concerning the preparation for the ministry of the Word. Later regulation be made with respect to finances, professors, and the curriculum, concerning which then the Church will make use. The transfer of the professors shall not take place except with their consent. And with their transfer such a Society shall make a contract with them concerning salary, pensions, etc.

f. The Salaries of the Professors. The Curatorium is unanimously of the opinion that the salaries of the professors are too low, and therefore urges Synod to make an increase:

- a. The salaries of the Theological professors be raised to \$1,600.00.
- b. The minimum salaries of the Literary professors be raised to \$1,000.00 and the maximum at \$1,600.00.
- c. The rule for the increase of salaries for the Literary professors be determined as follows: These professors receive an increase at once of \$100.00, and thereafter an increase of \$100.00 until the maximum has been reached. This rule is only valid for those professors who meet the requirements that have been established (Of. Acts 1910, p. 45). The Curatorium shall also take into consideration qualification and experience.
- d. This increase for the professors shall be retroactive for one year.
- e. The Principal shall receive a stipend of \$100.00 in the year he serves as principal.
- f. The quota for the School be increased from 60¢ to \$1.00 per family.
- g. The Theological School Building and Ground. Concerning the instruction of Synod to sell the present buildings and ground for a reasonable price, etc., (Acts 1910, p. 44, VII, 2) you Curatorium has the following to report. The Curatorium taking into considerations a. the insufficient

unity with respect to the relationship in the future with respect to the Theological School and the College; b. concerning the desire of three Classes, Grand Rapids, East, Muskegon, and Hudson, that the sale be postponed until the next Synod, and that in consideration of what was written in the Classical report of Classis Muskegon as appeared in De Wachter of June 7, 1911, and also with respect to testimony of the Curators of these Classes: 1. For the sake of the peace of the Church, and 2. that the Church as a whole receive more time to give this matter mature consideration, it was judged advisable to postpone efforts for the sale of the property.

h. The Curatorium calls the attention of Synod that on January 19, 1913, various churches which accept the Heidelberg Catechism as a confession will commemorate the fact that it was 350 years ago that this Catechism was published by the fathers, and places the question before you, whether we should not also do the same, in the manner of the "Calvin Celebration" of 1909.

Respectfully submitted,

In the Name of the Curatorium,

F. Doezema, Clerk

SUPPLEMENT III.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL FUND

FOR DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Esteemed Brethren:

Your Committee has the satisfaction to report the followings:

1. Status of the Treasury.

Receipts and Disbursements from June 1, 1910 to June 1, 1911.

|                                    | Receipts    | Disbursements |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Olaasis Pacific                    |             | \$1,300.00    |
| " Orange City                      | \$ 349.44   | 160.00        |
| " Orange City, Z.A.                | 52.14       |               |
| " Ost Friesland                    | 292.08      | 100.00        |
| " Pella                            | 545.45      | 1,200.00      |
| " Illinois                         | 471.83      | 600.00        |
| " Holland                          | 718.58      |               |
| " Zeeland                          | 356.98      |               |
| " Muskegon                         | 269.15      | 400.00        |
| " Grand Rapids West                | 436.04      | 225.00        |
| " Grand Rapids East                | 539.69      |               |
| " Hudson                           | 417.72      | 1,300.00      |
| " Hackensack                       | 28.13       |               |
| Interest Lubbers Fund              | 74.93       |               |
| Semi-Centennial Committee          | 170.00      |               |
| Legacy, D. Wesseling               | 100.00      |               |
| Total                              | \$4,822.16  |               |
| Balance, June 1, 1910              | 1,120.37    |               |
| South America                      |             | 400.00        |
| Treasurer, Honorarium              |             | 25.00         |
| Traveling Expenses, Comm. meetings |             | 89.17         |
| Total                              |             | \$5,799.17    |
| Balance, June 1, 1911              |             | 143.36        |
|                                    | \$ 5,942.53 | \$5,942.53    |

Receipts and Disbursements from June 1, 1911 to June 1, 1912

|                           | Receipts          | Disbursements     |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Classis Grand Rapids East | \$1,120.44        | \$ 375.00         |
| " Grand Rapids West       | 404.02            | 375.00            |
| " Holland                 | 904.14            |                   |
| " Hackensack              | 93.67             | 1,125.00          |
| " Hudson                  | 478.64            |                   |
| " Illinois                | 491.30            | 100.00            |
| " Muskegon                | 467.99            | 750.00            |
| " Orange City             | 836.85            |                   |
| " Ost Friesland           | 385.41            | 50.00             |
| " Pacific                 | 126.45            | 3,000.00          |
| " Pella                   | 628.96            | 1,875.00          |
| " Zeeland                 | 637.79            |                   |
| Interest Lubbers Fund     | 72.88             |                   |
| Semi-Centennial Comm.     | 8.00              |                   |
| Legacy, Mary Hemkes       | <u>1,500.00</u>   |                   |
| Total                     | \$8,156.54        |                   |
| Balance, June 1, 1911     | 143.36            |                   |
| South America             |                   | 200.00            |
| Treasurer, Honorarium     |                   | 25.00             |
| Traveling Expenses,       |                   | 64.00             |
| Committee Meetings        |                   |                   |
| Total                     |                   | <u>\$7,939.00</u> |
|                           |                   | 360.90            |
|                           | <u>\$8,299.90</u> | <u>\$8,299.90</u> |

In the Name of the Committee

for the General Fund,

H. M. Vander Ploeg, Treasurer

Approved by the Committees:

H. J. Heynen  
Lee S. Huizenga

Proposals of the Board.

a. The Committee recommends as subsidy for the Classis:

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Classis Muskegon | \$1,000.00 |
| " Ost Friesland  | 500.00     |



|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Classis Pacific         | \$4,000.00 |
| " Hackensack and Hudson | 2,000.00   |
| " Grand Rapids East     | 500.00     |
| " Grand Rapids West     | 270.00     |
| " Pella                 | 2,000.00   |
| " Illinois              | 500.00     |

b. From the report of the treasurer it appears that there is not a proportionate offering for the General Fund among the various congregations. There are Classes which give 25¢ or less per family for the General Fund, while others give 75¢ or more per family. The Committee advises Synod to take note of this.

The Committee advises further that the Rules of the Committee for the General Fund be revised so that the Committee need meet only once in two years, in order to keep costs down.

Humbly submitted,

Your Committee,

H. J. Heynen, President  
H. M. Vander Ploeg, Treasurer  
Lee S. Huizenga, Secretary

SUPPLEMENT IV.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEATHEN MISSIONS  
TO THE SYNOD OF 1912.

Esteemed Brethren:

The Board of Heathen Missions by this means presents its report according to Synodical decision.

In general it can be stated that we have had a prosperous two years. On the mission field more work has been performed, and the prospects for the future are better than they have ever been before. In the Church itself there is a greater manifestation of love for and greater interest in the mission among the Indians. Among the Zunis as well as among the Navajos there is a greater disposition found and easier access to them.

Our missions is gradually increasing in scope, and especially if your assembly is able to decide for greater expansion, which we sincerely hope and expect, it appears that correspondence and finances will expand so much that it will be necessary to engage a man who can devote all his time to the work of Heathen Missions.

The Board therefore recommends that a Field Secretary be appointed.

Our mission field was enlarged by the purchase of Two Grey Hills this year. There was an increase in the work load at Zuni through the permission of the government to have our missionary to teach at Black Rock.

Rehoboth expanded by means of the use of the hospital.

Tohatchi forged ahead by the use of its new church building and the establishment of a preparatory school.

Of great significance for the entire field was obtaining the agreement from the parents among the Zunis as well as the Navajos, to receive instruction for their children by our missionaries, and whereas in other places the Roman Catholic had precedence over other churches, the Lord has prospered our missionaries, Fryling and L. P. Brink with his helper Edward Becenti, so that there is no fear of encroachment with respect to our work. The new decision of law that missionaries can only work with school children with parents consent, and that others can make no encroachment

has worked out for good through the Providence of the Lord.

Of significance for our mission is the Synodical decision to appoint calling churches for the Zuni and the Navajos. The Board forthwith, since we have three posts under the Navajos, that it was not feasible to have a calling congregation for this field.

By means of the news media and correspondence the Board advertized for calling churches. At first the Church seemed to shrink back. Nevertheless it did find acceptance, and we are pleased to report that although not in the letter yet in the spirit the decision of Synod has been accepted, and it will only take a certain amount of time to bring this important matter to a solution.

The East Street congregation of Grand Rapids requested to become a calling church. After having received approval, this congregation called Rev. J. W. Brink and sent him forth.

The congregations of Classis Holland worked for Tohatchi, but it was decided to await the decision of Synod whether as Classis or otherwise to promote this field.

With respect to Zuni we are negotiating with Alpine Avenue, Grand Rapids.

For Two Grey Hills the congregations of Roseland are calling churches.

From the congregations of Paterson there is a request, and we await a Synodical Decision concerning the expansion of the field, to appoint a post for them, where their appointed missionary, Rev. D. H. Mayskens will be able to work.

The report of the Mission Conference with respect to expansion is too detailed to be considered. In De Wachter a detailed plan was given.

If, in the Church, there is enough devotion and love of missions, then for the future it would have a permanent mission field, completely its own, in which it could bestow all its efforts and talents.

May the Lord grant that in this important question give the guidance of his Spirit.

Concerning the mission post and the work, we shall begin in the south with Zuni, and then northwards to Rehoboth, Tohatchi, and Two Grey Hills.

Rev. H. Fryling labors with delight at Zuni and not without blessing.

Besides his preaching, Sunday School, and catechetical work at Zuni, he has also worked with pleasure at Black Rock teaching catechism and Sunday School, and conducting teachers' meeting.

Among the Zunis a greater disposition is seen of late, and that especially among the younger Zunis, who are beginning to read the Bible, which is a hopeful sign for the future.

Since irrigation is possible in the Zuni Valley, the Zunis are beginning to cultivate more land and building houses between Black Rock and Zuni, and it will not appear strange to you that we request permission to build a chapel and a mission house in the vicinity of Black Rock. The government has been requested to provide for us such a place.

Miss Nellie De Jong has served with blessing for two years as teacher at Zuni. Each year she had twenty-two scholars including the children of Mr. A. Vander Wagen. The chapel serves not only for church services but also as school room, bathroom, etc. If a missionary home were now built, the present parsonage could be remodeled as a school.

It is apparent that a teacher, who at the same time must serve as matron, has too much work, and a change must also be made here.

Mrs. Fryling has performed excellent services here, but it cannot be expected that this will continue for the future.

In connection with Zuni it should be stated that the Board temporarily engaged Mrs. A. Vander Wagen as Field Matron. For various reasons we had to discontinue this. In the beginning Mr. A. Vander Wagen took charge of the evening services at Zuni. The Board urged the brother to comply with the decision of Synod concerning his person. Since it appeared to us that this brother was neither applying himself to his studies nor divesting himself completely of his business, he has made himself guilty of opposing our Mission, and therefore we finally came to the conclusion or rather saw ourselves forced to discharge ourselves completely from him and his services.

At Rehoboth according to circumstances things regularly proceeded according to course. With respect to the school great changes took place. Mrs. Cocia Hartog-Wezeman, who in the past had performed such excellent services as teacher, was necessitated at the beginning of the last school year to resign because of nervous prostration and to leave.

This was to our regret. She was replaced by Mr. Gerrit Heuzinkveld from Alamogordo, Colo. Both years 43 children were instructed. We could not accept any more children, although we had more applications, but lack of space and other considerations prevented us. Since we are busy building a new school, those desires will be satisfied.

Quickly we lost Miss J. Dieleman as boys' matron. We have temporarily employed Miss J. Van Deursen, and we hope that with September Mrs. E. C. Sipe will fill the place. Mrs. Derks continued as girls' matron, for which we are thankful, for she does splendid work.

In the Mission House Miss S. Dieleman to our great regret resigned, and in her place we engaged Miss Mary Styf from the Zeeland I, Michigan Church, who will support her. Mr. J. H. Bosscher performed good services, and has labored faithfully until the Spring. But because of his health and since we were not able to send him assistance at once, he felt obligated to resign. We have engaged Mr. J. Spyker, formerly from Zeeland, as industrial teacher, who had performed such good services in the building of the Tohatchi Church. His first duty will be the erection of a new school at a cost of \$5,000.00, and after that a parsonage for about the same amount. We are also attempting to engage Mr. J. C. Morgan as his assistant.

Because of the expansion of laundry work, we were necessitated to build a new laundry, and to provide a steam washing machine. The work of laundress became too much for Miss K. Rosbach, and she resigned. In her place we engaged Miss M. De Ruyter.

The hospital had its ups and its downs. Soon the beloved Dr. Snipe was taken from our midst by death and could find no replacement. Miss Jennie Vander Veen from Grand Rapids became nurse, and we were happy to have her. She has three students, and Miss J. Nyen-huis is the housekeeper. We gave permission to the nurse to engage neighboring physicians when necessary. With blessing she has labored and also given instruction, for her also the work is too much, and it is highly necessary for a doctor to be engaged. The Board did everything in its power to engage another doctor, but thus far to no avail. There is, however, a prospect for temporary engagement of a doctor who has worked in the field.

Of great interest was the arrival of Rev. J. W. Brink at Rehoboth, sent by the East St. Church of Grand Rapids. With his coming regular preaching is taking place, as well as all the duties which come under the supervision of a pastor and a minister. This brother, filled with love and zeal, has already made a good beginning in his work, and soon found that his hands were full. May the Lord give him, as He has given other missionaries, health, perseverance, and blessing.

At Rehoboth the Church has livestock of 200 sheep, 10 cattle, 4 horses. Two years ago the Board, taking into consideration the expense and the constant financial loss, decided that the sheep must be sold. Up to this time this decision has not been executed because of the great financial loss that would be sustained.

At Tohatchi Rev. Brink and his family enjoy progress. With the help of Edward Becenti he engages in work among the Indians as much as possible. In this excellent and substantial church he engages in regular preaching services, catechetical and Sunday School instruction.

In his work of translation he has made such good progress that soon the following material can be printed: The Book of Genesis, again revised; Ruth; Psalms 1, 23, 51, 100, 117, 139; Isaiah 53, 55; Jonah; Mark; Luke 1, 2, 15; John; Acts 1, 2; Romans 1, 2; I Cor. 13; James; I John; Revelation 21, 22.

Much of his time was devoted to the instruction of three Navajo young men - Paul Jones, Hugh Denetdele, James Becenti - supported by the congregations of Broadway, Orange City, and German Valley. This past year the Board was willing to enroll two more, to be examined by two Inspectors in consultation with Rev. Brink. Since there were no applicants, none were enrolled. There are still three offers for support. The number that will be accepted will be in connection with the decision of Synod. We have received the sum of \$1,000.00 for the support of one. Since it was given with the provision that he must complete his studies, and be installed in office, the Board could only accept this offer conditionally; hence our question as appears in the proposals of the Board.

The first year Mr. J. C. Morgan gave instruction in Literary courses. This brother, an Indian, is a graduate of an Indian Normal School. Since he did not return, and there was need

at the same time of a housekeeper for the pupils, we sent Miss Carrie Ten Houten from Holland, Michigan, to serve as teacher-matron for this year.

According to the report instruction was given in reading, spelling, arithmetic, geography, history of the United States, physiology, civics, music, and history of missions. Furthermore, instruction was given by Rev Brink in theology based on Bosma's Exposition; Isagogics of the historical books of the Old Testament; Scripture Exposition of Acts, some letters of Paul, Timothy, Titus; Homiletics; Pastoral and Church Government. They taught a Sunday School class regularly. Scripture translation. One may foster the best hopes for the future with respect to these young men.

The widow of the late Dr. Sipe took over Two Grey Hills. Since she has some knowledge of the Navajo language, it was her request to be sent there. She has worked in the home and outside, giving instruction, and to speak with the help of an interpreter, instructing in home economics, and even distributing medicine. She could not continue here because of the lonely life, and requested to become boys' matron at Rehoboth. This we granted her with the approval of the four Muskegon churches, which support her.

Finally, it may be stated that the prospects for our Mission are better than ever before. The work is everywhere appreciated. The Church also must not forget that because of the high altitude, the personnel is subject nervousness and heart conditions. Hence we should not only pray for the work but also for all those who labor here, and where possible to encourage them.

Finally, let it yet be said that the brethren Beets and Van Vesseem visited the field as inspectors in 1910, and the brethren Dolphin and Groen in 1911. They obtained free passes from the Santa Fe Railroad.

The Board met twenty-six times in order to take care of the concerns of the Mission to the best of its ability. The members of the Board have spoken fifty times in the interests of the Mission, and were ready at all times to fill such requests.

The officers of the Board consisted of Rev. H. Walkotten, president; Rev. J. Groen, vice-president; Rev. J. Dolphin, treasurer; and Rev.

M. Van Vessem, secretary. This last appointment was necessitated because Dr. Beets, after ten years of service as secretary, no longer wished to serve because of his increasing journalistic duties.

Before we give a report of the treasurer, it is incumbent upon us to state that the financial picture was of such a nature that at two different times we had to request an extra collection. This was accepted favorably on every hand, so that we could repay what had been borrowed, and end the year with a balance.

Financial Report of the Heathen Mission from June 1, 1910  
to June 1, 1911.

RECEIPTS:

|   | Average Per Family | Total            |             |
|---|--------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Classes Ostfriesland                      | \$3.28             | \$1,512.32       |             |
| " Hackensack                              | 2.45               | 435.98           |             |
| " Orange City                             | 2.23               | 3,040.88         |             |
| " Pella                                   | 2.02               | 1,370.44         |             |
| " Holland                                 | 1.86               | 2,804.08         |             |
| " Zeeland                                 | 1.85               | 2,115.67         |             |
| " Gr. Rapids West                         | 1.49               | 3,100.76         |             |
| " Gr. Rapids East                         | 1.42               | 2,504.08         |             |
| " Illinois                                | 1.23               | 2,481.42         |             |
| " Hudson                                  | 1.22               | 1,496.04         |             |
| " Muskegon                                | 1.12               | 2,038.45         |             |
| " Pacific                                 | 1.00               | 347.49           |             |
| From others, including loan of \$1,000.00 |                    | 1,757.12         |             |
| Balance, previous year                    |                    | <u>11,047.28</u> |             |
| Total                                     |                    | \$36,052.01      | \$36,052.01 |

DISBURSEMENTS

|                                 |                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Rehoboth                        | \$ 8,200.45     |           |
| Hospital                        | 12,935.53       |           |
| Tohatchi                        | 7,377.34        |           |
| Zuni                            | 2,827.81        |           |
| Two Grey Hills                  | 2,500.00        |           |
| Loan of \$1,000.00 for 3 months | 1,015.00        |           |
| General Expenses                | <u>1,069.59</u> |           |
| Total                           | \$35,925.72     | 35,925.72 |
| Balance, June 1, 1911           |                 | \$ 126.29 |



Financial Report of Heathen Missions from June 1, 1911  
to May 31, 1912.

RECEIPTS

|  | Average per family | Total         |
|--|--------------------|---------------|
| Classis Grand Rapids East                    | \$1.30             | \$ 2,343.99   |
| " Grand Rapids West                          | 1.50               | 3,219.94      |
| " Hackensack                                 | 7.87               | 1,519.67      |
| " Holland                                    | 1.82               | 2,764.30      |
| " Hudson                                     | 1.16               | 1,493.80      |
| " Illinois                                   | 1.39               | 2,858.42      |
| " Muskegon                                   | 1.07               | 1,930.78      |
| " Orange City                                | 1.75               | 2,541.94      |
| " Ostfriesland                               | 2.89               | 1,335.89      |
| " Pacific                                    | 1.00               | 398.15        |
| " Pella                                      | 1.38               | 1,056.98      |
| " Zeeland                                    | 1.41               | 1,871.09      |
| Other income, including a loan of \$1,500.00 |                    | 1,666.82      |
| Balance of the previous year                 |                    | <u>126.29</u> |
| Total  |                    | \$25,128.06   |

DISBURSEMENTS

|                                  |                 |                  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Rehoboth School and Hospital     | \$12,488.63     |                  |
| Tohatchi                         | 3,137.84        |                  |
| Zuni                             | 3,666.56        |                  |
| Two Grey Hills                   | 724.45          |                  |
| General expenses, including loan | <u>2,232.18</u> |                  |
| Total                            |                 | <u>21,949.68</u> |
| Balance, May 31, 1912            |                 | \$ 3,178.40      |

Distribution of this Balance:

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Foreign Missions            | \$ 26.00        |
| New School at Rehoboth      | 461.93          |
| New School at Zuni          | 50.40           |
| Student for training school | 1,000.00        |
| General Fund                | <u>1,640.07</u> |
| Total                       | \$3,178.40      |

John Dolfin, Treasurer  
Muskegon, Mich.

Books examined and found correct by:

Harry A. Rietdyk  
Isaac J. Fles

### Proposals of the Boards

Synod decide if, and if so, under what conditions graduates from the Training School and Missionary Helpers can be ordained.

Synod empower the Board to buy the claims of Miss K. Rosbach and Mrs. Cocia Hartog-Wezeman. They are in the immediate vicinity of Rehoboth, necessary for their welfare, and were taken especially for the benefit of the mission.

As editor for the Department of Missions, in order that all missions news be placed on time and regularly in De Wachter, the Conference would like to see one of its own missionaries be appointed. The Board gives for consideration whether it would not be more advisable to have one of its members do this.

Synod instruct the Board to build a chapel at Black Rock, three miles from the village of Zuni, by the new government school, as also the building of a new parsonage for the missionary at Zuni, in order to use the old parsonage for a school building, which is urgently necessary.

Synod consider the request of Missionaries H. Fryling and L. P. Brink for a 25% increase in salary.

Synod consider the expansion of missionary work among the Navajo Indians, and instruct the Board to open new stations as finances permit and in the order as the Board deems desirable.

The Training School at Tohatchi, N. M. Synod consider the following:

1. If this school is to remain at Tohatchi.
2. To instruct the Board to determine the number of applicants to be accepted, according to the needs of the field.
3. If it is not desirable to transfer the literary department to Rehoboth, in the interests of the teaching personnel there, and saving expense.
4. If Synod decides to leave all the training at Tohatchi, that it then consider the recommendation of the Conference
  - a. Providing a competent teacher for literary subjects,

willing to study theological subjects, and, if necessary take the place of the missionary during his absence.

b. To provide for a competent housekeeper for the School.

Grounds: 1. The location formerly chosen appears now more than ever to be the most adequate.

2. The needs for such a school are evident, such as room, class rooms, furniture, and sleeping quarters.

3. A permanent location will lead to the promotion of greater appreciation of this for the Church such an important work.

4. By means of language study, experience, etc., it appears that Rev. L. P. Brink is the competent man to train these young men to labor among their own people, the Navajos.

Synod empower the Board to send from its own midst delegates to the Mome Mission Council (Cf. The Banner of February 1, 1912).

The appointment of a Field Secretary, who can devote all his time to the cause of Missions.

Humbly submitted,

In the Name of the Board,

M. Van Vessum, Secretary

SUPPLEMENT V.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR JEWISH MISSIONS.

Esteemed Brethren:

It is once more the calling of your committee to file its report concerning the activities for the last two years as well as the receipts and disbursements. It can do the same with joy and gratitude to the Lord, because He has led and helped us. The labor under the ancient people in Chicago has been continued with the small number which we could provide. Imagine how little work can be performed among more than two hundred thousand Jews. The Gospel, however, has been preached in the open, and tracts and pamphlets have been distributed in the homes of the Jews. The Holy Scriptures has been handed out in English, German, Hebrew, Yiddish, Rumanian, Russian, and French. All the other activities have continued such as instruction of young people and children, and meetings with parents and children. The seed has been strewn with lavish hand which surely shall grow, and under the invoked dew of the Holy Spirit, will bring forth fruit. Israel's God has spoken that his Word shall not return to Him void, but shall accomplish that for which it has been sent forth. Amidst opposition and enmity, hate and ridicule, work is carried on among the Jews in Chicago as everywhere else, yet the Lord has opened a powerful door, which also receives the support of our Church, and it would be a great loss for this Mission and this work, if that support was withdrawn.

That power is going forth from this mission work is seen by the hostility of the unbelievers. The Jewish press has warned its people with respect to the Hebrew Mission. It has designated the place where Jesus of Nazareth is being preached, as the Messiah, promised to the fathers. But what the enemy meant for evil, the Lord has caused for good. Many more Jews than formerly came streaming to hear the Gospel. Why should any one want to disturb this work? or move elsewhere? What gain would there be to move this work elsewhere? Brothers, the work among the Jews is not futile. According to the proportion of the multitude and the work-force, there is no mission work that is more richly blessed than that among the Jews. Your Committee earnestly requests the support of the Church for the

Chicago Hebrew Mission. If one wants to double the contribution to Paterson, this could be done without reducing the amount to Chicago. Our people have again shown in the past two years that they have a heart for this Mission; it has shown that it understands what the Apostle Paul said: "We are their debtors."

RECEIPTS: 1910-1911

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance, June 1, 1910    | \$ 526.44       |
| Receipts to May 31, 1911 | <u>3,815.02</u> |
| Total                    | \$4,341.46      |

DISBURSEMENTS: 1910-1911

|                                    |              |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Chicago Hebrew Mission             | \$3,000.00   |
| Paterson                           | 250.00       |
| Travel Expense and Office Supplies | <u>27.45</u> |
| Total                              | \$3,277.45   |

RECEIPTS: 1911-1912

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Balance June 1, 1911 | \$1,064.01      |
| Receipts             | <u>3,980.21</u> |
| Total                | \$5,044.22      |

DISBURSEMENTS: 1911-1912

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Disbursements | \$3,257.90 |
|---------------|------------|

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| BALANCE, June 1, 1912 | \$1,786.32 |
|-----------------------|------------|

And herewith your Committee places it work at your feet. The God of Israel - this we trust - has permitted his good pleasure to rest upon our work and has looked down upon the willingness of our Church. The Lord cause you through his Holy Spirit to make good and wise decisions with respect to the Mission work under his ancient people, which he has not rejected, but for which, according to his promises, that day of acceptance shall appear. Because the Savior shall come to Zion, and shall fend off the godless deeds of Jacob. And this promise continues to be valid: He, who blesses Israel, shall be blessed.

J. I. Fies

SUPPLEMENT VI.  
REPORT OF THE EMERITUS BOARD  
TO THE SYNOD OF 1912.

Esteemed Brethren:

Since the Synod of 1910 the Emeritus Board met four times, and has the following to report.

To our great sorrow the Lord took from us through inexorable death our chairman, G. W. Mokma, a brother, who so many years, through word and deed showed that he had a heart for the Emeritus Fund, and indirectly did so much to lead it in the good standing which we might enjoy these last years.

With gratitude the Board received from Orange City \$181.75 and from Pella \$223.08 more than they owed, which was divided pro rata to those receiving support. Just recently Pella sent a second gift of \$380.17, which shall also be divided on a pro rata basis.

The Board took the liberty to send a suffering brother once and again \$100.00, and gave to a sister an extra gift, because we considered that the circumstances merited the same.

The treasurer was in a position to send the amount each quarter 100%.

His report is as follows:

1910-1911

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Receipts      | \$3,655.41      |
| Disbursements | <u>3,040.50</u> |
| Balance       | \$ 614.91       |

1911-1912

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Receipts      | \$4,106.26      |
| Disbursements | <u>3,489.10</u> |
| Balance       | \$ 617.16       |

|              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| Lubbers Fund | \$1,378.86 |
|--------------|------------|

The books of the treasurer were examined and found in good order.

The Board recommends pensions as follows:

|                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Mrs. M. J. Bosma      | \$400.00 |
| Rev. Vanden Bok       | 400.00   |
| Rev. G. Broene        | 300.00   |
| Rev. R. Drukker       | 250.00   |
| Mrs. Temple           | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Broekstra        | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Remeyn           | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Langereis        | 200.00   |
| Mrs. Van Vlaanderen   | 200.00   |
| Orphans J. Van Houten | 200.00   |
| Mrs. E. R. Haan       | 150.00   |
| Mrs. Stadt            | 150.00   |
| Mrs. A. Van Houten    | 150.00   |
| Mrs. Stuit            | 150.00   |

From the above it appears that the name of Mrs. M. J. Bosma was added. Mrs. Vorst died; Mrs. J. Van Houten died, and her children now receive aid. Mrs. J. E. De Groot re-married.

The names of the retiring Board members are the late G. W. Mokma and S. S. Postma.

The Quota to remain as it is.

In the name of the Board,

M. Van Vessel, Secretary

SUPPLEMENT VII.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR CHURCH HELP.

Esteemed Brethren:

Your Committee has the pleasure to be able to present a report that on the whole is favorable. Church Help is pleased with its continued progress. The collections for the last two years amounted to \$3,942.71, while repayments on the loans amounted to \$1,868.95. While in the report to the last Synod the average for this Fund per family amounted to less than nine percent, this has now increased to twelve percent. Fifty-seven congregations at present receive the benefits of the Church Help Fund. Outstanding loans amount to the considerable sum of almost eighteen thousand dollars. Help has been promised to a few congregations in the amount of \$1,050.00, which could not yet be loaned. And where we are blessed with missionaries in the field of Domestic Missions, our Church enjoys a rapid expansion, and the weaker congregation knock on our doors for help. Church Help is therefore of great support to Domestic Missions, and deserves to receive the love of all the churches. There are, alas, congregations that have never yet taken up a collection for Church Help, and where Consistories never give the congregations opportunity to give to this cause. However, these congregations are decreasing in number.

Your Committee laments the loss of one of its members, brother G. W. Mokma, who, through death, was taken from the militant church. According to his talents he has willingly served Church Help, nevertheless your Committee would like to see Synod appoint some ministers to promote the concerns of Church Help. For someone who is not a minister, it is difficult to expect that he is informed concerning the general conditions of the churches, something that is necessary in order to give independent judgment concerning those that are seeking help. We also present to Synod for consideration whether it would not be feasible to appoint alternates for the committee members.

Furthermore we inform Synod that at the end of the last fiscal year there was a balance of \$561.96. Collections and repayment of loans amounted to \$5,811.66. Total \$6,373.62.

The disbursements were \$5,962.00. Balance \$411.62.



Help was granted to the following congregations:

|                        |          |                  |          |
|------------------------|----------|------------------|----------|
| Ada                    | \$500.00 | Muskegon Heights | \$700.00 |
| Corsica                | 500.00   | Burdett          | 200.00   |
| Siebert                | 100.00   | Sanborn          | 500.00   |
| Randolph               | 300.00   | Farmington       | 200.00   |
| Muskegon IV            | 500.00   | Winnipeg         | 400.00   |
| Conrad                 | 500.00   | Edmonton         | 400.00   |
| Paterson, Madison Ave. | 500.00   | Redlands         | 300.00   |
| Plover                 | 300.00   |                  |          |

The following 57 congregations still owe Church Help:

|                     |          |                        |             |
|---------------------|----------|------------------------|-------------|
| Edgerton            | \$250.00 | Randolph               | \$584.60    |
| Volga               | 285.00   | Hitchcock              | 47.50       |
| Redlands            | 300.00   | Vesper                 | 270.00      |
| Edmonton            | 400.00   | Oskaloosa              | 555.00      |
| Winnipeg            | 400.00   | East Palmyra           | 535.00      |
| Farmington          | 200.00   | Monarch                | 300.00      |
| Rusk                | 95.00    | Sullivan               | 570.00      |
| Sheldon             | 500.00   | G. R. Plainfield       | 500.00      |
| Bemis               | 75.00    | Bishop                 | 285.00      |
| Ireton              | 605.00   | Holland, 16th St.      | 450.00      |
| Otley               | 200.00   | Rudyard                | 99.00       |
| Noordeloos          | 270.00   | Rochester              | 320.00      |
| Atwood              | 60.00    | Byron Center           | 418.60      |
| Kanawha             | 130.00   | Harvey                 | 297.50      |
| Ellsworth           | 255.00   | Otley                  | 200.00      |
| Doon                | 270.00   | Racine                 | 275.00      |
| Kenosha             | 150.00   | Caldwell               | 289.16      |
| Leota               | 100.00   | Ada                    | 500.00      |
| G. R. Burton Hghts. | 400.00   | Corsica                | 475.00      |
| Lebanon             | 125.00   | Siebert                | 95.00       |
| Passaic II          | 350.00   | Muskegon IV            | 475.00      |
| Hudsonville         | 395.00   | Conrad                 | 500.00      |
| Prairie City        | 425.00   | Paterson, Madison Ave. | 500.00      |
| Alamosa             | 275.00   | Plover                 | 300.00      |
| Chicago, Ohio       | 320.00   | Muskegon Heights       | 700.00      |
| Pease               | 80.00    | Burdett                | 200.00      |
| Grant               | 240.00   | Sanborn                | 500.00      |
| South Boardman      | 50.00    | George                 | 125.00      |
| Huntley             | 400.00   | Total                  | \$17,971.36 |

With thanks for the confidence placed in us.

The Committee for Church Help,

J. Manni, President  
J. Vander Mey, Secretary

SUPPLEMENT VIII.

REPORT OF DE WACHTER COMMITTEE.

Esteemed Brethren in our Lord Jesus Christ:

Your Committee for the Supervision of De Wachter has the satisfaction to inform you concerning the followings:

1. In accordance with the Rules given to the Committee by Synod, it might work for the concerns of our ecclesiastical organ. It met twelve times in the last two years.

2. Shortly after the last Synod the contracts had to be renewed with the Business Manager and the Printer, which was done. These contracts expire September 1, 1912.

3. In agreement with the publishers of The Banner it was decided that Mr. J. Van Ess, employed by The Banner, should also be engaged for De Wachter to obtain new subscribers, to make collections, especially the numerous subscribers, who are behind in the payment of subscriptions, which are of many years standing. Mr. Van Ess worked for De Wachter until April, 1912.

4. Advice was give to the Business Manager and the Editor-in-Chief as often as requested, which occured rather frequently, especially concerning letters to the editor.

On June 11, 1911, to our sorrow one of the brethren, namely brother Henry Bosch, appointed by the Synod of 1910 as member of this Committee, was taken away by death. The Committee, as well as the entire Church, lost in him a faithful member, the more so since he served as secretary of the Committee. Brother A. H. Bosch accepted the appointment as Committee member in his father's place. It also became necessary to replace Rev. J. W. Brink, who served as President, because he accepted a call to the mission field. Rev. J. Manni accepted the appointment extended to him.

6. The financial report is as follows:

Receipts, June 1, 1910 to May 31, 1912

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Balance                                 | \$ 590.80        |
| Subscriptions, new and old, advertising | <u>19,979.90</u> |
| Total                                   | \$20,570.70      |

Disbursements

|                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Printing                  | \$11,832.40   |
| Commissions               | 2,347.30      |
| Editors                   | 1,359.33      |
| Periodicals, cuts, etc.   | 94.98         |
| Administration            | 789.10        |
| Wachter Committee Expense | 27.30         |
| Postage, etc.             | 76.86         |
| Premiums                  | 871.00        |
| Theological School        | 3,000.00      |
| Balance, June 1, 1912     | <u>172.43</u> |
| Total                     | \$20,570.70   |

7. Besides a few matters which appear on the Agenda concerning De Wachter, your Committee has the following matters to call to your attention.

Synod give the Committee the right to make the Mailing List the property of the Church, in order to prevent any difficulties which may arise, should the printing of De Wachter be placed in other hands.

8. The Committee can freely recommend the re-appointment of the entire personnel, as far as the editors are concerned.

9. The Committee can also inform you that every week 7,500 Wachters are printed. The highest number has not yet been reached. There are still many families in our Church that do not read De Wachter. Considering the great benefit De Wachter provides, there should be more interest found to recommend De Wachter as profitable, yea necessary reading material for every family. May Synod recommend this paper to the office-bearers. An ecclesiastical person should read an ecclesiastical paper.

Humbly submitted,

Your Committee,

J. Manni, President  
A. H. Bosch, Secretary  
Prof. W. Heyns  
Rev. P. Ekster

SUPPLEMENT IX.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE WITH REFERENCE TO JEWISH MISSIONS,  
TO THE SYNOD OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  
IN AMERICA.

Esteemed Fathers and Brethren:

Our Committee has the honor to present the following for your consideration. It is a gratifying sign that the conviction is gaining ground more and more among our people that the ancient covenant people, "the beloved for the fathers' sake," should no longer be deprived of the gospel of salvation. The mission among the Jews can no longer be neglected without being disobedient to the command specifically given by Christ, "Preach the gospel to all creatures." The Jews are not excluded. If we as a Church are to share in the blessing, which can only be found in the way of obedience to the command of Christ, then we also must contribute, insofar as our mean strength permits, to put the means to work whereby we may fulfil this command.

The Apostles have constantly followed the order of Christ: "Beginning at Jerusalem", and the Lord has richly blessed that work. Three thousand converts on Pentecost, as well as the five thousand that believed were Jews. And also when the Church had sent forth sturdy roots, and years after the Apostles devoted themselves to the Gentiles, their first order of work remained: "To the Jew first."

It is true that the Jews as a people have called heavy judgments upon themselves, by their rejection of Christ, and later also by means of their rejection of the gospel, and hindering the Apostles in the spread of the gospel. However, no matter how severely they were punished, the word of Paul should never be forgotten: "God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew." In the times of the Apostles as well as in our time there is a "remnant of the elect according to grace." And as then, so now Israel has need of the gospel of the cross, as well as the heathen and the Mohammedans.

Their cry, "his blood be upon us and our children", may never keep us from performing our duties towards them.

Regardless of the fact that it was a sinful petition, which is repeated in fact in a different form by thousands of their descendants today in their rejection of Christ, Jesus prayed on the cross: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." Has this prayer been answered (and Him the Father always heard), then we feel that this prayer of the Lord was the cause for thousands to believe at Jerusalem, among them a great number of priests. And although the Apostles <sup>did not</sup> bring this sin into consideration with respect to their contemporaries, Peter did say: "I know brethren that you did this in ignorance," their rejection of Christ may never hold us back from giving them "the bread of life".

The words of Paul "that the gentiles are co-heirs" may never be changed by us as the only heirs. It is surely not by chance that the dark middle ages were followed by the neglect not only of the mission among the Jews, but also the hot persecutions which they had to experience in practically every country. Israel, no matter how severely visited because of its sins, was never neglected with impunity or persecuted, while in reverse the promise of the blessing was continually enjoyed, "I will bless those who bless you."

With an eye to the glorious fruits which this work performed, and the ways of divine providence throughout the ages of the Christian Church, and with an eye to the promises for Israel's future,---not to mention the great privileges for which we have to be grateful to this people---we may not neglect to fulfil this burden given by our Savior.

Although it is true that our small Church in this large land is incapable of reaching all the Jews with the gospel, your Committee believes that it would be proper to engage in a mission among the Jews in one or more places, and desirable. With full appreciation for the good work that has been accomplished outside of our Church, and especially at Paterson, Chicago, and Cleveland, where missions were established, we nevertheless believe, in conformity with the declaration of Synod that the time has come to begin an independent work as we have done with respect to Domestic and Indian missions.

1. Every mission that does not proceed from our Church, where Jews live in large cities, must by that very fact stem forth from churches that have a less pure point of view. In many instances opposing the principles rather than approving them. Classis Orange City felt this objection, and therefore desires that the churches

should not be pressured to take collections for such missions. By our failure to assume our own mission field, we would dampen our sympathy and decrease our collections for this cause, and also be unfaithful to the command of Christ.

2. Although it is true that our Church exerts a certain amount of influence through its board members upon the entire board, it cannot be an overriding influence. It is difficult to imprint our own stamp upon the work where generally others are in the majority.

3. The big question is whether the work is carried on in a Reformed spirit or in a more unreformed, and this depends to a great extent upon the question what personnel is working in this field of missions. As long as we do not have our own mission, it will be impossible to control the mission personnel, and we shall have to be satisfied to offer our support to the efforts that are more Methodist and Baptist than Reformed.

4. The fruits of the mission, the converts whom it might please the Lord to give, can only then, if we have a mission in one or more Jewish centers, be channeled into our English speaking churches. With the rapid watering down and modernization of many American churches, it is with difficulty that we can freely entrust such converts under their guidance.

5. Since the gifts for this cause continue to grow more generous, and in fairness may expect that for a mission of our own there would be a substantial increase, there can be no preponderating financial objections to make a beginning of this work. And since we shall have to come to this step, we believe that the time is ripe, also in consideration of the continued growth of our denomination.

However much we are convinced of the desirability, let no one get the idea that there are no great difficulties connected with this work. The bitterness of the Jews against the Gospel and the heralds of the Gospel is no less strong than in the days of the Apostles. Much self denial must be exercised by those who labor amongst this people. There must be a wrestling with many difficulties. And those who come to the faith must understand that they will have to experience all kinds of misunderstanding and villification for the sake of the Savior. They shall have to resign themselves to formidable sacrifices,

and be rejected by family and friends, also many times they experience that they do not receive from Christians that brotherly love and recognition which they might rightfully expect. The love for Christ, however, places this all in such a position that we may not deviate from the path that has been struck, whereby we would be hindered in this path by Satan, world, or flesh. Only when the Lord walls the way shall we have to retreat. As long, however, as there are ten thousands of Jews, who have never heard the Name whereby we must be saved, and learned to know Him, and the words "go into all the world," remain valid, we may not be hindered by any difficulties.

Concerning the plan for the work, your Committee believes that according to Acts 13 the local church has the competence to send. It is to extend a call to someone who is ordained, a minister of the divine Word. This does not mean that all kinds of preparatory work cannot be performed by helpers. The purpose must be: "To convince the Jews that Jesus is the Christ." Should it appear over a period of time that a minister of the Word cannot be obtained then a suitable replacement be found to engage in preparatory work.

2. The calling church (preferably in consultation with neighboring congregations), assume a certain amount of the salary, and the remainder be taken from the general fund.

3. Synod appoint five deputies (outside of the calling church) whose duties shall be:

- a. To inform our churches how best this work can be started.
- b. To consult with the Consistories of centers of Jewish neighborhoods, especially in those places where the Lord has planted our churches, to work, and to provoke these consistories as much as possible to support this work.
- c. That with the calling of a missionary, a minister of the Word, and with the appointment of helpers, to purchase property, to control the finances, and determine salaries, this to be done in consultation between the consistories and the deputies.
- d. To keep the churches informed concerning the work, and what has to be done.

4. A suitable building be rented in a Jewish neighborhood, where at regular hours on Sunday and during the week preaching takes place. Bible study and other meetings to take place here, and a reading room be provided. Personal calls, tract distribution, and everything that can be useful to convince the Jews that Jesus is the Christ be presented naturally in the language wherein the Jews can be reached. The mission helper preferably should be at home in English, German, and Yiddish. To endeavor to direct converts to churches of the Reformed confession.

5. The deputies are to endeavor to find a congregation which calls and sends in the name of the Lord, and all the work be regulated in consultation with the deputies. The deputies are to divide amongst themselves the various functions, control the finances, and to make a report at the regularly determined time. As much as possible everything is to be done regularly in consultation with the calling church.

Concerning the field of labor, we find it difficult to choose a place, since there are so many places where thousands of Jews live who have never heard the gospel. We are of the opinion, however, to be permitted to point out that action as to a choice should be in accordance with the beckonings of Providence, and that we in particular should work where we have congregations or in the vicinity thereof.

The more than 12,000,000 Jews that are spread over almost the entire world, mostly are congregated in large cities. And then our attention is called to places like New York and Paterson, Chicago and Cleveland. In Chicago there are 180,000 Jews, in Cleveland about 75,000, and tens of thousands in smaller cities like Dayton, Lima, Toledo, Finley, and 50,000 in Detroit. We are thinking in terms of these places because our Church has supported missions in these cities. In the last years the mission in Chicago almost exclusively received support from the General Fund. To withdraw support at once from this place would not be advisable. The missions in Paterson and Cleveland are rather recent. At all three places our Church has men on their Boards.

The committee member at Paterson states that possibly this work could be taken over by our Church without any expenditure. The missionary at Cleveland is favorably known by all of ours who have come in contact with him, and



it would be difficult to find anyone who has greater feeling for our principles and our Church, and who at one time was a rabbi. On the onehand, your committee feels the desirability to open a new field, or to take over a weak mission; on the other hand, the taking over of a branch of the Chicago Mission appeals to others.

Your Committee does not believe that it is possible to go further than to point out these places. Much will depend on the leading of Providence and the opportunities which will present themselves through investigation.

With joy and much satisfaction your Committee can state that there is love in our Church for this branch of God's Kingdom. Much has already been done and continues to be done for the mission among the Jews. By obtaining our own mission, we do not doubt that much more shall be done, which is also necessary.

That will take place when the Church feels that it is their mission; when it is much more related to it. Jewish missions is pleaded for and spoken of more, and through publicity is brought to the attention of our people.

Respectfully submitted,

Your Committee,

S. S. Vander Heide  
J. R. Brink  
W. P. Van Wyk  
P. Stam

SUPPLEMENT X.

MISSION ORDER OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED

CHURCH FOR HEATHEN MISSIONS.

(ESTABLISHED BY THE SYNOD OF 1912, ACTS, ART. 27).

Article 1.

In order to maintain good order in the work of heathen missions, it is necessary to establish rules for the cooperation of the local churches, the major assemblies, and the workers on the mission field; which shall be dealt with below in an orderly manner.

CONCERNING THE LOCAL CONGREGATIONS.

Article 2.

Each congregation is obligated to comply with the mission command of the Lord by sending forth or helping therewith a minister or ministers of the Word among the heathen, and that all matters concerning this are to bind themselves to the regulations of this Order, unless the Synod in special cases makes exceptions.

Article 3.

Each congregation is called upon to send or to help send to the field or fields that Synod shall establish.

Article 4.

The calling of a missionary minister of the Word proceeds from the local church, or a combination of churches, according to Art. 4 of the Church Order and the further regulations of this Mission Order.

Article 5.

The installation of missionary ministers of the Word shall take place according to the form established by Synod, and in the presence of one or more Classical Mission Delegates.

Article 6.

The appointment of all assistants to the missionary ministers of the Word, the regulation of his and their work, and the promotion of all the concerns of the assumed post shall proceed from the calling church (or churches) in consultation with the Classical Mission delegates, who are informed in time concerning the actions to take place at the Consistory meeting,

in order that they may be seated with an advisory vote.

The educational, medical, and industrial services cannot according to their non-ecclesiastical office, their general significance for the entire mission, and the particular needs connected therewith, can more properly be performed by all the churches jointly, and shall thus be supported from the General Fund, and shall be controlled by the the Synodical delegates mandated by Synod. If, however, a local church or churches jointly desire to assume a certain portion of these ~~assistant services~~ financially and administratively, such can take place, and according to the same rule, in this Order by the transfer to the calling churches as has been established (Of. Art. 11, Art. 15a, Art. 20), while the entire regulation and management shall take place in consultation with the Synodical delegates for Heathen Missions.

#### Article 7.

The calling church (or churches) shall have supervision over the confession and the conduct of the mission personnel and the converts at their post.

#### Article 8.

The sending church (or churches) provides for all the disbursements for its mission post.

#### Article 9.

In the event a church needs financial assistance, it shall seek the same within the confines of its Classis, while it shall not close a contract with other churches without the approval of Classis. In the event that churches of Classis cannot provide sufficient support, it may seek through Classis support from a neighboring Classis or Classes, however, not without consultation with Synod or the deputies appointed by Synod, who must approve the contracts. In severe urgent, unforeseen circumstances the Mission deputies for Synod can provide funds from the General Fund, after having heard the advice from the Classis or Classes concerned or its mission deputies.

#### Article 10.

In all instances of Classical or Synodical determined decisions, the Consistory of the sending church (or churches), in consultation with the deputies of these assemblies, and if a difference arises between the Consistory and these Deputies, the Consistory shall place the matter in the hands of the next meeting of Classis. (Of. further Articles 19 and 24.)

Article 11.

Each church is obligated to contribute according to what Synod decides for the General Fund of Heathen Missions.

Article 12.

The organization of a native church shall take place by the sending church (or churches), with the advice and approval of Classis. This church shall be under the supervision of the Classis of the sending church until it is capable in the interests of the concerns of the mission at the post where it originated to support itself.

THE MAJOR ASSEMBLIES.

THE CLASSIS.

Article 13.

The Classis with the Synodical Mission Deputies determines whether the calling church (or churches) has the sufficient means to provide for the financial needs for the work of its post, and whether the nomination made meets the requirements established.

Article 14.

The examination of the one called to the service of the Word among the heathen shall be according to Art. 4 of the Church Order, and with the customary subjects the missionary courses shall also be considered. Also those who are already in the ministry of the Word shall be examined by the Classis of the calling church in Missionary subjects. With respect to missionary subjects the Classis shall be assisted by at least two Synodical Missions Deputies.

Article 15.

With respect to disciplinary matters, the missionary ministers of the Word, the assistants, and the converts, the Classis has the same ~~duty~~ duty as it has with other office-bearers and members.

Article 16.

Each Classis shall nominate from its own circle a number of deputies for the mission under the heathen.

Article 17.

These deputies are to execute the mandates of Classis, and have an advisory vote at all meetings of the consistories where their presence is requested, and where they disagree with a decision of the consistory (or consistories) with respect to the Mission, the decision shall be placed before the next meeting of Classis. They are as much as possible to acquaint Classis with the concerns of the Church (or churches)

of the Classis with respect to a post or posts, the action in matters, concerning the mutual cooperation with the neighboring Classis or its deputies, endeavor to awaken mission zeal within the confines of Classis, and at every Classical meeting to give a report to Classis concerning necessary information and advice.

Article 18.

If a difference arises between Classis and the Synodical deputies, the matter shall be placed in the hands of Synod.

THE SYNOD.

Article 19.

Synod establishes the Mission Field or Fields of the denomination, determines whether a church (or churches), can support the desired post. If Synod is not in session, this latter can be done by the Synodical mission deputies.

Article 20.

It determines what requirements a church must meet to call and what requirements a minister must meet in order to be called.

Article 21.

It appoints five deputies for Heathen Mission.

Article 22.

The deputies are to execute the instructions of Synod, and provide for the inspection of the field or fields by one or more of the deputies regularly. They are to incorporate themselves as a Board of Trustees of Heathen Missions of the Christian Reformed Church in order to be able to act according to Art. 24 of the Mission Order, administer the General Fund of Heathen Missions, and, inasfar as the Synod cannot do this, to determine the amount of support each calling church is to receive according to Article 9 of this Mission Order. At all meetings of Consistories and Classes where their presence is necessary, they shall be seated with advisory vote, and where they raise objections concerning a decision of the Consistory or the Classis with respect to the Mission, it shall be placed in the hands of the next meeting of a broader assembly. They shall serve Consistories and Classes with requested advice, and give information with respect to decisions of regulatory declarations for the cooperation between the Consistory (Consistories) and the workers on the field, and with the framing of contracts

according Art. 9 of the Mission Order. They shall provide for the publication in our Church periodicals that which pertains to our mission, as well as all mission literature, and all that can serve for awakening a greater mission zeal in the churches. At every Synod they shall file a complete report, and provide information and advice.

Article 23.

Synod makes the final decision between the differences of the deputies and Classis, and in every instance of appeal.

Article 24.

Synod has the responsibility of the Mission Field over against third parties, for example, the government, other denominations. It appoints its Deputies for the Mission to act as Board of Trustees for all property on the Mission Field, to receive in a legal way all legacies and monies, and to control all that is designated for the General Fund of the Mission, or for assistant services. At the same time it appoints deputies to represent it at other denominations.

Article 25.

The Training School is under the jurisdiction of the Deputies according to Synodical decision, and is supported from the General Fund.

THE PERSONNEL

Article 26.

Besides the Ministers of the Word and their assistants (interpreters, colporteurs, etc.) there are employees in the service of the Schools and in the Medical Field.

Article 27.

A Missionary Minister of the Word shall enjoy the same privileges as an ordinary Minister of the Word. Furthermore, he must be free from organic weaknesses, which presumably would disqualify him for service on the Mission Field, and as a rule it is desirable that with the commencement of his work he be not older than 35 years.

Article 28.

If it appears that a Missionary Minister is not qualified for mission work, to which he has been called, he shall be dealt with according to Articles 11 and 13 of the Church Order.

Article 29.

Missionary Ministers of the Word assume the duties of

the administration of the Word and the Sacraments, provide for the spiritual concerns of all the workers, the converts, and the heathen on their post, prepare the converts for the organization of their own church, and regularly report to their Consistory (or Consistories), and the Synodical Deputies, concerning their work.

Article 30:

The personnel in the educational and medical departments are to reports regularly to the Synodical Deputies.

Article 31.

According to need the entire personnel on the Mission Field are to hold general meetings, and those of of the separate posts particular meetings, and besides every category of workers separately, (e.g. Ministers of the Word, School personnel, and medical personnel) for the concerns of their respective fields, and to report to the Consistories concerned, the Classes, and the Synod.

Article 32.

All the workers shall observe each others doctrine and conduct, and, if one of them in a provocative way sins against the purity of doctrine or pious walk of life, shall without delay notify the the meeting of the Ministers of the Word to inform the Consistory under whose supervision he resorts, in order that it may deal with him.

Article 33.

The institution of the offices shall take place as soon as there is a sufficient number of believers who desire to be organized as a church, and there are among them qualified persons with talents to take office. Concerning the question where such a situation has taken place, the Minister of the Word at that place shall first of all obtain the advice of the particular meeting of the Ministers of the Word, and at the same time sends the request of these believers with the advice given and its own recommendations to the calling church (or churches).

Article 34.

These articles, the legal regulation concerning the work of the Heathen Mission, have been so worded and accepted with general accord, that they, when the profit of the churches demands differently, they are to be changed, decreased, or increased. Yet it shall not be permitted for a particular church or Classis to do this, but shall diligently observe the same until Synod decides otherwise.

## TRANSITION REGULATIONS.

### Article 1.

Synod make a beginning of instituting the new Mission Order, as much as circumstances allow, by appointing deputies and instruct them to perform their duties as mentioned in the Mission Order.

### Article 2.

These deputies are to awaken mission zeal at all times in the churches, and, if necessary, to enter into correspondence with consistories, requesting them to assume the responsibility of the Synodically appointed mission posts.

### Article 3.

A mission post, which is occupied by a Missionary-minister of the Word called by Synod, cannot make a transition to a church (or churches), without the Consistory of that church (or churches) calling him, and the acceptance of the call by the minister. Should this minister desire to accept this call, then this matter will be considered at the forthcoming Synod.

### Article 4.

Until all the synodically designated posts are occupied, the deputies have the responsibility for the regular order of work there, as much as possible according to the Mission Order, and as far as necessary under the existing rules under the responsibility of Synod.

### Article 5

As soon as the occupied posts have been transferred by Synod, these transition regulations shall cease, since the deputies may only act with respect to the calling churches with respect to the occupied post according to the Mission Order.



SUPPLEMENT XI.

SIMPLIFIED FORMS FOR THE USE ON  
MISSION FIELD.

(Art. 57, XIII, Acts of Synod of 1912.)

FORM FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF  
HOLY BAPTISM.

There are three things we must know about baptism.

The first is that we are born in sin, and therefor are sinners by nature, so that we cannot enter into the kingdom of God unless we are born again. Being baptized with water teaches us this. It is a sign to us that our souls are unclean, sinful in the sight of God, and that we must look for cleansing from sin and for salvation, not in ourselves, but in the Saviour.

Secondly holy baptism teaches us that our sins are washed away through Jesus Christ. That is why we are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. For when we are baptized in the name of the Father, the Father thereby makes it sure to us, that he made an eternal covenant with us. This means that he takes us for his children, and members of his family forever. He therefor will provide us with every good thing, and keep all evil away from us, or turn it to our good. And when we are baptized in the name of the Son, the Son makes it sure to us, that he suffered and died in our place, our sins are washed away. He makes us share in his death and resurrection, so that now we are freed from our sins and accounted righteous before God. And when we are baptized in the name of the Holy Ghost, the Holy Ghost makes us a sure promise, that he will make his home in our hearts and will sanctify us to be members of Christ. He will make us have the things Christ has earned for us, the washing away of our sins, and the daily renewing of our lives, till at last pure and holy we shall stand among God's elect in life eternal.

Thirdly, holy baptism is a covenant. To every covenant there are two parties; and in this matter God is the one party, and we are the other party. Now we have heard of the things God makes sure to us in baptism; the next thing for us to know is what God expects us to do; and this it is: We must obey him. We must cleave to this one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. We must trust in him and love him with all our heart, and with all our soul

and with all our mind and with all our strength. We must forsake the world. crucify the life of sin that we used to live, and walk in a new and holy life.

And if sometimes through weakness we fall into sin, we must therefore not despair of God's mercy, neither must we stay in sin, for baptism is a sure sign to us, that we have an eternal covenant of grace with God.

#### FOR ADULTS.

Those who desire to be baptized must first know that they are sinners before God, and they must make confession of their repentance of sin and of their belief in Christ. This is according to the word of the Lord Jesus Christ. He commanded his disciples to teach all nations, and then baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. And he added the promise: "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." The Apostles acted according to this rule, baptizing those that made confession of their faith and repentance.

It is not lawful to baptize any adult person, until he has been taught what holy baptism means, through the preaching of the gospel, and is able to give account of his personal faith by personal confession.

Since therefore you wish to be baptized, that thereby you may surely know that you have become (a) member(s) of the Church of God, and that it may be known that you do not only accept the Christian religion, which we have taught you and of which you have made confession before us privately, but also that you intend and purpose through the grace of God to lead a sincere Christian life in harmony with your confession you will answer to the questions we shall ask you before God and before his Church publicly.

1. Do you believe in the one only true God. Do you believe that in God there are three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That God made heaven and earth and all that is in them, and that God keeps this world and governs it. That everything in the world belongs to God, and that everyone must obey him?

Answer: Yes.

2. Do you believe that you were born in sin, and therefore by nature entirely unfit to serve God and inclined to sin. That you have sinned against God many times in thought, word, and deed. Are you heartily sorry for these sins?

Answer: Yes.

3. Do you believe that Jesus Christ, who is really God and became really man, by being born of the

virgin Mary, is given to you of God to be your Saviour. That by believing in him you receive forgiveness of sins, and through the power of the Holy Ghost you are become a member of Jesus and his Church?

Answer: Yes.

4. Do you believe all the articles of the Christian religion as they have been taught you according to the Word of God. Do you intend to cling to the Christian religion to the end of your life. Do you reject the religion and the superstitions of your own people, and every other that is contrary to the Christian religion. Do you promise to stay always in communion with our Christian Church not only in hearing the Word, but also in the use of the sacraments?

Answer: Yes.

5. Is it the purpose of your heart always to live as children of God ought to live according to the Word of God, and to forsake the evil things of this world, like followers of Jesus and members of the Church ought to do, according to the Word of God. Are you willing to submit to Christian admonition?

Answer: Yes.

The good and great God mercifully grant his grace and blessing to this your purpose, through Jesus Christ.

#### FOR CHILDREN.

And although our little children do not understand these things we may not on that account exclude them from baptism. For like without their knowing it, they are sinners in Adam, so are they again received into grace in Christ. God spoke to Abraham, the father of all believers, and therefore also to us and our children, saying, I will establish my covenant between me and thee, and thy children after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant; to be a God unto thee and to thy seed after thee.

The Apostle Peter says the same thing with these words: "For the promise is unto you, and to your children and to all that are afar off, even so many as the Lord our God shall call." Therefore formerly the Lord commanded that children should be circumcized, which was a sign that they belonged to the covenant. Christ also embraced them, laid his hands upon them and blessed them.

Because baptism is come in the place of circumcision, therefore little children are to be baptized, because they are heirs of the kingdom of God and of God's covenant. And it is the duty of the parents to teach their children to serve the Lord as

soon as their tender years allow. That therefore this holy sacrament may be administered to the glory of God, to our comfort, and to the edification of his Church, let us call upon his holy name.

#### PRAYER.

O, Almighty and eternal God, we beseech thee that thou wilt be pleased on thine infinite mercy, to look in grace upon these children. Make them through the Holy Ghost members of thy Son Jesus Christ, that they may be buried with him in baptism, and be raised with him in newness of life. Strengthen them to follow him daily bearing their cross joyfully, and to cleave unto him in true faith, firm hope, and ardent love. Grant them to leave this life, which is but a continual death, enjoying thy favor, and to appear before the judgment seat of thy Son Jesus Christ at the last day without fear. We ask this of thee in the name of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one only God liveth and reigneth for ever. Amen.

Beloved in the Lord Jesus.

You have heard that baptism is an ordinance of God to make God's covenant sure to us and to our children. Therefore it must be used for that purpose and not out of custom or superstition. That it may be known that this is in your mind, you will answer sincerely to these questions.

1. Do you believe that, though your children are conceived and born in sin, hence are subject to the curse of sin; yet that they belong to Christ, and therefore as members of his Church ought to be baptized?

2. Do you believe that what is taught in the Bible, and in the articles of the Christian faith, is the true and complete doctrine concerning salvation?

3. Do you promise that when these children begin to understand you will teach them and bring them up in the fear of the Lord, and that you will help them and cause them to be taught therein to the utmost of your power?

Answer: Yes.

Then the minister in baptizing shall say: N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

#### THANKSGIVING.

Almighty God and merciful Father, we thank thee that thou hast forgiven us and our children all our sins, through the blood of thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, and received us through thy Holy Spirit

as members of Jesus Christ, and adopted us to be thy children, and hast made the same sure to us by holy baptism. We pray thee in the name of Jesus that thou wilt be pleased always to govern these children by thy Holy Spirit, that they may be taught and brought up in thy fear, and may learn to know our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. That they may know thy goodness and mercy, which thou hast shown to them and us. Enable them to live in all righteousness before thee, under our only Teacher, King, and High Priest Jesus Christ, and to fight against and overcome sin to the end that they may eternally praise and magnify thee, and thy Son Jesus Christ, together with the Holy Ghost, the only one true God. Amen.

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#### FORM FOR ADMINISTERING THE LORD'S SUPPER.

Beloved in the Lord Jesus our Saviour. We are now to keep the Lord's Supper as the Lord Jesus commanded us to do.

The Apostle Paul tells us "that the Lord Jesus in the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread and when he had given thanks, he brake it and said; 'Take, eat, this is my body which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of me.' and in like manner also he took the cup after the supper saying; 'This cup is the New Testament in my blood, this do ye as often as ye drink it in remembrance of me.' For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread and drink that cup in an unworthy manner shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of this bread and drink of that cup; for he that eateth and drinketh in an unworthy manner eateth and drinketh judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

Now in order to keep the Lord's Supper properly, in the way in which the Lord Jesus wants us to keep it, we must do two things:

First we must examine ourselves;

Second, we must keep it in remembrance of Jesus.

In examining ourselves there are three things to think about. The first thing to think about is that we are sinners before God. This should make us humble ourselves before God, because God hates sin with his whole being. Rather than let it go unpunished, he punished Jesus instead of us with the bitter and shameful death of the cross.

The next thing we must ask ourselves is whether

we believe this faithful promise of God, that all our sins are forgiven only because of the suffering and death of Jesus, obtaining thereby a righteousness, so perfect as though we had never done any sin, and had always been obedient to God, just as Jesus was.

And the next thing we must ask ourselves, is whether it is the purpose of our heart, to show thankfulness to God with our whole heart, and walk uprightly before him like children of God ought to do. Also whether we have put aside all enmity, envy, and hatred out of our hearts, and whether it is our heart's desire to walk in true love and peace with our neighbor.

All those who feel this way about these things, God wants to receive in mercy; such as these he counts as worthy partakers of the supper of his Son Jesus Christ. But those who do not feel this way about it in their hearts, eat and drink judgment to themselves. Those who love sin and are unwilling to leave the ways of sin, must not come to the Lord's Supper, for they have no part in the Kingdom of Christ.

But hereby is not meant to say that only those may come to the Lord's Supper, who are without sin. For we do not come to this Supper to testify thereby that we are perfect and righteous in ourselves. No, we confess that on account of our sins we are worthy of death. Therefore coming to the Lord's Supper we should not ask whether we are without sin, or whether our faith and conduct are perfect, but whether we struggle with the weakness of our faith and the sinfulness of our hearts, and are heartily sorry for these weaknesses. If it is our heart's desire to fight against our unbelief and to live according to all the commandments of God, we may be sure that no sin or weakness that is still in us against our will, can hinder us from being received in mercy and from being worthy partakers of the Lord's Supper.

Now, why did Jesus tell us to keep the Lord's Supper? It is that we should remember him. And how shall we remember him by it?

By believing in our hearts that our Father in heaven sent his dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, into the world. And that the Lord Jesus took our flesh and blood upon him, and bore God's anger against sin in our place from the beginning to the end of his life upon earth. By doing this he fulfilled for us all obedience to the law of God and righteousness, especially when the weight of our sins and the wrath of God against sin pressed out of him the bloody sweat in the garden, and made him cry out on the tree of the cross: "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me," that we might be accepted by God and never be forsaken by him.

With his death and the shedding of his blood he made the work of our salvation complete when he said: "It is finished."

And that we might firmly believe that this eternal salvation is ours, the Lord Jesus in his last supper took bread, and when he had given thanks he brake it and gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat, this is my body which is broken for you, this do in remembrance of me." In like manner also after the supper he took the cup, gave thanks and said: "Drink ye all of it, this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins; this do ye as often as ye drink it in remembrance of me." As though he would say: as often as ye eat of this bread and drink of this cup, ye shall remember me, ye shall be sure of my great love and faithfulness toward you, that whereas otherwise you would have suffered eternal death, I have given my body to the death of the cross and shed my blood for you. I suffered death in your place for your sins, that ye might have everlasting life. Like food and drink are given you that your earthly life might be sustained, so have I given my body and blood for you that in me ye might have eternal life. This is as truly as this bread is broken before your eyes, and this cup is given you, and you eat and drink the same with your mouth, in remembrance of me.

The Lord's Supper teaches us to put our faith and trust in the perfect sacrifice of Christ. For by his death he has taken away the cause of our death, sin, and has obtained for us the Spirit of Life. This Spirit lives in him and in our hearts, and thereby we have true communion with him, and we have part in all his blessings, in eternal life, righteousness and glory.

Besides, by this same Spirit we are united to each other as members of one body in true brotherly love, as the holy Apostle says: "For we being many are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread." For as out of many grains of wheat one flour is ground, and one bread baked, and as out of many berries pressed together one wine floweth forth and mixeth itself together, so shall we all who by true faith are in Jesus Christ, be together one body through brotherly love, for Christ, our beloved Saviour's sake, who has so exceedingly loved us, and not only show this in word, but also in every deed toward one another.

May the Almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ help us to do this through his Spirit. Amen.

That we may obtain all this let us humble ourselves before God and with true faith invoke his blessing.

PRAYER.

O most merciful God and Father, we beseech thee that thou wilt be pleased in this supper, which we keep in remembrance of the bitter death of thy Son Jesus Christ, to work in our hearts through thy Spirit, that we may daily more and more with true confidence give ourselves to thy Son Jesus Christ. Feed and comfort our afflicted and contrite hearts through the power of thy Holy Ghost with the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ, both God and man, that we may no longer live in our sins, but he in us and we in him, and thus truly be made partakers of everlasting salvation. That we may truly and heartily believe that thou wilt forever be our gracious Father, nevermore imputing our sins to us, and providing us with all things necessary for our bodies and for our souls, because thou hast made us thy children. Grant us also thy grace that we may always cheerfully follow thee, deny ourselves, confess our Saviour, and in whatever may befall us to joyfully expect our Lord Jesus Christ from heaven, where he will make our mortal bodies like unto his glorious body, and take us unto him in eternity.

And may the Lord's Supper strengthen us in our undoubted Christian faith, of which we may confession with our mouths and hearts, saying:

I believe in God, the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, he descended into hell, the third day he arose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father, Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

That we now <sup>may</sup> be fed with the bread of life, Jesus Christ, let us not cleave with our hearts to the external bread and wine, but us lift them up high in heaven, where Jesus our Saviour is at the right hand of God our heavenly Father, whither all the articles of our faith lead us, believing that we shall be fed and refreshed in our souls through the Spirit of God and with the body and blood of Jesus, as certainly as we receive the bread and the wine in remembrance of him.

In breaking and distributing the bread, the minister shall say: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ;

(and when he giveth the cup):



The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

After the communion the minister shall say:

Beloved in the Lord. The Lord has now fed our souls at his table, let us therefore praise his holy name with thanksgiving, and let every one say in his heart thus:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases.

Who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in mercy.

He hath not remembered us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.

As far as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.

Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him.

Who hath not spared his own Son, but hath delivered him up for us all, and given us all things with him. Therefore God commendeth therewith his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us; much more then being now justified in his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son; much more being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. Therefore my mouth and heart shall show forth the praise of the Lord from this time forth forevermore. Amen.

#### THANKSGIVING.

Almighty God and merciful Father. We humbly render unto thee the thanks of our hearts, that thou hast in infinite mercy given us thine only begotten Son, Jesus Christ to be a Saviour from and a sacrifice for our sins, and to be our food and drink unto eternal life. We thank thee that thou givest us a living faith, whereby we are made partakers of such great blessings. It has pleased thee that thy beloved Son Jesus Christ should institute this Supper that thereby our faith might be strengthened. O faithful God and Father, we pray thee, that through the working of the Holy Spirit, this remembrance of

the death of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, may tend to the daily increase of our faith, and more intimate fellowship with him. Hear us Lord, for Jesus Christ, thy Son's sake, in whose name we conclude our prayers, saying:

Our Father who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
But deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever. Amen.

SUPPLEMENT XII.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO INSPECT THE  
TRANSLATION OF THE STANDARDS OF OUR  
CHURCH, OFFERED IN THE ACTS OF  
THE SYNOD OF 1910, SUP. XIII.

(Art. 57, XVI.)

Honorable Brethren:

The committee appointed by the Synod of 1910 (Acts, Art. 76, 22) to inspect the translation into English of our Church Standards, takes pleasure to submit the following report. A few preliminary remarks of a general character are deemed necessary.

It has been throughout the aim of the committee to furnish as literal a rendering as is compatible with good literary style. Its corrections are based in part upon the Latin original as found in both Muller and Niemeyer, and in part upon the latest Dutch translation.

Furthermore, it would suggest that the Arminian Errors, together with the texts quoted be italicized, as has been done in the Dutch editions; and that the same be done with the texts quoted in the affirmative division of the Canons.

Following are corrections or suggestions offered:

CANONS OF DORDRECHT.

CHAPTER I.

1. line 2 - Substitute "persevere" for "continue".  
3 - After "obedience" insert "in faith."  
6 - Substitute "for these" for "for they."  
15 - Insert Acts 13:48 between John 17:6 and Eph. 1:4.
2. 2 - After "election of God" add "unto eternal life."  
11 - Substitute "this golden chain" for "the golden chain."
3. 1 - Substitute "good pleasure" for "pleasure."  
3, 4 - Should read: "does not consist in this that God chose certain persons rather than others, but in this that He chose out of all,".....  
8, 11 - Should read: "and that he would graciously consider this in itself a complete obedience and count it worthy of the reward of eternal life."

- 4, 3 - Substitute "aright" for "rightly."
- 5, 13 - Substitute "met" for "accomplished."  
16 - Substitute "repugnant" for "opposed."  
21 - Omit "etc."
- 6, 2 - Should read: "but that some of the elect, any decree of God notwithstanding."
- 7, 4 - Substitute "absurd" for "unreasonable."  
Add at the end of this paragraph: Rom. 8:33.
- 8, 2-4 - Should read: "did not decide either to leave any one in the fall of Adam and in the common state of sin and condemnation, or to pass...."
- 9, 2 - Insert after "not merely," "and solely."  
3 - Insert before "pleasure" "good".  
4 - Insert before "worthier," "better and."

#### CHAPTER II.

- 1, line 3 - Insert after "necessity," "profitableness."  
5 - Change "complete and perfect," to "complete perfect and intact."
- 2, 2 - Insert before "covenant," the word "new."  
4 - Insert "mere," before "right to establish."  
6 - Substitute "repugnant" for "contrary."  
7 - Should read: "has become the surety and mediator of a better, that is, the new..."
- 3, 9 - "Adjudge" instead of "think."  
11 - Insert after "fruit," "or benefit."
- 4, 1 - Insert before "covenant," "new."  
3ff - Should read: "does not herein consist that we by faith, in as much as it accepts the merits of Christ, are justified before God and saved, but in the fact that God having revoked the demand of perfect obedience of faith, regards faith itself and the obedience of faith, although imperfect, as the perfect obedience of the law."
- 5, 14 - Insert "a" before "new and strange."  
6 - Substitute "repugnant" for "opposed."  
7 - Ef. 2:3 found in Dutch translation, but not in Muller or Niemeyer.
- 6, 3 - Substitute "imprudent" for "unthinking."  
4 - Substitute "as far as he is concerned" for "in so far as he, etc."  
Substitute "minded" for "desirous."  
5 - Substitute "equally" for "in the same manner."

- 6, line 12ff. - Should read: "For these, while they feign that they present this distinction...."
- 7, 1 - Should read: "That Christ neither could die, needed to die, nor did die...."
- 2ff. - Substitute: "loved" for "loves," "elected" for "has chosen."

CHAPTER III, IV.

- 1, line 1 - Substitute "properly" for "truthfully."
- 2 - Substitute "suffices" for "is sufficient."
- 7 - Add "16" to "and" and omit "Rom. 5:16."
- 2, 4 - Substitute "can not have been separated" for "could not be separated."
- 4, 1 - After "really" add "not utterly."
- 6 - Substitute "express testimony" for "plain expressions."
- 10 ff. - Should read: "Moreover to hunger and thirst after deliverance from misery and after life, and to offer unto God the sacrifice of a broken spirit is peculiar to the regenerate and those that are called blessed."
- 13 - Dutch translation has Ps. 51:10, but Muller and Niemeyer have Ps. 51:19. Ps. 51:10, and Matt. 5:6, both emphasize the same truth, viz., that expressed in lines 11 and 12, and do not speak of "the sacrifice of a broken spirit." This very idea expressed in line 13 is supported by Ps. 51:19.
- 5, 3 - Substitute "still left him," for "yet allowed him."
- 6 - Substitute "on his part" for "from his side."
- 8 - Substitute "efficiently" for "powerfully."
- 10 - Omit "both" in line nine, and insert "do both" before "testify."
- 19 - Omit "of Jesus."
- 6, 17 - Substitute "repugnant" for "contrary."
- 17 - Either "fixed usage" or "continuous practice."
- 7, 2 - Put "as others explain it" in parenthesis.
- 13 - Substitute "contrary" for "in opposition."
- 15 - Before "more" insert "far."
- 8, 2 - Substitute "potently" for "powerfully."
- 11 - Substitute "efficiency" for "powers."
- 9, 4 - Substitute "efficiently" for "powerfully."

#### CHAPTER V.

- 1, line 7 - Substitute "in virtue of" for "through the virtue of."
- 2,     1 - Omit "not" change to "does indeed provide."  
      12 - Put semi-colon after "alone."
- 3,     1 - Insert "true" before "believers."
- 4,     5 - Change "had" to "having".  
      7 - Insert "not" ("meanings a sin of that character.")  
      7 - Change "was" to "is."
- 5,     7 - Change "very works of" to "marks proper to."  
      8 - Add after "God", "and from the very constant promises  
          of God."  
      14 - Put "1" before "John 3:24."
- 6,     14 - Should be "I John 3:2,3."
- 7,     2 - Before "time" insert "a".  
      3 - Omit "only" in first line and insert "only" after  
          "except" in third line.
- 9,     4 - Substitute "Simon" for "Peter" and enclose in  
          parenthesis.  
      6 - Omit "only" in line five and insert "only" after  
          "Apostles" in sixth line.

The committee supports the changes proposed in I:1,10,13,15 and II:7 of the Affirmative division of the Canons.

- I,3 - Proposed change not supported.
- 6 - Eph. 1:11 is not printed in Muller nor in Niemeyer.
- 14 - These texts are not found in Muller nor in Niemeyer.
- II:7 - Should be: III, IV, 7.

The committee did not feel called upon to pass judgment upon the question as to the advisability of translating the Conclusion.

#### CONFESSION OF FAITH.

The Committee supports the changes proposed in Articles II, VII, IX and XXI. It prefers the translation (Art. XII) corresponding to the Dutch version. As to Art. XXXVI no change in the English version is offered. According the Acts of Synod 1910, Art. 10, 25 and Appendix X an asterisk should be inserted in this article, directly preceding the phrase: "but also that they protect the sacred ministry," and referring to a note accepted by the Synod. The committee submits the following translation of the notes

"This phrase, touching the office of the magistracy in its relation to the Church, proceeds on the principle of the Established

Church, which was first applied by Constantine and afterwards also in many Protestant countries. History, however, does not support the principle of State domination over the Church, but rather separation of Church and State. Moreover, it is contrary to the New Dispensation that authority be vested in the State to arbitrarily reform the Church, and to deny the Church the right of independently conducting its own affairs as a distinct territory alongside the State. The New Testament does not subject the Christian Church to the authority of the State that it should be governed by political measures, but to our Lord and King only as an independent territory alongside and altogether independent of the State, that it may be governed and edified by its office-bearers and with spiritual weapons only. Practically all Reformed Churches have repudiated the idea of the Established Church, and are advocating the autonomy of the churches and personal liberty of conscience in matters pertaining to the service of God.

"The Christian Reformed Church in America, being in full accord with this view, feels constrained to declare that it does not conceive of the office of the magistracy in this sense, that it be in duty bound to also exercise political authority in the sphere of religion, by establishing and maintaining a State Church, advancing and supporting the same as the one only true Church, and to oppose, to persecute and destroy by means of the sword all other Churches as being false religions; and to also declare that it does positively hold that, within its own secular sphere, the magistracy has a divine duty towards the first table of the Law as well as towards the second; and furthermore that both State and Church as institutions of God and Christ have mutual rights and duties appointed them from on high, and therefore have a very sacred reciprocal obligation to meet through the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. They may not, however, encroach upon each other's territory. The Church has rights of sovereignty as well as the State."

#### HEIDELBERG CATECHISM.

The committee supports all the changes proposed.

#### LITURGY.

The committee supports the proposed changes and additions, but suggests that "continuous" (p. 129, line 6) be substituted for "continual". The citation in the Marriage Form should read: Matt. 19:3-9.

FORM FOR THE INSTALLATION OF PROFESSORS  
OF THEOLOGY.

Page 131, line 16 - Omit "to", substitute "required" for "requested."

Page 131, line 25 - Substitute "Queen of Sciences" for "Regina Scientarium."

Page 131, line 37 - Substitute "special" for "prime."

Page 132, line 9 - Transfer "the Students" to the end of the line.

Page 132, line 11 - Substitute semi-colon for comma after "faith;" and also after "day," line 13.

Page 132, line 15 - Substitute "assist in maintaining" for "help to maintain."

Capitalize throughout "Word" when meaning "Bible;" and capitalize "Church" when meaning Church Universal.

FORMULA OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Line 1 ff. \* Should read: We, the undersigned, Professors of the Christian Reformed Church in America, Ministers of the Gospel, Elders and Deacons of the Christian Reformed Congregation of the Classis.....

Last line in third paragraph - Substitute "by the very fact" for "ipso facto."

John W. Brink  
Peter D. Van Vliet  
Albert E. Broene



SUPPLEMENT XIII.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INVESTIGATION AND  
INFORMATION CONCERNING IMPROVEMENT  
OF DUTCH PSALM SINGING  
(Of. Art. 52, XI.)

Honorable Fathers and Brethren:

At the last Synod the following instruction was submitted  
by Classis Iowa:

"Synod advise the consistories of our Dutch speaking congregations to make attempts to improve our psalm singing by introducing the new psalm book of Dr. Acquoy, where the original melodies, as they were sung in the days of Calvin, with long and short notes are restored.

Grounds:

1. Our psalm melodies have been restored to long and short notes, but in many instances they cannot be sung rhythmically, unless they are first brought in agreement with the rhythm of the words, which in the above noted publication is done.
2. If our Psalms are to obtain lasting appreciation in our country, then they must be sung as they were in the days of the Reformation. This change, provided that there is a return to the old times, can at the same time cooperate to prevent unreformed, false Americanization in our churches.
3. Many of the psalm melodies in the above noted edition have again gained in power and beauty, so that with eventually introducing the entire psalmody it can be used in our worship services.
4. In the above noted edition the oldfashioned keys B-duur and B-mol have been deleted and the current ones are used.

Synod decided to appoint a committee of three to investigate these psalms and discuss them in our periodicals for enlightenment of the Church public, and to report to the next Synod. This committee has the honor to present the following for your consideration:

It cannot be denied that our psalms originally were set to be sung with long and short notes. The

~~old rhyming of our psalms is a translation of the French psalms,~~  
retaining the same melodies. It is not surprising that the translation of Datheen that the meter of the words often clashed with the rhythm of the melody. This did not improve when in 1773 the new psalm rhyming was introduced.

Should it be possible to have the psalms sung with long and short notes, then the rhythm of the tunes must be made to agree with the rhythm of the words.

The psalm book of Acquoy for this is a meritorious attempt and in conformity with these restored melodies H. P. Steenhuis, the organist of the New church in Groningen has published a choral book. Moreover Dr. Acquoy has tested the sharps, which arbitrarily in the course of time were incorporated, and eliminated the same, and in our estimation has rightly broken with the obsolete B-mol and B-duur keys, as also the old fashioned note script. Whether with all these changes and improvements the psalms have gained in strength and beauty is a question of personal taste.

The elderly in our church will in all probability refuse to give their approval to trade the "long, uniform, dragging tune" for the more powerful, more inspirational, livelier psalm music.

On the other hand one must not be blind to the fact that among our young people the love for psalm singing is dying out.

Most surely this is partly due to the fact of the unfamiliarity of many with the words - under our youth the psalms are far too little memorized - though principally the cause for this cooling off for the Dutch psalms is to be found in the monotonous, dragging manner by which the songs of Zion in our Dutch speaking churches are sung. For their sakes it would also be desirable that the church would return to the original song methods.

It would be foolish to make this change without a period of preparation.

Yet the consistories could do one thing and another for this preparation.

First of all, they could provide that in catechism and Sunday School many psalms were learned; one could start with the beginners classes, and continuing regularly, our boys and girls of 13 and 14 years of age would have learned a comparatively large number.

Next the consistories could recommend that psalms learned by the children be sung with long and short notes, so that with the words the children also master the tunes.

So too it would be easy to prevail upon the members of the young men's and young women's societies to sing the psalms with long and short notes. Undoubtedly among the adults could be found those who are fond of singing to study the psalms with long and short notes with the intent of singing in four parts according to the setting of Steenhuis.

In order to attain this goal, it would be necessary as much as possible for all the churches to put their hands to the plow, and it would be a fine gesture on the part of Synod to send to the various congregations a zealous recommendation to do this.

The committee flatters itself - that if the upcoming generation is won for the original melodies of the psalms - after the course of a period of time the congregations of themselves will sing the psalms with long and short notes.

Therefore the committee takes the liberty to present the following recommendation to Synod:

- Synod, having heard the report of the committee;  
recognizing that for a long time there has been a need for the improvement of the singing of the psalms;  
considering that there is a cooling off by our youth more and more with joining in singing the psalms;  
is of the opinion that the monotonous and dragging manner, in which the psalms have been sung for a long period of time, is one of the main reasons why the fondness for them flags and disappears;  
considering that it would be advisable to prepare our congregations for the return to the original melodies of the psalms;
- a. to promote the love of the Dutch psalms among our youth in our Dutch speaking congregations;
  - b. to prevent unnecessary offence among the elderly in the congregation;

Decides strongly to advise the consistories to provide in the catechism classes and in Sunday School the memorization of more psalm verses than formerly, and by means of repetition that which has been memorized shall be retained by the children;

That in the catechism classes and the Sunday School the psalms that have been memorized be sung according to the setting of Steenhuis according to long and short notes;

That our young people of the congregation be roused to the singing of the psalms with long and short notes, that the organization of choral societies be encouraged, which will especially emphasize the singing of the psalms with long and short notes in accordance with Steenhuis.

That one of the brethren be appointed, who, at various times will write a short article in De Wachter.

Humbly submitted,

The Committee,

H. Vander Werp

H. Jurgens

J. A. Kett, secretary

SUPPLEMENT XIV.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE WITH RESPECT TO MANUALS  
AND METHODS IN CATECHIZING.

(Art. 57, XVII.)

Esteemed Brethren:

Your committee for preparation <sup>of</sup> a more and better system, both with respect to manuals and methods with the respect to catechizing, <sup>(Acts 1910, Art. 17, VI)</sup>, has the honor and the satisfaction to report the followings:

The necessity and the great importance of Catechetical instruction for the spiritual welfare of the Church would among us surely suffer no opposition. But we should to be blind not to perceive the danger that threatens the catechism. We live in a land where it is not popular for the official instruction of the doctrinal truths of the youth of the Church. With respect to catechetical instruction we as a Church are beginning to stand alone in the religious world in America. And in place of the provoking to jealousy of other Churches, to imitate us, we evidently are running into the danger of coming under the influence of others, following them, and losing that which we have.

It is therefore necessary that we maintain our position and as much as possible strengthen it. But, if this is to take place, then there must be more unity and cooperation both in the use of manuals and following the best method in catechizing.

I.

Concerning the manuals it is to be remarked there are an overabundance in use. In many congregations the choice of manuals is left up to the teacher, who, according to his particular aptitude and desire chooses out of the number or composes his own manual, and distributes the same. And without calling in question the good intent, we nevertheless believe that this freedom does not lead to unity and strengthening, but to confusion and weakening of catechetical instruction.

Even as we are bound in preaching the doctrinal truths to one Catechism, so that there may be unity in confession

and life in our churches, thus there should be unity in the use of manuals for catechetical instruction, which prepare our youth for confession and life in the Church.

It is therefore necessary that a change take place and that we bind ourselves to the use of a series of manuals as designated by Synod.

The following reasons are valid for this:

1. This avoiding the preference or the arbitrary choice of the individual catechist.
2. In this way stability is given in instruction. According to the present rule (i.e. lack of a rule), there is danger by the continual change of ministers in a congregation there is also a change of manuals to the confusion and harm of the catechumens.
3. With a series of manuals the unity of confession and life is promoted for the entire denomination.

## II.

With respect to the choice of manuals, your committee believes it can advise with respect to four.

1. For children up to their thirteenth or fourteenth years: Borstius, Dyksterhuis and Donners Brief Instruction in Bible History. (For catechism classes in the English language: Borstius' Primer of Bible Truths, Sacred History for Juniors and Sacred History for Seniors, composed by Revs. H. Beets and M. J. Bosma.) Without wanting to deny that there are here and there weaknesses in these manuals, it can also be said that they have attained citizenship in our churches because by far the greater majority of our churches use these manuals of Bible History.

2. For instruction in doctrine your committee believes the most fitting is "The Compendium of the Christian Religion." (For catechetical classes in English "The Compendium of the Christian Religion Enlarged," by Revs. H. Beets and M. J. Bosma.) Although the Heidelberg Catechism is valued above the Compendium because it is more complete and because the Heidelberg Catechism belongs to our Confessions, and the Compendium does not.

But since it has been shown here as well as in the Netherlands, that for

by far the most catechumens, many and the most important answers in the Catechism are too long and too involved in order to be memorized. And concerning the objection with respect to the incompleteness of the Compendium to a great extent disappears with the addition of an Appendix concerning the Law which is taken up in the latest edition of the Compendium, adequately considers the matter of Gratitude, so that this third section comes to its right. The choice of the Compendium above that of Hellenbroek and Donner and others, because of its brevity, and its solid and practical tenor, because it adapts itself to the weekly preaching on the Catechism.

(Naturally this limitation with respect to the use of the Compendium pertains only to the customary catechism classes for the youth, who wish to make confession of faith and prepare themselves for partaking of Holy Communion; and not for the so-called free catechism classes for those who desire more extensive instruction in doctrinal truths.)

### III.

With respect to a larger and better method of catechizing, it should first of all be noted;

a. With respect to the method of instruction so much depends on the competent and faithful efforts of the catechist. He especially is the one, who through tact and regular, serious preparation is a means of causing catechetical instruction to flourish, or by means of clumsiness and indolence causes catechetical instruction to deteriorate. Prescriptions for the best system and the most excellent method according to the demands of catechesis will never make a good catechist, who lacks tact and devotion. Not enough emphasis can be placed upon the necessity of faithful preparation of the catechist for every lesson, which he shall discuss with his catechumens.

b. Yet system and method may not be considered as matters of little concern. Content and form are too much dependent upon one another, than that the one should suffer damage because of the neglect of the other. It is even to be feared that many will find catechetical instruction to be boring and distasteful because of the monotonous and dull manner in which instruction is given year in and year out.

c. It is not appropriate to give the same rule everywhere for all catechism classes,

because circumstances are often so different in the various congregations.

d. Although Synod cannot present a complete system for all the catechism classes with binding authority, it can recommend the following to the attention of the consistories. As aids which have reference to the method, and, in our estimation, to be considered as sound and orderly instruction in the catechetical classes, we mention the following as worthy of consideration:

1. In every catechism room large, plain wall maps be displayed fitting for the instruction of Bible history.

2. Blackboards on which are written remarks, sketches, and questions which are to be written out, answered, etc. by the catechumens.

3. School benches with desks, suitable for the catechumens to write down what the catechist places on the blackboard.

4. A specific order in which the catechumens are passed from one grade to another as determined by the catechist, even as the graded system in the elementary schools. In some catechism classes the catechumens arbitrarily transfer from one class to another, without taking into consideration the progress they have made. And the result is that many cannot enjoy the fruit of the instruction in such a class, and that the class as a whole suffers in its progressive development. All this can be prevented when the catechist establishes and regulates the advancement of a catechumen, according to progress and qualification, from one class to another.

5. Written work for the catechumens. It is above all to be recommended that the questions, which the catechist before time has taken from the lesson and placed on the blackboard, be answered in writing by the catechumens. This compels the catechumens not only to learn the answers to the questions in the Manual, but also become informed as to the content of the lesson, and to study the Bible or to study the explanations in the Compendium and the Catechism which will be dealt with orally.

6. Keeping the roll of those present and absent, and the reason for absences.

7. Noting the conduct and the work regularly of the catechumens by the catechist.

8. Correspondence with the parents in the event of repeated



absences or unsatisfactory work or disorderly conduct of the catechumens. This correspondence will take into consideration the responsibility of the parents for their children and urge the parents earnestly to cooperate with the catechist.

9. A regular written report to the parents by means of a report card. These report cards to be send to the parents every month or every two months for their perusal and with their signature to be returned, and at the end of the season or of the entire catechetical curriculum to give the catechumens a diploma, if so desired.

To be reported on the report cards are the total number of times present and the number of absences, a brief indication of the work, effort, and conduct of the catechumen.

By this means especially a closer relationship between catechetical instruction and the parents is promoted. Many times there are complaints, and often justifiably that the parents show little concern of what is taught their children in the catechism classes, while they as parents by means of assent with their "yes" at the time of baptism with respect to their seed, in the first place, are the responsible persons with this important part in their nurture. However, with regular and accurate report the parents are forced to take notice of the growth and cultivation of their seed, who belong to the Lord and are called to his service.

Humbly submitted,

Your Committee,

P. Jonker  
M. J. Bosma  
P. J. Hoekenga  
H. Vander Werp  
H. Keegstra

SUPPLEMENT XV.

REPORT PERTAINING TO SOUTH AMERICA.

( Art. 28, 11.)

Honorable Fathers and Brethren:

The deputies for South America, with thanks to the Lord, place on the table of Synod the following reports concerning its work, along with some advice for the future.

They met five times to deliberate. They also corresponded with the deputies in the Netherlands, with the consistories of Buenos Aires and Tres Arroyos, with the brethren at Rosario, etc. And they have, according to the decision of Synod, recommended a collection for the construction of church buildings. This recommendation has taken place by means of certain short articles in De Wachter and by means of oral and written information from Dr. Van Lonkhuizen.

The collection for buildings amounted to \$2,011.19, as well as special gifts for the spread of De Wachter and other reading material, and for traveling expenses of Dr. van Lonkhuizen, \$240.11. To which must be added the Synodical approval of subsidy for the minister's salary from the General Domestic Mission Fund, \$600.00. Total - \$2,851.30.

The following disbursements were made:

|                                      |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|
| Church Building in Buenos Aires      | \$ 700.00  |
| Subsidy in Buenos Aires              | 600.00     |
| Subsidy in Tres Arroyos              | 500.00     |
| Travel and Books, Dr. Van Lonkhuizen | 216.11     |
| Total                                | \$2,096.61 |

This leaves a balance of \$754.69, of which the deputies thought to give \$700.00 for a church building at Tres Arroyos, as soon as the ecclesiastical situation there makes it advisable.

Both consistories and various brethren in the dispersion have repeatedly requested that their thanks be extended to Synod and the entire Church for the help given, and by this we do the same.

In Buenos Aires things are going extremely well for the congregation and the Christian School. Approximately a year and a half ago Mr. A. C. Sonneveldt began his work as principal of the

Christian School; and a few months later he was also called and ordained as shepherd and minister of the congregation. At the opening of the school sixteen pupils were enrolled, and the year ended with forty-two. This school annually receives \$900.00 from the Dutch government and also generous gifts from the well-to-do Hollanders in Buenos Aires (600.00 the first year), so that an Argentine Christian girl could be engaged as teacher in the Spanish courses, and the year ended with a balance. The congregation also is making progress under the labors of our good and much beloved brother in the ministry, Rev. Sonneveldt. The attendance is continually increasing, and the pastor continues to labor with increasing zeal by means of preaching, family visiting, and catechetical instruction, by means of Christian instruction in courses of Spanish and Dutch, through Spanish and Dutch Sunday Schools, through young people's societies and singing schools, through the distribution of De Wachter, as well as its own periodical, The Dutch Voice, etc. The congregation rented a suitable home for the minister, and next to it built a cheap but suitable church building, divided into two rooms, in order to have two rooms for the Christian School. The seating capacity is 250, and the cost is about \$1,400.00. As Aaron and Hur supported the arms of Moses, so our young brother over there has faithful and zealous co-workers. Three of the older brothers conduct the Dutch Sunday Schools, and young men from the Spanish Bible Class conduct the Spanish Sunday Schools. Moreover, there is a Dutch book dealer who sells nothing but Christian literature. Yes, if this congregation so continues, it will soon be self supporting.

In Tres Arroyos the good work has not yet progressed so far. Rev. A. Rolloos has now worked there 8 months, and serves in the capacity of minister in the congregation and teacher in the Christian School; both church and school are small, and they have to wrestle with difficulties. In the winter the number attending the school are from 8 to 10, and in the summer, when the city school has vacation, the number increases from 20 to 40. It has not yet a complete course of study in two languages, and does not yet receive financial support from the Dutch government. Efforts are being made to obtain such. The congregation also has difficulty in making a good start. The minister preaches twice each Sunday for about 20 people; he catechizes both old and young, to all who show interest; he maintains Sunday School and day school; yet no matter how much work is performed, the Spirit has not yet powered the wheels in such a measure that the congregation and the minister thereby are visibly

strengthened or encouraged. There are even times when the minister becomes depressed, and experiences a desire to return to the fatherland. But with God's help and by means of brotherly cooperation, these difficulties can be overcome and turned for good. Your deputies are thus of the opinion that our brother there must not leave his post; but in all simplicity and modesty to continue to work, experiencing his dependence not only on God, but also the cooperation of the brothers and sisters, and, where necessary, and also that he be ready to be enlightened and even led by them. One alone cannot accomplish much, and many hands make light work. Where God sends his servants, he will also give co-workers; and whoever seeks them shall find them.

This congregation owns no buildings; but the buildings that they rent are for sale, and evidently will be bought, as soon as there is some progress in congregational life. In this case the deputies have granted \$700.00, as well as to Buenos Aires. But regardless of this, for at least two years the congregation will need \$400.00 for the minister's salary.

In the third place, Rosario has been helped to an extent, where still 30 people regularly meet together, almost all of whom belonged to the congregation of Rev. Struis, and who now urgently request support, and who also express the desire to be organized as a congregation. The deputies are eager to help these brothers and sisters, so that as soon as possible they may obtain their own shepherd and minister.

Further your deputies inform you that 42 copies of De Wachter are sent to South America gratis. One reader in Argentina suggested that an agent be appointed to collect from those who are willing to give something. This was granted, with the understanding, that from no one payment may be demanded, and that money received can be used for the traveling expenses of the minister as he serves the colonies. The agent appointed is Senor F. Bening, Dean Funes 453, Avellaneda, Buenos Aires.

Concerning the question of the consistory of Buenos Aires with respect to the baptism of the dispersed believers, your deputies advise that such families be enrolled in the closest neighboring congregation, and that by means of the consistory of this congregation as much as possible this field be worked or, if needs be, by means of a committee of the con-

sistory be appointed to examine those desiring to make confession of faith, administer the Word and the Sacraments, etc.

The deputies of the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands have recently sent notice that at the last General Synod they were re-appointed and empowered in consultation with the deputies of the Christian Reformed Church in America to promote the spiritual concerns of the Dutch colonists in Argentina.

1. By requesting all the churches of the Gereformeerde Kerken at the behest of the General Synod to take a collection for the brethren in Argentina.

2. To serve the Argentine colonies with advice as much as is necessary.

3. In accordance with the request of the Argentine churches to create a closer relationship between them and the churches in the Netherlands.

In accordance with this your deputies advise that this Synod again appoint deputies, and give them a mandate that conform with that of the Netherlands. This mandate would release the General Fund for Domestic Missions for granting further subsidies for South America, and give the deputies the power to request a collection for South America in consultation with the Netherlands' deputies, for subsidies, church building, and evangelization. It is going to be difficult for Synod to determine two years ahead of time concerning subsidies for Buenos Aires, the purchase of buildings in Tres Arroyos, the organization of a congregation in Rosario, and if the work there should be begun as in Buenos Aires with a Christian School principal, or as in Tres Arroyos by calling a minister, etc.

Since the leaving of Rev. De Jong, Dr. Van Lonkhuizen served the deputies as advisor.

The Deputies ad hoc,

J. Groen, President

J. Wyngaarden, Secretary-Treasurer

SUPPLEMENT XVI.

REPORT CONCERNING THE FURTHER EXPANSION  
OF OUR MISSION WORK AMONG THE NAVAHOES.

(Art. 25, I, 6.)

To the Deputies of Heathen Missions of the Christian Reformed Church.

Esteemed Brethren:

Your committee consisting of three missionary ministers of the Word among the Indians has the honor to submit the following report as a result of investigation and deliberation concerning further work to a solution of the questions: "How shall we further expand our work among the Navaho Indians?"

In order to gain a clearer conception of the matter that follows, it will be of importance to know that the Navaho Indians resort under various jurisdictions as follows:

1. A small group under the Agent at Albuquerque, completely separated from the large reservation. The number is just over 200 souls.
2. The Pueblo Bonito Agency (agency Crown Point), comprising the eastern section of the Reservation and all the Indians whose allotments to an extent lie east of the Reservation proper. The Agency extends far to the south of the Santa Fe R. R. to the San Juan River.
3. The Navaho Agency (Headquarters at Fort Defiance). This Agency extends from the Pueblo Bonito Agency westward to the Hopi Reservation and northwards to the vicinity of Two Grey Hills.
4. The San Juan Agency (Headquarters at Ship Rock). This Agency lies to the north of the Navaho Agency, northwards to the Reservation line.
5. The Hopi Agency (Headquarters at Kean's Canyon). Under the Agency are all the Hopi Indians, but over half of the reservation is inhabited by the Navahos, so that they with the Hopis are under one Agent. There is talk of forming a new jurisdiction, so that the Navahos can be supervised separately; this will then be the "Black Mountain Agency."

Map of the Indian Mission Field in New Mexico and Arizona.

6. The Western Navaho Agency (Headquarters Tuba). This section stretches from the Hopi Agency to the Grand Canyon, and northward into Utah.

7. The Navaho Extension Agency (Headquarters Leupp). This lies to the south of the Hopi Agency.

It is estimated that the total number of Navaho Indians is 30,000. There are some Navaho Indians that live a long distance from the reservation; all those who live close to the Reservation have received their allotments from the Government; especially south and east from the Reservation a large number of Navahoes are spread among the Mexicans; even far to the south of Zuni.

Among the first named band no mission work has ever been undertaken, because it is a small group and isolated. The chief of these Indians visited our missionary at Tohatchi and said that he would gladly see a protestant missionary work among his people. It would probably be feasible for one of our missionaries to visit there and stay a couple of months.

At the Pueblo Bonito Agency no mission work has been performed up to this time except for the Methodists for a short time at Canyon Blanco. This post was discontinued because of lack of interest and funds.

At the present there is a worker from the National Indian Association, whose policy is to continue the work at such a post until another church is ready to take over the work. We would strongly advise that our Church take over this work, since it is a strategic location for work, and that shortly a government school will be built at a distance of 20 miles. Both of these places could then be placed under one missionary. Thus a mission post at Canyon Blanco.

We further recommend Crown Point, where this summer a school will be built, and where there is an abundance of work. We have visited this place, and have chosen a beautiful location for mission work.

Further we would strongly recommend that our Church begin a mission day school 16 miles south of Crown Point and 9 miles north of the Railroad at Smith's Lake. We further think that between Crown Point and Canyon Blanco in the vicinity of Pueblo Alto at the least a help station be established. With these four posts we would occupy the entire jurisdiction.

Thus on the Pueblo Agency a missionary at Canyon



Blanco, a missionary at Crown Point, a dayschool at Smith's Lake, and a sub-station at Pueblo Alto.

2. On the Navaho Reservation. Our Church carries on work at Rehoboth and Tohatchi, both in New Mexico; and the Presbyterians at Fort Defiance and Ganado, both in Arizona. At Fort Defiance this Church has done nothing of great significance, but at Ganado there is a flourishing mission post.

First of all, we would like to see our Board make attempts to regain Fort Defiance, especially since the missionary working there is soon leaving, and a newcomer will have to take his place.

Further, we would advise our Church to establish a mission post at Manuelito, about 25 miles west of Rehoboth on the Santa Fe Railroad. This place lies in a well populated neighborhood, north as well as south, and has never been worked by missionaries except for sporadic attempts by the Romans. The Indians there are the owners of their own land.

If the Presbyterian Church is unwilling to give us Fort Defiance, we would advise that a mission post be established between Fort Defiance and Two Grey Hills at a place called Crystal, since many Indians live in this area, eastward in New Mexico and westward in Arizona. There can be no objection from the Presbyterians, since their missionary at Fort Defiance also works among the Navahoes in New Mexico. If, however, they want to transfer Fort Defiance to us, then we would not strongly advise to work at Crystal for the time being.

Thus at the Navaho Agency two more mission posts, Manuelito and Crystal (or Fort Defiance, if we can get that place.) If we get Fort Defiance then the way is opened for further expansion in Arizona.

3. At the San Juan Agency. Here there are two mission posts; our post at Two Grey Hills, and the Presbyterian Mission at Liberty; they also have a substation at Tiesmaspans, which lies close to the Carrizo Mountains in Arizona. A layworker labors here. We would gladly like to see an ordained missionary at Two Grey Hills as soon as possible, so that the work there can be performed as it should; further, we would advise that a mission post be established at Beautiful Mountain, about halfway between Two Grey Hills and Shiprock.

With respect to this place we have corresponded with the Presbyterians, while they asked whether we had intentions with respect to this place; and we have promised after the forthcoming

Synodical Assembly to give them an answer concerning this. It is becoming time that we begin here, if we want to expand our work. Thus at the San Juan Agency Two Grey Hills and Beautiful Mountain.

On the map one will note that only the north-east corner of New Mexico the Navahoes would be under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterians. If the Presbyterians would place us before the choice of the mission post at Fort Defiance and that of Liberty, we would strongly advise to take Liberty, as far as the surroundings are concerned, the future, and the work at the Shiprock school with its 200 students, where there is no opposition from the Romans. On this reservation there are no Romans.

At Tiesnaspans no mission post has been established, the worker there lives in a tent. Hence there is nothing to buy there, and with the purchase of the mission post at Liberty, this work undoubtedly falls into our hands., and this would promote the further expansion of our work in Arizona. Liberty lies on the San Juan River, not far from Shiprock; there is a need of one or two mission posts in Arizona.

4. On the Hopi Agency a missionary of the Baptists is at Keam's Canyon, who principally works among the Hopi's. Navahoes in this Agency are to all intents not labored with. Here also there should be two posts.

5. On the Western Navaho Agency the Presbyterians have only one mission post; at Tuba, only a plot with house and barn. The missionary there is a man of sterling character and long experience. Also on this reservation there should be two mission posts.

6. On the Navaho Extension the Mission to the Navaho Indians does the work, which is an independent work, and has established itself just about completely. While the Hopi Reservation lies between the Extension and the main body of the Navaho Reservation, they are to all intents and purposes isolated from the main body.

In short resume:

On the Pueblo Bonito Agency there are no mission stations, but in our estimation there should be two principal mission stations and two substations. On our (New Mexico) side of the Navaho Agency there are two stations, and there should be four.

On our side of the San Juan Agency there are two stations, and there should be three.

On the Arizona side of the Navaho Agency there are two stations (Presbyterian), there should be at least five stations.

On the Arizona side of the San Juan Agency there should be two stations.

On the Hopi Agency there are no stations for the Navahoes, and there should be two stations.

On the Western Navaho Agency there is a station (Presbyteian), and there should be two more stations.

The Extension is occupied.

Thus, if the idea of some of us, that our Church should assume the responsibility for the entire Reservation, and this became an actuality, then we would have to occupy 21 mission posts as main stations, excluding the Navaho Extension.

This idea has much that is attractive, and it certainly would be a wonderful ideal, if the entire tribe would be under the jurisdiction of one denomination, and therewith in the first instance the purchase of only 4 mission posts would be necessary, namely, Liberty, New Mexico, Fort Defiance, Ganado, and Tuba, Arizona. If this should be done, it should be done at once, and with respect to the other posts this could be taken care of slowly on. We do not believe that this plan belongs to the realm of impossibilities, while each of our Classes, with a couple of exceptions, could easily support one or two missionaries.

With the increasing expansion of the training school at Tohatchi native workers could be trained for all these posts; and the ideal should ever be kept before us that ultimately the entire Navaho church would be served by native workers. For the immediate future, however, there is a need for a number of missionaries, who are willing to labor among the Navahoes.

If this plan is too broad in scope, then we would nevertheless recommend that measures be taken to obtain jurisdiction by our Church over the Navahoes in New Mexico; herewith only the mission post at Liberty would have to be purchased from the Presbyterians, and the manning of the following stations: Liberty, Beautiful Mountain, Two Grey Hills, Crystal, Tohatchi, Manuelito, Rehoboth, Crown Point, and Blanco Canyon. Thus nine main stations.

And two sub-stations: Smith's Lake and Pueblo Alto.

In course of time the sub-stations will increase, and some of them elevated to main-stations. When under

the blessing of God these prospective stations become congregations, we shall have a splendid Classis in the midst of the Navahoes.

The committee after having made further investigation will make individual reports concerning each of the places mentioned. Thus far time would not allow us to make a close inspection of these places. Only by sacrificing our regular work, which is also eminently necessary, can we do everything that should be done. Also concerning this matter no definite instructions were given us by the deputies.

It should be noted that among the Navahoes the Roman Catholics have two mission posts, one at St. Michael's, Arizona, and one at Chinlee, Arizona; both posts of the Navaho Agency. None on the other Agencies.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard P. Brink

Jan W. Brink

Herman Fryling

The Committee ad hoc.