

**ACTS** of

**SYNOD 1960**

of the **Christian  
Reformed  
Church**

**CHRISTIAN REFORMED PUBLISHING HOUSE**

2850 Kalamazoo Avenue

Grand Rapids 8, Michigan, U.S.A.

# **ACTS OF SYNOD 1960**

***June 8 to  
June 21, 1960***

**At Calvin College Auditorium  
Grand Rapids, Michigan, U.S.A.**



**Christian Reformed Publishing House**  
2850 Kalamazoo Avenue, S.E., Grand Rapids 8, Michigan, U.S.A.

# Synodical Prayer Service

**Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church**

**Grand Rapids, Michigan**

**REV. EDWARD HEEREMA, Pastor**

**Tuesday, June 7, 1960, 7:45 P.M.**

PRELUDE — *Menuet and Prière* - - - - - Boellmann

INTROIT — *Let Mount Zion Rejoice* - - - - - Herbert

CALL TO WORSHIP

SILENT PRAYER AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

VOTUM AND SALUTATION — (*Congregation standing*)

PSALTER HYMNAL No. 196:1-4 — (*Congregation standing*)

APOSTLES' CREED — (*in unison, Congregation standing*)

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER

PSALTER HYMNAL No. 266 — (*Congregation standing*)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY — *We Pray Now to the Holy Spirit* - - arr. Buxtehude  
(Offering for the American Calvinistic Fellowship)

ANTHEM — *How Beautiful Upon the Mountains* - - - - Harker

SCRIPTURE READING — *Revelation 2:1-7*

SERMON — *HEARING THE VOICE OF THE SPIRIT*

PRAYER FOR SYNOD

PRAYER RESPONSE — *Spirit Divine* - - - - - Edwards

PSALTER HYMNAL No. 385 — (*Congregation standing*)

DOXOLOGY — *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE — *Toccata* - - - - - Boellmann

*At the console: Mrs. Gilbert Vanden Berg*

# ACTS OF SYNOD

of the

## CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

### Grand Rapids, Michigan

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 8, 1960

First Session

#### ARTICLE 1

Rev. Edward Heerema, minister of the convening church, Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, calls the Synod to order. Synod sings No. 402 from the New Psalter Hymnal, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken."

Rev. Heerema reads John 14:1-17 and leads in the "Opening Prayer for Ecclesiastical Assemblies."

#### ARTICLE 2

Rev. Heerema welcomes the delegates to Synod and addresses Synod as follows:

*Esteemed Delegates to the Synod of 1960, Fraternal Delegates of Sister Churches and Corresponding Churches, Advisers and Friends:*

In the name of the Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church I bid you a most hearty welcome to this center of Calvinistic church life in North America and to the sessions of the Synod of 1960.

For those who are delegates to Synod for the first time this is a moment filled with high expectation and resolve. Even for those who are veterans in the service of the church the opening of a new Synod is always marked by some measure of excitement and anticipation. This is true in the first place because a very great responsibility has been entrusted to you by the church we all love and serve. Then too the interplay of the 120 and more personalities that make up this Synod can't fail to prove interesting and stimulating.

Furthermore, the tone of expectancy is set by the subjects that await your earnest consideration. It seems that every Synod has important matters to deal with. The Agenda for last year's Synod had more than a hundred pages of content more than the Agenda for this Synod. But that quantitative difference surely doesn't carry with it the suggestion that you have little work to do. Matters of far-reaching import for our church are yours to consider. You are to make a decision on adopting tentatively a part of the new proposed Church Order. You must decide on the proposal to have a new Department of Education. You face the question: shall our church have a World-Wide Service Committee to act for our denominational Deacons' Conferences to broaden and intensify our church's ministry of mercy? The troublesome question of just how to conduct the examination of candidates must be settled. And a decision must be reached on Particular



or Regional Synods. Will the Synod of 1960 settle this matter? And then you face a serious question with regard to the TCNN once more. Shall this Synod go beyond the specific limitations on our participation in this venture that were plainly set by the Synod of 1959 after long and intensive debate?

Surely each of you realizes the gravity of all these and other matters that are to come before you. There is still another factor that adds to this gravity. There is a very real kind of ecumenicity at work when Synod is in session. This is what I mean. Christians of like precious faith are watching you. The Christian Reformed Church is known as a bastion of the Reformed Faith in its orthodox creedal expression. What you do with that faith is a matter of great concern to these our brethren in Christ. What you do here can gladden their hearts and give them courage. Or, what you do here (God forbid!) may bring them sorrow and discouragement.

May God so qualify you for your task that what you do here may be for great blessing in the Christian Reformed Church. May your manner of dealing with the issues before you be such that our brethren in many places may praise God and take courage. May God's Spirit so direct you and inspire you that when your task is done you may have the comforting assurance in your soul that you listened to the voice of that Holy Spirit. Yes, may you with peace in your soul be able to say, "It seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us."

Edward Heerema

### ARTICLE 3

The credentials are presented and the roll call reveals the following delegates present:

#### Classis Alberta North

Ministers .....	Rev. N. B. Knoppers	Elders.....	Mr. J. Gort
	Rev. G. H. Vande Riet		Mr. H. J. Ten Hove

#### Classis Alberta South

Ministers .....	Rev. T. E. Hofman	Elders.....	Mr. G. Timmermans
	Rev. A. H. Selles		Mr. S. Vanden Berg

#### Classis British Columbia

Ministers .....	Rev. L. Tamminga	Elders.....	Mr. G. Ingwersen
	Rev. J. Hoogland		Mr. A. De Jong

#### Classis Cadillac

Ministers .....	Rev. F. Einfeld	Elders.....	Dr. M. Posthuma
	Rev. H. Zwaanstra		Mr. J. Jager

#### Classis California

Ministers .....	Rev. H. Radius	Elders.....	Mr. G. Hannink
	Dr. W. H. Rutgers		Mr. R. Vanderby

#### Classis Chatham

Ministers .....	Rev. A. B. C. Hofland	Elders.....	Mr. J. Joosse, Sr.
	Rev. G. Bouma		Mr. E. Ennema

#### Classis Chicago North

Ministers .....	Rev. H. N. Erffmeyer	Elders.....	Mr. J. K. Dykstra
	Rev. A. H. De Kruyter		Mr. J. R. Swierenga

#### Classis Chicago South

Ministers .....	Rev. J. Malestein	Elders.....	Mr. J. H. Korschof
	Rev. T. Van Eerden		Mr. H. Hoekstra

**Classis Eastern Ontario**

Ministers .....	Rev. J. Van Harmelen	Elders.....	Mr. J. Rekker
	Rev. K. Hart		Mr. C. C. Benckhuysen

**Classis Grand Rapids East**

Ministers .....	Rev. G. Gritter	Elders.....	Mr. W. De Lange
	Rev. N. Veltman		Mr. J. LaGrand

**Classis Grand Rapids South**

Ministers .....	Rev. D. Hoitenga	Elders.....	Mr. H. Brinks
	Rev. J. F. Schuurmann		Mr. S. Sterk

**Classis Grand Rapids West**

Ministers .....	Rev. R. Rienstra	Elders.....	Mr. S. Geisel
	Rev. P. F. Holtrop		Mr. B. Breuker

**Classis Grandville**

Ministers .....	Rev. M. Arnoys	Elders.....	Mr. J. Warners
	Rev. F. Van Houten		Mr. A. Gritter

**Classis Hackensack**

Ministers .....	Rev. W. Van Antwerpen	Elders.....	Dr. P. Berkhout
	Rev. M. Baarman		Mr. J. Ykema

**Classis Hamilton**

Ministers .....	Rev. A. W. Schaafsma	Elders.....	Mr. D. Wesseling
	Rev. T. C. Van Kooten		Mr. J. Colenbrander

**Classis Holland**

Ministers .....	Rev. H. G. Vander Ark	Elders.....	Mr. E. Vanden Brink
	Rev. W. P. Brink		Mr. H. J. Kuiper

**Classis Hudson**

Ministers .....	Rev. N. Vander Zee	Elders.....	Mr. J. W. Kuipers
	Rev. S. H. Rooy		Mr. M. Ten Hoeve

**Classis Kalamazoo**

Ministers .....	Rev. W. Vander Haak	Elders.....	Mr. N. Moll
	Rev. T. Yff		Mr. H. J. Vander Ground

**Classis Minnesota North**

Ministers .....	Rev. E. L. Shuart	Elders.....	Mr. R. A. Kromminga
	Rev. R. Haan		Dr. F. Westendorp

**Classis Minnesota South**

Ministers .....	Rev. H. Van Wyk	Elders.....	Mr. Egbert Meyer
	Rev. J. Groenewold		Mr. Peter Bouma

**Classis Muskegon**

Ministers .....	Rev. J. Petersen	Elders.....	Mr. R. Hoeker
	Rev. C. Wm. Flietstra		Mr. P. Mulder

**Classis North Central Iowa**

Ministers .....	Rev. J. De Vries	Elders.....	Mr. H. Pommer
	Rev. H. Bode		Mr. J. Betten

**Classis Orange City**

Ministers .....	Rev. C. Vander Ark	Elders.....	Mr. R. J. Dykstra
	Rev. A. Hannink		Mr. H. Netten

**Classis Pacific**

Ministers ..... Rev. J. Griffioen  
 Rev. J. Hekman

Elders..... Mr. E. Kok  
 Mr. J. Kruick

**Classis Pella**

Ministers ..... Rev. L. Van Laar  
 Rev. J. H. Olthoff

Elders..... Mr. W. L. Wanders  
 Mr. J. Bruxvoort

**Classis Rocky Mountain**

Ministers ..... Rev. B. N. Huizenga  
 Rev. R. B. Vermeer

Elders..... Mr. J. Den Bleyker  
 Mr. H. Hoogstrate

**Classis Sioux Center**

Ministers ..... Rev. B. J. Haan  
 Rev. H. Petersen

Elders..... Mr. H. Snieders  
 Mr. C. Kooima

**Classis Toronto**

Ministers ..... Rev. J. Geuzebroek  
 Rev. F. Guillaume

Elders..... Mr. S. C. Waterdrinker  
 Mr. R. Heensbergen

**Classis Wisconsin**

Ministers ..... Rev. R. Opperwall  
 Rev. P. Vander Weide

Elders..... Mr. G. Eisenga  
 Mr. J. F. Van Someren

**Classis Zeeland**

Ministers ..... Rev. A. E. Rozendal  
 Rev. E. H. Oostendorp

Elders..... Mr. H. A. Smit  
 Mr. H. Van Regen-  
 morter

**ARTICLE 4**

Rev. Heerema declares Synod constituted and the following officers are elected:

*President:* Rev. T. C. Van Kooten of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

*Vice President:* Dr. W. H. Rutgers of Bellflower, California

*First Clerk:* Rev. George Gritter of Grand Rapids, Michigan

*Second Clerk:* Rev. W. P. Brink of Holland, Michigan

**ARTICLE 5**

Rev. Heerema introduces the chosen officers to Synod. President, Rev. T. C. Van Kooten responds as follows:

In the name of Synod, I wish to thank you, Rev. Heerema, for the good words you spoke to us last evening. Very appropriately you directed us to attend to the voice of the Spirit. It is our desire and prayer that we may do exactly that in all our work at Synod.

And you, fellow delegates, I want to thank you for the confidence and favor shown toward me. I also want to thank you for the very competent assistance you have given me in these fellow officers.

It is indeed a humbling experience to be selected for this responsible work. It makes one feel small alongside the task to perform. That is true in view of the work itself, which is demanding and exacting. But that would be true of any piece of work of this kind. One is humbled much more when he realizes that this task concerns the church — the very body of Christ. We marvel that God uses men like us to build His church. May we all be deeply conscious of this our high calling in all our work at Synod. May our deliberations never degenerate merely to the day of business.

Let us be much in prayer for the Lord's much-needed direction. This refers not only to our formal prayers, but also to a silent looking up to the Lord while we are at our work. We think of Nehemiah when he was questioned by the king about the well-being of Israel. While he spoke to the king he prayed to the Lord (Nehemiah 2:4-5). May each of us do the same as we carry on the work of Synod.

The President now proceeds to welcome the advisory members of the Synod, the Seminary Faculty, both active and retired, and the President of the College. He also welcomes the Stated Clerk, representatives of boards, the editors of *The Banner* and *De Wachter*, and the *Grand Rapids Press*. He addresses a special word of welcome to Dr. H. Mulder, pastor of the Gereformeerde Kerk at Delft, who will represent the "Gereformeerde Kerken" of the Netherlands.

#### ARTICLE 6

The President requests the First Clerk to read the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Forms of Unity" and the delegates express their agreement by arising and saying, "Amen."

#### ARTICLE 7

A Program Committee is appointed consisting of the officers of Synod, and Revs. T. E. Hofman, H. Zwaanstra, A. B. C. Hofland, J. Malestein, D. Hoitenga, R. Rienstra, W. Van Antwerpen, S. H. Rooy, T. Yff, J. Petersen, H. Bode, L. Van Laar, R. B. Vermeer, J. Geuzebroek; and Elders H. F. Ten Hove, A. De Jong, J. R. Swierenga, C. C. Benckhuysen, J. Warners, H. J. Kuiper, F. Westendorp, E. Meyer, R. J. Dykstra, E. Kok, H. Snieders, G. Eisenga, and H. A. Smit.

#### ARTICLE 8

Synod adjourns to reconvene at 4 p.m. The First Clerk leads in closing prayer.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 8, 1960

#### Second Session

#### ARTICLE 9

Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 95, and the Vice President leads in prayer.

#### ARTICLE 10

The report of the *Program Committee* is approved and the following *Advisory Committees* are appointed:

##### COMMITTEE No. 1 — *Educational Matters No. 1*

Chairman, Rev. R. Haan; Reporter, Rev. W. Vander Haak. Revs. N. Vander Zee, J. Groenewold, A. Hannink; Elders G. Ingwersen, H. J. Kuiper, J. Bruxvoort, J. Kruick. Advisers: Dr. J. Kromminga (Seminary Matters), Dr. W. Spoelhof (College Matters).

COMMITTEE No. II — *Educational Matters No. 2*

Chairman, Rev. D. Hoitenga; Reporter, Rev. John Petersen. Revs. N. B. Knoppers, J. Hekman, F. Guillaume; Elders J. H. Korschot, B. Breuker, P. Berkhout, J. W. Kuipers, R. Vanderby. Adviser: Dr. H. Stob.

COMMITTEE No. III — *Home Missions*

Chairman, Rev. N. Veltman; Reporter, Rev. M. Baarman. Revs. E. L. Shuart, F. Einfeld, P. F. Holtrop; Elders C. G. Benckhuysen, J. Ykema, P. Mulder, W. L. Wanders, E. Ennema. Adviser: Dr. M. Wyngaarden.

COMMITTEE No. IV — *Foreign Missions*

Chairman, Rev. F. Van Houten; Reporter, Rev. A. De Kruyter. Revs. K. Hart, C. W. Flietstra, H. Van Wyk; Elders M. Posthuma, H. J. Vander Ground, H. Pommer, H. Van Regenmorter, J. Gort. Adviser: Prof. H. Dekker.

COMMITTEE No. V — *Publications*

Chairman, Rev. T. Yff; Reporter, Rev. H. Radius. Revs. M. Arnoys, G. H. Vander Riet; Elders J. Joosse, Sr., J. K. Dykstra, J. Colenbrander, N. Moll, G. Eisenga. Adviser: Prof. Van Elderen.

COMMITTEE No. VI — *Varia No. 1*

Chairman, Rev. L. Van Laar; Reporter, Rev. H. Petersen. Revs. H. Zwaanstra, J. F. Schuurmann, W. Van Antwerpen; Elders G. Timmermans, F. Westendorp, P. Bouma, H. A. Smit. Adviser: Dr. A. Hoekema.

COMMITTEE No. VII — *Varia No. 2*

Chairman, Rev. H. Vander Ark; Reporter, Rev. S. Rooy. Revs. A. H. Selles, H. Bode; Elders A. De Jong, D. Wesseling, E. Vanden Brink, R. J. Dykstra, J. Den Bleyker, S. E. Waterdrinker. Adviser: Dr. R. Stob.

COMMITTEE No. VIII — *Protests and Appeals No. 1*

Chairman, Rev. J. Griffioen; Reporter, Rev. E. Oostendorp. Revs. J. De Vries, B. N. Huizenga, P. Vander Weide; Elders A. Gritter, J. Jager, E. Kok, R. A. Kromminga, H. J. Ten Hove. Adviser: Prof. M. Monsma.

COMMITTEE No. IX — *Protests and Appeals No. 2*

Chairman, Rev. T. Van Eerden; Reporter, Rev. B. J. Haan. Revs. A. B. C. Hoffland, A. Schaafsma, R. Vermeer; Elders W. De Lange, S. Sterk, E. Meyer, S. Vanden Berg, J. F. Van Someren. Adviser: Prof. R. B. Kuiper.

COMMITTEE No. X — *Budget*

Chairman, Elder H. Hoogstrate; Reporter, Elder J. La Grand. Revs. J. Olthof, A. E. Rozendal, J. Van Harmelen; Elders R. Heemsbergen, S. Geisel, H. Hoekstra, H. Netten. Adviser: Mr. G. Kamp.

COMMITTEE No. XI — *Church Order No. 1*

Chairman, Rev. R. Rienstra; Reporter, Rev. T. E. Hofman. Revs. G. Bouma, J. Hoogland, R. Opperwal; Elders G. Hannink, R. Hoeker, H. Snieders, J. Warners, J. R. Swierenga. Advisers: Prof. C. Kromminga and Prof. H. Kuiper.

COMMITTEE No. XII — *Church Order No. 2*

Chairman, Rev. J. Malestein; Reporter, Rev. H. Erffmeyer. Revs. J. Geuzebroek, L. Tamminga, C. Vander Ark; Elders H. Brinks, J. Betten, G. Kooima, J. Rekker, M. Ten Hove. Adviser: Prof. M. Woudstra.

ARTICLE 11

Synod adopts the following time schedule: 8:30 to 11:45 a.m. with a 15-minute recess at 10; 1:30 to 5:45 p.m. with a 15-minute recess at 3:30; and 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

ARTICLE 12

The Stated Clerk reads the report of the *Synodical Committee* and the actions reported are approved. (See Supplement No. 44)

ARTICLE 13

The Stated Clerk presents his report to Synod and this report is received as information and approved. (See Supplement No. 44)

ARTICLE 14

Synod adjourns and Elder G. Hannink closes with prayer.

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THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 9, 1960

Third Session

ARTICLE 15

Devotions are led by Rev. H. Radius. Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 340, stanzas 1, 3, and 5. Colossians 3 is read and prayer is offered.

ARTICLE 16

Roll call is held. All delegates are present.

ARTICLE 17

The minutes of Wednesday, June 8, are read and approved.

ARTICLE 18

The President appoints the following committees:

*Reception Committee*: Rev. M. Arnoys and Rev. W. Van Antwerpen. (See Arts. 56, 68, 69, 107, 114, 163)

*Obituary Committee*: Rev. R. B. Vermeer and Rev. J. Hekman. (See Art. 166)

ARTICLE 19

Synod adjourns for the day, in order that the *Advisory Committees* may continue their work. Elder H. J. Ten Hove closes the session with prayer.

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THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 9, 1960

Fourth Session

The President calls the Synod to order at 7:30 p.m.

ARTICLE 20

Opening devotions are conducted by Rev. M. Baarman, who leads Synod in prayer after the singing of Psalter Hymnal No. 85.

## ARTICLE 21

The President reads a letter of greeting from Prof. Dr. Fred Klooster, who is studying in Europe. — *Received as information*

## ARTICLE 22

The Advisory Committee on *Publications*, Rev. Henry Radius reporting, presents the following:

## I. THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 2. (See Supplement No. 2)

B. *Recommendations*: Your advisory committee recommends that Synod:

1. Receive the report of the committee of the American Bible Society as information.

2. Note with gratitude the progress that is being made in the translations of the Scripture, particularly the Spanish translations, meeting the needs of the Spanish-speaking part of Latin America.

3. Appoint a representative to this organization. (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

## II. COMMITTEE OF CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH ON BIBLE TRANSLATION

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 4. (See Supplement No. 4)

B. *Recommendations*:

1. That Synod note the progress that is being made in the fulfillment of the Study Committee's mandate.

2. That Synod extend the Study Committee's mandate for a five-year period to give the work a somewhat greater degree of permanency and continuity. (cf. Art. 172, V)

3. That annual reports be submitted by the committee of the progress being made.

—*Adopted*

## III. THE WORLD HOME BIBLE LEAGUE

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 8. (See Supplement No. 8)

B. *Recommendation*: Synod note with gratitude the extensive work performed by the Bible League as indicated in the adoption of a record budget of \$275,000. (See Art. 148)

—*Adopted*

## IV. SERMONS FOR READING SERVICES

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 40. (See Supplement No. 40)

B. *Recommendations*:

1. That Synod recommend these sermons for further use by the Churches.

2. That Synod continue the committee on Sermons for Reading Services. (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

## V. THE LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE OF CANADA

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 17. (See Supplement No. 17)

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod instruct our Canadian classes to in-

form our consistories, that if any of our people or churches find themselves in a community which has a "Sunday problem" to write for literature and promotional material to Rev. Mr. McGrath, General Secretary, the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada, Room 542, 17 Queen Street, E., Toronto, Ontario, Canada. (See Art. 148)

—*Adopted*

#### VI. CELEBRATION OF ANNIVERSARIES (See Communication No. 1)

A. *Material*: Communication of Calvin Seminary Faculty re celebrations of the anniversaries of the publication of the Belgic Confession (1961) and the Heidelberg Catechism (1963).

B. *Recommendation*: Your Committee advises Synod to make provision for the suitable celebration of the respective anniversaries. And if Synod agrees, we further suggest that the matter be placed in the hands of the Historical Committee of the Denomination with power to act. (Special attention should be given that the celebrations reach the youth of the Church.) (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

#### VII. OVERTURE No. 19

A. *Material*: Classis Toronto requests that the proposed trial Communion forms be made available for use in the Dutch language.

B. *Recommendation*: Synod accede to this request of Classis Toronto and instructs the present Revision Committee to make these arrangements.

*Ground*: The Synod of 1954 has so ordered when it gave its mandate to the "Liturgical Form Revision Committee." *Acts of Synod, 1954*, Art. 101 V B-9. (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

#### VIII. OVERTURE No. 51

A. *Material*: Classis Hamilton requests Synod that the names and addresses of the secretaries of the diaconates of the churches appear in the *Yearbook*.

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod not accede to the request of this overture as this is not a matter that should concern Synod. We suggest that Classis Hamilton refer its request to the Publication Committee charged with the matter of the *Yearbook*.

—*Adopted*

#### IX. PSALTER HYMNAL COMMITTEE

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 13. (See Supplement No. 13)

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod receive this progress report of the Psalter Hymnal Committee as information. This is the first year report of the project: "Handbook to the Psalter Hymnal" - See *Acts 1959*, page 40, XIII, B-2. (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

#### X. REPORT OF PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 25. (See Supplement No. 25)

B. *Recommendation*: The following nominations for members of the



Publications Committee are herewith presented to Synod, and that these nominations be approved. (See Art. 172, V)

*For a three-year term* (one to be elected)

Rev. Clarence Boomsma

Rev. Henry De Mots

*For a three-year term* (one to be elected)

Mr. Gerrit Buist

Dr. Henry Homan

*For a three-year term* (one to be elected)

Mr. Gene Broene

Mr. John Van Dellen

—*Adopted*

## XI. OVERTURE No. 61

### A. *Material*: Overture No. 61

1. Classis Alberta South asks Synod to define clearly the relationship between the Publication Committee of Synod and the editors of our church papers.

2. Is concerned that the general responsibility for the editorials in *The Banner* and *De Wachter* rest with the Editorial Committee of the Publication Committee, especially in matters which obviously are or will be controversial.

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod do not change the status quo but maintain the present state of editorial freedom as exercised by the editors of our papers: *The Banner* and *De Wachter*.

### *Grounds*:

1. There are proper safeguards with respect to the above mentioned editorial freedom. This was assured your Advisory Committee by the member of the Publication Committee with whom we consulted.

2. As a matter of practice the editors of the respective publications do consult with the Editorial Committee when the need arises.

—*Adopted*

## XII. NOMINATIONS:

### *Election of Editor of The Banner* — 2-year term

#### A. The Advisory Committee recommends:

Rev. John Vander Ploeg

Dr. John Bratt

Rev. Peter Van Tuinen

Synod decides to meet in executive session in order to discuss the nomination. — The nomination is approved by Synod.

B. The Advisory Committee recommends that Synod reappoint Rev. E. Van Halsema as editor of *De Wachter* for two years.

*Grounds:*

a. The realistic situation—that there is, and can be no legal nomination before the 1960 Synod, and that an editor is needed—justifies a departure from the normal procedure.

b. The editorship of *De Wachter* is a part-time position; and Mr. Van Halsema is in an ideal position to carry on this work acceptably for two more years.

c. A similar direct appointment was given him two years ago.

d. At present there is no rule for the retirement of the editor of *De Wachter*; therefore Mr. Van Halsema may serve in this position after his 70th birthday.

—*Adopted*

(Publication Matters continued in Art. 101)

ARTICLE 23

The session is closed with prayer by Elder Herbert Hoogstrate.

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 10, 1960

Fifth Session

ARTICLE 24

President Van Kooten calls the Synod to order. Devotions are led by Rev. N. B. Knoppers. Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 201. Ephesians 3 is read and prayer is offered.

ARTICLE 25

Roll call is held. All delegates are present.

ARTICLE 26

The minutes of Thursday, June 9, are read and approved.

ARTICLE 27

Synod decides to meet Saturday morning and to begin the Monday morning session at 10 a.m.

ARTICLE 28

The Committee on *Credentials of Candidates*, Rev. H. Radius reporting, indicates that all the credentials have been examined and found to be in order. One consistory failed to send in a recommendation, but its clerk has given verbal assurance that this was an oversight and that the consistory would heartily endorse the candidate involved. Synod accepts this report.

ARTICLE 29

The Seminary President, Dr. John H. Kromminga, reports that the faculty recommends all the candidates.

ARTICLE 30

The *Sermon Critics*, Rev. D. J. Hoitenga reporting, indicate that all the sermons have been received, and that they have no objections to proceeding with the examination.

## ARTICLE 31

Synod adjourns to convene in four sections to examine the prospective candidates, and to reconvene in full session at 3:50 p.m. for the examination in Practica.

## ARTICLE 32

Synod reconvenes at 3:50 p.m. to conduct the examination in Practica. The President offers opportunity for the delegates to ask questions pertinent to the day's examinations.

## ARTICLE 33

Synod decides to go into Executive Session. Synod adjourns. Elder H. Snieders closes with prayer.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 10, 1960

## Sixth Session

## ARTICLE 34

The President calls Synod to order. Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 191, stanzas 1 and 4, and Rev. W. Van Antwerpen leads in prayer.

## ARTICLE 35

Dr. Oren Holtrop is present as the alternate delegate for Rev. T. Yff. He expresses his agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Forms of Unity."

## ARTICLE 36

The Advisory Committee, No. 1, on *Educational Matters*, Rev. W. Vander Haak reporting, presents the following:

## I. PROFESSOR ALBERT MUYSKENS - ANNIVERSARY

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report 20-B (C, 2) (See Supplement No. 20-B, C, 2) Prof. Albert Muyskens has been professor at Calvin College for 25 years.

B. *Recommendation*: We recommend that Synod instruct its officers to arrange an appropriate observance of the 25th anniversary of Prof. Muyskens as professor at Calvin College. (See Art. 113) —*Adopted*

## II. LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report 20-B (B, 2) (See Supplement No. 20-B, B, 2)

B. *Recommendation*: We recommend that Synod participate in the cornerstone-laying ceremonies for the Centennial Memorial Seminary Building on June 15, at 1:30 p.m. —*Adopted*

## III. NOMINATION FOR BOARD OF TRUSTEES

A. *Materials*: Supplementary Report 20-B (II, A.) (See Supplement 20-B, II, A)

B. *Recommendation*: We recommend that Synod approve the nomination and grant the request of the Board that the nominee who is not elected as regular delegate be added to the nomination for alternate.

—*Adopted*

(Educational Matters No. 1, continued in Art. 52)

#### ARTICLE 37

The Advisory Committee *Varia*, No. 2, Rev. S. Rooy reporting, presents the following:

#### I. CHRISTIAN SEAMEN'S AND IMMIGRANTS' HOME

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 5. (See Supplement No. 5)

B. *History*:

1. The Synod of 1957 adopted the following (Article 64, III B, p. 35):

a. Synod decides "that the work of the Seamen's Home as it is now carried out be abandoned if and when the Holland-America Line moves to the New York side of the river.

b. "Synod does not act upon the recommendation of Classis Hudson, namely that the work hereafter be pursued from an office and limited to spiritual needs, but refers this to Classis Hudson for further investigation and recommendation to the Synod of 1958."

2. The Synod of 1958 subsequently decided that "the work of ministering to the spiritual needs of the seamen be continued in its present location until such time as it can be pursued from an office on the new Holland-America Line pier in New York."

C. *Request of the Seamen's Home Committee*:

"As Synod, 1957, instructed us to continue the work until the move to New York takes place, which is now unofficially May, 1961, we hereby ask the continued prayers and gifts of the churches . . . . After our doors close some expenses will continue, as our chaplaincy work is not to terminate."

D. *Recommendation*:

Synod approve this cause for "the continued prayers and gifts of the churches." (See Art. 148)

*Grounds*:

1. The Seamen's Home plans to be in operation well into 1961.

2. The chaplaincy work will continue after the closing of the Seamen's Home.

—*Adopted*

(*Varia* Matters No. 2, continued in Art. 84)

#### ARTICLE 38

Synod decides to meet in executive session. The reporters of the several sections which examined the prospective candidates present their reports, recommending all applicants for admission to candidacy.

#### ARTICLE 39

After deliberation, and prayer by Rev. L. Van Laar, Synod proceeds to vote on all applicants for candidacy. The ballot indicates that the fol-

lowing men are declared candidates for the ministry of the Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church:

James Bonnema	Alfred Mulder	Myron Van Houten
Gerrit De Young	Joel Nederhood	Durant Van Oyen
Henry Entingh	Robert Palma	Lloyd Vander Heide
James Evenhouse	John Primus	Stanley Vander Klay
Wayne Gritter	Earl Schipper	Gilbert Vanderlip
Norman Haan	Raymond Swierenga	Vincent Vanderwerp
Gerald Hubers	Seymour Van Drunen	Peter Vermaat
Gordon Klouw	Frederick Van Dyk	Theodore Wevers
Abe Koolhaas		

The above-named candidates are eligible for call on July 8, 1960.

#### ARTICLE 40

Synod resumes open session and the candidates return. The President of Synod addresses them as follows:

We congratulate you as prospective ministers of the Christian Reformed Church. You have worked hard and long to attain this goal. The road has been paved with planning and prayer, sacrifice and study. Now you have attained your goal. When we say "attained" that sounds rather hollow. You are conscious of the fact that you are now only permitted to begin. The real task lies ahead. And what a task! You are taking into your hand the "staff of the Shepherd" to guard and feed the sheep of the Lord, to gather the straying. You are to open your mouth to men to speak to them the message of God himself. You are to be God's spokesmen.

What a task and what a world in which to carry it out! This is a pessimistic world. There is much laughter upon men's lips, but their hearts are purposeless and pessimistic. Bewildered men, living in a restless world, do not seem to know what they are seeking. This is a world of unparalleled wealth, and yet there is so little appreciation for the "pearl of great price." In a world of luxury, the souls of men are starving. Truly, this is a lost world where men confidently affirm that they know where they are going, but all the while seem to be "whistling in the dark."

That is the kind of world into which you are going. You must know that world to be able to speak to it. But before you can know that world, you must know your Lord and yourself. You shall need to know the things of the Lord for yourself, and especially the love of God for the chief of sinners. Pray and search to increase in that knowledge and as you do so you will be sure to find the "chief of sinners" within your own heart.

Then you must know Christ as your Lord and Savior. You must feed your soul on His grace and love; and you must lose your life in His service. Know your Lord and know yourself; and remember the words of McChene, "For every look at yourself, take ten looks at Jesus."

With this equipment you can face the world. Go out into that adverse world with courage and confidence, but also with avowed purpose so well expressed in the words of John the Baptist, "He must increase, but I must decrease." And the better you know yourself and your Lord, the more you will realize how much He must increase and how much you must decrease.

Then you will be a successful minister — but on God's terms, not man's. You will be motivated by this thought, "What do they think of the Lord because of me?" and not, "What do they think of me?" Then you will decrease, and the Lord will increase. And you will not count the decrease as loss, for you will see the "Pearl of Great Price."

May God bless you much and may He use you much for a blessing to others.

ARTICLE 41

Prayer is offered by Rev. John F. Schuurmann, after Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 295:1, 3, and Synod adjourns, its members thereafter offering congratulations to the candidates.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 11, 1960

Seventh Session

ARTICLE 42

The President of Synod calls the meeting to order, and the opening devotions are led by Rev. F. Guillaume. He announces Psalter Hymnal No. 388 stanzas 1, 2, and 4; reads Isaiah 44:1-5; and opens with prayer.

ARTICLE 43

Roll call indicates that all delegates are present.

ARTICLE 44

The minutes of Friday, June 10, are read and approved.

ARTICLE 45

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order No. 2*, Rev. H. N. Erffmeyer reporting, presents the following:

I. ORGANIZATION OF A NEW CLASSIS

A. *Material*: Overtures No. 1, No. 7, No. 11

B. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the organization of a new classis consisting of the following churches located in Michigan and Ohio: Ann Arbor, Dearborn, Detroit, Flint, Imlay City, Lansing, Saginaw, Cleveland-Eastside, Cleveland-Westside, Columbus, Jackson, Maple Heights, Willard and Cincinnati.

*Grounds*:

1. Geographically these churches form a natural area with Detroit as its center.
2. The number of churches in Classes Grand Rapids East and Kalamazoo warrants such a re-alignment.
3. Classes Grand Rapids East, Kalamazoo and Chicago South request the organization of this new classis.

—*Adopted*

II. TRANSFER OF FOUR CONGREGATIONS FROM CLASSIS MINNESOTA SOUTH TO CLASSIS MINNESOTA NORTH

A. *Material*: Overtures Nos. 22 and 34

B. *Recommendation*: Synod accede to the request of Classis Minnesota South and Minnesota North for the transfer of the four congregations.

*Grounds:*

1. Both Classes Minnesota South and North concur in this transfer.
  2. Geographically the churches are in the area of Classis Minnesota North.
- Adopted*

## III. CANDIDACY OF MR. JOHN N. DYKSTRA

A. *Material:* Communication No. 3. (See Communication No. 3 and Supplement No. 44)

B. *Information:* Candidate Dykstra was examined by Classis Rocky Mountain on September 15, 16, 1959, in the presence of the synodical examiners of Classes Pella, Orange City, and Sioux Center. Classis, after hearing the advice of the three synodical examiners, did not see fit to recommend him for ordination. Classis, with advice of the three synodical examiners, recommended that the Luctor church employ Mr. Dykstra as stated supply until the next meeting of classis, at which time he might submit to a re-examination providing Luctor's consistory should request it. At the meeting of classis March 1 and 2, 1960, the Luctor consistory informed classis as follows: "On the above date (Feb. 1, 1960) the consistory of Luctor under the supervision of its counselor met together. After careful and prayerful consideration the consistory voted unanimously by ballot not to recommend Candidate John N. Dykstra for re-examination by classis." Classis concurred in this. Mr. Dykstra also sent a letter to the Stated Clerk of Synod requesting the annulment of his candidacy. Thereupon Classis Rocky Mountain declared that the call extended by the Luctor church and its acceptance by Candidate Mr. John N. Dykstra were annulled.

C. *Recommendation:* Synod accede to the request of Mr. John N. Dykstra, sent to the Stated Clerk of Synod, that his candidacy be annulled.

*Grounds:*

1. Mr. John N. Dykstra requests it.
  2. Classis Rocky Mountain, the Synodical Examiners, and the consistory of Luctor, Kansas, have concurred in this case.
- Adopted*
- (Church Order Matters, No. 2, continued in Art. 51)

## ARTICLE 46

Synod adjourns until Monday at 10 a.m. Elder W. L. Wanders closes with prayer.

## MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 13, 1960

## Eighth Session

## ARTICLE 47

The President calls Synod to order. Devotions are led by Rev. W. P. Brink, who announces Psalter Hymnal No. 64:1, 2; reads Psalm 27:1-6; and leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 48

Roll call is taken and all delegates are present. Rev. W. Buursma is present for the day as the alternate of Rev. John Malestein of Classis Chicago South. He expresses his agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Forms of Unity." Rev. T. Yff has returned as delegate of Classis Kalamazoo.

ARTICLE 49

The minutes of Saturday, June 11, are read and approved.

ARTICLE 50

The President appoints a *Committee on Appointments*:

Ministers: W. H. Rutgers, L. Van Laar, N. Veltman, J. Petersen, K. Hart; Elders: H. J. Ten Hove, H. J. Kuiper, Dr. P. Berkhout, J. Den Bleyker, J. R. Swierenga.

(See Art. 172 for report on appointments)

ARTICLE 51

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order No. 2*, Rev. H. N. Erffmeyer reporting, cf. Art. 45, presents the following:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 35 (IV) (See Supplement No. 35, IV) Letter to the Stated Clerk of Synod from N.A.E.

B. *Background*: The Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Correspondence has been appointed by Synod to study various ecumenical organizations and report to Synod. Concerning the National Association of Evangelicals the committee conferred with Dr. Herbert Mekeel, president of the NAE, and has been informed by him that conditions that obtained in 1951 have changed, and that there would be genuine merit in seeking closer knowledge of this organization. They were informed that a request would be sent to the Stated Clerk that a speaker representing the NAE appear before Synod. Such a request has been received. The committee recommends that Synod accede to the request.

C. *Recommendation*: Synod do not accede to the recommendation that a speaker representing the NAE address this Synod.

*Grounds*:

1. It is the committee's mandate to serve Synod with a report which will guide Synod in respect to ecumenical organizations. (*Acts of Synod*, 1957, page 103)

2. Synod should receive such a report before hearing representatives address its members in behalf of such organizations.

—*Adopted*

(Church Order Matters, No. 2, continued in Art. 91)

ARTICLE 52

The Advisory Committee on *Educational Matters No. 1*, cf. Art. 36, Rev. Wm. Vander Haak reporting, presents the following:



## I. REPRESENTATION

The Secretary of the Board, Rev. John F. Schuurmann, is a delegate to Synod. Your committee recommends that Synod accord him the privilege of the floor in matters pertaining to Calvin College and Seminary.

—*Adopted*

## II. APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS

*Materials:* Agenda Reports No. 20, 20-B. (See Supplements No. 20, 20-B); Overtures Nos. 27, 29, 30, 44, 45, 50, 53, 60, 68; Communication No. 4.

Synod decides to meet in executive session.

### A. College:

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the following appointments and reappointments of the Board of Trustees to the college staff:

1. Melvin Berghuis, A.M., as Registrar for four years.
2. Edgar Boevé, M.S.D., as Instructor in Education for two years.
3. Ervina Boevé, A.M., to the Speech Department, her relationship in that department and to the faculty as a non-faculty staff member having been clarified.
4. Roger Faber, Ph.D., as Assistant Professor of Physics for two years.
5. John Hamersma, D.S.M., as Assistant Professor of Music for two years, contingent upon the formal awarding of the doctoral degree by September, 1960.
6. George Harris, A.M., as Assistant in Classical Languages for one year.
7. Henry Holstege, A.M., as Instructor in Sociology for two years.
8. Henry Ippel, Ph.D., as Professor of History with indefinite tenure.
9. Charles Miller, Ph.D., as Professor of History with indefinite tenure.
10. Donald Oppewal, A.M., as Instructor in Education for two years. During this tenure his rank shall be raised to Assistant Professor at the beginning of that academic year immediately after formally receiving his doctoral degree.
11. Peter Oppewal, A.M., as Assistant Professor of English for two years.
12. Arthur Otten, A.M., as Assistant Professor of Modern Languages for two years.
13. H. Evan Runner, Ph.D., as Professor of Philosophy for four years.
14. Louis Rus, Ph.D., as Associate Professor of English for two years.
15. Carl Sinke, Ph.D., as Associate Professor of Mathematics for four years.
16. Bernard Ten Broek, Ph.D., as Assistant Professor of Biology for two years.
17. John Vanden Berg, Ph.D., as Professor of Economics with indefinite tenure.

18. Marlene Van Kley, A.B., as Assistant in Modern Languages for one year.

19. Ernest Van Vugt, A.M., as Instructor in Classical Languages for two years.

20. George Van Zwalenberg, A.M., for two years, as Visiting Lecturer for the first year, and as Assistant Professor of Mathematics for the second year.

21. Anthony D. Vroon, A.B., as Assistant in Physical Education for two years.

22. Johan Westra, A.M., as Instructor in History and Political Science for two years.

23. Paul Zwier, A.M., as Assistant Professor of Mathematics for two years.

24. Albertus Bratt, M.S., as Assistant in Biology for one year.

25. Mrs. Winifred Byker, A.B., as Assistant in Physical Education for one year.

26. Roel Bijkerk, Drs., as Assistant Professor of Psychology for two years, deferred until he returns to the United States.

27. Beverly Klooster, A.B., provisionally in Biology.

28. Bernard Kreuzer, A.M., as Instructor in Modern Languages to teach German for two years.

29. Gertrude Vander Ark, A.M., as Instructor in Education for two years.

30. E. William Oldenburg, A.M., as Assistant in English for one year.

31. J. Marion Snapper, B.D., as Assistant Professor in Education for two years.

32. Reona Tanis, A.B., as Assistant in English for one year.

33. James Vanden Berge, A.M., as Assistant in Biology for one year.

34. Gordon Van Harn, M.S., provisionally in Biology.

35. Richard Westmaas, A.M., provisionally in Psychology.

36. John Zegers, A.M., was appointed as Visiting Instructor in Modern Languages to teach French for two years.

—Adopted

#### B. Seminary:

1. Dr. Anthony Hoekema be reappointed as Associate Professor of Systematic Theology for a period of four years.

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the reappointment. —Adopted

2. Dr. Ralph Stob be reappointed as Professor of New Testament Studies with indefinite tenure.

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the reappointment. —Adopted

#### 3. Professor of Old Testament

a. *Summary of Materials:* Overtures Nos. 29, 30, 44, 45, 50, 60, and 68 request Synod not to accept the nomination of Professor David Kerr or not to accept the nomination of one name.

Overture No. 27 requests Synod to add the name of Rev. John Stek to the nomination for Professor of Old Testament.

Overture No. 30 requests Synod to instruct the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary to reconsider among others Rev. John Stek.

Overture No. 68 requests Synod to add the names of Rev. John Stek and Dr. John Zinkand to the nomination for Professor of Old Testament.

Overture No. 53 requests Synod to consider members of our own church first of all for nomination to the Old Testament Chair.

Communication No. 4 requests the Board of Trustees to take no action in this matter at this time, and conveys this information to Synod.

Your committee has addressed itself only to the basic requests involved in the above overtures. We suggest that Synod do not enter into consideration of the grounds of these overtures, some of which can be questioned as to factual accuracy.

*b. Board Action:*

*Professor David Kerr - Withdrawal from nomination.* In a communication dated May 3, 1960, Professor Kerr informed the Board of Trustees of certain difficulties which trouble him concerning his nomination and requested that his name should not come before the Synod.

*No Nomination to the Chair of Old Testament.* The Board of Trustees decided not to make a nomination to the Chair of Old Testament at this time.

*Ground:* Such a nomination at this time would be contrary to the established rules of procedure. (*Acts*, 1958, pp. 372-373)

*c. Recommendations:*

(1) That Synod approve the action of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary, in not making a nomination for the Chair of Old Testament at this time for the ground stated. —*Adopted*

(2) In regard to adding names to nominations or requesting Synod to instruct the Board of Trustees to place a name in nomination, we recommend that Synod instruct these classes to follow the rules of procedure in this matter: "Further recommendations of names for consideration may be made to the faculty at any time by members of the Board, consistories, and classes. All names so submitted shall be reported by the faculty to the Board when its nomination is presented to the Board." "If the Synod finds a nomination unacceptable, the Board shall be asked to prepare a new nomination . . ." (*Acts of Synod*, 1958, pp. 372-273)

—*Adopted*

(3) Regarding Overture No. 53 and its request to consider our own men first in making nominations, Synod declare it is assured that this is the standard practice of the Board of Trustees and that this practice was observed in this instance.

—*Adopted*

(Educational Matters, No. 1, continued in Art. 102)

ARTICLE 53

Synod adjourns. Elder H. J. Kuiper leads in closing prayer.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 13, 1960

Ninth Session

ARTICLE 54

President T. C. Van Kooten calls the meeting to order. Rev. C. W. Flietstra leads in devotions. Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 294 and prayer is offered.

ARTICLE 55

The President of Synod congratulates Dr. A. A. Hoekema and Dr. R. Stob on their reappointments, thanking them for valuable service rendered and wishing them God's blessing for the future. He expresses the hope that they will be able to announce their acceptance of the appointments tendered. Dr. Stob reviews his many years of association with both Calvin College and Seminary and immediately announces his acceptance of the reappointment. Dr. Hoekema thanks Synod for the confidence expressed in him and indicates that he will present his decision in written form at a later session. (See Art. 90)

ARTICLE 56

Rev. M. Arnoys, member of the *Reception Committee*, introduces Chaplain John J. Hoogland, who in a brief address emphasizes the challenge of his work and requests our prayers. Rev. D. J. Hoitenga responds. Rev. M. Arnoys also presents Mr. Samson Yazzie, a Navajo Indian from Shiprock, New Mexico. Mr. Yazzie expresses his gratitude for the missionary work and gifts on the Indian field. Rev. Henry J. Evenhouse, our Director of Missions, responds in behalf of Synod.

ARTICLE 57

The Advisory Committee on *Varia*, No. 1, Rev. H. Petersen reporting, presents the following:

EMERITATION OF MINISTERS

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report No. 29, 29-A. (See Supplements No. 29, 29-A)

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod approve the honorable emeritation of the following ministers:

1. Rev. Edward Joling by Classis Kalamazoo.  
*Ground*: Retirement age.
2. Rev. Dr. Jacob H. Bruinooge by Classis Zeeland.  
*Ground*: Retirement age.
3. Rev. Nicholas J. Monsma by Classis Hudson.  
*Ground*: Retirement age.
4. Rev. Andrew Baker by Classis Orange City.  
*Ground*: Ill health.
5. Rev. Herman Moes by Classis British Columbia.  
*Ground*: Retirement age.

6. Rev. A. H. Selles by Classis Alberta South.  
*Ground: Retirement age.*
7. Rev. G. André by Classis Grand Rapids West.  
*Ground: Retirement age.*
8. Rev. Hessel Kooistra by Classis California.  
*Ground: Ill health.*
9. Rev. Christian Ter Maat by Classis Muskegon.  
*Ground: Ill health.*
10. Rev. Wesley Prince by Classis Grand Rapids East.  
*Ground: Retirement age.*
11. Rev. Elbert Kooistra by Classis Hackensack.  
*Ground: Retirement age.* —*Adopted*  
(Varia Matters, No. 1, continued in Art. 72)

## ARTICLE 58

The Advisory Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 1, Rev. E. H. Oostendorp reporting:

## I. REPORT OF THE STUDY COMMITTEE ON INFALLIBILITY AND INSPIRATION

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 19. (See Supplement No. 19)

B. *Recommendation*: Synod accept this communication of the secretary of this committee, informing Synod that the committee plans to report next year, as information. (Note: Synod of 1959 did not instruct the committee to report this year; study committees as a rule are given two years to do their work.) —*Adopted*

## II. PRINTED APPEAL No. 6, CLASSIS CHICAGO SOUTH RE OVERTURE No. 48, 1959 SYNOD

*Recommendation*: Synod sustain the protest of Classis Chicago South, and declare that the Synod of 1959 could and should have "entertained" this overture.

*Ground*: Although the overture asked Synod "not to do what Synod had not yet decided to do," this was classis' right since every classis has the privilege of urging Synod not to take action on certain matters, just as well as it has the right to urge Synod to approve of specific issues. In this case three overtures (Nos. 15, 28, 35) from as many classes were asking the adoption of a synodical declaration regarding the inspiration of Scripture, and Classis Chicago South was entitled to register its reaction to these overtures. —*Adopted*

(Protests and Appeals, No. 1, continued in Art. 63)

## ARTICLE 59

Synod adjourns, and Elder C. Kooima leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 14, 1960

Tenth Session

ARTICLE 60

President T. C. Van Kooten calls the Synod to order. Devotions are conducted by Rev. J. Van Harmelen, who announces Psalter Hymnal No. 390: 1, 2, reads Psalm 61, and leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 61

Roll call is taken and all delegates are present. Rev. J. Malestein has returned as *primi* delegate from Classis Chicago South. Elder E. Goudzwaard, who is present in the place of Elder B. Breuker from Grand Rapids West, expresses his agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Three Forms of Unity."

ARTICLE 62

The minutes of Monday, June 13, 1960, are read and approved.

ARTICLE 63

Synod resumes its consideration of the report of the Advisory Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 1, cf. Art. 58, Rev. E. Oostendorp reporting:

AID FOR THE JACOB RIP FAMILY

A. *Materials*: (See also Supplement No. 44)

Communication No. 5 from the Sherman Street consistory and Communication No. 6 from the Oak Harbor, Washington, consistory. These letters give a history of the tragic circumstances of this widow of the deceased Seminarian Jacob Rip and her family of six children. They request Synod's granting of the request to set up a trust fund for her support.

B. *Recommendations*:

1. Synod declare that in this special case Christian love indicates that this family be provided for by the church, not only for immediate emergency needs, but for some time in the future.

*Ground*: This is a case of special need occasioned by the sacrifices this brother made in preparing for the ministry in our Christian Reformed Church.

—*Rejected*

2. Synod grant the request of the Sherman Street, Grand Rapids, and Oak Harbor, Washington, consistories to appeal to our churches for gifts to undertake the support of this family. However, rather than that Synod set up a trust fund to be administered according to the rules of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration as suggested by the communications, Synod recommend that the Oak Harbor diaconate administer the fund collected in a manner that it deems best for the welfare of the family.

*Grounds*:

a. It is obvious that the local diaconate (Oak Harbor) cannot bear this heavy burden without denomination-wide support.

b. This procedure will not set up a hard and fast precedent and would also not limit the local church in exercising the ministry of Christian mercy. —*Rejected*

3. In response to the request of the Sherman Street and Oak Harbor consistories re aid for the Rip family, Synod declares that the needed support for this worthy family should be processed through the regular channels of consistory and classis, and as a last resort only come to Synod. (Protests and Appeals, No. 1, continued in Art. 116)

#### ARTICLE 64

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 1, Rev. R. Oppewall reporting, presents the following:

#### SYNODICAL ADVISERS

A. *Materials*: Overtures Nos. 4, 5, 9, 40, and 70.

B. *Explanatory note*: Classis Alberta South overtured the Synod of 1959 to limit the advisory capacity of the emeriti professors at Synod, on the ground that the increase of seminary professors has unwarrantedly increased the number of men who are not delegated to Synod but who nevertheless have a permanent voice in the deliberations of Synod. (Cf. Overture No. 4, p. 511, *Acts*, 1959)

Synod of 1959 rejected the overture and gave two grounds for this rejection: "(1) The danger mentioned by Classis Alberta South is not substantiated. (2) It is to the advantage of Synod to use the wisdom of the emeritated professors, which has been gained by years of experience." (*Acts*, 1959, Art. 31, p. 10)

Overtures Nos. 5 and 40 now ask for reconsideration of Alberta South's overture of 1959, both overtures challenging the validity of the grounds for rejection used by the Synod of 1959.

Overture No. 70 goes further yet and in effect asks that the emeriti professors no longer be retained as official advisers in any sense.

Overtures No. 4 and No. 9 broaden the issue still further by questioning the present rules covering the functions of the active professors as well as those emeritated.

#### C. *Recommendations*:

1. That the requests for reconsideration of the 1959 Alberta South overture re emeriti professors be granted.

*Ground*: The Synod of 1959 did not address itself to the problem raised by Alberta South, i.e., the greatly increased number of men who are not delegated but who have a permanent voice in the deliberations of Synod. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod answer the 1959 Alberta overture and Overtures Nos. 5 and 40 of this year by amending the rules for Synodical Procedure, Section III, A, 5 to read as follows: "The emeriti professors shall have a limited advisory capacity, their advice to be given upon the request of the chairman or the Synod. They shall function as advisers to advisory committees upon the request of the Synod or an advisory committee."

*Grounds:*

a. The increase in the number of seminary professors in the last five years, which will ultimately lead to a similar increase in emeriti professors, has greatly increased the number of men who are not delegated but who have a permanent voice at Synod.

b. Emeriti professors are not active office-bearers in the church. (See Art. 100) —*Adopted*

3. That Synod do not accede to the overture of Classis Chicago South to delete Rule III, A, 5.

*Ground:* It is to the advantage of Synod to use the wisdom of the emeritated professors, which has been gained by years of experience. (Cf. *Acts*, 1959, Art. 31, p. 10) —*Adopted*

4. That Synod respond to Overtures No. 4 and No. 9 by amending the rules for Synodical Procedure, Section III, A, 2 to read: "They shall have the privilege of the floor for the purpose of advising Synod on matters before it, subject to the accepted rules governing discussion. On important questions the chair, or any member of Synod, may request their advice."

*Grounds:*

a. The advisory status of the professors is not adequately defined in the present rule.

b. The judicious observance of this advisory status by the professors and the Synod will obviate the need for more detailed rules such as those requested by Overture No. 4.

Synod decides to withhold action. (See Art. 71)

(Church Order Matters, No. 1, continued in Art. 71)

ARTICLE 65

Synod adjourns and Elder J. F. Van Someren leads in closing prayer.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 14, 1960

Eleventh Session

\* ARTICLE 66

President T. C. Van Kooten calls Synod to order. After the singing of Psalter Hymnal No. 176, Rev. A. Hannink leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 67

Elder J. De Vries is present as the alternate for Elder J. La Grand of Classis Grand Rapids East. He rises to make public declaration of his agreement with the three forms of unity.

ARTICLE 68

Rev. W. Van Antwerpen, member of the *Reception Committee*, presents Prof. John Murray of Westminster Seminary, who is present as a fraternal delegate of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church. He addresses



Synod, presenting the fraternal greetings of his denomination. Rev. Wm. Vander Haak responds in behalf of Synod.

#### ARTICLE 69

Rev. M. Arnoys, member of the *Reception Committee*, presents Rev. Harry Mulder of Delft, a fraternal delegate from the Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland. Rev. Mr. Mulder extends the fraternal greetings and expresses gratitude for our help in the Netherlands following World War II and for our help to the Canadian immigrants. Prof. B. Van Elderen responds in behalf of Synod.

#### ARTICLE 70

Synod approves the following nominations:

##### *Sunday School Committee:*

Rev. G. J. Rozenboom

Rev. Jerrien Gunnink

Mr. Wilmur Schipper

Mr. John W. Borst

##### *Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration:*

Mr. Nelson Gritter and Mr. Peter Marcusse.

#### ARTICLE 71

Synod returns to the Report of the Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 1, cf. Art. 64, Rev. R. Opperwall reporting:

1. A motion is made to accede to Overture No. 9 from Classis Grand Rapids East to appoint a study committee to re-evaluate our present rules for synodical procedure regarding the place and function of the professors of Calvin Seminary as synodical advisers.

##### *Grounds:*

a. The increased number of theological professors and emeriti professors.

b. The increasing role of the professors in the deliberations of Synod.

—*Adopted*

2. Synod decides to request the seminary emeriti professors to function as advisers to the advisory committee.

3. Synod declares that its decisions in Art. 64 and above constitute its answer to Overtures No. 5, 9, 40, and 70, and Overture No. 4 is referred to the study committee. (See Art. 172, V)

(Church Order Matters, No. 1, continued in Art. 159)

#### ARTICLE 72

The Advisory Committee on *Varia*, No. 1, Rev. H. Petersen, cf. Art. 57, reporting, presents the following:

##### I. REVISION OF RULES OF THE MINISTERS' PENSION AND RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 29-A. (See Supplement No. 29-A)

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod adopt the rules with a few changes as follows:

### 1. Article II

The administration of these funds shall be in charge of a Board of Trustees of seven persons appointed by the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church. This board shall be composed of three ministers and four laymen. It shall be incorporated as the "Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration of the Christian Reformed Church." Synod shall appoint trustees for a term of three years. Trustees who are functioning may be re-elected. An alternate shall be appointed for each trustee.

*Ground:* The expanded activities of the board and the large expenditures of denominational funds make it desirable to enlarge the board.

—Adopted

### 2. Article III

A. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, and Assistant Treasurer.

(3.) The assistant secretary shall act in the absence or incapacity of the secretary.

#### *Duties of the Officers:*

(4.) The treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Board of Trustees, subject to its instruction, and shall keep an accurate set of records, and account of all receipts and disbursements. He shall sign all checks. The treasurer shall be required to furnish a Surety Company Bond in the amount of \$50,000 (raised from \$25,000 to \$50,000) in favor of the board and the premium of such bond shall be paid by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall designate and determine the bank or banks to be used as depositories for all funds of the board.

The books of the treasurer shall be audited annually at the close of the fiscal year. The auditor shall be named by the Board of Trustees each year, and it shall bear the cost of such audit.

The assistant treasurer shall act in the absence or incapacity of the treasurer.

—Adopted

### 3. Article V-E

(The following new rule is recommended in place of the rule appearing in article V-E. With the adoption of this rule, the rule appearing in the Addenda IV, Pension, 2, page 15 is to be eliminated.)

"All those entering upon active service in the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church shall be considered members of the Pension Plan unless they notify the Pension Board to the contrary. They shall begin payments immediately from the date of ordination (or installation). First payment shall be made by the church treasurer, at the close of the first full calendar quarter following ordination (or installation), and at the close of each quarter thereafter."

#### *Grounds:*

(1.) It is difficult for a minister on a low salary to make up the payment of a whole year's obligation to the Ministers' Pension Fund. This difficulty does not arise if his church treasurer pays his  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  (or  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) beginning with the first quarter of his ordination (or installation).

(2.) Under the old rule, the minister is covered by pension rights during the year following ordination (or installation) in which he is given the opportunity of choice, though no payments are made. It is only logical that he should begin paying for such coverage as soon as it begins.

(3.) As soon as he becomes a candidate the secretary of the Ministers' Pension Board gives him full details of the Pension Plan. Ample time is therefore given the candidate entering the ministry, before his ordination, to consider the Pension Plan. —*Adopted*

#### 4. Article VI-D

Orphans of ministers who have served in the Christian Reformed Church shall receive an annual pension of \$600 (raised from \$400) per person until they shall have attained their 19th birthday, unless physically or mentally incapacitated and so certified by two competent physicians appointed by the Board of Trustees, in which case their pension shall be continued. However, orphans of one family shall never receive collectively more pension than that to which their mother would have been entitled.

*Ground:* The increased cost of living makes it advisable to grant this increase. —*Adopted*

#### 5. Article VI-E

Dependents or orphans of deceased ministers *who cease to be members* of the Christian Reformed Church shall not be entitled to pension.

—*Adopted*

#### 6. Article VIII-C

In event a contributing minister fails to pay through his consistory or whatever other body pays his salary, the contribution of  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  (or  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) of his salary due, he shall be notified by mail of such failure, and if the same shall remain unpaid for six months, then the benefits from this fund to either him or his widow or dependents shall be reduced to the ratio mentioned in Section B above. However, if such minister shall within a period of two (instead of five) years pay in full his past unpaid annual contributions plus 6% interest, the full benefits shall apply. (Interest on arrearages begins from the time that these monies were due and not from the time of notification of arrearages.)

*Ground:* Five years is too long a time to allow delinquency for proper operation of the fund. —*Adopted*

#### 7. Article IX 3

The total pension and relief granted a minister in one year shall never exceed  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$  of the average annual salary of the ministers of the Christian Reformed Church; nor shall the total pension and relief to a widow exceed 50% of such aforementioned salary; nor shall the total pension and relief to orphans exceed \$900 (raised from \$700) per year per person.

*Ground:* The increased cost of living necessitates increased remuneration. —*Adopted*

8. *Addenda Article III-b*

Ministers who provide a home for themselves out of the salary received may deduct from their salary a rental allowance, but not to exceed \$1,200 per year. (Addenda Synodical Decisions I, Ministers, 3, is to be eliminated in view of the increase of house rental allowance — from a maximum of \$600 to \$1,200 — recommended in rule Addenda III, Salary, b, page 14.)

*Ground:* The increased cost of rent demands it. (This increase is suggested with the understanding that Addenda III, Salary, G, be given consideration.) —*Adopted*

9. *Addenda Article II, Widows, 3, page 13*

The pension of a widow with a dependent child or dependent children shall be augmented at the rate of \$200 (raised from \$150) per year per dependent child until the dependents reach the 19th birthday. However, the pension to such a widow shall not exceed 50% of the average salary of our ministers in active service. —*Adopted*

10. *Addenda Article II, Widows, 5, page 14*

The following rule is recommended: "If a pensioner is employed and receives remuneration for such employment it shall not prejudice his (her) pension allowance unless remuneration exceeds his (her) pension allowance. In such events the pensioner shall report his (her) earnings to the secretary of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration, and the excess amount of the salary over the pension shall be deducted from his (her) pension allowance as long as this condition continues."

*Grounds:*

1. The board is faced increasingly with the problem of ministers emeritated for reasons other than age and/or length of service, as well as their widows, who are working and at the same time requesting pension.

2. It is felt that an amendment such as the above is needed to safeguard our pension funds. —*Adopted*

11. *Addenda III, Salary-G*

Add rule as g, under Addenda III, Salary: "A minister who is not called to a particular congregation as their pastor but is engaged as an official of the church in another type of ecclesiastical organization which affords him the opportunity of adding to his salary by preaching and stated supply, shall add such remuneration received to the salary on which 3½% (or 4½%) is to be paid. Such earnings shall be reported annually to the board."

*Ground:* It is suggested as a fair requirement in view of their increased rental allowance and their availability for paid preaching services. —*Adopted*

12. *Addenda Moving Expenses, B, 4.* The following costs shall be paid: *Personal Travel Expense.* Coach fare for the minister, his wife, and qualified dependents; coach fare for the widow, and her children under 19 (changed from 18) years of age. If travel is by auto the equivalent of coach fare is to be allowed. —*Adopted*

### 13. *Addenda Special Matters.*

It is recommended that these rules be incorporated in the body of the regular rules listed previously.

- (1.) To be added to Article X.
- (2.) To be added to Article VI A.
- (3.) To be added to Article VI C.

—*Adopted*

## II. DENOMINATIONAL SEAL

A. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 37. (See Supplement No. 37)

B. *Recommendations:*

1. That Synod tentatively adopt the proposed seal as the Denominational Seal, final decision to be made next year.

*Ground:* This seal adequately symbolizes our historical, biblical Christian character.

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod instruct the present Denominational Seal Committee to publicize the Denominational Seal in order to implement the above decision and to ascertain the reaction of the church.

—*Adopted*

## III. CHRISTIAN REFORMED RESETTLEMENT SERVICE COMMITTEE

A. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 24. (See Supplement No. 24)

B. *Recommendations:*

1. That Synod take grateful note of the splendid work of its Resettlement Service Committee.

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod continue the original mandate regarding sponsorship of Dutch and Indonesian immigrants and the relocation of Dutch immigrants already in the United States (cf. *Acts*, 1957, p. 68; *Acts*, 1958, p. 65; and *Acts*, 1959, p. 15).

3. That Synod continue the mandate of this committee to permit work toward the resettlement of immigrants and the relocation of immigrants already in the United States regardless of nationality. (cf. *Acts*, 1959, p. 15)

—*Adopted*

4. That Synod continue to give encouragement and support to the committee in the projects of a spiritual and material nature done in behalf of the Reformed Hungarians in Austria in cooperation with the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands.

—*Adopted*

5. That Synod reduce the number of members on the committee from nine to six members.

*Ground:* The nature of the work done by this committee does not demand a large membership. (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

(Varia Matters, No. 1, continued in Art. 141)

## ARTICLE 73

The Advisory Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 2, Rev. B. J. Haan reporting, presents the following:

### I. PUNT APPEAL

A. *Problem:* There are several communications which from the formal point of view are legally before Synod. However, very recently the com-

plainant has passed away. The question faces Synod whether or not consequently it should deal with this matter.

B. *Recommendation*: Although the protestant is now deceased, Synod should consider his protest.

*Grounds:*

1. When an ecclesiastical assembly considers a protest the question is not who is right but what is right. Cf. Schaver's *The Polity of the Churches*, p. 104) (Volume I)

2. The protest constitutes an indictment of a consistory and a classis, and Synod owes it to those bodies either to vindicate them or declare them at fault.

3. The protest deals with doctrinal matters which are of serious concern to all our churches. —*Rejected*

## II. MALIEPAARD APPEAL

### A. *Materials*:

1. Letter to Hanford consistory, January 2, 1959
2. Reply from consistory, February 11, 1959
3. Letter to Hanford consistory, February 26, 1959
4. Reply from consistory, May 11, 1959
5. Letter to Hanford consistory, June 1, 1959
6. Letter to Hanford consistory, July 3, 1959
7. Reply from consistory, August 10, 1959
8. Letter to Classis California, August 15, 1959
9. Reply from Classis California, October 6, 1959
10. Letter to Classis California, January 18, 1960
11. Letter of appeal to Synod, January 18, 1960

B. *Summary of the case*: Mr. Maliepaard is deeply concerned over the action of the Hanford, California, consistory to place a board in the church with brass memorial plates listing the names of the deceased in whose memory various gifts were donated. The brother gives various reasons for his concern, the main reasons being his conviction that this honors the donor rather than God, Who alone should receive glory in the church; that this is humanistic and follows in the path of modernism; that one name appears, the memory of which is associated with a questionable death, and another name of a party who never belonged to the Hanford congregation.

After three appeals to the consistory which were answered without satisfaction to the brother, an appeal was made to Classis California. Classis California gave the following reply which the brother is not satisfied with and hence appeals to Synod. The reply of Classis California:

"Since this is a purely local issue and since the majority in the consistory and congregation favor this recognition of memorials, your committee recommends that the consistory handle these matters judiciously and that the brother acquiesce."

C. *Evaluation*: It is evident that this matter was not dealt with thoroughly in the light of Scriptural principles. This is clear from the protestant's quotations from Scripture, most of which are obviously irrelevant and from the reply of the consistory to the protestant's objections, even though the nature of the latter made it difficult for the consistory to deal with this matter in a satisfactory manner.

Nor did Classis California address itself to the central issue. The question needing an answer is whether or not the position of the Hanford consistory is Scripturally defensible. Furthermore, the reply of Classis California assumes without substantiation that this matter is a "purely local issue" in which only a majority decision of the consistory and congregation is necessary.

*D. Recommendations:*

1. That Synod inform the parties concerned that this matter should be considered in the light of such questions as:

a. whether or not the principle of liberty in indifferent matters permits the placing of memorial plaques in a church building.

b. whether or not that practice is forbidden by such Scriptural teachings as the equality of rich and poor in the church, the requirement that giving be without display, the pre-eminence of Christ rather than the Christian in all things, the demands of Christian humility, and the danger of giving offense to fellow-believers. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod declare this decision to be its answer to the complainant. —*Adopted*

(Protests and Appeals No. 2, continued in Art. 78)

ARTICLE 74

Synod adjourns, and Elder G. Eisenga leads in the closing prayer.

TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 14, 1960

Twelfth Session

ARTICLE 75

President T. C. Van Kooten calls Synod to order. After the singing of Psalter Hymnal No. 131:3, 5, Rev. J. Malestein leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 76

Mr. James La Grand returns and replaces his alternate as delegate from Classis Grand Rapids East.

ARTICLE 77

Synod approves the following nominations:

A. *For the Tract Committee* (See Art. 172)

1. Mr. A. Hoekstra and Mr. Albert Bytwerck
2. Mr. J. C. Ribbens and Rev. Henry Visscher
3. Rev. G. Bernard Dokter and Rev. Donald Negen

B. *For the Chaplain Committee* (See Art. 172)

1. Revs. Harold Dekker and G. Bernard Dokter
2. Rev. J. D. Eppinga and Dr. Dick L. Van Halsema
3. Messrs. Harry Faber and Evan Van Lopik
4. Revs. A. Pontier and Richard H. Wezeman

C. *For the Back to God Hour* (unexpired term of Rev. G. Kok) (See Art. 172)

Rev. J. B. Hulst and Rev. Henry C. Van Wyk

D. *For the Back to God Hour* (See Art. 172)

1. Revs. C. Oliver Buus and Herman Hoekstra

2. Revs. John Geels and Peter De Jong

3. Messrs. Ralph Vermeer and Nick Vander Ploeg

4. Messrs. Andrew Van Noord and James Zoetewey

E. *For the Christian Reformed Board of Missions* (See Art. 172)

1. The proposal of the Board to have Dr. Richard De Mol complete the unexpired term of Mr. Maynard Vander Wal is approved by Synod.

2. One new member and one alternate. (See Art. 172)

Harold Gelderloos and C. Schrader

Louis Van Ess and Dr. E. Y. Postma

#### ARTICLE 78

The Advisory Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 2, Rev. B. J. Haan reporting, cf. Art. 73, presents the following:

##### SCHEERES PROTEST

A. Matter legally before Synod. A letter from Mr. Scheeres dated May 2.

B. *Content of Protest.* Mr. Scheeres states his dissatisfaction with the decision of the Synod of 1959.

"Mr. and Mrs. John Scheeres are appealing against a decision of the September, 1958, meeting of Classis Grand Rapids East. In this decision classis did not sustain a protest they brought against their consistory. Their protest was that the Imlay City consistory had not taken sufficient action and applied disciplinary measures to stop Sabbath desecration in the form of Sunday labor. Subsequent to this decision new and further evidence has appeared to support their protest. This evidence classis, at a later meeting, has refused to consider. Classis declared it had no bearing on their former decision. Hence the Scheeres appeal to Synod against the September, 1958, decision.

##### C. *Recommendations:*

1. Synod do not sustain the protest of Mr. and Mrs. John Scheeres against Classis Grand Rapids East inasmuch as the material of this protest is first of all a consistorial responsibility. —*Adopted*

2. Synod advise the protestants to take the new evidence pertaining to Sabbath desecration to their consistory. *Adopted.* (*Acts of Synod*, 1959, III, C and D, p. 61)

3. Synod do no more than receive this letter as information.

*Ground:* There is no new evidence for Synod to consider. —*Adopted* (*Protests and Appeals*, No. 2, continued in Art. 121)



## ARTICLE 79

The Advisory Committee on *Foreign Missions*, Rev. A. De Kruyter reporter, presents the following:

## I. ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL

A. *Membership of Board*

1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)
2. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the membership of the Board. (See Art. 172, II)

B. *Representation at Synod*

1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)
2. *Recommendation*: Synod grant the privilege of the floor to the president and treasurer of the board and the Secretary of Missions when matters of foreign missions are being discussed.

Note: Several missionaries are home and Synod may wish to hear these men on matters pertaining to their fields of labor. They include Rev. H. J. Schripsema from the Indian Field, Rev. Ralph Baker from Nigeria, Rev. Robert Sutton from Japan, and Rev. John Van Ens from Ceylon.

—Adopted

## II. GENERAL MATTERS

A. *Relief for Distressed Areas*

1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)
2. *Recommendation*: Your committee endorses the proposal of the board to set up the proper committees to handle both emergencies and continuing needs throughout the world and referred this matter to another committee of Synod which will report more fully on this matter. Referred to Advisory Committee, Varia, No. 2.

B. *Aid to Foreign Students*

1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)
2. *Background*:

Appeals from both Japan and Nigeria for assistance to nationals seeking training for spiritual leadership in their own lands have been carefully studied by the board. Your committee shares the concern of the board in regard to this need but has modified the proposals submitted by the board which will become apparent by a comparison of the committee proposal and the board proposal.

3. *Recommendations*:

- a. Synod declare that the training and preparation of national Christians for religious leadership among their own people is an important and crucial aspect of the total mission program of the church in the light of the uncertain world situation today. Therefore money spent to assist promising students either in our own or other approved schools is a legitimate use of mission funds.

*Grounds:*

1. We are already acting on the basis of this general principle in our expenditure of funds for various educational enterprises on our fields or in the countries where our fields are located.

2. The best hope for the earliest possible transfer of our fields to indigenous leadership is through a vigorous and aggressive program of training of promising nationals for such leadership. —*Adopted*

b. Synod give authorization for a budget item on fields requesting aid to nationals preparing themselves at approved schools for evangelistic and ministerial service to their own people, this fund to be administered by each field conference in accordance with a set of regulations to be drawn up by the Executive Committee. —*Adopted*

c. Synod declare that requests for aid to nationals preparing themselves for some other aspects of Christian service than the directly evangelistic and ministerial ones will be referred to the office of the Board of Foreign Missions for possible contact with willing supporters. —*Adopted*

III. INDIAN FIELD

A. *Intermountain School, Brigham City, Utah*

1. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

2. *Background:* Since Synod approved the expenditure of \$22,000 for a building it has become apparent that such a building would be improper and inadequate due to the overshadowing buildings of the Mormons and others erected nearby and due to the program requirements of our mission.

3. *Recommendation:* Synod approve the plan and program for the erection of the building of the chapel and multipurpose unit at a cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

*Grounds:*

a. Previous plan is inadequate for a complete and acceptable program.

b. Most of the money, by cash and pledge, is on hand. —*Adopted*

B. *Rehoboth School*

1. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

2. *Background:* The old adobe building is fragile and condemned by the state as unsafe. It has been repaired until this method of preservation is no longer possible.

3. *Recommendation:* Synod approve the construction of a new building at an approximate cost of \$42,000 and that the money come from the special gifts fund.

*Ground:* The building is condemned as unsafe. —*Adopted*

C. *Additional Teacher at Rehoboth High School*

1. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

2. *Background:* The Educational Superintendent of the school has received additional administrative tasks in the past few years and must still busy himself teaching. The board recommends that a teacher be added

to the staff to relieve the superintendent for additional duties of administration and public relations with parents.

3. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the recommendation of the board to employ an additional teacher for the Rehoboth High School.

—*Adopted*

(Foreign Mission Matters continued in Art. 85)

#### ARTICLE 80

Synod adjourns, and Elder H. A. Smit leads in the closing prayer.

### WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 15, 1960

#### Thirteenth Session

#### ARTICLE 81

President T. C. Van Kooten calls the Synod to order. The devotions are conducted by Rev. A. E. Rozendal. Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 385: 1-3. Ephesians 4: 1-13 is read, and prayer is offered.

#### ARTICLE 82

Roll call is taken and all delegates are present, with the exception of Elder W. De Lange of Classis Grand Rapids East and Elder J. Ykema of Classis Hackensack, who is absent because of illness.

#### ARTICLE 83

The minutes of Tuesday, June 14, are read and approved.

#### ARTICLE 84

The Advisory Committee on *Varia*, No. 2, Rev. S. Rooy reporting, cf. Art. 37, presents the following:

#### I. KOREAN MATERIAL RELIEF

##### A. *Materials*:

1. Agenda Reports No. 11 and No. 15. (See Supplements No. 11 and No. 15)

2. Communication No. 7, Reaction to Recommendation of Korean Material Study Committee. (See Communication No. 7)

##### B. *Information*:

1. The Synod of 1959 decided "to appoint a Study Committee to undertake, in conjunction with the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference, a thorough investigation and reconsideration of our program of Korean Material Relief; and render report with recommendations to Synod" (*Acts*, 1959, p. 48). The occasion for such a study was the lack of a clear synodical mandate and problems regarding the distribution of material aid.

2. The Study Committee has made various proposals for a more effective program while advising continued study on various aspects of the work, such as the definition of our relationship to the native church. Your Advisory Committee presents the following recommendations as

an endorsement of the general position of the Study Committee, while advising further study on certain specific proposals, e.g., the matters of working to increase native support for the orphanages, and that of increasing financial aid to the Gospel Hospital in Pusan.

3. It is our understanding that a representative of the Study Committee will be given the opportunity to speak.

*C. Recommendations:*

1. That the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference be instructed to continue material relief, in monies and goods, to Korea.

*Grounds:*

a. This is the consensus of opinion of those who have personally investigated the need in Korea. The reports of Revs. Sutton, Smit, Hunt, and Malsbury all point up the continuing poverty.

b. The need for medical vans and teams and relief throughout the villages of Korea is unquestioned. The medical wants of the many far removed from hospital centers, or unable to transport themselves to such centers, cries for this outreach of mercy.

c. The Korean government, during the 1959 typhoon, was only able to meet the desperate need for food to the extent of one portion of one day's rice for each needy family. This points up very clearly that without the help of others the Koreans face certain starvation.

d. In the light of this continuing need and poverty we hear Scripture's mandate to Christ's Church, "so then as we have opportunity let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 5:10). It is just this that the Deacons' Conference has been doing since it began its work of mercy in Korea. Down to the present moment the Christian church in Korea is only able to assist their members in a very limited way.

—*Adopted*

2. That the Korean Material Relief cause be placed on the list of accredited causes for one or more offerings in 1960. (See Art. 148)

—*Adopted*

3. That Synod decide to establish closer supervision of our Material Relief funds in the following manner:

a. That immediate steps be taken to call a missionary for spiritual work in Korea, as the Synod of 1957 has previously authorized. Further that he be asked to serve in a liaison capacity to the Material Relief Committee and gradually provide direction to its program. —*Adopted*

b. That the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference, charged with the supervision of Korean Material Relief, consider ways of making the relief work more effective after consultation with the missionary on the field. The committee is urged to give special consideration to the application of indigenous principles, especially with regard to the following:

(1) The possibility of increasing native support of the orphanages.

(2) The amount of financial aid for the Gospel Hospital in Pusan.

(3) Our relationship to the native church in the giving and channeling of our funds.

*Grounds:*

(a) This would make our work far more effective by enabling us to spend our many thousands of dollars in the most helpful manner.

(b) This would enable our church periodicals to carry firsthand information on the work and its need so that many of our church members, who now send their gifts through other agencies, would again channel them through our deacons.

(c) Our missionaries are of the opinion that such a man is needed.

—*Adopted*

4. Synod declares this constitutes an answer to Communication No. 7.

—*Adopted*

## II. WORLD-WIDE RELIEF SERVICE COMMITTEE

A. *Materials:* Agenda Report No. 11, Part II. (See Supplement No. 11)

B. *Information:* The Material Relief Study Committee sets forth the need for a World-wide Service Committee to meet disaster emergencies immediately and to alleviate the growing problem of world poverty. The committee makes appeal to the following:

1. *The Banner* editorial in which world needs are pointedly expressed.

2. A letter from Rev. H. Bruinooge, Secretary of the Japan General Conference, in which he states:

"I might add that all of us felt that it would be highly desirable if our church at home had established some kind of central relief agency long ago. In recent years there have been several disasters such as this in Japan (the flood in the Netherlands, the Holland Marsh flood, the Korean War, the Hudsonville tornado disaster) which could have been handled by a Christian Reformed Church relief agency if such had been in existence."

3. The Foreign Mission Board with respect to material, emergency, and medical needs of indigent churches.

4. The example of other denominations and groups, which have the necessary organization to meet emergency needs anywhere in the world.

C. *Recommendation:* Your committee endorses in principle recommendation of the Material Relief Study Committee in somewhat altered form.

1. Synod favors the establishment of

a. A World-wide Service Committee of our denominational Deacons' Conferences to administer all of our works of mercy in such areas where the local congregation is unable to do so.

*Grounds:*

(1) It would be more advantageous for one central committee to solicit funds than for several committees to do so.

(2) Our Christian Reformed Church is increasingly being called upon to give a world-wide witness to its Christian expression of mercy.

(3) There is becoming evident a need to administer relief to the Christians whom our missionaries serve in other lands. —*Adopted*

2. Synod appoint a special committee to study this entire matter in consultation with existing Deacons' Conferences and to advise the Synod of 1961 regarding the following:

a. The definition of the nature and scope of the World-wide Service Committee.

b. Proposed ways and means of effecting the establishment of this committee.

c. The urgency and possibility of the establishment of local Deacons' Conferences throughout the United States and Canada so that the World-wide Service Committee may be composed of deacons representing all sections of the denomination. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

### III. ADMINISTRATION OF BAPTISM

#### A. *Material*: Overture No. 2.

B. *Overture*: "Classis Chatham overtures Synod to declare that the administration of baptism on one Sunday in the month is in conflict with the spirit and the letter of Article 56 of the *Church Order* and to urge the churches which have introduced this practice to abandon it, and to request the classes by means of their church visitors to see to it that the churches also in this respect live according to the rule of the *Church Order* which they have adopted with common consent."

C. *Recommendation*: Your Advisory Committee recommends that Synod answer the overture of Classis Chatham as follows:

1. Article 56 of the *Church Order* determines the time of baptism only on the basis of feasibility.

2. Only the local consistory can determine that feasibility, which specifically includes the desires of the parents.

3. Consistories ought to be willing to grant permission for early baptism where such is requested. —*Adopted*

### IV. EVALUATION OF ECUMENICAL SYNOD REPORT ON WARFARE

#### A. *Materials*:

1. Agenda Report No. 7. (See Supplement No. 7)

2. *Acts of the Fourth Reformed Ecumenical Synod*, 1958, pp. 28-29.

3. *Acts of Synod*, 1939, pp. 240-250.

B. *Mandate* — *Acts of Synod*, 1959, Art. 163, ID 2, p. 80.

"That this resolution be referred to a Study Committee for evaluation and recommendation concerning the use we ought to make of it, this committee to report to the Synod of 1960."

C. *Recommendation*: That Synod appoint a new committee:

1. To study the problem of the church's attitude toward war in the light of the resolutions of the Ecumenical Synod and to present to the Synod of 1962 for adoption either that statement, or a reformulation or revision of it, or a new proposed statement, should the committee

judge such to be advisable. Further, the committee be instructed to take into special consideration the declaration of 1939.

2. To prepare their recommendations so that these can be forwarded to the Ecumenical Synod of 1963 should our Synod approve.

*Grounds:*

a. International tensions and the threat of atomic war place a grave moral issue before the church which cannot be ignored.

b. Full consideration must be given to the resolutions of our sister churches in the light of our previously adopted statement of 1939.

c. Our membership in the Reformed Ecumenical Synod requires that an effort be made to forward the considered judgment of the church on the ecumenical resolution to that body. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*  
(Varia Matters, No. 2, continued in Art. 158.)

#### ARTICLE 85

The Advisory Committee on *Foreign Missions*, Rev. A. De Kruyter reporting, cf. Art. 79, presents the following:

##### I. WHITE HORSE LAKE

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

*Background*: The erection of a home in accordance with the decision of the Synod of 1956 has been delayed due to lack of water supply. Since that requirement has now been met, the Board is planning to erect the home.

B. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the erection of the home at White Horse Lake at an approximate cost of \$11,500.

*Ground*: This is in harmony with the decision of the Synod of 1956. Synod tables the recommendation until the Synod of 1961, and instructs the board in consultation with Indian General Conference to submit an evaluation to that Synod.

##### II. ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS

1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

2. *Background*: A number of our young Navaho Christians are eager to prepare for the ministry but do not have the means to finance an education, and the board has no provision for such educational help. The board respectfully requests Synod to permit these prospective ministers to be included among those who may apply for benefits from the Synodical Committee for Sponsorship of Foreign Students.

3. *Recommendation*: Synod do not concur in the request of the board.

*Ground*: The provisions of the Synodical Committee for the Sponsorship of Foreign Students do not provide for such cases, but rather for non-Christian Reformed foreign students who wish to study at our schools for a maximum of two years. —*Adopted*

### III. LATIN AMERICA (CUBA)

#### A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

The committee calls the attention of Synod to the expanding work and progress in the Cuban field.

B. *Recommendation*: Synod express approval of this expansion and concur in the work of the board in a new area known as La Cienaga de Zapata in the swamp area south of Jaguey Grande. —*Adopted*  
(Foreign Missions Matters continued in Art. 89)

#### ARTICLE 86

Synod adjourns and Elder H. Van Regenmorter closes with prayer.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 15, 1960

#### Fourteenth Session

#### ARTICLE 87

Synod participates in the cornerstone ceremonies of the new Centennial Memorial Seminary Building. The President of Synod presents an address on "The Seminary and the Church." Ephesians 2:10-22 is read and an address is given by Dr. John H. Kromminga, the President of the Seminary. Closing remarks are made and prayer is offered by Rev. William Van Rees, president of the Board of Trustees. Synod sings the doxology.

#### ARTICLE 88

Synod reconvenes and after the singing of Psalter Hymnal No. 429, Rev. P. Vander Weide leads in prayer.

#### ARTICLE 89

Synod resumes its consideration of the report of the Advisory Committee on *Foreign Missions*, cf. Arts. 79, 85, Rev. A. De Kruyter reporting:

#### I. SOUTH ASIA

##### A. *Australia*

##### 1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

2. Note: The Reformed Church of Australia has requested that Rev. R. Sutton represent them at Synod. Your committee recommends this to Synod. —*Adopted*

3. *Recommendation*: Synod authorize the board to hire a lay worker to assist Rev. Van Groningen at Geelong. —*Adopted*

##### B. *Indonesia*

##### 1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

2. *Background*: It was reported to our committee that the relations between the Dutch and the Indonesians are becoming increasingly strained. It was further reported that Americans are well received in Indonesia.



3. *Recommendation*: Synod express approval of the action of the board and urge the board to carry out the mandate of the Synod of 1958, "... to send two missionaries to Indonesia to work in Sumatra in accordance with the request for missionary help repeatedly urged upon us by the Javanese Reformed Church." (*Acts*, 1958, page 51)

*Ground*: American missionaries are urgently needed to replace the Dutch missionaries who are rapidly losing their effectiveness under present governmental tensions. —*Adopted*

## II. SUDAN

### A. Educational Matters

#### 1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

The board reports: "It was decided to approve the establishment of the Tiv Bible school. The following grounds were offered and these also indicate what the nature of the school will be: (a) There is a crying need for trained Bible school teachers to carry on the evangelistic work of the Tiv Church; (b) The establishment of this Bible school will contribute effectively to the promotion of the central task of missions, the transmission of the gospel; (c) While considerable Bible school work is being carried on in the Eastern Province, this has been neglected in the Tiv area."

#### 2. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the work of the board.

—*Adopted*

### B. *DRCM (Missionaries of the Gefedereerde Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerke.)*

#### 1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

"The attention of Synod is called to the assignment of DRCM missionaries to our work. The transfer of the entire Tiv field of the DRCM to us is progressing step by step, but it involves the continuance of some of the DRCM missionaries even though the field is transferred to our administration. With this in mind the board has approved the recommendation of our General Conference:

(1) Re ministerial status of ordained men and church membership status for laymen, that we request the DRC Synod to consider the possibility of permitting a special dispensation for the Tiv workers on loan to the CRCM.

(2) Re salary, that during the two initial terms of service the salary of the DRC employees be the same as our personnel in similar work, rather than the basic salary of the DRC plus one-half of the difference between their basic salary and the CRCM basic salary.

(3) Re pensions, that the CRC pay into the South African Pension Fund in the way in which the DRC is doing at present."

#### 2. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the work of the board as outlined. —*Adopted*

(Foreign Missions Matters continued in Art. 130)

ARTICLE 90

The President of Synod reads a letter from Dr. A. A. Hoekema, accepting his re-appointment as Professor of Systematic Theology. (cf. Art. 55) He expresses the gratitude of Synod.

ARTICLE 91

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 2, Rev. H. Erffmeyer reporting, cf. Arts. 45, 51, presents the following:

I. INTERIM COMMITTEE OF REFORMED ECUMENICAL SYNOD

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 16. (See Supplement No. 16)

B. *Recommendations*:

1. Synod thank the Interim Committee of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod for its report. —*Adopted*

2. Synod accede to the request for \$500 annually until 1963 as an honorarium for a general secretary, to be paid from our Ecumenical Synod expense fund. —*Adopted*

3. Synod extend its congratulations to Rev. Gerrit Hoeksema upon his appointment as general secretary of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod, and pray God's blessing upon his work. —*Adopted*

II. MINISTERIAL STATUS OF REV. C. L. VAN ZEE

A. *Materials*: Communication No. 8, Report of Synodical Examiners to Synod, file of Classis Minnesota North re: Rev. C. L. Van Zee. (See Communication No. 8)

B. *Synopsis*:

At a special session of Classis Minnesota North held at Willmar, Minnesota, on June 1, 1960, in response to the request of the consistory of Hancock Christian Reformed Church, the pastoral relationship of their pastor, Rev. C. L. Van Zee, was dissolved with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies from Classes Sioux Center, Orange City, and Minnesota South, effective June 19, 1960. The synodical examiners also advised classis "to give most earnest consideration to the matter of terminating the ministerial status of Rev. Van Zee." Upon motion Classis Minnesota North decided to inform Synod that it could not follow this advice of the synodical deputies in view of the fact that there is no authority in the Church Order to do so at this time. Classis further decided that Rev. Van Zee be declared ineligible for a call until such time as Synod has acted in view of the difference between the synodical deputies and the classis.

C. *Recommendations*:

1. Synod approve the action of the synodical examiners in concurring with Classis Minnesota North in the matter of dissolving the pastoral relationship between Rev. C. L. Van Zee and the Hancock Christian Reformed Church. —*Adopted*

2. Synod concur with Classis Minnesota North in its refusal to follow the advice of the synodical examiners to terminate the ministerial status of Rev. C. L. Van Zee.

*Ground:* Our *Church Order* does not provide for the immediate termination of the ministerial status of a minister upon the dissolution of the relationship of a minister and a congregation without ecclesiastical censure.

—*Adopted*

### III. CANDIDACY OF REV. FINLAY A. MCCORMICK

A. *Material:* Communication No. 2. (See Communication No. 2)

B. *Information:* Rev. Finlay A. McCormick, formerly a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, was examined by Classis Eastern Ontario on May 11, 1960, for entrance into the Christian Reformed ministry according to Art. 9 of the *Church Order*. The synodical examiners objected to his entrance into the Christian Reformed ministry, giving three reasons stated in the communication. However, Classis Eastern Ontario voted in favor of his admittance. Classis requests Synod to adjudicate this matter by hearing Rev. McCormick in person.

#### *Document submitted by the Three Synodical Examiners*

The undersigned synodical deputies objected to have Rev. Finlay A. McCormick (minister of the Presbyterian Church of Canada) declared eligible for a call as minister of the Christian Reformed Church.

#### *Reasons:*

1. The sermon did not give evidence of an adequate exposition of the Scripture in that the central truth of the text was not expounded (1 Kings 18:39).
2. The examination in Dogmatics did not give evidence of such a knowledge of Scriptural doctrine as is desirable for one who is to instruct the congregation.
3. In view of his background we could understand his present relation to the "Peniel Movement." However, we are not convinced that his continued support of the movement could not be a danger for himself, and for the congregation he would serve as pastor.

Synodical Deputies,

Rev. A. B. C. Hofland, Classis Chatham

Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, Classis Hamilton

Rev. P. M. Jonker, Classis Toronto

C. *Recommendation:* Synod sustain the synodical examiners of Classes Chatham, Hamilton, and Toronto in their objection to the entrance of Rev. Finlay A. McCormick into the Christian Reformed ministry.

*Ground:* Classis Eastern Ontario has not submitted sufficient evidence to overcome the objections presented by the synodical examiners.

—*Adopted*

### IV. UTRECHT CONCLUSIONS

A. *Materials:* Overtures Nos. 10, 20, 39, 58, 67 and 76.

B. *Synopsis:* All of these overtures deal with essentially the same matter, viz. the Conclusions of Utrecht of 1905, accepted by the Christian Reformed Church in 1908. The idea set forth in these overtures is that these Conclusions of Utrecht are of such a nature that they are not essential to our doctrinal position as a Christian Reformed Church and are an obstacle to closer relationship with certain Reformed churches that subscribe to the same creeds as the Christian Reformed Church.

*C. Recommendations:*

1. Synod appoint a study committee to study the overtures: 10, 20, 58 (2), 67, and 76 anent the Utrecht conclusions. (See Art. 172, V)

*Grounds:*

a. There is considerable interest in this matter of the Conclusions of Utrecht in connection with the relationship to the Reformed churches mentioned in the above-named overtures.

b. An answer to these overtures can only be given after a thorough study of the entire matter. —*Adopted*

2. We further recommend in answer to the request in Overtures 39 and 58 (1) for working toward a sisterly relationship with the Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland (Vrijgemaakt), Synod postpone this matter until this study committee reports. —*Adopted*

(Church Order Matters, No. 2, continued in Art. 160)

ARTICLE 92

The Advisory Committee on *Home Missions*, Rev. M. Baarman reporting, presents the following:

I. REPRESENTATION AT SYNOD

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 6, part I. (See Supplement No. 6, I)

B. *Recommendation*: Your advisory committee recommends to Synod that the president, secretary and treasurer together with the Minister of Evangelism be granted the privilege of the floor when Home Missions matters are considered. —*Adopted*

II. OVERTURE OF CLASSIS ALBERTA NORTH RE TWO MEMBERS AT LARGE

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 6, VIII, 3, a. (See Supplement No. 6, VIII, 3, a)

B. *Orientation*: Classis Alberta North overtured the Board of Home Missions requesting two members-at-large representing Eastern and Western Canada respectively, for membership on the Home Missions Board.

*C. Recommendations:*

1. Your committee, after careful investigation and consultation, feels constrained to recommend to Synod that the Canadian section of the church be granted two members-at-large (laymen) on the Board of Home Missions, one from Western Canada and one from the Eastern section of Canada; the one from the Eastern section of Canada to serve on the Executive Committee.

*Ground*: It is the opinion of your committee that the inequity lies in the members-at-large category. There is an obvious need for a more equitable representation for Canada on the General Board and on the Executive Committee.

a. There are 17 members on the Executive Committee; none of these are from Canada.

b. There is one member-at-large for 11 Canadian fields. There are five members-at-large for 36 U.S.A. fields.

c. There are seven Canadian classes; one member-at-large. There are 23 U.S.A. classes, five members-at-large. —*Adopted*

2. In order to implement the above recommendation, your committee recommends the following for action by Synod:

a. Delete the four nominees listed for "Central U.S.A." in the Agenda (Report No. 6, Part I). (See Supplement No. 6, Part I)

*Ground:* The Central U.S.A. is already represented by Messrs. Hoeksema and Vander Til.

b. In the vacancy created by the relocation of Mr. J. Boeve, we recommend that Mr. Farenhorst of Hamilton, Ontario, be inserted as a member-at-large on the Executive Committee.

*Ground:* He is within traveling distance from Grand Rapids and could function as a representative for Canada on the Executive Committee of the board.

c. That Mr. Farenhorst be instated with a term to expire in 1963.

*Ground:* This will assure continuity and stability to the board's schedule of personnel on the Executive Committee.

d. Your committee recommends that Mr. Monsma, the alternate to Mr. Farenhorst, replace Mr. Farenhorst as a primus member of the General Board. (Mr. Monsma is from Western Canada.)

e. Because of these unusual circumstances, your committee submits to Synod the following four names from which two alternates can be elected to serve as alternates to members-at-large, namely Farenhorst and Monsma.

(1) Alternate to Mr. Farenhorst: Mr. J. Joosse, Sr., Mr. D. Wesseling

(2) Alternate to Mr. Monsma: Mr. John Stad, Mr. C. T. Withage  
—*Adopted*

### III. OVERTURE OF CLASSIS ALBERTA NORTH TO BOARD OF THE HOME MISSIONS RE CANADIAN MATTERS

A. *Material:* Agenda Report, No. 6, Part VIII, 3b, (4). (See Supplement No. 6, Part VIII, 3b, (4).)

#### B. *Recommendation:*

1. That Synod approve the decision of the Board of Home Missions not to appoint a separate standing advisory committee on Canadian matters.

*Ground:* Such a committee is provided for more effectively in the proposal of the board. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod adopt the board's proposal to add the board delegate (minister) from Classis Chatham to the membership of the Executive Committee.

*Ground:* This addition together with Mr. Farenhorst will provide personnel for the proposed committee on Canadian matters. —*Adopted*

3. That the board action that from the membership of the Executive Committee a sub-committee on Canadian Mission matters be appointed. —*Adopted*

4. That the prospective delegate from Classis Chatham on the Executive Committee be a member of said sub-committee. —*Adopted*

5. Synod approves the following nomination of the Home Missions Committee for members from Eastern U.S.A.:

Fred Steen

John Hamersma

Peter Damsma

W. Vander Eerns

(Home Missions Matters continued in Art. 95)

#### ARTICLE 93

Synod adjourns and Elder C. C. Benckhuysen closes with prayer.

### WEDNESDAY EVENING, JUNE 15, 1960

#### Fifteenth Session

#### ARTICLE 94

The President calls the meeting to order. Rev. F. Einfeld announces Psalter Hymnal No. 189 and leads in prayer. Dr. J. L. Strikwerda is present as alternate delegate for Mr. E. Vanden Brink (Classis Holland), Rev. H. De Mots for Rev. N. L. Veltman (Classis Grand Rapids East), Rev. J. Boonstra for Rev. P. Holtrop (Classis Grand Rapids West), Rev. C. De Haan for Rev. A. E. Rozendal (Classis Zeeland), Rev. John Ribbens for Rev. Wm. Vander Haak (Classis Kalamazoo). These delegates arise and express their agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement to the Forms of Unity."

#### ARTICLE 95

Classis resumes its consideration of the report of the Advisory Committee on *Home Missions*, cf. Art. 92, Rev. M. C. Baarman reporting.

#### I. OPENING NEW FIELDS

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report No. 6, Part V. (See Supplement No. 6, Part V) —*Adopted*

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod authorize the opening of 10 new fields as proposed by the board. Opening of these fields will depend upon successful surveys and budget limitations. —*Adopted*

#### II. SPECIAL GRANTS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 6, Part VII, items 1, 2, and 3; and Agenda Report 6-A, C, 2, 3, and 4, and 5. (See Supplements No 6, No. 6-A)

B. *Recommendations*: (See Supplement No. 6, Part VII)

1. That Synod approve the request of the Oak Harbor, Washington, Church for aid to the extent of \$3,000 for 1961, to carry on its local evangelization project. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod approve the request of Racine, Wisconsin, for aid in the amount of \$2,000 for 1961, to carry on its local evangelization project.

—*Adopted*

3. That Synod approve the request of Hamilton, Ontario, for financial aid in the amount of \$2,000 for the year 1961, to carry on its local evangelization project.

4. That Synod take note of the fact that the status of the South Grove field has changed and they are no longer requesting aid. Received as information. (See Supplement No. 6-A, C)

5. That Synod approve the request of the churches of Central South Dakota for financial aid for Rapid City, South Dakota, to the extent of \$4,000 for 1961, to carry on their local evangelization project.

—*Adopted*

6. That Synod approve the request of the Mt. Vernon, Washington, Church for financial aid in the amount of \$2,000 for 1961, to carry on its local evangelization project.

—*Adopted*

7. That Synod approve the request of the Highland, Michigan, Church for financial aid in the amount of \$2,500 for 1961, to carry on its local evangelization project.

—*Adopted*

### III. INDIANS AND MIGRANTS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 6, Part VIII, 4. (See Supplement No. 6, Part VIII, 4)

#### B. *Introduction*:

1. The government is encouraging young Indians to seek schooling in places off the reservation and thereafter seek to become part of the wide American community.

2. "Indian students, who formerly had contact with our missionaries on the Indian reservations and now residing at Brigham City, Utah, are presently being cared for by our Board of Foreign Missions. A like program has been introduced at Albuquerque, New Mexico, under the direction of the Home Missions Board. Moreover a similar intermittent work has been carried on by the Home Missions Board at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

"However, now the Board of Home Missions has been requested to inaugurate similar programs at Salt Lake City, Utah; Sherman Institute, Los Angeles, California; and the Pewamo School for Indians at Salem, Oregon.

"Recognizing the importance of this follow-up program for the evangelization of our on-the-Reservation-Indian-contacts, we conferred with the Executive Committee of our Foreign Board re the proper place thereof. The question namely: does this assignment, and its expansion, belong with the Foreign Missions Board or with the Home Missions Board?"

#### C. *Recommendation*:

Your Advisory Committee recommends that Synod concur in the judgment of both the Foreign Missions Board and the Home Missions Board,

that the care of off-the-reservation Indians be the concern of the Home Missions Board, but that those Indians presently off the reservation, and under the care of the Foreign Missions Board, remain under the Foreign Missions Board. —*Adopted*

(Home Missions Matters continued in Arts. 143, 153)

#### ARTICLE 96

Synod adjourns and Elder E. Kok leads in closing prayer.

### THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 16, 1960

#### Sixteenth Session

#### ARTICLE 97

President T. C. Van Kooten calls the meeting to order. Devotions are conducted by Rev. C. Vander Ark, who announces Psalter Hymnal No. 182:1, 5; reads from Mark 4, and offers prayer.

#### ARTICLE 98

Roll call is taken and all delegates are present. The following *primi* delegates have returned to replace their alternates: Elder B. Breuker, Rev. W. Vander Haak, Rev. A. E. Rozendal, Rev. N. L. Veltman, Rev. P. Holtrop, and Elder E. Vanden Brink. Elder J. De Vries is present as alternate for Elder J. La Grand of Classis Grand Rapids East.

#### ARTICLE 99

The minutes of June 15 are read and approved.

#### ARTICLE 100

A letter is received from Profs. Herman Kuiper and R. B. Kuiper stating that they "are constrained to register their conviction that the grounds stated in the minutes for Synod's action in restricting the advisory activity of emeriti professors do not present a complete picture of the reasons for that action." Synod receives this as information. (See Arts. 64, 71)

#### ARTICLE 101

The Advisory Committee on *Publications*, cf. Art. 22, Rev. H. Radius reporting, presents the following:

#### BELGIC CONFESSION REVISION.

A. *Material*: Overture No. 16. Classis Alberta North overtures Synod to adopt the recommendation of the minority report, particularly in view of the material under "Recommendations." — *Acts of Synod*, 1959, page 184. In case Synod moves in the direction of the majority report of Synod 1959, cf. *Acts of Synod*, 1959, page 179, Synod adopt the following — and then follow the suggested changes.

B. *Observation*: The matter of the Revision of the Belgic Confession was on the *Agenda* of Synod of 1959. Said Synod made the following decision: "Synod decides to postpone consideration of the Belgic Con-



fession Revision until next year and refer the reports to the churches." cf. *Acts of Synod*, 1959, Art. 190, I B, page 109.

C. After hearing the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, Synod decides to give priority to the consideration of the Study Committee report on this matter (*Acts of Synod*, 1959, pp. 179 ff.).

1. Synod decides to refer the reports of the Study Committee on the Revision of the Belgic Confession to the Synod of 1961 for action.

2. Synod refers the consideration of the overture of Classis Alberta North (No. 16) to the Synod of 1961.

3. Synod again directs the churches to the Study Committee reports and instructs the Study Committee to solicit responses from the consistories and the classes. The denomination must have its answer prepared in time for the Reformed Ecumenical Synod of 1963. (See Supplement No. 43)

D. Synod instructs the Stated Clerk to notify the churches and classes annually by direct communication of all matters which Synod decides to refer to the churches for study and reaction. (See Supplement No. 43)

#### ARTICLE 102

The Advisory Committee on *Educational Matters*, No. 1, Rev. Wm. Vander Haak reporting, cf. Arts. 36, 52, presents the following:

#### I. INSTITUTE OF MISSIONS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report 20-B (I, B, 5). (See Supplement 20-B; I, B, 5)

##### B. *Recommendations*:

That Synod approve:

1. The Board of Trustees' resolution to broaden the scope, expand the curriculum and intensify the efforts in training of missionaries at Calvin College and Seminary. —*Adopted*

2. The implementation of the above proposal by the following Board decisions:

"a. That we move in the direction of a *Calvin Institute of Missions*, operating within the present structure and framework but recognizable as a distinct, identifiable entity.

"b. That we initiate the movement with a *Summer Institute* in 1961, using existing courses, our own teaching personnel augmented by missionaries, and experimenting with linguistics in theory or in practice.

"c. That we give immediate consideration to the addition of a cultural anthropologist and an expert in missionary linguistics to the staff of the College.

"d. That we draw upon the special knowledge and skills of faculty members (historians, sociologists, psychologists, economists, etc.) as these apply to missions and its problems, utilizing these men for a full course or as special lecturers in existing courses.

"e. That we draw on the services of our missionaries.

"f. That we entrust the guidance and execution of this program to our Seminary professor of Missions."

*Grounds:*

1. This is in fulfillment of the mandate of the Synod of 1959 (*Acts of Synod*, p. 36).

2. This plan has the approval of the faculties of Calvin College and Seminary and the Board of Trustees. —*Adopted*

## II. EMERITATION OF PROFESSORS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 20-B (I, B, 6). (See Supplement No. 20-B, I, B, 6)

B. *Recommendation*:

Synod decide that the ministerial professors in college and seminary be granted the privilege of honorable retirement with full retirement benefits at the age of 65, if they so desire.

*Ground*: This brings the retirement status of these men in line with ministers in regular service. —*Adopted*

## III. DIAMOND JUBILEE SCHOLARSHIPS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 20 (II, C). (See Supplement No. 20, II, C)

*Correction of Rules*. The board recommends to Synod a correction in rule "e" (*Acts*, 1959 p. 330) whereby the word "abroad" be inserted between "institution" and "true."

*Ground*: This board decision was inadvertently omitted in the report and recommendation to Synod.

B. *Recommendation*:

Synod approve this correction for the reason given. —*Adopted*

## IV. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF CALVIN SEMINARY

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 20-B (II, B, 1)). See Supplement No. 20-B, II, B, 1

B. *Recommendations*:

1. Synod revise the Rules for the Election of the President of Calvin Seminary (*Acts of Synod*, 1955, pp. 319, 320) Step 6 to read "if re-appointed" instead of "if re-elected."

*Ground*: This will put the language in agreement with the rules dealing with Synod's reappointment of professors of the seminary. —*Adopted*

2. Synod add as Step 7 of the Rules for the Election of the President of Calvin Seminary, the following: During the year in which the term of appointment of the president of the seminary terminates, the faculty shall present to the Board of Trustees at its February meeting, its recommendation with reference to his re-appointment. In the light of the faculty's recommendation, and after a personal interview with the president, the board shall prepare its recommendation to Synod. —*Adopted*

## V. SCHOLARSHIPS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 20-B (II, D, 5). (See Supplement No. 20-B, II, D, 5)

B. *Recommendation*:

Synod approve the granting of the following annual scholarships:

1. \$300 to a worthy student of Dordt College.
2. \$300 to a worthy student of Trinity College.
3. Two similar scholarships to Calvin sophomores who plan to continue their junior year at Calvin and a similar scholarship to a pre-nursing student.

—*Adopted*

## VI. CALVIN CAMPUS SALE COMMITTEE

A. *Materials*: Agenda Reports No. 20-A, and No. 20-B, II, D, 7. (See Supplement No. 20-A, and see Supplement No. 20-B, II, D, 7)

B. *Recommendations*:

1. Synod approve the work of this committee. —*Adopted*
2. Synod continue the Campus Sale Committee both as to function and as to membership, since the assignment is not yet complete. (See Art. 172-V) —*Adopted*
3. Synod for manifest business reasons, do not request information regarding the selling price of Calvin's campus established by the Campus Sale Committee. —*Adopted*

## VII. CALVIN'S NEEDS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 20-B, II, D, 6. (See Supplement No. 20-B, II, D, 6)

B. *Recommendation*:

Synod remind the churches of Calvin's needs, drawing attention especially to the White Envelope Campaign, and recommend to the membership of all our churches the remembrance of these needs in prayers and in gifts.

*Grounds*:

- a. It is imperative that we provide additional instructional facilities as soon as possible to accommodate a rapidly increasing enrollment.
- b. The urgency of our building program is further emphasized by the requirement that in order to secure an HHFA loan for dormitories we must give assurance that we have money on hand or committed to construct adequate classroom space on the Knollcrest campus.

—*Adopted*

(Educational Matters, No. 1, continued in Art. 110)

## ARTICLE 103

The Advisory Committee on *Educational Matters*, No. 2, Rev. J. Petersen reporting, presents the following:

I. Synod grant the privilege of the floor to Rev. B. E. Pekelder as representative of the Committee on Education. (See Supplement No. 9)

—*Adopted*

## II. SUNDAY SCHOOL: GENERAL MATTERS

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report No. 14. (See Supplement No. 14)

B. *Recommendations*:

1. That Synod express its appreciation to Dr. John De Beer for his contribution to the committee. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod take cognizance of the fact that with the appearance of the sixth paper in the semi-graded series, Little Ones' Bible Stories, the committee's mandate to produce such a series has been completed and that Synod approve of this work. —*Adopted*

3. That the editor-in-chief, Rev. J. H. Schaal, be given the right of the floor when matters concerning the Sunday school are being considered. —*Adopted*

## III. SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON PLAN

A. *Materials*: Agenda Reports No. 14, 14-A. (See Supplements No. 14, 14-A)

B. *Recommendation*: That the following lesson plan for 1961 be adopted (Synod will take note that the committee is carrying out the instruction of a previous synod that regular mission lessons be included):

### LESSONS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER - 1961

- Jan. 1 —The Way Prepared. Mark 1:1-15
- Jan. 8 —Jesus Teaching and Healing. Mark 1:21-34
- Jan. 15 —Power to Forgive Sins. Mark 2:1-12
- Jan. 22 —The Master of Wind and Sea. Mark 4:1, 2, 35-41
- Jan. 29 —(Missions) "Go Tell." Mark 5:1-20
- Feb. 5 —Be Not Afraid, Only Believe. Mark 5:22-24, 35-43
- Feb. 12 —The Amazing Lord. Mark 6:45-56
- Feb. 19 —Jesus Crosses Racial Barriers. Mark 7:24-37
- Feb. 26 —Loving Money More than the Master. Mark 10:17-31
- Mar. 5 —The Blind Beggar's Prayer Answered. Mark 10:46-52
- Mar. 12 —Jesus Acclaimed King. Mark 11:1-11
- Mar. 19 —Cleansing the House of Prayer. Mark 11:12-22
- Mar. 26 —Rejected of Men, Forsaken of God. Mark 15:22-37

### LESSONS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER - 1961

- April 2 —(Easter) The Promised Resurrection Takes Place. Luke 24:1-12, Matthew 16
- April 9 —Mourning Turned to Joy. Luke 24:13-35
- April 16 —Disbelieving for Joy. Luke 24:36-43
- April 23 —A Doubter's Glorious Confession. John 20:19-29
- April 30 —Breakfast on the Beach With Jesus. John 21:1-14
- May 7 —The Denier Tested and Reinstated. John 21:15-19
- May 14 —(Missions) Ye Shall Be My Witnesses. Acts 1:6-11
- May 21 —(Pentecost) The Outpouring of the Predicted Spirit. Acts 2:14-18, 32-40
- May 28 —Healing and Hurting in the Church. Acts 5:12-20

- June 4 —A Persecutor Converted. Acts 9:1-20  
 June 11 —A Former Persecutor Persecuted. Acts 9:21-31  
 June 18 —What Must I Do to Be Saved? Acts 16:16-34  
 June 25 —The Ascended Lord Walking Among the Churches. Matthew 28:19,  
 Revelation 1:9-20

#### LESSONS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER - 1961

- July 2 —The Beginning of the Human Race. Genesis 1:26-31; 2:21-25  
 July 9 —The Beginning of Sin. Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-6  
 July 16 —Punishment and Mercy. Genesis 6:1-5, 8-22  
 July 23 —God Speaks to Abraham. Genesis 12:1-3, 17:1-9  
 July 30 —Abraham Insists on a Godly Marriage. Genesis 24:1-9, 48-52  
 Aug. 6 —Birthright Spurned and Sought. Genesis 25:27-34, 27:6-10  
 Aug. 13 —God Leads His People Along. Genesis 45:1-10, 47:7-12  
 Aug. 20 —God Liberates His People. Exodus 6:1-8, 12:37-51  
 Aug. 27 —(Missions) The Conversion of an African. Acts 8:26-39  
 Sept. 3 —God the Majestic Law-Giver. Exodus 19:3-6, 20:18-23  
 Sept. 10 —Man's Proneness to Break the Law. Exodus 32:7-11, 30-35  
 Sept. 17 —Faith Falters. Numbers 14:1-10, 26-30  
 Sept. 24 —God Keeps His Promises. Joshua 1:1-9, 3:9-17

#### LESSONS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER - 1961

- Oct. 1 —Samuel—Consecrated and Called. 1 Samuel 1:27-28, 3:1-9  
 Oct. 8 —David—A Young Man of Faith. 1 Samuel 17:4-10, 40-47  
 Oct. 15 —David—A Man Who Waited for the Lord. 1 Samuel 24:4-12, 26:7-12  
 Oct. 22 —Solomon—A Man of Wisdom. 1 Kings 3:1-14  
 Oct. 29 —(Reformation Day) Josiah—A Reformer. 2 Chronicles 34:14-28  
 Nov. 5 —Elijah—Receiving and Showing Mercy. 1 Kings 17:1-16  
 Nov. 12 —Elisha—A Man of Vision and Mercy. 2 Kings 6:8-23  
 Nov. 19 —Daniel—The Non-Conformist. Daniel 1:8-15, 6:10-11  
 Nov. 26 —(Missions) Jonah—A Reluctant Missionary. Jonah 1:1-3; Jonah 3  
 Dec. 3 —Esther—A Courageous Deliverer. Esther 2:7, 16-17, 4:14-16, 7:1-7  
 Dec. 10 —Elizabeth and Mary—Highly Favored of God. Luke 1:5-13, 26-35  
 Dec. 17 —Jesus the Savior—His Birth. Luke 2:1-16  
 Dec. 24 —(Christmas) Jesus—Honored By the Wise Men. Matthew 2:1-12  
 Dec. 31 —Jesus—As A Child. Luke 2:39-52

—Adopted

(Educational Matters, No. 2, continued in Art. 109)

#### ARTICLE 104

Synod adjourns. Elder W. De Lange leads in the closing prayer.

### THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 16, 1960

#### Seventeenth Session

#### ARTICLE 105

The President, Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, calls Synod to order. After the singing of Psalter Hymnal No. 254:1, 2, Rev. A. H. Selles leads Synod in its opening prayer.

ARTICLE 106

Rev. H. Roelofs is present as the alternate for Rev. C. Vander Ark of Classis Orange City, and Elder L. Sinke is present as the alternate of Elder H. Brinks of Classis Grand Rapids South. These brethren rise to express their agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Three Forms of Unity." Elder J. La Grand has returned in the place of his alternate, Elder J. De Vries.

ARTICLE 107

The *Reception Committee*, cf. Arts. 18, 56, 68, 69, presents the following missionaries to address Synod:

*Rev. Herman Schripsema*, representative of General Conference on our Indian Mission Field, emphasizes the great blessing of God that so many Navaho Indians give evidence of increasing interest in the gospel. The continued prayers of the church are solicited.

*Rev. Robert Sutton*, one of our missionaries to Japan, underscores the great need of missions in that land where so few know the Lord Jesus Christ. He expresses the gratitude of the Church in Korea for the generous help given by the Christian Reformed Church in time of great need.

*Rev. J. Pott*, former missionary to Argentina, now laboring among the Spanish-speaking migrants in the United States, gives a brief outline of the work and speaks of signal blessings enjoyed in it.

*Rev. J. Van Ens*, missionary to Ceylon, brings greetings from the Dutch Reformed Church in Ceylon. He reviews some of the trials endured by the people of Ceylon in recent years, and causes us to see anew the great privilege of joining our Dutch Reformed brethren in their effort to bring the gospel of God's grace to the pagan environment in which they find themselves.

Rev. N. Veltman responds on behalf of Synod, expressing thanks for information and inspiration given, and assuring our missionaries of the continued interest and prayers of the church.

ARTICLE 108

In the light of the latest news announcing the cancellation of President Eisenhower's visit to Japan, Synod requests the Stated Clerk to send the following telegram:

To: President Dwight D. Eisenhower, White House, Washington, D. C.

The Synod of the Christian Reformed Church in session, June 16, 1960, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, assures you, as the President of the United States, of the prayers of our church in the present crisis disrupting your contemplated visit to Japan.

Dr. R. J. Danhof, Stated Clerk

ARTICLE 109

Synod resumes its consideration of the report of the Advisory Committee on *Educational Matters*, No. 2, Rev. J. Petersen reporting. (cf. Art. 103)

## I. PROPOSAL OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

A. *Materials*: Agenda Reports Nos. 9, 14, 14A; Overtures Nos. 15, 49.

The Stated Clerk of Classis Alberta North per telegram informs Synod to consider the corrected Overture No. 15 to read as follows:

"Classis Alberta North informs Synod that it feels that the Committee on Education and Sunday School Committee are able to take care of all the facets of the problem concerned."

### B. *Background*:

The Standing Committee on Education, in response to an overture of Classis Hackensack to Synod of 1957, was given the mandate to study the advisability of the appointment of a full-time secretary of education. (*Acts*, 1957, Art. 54, pp. 26-27) The committee's recommendation as amended by Synod read as follows: "That Synod initiate and establish a Department of Religious Education to provide religious educational service to the churches of the Christian Reformed denomination. This department and its work is to be under the supervision of a Committee of Religious Education, appointed by and responsible to Synod, and shall be directed by a full-time Secretary of Education, assisted by such staff as the program may require." (*Acts*, 1959, Art. 85, p. 29) The Advisory Committee of that Synod recommended that Synod not adopt this proposal. Instead they recommended the employment of a part-time editor and that the committee concentrate on the production of catechism materials. (Art. 86)

Synod of 1959 declined to take action on either proposal and referred the reports of both the Advisory Committee and the Committee on Education to the churches for further study in order that the churches might express their reactions to the latter committee.

During this past year the committee sent questionnaires to our congregations to determine the thinking of the church. Out of a total of 541 churches, 359 churches responded. Perhaps the most significant question was the following: "Do you think it would be to our advantage to have a department of religious education whose business it would be to make available good Reformed materials and to promote uniformity in our catechism program?" The results were as follows:

222 yes	14 undecided	8 no answer
99 no	16 qualified yes	

Thus, over two-thirds of the responding congregations judge that conditions are such that an educational service of this nature would be desirable. Pages 60-61 in the *Agenda* analyze the other areas of the questionnaire response that, in their opinion, substantiate the conclusion of the Committee on Education that most of the churches desire the establishment of some kind of department of education. Therefore the Committee on Education has proposed the following to Synod: "That Synod initiate and establish a Department of Education, which shall function as the educational service of the Christian Reformed Church. This department and its work is to be under the supervision of a Com-

mittee on Education, appointed by and responsible to Synod, and shall be directed by a full-time Secretary of Education." (See Supplement No. 9)

Your Advisory Committee is in general impressed with the argumentation which the Committee on Education has presented. However, we feel that there is need for caution lest we enter upon a program which would be elaborate to a degree beyond what would be needed at this time. We prefer to recommend a program that would be adequate unto the expediting of the preparation of catechetical materials and also one which would provide opportunity for experimentation unto the increased unification and implementation of our general educational task as a church.

### C. *Recommendations:*

1. Since the recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Synod differ radically from those of the standing Study Committee, the recommendations of the latter are given precedence. The first recommendation is moved and seconded: "that Synod initiate and establish a Department of Education, which shall function as the educational service agency of the Christian Reformed Church. This department and its work is to be under the supervision of a Committee of Education, appointed by and responsible to Synod, and shall be directed by a full-time Secretary of Education." (See Supplement No. 9)

—*Rejected*

2. Synod now considers the recommendations of the Advisory Committee of Synod: That Synod appoint a Committee of Educational Services for three years, responsible to and reporting regularly to Synod, composed of nine persons, who are appointed out of consideration for their competence, interest, and experience, and not with primary regard to geographical distribution. In order to provide for necessary continuity with the work already done, or in progress, two members of the present Committee on Education and two members of the Sunday School Committee shall be included in the membership of the new committee.

—*Rejected*

3. Synod charges the Advisory Committee to present a recommendation for a study committee to provide catechism and Daily Vacation Bible School materials. (See Art. 169)

—*Adopted*

(Educational Matters, No. 2; continued in Art. 167)

### ARTICLE 110

The Advisory Committee on *Educational Matters*, No. 1, Rev. W. Vander Haak reporting, cf. Arts. 36, 52, 102, presents the following:

#### I. QUOTA SUPPORT FOR SOCIETY CONTROLLED COLLEGES

A. *Materials:* Overtures Nos. 23, 25, 35, 36, 41, 43; Printed Appeal No. 2.

1. No. 23 — Classis Minnesota overtures Synod to:

(1) Declare that quota support of higher institutions of learning controlled by a society, and approved by Synod, is permissible.

(2) Establish a denominational education fund.



(3) Form a standing committee to advise Synod regarding operation of this fund.

2. No. 25 — Classis Sioux Center

Same material content as Overture No. 23, with a report attached.

3. No. 35 — Classis Orange City

Concurs in Overture No. 25.

4. No. 36 — Bunde consistory overtures Synod to:

(1) Appoint a committee to review its former decisions, re quotas of Calvin College to Dordt College.

(2) To study and present a plan for more proportionate financial support.

5. No. 41 — Sanborn consistory overtures Synod to:

(1) Increase quotas for Calvin by \$5 for all Michigan churches.

(2) Increase tuition for Grand Rapids students at Calvin.

6. No. 43 — Classis North Central Iowa

Same material content as Overture No. 23.

7. *Printed Appeal No. 2* — Sanborn consistory believes Classis Orange City Overture No. 35 to be in error.

#### B. *Recommendations:*

1. Synod appoint a representative committee to study the problem of denominational ecclesiastical support of junior colleges controlled by the Christian Reformed constituency as this problem arises out of the 1957, 1958 and 1960 proposals to Synod to gain such support for junior colleges. This study should include consideration of the permissibility and implications of quota support for non-denominational agencies; the relationship of the church to the government of such institutions should quota support be given; and recommendations concerning denominational support or other financial arrangements based upon the evaluation of plans proposed to Synod 1960 (Overtures Nos. 23, 25, 35, 41, 43) as well as to the Synod of 1957 and 1958. (See Art. 172, V)

#### *Grounds:*

a. Overtures Nos. 23, 25, 35, 43 ask for a declaration by Synod on a matter which needs further study in the light of previous synodical decisions having implications regarding the permissibility of quota support of non-denominational agencies. (e.g. *Acts of Synod*, 1958, p. 85; *Acts of Synod*, 1959, p. 58)

b. Overtures Nos. 23, 25, 35, 43 ask for consideration of a definite plan, the implications of which should be carefully evaluated before judgment can be given.

c. Overture No. 36 asks for a study of this problem and previous decisions.

d. *Printed Appeal No. 2* registers positive objection to the proposals made in Overtures Nos. 23, 25, 35, 43.

e. Overture No. 41 recommends another plan of financial arrangements which merits more deliberate consideration than is possible at this Synod.

—*Adopted*

2. Synod instruct the Publication Committee to provide ample opportunity in our publications for the presentation of the needs of Dordt College for increased financial support from our constituency while this study is in progress. —*Adopted*

## II. SPONSORSHIP OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 34. (See Supplement No. 34)

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod adopt the recommendation of the Committee on Sponsorship of Foreign Students for continued support of this cause and informs Synod that this fund is nearly depleted and urges that this worthy cause be placed once again on the list of those recommended by Synod for one or more offerings. (See Art. 148)

—*Adopted*

(Educational Matters, No. 1, continued in Art. 115)

### ARTICLE 111

From nominations previously approved Synod elects by ballot the following: (See Arts. 22, 70, 77)

*Editor of The Banner* (two-year term) — Rev. John Vander Ploeg. (See Art. 125)

*Publication Committee* (three-year term) — Rev. Clarence Boomsma, Mr. Gerrit Buist, and Mr. John Van Dellen.

*Member of Calvin Board of Trustees* — Regular Delegate, Harold De Jong; Alternate, Harold Apol.

*Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions* — Harold Gelderloos with Dr. Edward Postma as alternate.

*Chaplain Committee* — Prof. Harold Dekker, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema, Rev. R. H. Wezeman, and Mr. Harry Faber.

*Back to God Tract Committee* — Rev. J. C. Ribbens, Rev. D. Negen, and Mr. H. Hoekstra.

*Back to God Hour Committee* — Rev. C. Oliver Buus, Rev. J. Geels, Mr. Ralph Vermeer, Mr. Andrew Van Noord; and (to fill the unexpired term of Rev. G. Kok) Rev. H. C. Van Wyk.

*Sunday School Committee* — Rev. G. J. Rozenboom and Mr. Wilmur Schipper.

### ARTICLE 112

Synod adjourns and Dr. M. Posthuma leads in closing prayer.

## THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 16, 1960

### Eighteenth Session

### ARTICLE 113

Synod returns from the Testimonial Dinner in honor of Prof. Albert H. Muyskens, cf. Art. 36, who had completed 25 years of service on our Calvin College staff. The gratitude of the church was expressed by Rev. J. Hekman, who emphasized Prof. Muyskens' great love for teaching and

his warm interest in all his students. Prof. Muyskens responded by challenging all to maintain a high degree of interest in Christian education in general, as well as in Calvin College.

#### ARTICLE 114

The President calls the meeting to order. Rev. H. Petersen leads in prayer.

The following alternate delegates are present: Rev. J. A. Botting for Rev. W. P. Brink (Classis Holland); Rev. John De Kruyter for Rev. Harry Vander Ark (Classis Holland); Rev. J. Eppinga for Rev. J. F. Schuurmann (Classis Grand Rapids South); and Elder J. De Vries for Elder J. La Grand. Rev. C. Vander Ark (Classis Orange City) replaces his alternate, Rev. H. Roelofs. Those present for the first time rise to express their agreement with the Public Declaration of Agreement with the Three Forms of Unity.

#### ARTICLE 115

Synod resumes its consideration of the report of the Advisory Committee on *Educational Matters*, No. 1, Rev. W. Vander Haak reporting, cf. Arts. 36, 52, 102, 110, presents the following:

#### I. SINGLE NOMINATION TO FILL OLD TESTAMENT SEMINARY CHAIR

##### A. Materials:

*Overture No. 75.* Classis Hackensack overtures Synod to express confidence in the Board of Trustees and commend its careful and responsible action in its dealing with the nomination for Professor of Old Testament.

*Overture No. 44.* In a communication to Synod Classis North Central Iowa expresses its disappointment with the action of the Board of Trustees in submitting only one name for the chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary.

##### B. Explanation:

In an interview with the president and secretary of the Board of Trustees the following information was received as to the method followed in nominating for the Chair of Old Testament:

The faculty submitted two names for consideration by the board. To this the board added a third name for its gross list. Each of the three persons was duly interviewed by the board. By unanimous decision of the board the following method of nomination was adopted. Separate ballots were cast to determine which of the three or whether all three should be nominated. Each receiving a majority of the votes of the board would be declared elected to the nomination. This method had been followed on a previous occasion. After prayer for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in making this nomination, three separate ballots were cast, one for each of the men. When all ballots had been cast, the counting of the ballots indicated that only one man had been nominated. The board then charged the Executive Committee to formulate the reasons for submitting one name as its nomination and to submit their formulated reasons to the May meeting of the board. The board inter-

preted "Rules of Procedure in Making Seminary Appointments" — Rule 9 (*Acts of Synod* 1958, p. 18) as requiring the board to present its reasons to the Synod. The rule reads as follows: "The board shall present its nomination to Synod and Synod shall make the appointments. If a nomination of one name is submitted, the board shall state its reasons. If Synod finds a nomination unacceptable, the board shall be asked to prepare a new nomination in accordance with the aforesaid procedure." The reasons formulated and adopted by the Executive Committee read as follows: "A. After the board had received full information concerning and had interviewed the candidates for the nomination, Prof. D. Kerr was the only candidate who received a majority vote. B. The above mentioned vote reflects the conviction of the majority of the Board of Trustees that Prof. Kerr possesses superior qualifications in terms of academic and pedagogical experience, and the most responsible service that the board could render was to submit this candidate to Synod." (Minutes of Executive Committee, April 14, 1960.) These reasons were not presented to the May meeting of the board, since Prof. Kerr had already withdrawn his nomination at that time.

#### *C. Judgment of your Advisory Committee*

Your committee is of the unanimous opinion that the board operated within the Rules of Procedure adopted by Synod, according to the board's interpretation of these rules. After the method of nominating had been established and the Holy Spirit was invoked for guidance, the board had no reason to question the validity of its action. The board acted in good faith in preparing to present its reasons to Synod for presenting one name as its nomination.

#### *D. Recommendations:*

1. Synod declare that it is satisfied that the board acted in good faith when it presented only one name as nomination for the chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary.

##### *Grounds:*

a. The board operated within the "Rules of Procedure in Making Seminary Appointments" according to its interpretation of these rules.

b. Once the method of nominating had been established and the guidance of the Holy Spirit had been sought, the board had no reason to question the validity of its action.

c. The board was preparing its reasons (for submitting one name in nomination) to be presented to Synod according to its interpretation of rule 9 — "Rules of Procedure in Making Seminary Appointments."

—*Adopted*

2. Synod instruct the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary to clarify rule 9 — "Rules of Procedure in Making Seminary Appointments" and to report the results of its study to the Synod of 1961.

*Ground:* There are differences of opinion as to whether the reasons for presenting a nomination of one name should be submitted to the Synod or to the churches and classes at the time a nomination is announced.

—*Adopted*

3. Synod declare that these decisions constitute its answer to Overtures Nos. 27, 29, 30, 44, 45, 50, 53, 60, 68, and 75. —*Adopted*

## II. MINISTERIAL STATUS OF REV. J. E. BRINK

### A. *Material*: Overture No. 32.

*Note*: This is merely a communication from Classis Minnesota North. It is not an overture. Classis sends this communication to Synod as a matter of information only.

### B. *Recommendation*: Synod receive this as information —*Adopted*

## ARTICLE 116

The Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 1, Rev. E. H. Oostendorp reporting, cf. Arts. 58, 63, presents the following:

### REPORTS OF THE SYNODICAL EXAMINERS

A. Reports of examination of candidates and approval of Classes' decisions to admit to the ministry in our church.

Classes	Candidates	Examiners
1. Toronto	Jelle Nutma	Rev. A. B. C. Hofland, Chatham Rev. J. C. Derksen, Hamilton Dr. P. G. Schrottenboer, Eastern Ontario
2. G. R. East	B. Van Elderen, Jr.	Dr. A. C. De Jong, Grand Rapids West Dr. J. H. Bruinooge, Zeeland Rev. T. Yff, Kalamazoo
3. Alberta North	John Kruis	Rev. P. J. Hoekstra, Alberta South Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific
4. Alberta South	Henry Bouma	Rev. B. Nederlof, Alberta North Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific
5. North Central Iowa	Calvin Bergsma (Re-examination)	Rev. J. Olthof, Pella Rev. H. C. Van Deelen, Sioux Center Rev. C. R. Veenstra, Orange City
6. Chicago South	Melvin Hugen	Rev. O. Breen, Chicago North Rev. S. Vroon, Holland Rev. T. Yff, Kalamazoo
7. Minnesota So.	Arthur Besteman Timothy Monsma	Rev. J. H. De Haan, Minnesota North Rev. C. Vander Ark, Orange City Rev. C. Huissen, Sioux Center
8. British Columbia	James Huizenga	Rev. G. J. Vander Ziel, Alberta South Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific Rev. B. Nederlof, Alberta North
9. Sioux Center	Lyle Christensen	Rev. B. E. Visscher, North Central Iowa Rev. C. Vander Ark, Orange City Dr. P. Y. De Jong, Pella
10. Zeeland	John Timmer Paul Vermaire	Dr. G. Goris, Grandville Rev. S. Vroon, Holland Dr. L. Greenway, Grand Rapids South

Classes	Candidates	Examiners
11. G. R. East	John J. Hoogland	Dr. G. Goris, Grandville Rev. S. Vroon, Holland Dr. L. Greenway, Grand Rapids South
12. G. R. West	Andrew Rienstra Bruce Hemple	Rev. J. D. Eppinga, Grand Rapids South Rev. W. Haverkamp, Kalamazoo Dr. G. Goris, Grandville
13. Orange City	Walter Swets	Rev. H. C. Van Deelen, Sioux Center Rev. G. Kok, Minnesota South Rev. B. E. Visscher, North Central Iowa
14. Hudson	Allen J. Bultman	Rev. C. J. Vos, Hackensack Rev. J. C. Derksen, Hamilton Dr. P. G. Schrottenboer, Eastern Ontario
15. Pella	Douglas Vander Wal	Rev. B. E. Visscher, North Central Iowa Rev. C. R. Veenstra, Orange City Rev. C. Huissen, Sioux Center
16. North Central Iowa	John Draisma	Rev. C. R. Veenstra, Orange City Dr. P. Y. De Jong, Pella (Sioux Center, Absent because of a funeral)

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the work of these examiners as reported above. —*Adopted*

*B. Colloquia docta* conducted by classes and attended by synodical examiners, who advised that the following ministers from other denominations be admitted to the ministry in our church:

Classes	Minister	Examiners
1. Chatham	Rev. J. Cooper (Reformed Church of the United States, Eureka Classis)	Rev. G. Gritter, Grand Rapids East Rev. J. C. Derksen, Hamilton Rev. H. W. Kroeze, Toronto
2. Alberta South	Rev. Anton Vandén (Gereformeerd)	Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Geels, Pacific Rev. H. Bajema, Alberta North
3. Alberta South	Rev. H. Bade (Gereformeerd)	Rev. B. Nederlof, Alberta North Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific
4. Eastern Ontario	Rev. G. Rienks (Gereformeerd)	Rev. A. B. C. Hofland, Chatham Rev. H. W. Kroeze, Toronto Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, Hamilton
5. Eastern Ontario	Rev. H. Vander Plaat (Gereformeerd)	Rev. H. C. De Moor, Chatham Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, Hamilton Rev. H. W. Kroeze, Toronto

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the work of these examiners as reported above. —*Adopted*

*C. Approval of nominations* containing names of non-Christian Reformed ministers:

Churches	Nominees	Examiners
1. Bowness-Montgomery, Alberta	trio: A. Corporaal W. H. Velema C. Padmos	Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. B. Nederlof, Alberta North Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific
	trio: J. Heule P. R. Everaars A. Vos	
2. Jarvis, Ontario	Rev. B. Boelens	Rev. H. W. Kroeze, Toronto Rev. A. B. C. Hofland, Chatham Dr. P. G. Schrotenboer, Eastern Ontario
3. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	Rev. B. Boelens	Rev. B. Nederlof, Alberta North Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia
4. Rocky Mountain House, Alta.	Rev. S. Camminga	Rev. P. J. Hoekstra, Alberta South Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific
5. St. Thomas, Ontario	Rev. L. W. Van Dellen	Rev. G. Gritter, Grand Rapids East Rev. H. W. Kroeze, Toronto Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, Hamilton
6. Medicine Hat, Alberta	Rev. M. D. Geleynse	Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific Rev. B. Nederlof, Alberta North
7. Clinton, Ontario	Rev. L. Slofstra	Rev. G. Gritter, Grand Rapids East Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, Hamilton Rev. H. W. Kroeze, Toronto
8. Rocky Mountain House, Alta.	Rev. J. H. Binnema	Rev. P. J. Hoekstra, Alberta South Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the action of the synodical examiners as reported above. —*Adopted*

*D. Approval of the reception of the First Canadian Reformed Church of Hamilton, Ontario by Classis Hamilton of November 18, 1959, by examiners A. B. C. Hofland (Chatham), P. G. Schrotenboer (Eastern Ontario), H. W. Kroeze (Toronto):*

*Recommendation:* Synod receive this report as information and approve the work of the examiners as reported above. —*Adopted*

*E. Disapproval of placing names of ministers on nominations.*

Church	Minister	Examiners
1. Clinton, Ontario	Rev. D. J. Ras (Gereformeerd) (over age)	Rev. G. Gritter, Grand Rapids East Rev. H. W. Kroeze, Toronto Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, Hamilton
2. Bowness-Montgomery, Alberta	Rev. H. Vander Wey (Gereformeerd) (over age)	Rev. B. Nederlof, Alberta North Rev. H. Moes, British Columbia Rev. J. Griffioen, Pacific

*Recommendation:* That Synod approve the work of the examiners as reported above. —*Adopted*

*F. Termination of the ministerial status of Rev. J. B. Ibershoff by Classis California.* Examiners J. Griffioen (Pacific), N. De Vries (Rocky Mountain), and C. Huissen (Sioux Center), concurred with the reasons as given by classis:

The synodical examiners advised Classis California as follows: "Having heard the recommendation of the committee of Classis California to terminate the ministerial status of Rev. J. B. Ibershoff in the Christian Reformed Church, and having taken note of the grounds for this recommendation, the undersigned synodical delegates state that they concur with the recommendation and the substance of the grounds, and, therefore, advise its adoption."

Synod decides to approve the work of these examiners.

G. Approval of the advice against Candidate John N. Dykstra. (Advice given to Classis Rocky Mountain) (See also Supplement No. 44-B) (See also Communication No. 3)

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the work of examiners C. Vander Ark (Orange City), P. Y. De Jong (Pella), and C. Huissen (Sioux Center) in this matter. (See Art. 45) —*Adopted*

H. Approval of the severance of the tie between the Fruitland, Ontario, Church and its minister, Rev. Simon Terpstra, by Classis Hamilton, August 5, 1959, by examiners A. B. C. Hofland (Chatham), H. W. Kroeze (Toronto), and John Vriend (Eastern Ontario).

*Recommendation:* Synod approve the work of these examiners.

—*Adopted*

(Protests and Appeals, No. 1, continued in Art. 129)

#### ARTICLE 117

Synod adjourns, Elder J. Jager offering the closing prayer.

### FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 17, 1960

#### Nineteenth Session

#### ARTICLE 118

President T. C. Van Kooten calls the meeting to order. Rev. H. Vander Ark announces Psalter Hymnal No. 319; reads Psalm 122; and leads Synod in prayer.

#### ARTICLE 119

Roll call is taken and all delegates are present. The following primi delegates have returned to replace their alternates: Revs. Wm. P. Brink, J. F. Schuurmann, and H. Vander Ark, and Elders H. Brinks and J. La Grand. Elder A. J. Vos is present in the place of Elder J. R. Swierenga of Classis Chicago North. He rises to express his agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Three Forms of Unity."

#### ARTICLE 120

The minutes of Thursday, June 16, are read and approved.



## ARTICLE 121

The Advisory Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 2, Rev. B. J. Haan reporting, cf. Arts. 73, 78, presents the following:

## BUITEN PROTEST

A. *Materials*: Mr. Buiten's protest, together with 36 enclosures. (On File with Stated Clerk)

B. *Statement of Protest and Request*: Mr. Buiten protests the action of the Los Angeles consistory placing him under silent censure, and requests "that Synod take action to effect the lifting of censure."

C. *Recommendations*:

1. That Synod sustain the protestant in his protest, and grant his request to take action to effect the lifting of censure.

*Grounds*:

a. The consistory of the Los Angeles church erred in persistently refusing to lift censure when Classis California advised same at three different times over a period of one and a half years.

b. A consistory is in duty bound to abide by the advice of a classis unless it is convinced that the advice of classis is clearly in violation of God's Word in which case the consistory must protest. (Cf. *Commentary on the Church Order*, Van Dellen and Monsma, pp. 143 and 319.) The consistory of the Los Angeles church did not protest this decision over a period of more than a year. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod instruct the consistory of the Los Angeles congregation to lift summarily the censure placed on Mr. Buiten. —*Adopted*

3. Synod declare that Classis California erred in not making full use of its authority to have its advice carried out. —*Adopted*

4. Due to the complexity, magnitude, and gravity of the Los Angeles situation, Synod appoint a special committee to study the situation "in loco," which committee shall advise Synod on the matter in 1961. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

5. That Synod instruct the above committee to counsel all parties involved. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

(Protests and Appeals, No. 2, continued in Art. 126)

## ARTICLE 122

Synod adjourns and Dr. F. Westendorp leads in closing prayer.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 17, 1960

## Twentieth Session

## ARTICLE 123

The President, Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, calls the meeting to order. Synod sings Psalter Hymnal No. 235, and prayer is offered by Rev. H. Bode.

ARTICLE 124

Rev. J. De Kruyter is present as the alternate of Rev. H. Vander Ark, and Rev. Wm. Buursma as alternate for Rev. T. Van Eerden.

ARTICLE 125

Communications are received from Revs. John Vander Ploeg and E. Van Halsema, accepting their reappointments as editor of *The Banner* and *De Wachter* respectively. The President expresses the gratitude of Synod.

ARTICLE 126

Synod resumes its discussion of the report of the Advisory Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 2, Rev. B. J. Haan reporting, cf. Arts. 73, 78, 121.

THOMAS STOB APPEAL

A. *Materials:*

1. Letter of appeal from Mr. Stob.
2. Letter from the Stated Clerk of Classis Chicago North.

B. HISTORICAL SUMMARY

1. November 6, 1957 — Mr. Stob protested to the consistory of Second Englewood regarding business advertising by a member of his church as being a violation of God's law with respect to unnecessary Sunday labor.

2. December 2, 1957 — His consistory advised him to proceed according to Matthew 18.

3. January 2, 1958 — Mr. Stob advised the consistory that Matthew 18 did not apply, since no personal offense or grievance was involved.

4. January 27, 1958 — The consistory informs the brother that it maintains its position as to Matthew 18.

5. April 14, 1958 — Mr. Stob appeals the matter to classis.

6. May 26, 1958 — Classis advises Englewood II consistory: "A. The consistory should not refer brother Stob to Matthew 18. (Grounds were stated)

"B. The consistory of Englewood II should deal with the problem directly in the light of the basic principles of Sabbath observance."

7. July 14, 1958 — The consistory advised the brother that this was a matter of the individual's Christian conscience.

8. August 14, 1958 — Mr. Stob protested this decision of his consistory to classis, stating that where there is a direct violation of God's law, neither Christian conscience, nor Christian liberty may apply.

9. September 17, 1958 — Classis Chicago North appointed a committee to study this matter.

10. January, 1959 — The committee of classis recommends in part: "That classis advise the consistory of Englewood II to go to the erring brother and through the consistent discipline of the Word do their utmost to persuade him of a more biblical view of the Sabbath and its observance...." This recommendation was tabled by classis.

11. January 20, 1960 — Classis adopted the following decision: "Classis Chicago North declares the Englewood-Stob matter dismissed. *Grounds:* There is no official formulation of the principles governing Christian liberty and it is not within the province of classis to formulate doctrinal or extra-creedal statements upon which a judgment could be made."

12. March 22, 1960 — Mr. Stob sends his letter of appeal to Synod, sending a copy of the same to the Stated Clerk of Classis Chicago North.

13. May 18, 1960 — The Stated Clerk sends a communication to Synod in response to Mr. Stob's appeal.

#### *C. The Nature of the Appeal to Synod:*

Mr. Stob states, "It appears that Classis Chicago North did not deal with the problem directly in the light of the basic principles of Sabbath observance, as they had advised Englewood II consistory to do, and in our opinion God's Word does not sustain the position of classis that this is a matter of Christian liberty, but, on the contrary, Scripture gives positive indication that practices which create unnecessary Sunday labor are clearly a violation of the fourth commandment . . ."

He requests Synod, with the presentation of several arguments, to take a definite stand on this matter in support of his protest.

The Stated Clerk of Classis Chicago North informs Synod that, "brother Stob has misinterpreted the decision of Classis Chicago North. His protest states that Classis Chicago North has placed Sunday advertising in the realm of Christian liberty. This is incorrect."

#### *D. Evaluation:*

It appears as though Classis Chicago North was basically in agreement with brother Stob initially when it advised the Englewood II consistory not to refer brother Stob to Matthew 18 but rather to deal with the problem directly in the light of basic principles of Sabbath observance. It is also evident that at least the committee of classis that was appointed to study this matter, when the brother sent his second appeal, was in agreement that this is not a matter of Christian liberty but of the biblical view of the Sabbath and its observance. Classis tabled this advice, however.

The final decision of classis a year later, which is before this Synod, is extremely vague to say the least and, if it carries any meaning, certainly does place the issue in the realm of Christian liberty. It is quite evident, also, that the final decision of classis is not consistent with its previous pronouncements on the matter.

#### *E. Recommendation:*

That Synod sustain the substance of the protest and advise the consistory of the Second Englewood church to deal with the brother concerned in accordance with the substance of the advice which was tabled by Classis Chicago North in its meeting of January 1959: that classis advise the consistory of Englewood II to go to the erring brother and through the consistent discipline of the Word do its utmost to persuade him of the biblical view of the Sabbath and its observance . . .

—Adopted

### ARTICLE 127

Rev. E. H. Oostendorp submits the following to Synod:

"The undersigned registers protest against the decision (cf. Art. 126) taken re the protest of Mr. Thomas Stob because it side-stepped the issue, and refused to sustain or reject the protest, which was the only issue before Synod. Instead, Synod gave meaningless advice to the consistory, over the head of Classis Chicago North — an action which Synod was not at all asked to take."

### ARTICLE 128

The Advisory Committee on *Home Missions*, Rev. M. Baarman reporting, cf. Arts. 92, 95, presents the following:

# THE BACK TO GOD HOUR

The committee requests that Mr. L. Beré be granted the privilege of the floor as representative of The Back to God Hour Committee.

—*Synod Approves*

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 21-A. (See Supplement No. 21-A), Minutes of The Back to God Hour Committee.

## B. *Introduction*:

The Back to God Hour Committee has based its appointment of Rev. Harold Dekker on the *Acts of Synod*, 1954. These *Acts* do mention an Assistant to the Radio Minister, but they do not speak of an "Associate Minister" for The Back to God Hour. (*Acts*, 1954, Art. 84, D, p. 40)

## C. *Recommendation*:

1. That Synod approve the position of "Associate Minister" of The Back to God Hour.

### *Grounds*:

a. This is a new term, not mentioned in the *Acts of Synod* of 1954 to which the appointment of The Back to God Hour refers.

b. The position indicated by this term has not been approved by Synod.

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod instruct The Back to God Hour Committee to define more clearly: (a) the relationship between the Radio Minister and the Associate Minister of The Back to God Hour, (b) their respective duties, (c) and their mutual relationship to The Back to God Hour Committee.

—*Adopted*

3. That Synod instruct The Back to God Hour Committee to submit for approval the clarified provisions of the appointment to the Synod of 1961.

*Ground*: All boards and committees of Synod should give evidence of proper internal organization.

—*Adopted*

(Home Missions Matters continued in Arts. 143, 153)

## ARTICLE 129

The Advisory Committee on *Protests and Appeals*, No. 1, Rev. E. Oostendorp reporting, cf. Arts. 58, 63, 116, presents the following:

PROTESTS AGAINST THE DECISION OF SYNOD 1959 RE BELGIC CONFES-  
SION, ART. V. Acts 1959 (Art. 139, 7, b, [2])

### A. *Materials*:

Printed appeals No. 1, and No. 5. (See Printed Appeals Nos. 1, 5)

### B. *Recommendations*:

1. Synod do not accede to the appeals of Classes Alberta South and Chatham.

### *Grounds*:

a. Art. 30 of the *Church Order* has not been violated.

b. The doctrinal declaration (*Acts* 1959, Art. 139, 7, b, [2] page 68) is intended as an interpretative statement of our Creed in the adjudication of an appeal.

c. The declaration of Synod 1959 (Art. 139, C, 7, b, [3], [a]), "the conviction of the church on such a crucial point of doctrine should not be decided hastily," has no direct reference to the decision (Art. 139, C, 7, b, [2]) against which protest is made.

d. The Study Committee appointed to study Inspiration and Infallibility has not expressed difficulty for the lack of specific inclusion of this declaration in their mandate. (cf. Agenda Report No. 19, p. 105). (See Art. 172, V) (See Supplement No. 19)

e. Until proved wrong the declaration of Synod 1959 has the same validity as do all other similar rulings. —*Adopted*

2. Although Synod has not sustained these protests in view of the fact that these appeals also contain specific requests that this declaration be "open for further consideration and study," your Advisory Committee recommends:

Synod declare that it is the right of the churches and any ecclesiastical committee to study and test *in the light of Scripture* all creedal statements and synodical declarations. —*Adopted*

#### ARTICLE 130

The Advisory Committee on *Foreign Missions*, Rev. A. De Kruyter reporting, cf. Arts. 79, 85, 89, presents the following:

#### I. FAR EAST (See Supplement No. 27)

##### A. *Formosa*

##### 1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27

Your committee calls attention of Synod to the work and progress in this area. No action is required at this time.

##### B. *Japan*

##### 1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27

##### a. *Kobe Seminary*:

(1) *Lectureship*: Rev. S. Fujii, a former student at Calvin Seminary and a pastor of the Japan Reformed Church at Gifu, has been invited to serve as full-time professor at Kobe Seminary if support could be secured for his salary. In view of the fact that Kobe Seminary is of great importance to us in our work in Japan, and its very existence obviates our need to establish a training school of our own, the board decided to authorize the payment of \$1,000 annually towards the salary of Mr. Fujii. It was noted that already \$300 of this amount is annually being raised by one of our local congregations.

*Recommendation*: Synod approve payment of \$1,000 annually toward the salary of Rev. S. Fujii for two years at which time the matter will be re-evaluated. —*Adopted*

(2) *Budget:*

*Recommendation:* Synod concur in the recommendation of the board that \$800 be granted to Kobe Seminary for the calendar year 1961, for general operation of the school, as was previously done. —*Adopted*

(3) *Recommendation:* Synod refer the question of representation on the board of the Kobe Seminary to the Foreign Missions Board to report to the Synod of 1961. —*Adopted*

(4) *House:*

a. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 27

b. *Recommendation:* Synod authorize the board to loan \$1,700 to the Kobe Seminary to help build a house for the newly appointed professor, the board to arrange terms of the loan.

*Grounds:*

1. A loan will encourage self support in the emerging Reformed Church of Japan.

2. This is in keeping with the policy already established regarding the establishment of chapels in Japan. (cf. *Acts of Synod*, 1959, Art. 60, VI. B, pages 18, 19) —*Adopted*

(5) *Additional Missionary to Japan*

A. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 27-A. (See Supplement No. 27-A)

*Background:* At the meeting of the board in February the request of our Japan Mission for additional missionaries was rejected. The reason given is as follows: "The board recommends that in the future Japan General Conference give specific grounds for requesting additional personnel."

*Ground:* The board must weigh the needs of the Japan field over against the needs of other fields.

In response to this the Japan Conference has replied asking that a missionary be sent in 1961 and providing grounds also for their request. The Executive Committee took the following decision: "... to grant the request of Japan General Conference 'to send a missionary to Japan in 1961 and to include the budgetary matters in the 1961 budget for presentation to the Synod of 1960.'

*"Grounds:*

"1. Only one-half of one per cent of the total population of 90 million in Japan are professing Christians.

"2. There are countless cities in which no Christian witness is being given.

"3. The government of Japan is congenial to the presence of missionaries in Japan. There is a 'wide open door' in Japan for the proclamation of the gospel.

"4. Historically, Synod did not limit the number of missionaries to be sent to Japan, but adopted the board's recommendation 'to send as many missionaries as possible.' (cf. *Acts*, 1951, p. 75; *Acts*, 1955, p. 356)

"5. In 1961 housing will be available for language students in the Egota compound."

B. *Recommendation*: Synod authorize the board to call an additional missionary for Japan. —*Adopted*

## II. PRAYER FOR NIGERIA

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27-A. (See Supplement No. 27-A)

Nigerian General Conference has designated September 25, 1960, as a day of prayer for the unity of the churches of Northern Nigeria and for the welfare of the state in commemoration of Nigerian Independence. It was decided to grant this request and ask our churches to remember in prayer the state of Nigeria as it undergoes a transition to independence. We trust this will receive the endorsement of Synod and that official recommendation will be made that throughout our churches September 25, 1960, be designated as a day for special prayer in behalf of this new country.

B. *Recommendation*: Synod concur in the recommendation of the Nigerian General Conference and designate September 25, 1960, as a day of prayer for the unity of the churches of Northern Nigeria and for the welfare of the state in commemoration of Nigerian Independence. —*Adopted*

## III. MEXICO

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27-A. (See Supplement No. 27-A)

B. Your committee wishes to inform Synod that this matter will be presented by the Advisory Committee on Home Missions and that our committee concurs in the recommendation.

## IV. INCREASE IN BOARD MEMBERSHIP

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27-A. (See Supplement No. 27-A)

*Background*: *Acts of Synod*, 1959, p. 41; Overture No. 39. An overture to the Synod of 1959 requested the inclusion of Canadians among the members-at-large on our denominational boards. Synod called this matter to the attention of the denominational boards.

In response to this request the Board of Foreign Missions proposes to enlarge the board by seven laymen, three from Canada and four from the United States. As a general division for such representation it is proposed to have one representative each from Eastern Canada, Central Canada, and Western Canada; and in the United States one representative from each of the four major divisions: the East, the Central area, the Midwest, and the Far West.

To elect such members to the board, and to re-elect when terms of office expire, the delegates from each of the above regions will recommend to the board at its annual meeting such men who are able and willing to serve. The board at its annual meeting will elect nominees from each region. The Synod shall elect the board members from the nominees offered by the Board of Foreign Missions.

B. *Recommendation*: Synod instruct the board to add one layman from Canada to the board and to follow the existing rules for the election of lay delegates. (See Art. 172) —*Adopted*

(Foreign Missions Matters continued in Art. 135)

ARTICLE 131

Synod adjourns and Elder A. Gritter leads in the closing prayer.

FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 17, 1960

Twenty-first Session

ARTICLE 132

President T. C. Van Kooten calls the meeting to order. Rev. J. De Kruyter announces Psalter Hymnal No. 340:1-3 and leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 133

The following alternates are present: Dr. J. Strikwerda for Mr. E. Vanden Brink, Mr. L. Sinke for Mr. Harold Brinks; Rev. C. De Haan for Rev. A. E. Rozendal; Rev. J. Boonstra for Rev. P. Holtrop, and Rev. H. De Mots for Rev. N. Veltman.

ARTICLE 134

The *Reception Committee*, cf. Arts. 18, 56, 68, 69, 107, 114, presents to Synod Rev. Ralph Baker, missionary to Nigeria and representative of our Nigerian General Conference. He brings greetings from the conference and also from the Benue and Tiv churches in the Sudan. He emphasizes the problems arising from the present political climate in Nigeria; the great need of developing native leaders in the Nigerian church; the issue of integration; and the great ideal of promoting spiritual unity.

Rev. L. Van Laar responds in behalf of Synod and gives assurance of our continued interest and prayers, and of Synod's desire to understand the problems which our missionaries face.

ARTICLE 135

The Advisory Committee on *Foreign Missions*, Rev. A. De Kruyter reporting, cf. Arts. 79, 85, 89, 130, presents the following:

I. TWO WELLS

A. *Material*: Agenda Reports Nos. 27, 27-A (See Supplements Nos. 27, 27-A)

*Background*: Your committee has interviewed the president of the board, the secretary of the board, and Rev. H. J. Schripsema, who represented the Indian General Conference. It also received and considered a report of the Indian General Conference which protested the proposal of the board to close the Two Wells Post.

Two Wells has been a disputed post for a decade. The late Rev. Swierenga worked there for many years and always had great loyalty and hope for it. The board, however, has been hesitant for many years to expand or even to maintain the post. In 1959 and now again in 1960 the board is recommending to Synod that the post be closed. The Synod of 1959 decided to withdraw the white missionary from Two Wells and for the past year Mr. Chavez has been in charge of the field under supervision of a white missionary.



The Indian General Conference does not agree with the board decision. They appointed their own study committee, drew up a lengthy report, and presented it to your committee. This report was too late for the general board meeting in February, and the Executive Committee of the board did not feel authorized to change a decision of the board.

*B. Recommendation:*

That Synod instruct the board to continue the work at Two Wells under the present arrangements for the coming year and further instructs the board to reevaluate the Two Wells post and make recommendations to the Synod of 1961.

*Grounds:*

1. There is conflict of opinion existing between the Indian General Conference and the board.
2. The board inspection team can take particular note of the field on the visit to be made before the next board meeting. —*Adopted*

## II. MEMBERSHIP IN NIGERIAN CHURCH

*A. Material:* Agenda Report No. 27-A. (See Supplement No. 27-A)

*Background:* Our Nigerian General Conference has come with the following request:

"Nigerian General Conference considers that present church relationships make it highly advisable and desirable that missionaries be full members of the national churches with which they are associated. At the same time the missionaries are reluctant to surrender official membership in their home churches. Nigerian General Conference therefore requests the board to approach the Synod of 1960 and ask it to explore the possibilities of dual membership which Nigerian General Conference considers to be the answer to our problem."

The Executive Committee of the board decided to call the attention of Synod to this request, and to ask that because of the urgency of this matter Synod appoint a committee to report to the Synod of 1961.

*B. Recommendation:* Synod appoint a study committee to report to the Synod of 1961. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

(Foreign Missions Matters continued in Art. 142.)

## ARTICLE 136

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 1, Rev. T. Hofman reporting, cf. Arts. 64, 71, presents the following:

### PARTICULAR SYNODS

*A. Materials:* Agenda Report No. 31; Overtures Nos. 6, 14, 18, 21, 24, 33, 57, 64, 65, and 72; Printed Appeal No. 7. (See Supplement No. 31; Printed Appeal No. 7)

*B. Elucidation:*

In considering the report of the Study Committee for Particular Synods and the overtures which have been presented to this Synod with respect to the matter, your Advisory Committee is faced with a problem of inter-

preting the actions of the Synod of 1957 and Synod of 1959. There is a difference of opinion with respect to the implication of the 1957 decision that "Synod take steps for the establishment of particular synods" since some consider this to mean a step in the direction of particular synods at some future date, whereas others are of the opinion that this is a more binding commitment.

At the Synod of 1959, overtures were presented against the decision of 1957. These overtures were placed in the hands of an advisory committee, which committee recommended that Synod should not accede to the overtures which requested that Synod reconsider or postpone indefinitely the introduction of particular synods. This advice was rejected by Synod, by which decision Synod neither acceded to nor rejected the overtures in question.

At a later session, Synod committed the Study Committee's plan to the a later session, Synod committed the plan of the Study Committee to the consistories for study for one year. It will be helpful to note the exact decision. "Synod, in the spirit of Overtures Nos. 11, 23, and 45, present the study committee's plan for particular synods to the consistories for study for one year" (*Acts of Synod*, 1959, Article 172). It is difficult to say what may be implied by the words "in the spirit of Overtures Nos. 11, 23, and 45" and that especially because Overture No. 11 asks for reconsideration of the decision of 1957, charging that the need for particular synods has not been established and that the practicality of the same is open to question, and Overtures Nos. 23 and 45 request postponement for at least a year to study the plan in one case, and a withholding of final decision on the matter of regional synods for one year in the other, again for study purposes. We note a basic difference in the spirit of these overtures.

We also note that Synod continued the committee that it might, among other things, receive the reactions of the consistories "and pursue the study of this matter," by implication, the plan submitted to the consistories (Article 172, 1, B, 2). It therefore becomes clear that Synod of 1959 did not deal with the contents of the overtures which asked indefinite postponement of particular synods or reconsideration of the decision of 1957.

### C. *Summary of Overtures:*

Ten new overtures are now before this Synod. Only one of them (No. 14) suggests a change in the plan for regional synods submitted by the Study Committee. Three overtures favor particular synods: two (Nos. 18 and 21) urging that the 1957 decisions be carried forward, and one (No. 24) simply reaffirming a conviction that we must "move in the direction of Regional Synods."

However, the other six overtures all attack not the Study Committee's plan but rather the idea of particular synods, all six asking that Synod "not institute" or "postpone indefinitely." Overture No. 6 reminds Synod of the unanswered objections to particular synods raised by five 1959 overtures. Overtures Nos. 33, 57, 64, 65, 72 all attempt in one way or

another to refute the 1957 grounds for particular synods, challenging their necessity, their desirability, and their feasibility.

*D. Recommendations:*

1. That the institution of particular synods be postponed.

*Grounds:*

a. The necessity, desirability, and feasibility of particular synods *at this time* have not been sufficiently demonstrated.

b. The grounds given in 1957 for particular synods have not been convincing to many of the churches as demonstrated by the many overtures in 1959 and this year challenging those grounds.

c. It would be unwise to try to impose particular synods upon the churches until more receptivity toward them is evidenced. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod recognize the detailed plan of the Study Committee as being worthy of further consideration at some future date. (See Supplement No. 31) —*Adopted*

3. That Synod discharge the Study Committee and thank them heartily for their work. —*Adopted*

4. That Synod refer to the Board of Home Missions Overture No. 8, II, B of 1959 Synod for study and report to the Synod of 1961. (This overture asks for a measure of decentralization for home missions within our present ecclesiastical framework.)

*Grounds:*

a. This overture was referred to the Study Committee on particular synods in 1959, but the committee refers it back to Synod. (See Supplement No. 31)

b. The Board of Home Missions is the body best qualified to study the merits of the plan presented by Classis Wisconsin. —*Adopted*

5. That Synod declare the above decisions to constitute its answer to Overtures Nos. 6, 14, 18, 21, 24, 33, 57, 64, 65, and 72; and Printed Appeal No. 7. —*Adopted*

ARTICLE 137

Synod adjourns and Elder P. Mulder closes with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 18, 1960

Twenty-second Session

ARTICLE 138

President T. C. Van Kooten calls the meeting to order. Rev. W. Buursma announces Psalter Hymnal No. 410:1, 4, 5; reads Psalm 116 verse 12ff., and leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 139

Roll call is taken and all delegates are present except Elders J. Ykema of Classis Hackensack, and S. C. Waterdrinker of Toronto. The following

delegates have returned to replace their alternates: Révs. H. Vander Ark, A. E. Rozendal, P. Holtrop and N. L. Veltman; and Elders H. Brinks, and E. Vanden Brink.

#### ARTICLE 140

The minutes of Friday, June 17, are read and approved.

#### ARTICLE 141

The Advisory Committee on *Varia*, No. 1, Rev. H. Petersen reporting, cf. Arts. 57, 72, presents the following:

#### THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE OF NORTHERN NIGERIA

##### A. *Materials*:

1. Agenda Report Nos. 27, 27-A. (See Supplements Nos. 27, 27-A)
2. Printed Appeals Nos. 3 and 4.
3. Overtures Nos. 26, 28, 31, 37, 38, 42, 48, 52, 54, 59, 71.

##### B. *Analysis*:

The material in Agenda Report No. 27 contains decisions of the Board of Foreign Missions in matters pertaining to the TCNN. The board approved the establishment of a two-year pre-seminary course at Lupwe and interpreted this course as a step toward the establishment of a Reformed Theological Seminary and as in harmony with the decision of Synod of 1959 (*Acts*, Art. 115, p. 47). The board also decided to heed the request of the Nigerian General Conference to establish a special gift fund for TCNN, and interpreted this to be in harmony with the decision of Synod of 1958 (*Acts*, p. 60, 3). Finally, the board also decided to approve the decision of the Nigerian General Conference to give subsidy to students in training for religious leadership, "with the understanding that TCNN students will be supported until a Reformed Theological Seminary has been established."

The material in Agenda Report No. 27-A contains the Nigerian General Conference's "Statement on TCNN." This statement disagrees with the board's interpretation of the setting up of the pre-seminary course at Lupwe and of other training projects and says that such action "should in no way be construed as steps toward an eventual establishment of a separate seminary in competition with the TCNN." It further gives the decision of the Tiv Church Synod of April, 1960 "to continue her participation in the TCNN" and her request that the Christian Reformed Church "pay her (viz., the Christian Reformed Church's) proportionate share of the financial support of the TCNN." It also reaffirms the position of the Nigerian General Conference re the desirability of a united Theological Seminary and their decision to adhere to this position. The Nigerian General Conference further declares that it "cannot in good conscience support the founding of a separate seminary in competition with the TCNN and therefore requests counsel from the home board." Taking note of this declaration, the Executive Committee of the Board of Foreign Missions comes to the Synod of 1960 and declares: "The question now is what action the missionaries, feeling themselves un-

able to comply with the decision of 1959, should take . . . We ask Synod for its advice."

Appeal No. 3, from nine members of the Board of Foreign Missions, protests the decision of the board to establish a special gift fund for TCNN. Appeal No. 4, from four members of the board, protests the decision of the board which approved the subsidizing of students.

Overture No. 42 asks that TCNN be placed on the list of accredited causes. Overture No. 54 asks approval of the board's action to allow solicitation of funds for TCNN.

Overtures Nos. 26, 28, 31, 48, 52 claim that the decision of the board to solicit funds for TCNN is contrary to the decision of Synod of 1959.

Overtures Nos. 38 and 71 insist that the decisions of Synod of 1959 be carried out and say that this is not being done.

Overture No. 59 insists that the board and mission proceed with the establishment of a Reformed Seminary.

Overture No. 37 asks Synod to address itself to the differences existing in the board arising from diverse interpretations of synodical decisions regarding TCNN.

From these materials it becomes evident that there are three main points at issue. The *first* regards Reformed theological training in Nigeria and the impasse created by the stand of the Nigerian General Conference on this matter. The *second* concerns the setting up of a special gift fund for TCNN and raises the question of the interpretation of the decisions of Synod of 1958 and 1959 having a bearing on the matter. The *third* raises the question of whether the decision of 1959 permits the board to approve subsidy for students, some of whom will study at TCNN. Your committee addresses itself to these three points in order.

### *C. Reformed Theological Training:*

*Recommendation:* That Synod refer the matter of Section X, Agenda Report 27-A, to the full Board of Foreign Missions for consideration and action as soon as possible in the light of the decision of Synod, 1959 (*Acts*, 1959, Art. 115, p. 47): "Synod instruct the Christian Reformed Board of Missions and the Nigerian General Conference to maintain and develop the Reformed Pastors' Training program in Nigeria with a view to hopefully establishing a Reformed Theological Seminary." (See Supplement No. 27-A, Section X)

### *Grounds:*

1. Nigerian General Conference requests counsel from the Board of Missions but the board has not had time to give the conference the counsel asked.

2. From a comparison of Agenda Report 27, Section VII, Educational Matters, with Nigerian General Conference minute 3161 (Section X, Agenda Report 27-A) it is apparent that there is a difference of interpretation between the board and Nigerian General Conference of the significance and purpose of the two-year pre-seminary course at Lupwe. The board should first address itself to this difference of interpretation

before Synod makes decisions on this matter. (See Supplements No. 27, Section VII, and No. 27-A, Section X) —*Adopted*

*D. Special Gift Fund for TCNN:*

*Recommendations:*

1. Re the board's decision to establish a special gift fund for TCNN (*Agenda*, 1960, your committee recommends that no such fund be established. (See Supplement No. 27)

*Ground:* The establishment of such a fund could be construed as constituting official participation in the TCNN contrary to the decision of Synod of 1959 (Art. 110, 1, p. 46). —*Adopted*

2. Re the request of the Benue Church for aid in meeting her share of the capital expenses of the TCNN, your committee recommends that Synod authorize the board to fulfill the promise made to the Benue church by the Synod of 1958 (*Acts*, p. 60, 3) regarding this matter. It is to be understood, however, that the granting of this aid is not to be construed as participation in the TCNN.

*Grounds:*

a. We have a moral obligation to keep our promise and the Benue church is looking for us to keep it.

b. The decision of 1958 (*Acts*, p. 60, 3) clearly states that such aid to the native church does not involve us in participation in the TCNN. —*Adopted*

*E. Religious Leadership Training Programs Subsidy:*

Nigerian General Conference took the position that "in view of the churches' demonstrated inability to pay the cost of the religious leadership training programs, Nigerian General Conference gives the Evangelism Department permission to give up to 60% of the cost of each student in training for religious leadership. Funds are to be taken as available from the Veenstra Memorial Fund." The board approved this decision of Nigerian General Conference.

*Recommendation:* That Synod approve the above decision of the board in this matter with the understanding, as expressed by the board, "that TCNN students will be supported until a Reformed Theological Seminary has been established."

*Grounds:*

1. Such support is given to the students personally and is not to be construed as implying our participation in the schools involved.

2. The TCNN is the only school at present where the native students on our Nigerian field can obtain higher theological education. —*Adopted*

*F. Recommendation:* That Synod declare that the decisions under C, D, and E above constitute its answer to Appeals Nos. 3 and 4 and Overtures Nos. 26, 28, 31, 37, 38, 42, 48, 52, 54, 59, and 71. —*Adopted*

## ARTICLE 142

The Advisory Committee on *Foreign Missions*, Rev. A. De Kruyter reporting, cf. Arts. 79, 85, 89, 130, 135, presents the following:

## SUDAN

A. *Educational Matters*1. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

a. The board reports: "It was decided to establish a two-year pre-seminary course at Lupwe. It was further decided that Rev. Gilbert Holkeboer shall serve as principal, and that the Regional Church Council and the Tiv church have equal representation on the committee."

b. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the work of the board.—*Adopted*2. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27. (See Supplement No. 27)

a. The board reports: "It was decided to approve the establishment of the Tiv Bible School. The following grounds were offered and these also indicate what the nature of the school will be: (a) There is a crying need for trained Bible school teachers to carry on the evangelistic work of the Tiv Church. (b) The establishment of this Bible school will contribute effectively to the promotion of the central task of missions, the transmission of the gospel. (c) While considerable Bible school work is being carried on in the Eastern Province, this has been neglected in the Tiv area."

b. *Recommendation*: Synod approve the work of the board.—*Adopted*

(Foreign Missions Matters continued in Art. 164)

## ARTICLE 143

The Advisory Committee on *Home Missions*, Rev. E. L. Shuart reporting, cf. Arts. 92, 95, presents the following:

*Recommendations*:

1. That the name of Rev. Marvin C. Baarman be added to the nomination of the Home Missions Committee. (See Supplement No. 6) (See Art. 153)

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod approve the following nomination for Executive Secretary of Home Missions: Rev. M. C. Baarman, Rev. H. Dekker, Rev. H. Hoekstra, and Rev. C. Schemper. (See Supplement No. 6)

Synod decides to enter into executive session for the consideration of this nomination. (See Art. 153)

—*Adopted*

(Home Missions Matters continued in Art. 153)

## ARTICLE 144

Synod adjourns and Elder R. A. Kromminga leads in closing prayer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 18, 1960

Twenty-third Session

ARTICLE 145

President T. C. Van Kooten calls Synod to order. Rev. J. Olthoff announces Psalter Hymnal No. 435:1, 3; and leads in prayer.

ARTICLE 146

Elections are held and the following results are announced:

1. *Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions* (See Art. 172)

Eastern U.S.A. — Fred Steen; John Hamersma as alternate.

Eastern Canada — J. Joosse, Sr. as alternate.

Western Canada — J. Stad as alternate.

2. *Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration* — Nelson Gritter (See Art. 172)

ARTICLE 147

Bowness-Montgomery, Alberta, asks Synod through its counselor, Rev. P. J. Hoekstra, that approval be given to place the name of Rev. H. Vander Wey (Gereformeerde Kerken) on nomination. The synodical examiners having refused to give such approval on previous occasions, the consistory now appeals to Synod.

Synod decides not to grant the request since Rev. H. Vander Wey is beyond the age limit set by synodical rule.

ARTICLE 148

The Advisory Budget Committee, Mr. J. La Grand reporting, presents the following:

I. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

We request that Synod grant the privilege of the floor to Mr. William Boer, chairman of the Special Advisory and Assisting Budget Committee, on matters pertaining to this committee. —*Adopted*

II. THE BUDGET COMMITTEE OF SYNOD RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING CAUSES FOR OUR SUPPORT AS OUTLINED:

A. *Denominational Causes for One or More Offerings*

1. Back to God Radio Program

These supplementary funds are not to be used for television as was the case last year, but rather for additional NBC and other expenditures not originally contemplated, especially to hold our "spots" in the networks.

2. Synodical Tract Committee (Back to God Tract)

3. Korean Material Relief - Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference

4. Korean Spiritual Relief

5. Soldiers' Fund sponsored by Home Missions Committee

6. Sponsorship of Foreign Students, preparing for the ministry at Calvin College or Seminary.



7. Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions (for above-quota needs for Cuba, Indonesia, Formosa, Korea, and other fields not included in the adopted quota for Indian and Foreign Missions.) —*Adopted*

*B. Denominational Causes Recommended for Support*

1. Christian Reformed Resettlement Service
2. Canadian Relief Fund - Canadian churches only
3. Christian Seamen's and Immigrants' Home —*Adopted*

*C. Denominationally Related Youth Causes*

1. Young Calvinist Federation of North America
2. Young Calvinist Servicemen's Fund
3. Calvinist Cadet Corps —*Adopted*

III. CAUSES RECOMMENDED FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

*A. Benevolent Causes*

1. Bethany Christian Home
2. Bethesda Hospital (Please note new name recently adopted)
3. Christian Sanatorium at Goffle Hill
4. Christian School Employees' Relief Fund
5. Elim Christian Training School
6. Pine Rest Christian Association —*Adopted*

*B. Educational Causes*

1. Dordt College
2. National Union of Christian Schools (General Fund)
3. Reformed Bible Institute
4. Trinity College
5. National Union of Christian Schools (Educational Foundation)
6. Westminster Seminary —*Adopted*

*C. Evangelistic Causes*

Faith, Prayer and Tract League —*Adopted*

*D. Miscellaneous Causes*

1. American Bible Society (U.S. Churches only)
2. Canadian Bible Society (Canadian Churches only)
3. Lord's Day Alliance in U.S. (U.S. Churches only)
4. Lord's Day Alliance in Canada (Canadian Churches only)
5. World Home Bible League
6. The Gideons (For Bible Distribution only)
7. American Calvinistic Fellowship. (Formerly Calvinistic Action) (See Supplement No. 12)
8. "Financially weak member churches of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod." This fund enables these weaker churches to maintain Reformed fellowship with us at Ecumenical Synods, etc.
9. National Christian Association —*Adopted*  
(Budget matters continued in Art. 154)

ARTICLE 149

Synod adjourns and Elder J. La Grand leads in the closing prayer.

MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 20, 1960

Twenty-fourth Session

ARTICLE 150

The President, Rev. T. C. Van Kooten, calls the meeting to order. Rev. R. Haan announces Psalter Hymnal Number 49, reads from Psalm 25, and offers the opening prayer.

ARTICLE 151

Roll call is held. The following members are absent: Revs. B. J. Haan and C. Vander Ark; and Elders G. Hannink, Dr. P. Berkhout, J. Ykema, J. Kuipers, M. Ten Hove, Dr. F. Westendorp, H. Pommer, J. Betten, S. C. Waterdrinker, R. Heemsbergen, and J. F. Van Someren. Rev. T. Van Eerden has returned to replace his alternate, and Rev. J. Ribbens has returned as the alternate for Rev. T. Yff. Elder H. Schierneek is present for Dr. M. Posthuma (Classis Cadillac), Elder G. Klinge for Elder E. Vanden Brink (Classis Holland), and Elder J. Koop for Elder J. Warners (Classis Grandville). The last three alternate delegates, present for the first time, arise and express their agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Three Forms of Unity."

ARTICLE 152

The minutes of Saturday, June 18, are read and approved.

ARTICLE 153

The President announces that Rev. M. C. Baarman was elected as Executive Secretary of Home Missions. Rev. H. Hoekstra is elected as alternate. (See Art. 143)

ARTICLE 154

The Advisory Committee on *Budget*, Mr. J. La Grand reporting, cf. Art. 148, resumes its report:

I. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING DENOMINATIONAL BUDGET-QUOTAS

A. *Back to God Hour* (See Supplement No. 21)

1. *Materials*:

a. Agenda Report No. 21, including a tentative budget for 1961, financial statement for period January 1, 1959, to December 31, 1959, and Back to God Building Fund financial report for 1959.

b. Auditor's report by W. M. Wagner and Company.

c. Report by Special Advisory Budget Committee recommending \$8 as the board requested.

2. *Recommendation*: The Back to God Hour be granted a quota of \$7.75 per family for the year 1961.

*Grounds:*

a. They are definitely faced with increased broadcasting costs, and have operated on a \$7.25 budget since 1958.

b. Our recommendation is substantially in line with the board's request. —*Adopted*

*B. Calvin College and Seminary (See Supplement No. 20)*

*1. Materials:*

a. Agenda Report No. 20. (Also later report covering tuition rates)

b. Report by Special Advisory Budget Committee.

c. Auditor's report by Kauffman, Hungerford and Company.

d. Financial reports and proposed budget.

*2. Recommendation:* Calvin College and Seminary be granted the requested quota of \$15 per family for the year 1961.

*Ground:* This is the same quota as was granted for 1960 and covers the actual operating budget only. Note: Last year the quota was increased from \$14 to \$15 and the one dollar increase was used solely to increase salaries of instructing personnel. —*Adopted*

*C. Canadian Immigration Committee (See Supplement No. 38)*

*1. Materials:*

a. *Acts of Synod*, 1959 - Art. 157. Overtures Nos. 13, 46, and 62.

b. Report by Special Advisory Budget Committee. ("It is our opinion that the Canadian churches, based on the number of families, are able to carry this \$13,125 budget for this agency.") (See Supplement No. 42)

c. Financial report for 1959 prepared by Tarrancem and Read, auditor.

d. Report of the Immigration Committee for Canada requesting a denominational quota of 25 cents per family.

*2. Recommendation:* Synod grant a denominational quota of 20 cents per family for the Canadian Immigration Fund.

*Grounds:*

a. The office of the Immigration Committee of the Christian Reformed Church of Canada is an office of our denomination for Canada and the Committee is appointed by Synod.

b. The Canadian classes have all levied 75 cents to \$1 per family quotas and this was supposed to be supplemented by gifts from the U.S. diaconates. The supplementary gifts have been very disappointing.

c. The increasing prosperity in Canada after their recent recession will undoubtedly cause a larger influx of immigrants — causing increased demands on the central office of our denomination in Trenton, Ontario. The Netherlands government, faced with the constant problem of overpopulation, is eager to encourage a steady flow of emigrants and we must remain ready should such an influx eventuate.

d. All other denominations have men actively at work — we simply cannot have this activity curtailed. Their budget as submitted calls for an expenditure in 1961 of \$13,125. —*Adopted*

e. Synod declares that this action is its answer to Overtures Nos. 13, 46, and 62. —*Adopted*

D. *Church Help Fund, Inc.* (See Supplement No. 18)

1. *Materials:*

a. Agenda Report No. 18, plus statement of assets.

b. Conference with special advisory budget committee.

c. Auditor's report by Cora M. Hilfer - Iowa License No. 58.

2. *Information:* Synod of 1959 recommended the elimination of the quota for the Church Help Fund and that it begin operations as a "revolving fund," all monies repaid being made available for new loans. This seems to be working out satisfactorily. (Note: There is a small overhead of approximately \$2,500 which is not budgeted.) The *Acts of Synod*, 1959 state at the bottom of page 96, "The Synodical Advisory Committee on Budget can easily show that if all loans made in 1960 and thereafter bear interest at the rate of 2% per annum, the fund would grow appreciably, the fund could sustain the increased demands of a growing denomination and the borrowing church would have an incentive for speedy loan repayment."

3. *Recommendation:* No Quota is recommended for 1961.

—*Adopted*

E. *Fund for Needy Churches.* (See Supplement No. 28)

1. *Materials:*

a. Agenda Report No. 28 with attached schedule of subsidy payments made during the year 1959.

b. Auditor's report from Herman Dykema, Jr., of Chicago, Illinois (together with surety bond).

c. Report by Special Advisory Budget Committee. This fund is now handled by a new separate committee appointed by Synod of 1959 (*Acts of Synod*, p. 236, Supplement No. 13). Since this committee has operated only during 1960 we recommend a quota of \$5.25 for 1961 (same as last year) and check their operation again next year.

2. *Recommendation:* Committee recommends a quota of \$5.25.

*Ground:* This fund is now handled by a new separate committee appointed by Synod of 1959. Since this committee has operated only during 1960 we recommend a quota of \$5.25 for 1961 and check their operation again next year.

—*Adopted*

F. *Home Missions.* Evangelism and Church extension in Canada and the United States (with Jewish missions included). (See Supplement No. 6)

1. *Materials:*

a. Auditor's report covering 1959, by Peter B. Vander Meer, CPA.

b. Proposed budget for 1961 requesting \$18.09 quota.

c. Standing Advisory Budget Committee's report recommending \$17.20 quota allotment.

2. *Recommendation*: Quota of \$17.20. (This includes 33 cents for Jewish Missions.) —*Adopted*

G. *Indian and Foreign Missions*. (See Supplement Nos. 27, 27-A)

1. *Materials*:

- a. Balance sheet - Auditor's statement from Arie Verhey
- b. Pension and Relief Report - Arie Verhey
- c. Special gifts - Plant and Annuity Funds - Arie Verhey
- d. Summaries - Budgets of 1959
- e. Letter with Budget Comparisons
- f. Report of Standing Advisory Budget Committee (\$17.50)

2. *Recommendation*: Quota of \$17.25 per family.

*Ground*: This is in substantial agreement with the recommendation of the Standing Advisory Budget Committee. —*Adopted*

3. *Note*: We especially add a word of commendation to our board for its continued efforts to get churches to "call" their own missionaries and thus to take on part of this burden beyond the regular quota. We note that over \$330,000 per year is raised in this manner.

H. *The Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration*

1. *Materials*: (See Supplements Nos. 29, 29-A)

a. Agenda Report Nos. 29 and 29-A including tentative budget for 1961 and financial statements.

b. Audit by Maihofer, Moore and De Long.

c. Report by Standing Advisory Budget Committee.

2. *Recommendation*: That request for a quota of \$6.50 be granted.

*Ground*: This is the same as last year, and with pensions constantly increasing this amount will be needed for the fund to "hold its own."

—*Adopted*

I. *Synodical Expense Fund* (See also Art. 155)

1. *Materials*:

- a. Financial Report, July 23, 1959 to December 31, 1959.
- b. Letter from synodical treasurer indicating anticipated expenditures in 1961, and loan in amount of \$10,000 in 1959 to meet expenses.
- c. Conference with Stated Clerk.
- d. Report of Standing Advisory Budget Committee.
- e. Additional loan of \$5,000 to meet expenses of 1960 Synod.

2. *Recommendations*:

a. Synodical Expense Fund be granted the requested quota of \$1.25 per family for 1961. (See Art. 167, I, C, 5)

*Grounds*:

(1) It is evident that increased costs make this necessary.

(2) This is in agreement with the report of the Standing Advisory Budget Committee. —*Adopted*

b. It is recommended that in accordance with Agenda Report No. 16 we grant the General Secretary of the Ecumenical Synod an honorarium of \$500 per annum until the 1963 Ecumenical Synod. (See Supplement No. 16) —*Adopted*

c. The Budget Committee agrees with the recommendation of the Standing Advisory Budget Committee that the mileage allowance for synodical delegates, examiners, and committee members be increased from 6 to 7 cents per mile for 1961, effective January 1, 1961. —*Adopted*

J. *Ecumenical Synod Expense Fund*

1. *Materials:*

a. Report of Special Advisory Budget Committee

b. Conference with Stated Clerk

2. *Recommendation:* The Budget Committee feels there will not be enough in the regular Ecumenical Synod Expense Fund and recommends a quota of 20 cents per family. —*Adopted*

K. *A United Missions Fund.* (See Supplement No. 42)

1. *Material:* A proposal to the Synod of 1960, as submitted by the Standing Advisory Budget Committee, for a unified appeal to our constituency regarding "Above Quota" requirements for mission causes.

2. *Recommendation:* Your advisory budget committee concurs in the request "That Synod appoint a committee to study the feasibility and advisability to make appeal to our people for 'above quota' needs under one fund." It will undoubtedly consider members of the present boards in both Home and Foreign Missions and Back to God Hour and the chairman, Mr. William H. Boer, of the Standing Advisory Budget Committee. This committee will report in 1961. (See Art. 172, V)

*Grounds:*

a. It has happened in the past that Synod has approved certain expanding of work but has not allotted funds to cover it.

b. As each of these larger funds requests permission to appoint its own "promotional man" there will undoubtedly be competition in our circles for the "same money."

c. Our committee is concerned about constantly increasing the budget. This fund should enable us to "hold the line" on budgets and to solicit actively those who may be better able to give.

d. Your committee especially likes the idea of having a special day such as Pentecost for an "outpouring of gifts" even as there was an outpouring of the Spirit. There will be those who say that this will substitute one collection where there have been three before and thus we will receive only one-third the money. Surely the merits of this fund outweigh these smaller criticisms. —*Adopted*

II. APPEAL OF REV. H. DE ROOY RE DELAYED PARTICIPATION IN THE MINISTERS' PENSION FUND (See Supplements Nos. 29-A, 42)

A. *Materials:*

1. The negative answer of the Board of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Fund. They also question whether the appeal is "legally" before

us as the appeal was addressed to the committee in charge of revision of rules.

2. "A Plea to Synod in re Appeal of Rev. De Rooy" as submitted by the Standing Advisory Budget Committee.

B. *Synopsis*: Rev. De Rooy did not signify his intention of becoming a participant in this fund during the *first* year of ministerial service as the fund now requires. He was warned that failure to do this would bar his participation later. After four years in the ministry he sees his mistake and wishes to pay up "arrearages" and be in good standing.

C. *Recommendation*: Your Budget Committee recommends that the plea of Rev. De Rooy be sustained and that he be admitted as a member of the Christian Reformed Ministers' Pension and Relief Fund provided he pays all arrearages plus 6% simple interest.

*Grounds*:

1. The spirit of the *Church Order* demands it.
2. Only four years have elapsed since his ordination and he has a long life expectancy before him. Therefore the fund will sustain no damage.

—*Adopted*

3. Synod declare that this should not be considered a precedent and every such case in the future should be considered on its own merits.

—*Adopted*

### III. CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL BUILDING FUND DEFICIT (See Supplement No. 20)

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 20 of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary.

"B. *Centennial Memorial Seminary Building Fund*. With respect to the Memorial Seminary Building Fund, the board finds it necessary to notify Synod that the Centennial Memorial Seminary Building Fund is approximately \$82,000 short of the amount necessary for building construction.

"In view of the above shortage the board suggests that this amount be raised by a Special Synodical Quota or a Special Memorial Seminary offering in the churches."

B. *Recommendation*: Your committee recommends to Synod that rather than have an extra \$2 special quota item which would be necessary to raise this amount that we recommend to all the churches that they have a special collection (or collections). That these be collected preferably before December 31, 1960, aiming to collect \$2 or more per family so that this project which is of such great interest to all of our denomination may be fully paid for. This project is committed to the synodical committee for action.

—*Adopted*

### IV. MOVING EXPENSES OF MINISTERS

A. *Material*: Overture No. 55

B. *Recommendation*: Your Budget Committee recommends that we reject this overture.

*Grounds:*

1. This is in the province of the local church.
2. It would add local expenses to our denominational budget, increasing the total denominational quota.
3. There would be a tendency to increase expenses if this is made repayable from a denominational fund. —*Adopted*

V. AUDITING PROCEDURES - BACK TO GOD HOUR

A. *Material:* Request of the Standing Advisory Budget Committee. (See Supplement No. 42)

"Your Standing Synodical Advisory Budget Committee recommends to your body the adoption of the following recommendations made by the firm of Certified Public Accountants, Wynn M. Wagner & Co., in their covering letter accompanying the audit report for the year ended December 31, 1959.

"Concerning internal control:

"1. The receipts that are issued to contributors should be prenumbered at the time that they are printed. These prenumbered receipts should then be issued for every item of cash received and in the order that the items are listed on the remittance sheets.

"2. The remittance sheets should bear both signatures of the individuals counting and listing the cash receipts.

"3. The mail should be picked up from the post office each morning by two individuals."

B. *Recommendation:* That Synod accede to this request.

*Ground:* The rules noted are in effect in all large, well-organized businesses and will facilitate proper auditing procedure. —*Adopted*

VI. TRANSFER OF FUNDS — FOREIGN MISSIONS TO SPONSORSHIP OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

A. *Material:* The committee has been advised that an amount of \$1,668.68 was sent by Classis Hudson during 1956-1957-1958-1959 to the Foreign Missions Board that should have been sent to the fund for "Sponsorship of Foreign Students."

B. *Recommendation:* We recommend that the business manager be authorized to transfer this money to the Sponsorship of Foreign Students fund. —*Adopted*

VII. REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CALVIN COLLEGE AND SEMINARY, RE TUITION RATES AND SALARIES

A. *Material:* Report of Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary, Agenda Report No. 20-A. (See Supplement No. 20-A)

The board adopted the following semester tuition rates and seeks Synod's approval:

1. For the college:

Non-Christian Reformed raised from \$275 to \$305.



Christian Reformed students:

Grand Rapids, \$205 to \$235 (the term Grand Rapids means within 10 miles of the campus); within 300 miles, \$175 to \$185; within 1,000 miles, \$145 to \$155; over 1,000 miles, \$105 to \$115.

2. For the seminary:

Students living in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, and the province of Ontario, \$45.

Students living in areas between the above states and Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico, and the provinces of Manitoba and Quebec, \$30.

Students living in and beyond Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico or beyond Manitoba and Quebec, \$15.

3. The Board of Trustees adopted an increase of \$100 in the base pay of the faculty of the college and seminary. All members of the faculty eligible for an increment were recommended for such an increase for the next fiscal year. This needs Synod's approval.

B. *Recommendation*: That we approve and receive this as information.

—*Adopted*

#### VIII. REQUEST OF BOARD OF INDIAN AND FOREIGN MISSIONS TO SPEND OPERATING FUNDS ON HAND AND SPECIAL GIFTS FUNDS ON HAND (See Supplement No. 27)

A. *Material*: Letter from the board requesting Synod's approval on:

1. Permission to spend from funds on hand for the current year 1960 the sum of \$99,688.

2. Permission to receive and spend additional funds for capital improvements to the amount of \$101,517.20.

B. *Recommendation*: The Standing Advisory Budget Committee and Synod's Advisory Budget Committee concur to accede to the board's request.

—*Adopted*

#### IX. REVISED RULES FOR CHURCH HELP FUND, INC. (See Supplement No. 42)

A. *Materials*:

1. Acts of Synod, 1959, Art. 173, C, 2, p. 96

2. Agenda Report No. 42

B. *Recommendation*: That Synod adopt the revised rules as proposed by the Special Advisory Budget Committee and Church Help Fund, Inc.

—*Adopted*

#### X. CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING SYSTEM OF BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS SO THAT RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS BE ADMINISTERED FROM A SINGLE FUND

A. *Materials*:

1. Acts of Synod, 1959, VIII, p. 56-B, 4.

2. Report by Special Advisory Budget Committee. (See Supplement No. 42)

**B. Recommendation:** That Synod grant permission to change the accounting system so that all receipts and disbursements be administered from a single fund.

*Grounds:*

1. This will provide opportunity for the board to use extra funds which may accumulate in one fund to offset the deficit in another.
2. This will simplify the presentation of finance to board and Synod, and thereby remove the current confusion. This has been repeatedly requested by the last several Synods.
3. Capital expenditures will be more tightly controlled by budgeting.
4. This is urgently recommended by our auditors. —*Adopted*

**XI. REMUNERATION OF SYNODICAL OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD OF 1960**

**Recommendation:** The committee recommends that the same amounts be given as in 1959.

- A. First Clerk, \$100
- B. Second Clerk, \$50
- C. Transportation Secretary, Mr. A. H. Andriese, \$50
- D. Mr. Lester Ippel, Arrangements Committee, \$100
- E. Synodical Treasurer, \$500 —*Adopted*

**XII. SPECIAL ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**Recommendation:** Synod thank the members of the Special Advisory Budget Committee, namely, Messrs. William Boer, Frank Dieleman, George Kamp, and George Wieland, for their labors in our behalf.

—*Adopted*

**XIII. SOKEI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL - JAPAN (See Supplement No. 27-A)**

**A. Material:** Request for aid for Sokei Christian School in Japan.

**B. Recommendation:** The Board of Foreign Missions be authorized to place Sokei Christian School on a special gifts basis for the period of one year. Any surplus of funds that might be received over the \$10,000 total mentioned last year is to be given to the general fund of Indian and Foreign Missions.

**Ground:** We question whether such action was warranted, but when we mentioned \$10,000 as a goal in our last year's statement, this school promptly "counted on it" and borrowed and spent funds accordingly.

—*Adopted*

**XIV. WORLD ALLIANCE OF REFORMED CHURCHES REQUEST**

**A. Material:** Letter dated April 8, 1960, to Stated Clerk of Synod.

**B. Information:** This alliance seeks financial assistance to help the Reformed Church of France to employ a former Roman Catholic priest to occupy a special chair at the Reformed Theological Seminary at Montpellier, France.

C. *Recommendation*: That Synod do not grant this request.

*Grounds*:

1. It is not recommended by our Standing Special Advisory Budget Committee.

2. We cannot add all "worthy causes" to our list, which is already long. —*Adopted*

#### XV. REQUEST OF BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 27 (See Supplement No. 27)

B. *Information*: Permission is asked to employ "a full-time layman charged with the duties of implementing a public information service."

C. *Recommendation*: That we approve the request but with the understanding it be for one year.

*Ground*: Your Budget Committee realizes this work must proceed during 1961. However, this position may be incorporated into the work of the "United Missions Fund" should the recommendation of your Standing Advisory Budget Committee be adopted. (See Art. 154, K.) (See Supplement No. 42)

*Synod decides to withhold action*

#### XVI. ANSWERING OVERTURE NO. 31 OF 1959 (CHURCH HELP FUND - AMENDING THE RULES)

*Recommendation*: Your Advisory Budget Committee concurs with the decision made by the Church Help Fund Committee and the Standing Special Advisory Committee of Synod that this overture be rejected.

*Grounds*:

1. The Church Help Fund cannot carry additional demands upon it, unless augmented by annual quotas. Revolving funds available are thought to be just sufficient to make loans to churches in real need, and insufficient to assist otherwise financially able churches in mission endeavors.

2. The waiting period of one to two years constitutes no handicap provided there is proper planning. Local churches very seldom decide on a mission program; then rush in at once to buy land and buildings. Actually, a waiting period is often desirable to guard against unsound conclusions, due to hasty actions. Local mission programs are usually begun in neighboring schools, local halls, or even in private homes. Accordingly, where proper planning is in evidence, the waiting period is of little consequence.

3. Synod should, in general, discourage "interest free" loans for local mission work. Upon analysis, the annual interest savings per family is very nominal, and the local congregation should be able to carry it easily. —*Adopted*

#### XVII. SUBSIDY OF \$300 PER MONTH FOR CALVIN COLLEGE IN KOREA

A. *Material*: Petition of the Korea Theological Seminary and Calvin College dated May 17, 1960.

**B. Recommendation:** That Synod withhold action on this request, and refer it to the Committee for Korean Spiritual Relief for further study.

**Ground:** The Standing Advisory Committee had no opportunity to evaluate this. —*Adopted*

# XVIII. REQUEST OF CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

**A. Material:** Telegram to the Stated Clerk, dated May 27, 1960, requesting special offerings for Chilean earthquake relief.

**B. Recommendation:** That Synod do not accede to this request, and submit the request to the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference for consideration.

**Ground:** Recognized relief organizations, to which our people can contribute if they so desire, are active in affording relief. —*Adopted*

## ARTICLE 155

A motion is made that Synod request the Standing Advisory Budget Committee to study ways and means of reducing synodical travel expenses. —*Adopted*

## ARTICLE 156

Synod adjourns and Elder N. Moll closes with prayer.

# MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 20, 1960

## Twenty-fifth Session

## ARTICLE 157

President T. C. Van Kooten calls Synod to order, and after announcing Psalter Hymnal No. 179:1-3, Rev. L. Tamminga leads in prayer.

Elder H. Hoogerhyde is present as alternate for Mr. J. Ykema (Classis Hackensack) and expresses agreement with the "Public Declaration of Agreement with the Forms of Unity."

## ARTICLE 158

The Advisory Committee on *Varia*, No. 2, Rev. S. Rooy reporting, cf. Arts. 37, 84, presents the following:

### I. KOREAN SPIRITUAL RELIEF

**A. Material:** Agenda Report No. 23. (See Supplement No. 23)

**B. Information:** The Committee for Korean Spiritual Relief was established in 1951 to assist churches of the General Presbyterian Church of Korea. Aid last year was given in the amount of \$900 per month to the 400 churches, \$500 per month to the seminary, and \$150 per month to the Bible school.

During the period of its existence the committee has worked in conjunction with the Committee on Material Relief. Since both relief funds are distributed by a single committee in Korea, the present Spiritual Relief Committee favors the consolidation of the two.

### C. History:

1. Synod of 1957: "The Committee for Korean Spiritual Relief be continued for the present to supervise the disbursement of funds received for this cause.

#### "Grounds:

"a. The committee proposes to inform the Korean Church that we will continue to cut down our contributions from year to year and that the so-called spiritual relief cease at the end of five years.

"b. Future relationships between the Korean Presbyterian and the Christian Reformed Churches depend largely on the experiences and study of the Committee for Korean Spiritual Relief." (*Acts*, 1957, p. 15)

2. Synod of 1958: "The Synod instruct the (Spiritual Relief) Committee, in accordance with its own advice, to cut down the monthly financial support, with a view to termination of the so-called spiritual relief by 1962 as proposed in 1957." (*Acts*, 1958, p. 25)

3. Synod of 1959: "That the Committee for Korean Spiritual Relief be continued and carry on its endeavor to so reduce financial support that 'spiritual relief' may be terminated in due time." (*Acts*, 1959, p. 48)

### D. Explanation:

Your committee was somewhat concerned that the decisions of these previous Synods have not been carried out. The amount of aid for spiritual relief has continued at a constant level since 1957, last year totalling \$18,500 plus administrative costs. A further complication is that during this period, Korean material relief has been increasing, with the result that the amount received by the one committee in Korea which distributed both funds has been increasing rather than decreasing. Synod had directed that all spiritual aid (i.e. to the seminary, churches, and Bible school) cease by 1962. Your advisory committee judges it would be disastrous to the Korean Church and therefore unwise to withdraw the total amount of aid in one or two years. However, unless there are real reasons why the action of the previous Synods should be reconsidered, aid should be decreased.

### E. Recommendations:

1. That the Spiritual Relief Committee be dissolved at the end of 1961.

Ground: The committee requests that this be done. —*Adopted*

2. That the work of the Spiritual Relief Committee be transferred to the Material Relief Committee. (See Art. 172 V) —*Adopted*

3. That the Korean Spiritual Relief Committee be instructed to carry out the decisions of previous Synods (*Acts of Synod*, 1957, p. 15; 1958, p. 25; 1959, p. 48) to decrease the amount given, and that such be done during this coming year. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

## II. RELATIONS WITH THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 41 (See Supplement No. 41)

B. *Information*: The committee on closer relationships with the Orthodox Presbyterian Church reports progress.

C. *Recommendation:* Your advisory committee recommends that Synod receive this report as information, and continue the committee. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

### III. SUNDAY TRAINING BY THE ARMED FORCES

#### A. *Materials:*

1. Overture No. 8.
2. Decision of Synod of 1959 (Acts, Art. 99, IV, B).
3. Letter by the Stated Clerk to the Secretary of Defense, Mr. Neal Mc Elroy.
4. Reply from Chaplain William L. Clark in the name of the Defense Department. (See Supplement No. 44)
5. An article by Roger L. Steenland, an officer in the National Guard.

#### B. *History:*

Last year, in response to an overture and a protest re the problem of Sunday training by the Armed Forces, Synod instructed the Stated Clerk to register our protest on this problem with the Secretary of Defense. In reply to his letter, the Stated Clerk has received a communication from the Chaplain of the Defense Department. This communication is quite informative on the problem of the protest and defines what the Defense Department has done in the interest of the moral and spiritual welfare of our military personnel. Special reference is made to the problem of training on the Sabbath. The letter is quoted in part:

"The point you raise in your letter is well taken. We have been aware of this problem from the time the Reserve and National Guard week-end training programs were established. As you perhaps know, the military services do not traditionally train troops on Sunday. In fact, every United States military installation throughout the world reduces its operations on week-ends to a minimum, in consonance with security, to allow personnel to observe their Sabbath. Unfortunately, the Reserve and National Guard training programs cannot be operated in our traditional military manner. Reserve and National Guard personnel are civilians and are primarily dependent on civilian jobs for their livelihood. When the program was established, the desires and availability of the participants had to be considered. The problem of training on the Sabbath was also considered. After careful planning, the program was set up to require only one week-end training period each month. In order to provide the personnel with worship opportunity on the one Sabbath away from their home churches, chaplains were assigned to the units. The chaplains are also reservists, fully aware of the problem, and have established excellent worship programs for those who desire to attend.

"It is regrettable that we live in a world where some must stand guard while others worship. As you will recall from history, our forefathers were faced with this same problem. We realize that any activity which requires a person to be employed on his Sabbath leaves a great deal to be desired. We are therefore constantly striving to improve our military training programs and at the same time safeguard the freedoms bequeathed to us by our forefathers. When circumstances permit, the military services will be highly pleased to train Reserve and National Guard personnel at a time other than on week-ends."

#### C. *Recommendations:*

1. That Synod receive the letter from Chaplain William L. Clark as information. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod advise that more remedial action can and ought to be accomplished on the local unit level toward solving the problem of Sunday training by our military personnel. —*Adopted*

3. That recommendations 1 and 2 constitute our answer to Overture No. 8 of Classis Kalamazoo. —*Adopted*

#### ARTICLE 159

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 1, Rev. T. Hofman reporting, cf. Arts. 64, 71, presents the following:

#### I. RULES FOR CALLING MINISTERS FROM OTHER DENOMINATIONS

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 3. (See Supplement No. 3)

B. *Elucidation*:

The mandate of the Study Committee appointed by the Synod of 1959, was "to formulate the rules guiding the calling of ministers from other denominations according to articles 5 and 9, *Church Order*" (*Acts* 1959, Art. 187, II, C, 5, [2]). The occasion for this mandate to "formulate the rules" came with a problem placed before the Synod of 1959, that of the difference in the role of synodical examiners in the calling of ministers by way of Article 5 (where a consistory calls a minister from another denomination with the concurring advice of the synodical examiners) and in the admittance of such ministers by a classis by way of Article 9 (also with the concurring advice of the synodical examiners). The problem lay in this, that the synodical examiners could deny an admittance under Article 5 if the need for such admittance was not demonstrated but were not called upon to render advice as to whether an examination could be held by a classis under Article 9. Although it was declared by Synod 1958 that the classes should "take the matter of need . . . into account" (*Acts* 1958, Art. 85) the synodical examiners were given no jurisdiction in the matter. Synod of 1959 then decided that

"No classis shall proceed to the admission of a minister by way of Article 9, *Church Order*, until the need of the churches for the services of such a minister shall have been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the synodical examiners, or, in the case of difference of opinion, to Synod itself." (*Acts* 1959, Art. 187, II, C, 5 [1], p. 104)

In the light of this decision of Synod 1959, the report of the Study Committee is very difficult to understand since it omits any reference to this decision, and Part II of its report concerns itself entirely with "the question of need," and asks for regulations which are essentially contained in the regulation of Synod 1959.

A further question arises, as to what the Synod of 1959 really asked the Study Committee to do, whether it should produce an additional set of rules for Article 5 and Article 9 procedure, or whether it should *re-formulate* and list the rules already in existence. Note the mandate: "to formulate the rules."

Moreover, in listing the rules pertaining to Article 5, we find that the list is incomplete. E.g., there is no reference to the "under 40 years of age" rule with respect to calling of ministers from the Netherlands, or

to the regulations with respect to colloquium doctum which are now in operation.

C. *Recommendations:*

1. That Synod declare that there is no need for revising the regulations established by previous Synods in regard to calling ministers from other denominations as regulated by Article 5, *Church Order* and the deliverances of Synod in connection with the application of this article.

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod reject the recommendation of the Study Committee under I.B.2., to wit: "That ministers called from sister denominations upon acceptance of the call shall submit to a colloquium doctum according to the regulations now in use."

*Ground:* The regulation with respect to colloquium doctum for ministers from sister churches was formulated by the Synod of 1956 and should not be altered except for weighty reasons. (*Acts*, 1956, Articles 65, 68, pp. 38, 39)

—*Adopted*

3. That the recommendation of the Study Committee re students trained at another seminary be ruled out of order. (I. C. 1, p. 21)

*Ground:* This does not pertain to Article 9, *Church Order*. —*Adopted*

4. That Synod adopt, in essence, the new regulations recommended by the Study Committee under I. C. 2. a, b, c, and d, with the understanding that these rules shall be reformulated so as to incorporate the existing regulations pertaining to Article 9 (*Acts*, 1958, Art. 85; *Acts*, 1959, Art. 187), and be abbreviated.

—*Adopted*

5. That Synod appoint a committee whose task it shall be to compile and edit all the existing rules, including those adopted in essence by this Synod, which have bearing upon the calling or admitting of ministers from other denominations according to Articles 5 and 9 of the *Church Order*, reformulating such rules where necessary, in order to produce an easily accessible set of rules, and to suggest additional regulations should such be judged to be necessary. (See Art. 172, V)

*Grounds:*

a. There is need for a set of rules compiled in logical order.

b. The listing of regulations presented by the Committee is merely chronological and is incomplete.

—*Adopted*

6. That Synod draw the attention of the classes and synodical examiners to the rules re admitting ministers from other denominations according to Article 9, *Church Order* adopted by Synod 1959, to wit: "No classis shall proceed to the admission of a minister by way of Article 9, *Church Order*, until the need of the churches for the services of such a minister shall have been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the synodical examiners, or, in the case of difference of opinion, to Synod itself." (*Acts*, 1959, p. 104)

—*Adopted*

7. That Synod thank the Study Committee for its labors. —*Adopted*



## II. CHURCH ORDER REVISION: (See Supplement No. 1)

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report No. 1; Overtures Nos. 47, 66, and 69

### B. *Elucidation*:

The Church Order Revision Committee has presented us with the first of four sections of a proposed Revised *Church Order*, in 27 articles, embracing the introductory matters and the section on the offices of the church. The amount of work involved in the very thorough revision undertaken by the committee is the reason for presenting only Articles 1 to 27. The committee requests tentative approval of these articles as a step toward attaining the goal of a satisfactory revision and as a vote of confidence with respect to the committee's present procedure, which, admittedly, does have some new approaches.

Having studied each article with care, your Advisory Committee comes with several suggestions for the consideration of Synod and of the Study Committee. Your committee is of the opinion that Synod should not at this session make any definitive changes in the proposed revision, but that the changes which might be proposed by Synod should be passed on to the Study Committee as official suggestions, to which the committee would be expected to react in its next report to synod. The publication of these suggestions in the *Acts of Synod* would alert the churches to matters under consideration by the Study Committee.

### C. *Recommendations*:

1. That Synod give tentative approval to the proposed *Church Order of the Christian Reformed Church*.

#### *Grounds*:

a. The proposed revision is a very commendable document.  
b. Tentative approval is a significant step toward a final revision.  
c. The committee needs such tentative approval to give it assurance with respect to the acceptability of its present procedure. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod make the following suggestions to the Study Committee with respect to the proposed revision, and that the Study Committee consider these suggestions and report on the same to the Synod of 1961:

a. The request of Overture No. 66, that topical headings should be placed above each article.

b. Article 2: the deletion of the words, "to render service" since it is superfluous.

c. Article 3: the deletion of the words "and exercise an" as this eliminates the problem of a plural subject, "those," and a singular object, "an office."

d. Article 4: Paragraph a. The reading as suggested by Classis Grand Rapids West in Overture No. 69, 1. "In special circumstances the consistory may submit less than twice the number or one name for each vacancy, giving reasons for this departure from the rule."

*Ground*: This makes explicit what is implicit.

Paragraph d.

(1) The addition of the concept of calling, with the reading suggested as follows: "After having called the elected brothers to their respective offices and having announced their names, the consistory shall proceed to ordain . . ."

(2) The deletion of "and," thus to read "in the public worship services with the use of the prescribed ecclesiastical forms."

e. Article 5: The deletion of "as" from "All office-bearers, on occasions as stipulated by . . ."

f. Articles 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 18, and 19 all have references to the work of synodical deputies, and the words "cooperation," "approval," "concurring advice" are used with respect to their functioning. We request, in so far as possible the use of uniform terminology, preferably "concurring advice," with "approval" as least desirable.

g. Article 8: The inclusion of the concept of "need" in considering the admittance of ministers from other denominations as laid down by synodical decisions recorded in *Acts*, 1959, Article 187, II, C, 4, 5.

h. Article 10 c: Delete the comma in line 1.

i. Article 11 a. should have a reference to what is found in Article 22 with respect to "vindicate (ing) sound doctrine against heresies and errors" as an addition to paragraph 1 or as a second paragraph.

*Ground:* This is not the duty *only* of ministers who are also professors. Article 11 b. Delete everything after "and faithfully visiting the members according to need." Then add the essence of Overture No. 69, 2. "The minister, with the elders, shall lead the congregation into proper activities in reaching and visiting unbelievers to win them for Christ, especially those in her own community." We realize the necessity of language refinement.

j. Article 16: Delete the words "representing the congregation" to arrive at the reading: "The consistory shall provide for the proper support of its minister(s)."

*Ground:* The words "representing the congregation" introduce the problem of how the consistory can represent the congregation when it does indeed represent Christ, and this problem should not be introduced into the *Church Order* at this point.

k. Article 18: Insert "the support of" resulting in "The consistory shall provide for the support of a released minister . . ." This should also be clarified in Article 19, second paragraph, and Article 20b.

l. Article 19: Resolve the evident ambiguity in the concept: "The minister . . . who has clearly demonstrated that he lacks the essential qualifications . . ." And further, to consider "necessary qualifications" in the place of "essential qualifications."

m. Article 20b: Amend to read: "A retired minister shall retain . . . his official connection with the church which he served last, and *this church shall*, according to synodical regulations, provide honorably for his support and that of his dependents."

*Ground:* Although all the churches contribute to the support of a retired minister by way of "synodical regulations," yet the responsibility for that support rests with the church where he has "his official connection." Article 20c: Insert "his." "Should the reason for *his* retirement no longer exist . . ."

n. Article 22: With the inclusion in Article 11 of "vindicate(ing) sound doctrine . . ." in the task of the minister of the Word, and the stipulation that professors are "ministers of the Word who are appointed as professors of theology . . ." terminate this article at "to train seminary students for the ministry of the Word."

o. Article 25: Insert "from office," to read, "a specified number of them shall retire from office each year."

p. Article 26.

(1) "home visitation" instead of "home-visitation" (See Art. 11)

(2) Delete everything after "and faithfully visiting the members according to need." Then add the essence of Overture No. 69, 3. "They, with the minister(s), shall lead the congregation into the proper activities in reaching and visiting unbelievers to win them for Christ, especially those in her own community." Again we realize the necessity for language refinement.

q. Article 27: Delete "when conditions permit."

*Ground:* In Galatians 6:10, the words "as we have opportunity" pertain both to "all men", and to "the household of faith" whereas in the present reading it applies only to "all men."

Insert "," to read: "and distribute monies and other gifts, and shall serve. . ."

—*Adopted*

3. That Synod continue the Committee on Church Order Revision. (See Art. 172, V.)

—*Adopted*

4. That this constitute our answer to Overtures Nos. 47, 66, 69.

— *Adopted*

(*Church Order*, No. 1, continued in Art. 169)

#### ARTICLE 160

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 2, Rev. H. Erffmeyer reporting, cf. Arts. 45, 91, presents the following:

EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES (See Supplement No. 30)

A. *Materials:* Agenda Report No. 30, Overtures 17 and 73, Communication No. 9. (See Communication No. 9)

B. *Elucidation:* The matter of examination of candidates was referred to the study committee for Particular Synods, 1957, Art. 168, 4 (page 100), "Synod refers the matter of examination of candidates, including the report of the Study Committee and the overture pertaining thereto, to the Committee for Particular Synods—Adopted." The Committee for Particular Synods reported to the Synod of 1959 with a plan and several recommendations for the examination of candidates. The advisory committee presented this plan with its several recommendations to the Synod of 1959. The first recommendation: "1. Synod discontinue the examination

of men aspiring to candidacy in the Christian Reformed Church by Synod at its annual sessions," was adopted by the Synod of 1959. But further recommendations which would implement the above were not adopted. Instead the Synod of 1959 decided the following:

1. To withhold action on the remainder of this report
2. To postpone the implementation of recommendation 1
3. To recommit the report to the Study Committee
4. To instruct the Study Committee to confer with the Calvin Seminary Faculty and the Board of Trustees on this plan
5. To refer the whole matter to the churches for further study.

*C. Observations:*

It is evident from the above that the Synod of 1959 was not ready to adopt the plan of the Study Committee in respect to the examination of candidates but wished to have the Study Committee carefully evaluate the reactions of the Calvin Seminary faculty and the Board of Trustees to the proposed plan. The latter was done and the reactions are given in the report to this Synod. However, the faculty of Calvin Seminary did not present its proposal to the Study Committee but presents the same through Communication No. 9 to this Synod. Synod also referred the whole matter to the churches for further study but it is difficult to determine how much it was studied during this past year. It appears to your advisory committee that some of the same difficulties which Synod faced in 1959 that prevented it from implementing the first proposal it adopted remain in this matter.

*D. Recommendations:*

1. Synod thank the Study Committee for its work. —*Adopted*
2. Synod refer Agenda Report No. 30 to a Study Committee along with the Proposal of the Seminary Faculty re: Examination of Candidates (Communication No. 9).

*Grounds:*

a. It is the considered opinion of your advisory committee that the recommendations in the report of the study committee and the content of the Proposal of the Seminary Faculty re: Examination of Candidates are worthy of more thorough study than could be given during the sessions of Synod.

b. The Study Committee did not receive the Proposal of the Seminary Faculty anent this matter in order to give proper consideration to it.

3. Synod refer Overture No. 17 to the study committee. —*Adopted*
4. Synod postpone action on Overture No. 73 until this Study Committee reports since no action was taken to implement the decision of the Synod of 1959. (See Art. 172, V.) —*Adopted*  
(Church Order Matters, No. 2, continued in Art. 165)

ARTICLE 161

Synod adjourns and Elder S. Geisel leads in the closing prayer.

## MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 20, 1960

## Twenty-sixth Session

## ARTICLE 162

President T. C. Van Kooten calls Synod to order. Rev. G. Bouma announces Psalter Hymnal No. 396: 1, 3, and leads Synod in its opening prayer.

## ARTICLE 163

The *Reception Committee*, cf. Arts. 18, 56, 68, 69, 107, 114, presents Rev. B. Huizenga, home missionary at Albuquerque, New Mexico, who speaks as representative of our Home Missions Board. He underscores the many problems which must be faced in bringing the gospel to those in our own community, and also the great blessing we may enjoy in proclaiming a gospel which is so rich and powerful. Rev. F. W. Van Houten responds in behalf of Synod.

## ARTICLE 164

The Advisory Committee on *Foreign Missions*, Rev. A. De Kruyter reporting, cf. Arts. 79, 85, 89, 130, 135, 142, presents the following:

## RACE RELATIONS

A. *Overtures on Apartheid*1. *Materials:*

*Overture No. 56.* Classis Kalamazoo overtures Synod to appoint a committee to consider the advisability of sending a communication to our sister church in South Africa regarding its stand on the Apartheid policy.

*Ground:* The concern in our churches regarding this matter warrants a study of it by a committee.

*Overture No. 63.* "As is well known, the issues and the policies connoted by the term 'apartheid' have resulted in both world-wide attention being given to, and criticism of those churches which embrace Calvinism as their theological position. Classis Grand Rapids South respectfully requests Synod to take cognizance of and study this matter in the light of its stand on race relations, giving particular regard as to what position and action it should take with reference to 'Die Gereformeerde Kerk in Zuid Afrika,' with which it maintains a sister relationship.

*"Grounds:*

"1. There is unrest among the laity of our denomination regarding this matter.

"2. The circumstances of the present may well affect adversely the future mission efforts of the Reformed Churches throughout the entire continent of Africa in particular, and other parts of the world in general."

*Overture No. 74.* "The racial unrest in South Africa is a matter of deep concern to the consistory of Neland Avenue Christian Reformed Church. Several consistorial discussions have taken place because of our ecumenical relationship with 'Die Gefedereerde Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerke van Suid Afrika,' and because of our more intimate relationship with our sister church, 'Die Gereformeerde Kerke van Suid Afrika.' While our relationship with the above churches does not mean that the Christian Reformed Church condones the policy of apartheid, still the question haunts us as to the effect of such relationships upon our foreign and domestic mission programs among the colored races.

"We therefore ask that Synod evaluate and determine the future of our above-mentioned relationships with the two Reformed denominations of South Africa. Synod should ascertain whether such continued relationships jeopardize our missionary efforts among the colored races.

*"Grounds:*

"1. Certain missionaries have expressed deep concern because of the attitude of the Nigerian government toward the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa. The DRCM missionaries were warned that following the independence of Nigeria all South Africans who have been in the country less than 15 years would probably have to leave.

"2. Neland Avenue Church, along with the First Grand Rapids Church, is actively carrying on domestic mission work among the colored races through the instrument of the Buckley Chapel. Many have confessed their Lord and Savior and are now members of those two churches. Our program is too precious to be jeopardized by any suggestion that our relationship with South African churches means that we are associated with apartheid.

"3. Our denomination carries on work in Harlem, in Japan, in Taiwan, and in many other places. Because of the mass emotion prevalent in the race issue, any charge among the colored races that associates our denomination with apartheid, because of our present ties with the South African Reformed churches, would cause irreparable damage to such missionary efforts. Neland Avenue Consistory"

2. *Analysis:*

Your committee considered all the formal and the principal matters contained in these overtures. It discussed the problem with a representative of the Sudan mission field who had consulted with his colleagues who are now home on furlough. It faced the problem of the DRCM missionaries who are now working on our fields in Nigeria and their future relationships with the Nigerian government, particularly as that government will obtain its independence this year. It considered the statement of the General Synod of "De Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland" in regard to this matter (adopted in May, 1960) in which our sister church decided to send a letter to the churches in South Africa.

Your committee has come to two decisions: a. To answer the overtures on formal grounds, b. To answer the overtures in such a way as to satisfy the spirit contained in them by submitting a letter to Synod.

B. *Recommendations:*

1. Synod do not accede to Overture No. 56.

*Ground:* Our sister church has taken no official stand on apartheid.

—*Adopted*

2. Synod do not accede to Overtures Nos. 63 and 74.

*Ground:* A study of matters contained in these overtures has not been made in minor assemblies according to the instruction of Synod, cf. *Acts of Synod*, 1959, pages 22, 23.

—*Adopted*

3. Synod send the following letter to "Die Gefedereerde Nederduitse Kerke van Suid Afrika" and "Die Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid Afrika." (Note: the former church is related to us through our mission field and the latter church is our sister church.)

**"DEAR BRETHREN:**

"The Synod of the Christian Reformed Church is deeply concerned about these times of critical unrest and world tension in which we are mandated by our Lord to preach the gospel. We are acutely troubled by racial tensions not only in the United States but also in Africa. We are humbled by the realization that worldly prudence can occupy the hearts of the children of God and thereby damage relations between Christians of different races. In recent months the pressure of world opinion has challenged us of Reformed persuasion to responsible public affirmation of our principles and commitment to God's will. You must also feel this keenly because of close association with the South African government and the Reformed identification of its leaders.

"We do not wish to pass judgment upon the intricate and delicate situation in your country. We also have racial problems. We hope and wish only that you fervently join with us in praying that the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ may guide us all in both principle and practice. We write also to reaffirm the decisions taken at the Reformed Ecumenical Synod of Potchefstroom in 1958 stressing, as you may recall, the duty of the church to avoid any semblance of an attitude leading to estrangement between races, the essential unity of believers in Christ, the need of public enlightenment through teaching and preaching, and the alertness of the church to a Biblical evaluation of governmental policy. It is our prayer that we may all courageously affirm these principles before the world so that Christian leadership may be encouraged everywhere and that the Body of Christ may nowhere countenance unchristian policy or action.

"Moreover, brethren, we assure you of our ardent prayers before the throne of God, our Creator and Redeemer. May He enlighten your minds and hearts as you face agonizingly difficult struggles. May He by directing your thoughts in obedience to the will of Christ open a way to a solution in harmony with His Word so that the Reformed churches of the world may lead all men to serving the one true and sovereign God in all things."

*Ground:* This letter is an answer to the implicit requests of the overtures. —*Adopted*

#### ARTICLE 165

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 2, Rev. H. Erffmeyer reporting, cf. Arts. 45, 51, 91, 160, presents the following:

#### ECUMENICITY AND INTER CHURCH CORRESPONDENCE

*Material:* Agenda Report No. 35. (See Supplement No. 35)

##### A. *World Presbyterian Alliance*

1. *Background:* The committee has made a study of the World Presbyterian Alliance and presented the results of this study to the Synod of 1959 which can be found in Supplement No. 19 of the *Acts of Synod* 1959, pp. 266ff. The committee also had the opportunity of conferring with Marcel Pradervand, representing the World Presbyterian Alliance, and the result was that the committee was strengthened in the recommendations made to the Synod of 1959.

The recommendation of this standing committee to this Synod of 1960 is: "That Synod do not consider seriously membership in the World Presbyterian Alliance.

*Grounds:*

"1. The basis of the Constitution is indistinct.

"2. The World Presbyterian Alliance is closely affiliated with the World Council of Churches.

"3. The constituency of the World Presbyterian Alliance is theologically mixed. The situation is intensified due to membership of all types on both sides of the Iron Curtain."

*2. Recommendation:*

Synod do not apply for membership in the World Presbyterian Alliance.

*Grounds:*

Such membership has far-reaching implications which have not been sufficiently explored by our church in order to take final action at this time.

—*Adopted*

*B. The Reformed Church in America*

1. *Background:* Although at the time our denomination solicited the interest of the Reformed Church in America in fraternal exchange of delegates and views (1944), we did not succeed in finding mutually satisfactory grounds for such a relationship, our Synod invited the Reformed Church in America to send a delegate to our Centennial Synod in 1957, and the invitation was accepted. The Reformed Church in America Synod of 1958 invited us to send a delegate to their General Synod. This invitation was presented to our Synod last year and was not acted upon. The recommendation at that time was: "Synod instruct its committee to pursue correspondence and to report to the Synod of 1960."

*2. Recommendations:*

a. Synod acknowledge with appreciation the invitation of the Reformed Church in America to send a fraternal delegate to their Synod.

—*Adopted*

b. Synod accede to that invitation by delegating someone to attend the Reformed Church in America General Synod in 1961, such a delegate to be advised of the principles governing fraternal relations with other churches as adopted by our Synod in 1944 and 1947.

—*Adopted*

c. Synod inform the Reformed Church in America that in accepting its kind invitation, we do so in the conviction that such fraternal delegation involves more than the exchange of greetings, and that our delegate shall be free to speak in a brotherly spirit concerning the real implications of such fraternal relations between churches of Reformed confession.

—*Adopted*

d. This matter be referred to the Synodical Committee for appointment.

—*Adopted*



### C. *Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland*

1. *Background:* Our Synod of 1949 addressed a communication to the Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken anent "church correspondence." Our letter was an invitation to renew correspondence according to the provisions adopted in 1944 by our Synod.

The Synod of the Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken, of 1950, accepted our invitation but questioned the use of the term "correspondence." It also called attention to the fact that it would be rather impossible for them to send delegates to our assemblies.

This letter somehow — perhaps because of loss or other misfortune — never came to the attention of our Synod. Our Synod did send a communication on July 12, 1955, which to them had a strange tone. But, charitable to our Synod, they inferred that their communication of 1950 never reached us.

Desirous of better relations, the Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken instructed their deputies to review the entire matter.

#### 2. *Recommendations:*

a. Synod express its regret that the letter of 1950 evidently never came to the attention of following Synods.

b. Synod welcome the Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken as a "corresponding" church in our terminology and in their terminology as a "contact" church, since in usage we mean the same thing.

c. Synod declare that it will welcome any fraternal delegate commissioned by said church to its meetings if such a delegate should be in this region; and that it likewise will commission a fraternal delegate if such a delegate should be in their area at the time of their major assembly.

d. Synod express its appreciation for the labors of the "deputaten" of said church, and note also that their historical synopsis will be placed in the supplement of the *Acts* for future historical reference. (Note: that synopsis has been placed in the *Acts* of 1959.)

e. Synod send the "Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken" our fraternal greetings and assure her of our prayers for a common faithfulness and perseverance in the work of the Lord.

—*Adopted*

### D. *Membership of the Committee:*

A. The term of Prof. Martin Monsma has now expired and, according to synodical rules, he is not subject to reappointment.

#### B. *Recommendation:*

Synod express its appreciation to Brother Monsma for his services, and appoint a replacement for him. (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

(Church Order, No. 2, continued in Art. 170)

## ARTICLE 166

The *Obituary Committee*, cf. Art. 18, Rev. R. Vermeer reporting, presents its report.

## OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

It is appropriate that Synod pause to take note of the passing of eight of our ministers whose earthly labor has been exchanged for that of their promised heavenly reward. We humbly bow before the all-wise providence of God who permitted us to profit by their dedicated lives. These are among the blessed dead who, worship the Great Shepherd whom they represented on earth.

*Rev. Andrew D. Folkema* was the first of our ministers to be called from our midst since the Synod of 1959. Born on November 11, 1888, a native of the Netherlands, our brother immigrated to our country with his parents as an infant. He entered the ministry in 1919 and subsequently served the congregations of Esteline, South Dakota; Ackley, Iowa; Hawarden, Iowa; Berwyn, Illinois; Drayton, Ontario; and Sullivan, Michigan. He endured the trials of struggling congregations and economic depression, preaching to and teaching God's people until illness caused his retirement in 1958. Our covenant God called him home on July 1, 1959.

*Rev. Herman Goodyke* was a native of the Netherlands who immigrated to the USA with his parents in early youth. Born March 9, 1884, he entered the active ministry in 1918 serving the congregations at McBain, Michigan; Reeman, Michigan; and Atwood, Michigan. He was emeritated in 1953 and entered into his eternal rest on July 18, 1959. His faithful ministry is reason for humble gratitude to God.

*Rev. John M. Vande Kieft* is well-known in our denomination as our "Missionary-at-Large." Prior to his retirement as a denominational missionary in 1956, he served faithfully the churches of Platte, South Dakota; Prairie City, Iowa; Fourteenth Street, Holland, Michigan; Oakdale Park in Grand Rapids, and Bethel, Paterson, New Jersey. Born on May 5, 1890, in the Netherlands, he entered the church triumphant on August 25, 1959. We remember gratefully his noble services as a frequent delegate to Synod, a father to the lonely and homeless, and a sympathetic friend to all men.

*Rev. Simon A. Dykstra* was born on July 7, 1891, in the Netherlands. He immigrated to the USA in 1906 where he was trained for and entered the ministry of our denomination in 1919. He began his ministry in Baldwin, Wisconsin, then served as a home missionary for Classis Muskegon, but realized his fondest dream when he accepted a call to become a missionary in China where he served from 1924 to 1942. Before his emeritation in 1957 he served the congregations of Duvall, Washington; Hamilton, Ontario; and Decatur, Michigan. Death came suddenly on October 27, 1959. He has entered his eternal rest.

*Rev. Marinus Vander Zwaag*, a native of Michigan, was born on November 27, 1908. He is warmly appreciated and gratefully remembered by the congregations he served since 1935; namely, Luctor, Kansas; Lamont, Michigan; Central Avenue, Holland; Bethany, Bellflower; Grandville Avenue, Grand Rapids; and Oak Glen, Lansing, Illinois. On Christmas morning, December 25, 1959, after preaching the old, old story, death came suddenly and the faithful labors of another of God's servants were past.

*Rev. Dirk De Beer* began his earthly career on March 17, 1877. In 1908 he was ordained to the gospel ministry. His labors were centered in only two vineyards of the Lord, namely, Jenison, Michigan, and Prospect Street, Passaic, New Jersey. The Lord called him to his eternal home on January 19, 1960.

*Rev. John Kolkman* was born on February 28, 1884. Ordained to the ministry in 1914, he labored exclusively in the state of Michigan, serving the churches of Caldwell (now Arlene), Grant, and Oakland. After his emeritation in 1944, he lived in Grand Rapids until the Savior he loved and preached called him to the "House of Many Mansions" on March 31, 1960.

*Rev. Dr. Calvin G. Hayenga*, born April 19, 1887, was ordained to the gospel ministry in the Presbyterian church in 1914, in which he had pastorates in Illinois and Iowa. For one year he taught at Grundy Center, Iowa, after which he accepted a call as home missionary for Classis Ostfriesland in 1918. In 1925 our departed brother entered the Navajo mission field where he served and lived the remainder of his life. He labored diligently at Zuni, Two Wells, Gallup, Perea, and Fort Wingate, New Mexico. Before his retirement in 1957, he labored in Navajo camps in Phoenix and taught in Cook Christian Training School. The gracious Father, whom he proclaimed to men, took him to Himself on May 20, 1960.

These brethren have entered the rest awaiting God's people. It is appropriate, therefore,

1. That Synod give God the thanks for their finished labors on earth in the promotion and extension of His Kingdom.

2. That Synod express its sympathy to the bereaved loved ones of the blessed dead and commend them to the comfort of God's Spirit.

3. That Synod decide to record these obituaries in the minutes of Synod and send copies to the bereaved families. —*Adopted*

We recommend that Synod express its sympathy to the family of Mrs. J. W. Brink, the widow of one of our ministers, who was taken to her eternal reward during the sessions of Synod on June 14. We commend them to the comfort of God who has promised an eternal rest to His people. —*Adopted*

#### ARTICLE 167

The Advisory Committee on *Educational Matters*, No. 2, Rev. J. Petersen reporting, cf. Arts. 103, 109, presents the following:

#### I. PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (See also Art. 109)

##### A. *Materials*:

1. Agenda Report No. 9. (See Supplement No. 9)

2. Overtures Nos. 15 and 49.

B. *Mandate*: Synod has charged the Advisory Committee to present a recommendation for a committee to provide catechism and Daily Vacation Bible School Materials. (See Art. 109)

##### C. *Recommendations*:

1. That Synod reconstitute the membership of the present standing Committee on Education to include primarily members living in the area of Calvin College and Seminary and the Christian Reformed Publishing House. This committee is to be composed of nine persons. Initially three are to be appointed for a three-year period, three for a two-year period, and three for a one-year period, so that membership rotation within the committee may conform to existing synodical rules. (See Art. 172, V)

*Ground*: Proximity to these denominational institutions will facilitate the work of the members. —*Adopted*

2. That the Committee on Education be instructed to prepare materials for vacation Bible schools. (Note: The committee already has a mandate to produce catechetical materials.) (*Acts* 1953, p. 117; 1957, p. 25) —*Adopted*

3. That the Committee on Education be authorized to engage during the coming year a part-time editor to aid in executing its program.

—*Adopted*

4. If the work assigned prove to be best expedited by the engagement of such an editor, the committee be authorized to recommend to the Synod of 1961 a nomination of one or more persons best qualified for appointment as full-time editor.

—*Adopted*

5. That a sum of \$4,000 from the Synodical Expense Fund be made available to the committee to cover expenses that may be incurred in the next year.

—*Adopted*

6. That Synod declare that these decisions constitute an answer to the requests in Agenda Report 9, and Overtures Nos. 15 and 49. —*Adopted*

7. Synod approves a 10c per family quota increase in the Synodical Expense Fund to meet added expenditure in C, 5. The quota per family is now \$1.25. (See Art. 154)

## II. PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT IN SYNODICAL PROCEDURE

### A. *Material:* Overture No. 3

B. *Elucidation:* Classis Chatham is concerned about the limited time for advisory committees to deal adequately with the volume of material on the Agenda of Synod. It is stated that "the fact that our advisory committees sometimes must work so hastily and superficially is very harmful to Synod, and puts Synod in danger of making immature decisions."

In order to meet this need Classis Chatham recommends:

1. Synod authorize the Synodical Committee to make a provisional classification of the synodical material and to divide it tentatively among the appointed delegates as soon as their names and the material for the Agenda is known.

2. The delegates, in addition to a general study of the entire Agenda, are obligated to consider thoroughly the matters assigned to them by the synodical committee with a view to a possible appointment to an advisory committee which will serve Synod with advice regarding those matters.

3. Synod itself shall appoint the advisory committees with chairmen and reporters by means of the Program Committee, which shall take into account the provisional division of the synodical material and the tentative appointments made by the synodical committee.

4. This new procedure regarding the appointment of advisory committees, serving during the session of Synod, shall be applied for at least two years. Then the Synod shall decide whether such procedure is for the profit of the work of Synod and for the profit of the churches.

Your Advisory Committee calls the attention of Synod to the fact that a similar overture (from Classis Holland) was considered and rejected by the Synod of 1951.

*C. Recommendations:*

1. That Synod reject the recommendations of the overture of Classis Chatham.

*Grounds:*

a. Such procedure would create the possibility of excessive control over Synod by one small committee.

b. The Synodical Committee is not likely to know the delegates sufficiently to make appropriate assignments.

c. Much of the material for Synod comes in too late for proper distribution to the proposed tentative advisory committees.

d. If Synod continues to move in the direction of making more committees with less material for each committee, the difficulties noted by the overture will progressively be overcome.

e. Specific assignments to synodical delegates would tend to discourage overall study of material on the Agenda. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod declare that this decision constitutes an answer to Overture No. 3. —*Adopted*

## ARTICLE 168

The Advisory Committee on *Varia*, No. 2, Rev. S. Rooy reporting, cf. Arts. 37, 84, 158, presents the following:

## SYNODICAL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF THE YOUNG CALVINIST FEDERATION

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 26. (See Supplement No. 26)

B. *Information*: The synodical representatives have given an encouraging report on the progress of the Young Calvinist Federation. Special note is taken of the imminent retirement of Mr. Richard Postma, the Federation Director. The matter of securing a successor is under consideration. Our representatives desire to inform Synod that "the names of several ministers are also being considered, and that the possibility exists that a minister will be appointed to this position." (See Art. 172, V)

C. *Recommendation*: That this report be received as information.

—*Adopted*

## ARTICLE 169

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 1, Rev. T. Hofman reporting, cf. Arts. 64, 71, 159, presents the following:

## CORRESPONDENCE WITH REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 36. (See Supplement No. 36)

B. *Recommendation*: We recommend that the Synod continue this committee in order to seek further contact with the Reformed Presbyterian Church with the hope of possible organic union with these brethren in the Lord. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

ARTICLE 170

The Advisory Committee on *Church Order*, No. 2, Rev. H. N. Erffmeyer reporting, cf. Arts. 45, 51, 91, 160, 165, presents the following:

I. CHRISTIAN REFORMED CONTACT COMMITTEE AND PROTESTANT REFORMED CHURCHES CONTACT COMMITTEE.

A. *Materials*: Communications Nos. 10 and 11. (See Communications Nos. 10, 11)

B. *Recommendation*: Synod grant the privilege of the floor to the chairman and secretary of our Contact Committee during the discussion of this matter. —*Adopted*

C. *Background*: The Synod of 1957 appointed the committee: Revs. Henry Baker, John Weidenaar, Martin Monsma, Adam Persenaire, and Messrs. Hero Bratt, Cornelius Van Malsen, and Cornelius Zylstra in response to a communication from the Protestant Reformed Churches (Rev. H. De Wolf group) to discuss freely the differences and similarities between the Protestant Reformed and the Christian Reformed Churches (cf. *Acts* 1957, pp. 83-84, 531-533). At the Synod of 1958 the committee reported respecting the similarities and differences and recommended continuing conferences. Again in 1959 the committee reported to the Synod concerning its discussions with the committee of the Protestant Reformed Churches (Agenda Report No. 38, *Acts of Synod* 1959 pp. 417-424). The Synod of 1959 decided in the interest of fraternal understanding, address a communication to the Synod of the Protestant Reformed Churches (De Wolf group) based on I and II of this report in order to pave the way for further considerations regarding an eventual unification. (cf. Art. 196 *Acts of Synod* 1959 for Communication.) Further Synod of 1959 decided to continue its committee for further conferences should they be desired by the Protestant Reformed Church to work out various details necessary for effectuating such a possible reunion (*Acts of Synod* 1959; Art. 76, V; pp. 23, 24).

The Synod of 1960 has before it Communication No. 10 which contains the report of the Christian Reformed Contact Committee to Confer with Protestant Reformed-De Wolf Group Contact Committee and Communication No. 11 which is the Reply of Protestant Reformed Churches of America. The latter is the official reply of the Synod of the Protestant Reformed Churches dated June 11, 1960.

The thrust of this reply is a request "to consider the Three Points of Common Grace as without any further binding force."

We as your Advisory Committee have met with several members of our Contact Committee and discussed the matter at length and the Contact Committee has formulated a reply to be sent officially to the Protestant Reformed Churches as follows:

To the Synod of the Protestant Reformed Churches,  
Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Esteemed Brethren:

We thank you for the fraternal and cordial reply to our Synod's letter to you in June 1959. In reply to this, your communication, we wish to observe that we

appreciate the general tenor of this document, which indicates that there is on your part a sincere desire for reconciliation and unification with our church.

Addressing ourselves to the main thrust of your letter: "May we urge you, therefore, to consider the Three Points of common grace as without any further binding force?" we conclude that this question is the heart of the matter which you present to our Synod. You are asking our Synod simply to set aside or discard, without any restrictions or qualifications, that which was done by our Synods of 1924 and 1959. This is evident from your statement: "We, therefore, do not desire to maintain the Three Points or any new formulation or interpretation as necessary for a church to stipulate and insist upon for unification of churches."

Synod may on occasion be compelled to make emergency decisions which serve a definite purpose in a given historic moment. Such emergency decisions are dated and may in time become inactive because they have served their purpose and are no longer needed. The result could be that such decisions are in effect set aside. Reflecting however, on the synodical decisions of 1924 respecting the Three Points, we believe that an outright and official setting aside of them is unwarranted for the following reasons:

- a. The serious situation in 1924 which called these Three Points into being.
- b. The salutary effect of these Three Points in producing rest and peace in the churches.
- c. The fact that such setting aside of the Three Points would run counter to and virtually nullify a large measure of agreement which had been achieved.

We are of the opinion that such a simple discarding of the Three Points, as well as of the elucidations and interpretations of these given in the letter of our Synod of 1959, is not desirable. We would rather point out to you a more positive basis upon which we may seek for unification. This positive approach is not to be sought by requesting our Synod virtually to discard what it deemed to be necessary to state in 1924, and what is still necessary to maintain at the present time; nor in demanding of you an expression of total agreement with the Three Points as formulated by 1924 and further elucidated by 1959; but rather by accepting a basis on which we can unite.

It is our considered judgment that in as much as both your denomination and ours subscribe to the Word of God and the Three Forms of Unity, unification of our churches could be effected:

- a. If you will agree that the Three Points are neither Arminian nor Pelagian; that in the light of the official interpretation given by our Synod of 1959, the objection that the Three Points are in conflict with Scripture and the Forms of Unity is not valid; and that you will agree not to agitate against official interpretations.

- b. If we do not require submission in the sense of demanding total agreement with the Three Points; we recognize and bear with scruples which you may have, in the expectation that we together may come eventually to a better understanding of the truth; and not bar those who have certain misgivings or divergent interpretations.

As to the method of effecting such a union we suggest that:

- a. If this is to be worked out on a denominational basis, a committee of your church be appointed to confer with a committee of our church; or,

- b. If this is to be worked out on a local basis; this be left to the individual consistories and classes in which such attempts towards union would be made.

#### *Recommendation:*

1. Synod send this letter as its official reply to the Synod of the Protestant Reformed Churches (De Wolf Group).

—Adopted

2. Synod reappoint the Contact Committee for further conference with the Protestant Reformed Committee. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

## II. REQUEST FOR THE SETTING ASIDE OF THE DECISIONS OF 1924 ANENT "COMMON GRACE"

### A. *Material*: Overture No. 76

B. *Synopsis*: The consistory of Toronto II requests the 1960 Synod to set aside the 1908 decisions in regard to "presumptive regeneration" and those of 1924 anent "common grace." The first matter was included in our report concerning the Conclusions of Utrecht. The latter matter logically follows here.

C. *Recommendation*: Synod declare the substance of the letter to be sent to the Protestant Reformed Churches as its answer to that part of Overture 76 requesting the setting aside of the decisions of 1924 anent "common grace." —*Adopted*

## ARTICLE 171

The Advisory Committee on *Home Missions*, Rev. M. C. Baarman reporting, cf. Arts. 92, 95, 143, 153, presents the following:

### I. LOANING PRACTICES

#### A. *Materials*: Agenda Report No. 6, VIII, 1. (See Supplement No. 6, VIII, 1)

B. *Orientation*: Whereas fields opened require a financial investment for the procurement of building site, equipment, and other essentials, the Home Missions Board proposes a new plan for the repayment of loans made in the opening of new fields. The old plan (as opposed to the new one) provides for the date of loan to begin when the church becomes a calling church; the first five years from that date — no payment; the years thereafter, repayment at the rate of 5% per year with no interest. The new plan proposed by the board is presented herewith with one modification in point 1 below.

C. *Recommendation*: Your Advisory Committee recommends that the following items be approved by Synod, as the loaning practice for the Home Missions Board.

1. That the date of the loan begin when the church becomes a calling church.

*Ground*: This will enable small churches to gather strength and gain momentum before the heavy burden of repayment falls upon them.

2. That the first five years from the date of the loan be interest and payment free.

3. That the second five years provide for a repayment of 5% annually with an interest rate of 1%.

4. That the third five years provide for a repayment of 7½% annually with an interest rate of 2%.

5. That the fourth five years provide for a repayment of 7½% annually with an interest rate of 3%.



*Grounds:*

a. The proposed loaning practice will compensate for the fact that the Board of Home Missions is not receiving what it gave out in loans because of the loss in the value of the dollar.

b. The proposed loaning practice will help to cover the cost of administration.

c. The addition of interest rates will encourage the early repayment of the loans and thus add new resources for the expanding work of the Home Missions Board. —*Adopted*

**II. SPECIAL GRANTS**

A. *Materials:* Agenda Report No. 6-A, 5. (See Supplement No. 6-A, 5)

B. *Information:* The Board of Home Missions recommended that the Greater Edmonton request for aid in their project be *not* granted, and that for the reasons stated in Report 6-A, pages 2 and 3.

C. *Recommendations:*

1. Synod approve the request of the churches of Greater Edmonton, Alberta, for aid in their local evangelization project.

*Grounds:*

a. Additional material has come to your Advisory Committee which indicates that the request of Edmonton is primarily for doing the work of evangelism in their area.

b. While the Edmonton churches comprise many families, these churches have only recently become large and are therefore still weak in resources.

c. The communication from Edmonton states that without aid there can be no evangelism program. The need is urgent.

d. The Edmonton appeal points out that they will take on a greater measure of self support of the evangelism program with each passing year, and within four years hope to be able to do it without aid from the Home Missions Board. —*Adopted*

2. Your Advisory Committee recommends that Synod approve a Special Grant for the Edmonton, Alberta, evangelism program in the amount of \$6,000 for the year 1961.

*Grounds:*

a. The request as presented was \$7,500, which was unusually large.

b. The precedent established was not over \$4,000, therefore your committee recommended a compromise between the two figures. —*Adopted*

**III. MEXICO**

A. *Materials:*

1. Agenda Report No. 6, VIII, 5. (See Supplement No. 6, VIII, 5)

2. Agenda Report No. 27-A, V. (See Supplement No. 27-A, 5)

3. Notice from the Board of Foreign Missions that it concurs in the recommendation.

**B. Orientation:** Your committee informs Synod of a measure of disagreement between the Foreign Missions Board and the Home Missions Board in the matter of "who shall take care of the mission work among the regular citizenry in the country of Mexico." Both boards have expressed agreement on the matter of who shall take care of the work amongst the Mexican migrants.

**C. Recommendations:**

1. Synod decide that work amongst the Mexican migrants and its follow-up in Mexico be the task of the Home Missions Board.

**Grounds:**

a. The Home Missions Board, at the behest of Synod, inaugurated the mission work amongst the Mexican migrants.

b. There is a continuing need for such follow-up work as contact by mail, sending of literature and Bibles, supplies and materials. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod declare that Mexico, as far as its regular citizenry is concerned, be the province of the Foreign Missions Board.

**Grounds:**

a. The church, through its Foreign Missions Board, should exercise wise vision and view Mexico as a part of the whole growing Spanish-speaking Central and South American project, and plan for a unified and aggressive program for the whole area.

b. This solution provides an area in which cooperation between the two boards can be exercised in the best interests of the denominational witness.

c. The Foreign Missions Board is explicitly charged with the execution of "Foreign" missions. "... Our Mission Order (Foreign) specifically indicates that all 'Foreign Work' shall be administered by the Board of Foreign Missions..." (Agenda 27-A). There is no valid reason why the familiar and accepted division of missionary assignment should be altered. (See Supplement No. 27-A)

Synod decides to withhold action.

**IV. RECRUITMENT**

**A. Materials:**

1. Agenda Report No. 6, VIII, 6. (See Supplement No. 6, VIII, 6)
2. Agenda Report No. 6-A, A. (See Supplement No. 6-A, A)
3. Notification from the Foreign Missions Advisory Committee that they concur in this matter.

**B. Orientation:** The fact of the shortage of kingdom workers is well documented in Agenda Report No. 6-A, A. The Chaplain Committee has likewise expressed the need for more men to answer to the challenge. The Foreign Missions Advisory Committee has indicated their assent to the proposed recruitment program. (See Supplement No. 32)

**C. Recommendations:**

1. Considering the disturbing shortage of kingdom workers, Synod appoint a committee to work out a program to assist our homes, churches and schools in leading our youth into the ministerial or missionary service.

*Grounds:*

- a. This is in conformity with Article 19 of the *Church Order*.
- b. The acute shortage of ministers and missionaries has been apparent for some time and indications are that it will become increasingly so.
- c. In view of the tremendous appeal of the many secular vocations in our modern world, it is imperative that the church should present to her members a clear statement of the calling, urgency, and challenge of the ministry and missionary service, strongly urging them to give themselves to this service. —*Adopted*

2. That the committee mentioned under Recommendation No. 1, be made up of the Secretary of the Board of Home Missions, the Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Minister of Evangelism, a member of the Calvin Board of Trustees, a representative of the Calvin Faculty, and a pastor, to be appointed by the Synodical Committee.

*Ground:* Few people in our denomination can compare to these men on the matter of first-hand knowledge of the needs, close contact with the whole denomination, and possession of the tools of promotion. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

## V. OUR YOUTH IN MILITARY SERVICE

A. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 6, XI. (See Supplement No. 6, XI)

B. *Information:* There are more than 1,000 of our young men in military service. The church should feel the weight of its responsibility to these men and seek to provide for their spiritual well-being to the best of its ability.

C. *Recommendations:*

1. That Synod approve free-will offerings in our churches for the Soldiers' Fund. (See Arts. 148, 154)

*Ground:* There is a continuing need for aid to the men in the service. —*Adopted*

2. Synod to take note of the plans mentioned in the Home Missions Board Report, Agenda Report No. 6, XI, "... Plans are under way, especially by means of retreats, to provide a larger measure of spiritual guidance to our youth in overseas service." Your committee recommends that Synod encourage the execution of this program. —*Adopted*

## VI. TEACHING SPANISH IN THE COLLEGE

A. *Material:* Agenda Report No. 6-A, B. (See Supplement No. 6-A, B)

B. *Recommendation:* In view of our growing commitment to the Spanish-speaking mission of the church, we request Synod to advise the board of Calvin College and Seminary to consider the advisability of instituting service courses in Spanish.

*Grounds:*

1. Personnel who may find their vocation in the mission of the church in the Spanish-speaking areas, need this background.

2. Such personnel should not be required to obtain a knowledge of Spanish in circumstances divorced from a Liberal Arts education.

3. There is a growing area of our church located at the very edge of the Spanish-speaking countries. —*Adopted*

## VII. FAITH, PRAYER AND TRACT LEAGUE

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report No. 22. (See Supplement No. 22)

B. *Recommendation*: Your committee recommends that a representative be continued to represent Synod on the board of the league. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

## VIII. FUND FOR NEEDY CHURCHES

A. *Material*: Agenda Report No. 28. (See Supplement No. 28)

B. *Recommendations*:

1. Synod approve the minimum salary paid to ministers by the churches receiving assistance from the Fund for Needy Churches, at \$4,200. —*Adopted*

2. That the per family contribution towards the minister's salary in aid-receiving congregations be set at not less than \$70 in the U.S., and not less than \$60 in Canada. —*Adopted*

3. That Synod approve a child allowance of \$200 per child in excess of the salary paid. —*Adopted*

4. That Synod approve the mileage allowances in congregational work according to the following schedule:

a. No allowance for the first 5,000 miles on the field.

b. In the U.S. at 7 cents per mile for not more than 3,500 miles.

c. In Ontario and Quebec at 7 cents per mile for not more than 5,000 miles.

d. In Western Canada and the Maritime provinces of Canada at 8 cents per mile for not more than 6,500 miles. —*Adopted*

5. That Synod approve the following policy in regard to moving expenses, and the Fund for Needy Churches will pay the same rate percentage, as subsidy, and for the same reasons to churches within the domain of the FNC. —*Adopted*

6. That the ex-officio member added to the Fund for Needy Churches Committee by action of Synod, 1959, be dropped from the Fund for Needy Churches Committee. (See Art. 172, V)

*Grounds*:

a. The Synod of 1958 stipulated that the work of the Fund for Needy Churches was not the work of the Home Missions Board. (*Acts*, 1958, page 75, 2b)

b. The transition period, during which the Fund for Needy Churches came out from under the Home Missions Board, is now over. —*Adopted*

## IX. CHAPLAINS' COMMITTEE

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report No. 32. (See Supplement No. 32)

B. *Information*: Your attention is directed to the report listed above which underscores the status of our efforts at the moment. Three chaplains have returned to civilian status. Six chaplains are now on active duty with the Armed Service. Institutional chaplaincy has great potential and we now have two men in such service.

C. *Recommendations*:

1. That the consistories and pastors be reminded to report vacancies and opportunities in the area of institutional chaplaincy to the Chaplains' Committee. —*Adopted*

2. That Synod approve the work of the Chaplains' Committee with thanks. (See Art. 172, V) —*Adopted*

## X. BACK TO GOD HOUR

A. *Materials*: Agenda Report Nos. 21, 21-A. (See Supplement Nos. 21, 21-A)

1. Synod take note of the unusual honor accorded to Rev. Bassam Madany in that he was invited to make a daily broadcast over station ELWA. With gratitude to God we extend our thanks to Rev. Madany. (See Supplement No. 21-A) —*Adopted*

2. *Orientation*: In 1958 Synod was alerted to the question of whether the church should go in the direction of owning and operating radio stations. This matter was referred to the Back to God Hour Committee for further study. In accordance with this decision, the Back to God Hour Committee studied this matter, enlisting aid from all available sources.

B. *Recommendations*:

1. That Synod adopt the following: "The church should not go in the direction of church-owned radio stations.

"*Grounds*:

"a. The church has mandated the Radio Committee to make our weekly denominational radio program available to as much of North America as possible. In view of this, we would not feel justified in using denominational funds to undertake ownership and operation of a radio station or stations which would have a limited audience.

"b. The cost of securing such stations should be borne by the area which it serves. When the purpose of any such undertaking does not serve in some way the denomination as a whole, denominational funds should not be used, and denominational responsibility does not exist."

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod adopt the following as an answer to the mandate of the Synod of 1958: "That Synod encourage the establishment of privately-owned radio stations by organizations within the church community, committed to our Reformed life and world view.

*“Grounds:*

“a. The limited area of coverage of radio stations would make it reasonable to expect enthusiasm and support from the local areas such a station would serve and that control and responsibility should also be under the direction and supervision of a local society.

“b. This activity can best be served by a society organized for this purpose and for the area it is to serve.

“c. Should the contemporary trends in commercial radio programming continue to be against the paid religious broadcast to the point of exclusion, some of the smaller stations could possibly fill in some of the gap.”

—*Adopted*

3. That Synod approve the following items in re the matter of a Canadian mailing office:

a. That a responsible Canadian representative be engaged for this function.

b. That a post office box in some Canadian city be used as a mailing address for Canada.

c. That all mail is to be picked up daily and forwarded to our Chicago office for handling.

d. That appropriate announcements be used on our program specifically for Canadian listeners. (See Art. 172, V)

—*Adopted*

XI. CANADIAN IMMIGRATION

A. *Materials:*

1. Agenda Report No. 38 (See Supplement No. 38)

2. Overtures Nos. 13, 46, 62.

B. *Orientation:* For the purpose of this report, the report of the Canadian Immigration Committee will form the center of the presentation. The overtures will be considered in relation to this report.

C. *Recommendations:* Agenda Report No. 38 (See Supplement No. 38)

1. Your Advisory Committee recommends that Synod continue the Immigration Committee for Canada as duly constituted by representatives of the various classes and of the Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions. (Cf. Art. 2 Rules) (See Art. 172, V)

*Grounds:*

a. As long as immigration continues we will need the committee to maintain contact with the Immigration Committee in the Netherlands and others in Canada, such as government agencies, railroad agencies, etc.

b. By the middle of March some 600 cases regarding immigrants were being considered and in the process of being placed.

—*Adopted*

2. That Synod approve the appointments of the new members as chosen by the classes.

—*Adopted*

3. That Synod approve the revised rules and regulations as presented in Agenda Report No. 38. (See Supplement No. 38)

—*Adopted*

4. That Synod express its appreciation for the work of the fieldmen over the past years.

—*Adopted*

D. *Overture No. 13*

Overture No. 13 urges Synod to reduce the size of the committee. Your advisory committee recommends that Synod reject Overture No. 13.

*Grounds:*

1. The composition of the committee along classical lines precludes any equitable reduction in size. (See Art. 172, V)
2. The committee is already reduced in size by one delegate because the Canadian churches of Classis Minnesota South have been transferred to Classis Minnesota North. —*Adopted*

E. *Overture No. 62*

1. Your committee recommends that Synod declare that the request of Classis Alberta South for a "substantial quota" is answered by the adoption of a quota for this cause. (See Arts. 148, 154) —*Adopted*
2. That Synod deny the request of Classis Alberta South which seeks recommendation to the diaconates for further support in 1961.

*Grounds:*

- a. The immigration committee does not show the need for the use of field men.
- b. The Synod of 1959 has decided that the services of fieldmen can be discontinued as employees of the denomination.
- c. The majority of the immigration cases can be taken care of by relatives and consistories. (*Acts of Synod*, 1959, page 75, B, 3.) —*Adopted*
3. That Synod declare that the matter of membership on the Canadian Immigration Committee has been answered in Recommendation C, 2 above. —*Adopted*
4. In regard to the location of the central office, we recommend that Synod declare that this matter can be dealt with by Classis Alberta South through its representative on the Immigration Committee. —*Adopted*
- F. Your committee recommends that the above decisions constitute an answer to Overtures Nos. 13, 46, and 62. —*Adopted*

## XII. CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE GEREFORMEERDE KERKEN

A. *Material:* Letter from the Gereformeerde Kerken, dated January 8, 1960.

B. In this communication the Gereformeerde Kerken officially express their gratitude for the work of the Christian Reformed Church in the interest of the Dutch emigrants.

C. Your committee recommends that Synod receive this communication as information. —*Adopted*

## XIII. REPRESENTATION OF NEW CLASSIS

A. *Material:* Overture No. 12.

Classis Grand Rapids East overtures Synod to grant representation of the new classis (Overture No. 11) on the executive committee of the Board of Home Missions.

*B. Recommendation:*

Synod approve this request.

—*Adopted*

ARTICLE 172

The Committee on *Appointments*, Rev. L. Van Laar reporting, presents the following:

I. MEMBERS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CALVIN COLLEGE AND SEMINARY

<i>Classis</i>	<i>Primi</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Alberta North.....	Rev. H. Van Dyken	
Alberta South.....	Rev. T. E. Hofman	Rev. A. Kuyvenhoven
British Columbia.....	Rev. H. Van Aniel	Rev. L. Tamminga
Cadillac.....	Rev. H. Zwaanstra	Rev. S. Newhouse
California.....	Rev. P. Van Tuinen	Rev. E. Tanis
Chatham.....	Rev. J. Vander Meer	
Chicago North.....	Rev. A. H. De Kruyter	Rev. H. Erffmeyer
Chicago South.....	Rev. J. Malestein	Rev. C. O. Buus
Eastern Ontario.....	Rev. A. De Jager	Rev. J. Van Harmelen
Grand Rapids East.....	Rev. W. Van Rees	Rev. N. Veltman
Grand Rapids South.....	Rev. J. Schuurmann	Rev. L. Greenway
Grand Rapids West.....	Rev. R. Rienstra	Rev. W. Boelkins
Grandville.....	Dr. W. Hendriksen	Dr. G. Goris
Hackensack.....	Rev. M. J. Baarman	
Hamilton.....	Rev. A. J. Vanden Pol	Rev. G. J. Hoytema
Holland.....	Dr. S. J. De Vries	Dr. E. J. Masselink
Hudson.....	Rev. B. E. Pekelder	
Kalamazoo.....	Rev. T. Yff	
Minnesota North.....	Rev. J. H. Stek	Rev. L. Mulder
Minnesota South.....		
Muskegon.....	Rev. J. Breuker	Rev. J. Medendorp
North Central Iowa.....	Rev. K. Slager	Rev. B. Visscher
Orange City.....	Rev. L. C. Bossenbroek	Rev. J. W. Van Weelden
Pacific.....	Rev. J. Griffioen	Rev. J. Geels
Pella.....	Rev. J. H. Olthoff	Rev. L. Van Laar
Rocky Mountain.....	Rev. N. De Vries	Rev. J. Zwaanstra
Sioux Center.....	Rev. H. Petersen	Rev. H. C. Van Deelen
Toronto.....	Rev. H. A. Venema	Dr. L. Praamsma
Wisconsin.....	Rev. H. Exoo	Rev. M. Zylstra
Zeeland.....	Rev. J. Gritter	Rev. E. Oostendorp

*Members-at-Large*

Eastern District.....	P. Hofstra, M.D.	Mr. S. Steen
Central District.....	Mr. R. Tolsma	Dr. G. De Jong
	Mr. C. Van Valkenburg	Mr. C. Zylstra
	Mr. G. Buter, M.B.A.	Mr. J. N. Vander Ark
	E. Feenstra, D.V.M.	Mr. P. Westra
	Mr. A. Hulst	Dr. D. De Vries
	Mr. G. Tinholt	Mr. R. Holwerda
Midwest District.....	Dr. B. De Boer	
Far West District.....	Dr. H. De Jong	Mr. H. Apol

—*Approved*



## II. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

<i>Classis</i>	<i>Primi</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Alberta North.....	Rev. H. Bajema	
Alberta South.....	Rev. P. J. Hoekstra	Rev. H. Bouma
British Columbia.....	Rev. R. Popma	Rev. C. Tuininga
Cadillac.....	Rev. F. Einfeld	Rev. S. Newhouse
California.....	Rev. H. Petroelje	
Chatham.....	Rev. J. Verbrugge	Rev. S. Cooper
Chicago North.....	Rev. O. Breen	Rev. J. Meppelink
Chicago South.....	Rev. J. Scholten	Rev. R. Van Harn
Eastern Ontario.....	Rev. K. Hart	Rev. A. Haalboom
Grand Rapids East.....	Rev. J. Hasper	Rev. A. J. Verburg
Grand Rapids South.....	Dr. R. Wierenga	Rev. D. Hoitenga
Grand Rapids West.....	Rev. G. Rozenboom	Rev. B. Niemeyer
Grandville.....	Rev. S. Werkema	Rev. P. Zylstra
Hackensack.....	Rev. T. Verseput	Rev. C. Vos
Hamilton.....	Rev. D. J. Scholten	Rev. A. Persenaire
Holland.....	Rev. D. Negen	Rev. A. Walcott
Hudson.....	Rev. N. Vanderzee	Rev. H. G. Arnold
Kalamazoo.....	Rev. O. Holtrop	Rev. G. Yff
Minnesota North.....	Rev. J. De Haan	Rev. M. Keuning
Minnesota South.....	Rev. J. Rubingh	Rev. M. Dornbush
Muskegon.....	Rev. A. Poel	Rev. S. Viss
North Central Iowa.....	Rev. C. Toeset	Rev. J. Bultman
Orange City.....	Rev. J. B. Hulst	Rev. L. Bossenbroek
Pacific.....	Rev. P. De Jong	Rev. J. Hoeksema
Pella.....	Dr. P. Y. De Jong	Rev. W. Dryfhout
Rocky Mountain.....	Rev. R. Posthuma	Rev. A. Haan
Sioux Center.....		Rev. A. Arkema
Toronto.....	Rev. H. W. Kroeze	Rev. J. Kuntz
Wisconsin.....	Rev. P. Vander Weide	Rev. M. Vanderwerp
Zeeland.....	Rev. F. M. Huizenga	Rev. L. Oostendorp
Member-at-Large.....	Mr. J. T. Daverman	General alternate for Members-at-Large Dr. Edw. Postma
Member-at-Large.....	Dr. R. De Mol	
Member-at-Large.....	Mr. H. Gelderloos	

— *Approved*

## III. GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR HOME MISSIONS

<i>Classis</i>	<i>Primi</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Alberta North.....	Rev. J. G. Kruis	
Alberta South.....	Rev. G. Vanden Berg	Rev. H. Både
British Columbia.....	Rev. G. H. Polman	Rev. J. J. Holwerda
Cadillac.....	Rev. P. Honderd	
California.....	Rev. B. Den Ouden	Rev. J. Van Ryn
Chatham.....	Rev. A. B. C. Hofland	Rev. J. Quartel
Chicago North.....	Rev. G. Zylstra	Rev. B. Byrna
Chicago South.....	Rev. M. Ouwinga	Rev. W. Buursma
Eastern Ontario.....	Rev. G. Ringnalda	Rev. J. E. F. Dresselhuis
Grand Rapids East.....	Rev. G. Vanderhill	Rev. J. A. Mulder
Grand Rapids South.....	Rev. E. B. Pekelder	Rev. L. Dykstra
Grand Rapids West.....	Rev. W. Swierenga	Rev. A. Hoogstrate
Grandville.....	Rev. H. Vander Kam	Rev. F. Van Houten
Hackensack.....	Dr. G. Stob	Rev. F. J. MacLeod
Hamilton.....	Rev. H. Numan	Rev. J. G. Kunst

<i>Classis</i>	<i>Primi</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Holland.....	Rev. J. De Kruyter.....	Dr. J. Hoogstra
Hudson.....	Rev. S. Rooy.....	Rev. E. Boer
Kalamazoo.....	Rev. J. Ribbens.....	Rev. H. De Weerd
Minnesota North.....	Rev. F. Netz.....	Rev. J. Jeffers
Minnesota South.....		
Muskegon.....	Rev. G. Holwerda.....	Rev. B. Ypma
North Central Iowa.....	Rev. R. Graves.....	Rev. T. Vanden Bosch
Orange City.....	Rev. C. Niewenhuis.....	Rev. R. S. De Haan
Pacific.....	Rev. J. Hekman.....	Rev. J. R. Van Dyke
Pella.....	Rev. J. Wesseling.....	Rev. M. Doornbos
Rocky Mountain.....	Rev. E. Holkeboer.....	Rev. J. Zwaanstra
Sioux Center.....	Rev. S. Voortman.....	Rev. P. Baker
Toronto.....	Rev. F. Guillaume.....	Rev. H. Hollander
Wisconsin.....	Rev. R. Opperwall.....	Rev. B. A. Van Someren
Zeeland.....	Rev. A. E. Rozendal.....	Rev. R. H. Hooker
Executive Secretary.....	Rev. M. Baarman.....	
Minister of Evangelism.....	Dr. D. Van Halsema.....	Rev. B. E. Pekelder
Treasurer.....	Mr. C. Van Malsen.....	

*Members-at-Large*

Mr. G. Monsma.....	Mr. J. Stad
Mr. D. Farenhorst.....	Mr. J. Joosse, Sr.
Mr. H. Camping.....	Mr. F. Masselink
Mr. F. Steen.....	Mr. J. Hamersma
Mr. T. Hoeksema.....	Mr. R. Van Til
Mr. L. Vandertill.....	Dr. R. Blocksma

— *Approved*

IV. DELEGATES FOR EXAMINATION (Synodical Examiners)

<i>Classis</i>	<i>Primi</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Alberta North.....	Rev. B. Nederlof.....	Rev. H. Bajema
Alberta South.....	Rev. T. E. Hofman.....	Rev. P. J. Hoekstra
British Columbia.....	Rev. H. Moes.....	Rev. J. J. Holwerda
Cadillac.....	Rev. L. Baker.....	
California.....	Rev. J. Putt.....	Rev. E. Tanis
Chatham.....	Rev. A. B. C. Hofland.....	Rev. H. De Moor
Chicago North.....	Rev. O. Breen.....	Rev. H. N. Erffmeyer
Chicago South.....	Rev. C. O. Buus.....	
Eastern Ontario.....	Rev. K. Hart.....	Dr. R. Kooistra
Grand Rapids East.....	Rev. G. Gritter.....	Rev. N. Veltman
Grand Rapids South.....	Dr. L. Greenway.....	Rev. J. Eppinga
Grand Rapids West.....	Dr. A. C. De Jong.....	Rev. P. Ouwinga
Grandville.....	Dr. G. Goris.....	Rev. H. Vander Kam
Hackensack.....	Rev. C. Vos.....	
Hamilton.....	Rev. T. C. Van Kooten.....	Rev. J. C. Derksen
Holland.....	Dr. J. T. Hoogstra.....	Rev. M. Bolt
Hudson.....		Rev. R. J. Frens
Kalamazoo.....	Rev. T. Yff.....	Rev. P. Holwerda
Minnesota North.....	Rev. J. H. De Haan.....	Rev. J. H. Stek
Minnesota South.....	Rev. J. H. Rubingh.....	
Muskegon.....	Rev. J. C. Medendorp.....	
North Central Iowa.....	Rev. B. Visscher.....	Rev. R. Graves
Orange City.....	Rev. C. Vander Ark.....	Rev. C. R. Veenstra

<i>Classis</i>	<i>Primi</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Pacific.....	Rev. J. Griffioen.....	Rev. J. Geels
Pella.....	Dr. P. Y. De Jong.....	Rev. J. H. Olthoff
Rocky Mountain.....	Rev. N. De Vries.....	Rev. N. Vogelzang
Sioux Center.....		Rev. H. C. Van Deelen
Toronto.....	Rev. H. W. Kroeze.....	Rev. P. M. Jonker
Wisconsin.....	Rev. H. Exoo.....	Rev. E. Dykstra
Zeeland.....	Rev. L. Oostendorp.....	Rev. F. M. Huizenga
		— <i>Approved</i>

#### V. SYNOD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

##### A. *Standing Committees:*

1. **Synodical Committee:** Revs. G. Hoeksema, J. K. Van Baalen, J. C. Verbrugge, and the Stated Clerk (ex-officio) (Terms expire 1962).
2. **Stated Clerk:** Dr. R. J. Danhof (term expires Aug. 31, 1964); Alternate: Rev. Peter G. Holwerda.
3. **Synodical Treasurer:** Mr. Lester Ippel (term expires 1961); Alternate: Mr. George Wieland.
4. **Representative General Commission Army and Navy Chaplains:** Rev. Harold Dekker; Alternate: Dr. George Stob.
5. **Canadian Bible Society:** Rev. Alvin Venema; Alternate: Rev. J. Kuntz.
6. **Ecumenicity and Correspondence with other Churches:** Rev. A. Brink, Dr. J. T. Hoogstra, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema, Stated Clerk (ex-officio).
7. **Historical Committee:** Dr. J. H. Kromminga, Dr. E. Y. Monsma, Dr. H. Ippel, Rev. L. Oostendorp.
8. **Transportation Secretary:** Mr. A. H. Andriese.
9. **Arrangements and Reports for Synod:** Mr. Lester Ippel; Alternate: Mr. George Kamp.
10. **Representative Lord's Day Alliance U.S.:** Rev. C. Vos; Alternate: Rev. Jacob P. Smith.
11. **Representative National Christian Association:** Rev. A. De Kruyter; Alternate: Rev. O. Breen.
12. **Young Calvinist Federation of America:** Rev. L. J. Dykstra and Mrs. D. Van Halsema; Alternates: Rev. M. Goote and Mrs. R. Tiemersma.
13. **Canadian Immigration Committee:** Revs. P. J. Hoekstra, G. Bouma, A. Persenaire, R. Groeneboer; Messrs. D. J. Maat, M. Mol, H. J. Ten Hove, J. Vander Vliet; and the Minister of Evangelism, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema.
14. **Korean Reformed Spiritual Relief:** Dr. J. T. Hoogstra, Dr. E. J. Masselink, Rev. Edw. Cooke; Messrs. A. Naber, E. Vermaat.
15. **Korean Material Relief:** G. R. Deacons' Conference, and Rev. J. Hasper as Advisor.
16. **Special Advisory Budget Committee:** Messrs. William H. Boer, F. Dieleman, George Kamp, George Wieland; Alternate, Clarence De Vries.
17. **Representative Lord's Day Alliance of Canada:** Rev. Henry Venema; Alternate, Dr. L. Praamsma.

18. Pension Board of Calvin College and Seminary: Messrs. Lambert Beré and Mr. Lester Ippel.

19. Synodical Representative on Faith, Prayer and Tract League: Mr. J. Keuning.

20. Christian Reformed Resettlement Service Committee: Dr. Lewis B. Smedes, Dr. R. J. Danhof (Corresponding Secretary), Rev. W. Haverkamp, Mr. Clarence Beute, Mr. Henry Velzen, Sr., Dr. Wesley De Young.

21. Church Help Fund, Inc.: Revs. C. R. Veenstra, L. Bossenbroek, J. Vande Lune; Messrs. M. Wiersma, A. Engbers; Alternate, Mr. Elmer Duisternars.

22. Representative American Bible Society: Rev. A. H. Smit; Alternate: Rev. W. Van Antwerpen.

23. Convening Church for 1961 Synod: Highland Hills Christian Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Mich.

24. Sunday School Committee: Rev. G. J. Rozenboom, Dr. G. Goris, Dr. J. Van Bruggen, Mr. W. Schipper, Mr. Jay Poel, Mrs. Henry Ippel, and Miss M. Schoolland.

25. Sponsorship of Foreign Students: Registrar of Calvin Seminary, Dr. H. Ryskamp, Registrar of Calvin College, Prof. H. De Wit, Dr. John Bratt, Mr. A. Huibregtse for the Board of Foreign Missions, and Rev. M. Baarman for the Board of Home Missions.

26. Back to God Hour Committee: Revs. C. O. Buus, L. A. Bazuin, J. Geels, K. Hart, J. Hasper, H. C. Van Wyk, J. P. Smith; and Messrs. L. Beré, J. De Nooyer, R. L. Hoekstra, J. Jonker, R. J. Vermeer, and Mr. Andrew Van Noord.

27. Back to God Tract Committee: Revs. G. J. Rozenboom, L. Dykstra, J. C. Ribbens, D. Negen, F. Van Houten, G. Postma; Messrs. C. Dykhousé, H. Hoekstra, Jack Brouwer, and P. J. Vander Meer.

28. Chaplain Committee: Rev. Harold Dekker, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema, Revs. R. H. Wezeman, L. J. Dykstra, F. W. Van Houten, Mr. Louis Vandertill, and Mr. Harry Faber.

29. Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration: Rev. F. Handlogten, Dr. M. Martinus, Rev. D. J. Drost, Mr. Wendell Bonnema, and Mr. Nelson Gritter; Alternates, Revs. F. Huizenga, T. Yff; Messrs. W. De Hoog, Kenneth Bergsma, Dr. James Harkema.

\*30. Committee on Education: Dr. A. A. Hoekema, Rev. W. Vander Haak, Dr. Wm. Hendriksen, Rev. W. Haverkamp, Rev. A. De Kruyter, Dr. J. L. De Beer, Dr. Gordon Spykman, Mr. Sidney Dykstra, Miss Johanna Boomsma.

31. Publication Committee: Revs. R. Rienstra, J. F. Schuurmann, Dr. G. Goris, Rev. C. Boomsma; Messrs. Ray Van Kuiken, G. Buist, L. Wierenga, J. Vredevoogd, John Van Dellen.

32. Liaison man for World Home Bible League: Rev. C. Schemper; Alternate: Rev. T. Van Erden.

33. Fund for Needy Churches: Messrs. A. Sluis, H. P. Ottenhoff, M. Vander Velde, Revs. Herman Hoekstra and Wm. Verwolf.

34. Synodical Seal: Revs. W. Kok, E. B. Pekelder, Dr. J. H. Kromminga.

35. Representative to Laymen's Information League: Mr. P. Lamberts.

—Adopted

\*Tenure of members to be designated by Synodical Committee.

**B. Study Committees:**

1. Committee for Handbook on the New Psalter Hymnal: Prof. S. Swets, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema, Rev. D. H. Walters, Prof. J. De Jonge, Mr. M. Baas, Miss Johanna Oranje, Mrs. Trena Haan, Mr. A. Hartog, Dr. H. Bruinsma (adviser).
2. Church Order Revision: Dr. J. H. Kromminga, Prof. M. Monsma, Rev. I. Van Dellen, Dr. R. J. Danhof, Revs. R. J. Bos, A. B. C. Hofland, L. Oostendorp.
3. Church Ecumenicity - Orthodox Presbyterian Church: Revs. N. R. Prins, E. Lewis; Dr. J. E. Meeter, Mr. P. Watz.
4. Church Ecumenicity - Reformed Presbyterian Church: Dr. A. C. De Jong, Revs. A. Brink and C. De Haan; Mr. Walter De Jong.
5. Relations with the Protestant Reformed Churches (De Wolf): Revs. H. Baker, J. Weidenaar, M. Monsma, A. Persenaire; Messrs. Hero Bratt, C. Van Malsen, C. Zylstra.
6. Bible Translation: Seminary Faculty - Old and New Testament.
7. Compile and Edit existing rules bearing upon calling and admitting Ministers from other denominations: Revs. J. Griffioen, H. Spaan, G. Van Laar.
8. Sermons for Reading Services: Revs. B. T. Haan, E. Haan, W. K. Reinsma.
9. World Wide Relief Service Committee: Revs. J. Hasper, J. Mulder, Dr. R. Kooistra, Rev. J. Geuzebroek, Mr. Frank Velzen.
10. Committee on Sale of Calvin Campus: Messrs. Edw. Hekman, Julius Mellema, L. Beré, Jerry De Nooyer, Marvin Muller, Dr. W. Spoelhof, Prof. H. De Wit, Mr. S. Youngsma.
11. Feasibility to make Appeal for "above quota" need under one fund: (report to Synod of 1961) Wm. H. Boer, Chairman; Prof. H. Dekker, Secretary; Messrs. B. Zondervan, Edward Hekman, Herman Baker.
12. Reformed Ecumenical Synod Report on Marital Problems: Revs. J. Verbrügge, J. Hanenburg, R. J. Frens, J. Vriend, and K. Hart.
13. Matters of Infallibility and Inspiration: Dr. John Bratt, Dr. P. G. Schrotenboer, Dr. J. T. Hoogstra, Rev. John Stek, Dr. L. Praamsma, Rev. C. Vos, Dr. Gordon Spykman.
14. Standing Orders of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod, and the Organizational Aspects: Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Correspondence.
15. Extent of Use of Ordained Men: Dr. P. Y. De Jong, Revs. J. B. Hulst, H. Erffmeyer, J. Wesseling, Gerrit Hoeksema; and Messrs. J. Lobbes, J. Huyser.
16. Liturgical Revision Committee: Dr. A. Hoekema, Rev. J. H. Stek, Dr. Lewis Smedes, Dr. J. Timmerman, and Mr. W. De Jong.
17. Conclusions of Utrecht: Revs. H. Van Andel, Peter De Jong, R. W. Popma, J. Griffioen, Mr. J. Stad.
18. Ref'd Ecum. Synod Report on Warfare: Rev. J. D. Eppinga, Dr. Henry Stob, and Dr. E. Strikwerda.
19. Rules for Governing Place and Function of Seminary Professors as Synodical Advisers: Revs. B. Van Someren, O. Breen, H. Hoekstra, and M. Goote.
20. Relationship of Calvin College and Junior Colleges re Quota Denominational Funds: Revs. W. P. Brink, J. B. Hulst, J. Van Harmelen; Messrs. Ralph Vermeer, N. Hendrikse, Julius Mellema, Dr. Wm. Spoelhof and Rev. B. J. Haan as Advisers.

21. *Classis California and Los Angeles Consistory (in loco) Committee:* Revs. H. Erffmeyer, E. B. Pekelder, T. C. Van Kooten; Elders H. J. Kuiper and J. De Jager.

22. *Dual Church Membership of Missionaries on Nigerian Field:* Revs. M. Monsma, H. Evenhouse, and Dr. A. C. De Jong.

23. *Recruitment Committee:* Revs. M. Baarman, H. Evenhouse, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema, Revs. Wm. Van Rees, Andrew Bandstra, and Harry Blystra.

24. *Belgic Confession Revision:* Dr. G. Spykman, Dr. P. Schrotenboer, and Rev. A. Bandstra.

25. *Examination of Candidates:* To be appointed by the Synodical Committee.  
—*Adopted*

C. *Fraternal Delegates:* To be appointed by the Synodical Committee.  
—*Adopted*

D. *Appointments inadvertently omitted to be made by the Synodical Committee.*  
—*Adopted*

#### ARTICLE 173

The Stated Clerk presents the following communications:

##### 1. Letter of the Christian Labor Association.

We are very thankful that we have reached the point which we have striven for, where we no longer need assistance. We hope and pray that the Lord will continue to favor us so that in the future too we will be able to carry on our activities without outside financial help. However, if the time should come that, due to no fault of ours, we should again need some help we shall feel free to again contact the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church and the churches to place our problem before them.

We wish to thank the Synod for its favorable action and attitude toward us during many years, and we would like to take this opportunity also to express our thanks to all the churches which extended a helping hand to us during the years when we needed it.

Last year we informed the Budget Committee that we would appreciate being placed on the list as recommended for assistance only if we asked for it from the churches. Apparently that was misunderstood since a considerable number of churches did send a contribution although we did not solicit it. For that reason we shall appreciate it very much if this letter is published in the printed Acts of this Synod.

Yours very sincerely,

Joseph Gritter

Secretary CLA

##### 2. Letter of the Transportation Secretary, Mr. A. H. Andriese:

In connection with the assignment as Transportation Secretary I can report that also during the past year I was able to obtain a number of passes for clergymen, and also to be of service to inquirers.

3. The report of Rev. Harvey A. Smit, who served as fraternal delegate to the Synod of the Reformed Church of Japan which met in Tokyo, October 29 to 30, 1959.

4. Greetings from the Synod of the Reformed Churches of New Zealand and from the Synod of the Reformed Churches of Australia.

*Received as Information*

#### ARTICLE 174

Synod decides that the minutes of Monday, June 20, be approved by the officers of Synod.

#### ARTICLE 175

Synod adopts a resolution of hearty thanks to the convening church, the Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Synod also extends a hearty expression of thanks to the Pine Rest Christian Association for the dinner tendered to all the delegates of Synod in commemoration of their 50th anniversary celebration.

#### ARTICLE 176

The task of Synod completed, President T. C. Van Kooten addresses Synod as follows:

Another synodical assembly of the Christian Reformed Church has come to a close. Solomon says in the Proverbs that the end of a thing is better than the beginning. This, of course, is true when the end result is good. We are all deeply concerned that this may be true of the work we have accomplished at Synod during the past two weeks. We humbly, and somewhat hesitatingly, lay the work upon God's altar, and leave judgment to Him.

When we, as delegates, at the beginning of Synod, looked at the volume of work, and calculated the long hours of each day, both the task and the time appeared big and long. But, as is true of all of life, both had soon run their course. The task looked too big to be crowded into the allotted time. This was certainly true of the Agenda for Synod. But as is true in all life, for the Christian, "God's grace is sufficient." So here, the task and the time have both come to an end at once. And they slipped by more quickly than we had thought they would. Again, so true of all of life—reminding us constantly that we have no abiding home here, that we must work while it is day, and that only what is in the Lord will last. It is our fervent prayer that much of what we have done may abide.

I want to thank you as delegates for your splendid cooperation and diligent effort in the accomplishments of the church's work. You have been patient toward me in my task. I want to thank you for your prayers. Personally I can testify of God's sustaining grace. It is true we did tie ourselves into some technical knots that were as stubborn as the long neglected knots in the strings of an old pair of shoes. We can be thankful for wise Alexanders who cut these Gordian knots.

I want to thank the vice president, Dr. William Rutgers, for his ready and able assistance. He was always ready to help and whatever he undertook, he did well. The same gratitude is due the clerk, Rev. George Gritter. He has revealed himself to be a "ready scribe." He did his work promptly and well. The second clerk, Rev. William Brink, had his chair at the end of the table, but he was always out in front when things needed being done. Our thanks to him.

A special word of thanks is due our faithful Stated Clerk, Dr. R. J. Danhof. Not all of us are aware, but the long planning and wise direction of our Stated Clerk are in no small measure responsible for the smooth operation of our synodical meetings. The office force under the direction of Mr. Lester Ippel has also contributed to that smooth operation. We wish to thank them most heartily.

One of the first and foremost matters done by Synod was the admittance of 25 young men to candidacy for the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church. May God use them much in his church. Our hope for many more to follow was accentuated when Synod participated in the corner-stone laying of the new Centennial Seminary Building. May God bless our seminary in the shaping of many lives into diligent stewards of the manifold grace of God. The need for many stewards so trained was pointed up by the decisions to send out more missionaries into various fields. There were decisions to erect buildings, which takes money. But money is often more easily secured than lives. We heard the Macedonian call from South America, Cuba, Porto Rico, Mexico, Asia, and Africa. One is overwhelmed with the urgency and magnitude of the task of the church to evangelize. Much prayer for laborers is still much in place. May we be possessed of such a sacrificial and dedicated spirit to our Savior, as will be used of the Lord to raise up sons and daughters who volunteer for the work. There is haste with the Lord's work.

It would be impossible to review all the decisions of Synod. A few may be cited. A new classis was organized, and a World-Wide Service Committee of Denominational Deacons' Conference was established. May our sacrifice be somewhat commensurate with the vision evidenced in this decision. There was a decision against establishing a Department of Educational Services. However, it was decided to instruct the committee to concentrate upon material for catechetical instruction and for Vacation Bible Schools. Another negative decision was against Regional Synods.

A committee was appointed to study the feasibility of reviewing the Utrecht Conclusions. Another committee is to address itself to the study of the difficult problem of possible quota adjustment for the Christian Reformed constituency in the districts where junior colleges have arisen.

To cite all the decisions would demand that readying of the "Acts of the Synod of 1960." These will be forthcoming in due time. The Synod itself is now history. This again reminds us of that at best time is short. But what we did, and secretly consider we should have done, reminds us that there is so much to do in the allotted time. But God never requires of us more than that we shall work, and that we shall be faithful. May that be our parting admonition and prayer toward one another. Let each of us be faithful and busy where the Lord places us, so that when the Lord returns, He may find us so doing. Let us work while it is day, before the night comes when no one can work. "Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly."

#### ARTICLE 177

The vice president, Dr. William H. Rutgers, responds as follows:

Rev. T. Van Kooten:

It is my privilege as vice president to express the deep appreciation of all the delegates to you, President of the Synod of 1960, for your guidance and leadership which you gave us in all our sessions.

You were given a large assignment. Often, enmeshed as we were in procedural technicalities, your clear understanding of the problem at hand, your ability to state the issue succinctly and unambiguously, coupled with your patience and friendliness, enabled Synod steadily to move ahead to discharge its responsibility. None will leave this Synod with a complaint of any unfairness or prejudice on your part as chairman. May the Lord now bless you in your continued labors in



His kingdom and make you a blessing, and may the memory of the contacts made with the representatives of our churches at this Synod ever remain a delightful experience. May God's blessing rest upon the task you have so splendidly performed.

Dr. W. H. Rutgers

ARTICLE 178

The President leads in a prayer of thanksgiving, and the Synod of 1960 stands adjourned. The delegates rise and sing the Doxology.

REV. T. C. VAN KOOTEN, President

DR. WM. H. RUTGERS, Vice president

REV. GEORGE GRITTER, First Clerk

REV. WM. P. BRINK, Second Clerk

Attested a true copy.

DR. R. J. DANHOF, STATED CLERK

Denominational Building  
2850 Kalamazoo Ave. SE  
Grand Rapids 8, Michigan

## SUPPLEMENTS

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 1

(Articles 159, 172)

## CHURCH ORDER REVISION

To the Synod of the  
Christian Reformed Church, 1960

DEAR BRETHREN:

In 1958 your Church Order Revision Committee, after many years of labor, presented its revised draft of the proposed *Church Order* to the Synod of that year.

The Synod of 1958 decided not to take final action regarding the draft submitted, but judged that the churches should have one more year in which to consider the proposed *Church Order*, so that final action could be taken in the Synod of 1959. However, in view of the many overtures addressed to the Synod of 1959 desiring changes in the proposed draft, and in view of the fact that the committee had not had opportunity to consider all this material, Synod of 1959, in harmony with the suggestion of the revision committee itself, decided to "continue the Church Order Revision Committee which shall re-evaluate the proposed revision; consider the remarks received by the Revision Committee from classes, consistories and individuals; carefully weigh all the overtures that are before the present Synod; and serve the next Synod with advice" (Acts of Synod, 1959, p. 95).

Synod of 1959 also decided to enlarge the committee with two additional members. The Rev. A. B. C. Hofland and Rev. L. Oostendorp were added to the committee as previously constituted.

When the committee as constituted by the Synod of 1959 undertook its task it first of all deliberated upon a method of procedure. After some consideration it determined that although it should seek to benefit by all the work which the committee had accomplished thus far, that it should not hesitate to take new approaches and to make new beginnings whenever these seemed advisable.

Consequently, although your committee has taken notice of all overtures, criticisms, and suggestions which were before the last Synod, — and expects to do so as it continues its work — we are in many instances nevertheless making a new start, and we are suggesting some organizational changes and certain revisions not found in the draft before the Synods of 1958 and 1959.

Regarding many of these changes we are benefiting by the product of our sister churches of the Netherlands, namely the *Tweede Officieuze Uitgave van de Herziene Kerkorde*, 1959.

Although your committee has met a number of times and has done considerable work on this project, it has not been able to proceed with its

task beyond the first section of the *Church Order*, embracing Articles 1 to 27.

*The Church Order Revision Committee now recommends to the Synod of 1960 that it give its tentative approval to this first section of the proposed Revised Church Order.* As we see it the following considerations favor such a tentative approval.

1. The revision of the whole *Church Order* is a very comprehensive undertaking. The project is too big for one synodical gathering to consider adequately, especially in view of the limited time which our synods are able to devote to matters such as these.

2. The tentative approval of at least this first section of the *Church Order* will be a real step forward in the direction of synod's goal, and it will give the committee some assurance regarding its present procedure.

If the Synod of 1960 gives the tentative approval suggested then the committee expects to proceed with its revision of the balance of the *Church Order* in like manner. And then at the proper time, when all four sections of the *Church Order* have been thus revised and tentatively approved, a future synod can, with possible and probable alterations, ultimately approve the complete revised *Church Order*.

The members of Synod may recall that for our previous draft your committee had consulted one of our experts in English. This time the committee consulted not just one but three of our professors in English. These men went over our draft together, and subsequently met in joint session with your committee, at which meeting we went over every article very carefully. We much appreciate the good will and the good services of these brethren. They helped us much in our work.

Some explanatory remarks on the articles now being submitted to Synod follow.

## THE NAME

As to the name of the *Church Order* we suggest no change, but we have added the words, (United States and Canada.), so that it may be evident that the *Church Order* pertains to a denomination located in the countries designated. This designation, it seems to us, is especially desirable at this time, now that a large number of our churches are located in Canada. But the statement is placed in parenthesis since it is not part of our official name.

## ARTICLE 1

Article 1 is introductory to the whole *Church Order*. Consequently it appears under the heading, *Introduction*. This as well as a number of other sub-headings have been introduced by the committee in the interest of greater clarity as to the plan of the *Church Order*.

The opening words of this article are new. They indicate the justification for, and purpose of the *Church Order*.

The third division of the *Church Order* we would entitle, *The Task of the Church*, in preference to the present, *Supervision of Doctrine, Sacra-*

*ments and Ceremonies.* We have two reasons for suggesting this change. In the first place, the old formulation is rather lengthy, and secondly, this third division of the *Church Order*, also in the present reading, contains more than supervision of doctrine, sacraments and ceremonies. The proposed general name we judge to be more suitable.

The fourth section of the *Church Order* we propose to call, *The Admonition and Discipline of the Church*, in preference to the present, *Christian Discipline*. The suggested name has Reformed usage in its favor, and it is more complete. In suggesting these two new names we are following the example of the revision of the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands.

## ARTICLES 2-5

These articles are preceded by the caption, I. *The Offices of the Church*, which caption covers the first one-fourth of the *Church Order* now before Synod. Then, and directly underneath this main heading, comes the sub-heading, *A. General Provisions*.

Regarding this sub-heading we make the following remarks. Our present *Church Order* in the first chapter deals with the three offices of Christ's Church one by one. That is to say, it first considers the office of the minister and mentions all the rules which pertain to this office. Then it does the same for the elder's office and the deacon's office. However this pattern involves, as stands to reason, a measure of repetition, since certain matters, such as the method of calling, election, and installation etc. pertain to all the offices. Note the repetition in the articles 5, 22 and 24 of the present *Church Order*. The committee in accordance with the Dutch revision has now taken a new approach. We have devoted a number of articles to "General Provisions" i.e. provisions which pertain to all the offices of the church. These provisions are placed under the sub-heading "A. General Provisions." Then later under "B" we deal with articles which pertain specifically to the office of the minister. And finally under "C" we placed the rules which apply to that which is specific regarding the elder's and deacon's office.

## ARTICLE 2

The first part is a rewording of the present Article 2, except for the fact that three offices are mentioned instead of four, because there is Scriptural warrant for but three permanent New Testament offices.

The second part of this proposed article is an addition to the present Article 2 and indicates the equality and the distinctiveness of the three offices.

## ARTICLE 3

The first part of Article 3 is new. It gives expression to a self-evident fact, which however should be mentioned for completeness sake.

The second part of this article is a rewording of the current Article 3, except for the fact that the last provision of the present Article 3 is

omitted. It is really self-evident that "intruders" are to be disciplined as schismatics.

#### ARTICLE 4

Article 4 offers the first instance in which the committee subdivides an article into its rather distinct parts. These parts are indicated by the letters of the alphabet, a., b., c., etc. The committee recommends that this policy be followed for a number of longer articles which have two or more rather distinct parts. This will facilitate matters when references are being made.

Article 4 deals with the proper procedure regarding the calling and electing to any office in the church. The elements now scattered, through the present Articles 4, 22, and 24 are brought together in logical order. For the sake of completeness some new elements are added, but these are in accord with the present *Church Order* and the established usage in our churches.

#### ARTICLE 5

Article 5 covers the provisions which in the present *Church Order* are expressed in Articles 53 and 54. It appears in our draft under the general provisions which apply to all office-bearers.

#### ARTICLES 6-24

Articles 6 to 24 are placed under the sub-heading, *B. The Ministers of the Word*.

#### ARTICLE 6

Article 6 as proposed by your committee stipulates that a regular theological training is required of those who would enter the ministry of our churches, and that our seminary graduates are eligible for call only after they have been declared candidates for the ministry.

Point c. stipulates that those who have received their training at another seminary than our own shall not be eligible for call unless they meet the synodically stipulated requirements and have been declared candidates for the ministry in our churches.

#### ARTICLE 7

Article 7 would permit an occasional exception to the rule of Article 6. It would take the place of the well-known eight article of our present *Church Order*. The enumeration of exceptional gifts we have altered somewhat. The word "modesty" we have eliminated because this quality is covered by the term "humility." "Common sense" is replaced by the more Scriptural word "wisdom." "Spiritual discretion" replaces the one word "discretion," to indicate that the reference is to a spiritual gift. And for the term "public address," we suggest the expression, "native ability to preach the Word," to indicate that more than eloquence is meant.

The expression, "especially when the need is urgent," is added in harmony with a ruling of the Synod of 1947.

## ARTICLE 8

Articles 6 and 7 would regulate the eligibility for call of those not previously in office. Article 8 would pertain to those who are already in the ministry, either in our own denomination or another.

First those are mentioned who are serving one of our Christian Reformed churches. Then the article deals with ministers coming to us from some other denomination; but the article would only concern those of the latter class who present themselves to classis, with the request that it declare them eligible for call. Although our present *Church Order* contains no provisions for ministers of other denominations who desire to serve in our denomination, in the past such men have been examined and declared eligible under the provisions of Article 9. In so far the proposed article would take the place of Article 9 of the present *Church Order*.

In this proposed eighth article the designation "synodical deputies" occurs for the first time. Your committee proposes to use this designation consistently in the *Church Order* whenever these committee members are to be mentioned. In the past we have designated these committee members variously. We have used designations such as these: Deputaten ad Examina, Synodical Delegates, Synodical Examiners, Delegates of the Synod, etc. To avoid confusion it is well, we feel, to use a designation which is not readily applicable to some other committee or committees.

## ARTICLE 9

This proposed article indicates the task of a counselor regarding the nomination and calling of a minister. In our present *Church Order* this matter is regulated in Articles 4 and 5.

The second part of Article 9 provides that in calling a minister from another denomination the approval of the synodical deputies is required, and it specifies what the task of these deputies in such instances is. These provisions and stipulations are in line with past synodical rulings regarding this matter.

Synod will note that while Article 8b designates how a minister from another denomination who desires to become a Christian Reformed minister may be declared eligible for call upon his petition to one of our classes, Article 9 gives the requirements for a case in which a consistory desires to place in nomination a minister of another denomination, the minister not having sought eligibility for call according to the provisions of Article 8b.

## ARTICLE 10

Article 10 a. and b. deal with matters which are dealt with in Articles 4 and 5 of our present *Church Order*.

Article 10 c. is new as far as the *Church Order* is concerned. Synod will note that it provides for a Colloquium Doctum regarding all ministers

who come to us from other denominations. Regardless of the fact whether such ministers are seeking entrance into our churches by way of Article 8 or Article 9 they must all satisfy the classis of the calling church by way of a Colloquium Doctum as a condition for installation.

#### ARTICLE 11

In our present *Church Order* the task of the minister is designated in Article 16. In the draft now before Synod this task is expressed in Article 11. Your committee feels that the designation of the minister's task should follow immediately upon the matter of his calling and installation.

Article 11, Synod will note, would continue to place the preaching and teaching responsibility of the minister upon the foreground. The article would also indicate that all ministers, whether pastors of local churches, or missionaries at home or abroad, have this primary functions of the ministerial office.

In section b., we have sought to bring to clear expression the supervisory, shepherding task of the minister which he shares with the elders of the church.

#### ARTICLE 12

In Article 12 your committee has expressed the Reformed principles which govern us in the calling and commissioning of missionaries, and also the consistorial supervisory responsibilities regarding missionaries. At the same time our establishing co-operative missionary policies pertaining to the missionary task are duly indicated.

#### ARTICLE 13

Article 13 is a reformulation of Article 6 of the present *Church Order*. The provision expressed in the second section of this article is a church order formulation of specific synodical decisions regarding ministers and extraordinary ministerial tasks. See, Acts 1950, p. 61.

#### ARTICLE 14

Article 14 would take the place of Article 12 in our present *Church Order*. Besides the approval of classis, the suggested redaction would also require the approval of the synodical deputies before a minister would be permitted to yield his ministerial office in order to enter upon a secular vocation. This added provision is an additional safe-guard against unwarranted desertions from the ministerial office.

In adding this provision we are restoring what was in the *Church Order* originally, but dropped some years ago. Our sister churches in the Netherlands have also added this provision.

#### ARTICLE 15

This proposed article is a new redaction of the present Article 15. The suggested article recognizes the rights of a local church pertaining to

its own immediate vicinity, and makes it irregular for a Christian Reformed minister to preach within the district of a Christian Reformed church — for a schismatic group or for a church of another denomination for example — without the prior approval of the Christian Reformed consistory of that locality.

#### ARTICLE 16

This proposed article covers the first part of our present Article 11.

#### ARTICLE 17

This is our suggested reading for our present Article 14.

#### ARTICLE 18

Article 18 would come in the place of the second provision of our present Article 11. We believe the suggested redaction has the following points in its favor:

1. It is more explicit as to the implications of what was historically known to the fathers as "losmaking naar Artikel 11."
2. It stipulates that the customary support—formerly known as "wachtgeld"—must be provided for a certain period of time and that the amount to be allowed must have the approval of classis.
3. The proposed article also answers the question, What is to be done if eventually the minister concerned should not receive a call from another congregation?

#### ARTICLE 19

This article is altogether new. It would provide for the complete release or discharge of a minister from his ministerial office. There is sometimes call for releasing or dismissing a minister from the church he is at that time serving, and to declare him eligible for call by another congregation. See Article 18 of our draft. But in certain extreme cases the situation may be such that although the minister in question is not deserving of disciplinary action, it has nevertheless become clearly evident that the minister concerned is unfit to serve any church and that the classis cannot in good conscience recommend him for a call. For such instances complete release from his ministerial office should be possible. This proposed article provides for this possibility. In suggesting the incorporation of this provision we are following the example of the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands. (Article 13 of the Dutch revised Church Order.)

#### ARTICLE 20

Article 20 is meant to supercede the old Article 13. It concerns the retirement of ministers. Our suggested reading is bit more complete than the old article. It mentions, besides physical and mental disability, also



retirement age. This is warranted by the fact that a recent Synod (1956) ruled that at the age of 65 a minister, if he so desires, may retire and receive the allotted allowance for emeriti ministers. The article also provides that retirement requires the approval of the consistory and the classis, and also that an emeritus minister remains officially connected with the church which he was serving when he retired. And in point c. the article stipulates that one who recovers from a condition which led to his retirement may be declared eligible for a call by his consistory and classis.

#### ARTICLE 21

This is a new article. Although our present *Church Order* specifies the task of our theological professors, it does not provide for a seminary and its control. Your committee feels that this matter deserves a place in our *Church Order*.

#### ARTICLE 22

Article 22 would take the place of our present Article 18. This 18th Article fails to mention certain aspects of the task of seminary professors which we feel should be mentioned specifically. Consequently we are suggesting some amendments.

#### ARTICLE 23

This article is a new reading of the old 19th article. No substantial changes have been introduced, except that the suggested reading prescribes a classical student fund for every classis. This is in harmony with a synodical decision going back to 1888, and the general practice of all our classes.

#### ARTICLE 24

This article would take the place of Article 20 in our present *Church Order*. Synod will note that our suggested version is shorter and simpler than our present article.

Our reading however is silent regarding the exhorting of men who are under consideration for the ministry by way of "Article 8," inasmuch as our version of Article 7 suggested above concerns these individuals, and inasmuch as the Synod of 1922 adopted a mode of procedure regarding them, including the matter of exhorting.

#### ARTICLE 25

The matter of Article 25 is covered in Article 27 of our present *Church Order*. Our suggested version does not differ materially from the present 27th Article. But we have added the provision, "Elders and deacons who are thus re-elected shall be re-installed." This provision is in harmony with the policy established by one of our synods some years ago.

## ARTICLE 26

This article is comparable to Article 23 of our present *Church Order*.

The contents of our proposed version harmonizes with our proposed Article 11 b. Here the task which ministers have in common with the elders is indicated.

Specifically our suggested version would charge the elders with supervision over the whole congregation and over their fellow office-bearers; with the exercise of admonition and discipline; with the promotion of good order in all things; with the exercise of pastoral care; and with the task of calling upon the unbelievers in the community when circumstances permit this additional work.

In connection with pastoral care the proposed article would prescribe *annual* home-visitation calls. Your committee included the word *annual* in this connection to promote regularity and faithfulness regarding this valuable form of pastoral care.

## ARTICLE 27

Article 27 of our draft concerns itself with the office and responsibilities of the deacons. Diaconal matters are presently covered in Articles 25 and 26 of our *Church Order*.

Our version would stress the fact that the exercise of the ministry of Christian mercy is the essential task of our deacons. It specifies that this Christian mercy must be extended first of all to Christian believers, but it does not exclude the manifestation of Christ's compassionate concern toward those who are without. It prescribes material help, but no less spiritual help, and practical counsel. It recommends help toward Christian institutional care, diaconal conferences, and contacts with other agencies in the interest of a fair distribution of gifts to the needy.

\* \* \* \*

Our proposed revision of the first section of the *Church Order* now follows.

## CHURCH ORDER OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH (UNITED STATES AND CANADA)

### INTRODUCTION

#### Article 1

In obedience to the apostolic injunction (I Corinthians 14:40) that in the Church of Christ all things are to be done decently and in order, the *Church Order* regulates the organization and activities of the churches, so that they may fulfill their calling according to the Scriptures and the Reformed creeds.

The main subjects treated in this Order are The Offices of the Church, The Assemblies of the Church, The Task of the Church, and The Admonition and Discipline of the Church.

## I. THE OFFICES OF THE CHURCH

### A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 2

The offices instituted by Christ to render service in His Church are those of the minister of the Word, the elder, and the deacon. These offices differ from each other only in mandate and task, not in dignity and honor.

#### Article 3

Confessing male members of the church who meet the Biblical requirements for office-bearers are eligible for office. Only those who have been officially called and ordained or installed shall hold and exercise an office in the church.

#### Article 4

a. In calling to an office, the consistory shall present to the congregation a nomination of at least twice the number to be elected. In special circumstances the consistory may submit one name for each vacancy, giving reasons for this departure from the rule. Nominations shall be announced to the congregation on two successive Sundays. Possible objections shall be registered with the consistory.

b. Prior to making nominations the consistory may give the congregation an opportunity to direct attention to suitable persons.

c. The election by the congregation shall take place under the supervision of the consistory after prayer and in accordance with the regulations established by the consistory. The right to vote shall be limited to confessing members in good standing.

d. After announcing the names of the elected office-bearers, the consistory shall proceed to ordain or install them if no valid impediment has arisen. The ordination or installation shall take place in the public worship services and with the use of the prescribed ecclesiastical forms.

#### Article 5

All office-bearers, on occasions as stipulated by consistorial, classical, and synodical regulations, shall signify their agreement with the doctrine of the church by signing the *Form of Subscription*.

### B. THE MINISTERS OF THE WORD

#### Article 6

a. The completion of a satisfactory theological training shall be required for admission to the ministry of the Word.

b. Graduates of the theological seminary of the Christian Reformed Church who have been declared candidates for the ministry of the Word by the churches shall be eligible for call.

c. Those who have been trained elsewhere shall not be eligible for call unless they have met the requirements stipulated in the synodical regulations and have been declared by the churches to be candidates for the ministry of the Word.

**Article 7**

Those who have not received the prescribed theological training but who give evidence that they are singularly gifted as to godliness, humility, spiritual discretion, wisdom, and the native ability to preach the Word, may, by way of exception, be admitted to the ministry of the Word, especially when the need is urgent.

The classis, with the coöperation of the synodical deputies, shall examine these men concerning the required exceptional gifts. The classis shall proceed as circumstances may warrant and in accordance with synodical regulations.

**Article 8**

a. Ministers in the Christian Reformed Church are eligible for call, subject to synodical regulations.

b. Ministers coming from other denominations may be declared eligible for call by a classis only after the favorable issue of a thorough investigation of their theological training and ministerial record and a careful examination regarding their soundness in the Reformed faith and exemplariness of life. The concurring advice of the synodical deputies is required, and all applicable synodical regulations shall be observed.

**Article 9**

a. In nominating and calling a minister a consistory shall seek the advice of the counselor, who acts in behalf of classis. The consistory and the counselor shall sign the letter of call.

b. The nomination of a minister of the Word who is serving in another denomination requires, in addition, the approval of the synodical deputies. They shall investigate the need of calling such a minister of the Word, assure themselves of his soundness in the Reformed faith and of his exemplary life, and see that all other pertinent synodical regulations are observed.

**Article 10**

a. The ordination of a candidate for the ministry of the Word shall be preceded by the approbation of the classis of the calling church. The classis, in coöperation with the synodical deputies and in accordance with synodical regulations, shall examine him as to his doctrine and life. The ordination shall be accompanied by the laying on of hands by the officiating minister.

b. The installation of a minister shall take place after the approbation of the classis of the calling church or its classical committee, to which the minister shall have previously presented good ecclesiastical testimonials of doctrine and life which have been given him by his former consistory and classis.

c. The installation of a minister, who comes from another denomination shall be preceded by the approbation of the classis of the calling church. The classis, with the coöperation of the synodical deputies, shall interrogate him as to his doctrine and life by means of a *Colloquium Doctum* conducted in accordance with synodical regulations.

**Article 11**

a. The task of the minister is to preach the Word, administer the sacraments, conduct public worship services, and catechize the youth in order that the church may be built and unbelievers won for Christ.

Although all ministers share this common task, each shall discharge it in accordance with his particular calling, whether he is a minister in a local congregation or a missionary at home or abroad.

b. The minister, with the elders, shall have supervision over the congregation and his fellow officers, exercising admonition and discipline and seeing to it that everything is done decently and in order.

He shall, with the elders, exercise pastoral care over the congregation, carrying on annual home visitation and faithfully visiting the members according to need, and when circumstances permit, visiting unbelievers to win them for Christ.

**Article 12**

A minister who enters upon the work of home or foreign missions shall be called in the regular manner by a local church, which acts in co-operation with the appropriate committees of classis or synod. Although the duties of a missionary may be regulated through such coöperation, the supervision of his doctrine and life rests with the calling church.

**Article 13**

A minister who is charged with an extraordinary ministerial task shall remain subject to the calling church, which shall supervise his doctrine and life. His duties, however, may be regulated by the consistory in co-operation with other agencies. He may be engaged in such a task only after the classis of the calling church, with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies, has judged it to be spiritual in character and directly related to the ministerial calling.

**Article 14**

A minister of the Word, once lawfully called, may not forsake his office. He may, however, be released from office to enter upon a non-ministerial vocation for such weighty reasons as shall receive the approval of the classis and the synodical deputies.

**Article 15**

A minister shall not be permitted to conduct worship services in the locality of a Christian Reformed church other than his own without the consent of the consistory of that church.

**Article 16**

The consistory, representing the congregation, shall provide for the proper support of its minister(s).

**Article 17**

A minister who for weighty reasons desires a temporary release from service to the congregation must have his application for release approved by his consistory, which continues to have supervision over him.

**Article 18**

A minister who is neither eligible for retirement nor worthy of discipline may, because of an intolerable situation existing between him and his church, be released from active ministerial service in his congregation. The consistory shall give such a release only with the approval of the classis and the synodical deputies in accordance with synodical regulations.

The consistory shall provide for a released minister in such a way and for such a time as shall receive the approval of classis.

Eventually, if no call is forthcoming, he may at the discretion of classis and the synod be completely released from his ministerial office.

**Article 19**

A minister who is neither eligible for retirement nor worthy of discipline, but who has clearly demonstrated that he lacks the essential qualifications for the ministry of the Word, may be discharged by the consistory from his ministerial office, but only with the approval of classis and the concurring advice of the synodical deputies.

Such a decision shall not be considered final until confirmed by synod itself. Until that time the congregation he served last shall provide for him and his dependents in a way approved by classis.

**Article 20**

a. A minister who has reached retirement age, or who because of physical or mental disability is incapable of performing the duties of his office, is eligible for retirement. Retirement shall take place with the approval of the consistory and classis, and in accordance with synodical regulations.

b. A retired minister shall retain the honor and title of a minister of the Word and his official connection with the church which he served last, and the churches shall according to synodical regulations provide honorably for him and his dependents.

c. Should the reasons for retirement no longer exist, the minister emeritus shall request the consistory and classis which recommended him for retirement to declare him eligible for call.

**Article 21**

The churches shall maintain a theological seminary at which men are trained for the ministry of the Word. The seminary shall be governed by synod through a board of trustees appointed by synod and responsible to it.

**Article 22**

The task of the ministers of the Word who are appointed as professors of theology is to train the seminary students for the ministry of the Word; expound the Word of God; vindicate sound doctrine against heresies and errors; and also, as much as possible, serve the churches with their instruction and advice.

**Article 23**

The churches shall encourage young men to seek to become ministers of the Word and shall grant financial aid to those who are in need of it. Every classis shall maintain a student fund.

**Article 24**

Students who have received licensure according to synodical regulations shall be permitted to exhort in the public worship services.

**C. THE ELDERS AND DEACONS****Article 25**

The elders and deacons shall serve for a limited time as designated by the consistory. As a rule a specified number of them shall retire each year. The retiring office-bearers shall be succeeded by others unless the circumstances and the profit of any church make immediate eligibility for re-election advisable. Elders and deacons who are thus re-elected shall be re-installed.

**Article 26**

The elders, with the minister(s), shall have supervision over the congregation and their fellow officers, exercising admonition and discipline and seeing to it that everything is done decently and in order. They shall, with the minister(s), exercise pastoral care over the congregation, carrying on annual home-visitation and faithfully visiting the members according to need; and when circumstances permit, visiting unbelievers to win them for Christ.

**Article 27**

a. The task of the deacons is to exercise the ministry of Christian mercy toward those who are in material or social need, first of all toward those of the household of faith, but also, when conditions permit, toward the needy in general. In executing this task they shall diligently collect, administer, and distribute monies and other gifts and shall serve the distressed with counsel and assistance.

b. They shall enable the needy under their care to make use of Christian institutions of mercy.

c. They shall confer and coöperate with diaconates of neighboring churches when this is desirable for the proper performance of their task.

d. They may also seek mutual understandings with other agencies in their community which are caring for the needy, so that the gifts may be distributed properly.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

John H. Kromminga, Chairman

Martin Monsma, Secretary

Ralph J. Bos

Ralph J. Danhof

Abraham B. C. Hofland

Lubbertus Oostendorp

Idzerd Van Dellen

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 2

(Articles 22, 148, 172)

## THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

To the Synod of 1960.

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

As your representative I attended the meetings of the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society held in New York on November 17th and 18th. It is my privilege to report to you on the work of this organization as it was carried on, and on the plans for the coming year.

I am happy to report that in 1958, 1,038,343 Bibles, 1,815,534 Testaments, and 13,775,609 Gospels were distributed at home and abroad; that for the first time in the history of the Bible Society the circulation in the United States passed the nine million mark, due to increased funds and greater interest on the part of the churches in the work of evangelism; also that the foreign distribution increased by 200,000 volumes.

But when we consider the tremendous increase in the population, and the increase in literacy in many countries and the growing requests from all fields for more Scriptures, we realize how inadequate the funds are which the Bible societies receive to meet these needs. Let us remember that Communism is ready and eager to skillfully try to fill these voids.

Let us turn to the work of the translation and revision department. Millions of persons without the written Scriptures still await the completion of the translation of the first gospels into their languages. Of a total of approximately 3,000 languages and dialects in the world, more than 1,000 remain to be reduced to writing. By 1959 the whole Bible had been published in 215 languages; a complete New Testament in 273 more; and at least one complete book in 648 more — a total of 1,136 languages. That means that the population of almost 1,900 tribes, large and small, must yet be reached with the message of Christ.

Who will carry on this work of translation? It is carried on by missionaries on the field; especially by an organization called the Wycliffe Bible Translators; the translation department of our Bible society also takes care of a large part of this work. When a portion of the Bible has been translated in a new language, it is carefully scrutinized by those specially trained, before the plates can be made from which this portion can be printed. All this work and material has to be paid for and neither the missionaries who need the Scripture, nor the Wycliffe Translators have the funds; therefore it is left for the Bible societies to supply these.

This is not only true of the new translations but also of the revisions. Many of the older translations were very imperfect. Requests for purer translations continually come to this department. The present Portuguese translation used in Brazil is 90 years old. At the request of the church in that country and with its help, a new translation has been in preparation for almost 10 years and is now ready to come from the press. The demand for Bibles in that country has increased greatly every year. A newly im-



proved translation in Spanish will perhaps be ready next year for the Spanish-speaking part of Latin America. In the last 10 years the circulation of Scriptures in Latin America has increased from two million to almost five million; 70% of these are provided by the American Bible Society.

New translations for various tribes in Africa and Asia come from our translation department; also a Braille issue for the blind was printed in the Hausa language this year and can be obtained by our missionaries in Nigeria.

For all this translation and revision work as it comes to our society, the department of secretary Nida is held responsible. \$260,000 is needed for translation and \$64,000 for plates of new versions. Manuscripts come in continually when new fields are opened and tribes are reached that have never heard the gospel. This is a type of work no separate church can carry out; it demands the united efforts of the Christian churches through the Bible societies.

The distribution of Scriptures to our armed forces has been diligently carried on. There is still a demand for a complete Bible instead of a New Testament on the part of many men. To meet the continuing large requests it was necessary to seek extra funds outside of the budget. This deficit should be met by increased help from the churches.

I have not reported in detail about the Bible work carried on in the United States of America which requires almost one million dollars; nor on the distribution abroad that asks for one and a half million dollars. The work is growing; and new needs are also presented. It is difficult to refuse calls because funds are lacking and laborers also. That is usually true in the cause of the Lord. It was true in Jesus' day.

May I ask you humbly and urgently to recommend the American Bible Society for renewed and if possible increased moral and financial support.

Respectfully submitted,

Hessel Bouma, Sr.

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 3

(Articles 159, 172)

RULES FOR CALLING MINISTERS FROM OTHER  
DENOMINATIONS

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Synod of 1959 appointed the undersigned to function as a study committee "to formulate the rules guiding the calling of ministers from other denominations according to articles 5 and 9 of the Church Order." Acts 1959, Art. 187, C 5 (1) p. 104.

## HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

In seeking an explanation for misunderstandings which have arisen from time to time between classes and synodical examiners regarding the calling of ministers from other denominations, your committee has come to the conclusion that the rules which have been formulated to govern this matter have been drawn up to meet the situation in the light of what we find in article 5 C.O., and that article 9 did not enter the range of vision when the rules were made.

It must be kept in mind that while both articles 5 and 9 regulate the calling of ministers from other denominations the viewpoint is different. Article 5 views the action as *originating in the consistory*, while article 9 views the action as *initiated by a minister from another denomination* who desires to be declared eligible for a call in our denomination.

Until rather recently, it seldom happened that a minister from another denomination sought to be declared eligible for a call in our denomination. Usually it was a consistory which desired to call a minister from another denomination. On this account reference to article 9 is not found in the regulations now on our statute books. All regulations pertain to article 5 which regulates the action of consistories desiring to call a minister from another denomination.

During the more recent past the pendulum has been swinging in the opposite direction. Our *Ministers' Pension and Relief Committee* informs us that during 1959 names of 15 ministers from other denominations have been added to its list, and our stated clerk of Synod has said: "I feel free to state that it would not at all be difficult to present a sizeable number of ministers from outside denominations eager to serve our churches — and submit to examination under article 9. Why continue to spend huge sums of money to maintain a seminary of our own, and are we doing right with students in our seminary who for the greater part are young men born within the bosom of the church, spend years to become prepared and eligible for call; and on the other hand load up our church from the outside and simply by-pass our own young men, and if the present procedure continues make it difficult for our own young men to obtain a call?" It is apparent that the procedure regulated by article 9 for entering the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church is being used far more extensively than formerly. Notwithstanding this fact, all our

regulations pertain to article 5, and have nothing to say regarding the method of entering our denomination by ministers who seek to be declared eligible for a call in our Christian Reformed Church. It is this lack of regulations that has been the source of confusion.

## I. Rules Governing Entrance of Ministers from Other Denominations According to Articles 5 and 9

### A. *Summary of Rules Pertaining to Article 5*

Below is a list of rules we have found in the Acts of previous Synods:

"1. Synod urges Consistories of vacant churches to refrain from calling ministers of other than Christian Reformed Churches" (Acts 1930, pp. 52-54, art. 54).

"2. That henceforth a nomination by a Consistory, in which occur the name, or names of a minister, or ministers, from another denomination, such nomination must have the approval not only of classis or its counselor but also of the neighboring Synodical Examiners" (Acts 1934, pp. 132-133, art. 145) (Committee's translation).

3. In case a consistory nominates a minister from another denomination:

"(1) Neither Consistory nor Synodical Examiners have a purely discretionary power in the matter."

"(2) No Consistory shall nominate a minister from another denomination without furnishing reasons for so doing to the Synodical Examiners."

"(3) No Committee of Synodical Examiners shall disapprove of such nomination without furnishing reasons for its action to the Consistory."

"(4) Synod declares that the standard of approval or disapproval to be applied by Synodical Examiners be:

"(a) Soundness of Doctrine.

"(b) Sanctity of life.

"(c) Knowledge and appreciation of Christian Reformed practices and usages.

"(d) The need of calling others than those of the Christian Reformed Church" (Acts 1943, pp. 93-96, art. 159).

4. Synod of 1945 clarified what is meant by "need" in "(d)" above by saying:

"(1) The question of *need* must be considered, by the consistory and delegates, both from the general denominational and from the more specific congregational viewpoint.

"(2) Upon the Consistory rests the burden of attempting to show that the need of the local church justify the nomination of the 'outside' minister or ministers under consideration. And the Synodical delegates must give earnest consideration to such consistorial allegations and persuasions, always remembering that the peculiar needs of a local church are usually understood best by its own people.

"(3) The phrase, 'the need of calling others than those who are of the Christian Reformed Church,' lays upon both Consistory and Synodical delegates the solemn responsibility not to nominate or approve the nomination of ministers outside of our Church, unless there are very special reasons and needs, and to remember that *usually* there is not only no need

of calling outsiders, but rather that there is need, with a view to our distinctiveness and loyalty to our seminary and our ministers, of limiting nominations to those whom the church itself has trained." (Acts 1945, pp. 85-87)

#### B. *Advice Re Article 5 C.O.*

We recommend that Synod declare:

1. That there is no need of revising the regulations established by previous synods in regard to calling ministers from other denominations as regulated by article 5 C.O. and the deliverances of Synod in connection with the application of this article.

2. That ministers called from sister denominations upon acceptance of the call shall submit to a colloquium doctum according to the regulations now in use.

#### *Grounds:*

a. This has not been uniformly practiced. However, all ministers coming from sister denominations should be treated alike.

b. In some sister denominations there is greater latitude in practice and doctrine, and this difference has bearing on certain regulations adopted by previous synods, e.g. (3) above, especially (4) (a) and (c) (Acts 1943, art. 159).

#### C. *Advice Re Article 9 C.O.*

As indicated under Historical Development, the viewpoints in articles 5 and 9 C.O. are somewhat different, and therefore the same regulations can not be applied to both articles. Further, since the number of ministers desiring to enter our denomination is on the increase of late, the need for rules governing such entrance under article 9 is imperative for the good of our denomination as well as for informing applicants as to the requirements.

#### *We recommend therefore the following:*

1. In regard to *students* who have completed their training at any other seminary than our own shall pursue the studies of the senior year at Calvin Seminary in order to be declared eligible for a call from our churches.

#### *Ground:*

This is in harmony with the regulations for young men of our own denomination, who have pursued their theological training at other institutions. (Acts 1934, p. 38, Art. 41)\*

2. In regard to *ministers* of other denominations desirous of being declared eligible for a call in the Christian Reformed Church, the following regulations shall be observed:

a. He shall make application to the Christian Reformed classis in which, or nearest which, his field of labor is located.

#### *Ground:*

The classis to which such a minister makes application should be well informed concerning the applicant, and the classis nearest his present

\*This rule established by the Synod of 1934 has not been observed in recent years. We therefore recommend that Synod remind our own young men of this requirement, and that Synod demand that this rule be adhered to in the future.

field of labor is best able to determine his acceptability as a minister for our denomination.

b. The minister making application to be declared eligible for a call, shall present the following documents to the classis or classical committee in ample time so that the documents may be examined and considered in consultation with the synodical examiners prior to the classical examination.

(1) A testimonial from his consistory or classis (session or presbtery) concerning his purity of doctrine and sanctity of life. It is conceivable that just because the applicant is loyal to the Word and Creeds that he is adjudged a *persona non grata* by his own ecclesiastical assemblies and that he would not be granted such a testimonial. Should such be the case a careful preliminary investigation must be made by the classis in consultation with the synodical examiners. The report of this investigation if satisfying the classis and synodical examiners will serve, under such circumstances, in lieu of the testimonial.

(2) A diploma, or statement of credits, from an accredited college and recognized seminary to indicate the scholastic attainment of the applicant. A measure of discretionary power is granted the classis in connection with the matter of scholastic attainment of the applicant, but when such power is exercised by classis, it shall be in consultation with, and approval of the synodical examiners. Only when both classis and synodical examiners are agreed may the applicant be examined and declared eligible for a call in the Christian Reformed Church.

(3) A statement of health from a recognized physician.

c. The various documents and reports having been presented and adjudged satisfactory by classis and the synodical examiners, the applicant must submit to a classical examination, which is to be in every respect equivalent to that required of candidates for the ministry who have graduated from our own Calvin Seminary.

d. The applicant having sustained the examination may now be declared eligible for a call. No further examination or colloquium doctum will be required of the minister thus declared eligible.

## II. The Question of Need

We might consider our assignment as a study committee completed by submitting only what is presented above, but we are constrained to bring one more item to the attention of Synod. It is quite clear from the summary of the rules of previous synods in connection with article 5 C.O. that there has been an earnest endeavor put forth to keep our denomination doctrinally pure. Scrutiny of the clarification by the Synod of 1945 on what is meant by "*need*," especially the last paragraph, indicates how Synod sought to guard our heritage. It must be kept in mind that article 9 C.O. says nothing about the *need* of our denomination, but deals especially with the *desire of a minister* from another denomination. This different viewpoint of article 5 in contrast with article 9 opens the door for most anomalous action on the part of classes. It is concern over this matter that prompts us to bring this item to the attention of Synod.

What your committee has in mind can best be illustrated by a concrete case. We need not mention the ecclesiastical assemblies, nor the minister

involved, since we are only interested in the case as a means of illustrating the point. The concrete case to which we refer is as follows: A certain consistory wished to place a minister from another denomination on trial, but since the consistory could not convince the synodical examiners of *need*, the minister was not placed on nomination. Subsequently the minister made application to be declared eligible for a call in accordance with the regulation by article 9 C.O. He was examined, declared eligible for a call, and accepted the call tendered him. Your committee feels that this is a strange procedure in church government, and is convinced that something should be done to avoid such anomalies in the future. If nothing is done to prohibit like actions in the future, the remarks of our synodical stated clerk quoted above, will not be mere speculation, but may endanger the very existence of our seminary, may make it necessary for our own young men to seek theological training elsewhere, and may even compel them to enter the ministry in other than our own denomination.

In the light of such prospects, though strictly speaking this matter might be considered to be outside of our mandate, we humbly suggest that Synod recommend:

1. That classes and synodical examiners move cautiously when confronted with a request of a minister from another denomination to be declared eligible for a call in our denomination.

2. That classes and synodical examiners keep in mind that usually there is no need of declaring ministers of other denominations eligible for a call in the Christian Reformed Church. And if there be no real need, that there must be other most weighty reasons for granting this favor.

3. That the entire denomination, and especially the ecclesiastical assemblies together with office bearers doing special services in the denomination keep in mind that our best contribution to the wellbeing of the church universal is through remaining distinctively Reformed. This ideal can best be achieved by loyal support of our own seminary, and by using its graduates, who understand their own denomination best, for developing our denomination and its membership in the Reformed faith.

Ground for the above recommendations:

This is in harmony with the deliverances of the Synod of 1945 quoted above. (See Acts 1945, pp. 85-87.)

Humbly submitted,

R. S. De Haan, Chairman

C. Huissen

C. R. Veenstra, Secretary

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 4

(Articles 22, 172)

**COMMITTEE ON BIBLE TRANSLATION OF THE  
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH****ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

The committee which is here reporting was appointed in 1956. At that time Synod was considering an overture of one of our churches requesting her to take the necessary steps toward the production of a new translation of the Bible in the common language of the American people (Acts, 1956, art. 100, p. 61).

At the present time your committee wishes to set forth briefly the needs and prospects for a possible new translation of the Bible. This is done in the light of the three preceding reports to the Synods of 1957-59 and also in the light of the discussion held by the committee during the year 1959-60.

The constant changes in the written and spoken forms of any living language make periodic revision or new translation of the Bible in such a language a universally recognized necessity. Faithful readers of the Bible soon grow accustomed to its well-known phrases even though such phrases may no longer be intelligible to their contemporaries. When this occurs, a Bible translation no longer serves its purpose well. It fails to communicate the truth of God. It should be the desire of every Christian believer to make God's Word available in such a form that it is readily accessible to all who wish to read it.

This does not mean that a Bible translation should aim only at following existing trends of language-formation or -deformation. There are definite limits for the translating of God's holy Word into the language of today. But within these limits which include a general dignity of style, choice of words and idioms etc. every effort must be put forth to present the Bible in the speech of everyday life and of the ordinary folk.

Several of these points have been argued at greater length in some of our previous reports. Attention may be called to the church's calling to use the Bible in the work of evangelism. Also the reading of the Bible for and by young people will require a high degree of intelligibility of expression lest the real message of God's Word be lost under obscure phrases and archaic idioms.

The production of several newer versions of the English Bible within the last 60 years, both in North America and in other parts of the English speaking world all testify to the great need for clear and understandable English in the translation of God's inscripturated Word. The fact that the so-called American Standard Version of 1901 has won a wide acceptance within our own church makes abundantly clear that the need for a newer translation than the highly esteemed Authorized Version has long been felt among us.

In the year 1952 another translation appeared. It is called the Revised Standard Version. Its excellent features have generally been recognized

by all those who know what is required for a good translation of the Bible. But criticism has also been uttered. Great Britain is presently engaged in the production of yet another version in the language of the mid-century. This is a Protestant venture. Roman Catholics have not been idle. Then there is the so-called Phillips translation, now available in the New Testament only. In this country we have witnessed the publication of the Berkeley version in 1959.

These many translation efforts strongly suggest that we have not yet arrived at a point at which a version of the stature and enduring dignity like that of the Authorized Version can be expected within the near future. It should be noted, however, that the latter version is the outcome of an impressive series of earlier translations, all of which contributed somehow to the beauty and elegance of the "King James." This is aptly pointed out by Professor Allan A. MacRae of Faith Theological Seminary in an article devoted to a review of the Berkeley version. (*Sunday School Times*, Nov. 21, 1959). Says Prof. MacRae: "The Berkeley Version has been preceded by no such number of excellent translations into the English of its day as were available for the use of the committee that produced the King James Version." And he goes on to say: "It is not, like that version, at the end of such a series; instead it stands probably near a beginning. However, it is an excellent beginning, and one which will be of great value to that committee a few decades from now, which will be in a position to give us a translation worthy to stand beside the King James Version, if our Lord tarries."

In the light of the above considerations your committee thinks it wise not to aim at an immediate production of a new version at this point. This would indeed be an impossibility. But on the other hand no opportunity must be lost in exploring the entire field of Bible translation. The general requirements for such a translation must be considered and subjected to careful study. The value of what is available must be weighed. The interest in producing a translation of high calibre must be kept alive and strengthened. Contacts with promising prospects for future translation work must be made and renewed. Trial translations of selected portions of Holy Writ must be circulated for thorough scrutiny and improvement. A general desire to be satisfied with nothing but the best must be aroused.

Thus the solid groundwork can be laid on which a first-class translation of the Bible can be made to rest. The efforts of your committee during the past year have been chiefly aimed in that direction. Careful note was taken of the several responses which were made to a circular sent out by the committee to its list of correspondents. The suggestions made in those responses were amply discussed and then noted down for further study and formulation.

The outcome of these discussions will again call for further contacts with interested parties who have favored us with their insights and opinions. In view of the greatness of the task of Bible translation the progress made can only be slow. No hasty measures appear advisable.

The result of our efforts hitherto have been gratifying and encouraging. Numerous contacts have been made with bodies of Bible-believing



evangelical Christians. The fact that this could be done by a committee of the Christian Reformed Church should in itself be a cause for Christian joy. The initiative thus gained in this highly important work of presenting God's infallible Word to the modern man gives cause for humble thanks to God.

The committee foresees several years of patient discussion and study before concrete plans can be submitted for approval. In the light of the nature of its work a somewhat greater degree of permanency of the committee appears distinctly advisable. We are presently thinking in terms of an extension of the committee's mandate for five years, with annual reports submitted throughout the period. Significant progress in this area can only be noted over an extended period of time.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Stob, Chairman

M. Woudstra, Reporter

M. Wyngaarden, Corresponding Secretary

B. Van Elderen

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 5

(Articles 37, 148)

## CHRISTIAN SEAMEN'S AND IMMIGRANTS' HOME

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The members of your committee for the work of the Seamen's Home consists of the Rev. John Maliepaard, Rev. Edward Boer, Mr. Frank Dykstra, Pres.; Mr. C. Lont, Treasurer, and Mr. Adrian M. Visbeen, Secretary.

The Seamen's Home continues to function, pretty much as in the past. Over the years there has been, and there continues a steady decline in the numbers assisted. A total of 325 persons were assisted in 1959.

Over the years we know this institution has been a blessing to travelers, immigrants and seamen alike. Now after 45 years our work is drawing to a close. This is as directed by Synod 1957. However, the move of the Holland America Line to New York, which signals the termination of all but our spiritual work, is proceeding more slowly than anticipated. It now appears that we will remain active well into 1961.

The original purpose of this institution was to assist immigrants, especially those of the household of faith. This flow is almost nil now and those who do come are processed through to their destination before departure. Later our efforts were directed to seamen. Now as was reported previously many of these are of other races and nationalities and therefore hard to reach. Even the personal contact phase of recent years is somewhat effected because for some months now the Line is experimenting with chaplains on the passenger ships. The Line again supported us in 1959 by donating \$1,000.

Submitted herewith is our financial report, an asset sheet, and a proposed budget for 1961. This budget has been submitted to and approved by Classis Hudson in session January 26, 1960. As Synod 1957 instructed us to continue the work until the move takes place, which is now unofficially May 1961, we hereby ask the continued prayers and gifts of the churches. In late 1959 an appeal was made to the churches when we were almost without funds. The response was good and gave new courage. May this support be continued while our work goes on. After our doors close, some expenses will continue as our chaplaincy work is not to terminate.

Sincerely yours,

Christian Seamen's and Immigrants' Home Committee,

Adrian M. Visbeen, Secretary

# FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE CHRISTIAN SEAMEN'S AND IMMIGRANTS' HOME

January 1—December 31, 1959

Balance, January 1, 1959 .....\$ 2,230.21

## Receipts:

Churches .....	\$14,828.89	
Individuals and Societies .....	161.00	
Seamen's Home .....	3,210.00	
Dividends LL Miami RR .....	344.00	
Holland America Line .....	1,000.00	
Note - (Prospect Park Bank) ..	2,500.00	22,044.79

Total Receipts and Balance .....\$24,275.00

## Disbursements:

Salaries .....	\$10,363.32
Payments of interest and rent ..	1,477.06
Telephones .....	188.82
Light, Heat, Water .....	911.40
Printing, Adv., Miscellaneous ..	1,515.19
Allowance - C. Fisher .....	1,200.00
N.J. Ins. & Employees U.N.S.B. ..	521.20
Insurance .....	898.79
Int. & Note - .....	
Prospect Park Bank .....	2,547.92

Total Disbursements ..... 19,623.70

Balance, December 31, 1959 .....\$ 4,651.30

Respectfully submitted,

Cornelius J. Lont

## Proposed Budget for 1961

### Anticipated Receipts:

Churches .....	\$12,500.00	
Individuals and Societies .....	350.00	
Seamen's Home .....	3,100.00	
Little Miami RR .....	344.00	
Holland America Line .....	1,000.00	\$17,294.00

### Proposed Disbursements for 1961:

Salaries:	
Chaplain-with car allowance ..	4,650.00
Manager .....	4,620.00
Custodian .....	2,600.00
Mr. C. Fisher Allowance .....	1,200.00
Payments of Principal-int.	
on parsonage .....	630.00
Heat, electricity, water .....	869.00
Telephones .....	200.00
Printing, maintenance, miscel. ..	1,000.00
N. J. Ins. & Employees Benefits ..	525.00
Insurance .....	1,000.00

\$17,294.00

Cornelius J. Lont, Treasurer

## TOTAL ASSETS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1959

		Mortgage none
Seamen's Home, 334 River Street, Hoboken .....	\$35,000.00	
*Chaplain's Home, 54 Gould Terrace, Clifton .....	18,000.00	6,156.00
†Balance due — Hoboken Christian Reformed Church.....	4,300.00	
†80 shares — Little Miami Railroad .....	5,760.00	
Bank Balance .....	4,650.40	
	<u>\$67,710.40</u>	<u>\$6,156.00</u>
Deduct mortgage on Chaplain's Home .....	6,156.00	
Net worth .....	<u>\$61,554.40</u>	

\*Previous statements did not include the mortgage. Mortgage was on at time of purchase and balance is indicated as of December 31, 1959.

†By previous approval of classis and synod, this building was sold by contract to the Hoboken congregation. Payments were to be \$50 per month with no interest. The church has defaulted having made no payments in over a year. If the building reverts to the board its value could be put at \$11,000, this being its appraised value.

‡This is considerably less than shown on previous statements. The higher sum was given this board at its inception and may well have been its value at that time. Railroad stock has depreciated and the present value is based on an offering of said stock on January 13, 1960 by Adams & Peck at \$72 per share.

Respectfully submitted,

Cornelius J. Lont, Treas.

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 6

(Articles 92, 95, 143, 148, 153, 171, 172)

**CHRISTIAN REFORMED BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS***To the Synod of 1960:*

Herewith follows an account to your honorable body re the activities carried on during the past year as per instruction from Synod by the Board of Home Missions.

The annual meeting of the Board convened on February 3 and following days. These sessions were preceded by a Missionary Conference attended by our Home Missionaries, Board members, and visitors both from neighboring and more distant communities. The purpose of these periodic conferences is to provide needed inspiration, instruction, and guidance. With the latter objectives in mind, field problems, recurring issues that must be faced, and methods to make our evangelistic outreach more effective receive major attention. We are confident that the value of this and similar conferences will come to expression in the stimulated application, dedication, and zeal of our missionary staff.

The labors of our missionaries have been blessed by the Lord. Their monthly reports record the conversion of unchurched men and women, the baptism of entire families, the return of those that have strayed, and progress in faith on the part of the membership.

At the same time it is well to bear in mind that they who have been called by the church militant for service on the front lines have a most difficult assignment. Small beginnings and laying foundations, upon which others may subsequently build, frequently put the faith and perseverance of the worker to a severe test. Moreover keen disappointments are not uncommon. This, to cite but one instance, is the case when interested attendants must be told that full commitment to Christ and lodge membership are mutually exclusive. And the result? Attendants who show initial promise, yet not willing to translate the Bible into their lives, go elsewhere. Happily there also are those who, once the Spirit has enlightened their minds, readily relinquish their lodge membership. Again our missionaries meet those who would extol the humanity as well as the humility of Jesus but deny His deity and the significance of His atoning death. Indeed this evangelistic ministry to individuals who have been victimized by the evil spirit of indifference, to families that have been uprooted by the ravages of sin, and to communities where man is god, is a major task.

Clearly our missionaries need the unstinted support of the Church which has sent them forth. Hence both on the part of our missionaries and our membership there must be a total dedication of life to the Lord, so that His glory may be seen in us and we may be effective agents to proclaim the sovereign purposes of His grace.

The following changes must be reported. Revs. Marvin Baarman, Ralph Bos, John Hanenburg, and Gerrit Vander Ziel left our employ to minister to established congregations. Rev. Harry A. Dykstra was

granted honorable retirement. We gratefully recognize the labors of these brethren in their respective fields of missionary service. Their manifold ministries were characterized by diligence and application. Rev. E. Callender severed his connection with our denomination.

New members added to our missionary staff are Revs. Ralph W. Bronkema, Brandt Bruxvoort, Melvin Hugen, Gordon Negen, and Howard Spaan. Moreover Seminarian Peter Huiner was engaged for a one year intership at Harlem. Candidate-elect Abe Koolhaas was assigned as stated supply to Ogden. And Scott Redhouse was engaged for part-time service to assist Missionary Bartel Huizenga at Albuquerque. Evangelization of resident Indians is his particular assignment.

We are happy to report that Dr. Dick L. Van Halsema accepted the call to serve our Church as Minister of Evangelism. Mr. Corneal Van Malsen, having been officially appointed by Synod, continues his services as Treasurer.

Rev. John A. De Kruyter, and his alternate, Rev. Arnold Brink, were led to decline the call extended to them to serve as Executive Secretary for Home Missions. Consequently the incumbent, Rev. Harry Blystra, complied with the request to continue full-time until the close of 1959. Since January of the current year the secretarial load has been partly distributed, as an interim measure, among the members of the Executive Committee for Home Missions. And the former secretary has been prevailed upon to assist according to need.

For the function of Executive Secretary for Home Missions we herewith submit the following nomination:

Rev. Harold Dekker  
Rev. Herman Hoekstra  
Rev. Chester Schemper

Our further report is listed under the following heads:

### Part I Personnel and Organization

Classes	Members	Alternates
Alberta North.....	Rev. R. Kooistra.....	Rev. N. B. Knoppers
Alberta South.....	Rev. G. W. Vanden Berg.....	Rev. P. Van Egmond
British Columbia.....	Rev. G. H. Polman.....	Rev. John J. Holwerda
Cadillac.....	Rev. Peter Honderd.....	Rev. Harry Vanderaa
California.....	Rev. Bernard Den Ouden.....	Rev. J. C. Van Ryn
Chatham.....	Rev. A. Hofland.....	Rev. J. Quartel
Chicago North.....	Rev. Gerben Zylstra.....	Rev. Bernard Byma
Chicago South.....	Rev. Menko Ouwinga.....	Rev. Wm. Buursma
Eastern Ontario.....	Rev. Paul Schrottenboer.....	Rev. P. Kranenburg
Grand Rapids East.....	Rev. Geo. Vanderhill.....	Rev. J. A. Mulder
Grand Rapids South.....	Rev. E. B. Pekelder.....	Rev. Louis Dykstra
Grand Rapids West.....	Rev. W. Swierenga.....	Rev. A. Hoogstrate
Grandville.....	Rev. H. Vander Kam.....	Rev. F. Van Houten
Hackensack.....	Dr. G. Stob.....	Rev. L. MacLeod
Hamilton.....	Rev. H. Numan.....	Rev. John G. Kunst
Holland.....	Rev. J. A. De Kruyter.....	Rev. J. Hoogstra
Hudson.....	Rev. S. Rooy.....	Rev. E. Boer
Kalamazoo.....	Rev. J. Ribbens.....	Rev. H. De Weerd
Minnesota North.....	Rev. F. Netz.....	Rev. J. Jeffers

(continued on next page)

Minnesota South.....	Rev. J. Elenbaas.....	Rev. H. C. Van Wyk
Muskegon.....	Rev. Geo. Holwerda.....	Rev. B. Ypma
Northcentral Iowa.....	Rev. R. Graves.....	Rev. T. Vanden Bosch
Orange City.....	Rev. C. Niewenhuis.....	Rev. H. Roelofs
Pacific.....	Rev. J. Hekman.....	Rev. J. R. Van Dyke
Pella.....	Rev. J. Wesseling.....	Rev. Marvin Doornbos
Rocky Mountain.....	Rev. E. Holkeboer.....	Rev. J. Zwaanstra
Sioux Center.....	Rev. Henry Petersen.....	Rev. S. Voortman
Toronto.....	Rev. F. Guillaume.....	Rev. H. Hollander
Wisconsin.....	Rev. R. Opperwall.....	Rev. B. A. Van Someren
Zeeland.....	Rev. N. Beute.....	Rev. H. Kuizema

Executive Secretary .....

Minister of Evangelism..... Dr. D. Van Halsema

Treasurer..... Mr. C. Van Malsen

Members-at-Large	Alternates	Terms
Mr. D. Farenhorst	Mr. G. Monsma	1959-1962
Mr. H. Camping	Mr. A. Masselink	1959-1961
Mr. F. Steen	Mr. J. Hamersma	1959-1960
Mr. J. Boeve	Dr. E. Kuizema	1957-1960
Mr. T. Hoeksema	Mr. R. Van Til	1958-1961
Mr. L. Vandertill	Dr. R. Blocksma	1959-1962

Since the terms of Messrs. F. Steen and J. Boeve expire at this time we submit the following nomination for the term 1960-1963.

Members-at-Large	Alternates
Eastern U.S.A. Fred Steen	John Hamersma
Peter Damsma	W. Vander Eems
Central U.S.A. Peter Westra	Dr. E. Kuizema
Dr. H. Kreulen	Louis Rottier

The *Executive Committee* presently comprises the following members: Revs. N. Beute, J. De Kruyter, G. Holwerda, P. Honderd, M. Ouwinga, E. Pekelder, J. Ribbens, W. Swierenga, G. Vanderhill, H. Vander Kam, G. Zylstra and the Messrs. J. Boeve, T. Hoeksema and L. Vandertill, with Rev. H. Blystra, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema and Mr. C. Van Malsen serving on the Executive Committee in an advisory capacity.

Officers are: Rev. J. De Kruyter, president; Rev. H. Vander Kam, vice-president; Rev. H. Blystra, secretary; Mr. C. Van Malsen, treasurer; Mr. J. Boeve, vice-treasurer. Having accepted a call as Home Missionary the Executive Committee lost a competent member in the person of Rev. R. W. Bronkema.

The subcommittee for *Church Extension* comprises the brethren H. Vander Kam, J. De Kruyter, G. Holwerda, E. Pekelder, and W. Swierenga.

The subcommittee for *Evangelism* comprises the brethren D. L. Van Halsema, E. Pekelder, W. Swierenga, L. Vandertill and C. Van Malsen.

The subcommittee having charge of the *Jewish Mission* work includes the brethren N. Beute, M. Ouwinga, J. Ribbens, and G. Zylstra.

Membership on the *Promotion Committee* was assigned to G. Vanderhill, P. Honderd, L. Vandertill, and C. Van Malsen.

The subcommittee for *Finances* comprises the brethren T. Hoeksema, J. Boeve, and C. Van Malsen.

The Secretary serves on these several subcommittees as advisory member.

The Board of Home Missions at its annual meeting in February of this year elected the following officers:

President, Rev. John A. De Kruyter  
 Vice-president, Rev. Henry Vander Kam  
 Vice-treasurer, Mr. T. Hoeksema

*Representation at Synod.* The Board of Home Missions requests that its President, Secretary, and Treasurer together with the Minister of Evangelism be granted the privilege of the floor when Home Mission matters are considered.

## Part II

### Evangelization and Church Extension — United States

#### The Fields and Their Missionaries

Harlem, New York	G. Negen P. Huiner B. Greenfield Miss Tona Kenbeek Miss Delores Dixon
Chinese Mission, New York	P. Szto
Franklin Lakes, New Jersey	Robert W. De Vries
Pompton Plains, New Jersey	M. Stegink
Great River-East Islip, New York	F. Bultman
Inkster (Detroit), Michigan	H. Botts
Jackson, Michigan	J. Versluys
St. Petersburg, Florida	M. Beelen
Orlando, Florida	R. W. Bronkema
Columbus, Ohio	H. Bultje
Champaign-Urbana, Illinois	H. Koops
Chicago (Richton Park), Illinois	M. Hugen
Chinese Mission, Chicago, Illinois	Paul Han (Stated Supply)
South Bend, Indiana	L. Wolters
Indianapolis, Indiana	J. Zandstra
Madison, Wisconsin	W. Huyser
Rochester, Minnesota—Hospital Chaplain	A. Koning
Colorado Springs, Colorado	A. J. Haan
Albuquerque, New Mexico	B. Huizenga Scott Redhouse
Salt Lake City, Utah	N. Vogelzang
Ogden, Utah	A. Koolhaas (Stated Supply)
Brookfield, Missouri	(vacant)
Walnut Creek, California	J. Hollebeek
Palo Alto, California	Frank De Jong
Portland, Oregon	H. Spaan
Anchorage, Alaska	W. Heynen
Fairbanks, Alaska	Julius Vanden Hoek
Spanish Speaking Migrants	J. Jerry Pott
Jewish Mission: Chicago, Illinois	J. R. Rozendal Miss Edith Vander Meulen
Jewish Mission: Paterson, N. J.	Miss Martha Rozendal
Itinerant Missionary	J. Zandstra
Service Pastor (until December 31, 1959)	H. A. Dykstra
Minister of Evangelism	D. L. Van Halsema
Acting and part-time Secretary	H. Blystra



## SPONSORING CHURCHES

Missionaries	Churches	Calling and/or Supporting*
Beelen, Marvin.....	Lee St., Grand Rapids, Mich.....	Calling and Supporting
Botts, Harold.....	{ Dearborn, Mich.....	Calling
	{ Pine Creek, Mich.....	Supporting
Bronkema, R. W.....	12th Ave., Jenison, Mich.....	Calling and Supporting
Bultje, Harvey D.....	Willard, Ohio.....	Calling
Bultman, F.....	West Sayville, N. Y.....	Calling
De Jong, Frank.....	Alameda, Calif.....	Calling
De Vries, Robt. W.....	Bethel, Paterson, N. J.....	Calling and Supporting
Haan, A. J.....	Denver II, Colo.....	Calling
Han, Paul—Stated Supply...	{ Evergreen Park, Ill.....	Supporting
	{ Park Lane, Ill.....	Supporting
Heynen, Wm.....	Bethel, Edgerton, Minn.....	Calling and Supporting
Hollebeek, J. F.....	Alameda, Calif.....	Calling
Hugen, M.....	South Holland I, Ill.....	Calling and Supporting
Huizenga, B. N.....	Luctor, Kan.....	Calling and Supporting
Redhouse, S.....	Maple Ave. Holland, Mich.....	Supporting
Huyser, Wm.....	Kenosha, Wis.....	Calling
Koops, H. A.....	Bethany, South Holland, Ill.....	Calling and Supporting
Negen, Gordon.....	Paterson II, N. J.....	Calling and Supporting
Greenfield, Bernie.....	Borculo, Mich.....	Supporting
Huiner, P.....	Bauer, Mich.....	Supporting
Dixon, Delores.....		
Kenbeck, Tona Lee.....	Central Ave., Holland, Mich.....	
Pott, J. Jerry.....	Cutlerville, East, Mich.....	Calling
Rozendal, John R.....		
Vander Meulen, Edith.....		
Spaan, Howard.....	Everett, Wash.....	Calling
Rozendal, Martha.....		
Rubingh, John.....	Lee St., Grand Rapids, Mich.....	Calling and Supporting
Stegink, Martin.....	Paterson III, N. J.....	Calling and Supporting
Szto, Paul.....	Paterson III, N. J.....	Calling
Vanden Hoek, Julius.....	Bethel, Edgerton, Minn.....	Calling and Supporting
Versluys, James.....	Kalamazoo I, Mich.....	Calling and Supporting
Vogelzang, N.....	Denver III, Colo.....	Calling and Supporting
Wolters, Lloyd.....	North St., Zeeland, Mich.....	Calling and Supporting
Zandstra, J.....	Zeeland III, Mich.....	Calling and Supporting

\*Supporting churches pay the salary of the missionary either in part or in full.

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY

## Fields

Two fields have become calling churches, namely: South Bend, Ind.; Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

## Organized

Anchorage, Alaska  
Madison, Wis.  
Portland, Ore.

Harlem, N. Y.  
Queens (Chinese), N. Y.

## Opened

Lancaster-Palmdale, Calif.  
Eau Gallie, Fla.  
Orlando, Fla.  
Iowa City, Iowa

El Paso, Texas  
Portland, Ore.  
Hayward, Calif.

## To Be Opened

Chula Vista, Calif.  
Sacramento, Calif.  
Boulder, Colo.

Mason City, Iowa  
Bellingham, Wash.  
Terre Haute, Ind.

## Projected

Akron, Ohio  
 Detroit, Mich.  
 Grand Forks, N. Dak.  
 Riverside-Arlington, Calif.  
 Santa Barbara, Calif.  
 Tacoma-Olympia, Wash.  
 Quad Cities, Illinois-Iowa  
 Toledo, Ohio

Fredericton, New Brunswick  
 Prince George, B. C.  
 North Glenn, Colo. — request for  
 obtaining an option on property  
 is to be referred to the Executive  
 Committee for study and decision.  
 Dayton, Ohio  
 Ramsey, N. J.  
 Salem, Ore.

## Part III

## Evangelization and Church Extension — Canada

## The Fields and Their Missionaries

Collingwood (Ontario), and Saskatoon (Saskatchewan) have become calling churches.

## Fields

## Missionaries

Belmont-Truro, Nova Scotia .....	A. Haalboom
New Glasgow, Nova Scotia .....	A. Haalboom
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island .....	A. Haalboom
Halifax, Nova Scotia .....	G. André, Stated Supply
Navan and Kemptville, Ontario .....	G. Spoelhof
Campbellford, Ontario .....	(vacant)
Stratford, Ontario .....	J. Rubingh
Cochrane, Ontario .....	B. Bruxvoort
New Liskeard, Ontario .....	B. Bruxvoort
Kenora, Ontario .....	(vacant)
Regina, Saskatchewan .....	(vacant)
Bellevue, Alberta .....	P. J. Hoekstra
High River, Alberta .....	P. J. Hoekstra
Vauxhall, Alberta .....	P. J. Hoekstra
Alix, Alberta .....	(vacant)
Crescent Spur, Alberta .....	(vacant)
Prince George, British Columbia .....	(vacant)
Okanagan Valley, British Columbia .....	H. Moes
Penticton, British Columbia .....	H. Moes
Vernon, British Columbia .....	H. Moes
Courtenay-Campbell River, Vancouver Island, B. C. ....	(vacant)

## Part IV

## Survey of Fields

The following section prepared by the Minister of Evangelism presents a survey of home missions fields in the United States and Canada. The date following each name indicates when the field was opened; the other numbers indicate how many families and souls were listed as members at the end of 1959.

## Fields in the United States

## A. EASTERN DISTRICT

1. *East Islip, N. Y.* (1957: 4-21) — Rev. F. Bultman reported that the greatest blessings in 1959 were the confession of faith of four persons and the occupancy of the missionary's new home in the field. Greatest need for 1960: church building.

2. *Franklin Lakes, N. J.* (1956: 29-122) — During 1959, this group began to plan for calling its own pastor. Early in 1960, the missionary,

Rev. R. De Vries, accepted the congregation's call to continue as their minister.

3. *New York, N. Y., Harlem* (1952: 14) — During 1959, Rev. G. Negen succeeded Rev. E. Callender as missionary pastor. In February 1960, the congregation was organized — the first Christian Reformed congregation in New York! The Harlem staff includes Bernard Greenfield, Delores Dixon, Tona Kenbeek, and Seminarian Peter Huiner (serving internship until July 31, 1960).

4. *New York, N. Y., Queens* (1956: 11-49) — Rev. Paul Szto reported, "The greatest blessings for 1959 was the summer work. At one time or another during three months we had about 100 different students with us . . . one became a Christian, and during the winter another also." The group was organized in February 1960 as the first Chinese Christian Reformed Church. Greatest need: a church building.

5. *Norfolk, Va.* (1957) — Mr. and Mrs. George De Vries, Jr., served as hosts at the Service Home during most of 1959, and early in 1960 the Home Missions Board resumed efforts to obtain a missionary-service pastor for this ripe evangelization field. Many servicemen attend the monthly worship services which were introduced in 1959.

6. *Paterson Hebrew Mission* (1914) — Although the mission ceased formal operation in 1957, Miss Martha Rozendal continues to work among Jews on a part-time basis.

7. *Pompton Plains, N. J.* (1958: 25-96) — Rev. M. Stegink completed a full year of missionary-pastor service in 1959. He and his congregation look forward to calling their own pastor and to erecting a church building in 1960.

8. *Weybridge-Middlebury, Vt.* (1958) — With the suspension of the U.S. government special immigration program for Vermont, the work in this field was discontinued in September 1959, and Rev. J. Rubingh was transferred to Stratford, Ontario.

#### B. FLORIDA DISTRICT

1. *Eau Gallie-Melbourne, Fla.* (1959: 5) — The field was opened by Seminarian Roland Peterson in mid-1959. After several other men served there as stated supplies, Dr. Joel Nederhoed began his work as supply missionary in February 1960. After his admission to candidacy at Synod 1960, the board hopes to call Dr. Nederhoed for this challenging field.

2. *Fort Lauderdale, Fla.* (1957: 30-126) — When Rev. M. Baarman accepted the call to become pastor of this congregation, the church in this harvest field left the care of the Home Missions Board. Great blessings: from opening of field to calling a pastor in less than two years!

3. *Orlando, Fla.* (1959: 6-19) — Seminarian Vernon Geurkink opened this field in the summer of 1959, and in September Rev. R. Bronkema began his work as first home missionary. Greatest need for 1960: a church building.

4. *St. Petersburg, Fla.* (1958: 17-68) — Rev. M. Beelen reports with thanksgiving to God that a new church building was dedicated late in 1959 and that the group is working prayerfully toward organization. An average of over 100 at morning services was reported for the last quarter of 1959.

## C. GREAT LAKES DISTRICT

1. *Champaign-Urbana, Ill.* (1956: 16-59) — Highlight of 1959 for Rev. H. Koops and his people was the organization of the group into a church, affiliated with Classis Chicago South. Whereas seven families were counted as members at end of 1958, 16 now are listed.

2. *Chicago, Ill., Jewish work* — Rev. John Rozendal and Edith Vander Meulen work in the Rogers Park area, holding Bible classes and other activities for children and for adults. A special committee of the Home Missions Board has worked closely with the staff and is planning further efforts to present Christ to God's ancient people.

3. *Chicago, Ill., Chinese church* (1955: 9-21) — The faithful labors of Rev. Paul Han have been blessed during 1959, and another building is being sought so that a permanent place for services and meetings may be obtained.

4. *Columbus, Ohio* (1952: 21-95) — Membership growth, progress in financial stewardship, and consideration of becoming a calling church in 1960 all were mentioned in Rev. H. Bultje's 1959 summary report.

5. *Indianapolis, Ind.* (1957: 10-61) — In addition to numerous assignments away from his field which come to him as Itinerant Missionary, Rev. J. Zandstra continued to minister to the group at this field. A new church-parsonage building was dedicated; its attractive and economical features were described in the monthly, *Christian Life*. Organization into a congregation and greater evangelization effort are goals for 1960.

6. *Inkster, Mich.* (1956: 11-53) — Rev. H. Botts reported, "The greatest blessing of 1959 was the large number of young people that have attended Sunday school and Young People's Group even though their parents have shown little interest." Greatest need for 1960: further spiritual and numerical development leading to organization as a congregation.

7. *Jackson, Mich.* (1957: 17-73) — A congregation was organized here in 1959, resulting — as Rev. J. Versluys wrote — "in a definite strengthening of the church." Prayerful efforts are being made to intensify the local evangelization work.

8. *Madison, Wis.* (1957: 12-47) — Rev. W. Huyser informed the board, "The additional responsibility and member participation as a result of organization have been very beneficial for the group." Now that the new church is in use, he adds, "We must find ways of breaking through the shell of indifference in our highly-churched and sophisticated city."

9. *Richton Park, Ill.* (1958: 13-46) — Upon his return from studies in the Netherlands, Dr. Melvin Hugen began work here in the Spring of 1959 and subsequently accepted the call to labor as missionary pastor. Encouraged by increasing response from the community, the group looks forward in 1960 to growth in strength and to erection of a church building.

10. *Rochester, Minn.* — Rev. A. A. Koning, pastor of the Hollandale church, makes regular visits to patients at the Mayo Brothers Clinic.

11. *South Bend, Ind.* (1956: 17-71) — Blessings singled out by missionary Rev. L. Wolters included the reception of two new families by

profession of faith and the advance of the congregation to the status of a calling church. The Christians here look forward to greater commitment in the Lord's work during 1960.

#### D. ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT

1. *Albuquerque, N. Mex.* (1953: 23-115) — The dual challenge of community evangelism and work with Navajo students at the government school is a great responsibility for Rev. B. Huizenga and Evangelist Scott Redhouse. Grateful for those whom the Lord has saved and added to the church, these missionaries and their congregation pray that during 1960 a chapel can be erected adjacent to the Albuquerque Indian School (400 Indian students registering as Christian Reformed are expected at the school in September 1960), and that a missionary may be appointed for Sante Fe (100 students now are being ministered to on a part-time basis).

2. *Colorado Springs, Colo.* (1958: 8-41) — With a new church building completed in December 1959, Rev. A. Haan and his people look forward to extensive community evangelization work — in which visitation of homes and weekly radio broadcasting figure prominently.

3. *El Paso, Tex.* — For over five years, weekly services have been held informally by the Young Calvinist Club, with participation by the churches at Tucson, Ariz., and Albuquerque, N. Mex. The Home Missions Board began in 1959 to issue calls for this field.

4. *Ogden, Utah* (1958) — Calvin Seminary graduate A. Koolhaas arrived in the Fall of 1959 for a one-year assignment as stated supply in this field. A church building was purchased earlier in the year and evangelization is being extended.

5. *Salt Lake City, Utah* (1954: 40) — Rev. N. Vogelzang continues to shepherd the congregation, which grew in 1959-60 through the arrival of numerous immigrant families. The missionary pastor's work also extends to Ogden and includes investigation for a new field in South Salt Lake City.

#### E. WEST COAST DISTRICT

1. *Hayward, Calif.* (1959) — The calling of a missionary for this field continued until the beginning of 1960, when Rev. J. Vander Ark accepted the call upon his release from service as an Air Force Chaplain.

2. *Palo Alto, Calif.* (1958: 18) — Rev. F. De Jong and his group rejoice in steady growth and in use of their new church building. Organization may be possible by the Fall of 1960.

3. *Portland, Ore.* (1959: 13-62) — Rev. H. Spaan wrote, "The opening of our first work in Oregon and the organization of the church rank as our greatest joys." He added, "The greatest need is obtaining our own place of worship, which will open the way for intensive neighborhood witness."

4. *Sacramento, Calif.* (1959: 7) — Work in California's capital city was started in November 1959 under the leadership of missionary F. De Jong. The board in February 1960 decided to begin calling in the near future.

4. *Walnut Creek, Calif.* (1958) — The group here, with missionary pastor Rev. J. Hollebeek, was glad that at last they were able to find a suitable building site. During 1960, plans for a building will be made.

## F. ALASKA

1. *Anchorage* (1953: 17-62) — Rev. W. Heynen reported, "The greatest blessing of 1959 unquestionably was the arrival of four strong families, which enabled us to organize as a church on November 20 and which has instilled in our group a vitality and enthusiasm which is magnificent. . . . Fortunately, these families have a real vision for community outreach and most of them have come to Alaska for this very reason." The missionary added, "Our greatest need for 1960 is the completion of our new building. This is being constructed largely by donated labor."

2. *Fairbanks* (1956: 7-37) — Rev. J. Vanden Hoek and his family enjoyed a furlough in the "south 48" states and during these weeks he presented 24 programs about the Alaska field. The missionary reminds us, "Our greatest need continues to be permanently-residing families." Furthermore, "We ought to continue with our building program." Next construction project: a church building.

## G. SPANISH-SPEAKING WORK

During 1959, Rev. J. Jerry Pott brought the new denominational work among Spanish-speaking migrants and residents to full activity. Making surveys in Michigan, Illinois, Washington, California, Texas, Mexico, and Florida, Rev. Pott reported what a blessing it was "to see an increasing interest on the part of our churches in the work of reaching the Spanish-speaking people." Joy also has been experienced as he notes the many migrant workers who have returned to Mexico "with the joy of salvation in their lives."

Synod is asked to remember the crucial need for more Spanish-speaking workers throughout the denomination. Miami, Florida, in particular, needs a full-time worker as soon as possible who can use the Spanish language. As mentioned elsewhere in the Home Missions report to Synod, the need of placing a Mexican contact man in Mexico itself also must be met.

## Fields in Canada

When the post-World War II immigration from the Netherlands to Canada was at its peak a few years ago, as many as 18 denominational home missionary pastors were laboring in Canada. Now there is a larger number of congregations throughout that land, able in growing measure to carry forward the work of church extension, and as a direct result the number of denominational missionary pastors has decreased to seven. A review of the work done by these faithful brethren now follows.

## A. ATLANTIC PROVINCES

1. *Halifax, Nova Scotia* — During 1959, Rev. R. Bos took leave of the 25-family congregation after 11 years' service as home missionary in Canada's eastern provinces. Rev. G. André came in 1960, to care for the congregation and to guide it toward the stage of becoming a calling church.

2. *Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and New Brunswick* — Rev. A. Haalboom, missionary pastor in the Atlantic Provinces since 1957, continued his untiring efforts to minister to four different groups: Truro, N. S. (1952: 33-145); New Glasgow, N. S. (16-80); Charlottetown,

P.E.I. (1954: 23-132); and, Fredericton, N.B. (1954: 10-58). Truro is praying that during 1960 it may receive a pastor of its own, New Glasgow seeks additional families to strengthen its congregation, Charlottetown is at the point where more pastoral attention must be provided, and Fredericton eagerly desires the placement of a home missionary in its field.

#### B. ONTARIO

1. *Navan and Kemptville* — Growth and blessing among a people "who have a mind to work" are reported by Rev. C. Spoelhof, who began his work in these fields early in 1959. Navan (1958: 22-108) enjoyed steady growth and improvement of its church property, while Kemptville (1957: 21-92) was blessed with further development of society life and the residence of the missionary pastor in its field.

2. *Cochrane and New Liskeard* — The coming of Rev. B. Bruxvoort in the fall of 1959 brought new encouragement to the families in these north Ontario fields. The labors of the missionary pastor at both Cochrane (1951: 22-117) and New Liskeard (1951: 12-67) are directed now to the strengthening of these families in the faith and to their development in the work of evangelism among others.

3. *Collingwood* — Having guided this congregation (1953: 26-142) to the calling church stage, Rev. G. André bade farewell early in 1960 and moved by transfer to Halifax, N.S.

4. *Stratford* (1951: 15-75) — This field received part-time missionary care for some years, and in the summer of 1959 the congregation was served by Rev. E. Van Halsema, who was engaged as stated supply by the Home Missions Board. When the field at Weybridge-Middelbury, Vermont, was closed, Rev. J. Rubingh was transferred to Stratford. New hope now permeates the group of families there, and the urgent need is for purchase or construction of a suitable place of worship.

#### C. WESTERN PROVINCES

1. *Saskatchewan* — Having completed six years' work as missionary pastor, Rev. G. Vander Ziel accepted a call to Vesper, Wisconsin. The congregation at Saskatoon (1952: 40-176) was glad to hear in February 1960 that a minister from New Zealand had accepted their call, while the church at Regina (1954: 25-107) began to put forth calls for a resident pastor also.

2. *Northern Alberta* — Rev. J. Hanenburg, missionary for nine years, left this field in 1959 in order to serve the church at Holland Marsh, Ont. In February 1960, the Home Missions Board again began to issue calls for a home missionary who would reside in the Peace River district.

3. *Southern Alberta* — Rev. Peter J. Hoekstra, who has served longer in Canada than any other Christian Reformed pastor (25 years), continues to serve several groups: Bowness-Montgomery (1956: 52-307), Bellevue (1953: 21-98, and High River (1952: 16-88).

4. *British Columbia* — The field at Prince George, formerly served by a home missionary (Rev. G. Van Laar), still was without a worker during 1959. Meanwhile, in the southern part of the province, Rev. H. Moes served two fields: Penticton (1955: 4-17) and Vernon (1955: 20-97). The work in Penticton is a difficult one, and at Vernon (where Rev.

Moes resides) there is progress in use of the English language in worship, in stewardship, and in Christian harmony. A group at Kelowna also is ministered to by the missionary.

### V. Opening New Fields

Synodical authorization to open 10 new fields in 1961, if and when exploratory surveys warrant, is requested.

### VI. Proposed Budget for 1961

Evangelism and Church Extension		Jewish Missions
<b>Harlem</b>		
Missionary Salaries .....	\$ 21,200.00	
Missionary Expenses .....	7,000.00	
Heat, light and power .....	2,500.00	
Taxes .....	1,500.00	
Maintenance .....	1,500.00	
Supplies etc. ....	1,575.00	
D.V.B.S. ....	1,500.00	\$ 36,775.00
<b>Mexican Migrants</b>		
Salaries and Expenses .....		10,000.00
<b>Miami</b>		
<b>Indian Migrants</b>		
Salaries and Expenses .....	\$ 15,000.00	
Homes for 2 missionaries .....	40,000.00	55,000.00
<b>Evangelism Department</b>		
Salaries .....	\$ 10,200.00	
Expenses, travel .....	2,500.00	
Supplies, Equipment .....	4,800.00	17,500.00
<b>Church Extension</b>		
Missionary Salaries .....	\$200,000.00	\$11,000.00
Reimbursed .....	65,000.00	
	135,000.00	
Missionary Expenses .....	\$125,000.00	4,000.00
Administrative Salaries .....	15,000.00	
Administrative expenses .....	17,500.00	
Special Services .....	20,000.00	
Seminarians .....	25,000.00	
Moving Expenses .....	10,000.00	
Evangelism Subsidies .....	10,000.00	
New fields — for 8 n.f.		
8 missionaries Salaries and		
and Exp. 1/2 year .....	\$ 30,000.00	
8 sites,		
chapels,		
pars. ....	400,000.00	
	430,000.00	
Collected in 1959 .....	88,000.00	
	\$342,000.00	699,500.00
		\$818,775.00
		\$15,000.00
Per family quota .....	\$18.09	



### VII. Special Grants

1. Oak Harbor, Washington — Classis Pacific has endorsed the request of Oak Harbor for financial aid to the extent of \$3,000 for 1961 to carry on its local evangelization project. We recommend synodical approval.

2. Racine, Wisconsin — Classis Wisconsin has endorsed the request of Racine for financial aid to the extent of \$2,000 for 1961 to carry on its local evangelization project. We recommend synodical approval.

3. Hamilton, Ontario — Classis Hamilton has endorsed the request of Hamilton for financial aid to the extent of \$2,000 for 1960 to carry on its local evangelization project. We recommend synodical approval.

### VIII. Additional Matters for Synodical Consideration

1. *Loaning Practices.* Whereas fields opened required a financial investment for the procurement of building site, equipment, and other essentials we submit a repayment plan for synodical approval, namely:

- a. First five years from date of loan, interest and payment free;
- b. Second five years payment of 5% annually, interest rate 1%;
- c. Third five years payment of  $7\frac{1}{2}\%$  annually, interest rate 2%;
- d. Fourth five years payment of  $7\frac{1}{2}\%$  annually, interest rate 3%;
- e. Date of loan to begin when the final contribution, of the total investment agreed upon, has been made.

#### *Ground:*

This will pay up the loan of 20 years from the date it was made. Small interest charge will compensate somewhat for loss of purchasing power and cost of administration and will stimulate repayment of loan by the church.

2. *South Grove, Minnesota.* In view of its pressing financial needs and a required expansion program, we recommend that Synod grant Classis Minnesota North \$4,000 for 1960 to carry on its evangelization work at South Grove, adjacent to St. Paul, Minnesota.

3. *Overtures.* Classis Alberta North submitted two overtures for consideration to the Board of Home Missions. The one concerns lay-membership on the board. The other requested the appointment of a special advisory committee on Canadian matters. The action taken is herewith forwarded as information to Synod.

a. Pursuant the overture of Classis Alberta North that two members-at-large, from Eastern and Western Canada respectively, be given membership on the Board of Home Missions, it is decided: that the Board do not comply with this request since Canada is already fairly represented on the Board.

b. Classis Alberta North has overtured for the appointment of a separate standing advisory committee on Canadian Home Mission matters and the placement of one of these advisory members on the Executive Committee. Re this overture it is decided:

(1) That we do not favor the appointment of a separate standing advisory committee as requested.

(2) That Synod be requested to add the Board delegate from Classis Chatham to the membership of the Executive Committee.

(3) That from the membership of the Executive Committee a sub-committee on Canadian Home Mission matters be appointed.

(4) That the prospective delegate from Classis Chatham on the Executive Committee be a member of said sub-committee.

Item b (2) re the appointment of the delegate from Classis Chatham to membership on the Executive Committee of Home Missions requires synodical approval.

4. *Indians-Migrants.* Indian students, who formerly had contact with our missionaries on the Indian Reservations and now residing at Brigham City, Utah, are presently being cared for by our Board of Foreign Missions. A like program has been introduced at Albuquerque, New Mexico — where Missionary Bart Huizenga is stationed and assisted by Scott Redhouse — under the direction of the Home Missions Board. Moreover a similar intermittent work has been carried on by the Home Missions Board at Santa Fe, New Mexico.

However, now the Board of Home Missions has been requested to inaugurate similar programs at Salt Lake City, Utah; Sherman Institute, Los Angeles, California; and the Chemawa School for Indians at Salem, Oregon.

Recognizing the importance of this follow-up program for the evangelization of our on-the-Reservation-Indian-contacts, we conferred with the Executive Committee of our Foreign Board re the proper place thereof. The question namely: does this assignment, and its expansion, belong with the Foreign Missions Board or with the Home Missions Board? Pursuant this conference "it was decided since the work amongst the American Indians is, in our opinion, increasingly presenting itself as a home missions concern, we recommend that the care of non-reservation Indians and the children at off-reservation schools become the concern of the Board of Home Missions, but that those presently under the Board of Foreign Missions remain under its care."

We request that Synod express itself on the foregoing declaration.

Permit us further to call Synod's attention to the fact, that in the event of synodical concurrence, the Board of Home Missions will need an augmented budget.

5. *Mexico.* Re this field the following is recorded in the minutes of the Board of Home Missions:

"Evangelist J. A. Tucker has forwarded a communication in which he relates his deep desire to be sent as missionary to Mexico. He mailed a similar communication to our Board of Foreign Missions. This occasioned the question whether the Mexican field should be the care of the Foreign Board or the Home Missions Board. Since both boards met on the same day this issue was first considered by a combined committee from both boards.

Subsequently the Foreign Board submitted the following statement:  
"The migrant work and its contacts in Mexico be recognized as proper sphere of activity for the Board of Home Missions.

"That Mexico as far as its regular citizenry be considered legitimate area for Board of Foreign Missions service."

Thereupon the Executive Committee of the Home Mission Board prepared this statement:

"The Home Missions Board declares that in its judgment the Mexican migrant work together with evangelization in Mexico proper should be placed under the direction of the Home Missions Board.

*"Grounds:*

"a. This board at the behest of Synod has inaugurated missions among the Mexican migrants.

"b. The need of continuing follow-up work in Mexico proper.

"c. The responsibility for one and the same field and nationals should preferably be centered in one and the same board.

"d. Evangelization among Spanish speaking peoples is an assignment already entrusted to the Home Missions Board by Synod."

It can be added that Mexican migrants, who have been brought to conversion upon their return to the homeland, aim to set up family and small community units where they seek to spread the gospel which has become precious to them. To assist them in this work they are provided by the Home Missions Board with needed literature and Bible courses. Moreover, according to information received, Mexican law permits only Mexican nationals to engage in religious activities. Again we deem that it may occasion confusion on the part of our own church membership as well as the Mexicans, if both denominational boards carry on evangelization work among the Mexicans; the one board among Mexico's "regular citizenry" and the other among the Mexican Migrants, both in the United States and upon their repatriation in the homeland.

We request that Synod express itself on the matter at issue.

6. *Recruitment.* Considering the disturbing shortage of kingdom workers, we submit the following for synodical consideration and action:

a. That Synod be asked to appoint a committee for working out a recruitment program for securing urgently needed ministers and missionaries.

*Grounds:*

1. The acute shortage of ministers and missionaries has been apparent for some time and indications are that it will become increasingly so.

2. In view of the tremendous appeal of the many secular vocations in our modern world it is imperative that the Church should present to her members a clear statement of the calling, urgency, and challenge of the Christian ministry and missionary service, strongly urging them to give themselves to this service.

3. This is in conformity with Article 19 of the Church Order.

b. That the Executive Committee prepare a statement to serve as evidential support for the above proposal to the forthcoming Synod.

## Part IX

### Minister of Evangelism

When Synod of 1959 adopted a revised Home Missions Order, it decided among other things to call a Minister of Evangelism. Synod appointed Dr. Dick L. Van Halsema, then serving as home missionary at large, and with his acceptance and installation on September 27, 1959, the new phase of denominational evangelism was begun.

The Executive Committee for Home Missions appointed a sub-committee on evangelism, and in consultation with the Minister of Evangelism they outlined the work which should receive first attention. Priority was given to the development of seminars for ministers as "pilot projects" in evangelism.

In the fall of 1959, contact was made with Classes Chicago South and North about these "pilot projects." Fine coöperation was experienced among pastors, consistories, home missions committees, and the classes themselves, and in February 1960 the first seminars were held. Three seminars followed the pattern of six lectures spread over three consecutive days, (Berwyn, Evergreen Park, and Munster) while one was held in abbreviated form (Fulton, Ill.). As a consequence of the seminars, each pastor was urged to hold "schools in evangelism" within his own congregation as a means of developing new or additional fervency in local evangelization.

Planning also began for seminars in additional classical areas. By March 1960, seminar plans were being made by the Minister of Evangelism with home missions committees of Classes Kalamazoo, Toronto, Chatham, Alberta North and South, and Cadillac.

The Minister of Evangelism fulfilled numerous requests from churches for consultation in local evangelization projects and participated in various meetings for instruction and inspiration. A bi-monthly *Evangelism Newsletter* was started in January 1960 and a lending library of books on evangelism also was introduced. Efforts were begun to obtain a listing of suitable evangelism film strips and motion pictures.

Other assignments in connection with Dr. Van Halsema's former duties as home missionary at large also were given to him by the Executive Committee as need arose and as his travel plans and other duties allowed. Conferences with home missions committees and missionaries were held, and a *Manual for Home Missionaries* was written. The *Manual* is a compilation of basic home missions policy affecting home missionaries and their fields.

The beginning of this new denominational service to churches has been marked by a heartening spirit of commitment and unity of purpose among all who are involved in its operation. This is of the Lord, and thanks is given first and last to Him. May His Spirit guide the churches onward and may His blessing rest upon our witness to His redeeming love.

## Part X

### Dispersed and Non-resident Members

During 1959 the names of 27 families and 20 individuals were received, constituting a total of 49 confessing and 52 baptized members. These names have been placed on file. However, contact with these members is frequently lost when they settle in remote areas. Moreover several letters sent to these dispersed in the past have remained unanswered. Unless extended travel be authorized, personal and continued contact with our dispersed membership remains a serious problem. Besides several of these dispersed, sometimes delinquent in the Home Church, either seek affiliation with other denominations or lose all interest in church attendance and membership.

Occasionally inquiries are received on the part of those who plan to move elsewhere re available orthodox churches or the possibility of establishing our Church in the community to which they must transfer.

## Part XI

### Our Youth in Military Service

Again we have endeavored to concern ourselves with the care of our youth in the ARMED FORCES. Due to recurring changes in military policy, reduced terms of service, and frequent reassignments the work done is marked by a measure of irregularity. Yet we have evidence that the majority of our young men appreciate a church which is mindful of their needs at the time when moral temptations and spiritual dangers beset them in the barracks, on the field, and neighboring cities.

On February 3, 1960, there were 1,070 of our youth in military service. These were distributed as follows:

593 in the United States, 29 in Canada, 448 overseas.

As reported above, Rev. Harry A. Dykstra, who labored faithfully over a period of several years as service-pastor in California, retired from active duty as of December 31, 1959. This ministry both on the part of Mr. and Mrs. Dykstra is remembered affectionately and gratefully by many of our youth. Arrangements are being planned with our California pastors whereby this spiritual service to our men based in California may be continued on a part-time basis.

Full-time service-homes have been maintained in Norfolk, Virginia, and Seattle, Washington. If Norfolk presents a potential for evangelistic endeavor a missionary will be placed here. In view of the projected closing of Fort Lewis near Seattle it may be found feasible to close the service-home in this city.

In coöperation with the denominational Chaplain Committee plans are under way, especially by means of retreats, to provide a larger measure of spiritual guidance to our youth in overseas service.

Synodical authorization for asking free-will offerings from our churches for the Soldiers' Fund is requested.

## Part XII

### Financial Statement

#### BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 1959

#### GENERAL FUND

##### Assets:

Old Kent Bank .....	\$ 44,019.35	
Bank of Montreal .....	27,531.62	
Tri-City Savings & Loan .....	25,000.00	
Old Kent Bank - Payroll Account .....	25,000.00	
<b>Total Available Cash .....</b>	<b>\$ 121,550.97</b>	
Advances .....	2,309.46	
U.S. Bonds - Jewish Mission Fund - Chicago ....	17,000.00	
<b>Total Investments .....</b>	<b>19,309.46</b>	
<b>Total Assets - General Fund .....</b>	<b>\$ 140,860.43</b>	

#### PROPERTY FUND

##### Assets:

Real Estate & Property — U.S. (Pg. 6-9) .....	\$2,201,833.40	
Real Estate & Property — Canada (Pg. 10-11) .....	201,495.92	
Bonds — Property Fund — Washington .....	3,700.00	
Contracts Receivable — U.S. ....	30,958.41	
Contracts Receivable — Canada .....	33,020.92	
Office Furniture .....	1,302.06	
<b>Total Assets — Property Fund .....</b>	<b>\$2,472,310.71</b>	
<b>Total Assets of General &amp; Property Funds .....</b>	<b>\$2,613,171.14</b>	

#### BALANCE SHEET

December 31, 1959

#### GENERAL FUND

##### Liabilities:

Liabilities .....	NONE	
Net Worth — General Fund .....	\$ 209,789.73	
Less: Excess Disbursements over Receipts .....	68,929.30	
<b>Net Fund Balances — General Fund .....</b>	<b>\$ 140,860.43</b>	

#### PROPERTY FUND

##### Liabilities:

Mortgage Payable — U.S. ....	\$ 10,000.00	
Net Worth — Property Fund .....	2,462,310.71	
<b>Net Worth — Property Fund, Dec. 31, 1959 .....</b>	<b>\$2,472,310.71</b>	
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Worth .....</b>	<b>\$2,613,171.14</b>	

## Receipts - January 1 — December 31, 1959

	Total All Funds	Evangelical and Church Extension	Jewish Missions	Soldiers' Fund	Funds Needy Churches
Quota Payments	\$ 696,874.75	\$ 674,222.04	\$22,652.71	\$	\$ 62,230.88
Quota Payments, F.N.C.	61,230.88				554.17
Soldiers' Fund	20,051.28			20,051.28	
Gifts	24,159.00	16,060.71	963.01	6,581.11	
Salary Reimbursements — Missionaries	63,215.85	63,215.85			
Salary Reimbursements — Canadian Ministers	35,109.32	35,109.32			
Interest Received	9,288.26	7,343.26	1,945.00		
Income from Real Estate Transactions	88,191.36	88,191.36			
Profit on Sale of Real Estate	3,324.47	3,324.47			
Rent	1,495.00	1,495.00			
Special Services	7,539.30	7,539.30			
Canadian Exchange	1,000.14	1,000.14			
Income Seminarians	839.73	839.73			
Miscellaneous Income	8,992.28	8,992.28			
Income from Chinese Church	1,957.76	1,957.76			
Total Receipts	\$1,023,269.30	\$ 909,291.22	\$25,560.72	\$26,632.39	\$61,785.05

## Disbursements - January 1 — December 31, 1959

	Total All Funds	Evangelical and Church Extension	Jewish Missions	Soldiers' Fund	Funds Needy Churches
Missionaries' Salaries	\$ 272,435.05	\$ 239,345.96	\$10,780.04	\$ 8,900.00	\$13,409.05
Missionaries Expenses	129,785.78	119,175.21	3,621.82	4,494.25	2,494.50
Administrative Salaries	11,564.52	10,971.25	284.50	308.77	
Administrative Expenses	15,742.88	14,935.26	387.28	420.34	
Special Services	26,399.28	24,782.85		1,616.43	
Seminarians	25,042.90	25,042.90			
Interest Paid	1,036.96	1,036.96			
Purchases and Transactions of Real Estate	523,363.81	490,363.81	33,000.00		
Payments of Mortg. and Land Contracts	51,942.74	51,942.74			

Payments of Chinese Ch. Mortg., Queens .....	1,957.76	1,957.76		
Moving .....	10,480.11	9,042.42		1,437.69
Gifts Disbursed .....	975.54	975.54		
Miscellaneous Expense .....	3,618.90	3,618.90		
Evangelism Subsidies .....	9,102.09	9,102.09		
Social Security Expense .....	1,130.37	1,130.37		
Utilities and Janitor .....	205.07	205.07		
Young Calvinist .....	908.10	908.10		
Service Homes .....	6,506.82	6,506.82		
Total Disbursements .....	\$ 1,092,198.68	\$ 1,003,424.02	\$ 48,278.71	\$ 23,154.71
				\$ 17,341.24

### Summary of Receipts and Disbursements and Fund Balances January 1, 1959 — December 31, 1959

	Total All Funds	Evangelism and Church Extension	Jewish Missions	Soldiers' Fund	Funds Ready Churches
January 1, 1959 Fund Balances .....	\$ 209,499.65	\$ 156,061.91	\$ 101,603.09	\$ 111,123.40	\$ 37,041.95
Charge F.N.C., Admin. Expense .....		8,503.11			8,503.11
Credit Evangelism 1958, 1959 .....	1,023,269.38	909,291.22	25,560.72	26,632.39	61,785.05
Receipts .....					
Beginning Balances Plus Receipts .....	1,232,769.03	1,073,856.24	127,163.81	15,508.99	16,239.99
Disbursements .....	1,092,198.68	1,003,424.02	48,278.71	23,154.71	17,341.24
F.N.C. Adjustments .....	140,570.35	70,432.22	78,885.10	7,645.72	1,101.25
	1,101.25				1,101.25
Fund Balances, December 31, 1959 .....	\$ 141,671.60	\$ 70,432.22	\$ 78,885.10	\$ 7,645.72	\$ -0-
*deficit .....					

In our opinion and subject to our comments, the Balance Sheet shows fairly the financial position of the Home Missions as at December 31, 1959, and the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements and related schedules, the summary of the financial transactions for the year 1959, compiled on the cash basis.

Respectfully submitted, Peter B. Vander Meer

Grand Rapids, Michigan, February 1, 1960



Commending Synod to the guidance of the promised Spirit.

Humbly submitted,

J. De Kruyter, *President*

H. Blystra, *Secretary*

D. L. Van Halsema, *Minister of Evangelism*

C. Van Malsen, *Treasurer*

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 6-A

(Articles 95, 148, 171, 172)

## CHRISTIAN REFORMED BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

We herewith place the following additional matters before your honorable body.

A. *Evidences Re Shortage of Kingdom Workers.* (Cf. Agenda, 1960, pp. 44-46)

1. The 1960 Yearbook reports 94 vacancies for a total of 541 congregations.

2. The decreasing enrollment ratio of pre-seminarians at our college and seminary.

3. Due to the opening of new fields, the organization of new congregations, and the retirement of ministers by reason of age, the vacancy figure may become greater rather than smaller except our ministerial forces are augmented by ministers called from other denominations.

4. On the basis of a comparative study made, Prof. Harold Dekker writes: "There is clear reason for concern both as to the failure of our home churches to raise up sons for the ministry and as to a possible future deficiency in a truly indigenous ministerial leadership for our church."

B. *Spanish*

We beg to call Synod's attention to our expanding Spanish-speaking migrant work and the need of teaching Spanish at our Calvin College.

C. *Special Grants*

1. *South Grove, Minnesota.* (Cf. Agenda, 1960, p. 42 - VIII-2)

In compliance with the request of Classis Minnesota North, the South Grove field has been taken over by the Board of Home Missions. Hence the recommended allowance of \$4,000 is withdrawn.

2. *Rapid City, South Dakota.* Pursuant the endorsement of Classis Sioux Center, Rapid City — under the care of our South Dakota churches — is recommended for financial aid to the extent of \$4,000 for 1961.

3. *Mt. Vernon, Washington.* Classis Pacific has endorsed the request of Mt. Vernon for financial aid to the extent of \$2,000 for 1961. We recommend Synodical approval.

4. *Highland, Michigan.* Classis Cadillac has endorsed the request of Highland for financial aid to the extent of \$2,500 for 1961. We recommend Synodical approval.

5. *Greater Edmonton, Alberta.* Classis Alberta North has endorsed the request of our Edmonton churches for financial aid to the extent of

\$7,500 for 1961. The primary intent is to use this allowance for work among delinquent church members and spiritually estranged immigrants. The request submitted designates these as "rand gevallen" (border cases).

Upon motion the request does not find favor.

**Reasons:**

a. In accordance with the principle of Reformed Church government these "rand gevallen" are the responsibility of each church in which they hold membership.

b. The Edmonton churches are numerically large enough to inaugurate local evangelization on a limited basis.

c. The denominational Minister of Evangelism is available for giving guidance and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

The Executive Committee for Home Missions

John A. De Kruyter, President

H. Blystra, Secretary

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 7

(Articles 84, 172)

**EVALUATION OF ECUMENICAL SYNOD REPORT  
ON WARFARE****ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

Your committee was charged to give consideration to the resolutions drawn up anent the theme: "The Task of the Church in Her Declarations Regarding War and the Boundaries Thereof," by the Ecumenical Synod of the Reformed Churches, in session at Potchefstroom, South Africa, during the month of August, 1958. These resolutions are found on pages 28 and 29 of the Acts of the Fourth Reformed Ecumenical Synod of Potchefstroom, South Africa, August 6-13, 1958; and also in the Acts of Synod 1959 of the Christian Reformed Church, pages 249 and 250. The specific mandate given your committee is found on page 80 of the Acts of Synod 1959 and reads as follows: "That this Resolution be referred to a Study Committee for evaluation and recommendation concerning the use we ought to make of it, this committee to report to the Synod of 1960." According to this mandate the committee must address itself to the following twofold task:

- A. Evaluate these resolutions.
- B. Recommend what use we ought to make of them.

The committee judged it best to give an evaluation of these resolutions from a formal and a material point of view, and on the basis of that evaluation proceed to the second part of the mandate.

Realizing that every man is answerable to God for his conscious decisions, and that the church in her proclamation of the gospel has a solemn duty to give guidance to man in the totality of his life, the committee is duly appreciative of every effort made to effectively accomplish this aim. It might be plausibly argued that in the definitive statement of such a document calculated to realize this aim, the material content is of foremost concern, far out-weighting the formal aspect of the matter. However, in this instance, since any such document is expressly designed to arouse and enlighten the public conscience and to give direction to man in a most practical area of common, if not terrifying concern, viz., modern nuclear warfare, the formal aspect is of great importance. Unless there is precise formulation, felicitous expression of the resolutions, they will fail to communicate, and, thus, will defeat the very purpose for which the proclamation is given. Very frankly, the resolutions do not read smoothly. Grammatically, the document is a poor composition. The basic blemish is that it is a rather clumsy, wooden, literal translation from a Dutch original. Sentence structure is faulty. The thoughts are not happily phrased nor always clearly expressed. The resolutions are not pointedly expressive nor vitally challenging, and, thus, will fail to achieve anything meaningful.

As for the material aspect, while the committee entertains no strictures as to the truths it aims to convey, nevertheless, the committee fails to discover any new insights or approaches to the problem in these resolutions.

### **Recommendation:**

In view of the above, the committee recommends that no further use be made of these particular resolutions.

The committee takes the liberty to remind Synod that a very acceptable Testimony anent the same problem has been given to and adopted by the Synod of 1939, found on pages 240-250 of the Acts of Synod 1939.

Humbly submitted,

The Committee

**Rev. J. T. Holwerda, Chairman**

**Dr. W. H. Rutgers, Secretary**

**Rev. J. Rook**

**Dr. Loren De Wind**

**Alan D. Pauw, LL.B. CPA**

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 8

(Articles 22, 172)

## THE WORLD HOME BIBLE LEAGUE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Your liaison with the World Home Bible League has attended each of their board meetings during the past year. The Board of Trustees is made up of consecrated laymen who not only serve the league as an administrative body but also give of their time for the promotion of Bible distribution. Among them is a distinct evidence of a burden for the souls of those unreached by the gospel. The Lord has marvelously blessed this service organization of the church. This organization, founded by Mr. William A. Chapman in 1938, continues to grow. This past year more Scriptures have been distributed than any other year in the league's history. Thousands of homes have again been reached with the written Word. We shall endeavor to give a few highlights of the league's work in this past year.

**India:** Among the foreign lands in which the league's program continues to grow, is India with its teeming millions. The India Home Bible League is under the directorship of Dr. John Piet. A total of 1,226,207 Scriptures have been distributed during their brief period of operation in this land. The increased literacy rate and the limited program of Christian Missions in a land of 400,000,000 people makes India a great challenge. A Bible reading course, supplied for the missionaries to encourage systematic reading, has given added assurance that the Bibles distributed are being read. Missionaries in India report that scores have been led to a saving knowledge of Christ through the reading and study of the Scriptures with this reading course.

**Ceylon:** The Ceylon Home Bible League, founded by Rev. Clarence Van Ens and presently directed by Rev. John Van Ens, has intensified its program. The amount of Sinhalese, Tamil and English Scriptures distributed in Ceylon now totals 155,000. After a recent conference of Rev. J. Van Ens with Dr. Piet and Bible Society officials of India and Ceylon, plans for even greater expansion of the work there have been adopted. The league is grateful for the coöperation of the Dutch Reformed Church of Ceylon and our missionaries. Rev. Roger Greenway has been given a special grant of \$1,000 for a new project in which he will direct ten colporteurs who will distribute Bibles and Scripture portions throughout the island. This will be done in conjunction with a project of literature evangelism planned by Rev. Greenway. Our Neland Avenue Church continues to supply the salary of Mr. L. A. Felsianes, as chief sower in Ceylon. Recently Rev. Ananda Perera reported a young Hindu priest had been converted through the reading of a Testament in his home. The Ceylon Home Bible League is setting up a Bible study course similar to that being used in India. This will greatly increase the effectiveness of Bible distribution and aid the church to carefully guide thousands who are seeking the eternal truths from the printed page.

**Japan:** The far reaching influence of the Christian Reformed Church in Japan is hard to estimate. Some indication of it came to light in a very unusual letter which arrived at the World Home Bible League office a few months ago. We are quoting it here.

"Gentlemen:

"I am the pastor of the Seabrook Christian Church in South Jersey. We have 200 Japanese families here who work in one of the nation's largest food factories. The church is Japanese speaking.

"We are interested in placing copies of the Japanese Bible in every home in the village. Would you be able to supply us with 100 copies of them? I, as the pastor, plan to organize Bible classes immediately after the distribution and invite class members to regular services in the church.

"We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon your work. When I was in Kofu, Japan a Christian Reformed missionary obtained copies of the New Testament for distribution through your organization. Ever since then, I have had a high regard for your work.

"Sincerely yours,

"Cornelius K. Iida"

The total Testament distribution in Japan has reached 233,444. The publication "God Speaks" in Japanese originally reported in our 1959 synodical report has been so favorably accepted that the third 10,000 edition has now been printed and a total of 23,000 "God Speaks" have gone out to the various prefectures of Japan. In Japan the local business men have begun to organize Sower Groups in the areas of Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka. These are meetings held for prayer and for discussing ways and means of sowing the Word. Christian Reformed missionaries continue to have a large interest in the work and Rev. Maas Vanderbilt is showing leadership in his association with the league as a member of its advisory council.

**Chinese:** Recently it came to the attention of the league that a Chinese copy of "God speaks" would be very valuable and upon the encouragement of our Foreign Mission secretary, arrangements were made with the Reformed Translators Fellowship to complete the translation and printing of the popular Scripture pamphlet in the Chinese language. The actual printing was completed in Hong Kong late in 1959 and already shipments of this have been sent to missionaries in the Republic of China, Philippine Island, Indonesia and Kowloon. The Chinese "God Speaks" will also be available for distribution in Indonesia and in Chinese-speaking mission areas here in the United States.

**Canada:** A complete reorganization of the Canadian work took place late in 1959. The work is now under direct supervision of Mr. John Vanderboom, Christian Reformed elder of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It is indeed encouraging to observe the ever increasing desire of our Canadian churches to reach their unchurched neighbors. Many of our Canadian churches are or have conducted canvasses. The league has been made aware of this through the increased requests for Scriptures and information for canvasses.

**Latin America:** Distribution of Scriptures in Mexico, Cuba and the Caribbean Islands continues to receive God's richest blessings. The work of Bible distribution in Cuba enjoys a freedom hitherto unknown. Scriptures are being furnished to missionaries throughout Central and South America. Rev. Angus MacLeod, our missionary, has recently agreed to replace Rev. Juan Boonstra as director of the work in Argentina. The response to the gospel in Latin America is phenomenal and has given the Roman Catholic Church much concern. Every possible avenue of contact should be utilized since future opposition seems evident. In the past year, 129,000 Spanish Scriptures were distributed in the Latin American countries. Demand still far exceeds the supply.

**Migrant Work:** Last season saw an increase in the distribution of Scriptures among Spanish-speaking migrant workers. This was due we feel in a large measure to the very ambitious program of Rev. Jerry Pott. Long before the season began a conference was held with Rev. Pott and an adequate supply of Scriptures were placed at his disposal. These were introduced to each church interested in migrant work. It is interesting to note that geographically the Christian Reformed Church is well represented in this type of ministry. Spanish Testaments have been sent to Christian Reformed Churches in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, California, Lynden, Washington, and other areas.

God's blessing upon the Spanish work is very evident. Many of those who previously received Testaments and who enjoyed reading them have indicated to the Christian Reformed missionaries that they desire to have the entire Spanish Bible. With this in mind, the league began planning its own edition. The classes Holland and Zeeland had contributed approximately \$6,000 for plates for the Old and New Testaments in Spanish. The Spanish Bible will be available for distribution not only in the States but also for missionaries laboring in the Latin American countries. The league is investing \$19,000 in addition and allocating a total of \$25,000 for this new project which is expected to be ready and used during the migrant season of 1960. Although a costly venture for the present, it will save thousands of dollars in the future.

The *Dios Habla*, or "God Speaks," in the Spanish language, is now being printed in Mexico, Cuba, Spain, and the United States of America. The popularity of this book, especially among Roman Catholics, is amazing. One missionary pointed out that it is an excellent point of contact in introducing the Protestant faith.

Due to increased demand for Scriptures, the World Home Bible League has adopted a record budget, increasing it to \$275,000. The increased literacy rate, exploding population, and numerous reports of fruit upon the labors have constrained the board to make this decision and trust the Lord for the increase. They are lengthening the ropes and placing the stakes farther out in accepting challenges for the formation of a mid-east affiliate to reach the Arabs and a Portuguese and Spanish affiliate to reach these areas. They also plan to increase distribution in Canada and a score of other countries now served by the league.

The World Home Bible League Board wishes to convey sincere thanks to members of our denomination for their interest, encouragement,



prayers and gifts. It is their desire to be a willing servant of the Church of Jesus Christ. Scriptures will be furnished upon request to all our churches, missionaries and pastors.

Your liaison requests that the Synod of 1960 recommend that our churches support the World Home Bible League with their prayers and gifts.

Humbly submitted,

Chester M. Schemper

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 9

(Articles 103, 109, 167, 172)

## COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Your Committee on Education hereby presents its report to the Synod on the creation of a Department of Education and the appointment of a Secretary of Education.

## I. THE SYNOD OF 1959 AND THE MANDATE

1. *Background:* The Committee on Education recommended to the Synod of 1959 that it "initiate and establish a Department of Religious Education, whose function it shall be to carry on a denominational program of religious education, and to provide religious educational service to the churches of the Christian Reformed denomination. This department and its work is to be under the supervision of a Committee of Religious Education, appointed by and responsible to Synod, and shall be directed by a full-time Secretary of Education, assisted by such a staff as the program may require" (Acts, 1959, p. 382).

The Advisory Committee on Educational Matters (II) advised that Synod reject the above and proposed instead the appointment of "a permanent committee to provide Catechetical materials . . ." (Acts, 1959, p. 30).

Thereupon the Synod referred the reports of both "the Advisory Committee . . . and the Study Committee on Education to the churches for further study, in order that these may express their reactions to the Committee on Education which is to report to the Synod of 1960."

2. *Action:* To this particular mandate your committee has addressed itself completely the past year. The committee judged that the mailing of questionnaires to all our churches would be the most effective way of eliciting congregational response. In this we were not disappointed. 364 churches filled out the questionnaires and returned them to us. Many hours were given to the careful reading of all the returns, so that we could have as complete a picture as possible.

Now this report gives the studied opinion of your Committee on Education, an opinion formed by facing all facets of this problem for the past three years, and an opinion confirmed by responses from a large majority of our churches.

## II. HISTORY

At the risk of being repetitious, we would again impress on the Synod the fact that the problems in education are not of recent date. The church has again and again lamented its educational inadequacies, created committees to address themselves to the situation, and then often failed to follow up significant recommendations.

Already in 1910 the church reflected on the relation between catechism and Sunday school. Fifty years have gone by, during which several com-

mittees have studied and presented recommendations to synods concerning some aspects of the educational program. Three major committees have served: one from 1926 to 1936, after which its proposals were rejected and the committee dismissed; the second serving from 1936 to 1943, discharged after its revision of the Compendium was approved; and your present committee, which has served since 1946.

More recently, synods have seemed to look with favor upon the creation of a department of education. The Synod of 1954, when it instructed your committee to study the matter of appointing a secretary of education, observed that "it would appear that a secretary of education might be needed to serve in an over-all editorial and administrative capacity, and to assist in furnishing leadership in the church's educational task." The Synod of 1957, when it advised your committee to consider the matter again, stated that "there is reason to believe that such a secretary is highly desirable if our educational program is to be pursued most effectively."

Thus the proposal made to the Synod of 1959 and the proposal made this year is neither something new, nor something about which the church has been silent. Your committee has pursued its work under the encouragement of the synods of the past, which synods have sensed the importance of decisive action if our educational program is to play a vital and meaningful role in the church's life.

### III. AN ANALYSIS OF OUR PROBLEM

The problems that we face in the area of education in the church are not of recent date. But the growth of our denomination and recent pedagogical insights have certainly put the problem into sharper focus. Yet from the beginning committees of the church have pointed to weaknesses and given advice. The following areas have been suggested in the past as fruitful for study and action:

1. Research into and study of the educational situation obtaining in our churches, and the educational program of other denominations. Thus we could assess our own weaknesses and strength, and learn from others.
2. Development of a curriculum suited to the needs of our pupils, based on sound pedagogical judgment, providing all our churches with a basically uniform program of religious education.
3. Preparation and publication of attractive and effective textbooks, classroom aids, and other educational materials.
4. A service agency within the church to which congregations might go for information, advice, and assistance in local educational programs.
5. An integrated and/or correlated educational program, so that such agencies as catechism, Sunday school, Christian school might function in a united and coöperative endeavor.
6. A permanent, standing organization within the church, to work continuously and consistently at the educational task of the church, and to be constantly available for service to the churches.

The above excellent advice has not been accompanied by similar action. Little study has been made of our denominational program and even less of the work of others. The curriculum approved by the Synod of 1954 has

not been made operative, and is at this time eliciting some searching questions and severe criticisms. Little has been offered in the way of textbooks, and nothing in the way of classroom aids. There is no service agency serving local churches or denominational boards and committees. There is still serious overlapping of church, Sunday school, and Christian school, and no significant communication between these respective bodies is observable. This is the record. It is a far cry from the beautiful resolutions on the books.

As we observed last year, no small part of our problem is due to the fact we have no fixed focus of responsibility. Work has been spasmodic, occasional. Initiative for educational work has arisen out of classical overtures. Committees are appointed, mandated, discharged. One synod looks with favor on an educational project that a following synod rejects. No one body has continuing fixed responsibility for education in the church. As long as the educational program depends on such varying factors as classical overtures, synodical mandates, committees of changing personnel, we shall never have a growing and prospering educational service in the church.

The Advisory Committee, in recommending to Synod last year the appointment of a permanent committee to provide catechetical materials, failed to appreciate the totality of our educational program. In fact, it is disturbing to us that this recommendation continues the very spasmodic, occasional activity which has characterized our efforts from the beginning. If this had been adopted, it would have meant the church once again had entered an entirely new field at the initiation of an advisory committee which of necessity could not in a few hours give serious consideration even to the catechism program. Certainly it is time that we discontinue carrying on our educational program by spur-of-the-moment decisions, taken without careful study of the total situation. Granted that the production of effective materials for catechism is important, this is only part of the problem. And a committee to meet only this need will again provide but a half-way measure. The church has many other concerns which should engage our attention now, and not be postponed until a future date. The Advisory Committee's recommendation fails to establish a permanent organization which should work continuously at the *total* educational task of the church. And it also has the fatal weakness of failing to make provision for integration and correlation of catechism, Sunday school, Christian school. As long as we continue a fragmented, partial, piecemeal program our efforts will fail. It is time that we unite our educational agencies, and launch a correlated, unified program of religious education for our denomination.

#### IV. RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

##### *A. General opinions and trends as indicated in the questionnaire:*

Your committee felt that the best way to determine the thinking of the church was to seek the reactions of those engaged in the educational program. The questionnaires which were sent out were answered by ministers, consistories, and Sunday school superintendents. While it would be unwise to be too dogmatic in the interpretation of the results, certainly

broad lines of thought and judgment are indicated. To a few of these we would call your attention.

1. Perhaps the most significant question was the following: "Do you think it would be to our advantage as a denomination to have a department of religious education whose business it would be to make available good Reformed materials and to promote uniformity in our catechism program?" The results were as follows:

222 Yes	14 Undecided	8 No answer
99 No	16 Qualified Yes	

It certainly should be of concern to Synod that over two-thirds of our congregations, actively engaged in the educational work, judge that conditions are such that a department of education would be a distinct step forward. What your Committee of Education has judged on the basis of two years of study of our program and that of other denominations, has been confirmed by an overwhelming majority of the churches of our denomination.

2. Appended to the above answers were various reasons adduced for desiring a change, and reflections were made on the present program. These remarks involved not only catechism work but Sunday school as well. Without trying to define all of this statistically, we give some quotations to indicate general sentiments:

a. Catechism: "Wooden English . . . stilted; archaic . . . concepts explained in language of a dogmatician . . . nothing eye-catching . . . not relevant to life . . . exercises sometimes insult even the intelligence of the poorest student. It is high time that the church brings its materials and methods up to modern standards, so that our youth receive a uniform, systematic training . . . we need more of *This Means You* in the lessons . . . the books, being the effort of individuals over a period of years, of necessity lack correlation."

b. Sunday school: "Materials are over the heads of the little children . . . would take a genius to teach the lesson of November 29, 1959 to children below 12 . . . materials often beyond the understanding of the mission children . . . papers lack simplicity . . . lessons lack continuity . . . we need work materials for primary class." (In this connection it is worthy of more than passing note that 135 felt that graded lessons would be superior to our present uniform lesson plan, and this was often accompanied by remarks that the same lesson could hardly be adaptable to every age group.)

3. Our survey also showed that about 75 books were now in use in catechism classes. Divided over the class levels, the questionnaire showed

Bible History	26 books
Basic Doctrine (Elementary, Compendium)	9 books
Advanced Doctrine	28 books
Miscellaneous	12 books

Certainly this leaves something to be desired. What board of education would think of permitting such a "bedlam of books" to continue in its school system? It is obvious that we have no standards as to exactly what constitutes a good book, or what we expect of pupils at certain age groups.

A review of these books and their use leads one to judge this is "educational confusion compounded." Small wonder that a vacant church writes, "Give us guidance," and a minister observes, "Let's get together and decide what we want and how we can best attain it."

4. The following three questions, with their answers, are also revealing:

a. Have you found that there is overlapping or duplication between catechism and Sunday school? Yes - 88. No - 216. Qualified - 44. Other - 10.

b. Have you found that there is overlapping or duplication between catechism and Christian day schools? Yes - 118. No - 115. Qualified - 54. No Christian school - 59.

c. Do you think more effective correlation between these three agencies is desirable? Yes - 199. No - 47. Qualified - 64. Other - 40.

Again one can observe a general denomination feeling that some correlation and integration of educational efforts is necessary. But under the present situation no one is responsible for facing this problem, which disturbs over 100 of our churches and leads 199 to express themselves in favor of more effective correlation.

5. The survey showed that 186 of the responding churches conducted a Daily Vacation Bible School, while 150 had none and 25 did not answer this question. About half of those responding found "the availability of good DVBS materials a problem," and not a few had changed repeatedly from year to year. But more significant yet is the fact that 147 responded that they could be assisted here by a department of education. When one considers that almost all the 147 who desired assistance were of the 186 that had a DVBS, one senses the great opportunity for work in this field.

#### *B. Objections registered in the questionnaire:*

The most general objection to the proposed department of education was the dislike or fear of uniformity. Closely associated with this was the fear of centralization, which fear was also voiced at the Synod of 1959. To these matters your committee would address itself for a moment.

1. The fear of uniformity was expressed in some of the returns. Your committee is sympathetic to many of the sentiments voiced, and regrets that one of its most important questions was so phrased that it led to some misunderstanding on this score. We refer to the question: "Do you think it would be to our advantage as a denomination to have a department of religious education whose business it would be to make available good Reformed materials and to promote uniformity in our catechism program?" That latter element of "promoting uniformity" proved a difficulty to many.

Yet we trust it to be self-evident that uniformity to some extent is desirable. Preaching on the Heidelberg Catechism is such a uniform educational approach. But a uniform system of education does not press every teacher into a common mold, and destroy all individuality. Nor does a uniform curriculum and text hinder the distinctiveness of the individual teacher. Right now over 150 churches are using the three books published by the Committee on Education, but certainly this does not mean that

the individuality of the teachers is lost, or initiative destroyed. By "promoting uniformity in our catechism program" we mean there should be some pattern throughout all our churches, so that our youth from California to Nova Scotia and from Alaska to Miami are receiving the same basic teaching in a well integrated, progressively developing educational program. Such a department could provide the outlines of that program.

Nor does uniformity involve a refusal to recognize the peculiar needs of individual congregations. For example, a small church where two or three grades are combined in one class will have a far different need than a large church where every grade constitutes a separate class. And a church in a special mission area, ministering primarily to inquirers, will have a need different from an established church in a concentrated church area. Any department of education will have to face up to these problems, and over a period of time provide books and materials for different situations. The point is that today *no one* is responsible for this, and chaos continues. Uniformity does not mean the ignoring of peculiar needs, and a department of education could in fact begin to reckon with some of these problems now completely ignored.

On the other side of this picture is the fact that nothing was more urged by those in favor of a department of education than that we have some uniformity in curriculum, texts, materials, goals. If we as a church are going to maintain some cohesion and unity, this is one place where it is most important. Within 10 years we'll number over 700 churches. Every year that we add more books we increase the confusion. It is high time that we seek some common educational policy and program, so that we know as a denomination just where we're going and how we're going to get there.

2. The fear of centralization is also voiced in a few returns, and was expressed at the Synod of 1959. But certainly we should define just what our fear is. If by centralization we imply forcing upon the churches publications which they do not want, such a fear is groundless. Obviously every consistory has the right to use the materials it sees fit, and no duress can force them to do otherwise. If the publications of such a Department of Education are not good enough to commend themselves to the use of the churches, no one can command their use.

It must be kept clearly in mind that what is proposed is not, as sometimes suggested, a central power that will ride rough-shod over denominational agencies and activities. The department of education is a *service agency of the church*, subject to the scrutiny of the church, whose activities must be approved by the synod of the church. While the department is expected to study the whole area of education, only synodically approved activities can be engaged in the coming years. This is not an autonomous committee with rights to invade the spheres of other committees and organizations of the church. It stands there to serve them, subject in its work to the approval of the church it seeks to serve.

If, however, we mean by centralization a body whose responsibility it shall be to study, plan, and produce effective materials for the church's great work of education, who can rightly fear such a body? This is the very thing that over  $\frac{2}{3}$  of our churches are asking for, simply because

there is such a deeply felt need of materials that are Reformed, pedagogically sound, attractively published.

Already in 1954 the Committee of Education put this whole matter in its proper light when it observed: "It is not unfair to say that, at present, the church's educational task lacks adequate leadership. The leadership it has is fragmentary, inefficiently organized, and without sufficient time. Comparatively, the church's missions, both home and foreign, enjoy far more effective leadership, concentrated in each case on one board or committee, and with full-time personnel. Similarly for our radio witness there is a centralized administration, a sizeable budget, and a competent staff. Is it too much to expect that the church provide similarly for the leadership of its education? This is especially urgent for a church which justly prides itself on a heritage of educational concern, and holds that its education is, in a large way, the source of its strength and one of its most valuable contributions to Christianity at large."

#### V. THE NEED FOR A DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The results of the survey have confirmed the judgment of your Committee on Education that there is not only a need to establish a department of education, but a strong feeling in the churches that now is the time. The picture presented of our educational program and our educational weaknesses indicates the importance of responsible action now. In a few summarizing observations we would indicate this need:

1. Leadership in our total educational program is highly necessary. We must have some standing organization, with responsible personnel, whose task it shall be to address itself continuously, in full time work, to the educational task of the church. We do it for missions, for radio work, for a college and seminary. Certainly we owe it to the 50,000 youth of our churches.

2. The complete confusion that exists at present in our catechism program cries out for remedial action. There is no studied approach to this program, no clear definition of goals, and a hodge-podge of educational materials. One minister or one consistory revives the complete curriculum and materials of the predecessor, so that pupils, parents, and educators despair of ever getting a settled, pedagogically sound educational program.

3. There is a lack of correlation and integration among the educational agencies of church and school. This was evident to your committee when it studied such materials in previous years, and it was confirmed by the replies to the questionnaires. 199 churches felt that a more effective correlation between church, Sunday school, and Christian school was desirable. Only 47 felt no need of this; 64 answered with a qualified Yes. But this will never be done unless we put our whole educational program under a department of education that seriously evaluates the total picture and over a period of time defines with clarity the aims, methods, and coverage of the respective educational agencies.

4. There is a need for some agency to assist the churches in their educational program. Newly organized congregations in the States and Canada told your committee they would welcome assistance in planning



a program and seeking the most effective way of executing it. At present there is no place to go for such help in establishing an integrated program for the local church.

5. If we are to maintain and promote a loyalty to the Reformed faith, it is important that we provide the materials whereby this faith is propagated. Your committee is concerned over the fact that not a few of our churches, unable to find satisfactory educational materials in our denomination, draw from circles which are un-Reformed. And the very diversity of catechetical materials contains no less a warning, for it is much easier for strange emphases and un-Reformed lines of thought to be promoted in individual publications than in a uniform set of books subject to the examination and use of the denomination as a whole.

6. Many of the churches that replied bore out what was the mind of your committee last year, when it envisioned wider areas of service that could be explored by a department of education. A few of these areas mentioned by the churches were: Preparation and publication of textbooks and study aids for catechism; promotion of the work of the Sunday school within the churches of the denomination, and preparation of Sunday school materials and aids; preparation of supplementary materials to be used in the church's educational program, such as: preparation of teachers' manuals and teacher-guidance books; preparation of missionary, church history supplements; preparation of materials for Daily Vacation Bible School; preparation of materials requested by denominational agencies; preparation of audio-visual aids for church educational work; assisting churches in organization of local programs; holding of area workshops; providing more advanced educational materials for church organization.

It is on the basis of the above that the Committee on Education proposes:

That Synod initiate and establish a Department of Education, which shall function as the educational service agency of the Christian Reformed Church. This department and its work, is to be under the supervision of a Committee of Education, appointed by and responsible to Synod, and shall be directed by a full-time Secretary of Education.

This is essentially the same proposal brought to Synod last year. We are happy to know that over two-thirds of our congregations feel the importance of doing that which we now recommend. To implement the above proposal we come with the following:

## VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

A. That Synod appoint a Committee of Education, responsible to and reporting regularly to Synod, composed of nine persons who are appointed out of consideration for their competence, interest, and experience, and not with primary regard to geographical distribution. Initially three are to be appointed for a three year period, three for a two year period, and three for a one year period; so that membership rotation within the committee may conform to existing synodical rules. In order to prove for necessary continuity with the work already done, or in progress,

two members of the present Committee on Education and two members of the Sunday School Committee, be included in the membership of the new committee.

(Note: The Committee on Education is prepared to submit names for membership on this new committee. The Sunday school should be prepared to submit names for the two members of that committee who are to serve on the new Committee of Education).

B. That the present Sunday school program be incorporated in the work of this Department of Education, and that the Sunday School Committee function as a sub-committee of the Committee of Education, and that the personnel of the Sunday School Committee and the program on which it is working shall continue through such transition as may be determined by the Committee of Education, as approved by Synod.

*Grounds:*

1. This insures that the present work of the Sunday School Committee shall suffer no loss of momentum through the reorganization of the total program.

2. The time to establish a unified educational program is *now*. To begin with anything less, or to leave out a most significant educational agency at the time of organization, would be to defeat in large measure the very ends for which a department should be established.

C. That the following specific assignments be given the Committee of Education at this time:

1. To carry on the work of preparing effective catechism materials.

2. To prepare plans for the organization and procedures of a Department of Education, said organizational and procedural rules to be submitted for synodical approval.

3. To search out and, if desirable, solicit possible candidates for the position of Secretary of Education, interview them, and recommend the person(s) best qualified to the Synod of 1961 for appointment as secretary.

*Ground:* This method is desirable and necessary because of the specialized character of the work envisioned and the particular qualities and aptitudes that such a person should possess.

D. That, in addition to funds remaining in the present Committee on Education, a sum of \$2,000 be made available to the new committee to cover expenses that may be incurred in the next year. The new committee shall present its budget to the Synod of 1961.

E. That the present Committee on Education be hereby dismissed.

F. That Rev. B. E. Pekelder be given the privilege of the floor as reporter of the Committee on Education.

Respectfully submitted, the Committee on Education,

Bernard Pekelder, *President*  
George Stob, *Vice-president*  
John E. Meeter, *Secretary*

Sidney Van Til, *Treasurer*  
Gerrit Dykstra  
Milo Okkema

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 10

(Articles 148, 172)

## BACK TO GOD TRACT COMMITTEE

To the Synod of 1960

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Back to God Tract Committee is pleased to present its annual report.

## I. PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION:

a. *Personnel* — Rev. G. Rozenboom, President; Rev. L. Dykstra, Vice-president; Rev. J. C. Ribbens, Secretary; Mr. C. Dykhouse, Treasurer; Mr. Jack Brouwer; Mr. Henry Hoekstra; Rev. G. Postma, Rev. J. C. Rickers; Mr. P. J. Vander Meer; Rev. F. W. Van Houten.

b. *Administration* — The committee works by means of sub-committees, and meets once each month in the discharge of its task. The scene of our labors is the denominational building. A room specifically assigned to us also serves as office space for sending out tract orders. Invaluable service has been rendered us by the Christian Reformed Publishing House, which prints and distributes our tracts. Mr. P. Meeuwsen performs a noble service by reporting to us at each meeting the record of sales and inventory of tracts. For this service we desire to express our grateful appreciation.

## II. ACTIVITIES

a. During the past year the committee has processed some 21 new tracts for distribution. In addition we have been engaged in overhauling some of the old tracts, updating them, providing subheads, and giving them new covers. A few old tracts have been discontinued because they failed to move.

b. This year again has witnessed an increase in the total tract distribution to the amount of 995,513, an increase of 179,648 over last year. The sample one-dollar packets are popular. Not only our own people but many outside our denomination are learning about and using our tracts. Not a few letters of commendation were received by the committee this past year.

c. The new pocket tract holder, introduced by our committee last year and sent to all our ministers and lay mission workers and on sale at the Publishing House, continues in its popularity. Tract holders for churches and business establishments are also available at our Publishing office.

d. We have begun quarterly mailing of new tracts to all our ministers and lay missionaries. Displays of our tracts appeared at the Mission Workers' Conference, Men's Federation Convention, and the Young Calvinist Federation Convention.

## III. FINANCES:

a. The treasurer's report for the year 1959 is attached to this report.

b. Since we are not a profit organization and actually publish our tracts at a loss, we are grateful for the financial support of our churches.

## IV. MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE SYNODICAL ACTION:

a. The committee requests Synod to again recommend this cause to our churches for one or more offerings.

b. Due to the moving of the Revs. R. Bronkema and H. Teitsma, the committee asked the Revs. G. Postma and J. C. Ribbens to serve in their place. We request Synod's approval on these appointments.

## c. Elections

- |                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Mr. H. Hoekstra*    | Mr. Albert Bytwork  |
| 2. Rev. J. C. Ribbens* | Rev. Henry Visscher |
| 3. Rev. J. Rickers*    | Rev. Donald Negen   |

\*Now serving

Respectfully submitted,

G. J. Rozenboom, *President*

J. C. Ribbens, *Secretary*

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

January 1, 1959 to December 31, 1959

January 1, 1959, Balance in Old Kent Bank and Trust Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan .....	\$ 6,988.81
Receipts for period:	
Church and individual contributions .....	\$10,667.87
Sale of Tracts .....	7,068.60
Total Receipts .....	17,736.47
	\$24,725.28
Disbursements for period:	
Printing of Tracts .....	\$11,966.19
Advertising .....	973.72
Art Work .....	698.52
Travel Expenses .....	255.02
Postage and Supplies .....	680.14
Writing Tracts .....	240.00
Auditing Fees .....	25.00
Treasurer's Bond Premium .....	25.00
Office Rent .....	252.73
Miscellaneous .....	187.43
Total Disbursements .....	15,303.75
December 31, 1959, Balance in Old Kent Bank and Trust Co., Grand Rapids Michigan .....	\$ 9,421.53

## To Whom It May Concern:

I have audited the books of the Treasurer of the *Back to God Tract Committee*, Mr. Clarence A. Dykhouse, for the period from January 1, 1959 to December 31, 1959 and prepared the above statement of *Receipts and Disbursement*.

The balance as shown agrees with that shown on the reconciled Bank Statement for December 31, 1959.

Peter M. Piersma,  
Certified Public Accountant

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 11

(Articles 84, 148, 172)

REPORT OF STUDY COMMITTEE ON  
KOREAN MATERIAL RELIEF

## I

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

A. *Materials:*

1. Acts of Synod 1959, Article 116, pp. 47-48.
2. Reports of Rev. R. J. Sutton, Missionary to Japan.
3. Letter from Rev. Harvey J. Smit, Missionary to Japan.
4. Letter from Rev. Dwight R. Malsbury, Missionary in Korea (Bible Presbyterian).
5. Letter from Rev. Hunt, Missionary in Korea (O.P.C.).

B. *Information:*

1. The Synod of 1959 appointed this study committee to work in conjunction with the Grand Rapids Deaconate and to report to the Synod of 1960 concerning the entire matter of Korean Material Relief.

2. The Grand Rapids Deaconate has been Synod's channel for the administration of Korean Material Relief since 1953 and has annually rendered reports to Synod.

At the Synod of 1959 the ministerial adviser of the Deaconate, Rev. J. Hasper, submitted a supplementary report which called attention to the problems of administering this relief and asked for a thorough investigation and reconsideration of our program.

This your committee has sought to do with all the materials at hand and wishes to share with you a brief historical background of the work, need and challenge in Korea.

C. *Historical Background:*

1. *Orphanages.* A good part of our Korean material relief is shared with 19 orphanages where 1,900 children are housed and cared for ranging in ages from babies in arms to 19-year-old youth.

This orphanage work is highly spoken of by our own men who have investigated the need personally as well by the missionaries of other churches.

E.g. Rev. Sutton writes: "Most of the orphanages are very careful for the spiritual needs of the children. All have a chapel and many have a minister come in for the Sunday service, while others attend the nearby Korean Church. All have Bible study and prayer groups and seek to bring the children to an early confession of Christ."

Rev. Harvey Smit writes: "It is my personal opinion that we should work in the direction of making the best orphanages self-supporting and slowly withdraw from the worst ones. This would require a higher initial outlay of funds and the supervision of one of our men on the field, to plan and discover ways by which the orphanages can be started in some

small businesses or gain connections which will make them stable, independent organizations. This can be done but it would require an able man supervising it."

2. *Hospitals*: Christian medical care also receives a share of our gifts and is being channeled to the "Gospel Hospital" which was originally built through Korean Material Relief Funds. Our funds paid for the labor and the equipment while AFAK (Armed Forces Aid to Korea) donated the materials for the construction of the buildings.

Rev. Sutton writes: "Most of the good things done by the hospital is in the realm of in-patients. . . . The place is clean and well cared for and a real testimony to the relief work of our denomination. . . . At the Gospel Hospital there is a lack of good administration because everyone from the truck driver, the charwoman to the doctor all have a say concerning the running of the hospital."

Rev. Bruce Hunt writes: "As the hospitals go in this country, I feel it [our Gospel Hospital] is a real credit to the name of Christ in the way it is run. . . . With the present equipment they are able to care for 50 patients in a '30-bed' hospital. . . . All patients that the hospital can afford to treat and considers worthy of their efforts are taken. The hospital is naturally limited by finances but takes non-Christians as well as Christians. . . . I think regular help on their regular expenses to help their charity work would be a good thing."

3. *Medical Team*: Another part of our fund supports a *Medical Team* composed of a doctor, a nurse, a lab technician, a pharmacist and a chauffeur from the Gospel Hospital staff. Both Revs. Sutton and Hunt write us that originally they went out once a week and then once a month but now "it is completely grounded because of the condition of the car. Just after the typhoon this fall they made daily trips to one of the worst stricken areas in the city of Pusan." Rev. Hunt also writes: "I consider it a very worthwhile work, bringing relief from pain and expressing the love of Christ to the 'brethren' and to those who are 'without.' It is a very needy work that most people and institutions, for lack of funds and the hardships involved and the discouraging amount of it to be done, avoid . . . The whole staff is definitely Christian and they witness to those who are not Christians, and distribute tracts."

4. *Clothing, Milk, Drugs*: Our relief work to Korea is not only given in money but also in kind. Medicines, drugs, milk, clothing is also being sent. These all are much appreciated and badly needed. While it is true that some of these articles such as milk and clothing find their way to the public market most of it is used properly.

Rev. Bruce Hunt's explanation helps to clear up the matter. He writes: "Clothing is still very much appreciated. It is true that some of it gets into the market (I don't think it necessarily should be called 'Black-market'). It depends on how it gets to the market. Sometimes a very needy person is given a lovely suit or coat which would be out of place for him to wear in his station of society as he or others look at it. He therefore sells it and gets cheaper clothes or food. It is when clothing given is stolen and sold or misappropriated and used for other purposes than

giving to the poor that we object. It is difficult to judge fairly the ethics in all cases. The clothing is very much needed this year, after the typhoon. There is much hardship and thieving is on the increase because of it. I think gathering and shipping is more likely to reach the really needy rather than sending money to buy clothes."

#### 5. *Need of More Careful Supervision of Our Korean Work*

In view of all the above data and in the light of all the money our church has contributed for Korean Material Relief it seems advisable that our distribution of the Lord's money be given more careful supervision. Throughout the years our church has contributed to Korean needs the amount of \$138,825.88. It seems to us that such large expenditures call for more personal supervision than we now give it.

The reports of those who are acquainted with the Korean need advise personal supervision. Rev. Sutton feels that our administrator in Korea should be a missionary as the amount of relief work would not be full time. He writes: "If our church can or will send a full-time missionary to Korea, then there will be no need for a missionary from Japan. We will need no dependence upon Mr. Malsbury [who now distributes our monies and goods for our deacons], or others outside our denomination to administer the work. Perhaps some agreement could be made by both the Korean Relief Committee to help the Board of Foreign Missions in partial support of a full-time missionary."

Rev. Bruce Hunt writes: "Personally I'm more in favor of at least two from your church coming as general evangelistic missionaries to work with the Korean Church in all phases of its work, giving their lives for the gospel first. Relief should express the gospel. To have a man here just for relief and no other, it seems to me would be emphasizing the cart before the horse."

Rev. Harvey Smit confirms this when he writes: "I am wholly in favor of an able man being sent to Korea. With competent assistance from some Korean Christian (who would be able to act freely as assistant since he would not be responsible for decisions) he should be able to begin work almost immediately."

In the light of all this information and historical background your committee would make the following recommendations:

#### D. *Recommendations:*

1. That the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference be instructed to continue material relief, in monies and goods, to Korea.

#### *Grounds:*

- a. This is the consensus of opinion of those who have personally investigated the need in Korea. The reports of Revs. Sutton, Smit, Hunt and Malsbury all point up the continuing poverty.

- b. The need for medical vans and teams and relief throughout the villages of Korea is unquestioned. The medical wants of the many far removed from hospital centers, or unable to transport themselves to such centers, cries for this outreach of mercy.

- c. The Korean government, during the 1959 typhoon, was only able to meet the desperate need for food to the extent of one portion of one

day's rice for each needy family. This points up very clearly that without the help of others the Koreans face certain starvation.

d. In the light of this continuing need and poverty we hear Scripture's mandate to Christ's Church "so then as we have opportunity let us do good to all men, and especially to those who are of the household of faith" (Galatians 5:10). It is just this that the Deacons' Conference has been doing since it began its work of mercy in Korea. Down to the present moment the Christian church in Korea is only able to assist their members in a very limited way.

2. We recommend further that we adopt the following program to make our Korean material relief work more effective.

a. That we work in the direction of helping the 19 orphanages we are now supporting to become financially self-supporting.

*Grounds:*

(1) It is advisable to help consolidate the work of orphanages as much as possible by merging the smaller and poorer orphanages into the larger and better institutions.

(2) This localizing of our work would make for more efficiency and for less waste.

b. That we seek to establish closer supervision of and that we increase our financial aid to the Gospel Hospital in Pusan which our church originally helped to build and equip.

*Grounds:*

(1) Hospital work is constantly hampered by lack of finance.

(2) They desperately need new equipment.

(3) The financial support which the Korean Spiritual Relief once gave has now stopped by synodical mandate.

(4) The medical van, which was originally purchased by the Spiritual Relief Committee, is now worn out and needs to be replaced.

c. That we more clearly define our relationship to the Korean native church for the giving and channeling of our funds.

d. That we send a full-time worker to supervise and administer the relief work in Korea.

*Grounds:*

(1) This would make our work far more effective by enabling us to spend our many thousands of dollars in the most helpful manner.

(2) It would enable our church periodicals to carry first hand information on the work and its need so that many of our church members, who now send their gifts through other agencies, would again channel them through our deacons.

## II

### A. *Materials:*

1. Banner Editorial of January 8, 1960, p. 5.

2. Synodical Report of Deacons' Conference 1959, Agenda Report No. 8, 8-A.

3. Consultation with Foreign Board of Missions.

4. Letter of Rev. H. Bruinooge to Dr. R. J. Danhof of October 14, 1959.



### *B. History and Analysis:*

The need for a World-Wide Service Committee of Christian Reformed Deacons' Conference to meet disaster emergencies immediately and to alleviate the daily, gnawing need that feeds upon half of the world's population is increasingly felt by more and more of our Christian Reformed members.

The Editor of *The Banner* writes:

"There are reasons to believe that our people are not unconcerned about the disturbing facts that while we ride in good automobiles, others do not even have a pair of shoes to walk in; that while we must constantly be on our guard lest we overeat, millions are going to bed hungry every night; and that while we live in homes with modern conveniences, in other lands orphans are roaming the streets, homeless, left to shift for themselves.

"Of the 2,850,000,000 population of the world, only about 1,250,000,000 are getting what they need to eat, including more than half of the 90,000,000 babies born in the past year. One out of every four persons in India is homeless and must live either on the street or in the fields.

"Correspondence from our readers reveals a growing unrest about these desperate needs as well as a desire to have a broader denominational program to carry on relief work. Our concern for doctrinal purity, which makes us loath to affiliate with inter-denominational relief agencies, should challenge us now to get into high gear with a diligent ministry of mercy of our own.

"Rev. Jacob Hasper, chairman of 1959 Synod's committee on relief work, reports that the committee is addressing itself very seriously to this matter and that proposals are forthcoming for greater action to meet the distressing needs of which, before God, we must become increasingly aware. No doubt, many will be looking forward to this with eager interest" (*The Banner*, January 8, 1960, p. 5).

Rev. Henry Bruinooge, missionary to Japan, and secretary of the Japan General Conference writes:

"I might add that all of us felt that it would be highly desirable if our church at home had established some kind of central relief agency long ago. In recent years there have been several disasters such as this in Japan (the flood in the Netherlands, the Holland Marsh flood, the Korean War, the Hudsonville tornado disaster) which could have been handled by a Christian Reformed Church relief agency if such had been in existence."

Our Foreign Mission Board also feels the need of such an organization to assist them in meeting the relief need of our mission fields. They have no fund to meet the cost of medical care and medicines for indigent Christians. Frequently the appeal of our missionaries to the Board for funds to meet emergency need must go unheeded.

Other denominations, such as the Seventh Day Adventist, have the necessary organization to meet emergencies, disasters and needs as they arise anywhere in the world. When we consider the many and varied needs which the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference has met in the last

decade a central committee of deacons representative of our denominational Deacons' Conference is justified. This will spread the work, blessing and responsibility to all sections of our church instead of placing it upon one conference of deacons.

In view of the broadening and enlarging scope of our deacons activities your committee humbly requests Synod.

1. To establish a World-Wide Service Committee of our denominational Deacons' Conferences to administer all of our works of mercy in such areas where the local congregation is unable to do so.

*Grounds:*

a. It would be more advantageous for one central committee to solicit funds than for several committees to do so.

b. Our Christian Reformed Church is increasingly being called upon to give a world-wide witness to its Christian expression of mercy. Such opportunities will increase where one-half of the world is hungry.

c. There is becoming evident a need to administer relief to the Christians whom our missionaries serve in other lands. Our Nigerian hospitals are looking for funds with which to pay for the care and medicines of its needy patients. The ever increasing complexity of our medical program on our mission fields warrants an analysis of what rightly falls under the supervision of the deacons and what belongs strictly to mission responsibility.

2. If Synod looks with favor upon our first suggestion then we humbly request further that Synod advise the establishment of local Deacons' Conferences throughout the United States and Canada so that the World-Wide Service Committee may be composed of deacons representing all sections of our denomination.

*Grounds:*

a. The witness of the ministry of mercy rightly belongs under the office of deacon.

b. These local conferences will help to enhance and elevate the work and office of deacons to their Scriptural place and prestige.

3. That Synod permit this committee's chairman or reporter to explain this report on the floor of Synod.

Humbly submitted,

Jacob Hasper, Chairman

John Schuring, Reporter

Gerrit Vander Plaats

Andrew De Vries

Maynard Vander Wal

Advisers of Grand Rapids Deacons'  
Conference

Frank Velzen,

President of Deacons' Conference

George De Ruiter,

Corresponding Sec'y of Deacons' Conference

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 12

(Article 148)

## CALVINISTIC ACTION COMMITTEE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Calvinistic Action Committee (CAC) has the pleasure of informing the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church that it, as Synod's agent, has received and sent the two thousand dollars pledged by Synod for the Calvin Memorial Auditorium Restoration in Geneva, Switzerland. We deem it a privilege to have been of service. A carbon copy of our letter to the World Presbyterian Alliance, Geneva, has been sent to the Stated Clerk of Synod.

The CAC takes this opportunity to inform Synod that this service rendered was a curtailment of its own urgent program. It was evident from the money received that consistories thought that the Calvin Memorial pledge of \$2,000 was our main concern. This was minor in comparison with the greater need today. Consequently we did not receive funds for our primary program to meet the needs of a financially limited avid reading public in the orient, to fulfil a missionary opportunity, to show faith in the principle of the coming indigenous church when foreigners will be barred, to dip our pen rather than sharpen our sword for the spread of Christian goodwill.

This is the challenge we face. France needs \$3,000 for new translations. Calvin translations both of the *Institutes* and of the *Commentaries* are incisive missionary weapons. Spain and Portugal, spiritually famished, are crying for help for the same reason. Visits to these countries by the International Association of Reformed Faith and Action (IARFA) have had promising results. The Ukrainians in Canada and the United States desire the help of \$1,000 to reprint a synopsis of Calvin's *Institutes* in Ukrainian. This small band, most of them poor victims of Communism, needs help. Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodox churches have laid plans already to control the church in Ukraine in a post Communism era. Younger churches are also applying for assistance.

The Reformed Ecumenical Synod has requested the IARFA to make it part of its program to study the question of "Creation and Evolution." Already the European societies have arranged to carry out this mandate and the CAC wishes to do so here in the United States. The 1961 International Conference has built its theme around the question: "Revelation and Inspiration."

Operational costs are mostly voluntary but we cannot eliminate all overhead. The CAC is planning if funds permit to send the *International Reformed Bulletin* gratis to reading rooms in key libraries. The *Newsletter* had to be discontinued for lack of funds.

We genuinely feel that this larger program is a far greater need than the very coveted restoration of an auditorium in honor of a servant of the Lord who would prefer the dissemination of truth to a building.

Therefore we beg Synod to favor our ecumenical cause by putting us on the accredited list as Synod did in 1959.

The CAC has also decided to inform Synod that 1961 marks the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Belgic Confession and 1963 the Four Hundredth Anniversary of the Heidelberg Catechism. Perhaps Synod may wish to take cognizance of these two events in some suitable and profitable manner. The two quadricentennials could become occasions for reorientation, for the promotion of the Reformed faith, for stimulus to more effective preaching and teaching. The German section of the IARFA has already made plans for a Heidelberg Catechism Quadricentennial.

We commend you to the Victorious Lord who has promised His guiding Holy Spirit.

Jacob I. Hoogstra, Chairman  
L. Oostendorp, Secretary  
Wm. H. Boer, Treasurer

#### ADDENDA

##### ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The "Calvinistic Action Committee" has officially changed its name to the "American Calvinistic Fellowship." May we ask Synod to take cognizance of this change.

In the judgment of the May 5, 1960, meeting it was felt that there should be a Heidelberg Memorial, as previously petitioned, but that Synod should be the controlling body to carry this out because of the prominent pulpit role the Heidelberg Catechism has played in our worship, and because this catechism has always been the pattern of our catechetical education in our church. In short, it is an ecclesiastical memorial primarily.

In planning an appropriate memorial we are of the opinion that Synod should appoint a special Memorial Committee; that the church press and other publications should be instructed to highlight this event; and that the proposed special Memorial Committee should consider the possibility of celebrating this anniversary with other Reformed groups especially those whose histories are also creedally intertwined with the Heidelberg Catechism.

Such a memorial may prove to be very rewarding today especially since our generation is cut off from the classical sources in the Dutch language, and the importance of Heidelberg direction in our Biblical preaching could be forgotten.

Fraternally yours,  
American Calvinistic Fellowship,  
Jacob T. Hoogstra, Sec'y

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 13

(Articles 22, 172)

## PSALTER HYMNAL COMMITTEE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The "Centennial Edition" of the *Psalter Hymnal* was presented formally to the 1959 Synod. Its main assignment completed, the committee was retained in the main to begin work on a new project—the *Handbook to the Psalter Hymnal* (see *Acts* 1959, page 40, XIII, B-2).

Three meetings were held in order to plan and to begin work on the *Handbook*. Two teams were formed from committee membership, one to prepare introductory articles and illustrations of the text and another to compile data on authors, composers, and the songs themselves. This work is now under way and the committee hopes to report substantial progress to the Synod of 1961, D.V.

The committee was instructed by Synod of 1959 to prepare articles for *The Banner* on songs appearing in the new *Psalter Hymnal* (see *Acts* 1959, page 40, XIII, B-3). The series, "Song of the Week," began in February 1960, and was accompanied by the suggestion that each song described be used in the churches on a following Lord's Day.

Since its first appointment by Synod in 1951, the committee has appreciated the privilege of serving the churches and has been provided with materials and expenses necessary to its work.

*Request:*

That one or more members of the committee be invited to confer with the appropriate pre-advisory committee of Synod should additional information be desired.

Respectfully submitted,

Psalter Hymnal Committee,

Henry A. Bruinsma, Chairman  
Dick L. Van Halsema, Secretary  
Marvin Baas  
James De Jonge  
Trena Haan  
Adrian Hartog  
Johanna Oranje  
Seymour O. Swets  
Dick H. Walters

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 14

(Articles 103, 109, 172)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Your Sunday School Committee herewith submits its report for the year 1959-1960. The committee met once a month except during the summer.

The following work has been accomplished:

1. As in previous years, the five weekly papers have been published without interruption: *Bible Stories for Beginners*, *Bible Light*, *Bible Guide*, *Bible Truth*, and *Bible Crusader*.

2. The sixth paper, *Little Ones' Bible Stories*, a series of booklets for the pre-school child, has been published. Activity booklets and teacher's manuals are also available. Advertisements have been placed in *The Banner* to acquaint the church with this new paper. This paper, written by Miss Dena Korfker, merits commendation.

3. *The Key* is published semi-quarterly.

4. The average number of papers published in 1959 is as follows:

<i>Bible Stories</i> .....	20,520	copies weekly
<i>Bible Light</i> .....	19,785	" "
<i>Bible Guide</i> .....	18,035	" "
<i>Bible Truth</i> .....	26,305	" "
<i>Bible Crusader</i> .....	6,620	" "
<i>The Key</i> .....	10,010	(semi-quarterly)

Average total weekly papers for the year 1959.....	91,265
Average total weekly papers for the year 1958.....	87,750

Increase ..... 3,515

Average total copies of <i>The Key</i> , for the year 1958.....	10,575
Average total copies of <i>The Key</i> , for the year 1959.....	10,010

Decrease ..... 565

The following listings represent the approximate number of Sunday school papers we supply to 650 of our Christian Reformed churches and missions. Although most churches have a period of vacation at some time during the year, these figures represent the number of papers used by the Sunday schools while they are in session.

<i>Bible Stories</i> .....	22,000
<i>Bible Light</i> .....	20,325
<i>Bible Guide</i> .....	17,295
<i>Bible Truth</i> .....	27,040
<i>Bible Crusader</i> .....	7,500
<i>The Key</i> .....	8,435

We also supply the following amounts to 190 churches and missions of other denominations.

<i>Bible Stories</i> .....	2,260
<i>Bible Light</i> .....	2,650
<i>Bible Guide</i> .....	2,335
<i>Bible Truth</i> .....	3,300
<i>Bible Crusader</i> .....	975
<i>The Key</i> .....	3,080

5. The writing staff remains except for a few changes. Miss Marian Schoolland has replaced Mrs. Charlotte Otten and Miss Adeline De Bruyn. A replacement for Rev. A. Koning is being sought.

6. The Sunday School Committee has been enlarged by two additional members, Dr. John Van Bruggen and Mrs. Marian L. Ippel. This is in harmony with the decision of 1959 Synod.

7. The request of the Synod of 1959 to incorporate mission lessons each quarter in all Sunday school papers has been acknowledged and implemented.

8. Dr. John De Beer has served two full terms. The first term of the chairman, Rev. Gysbert Rozenboom, also expires this year.

9. Recommendations:

a. We recommend that Synod express its appreciation to Dr. John De Beer for his contributions to the committee.

b. Elections (2)

Rev. G. J. Rozenboom\*

Rev. Jerrien Gunnink

Mr. Wilmur Skipper

Mr. John W. Borst

c. In view of the fact that our mandate has been completed, in the appearance of the sixth paper in our semi-graded series, we request Synod to take cognizance of this fact and trust it will meet Synod's approval.

d. We should like to have our Editor-in-Chief, Rev. John H. Schaal, and our chairman, Rev. G. Rozenboom, given the right of the floor of Synod at time matters concerning the Sunday School are being considered.

10. A supplementary report will be submitted, including the 1961 lesson plans for Synod's approval and the committee's observations on the Synodical Educational Committee's report.

Respectfully submitted,

Gysbert Rozenboom, *Chairman*

Marian Ippel, *Secretary*

John L. De Beer

Jay Poel

George Goris

Marian Schoolland

John Van Bruggen

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 14-A

(Articles 103, 109, 172)

## SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Since the Sunday School Committee is directly involved in the Report of the Committee on Education (See Printed Agenda, Report No. 9) as it now appears before Synod re the establishing of a "Department of Religious Education" together with a "full-time Secretary of Education, assisted by such staff as the program may require," we herewith present our reactions to this report.

I. *History*

When the Committee on Education was formulating its report to the Synod of 1959, the Sunday School Committee was also consulted, as per synodical mandate. Although the Sunday School Committee had some reservations concerning an overall Department of Education, and fears were expressed particularly regarding the scope of its work, yet it decided in 1959 to go along with the recommendations which appeared at the end of the 1959 Education Committee report. The Sunday School Committee felt that its interests were sufficiently preserved, particularly by the following recommendation of that report: "That the present Sunday School program be incorporated in the work of the Department of Education, on the condition that the Sunday School Committee function as a sub-committee of the Committee of Religious Education, and that the personnel of the Sunday School Committee and the program on which it is working shall continue through such transition *as may be determined by the recommendations of the Committee of Religious Education and the Sunday School Committee, as approved and adopted by Synod.*"

At the Synod of 1959, the Advisory Committee on Educational Matters II, advised that, "Synod do not adopt the plan for a Department of Religious Education as proposed by the Committee on Education.

*"Grounds:*

"a. The domain of such a department is too broad. It is for preparation of materials for Catechism, Sunday School, Daily Vacation Bible Schools, manuals for Home Missions work, Back to God Hour study materials, audio-visual aids, summer-time Bible conference materials, and programs and materials for adult religious education.

"b. The addition of such a Department of Religious Education appears to be unnecessary." (Acts, 1959, p. 30)

The Sunday School Committee became increasingly apprehensive through its representatives at the Synod of 1959 as they listened to the discussion on the floor of Synod and the ideals and dreams of that committee were unfolded. Reference was made to seven suggestions which were offered as work for the department plus the added statement: "What we suggest here is not to be taken as exhaustive or carefully



definitive . . ." showing that an even greater scope of activity could be envisioned.

The Sunday School Committee has been happy with Synod's mandate to carry on the publication of six semi-graded papers. That having been accomplished, we are now working on improvements of the Sunday school materials, as is evident from our regular report to this Synod. Our committee has been functioning well, though admittedly with imperfections. And we feel that we can best continue to carry on Synod's mandate with the present organizational structure.

## II. *Evaluation of 1960 Report of Committee on Education*

A. The Sunday School Committee feels constrained to raise this question: "Why does the primary recommendation of the 1959 Committee on Education report not appear in the 1960 report?" viz. "That Synod shall initiate and establish a Department of Religious Education . . . and shall be directed by a full-time Secretary of Education, assisted by such staff as the program may require." (Acts, p. 382, III-A)

Is this a settled issue? The Sunday School Committee judges that Synod has not yet expressed itself on this issue, and that it should even now have priority.

B. The report of the Committee on Education makes reference to certain criticisms of our Sunday school materials. Although our Sunday school materials find great favor in our churches, criticisms do occur in spite of the fact that we now have a committee concentrating on these materials. We are in the process of remedying many of these criticisms and hope to continue to do so. What guarantee is there, that if a Department of Education were to take over this work, in addition to its many other duties, these materials would be less open to criticism?

## C. *Recommendations of the Committee of Education*

These have been made on the basis of results gleaned from the questionnaire circulated through our churches. The Sunday School Committee wishes to call attention to serious weaknesses in the questionnaire which tend to invalidate the conclusions drawn from it.

a. Question 1 of the questionnaire reads, "Do you think it would be to our advantage as a denomination to have a department of religious education whose business it would be to make available good Reformed materials and to promote uniformity in our catechism program?" This is a loaded question! It contains three elements. First, "Would it be to our advantage to have a department of religious education? . . ." Then it deals with the two other elements of having "good Reformed materials" and the desirability "to promote uniformity in our catechism program." Obviously the churches desire the latter two. It is surprising that 99 dared to say "no" to the question. But this cannot necessarily be construed as an endorsement of part 1, since these goals are possible without a department of religious education.

b. Another inquiry contained in the questionnaire reads, "Have you found that there is overlapping or duplication between catechism and Sunday School?" Significantly, only 88 answered "yes," whereas 216 said

"no." However, the question as formulated has little bearing on the issue of a department of religious education. The following question would have been more to the point: "Is there overlapping or duplication between the synodically approved catechism curriculum and the Sunday school lesson material?"

D. In view of the foregoing, and the fact that only 364 of our 528 churches (or individuals) responded to the questionnaire, the following assertion or conclusion in the report of the Committee on Education must be seriously questioned, "We are happy to know that over two-thirds of our congregations feel the importance of doing that which we now recommend."

### III. *Recommendations*

A. The Sunday School Committee expresses the hope that it may continue to labor as it presently does, being guided by the mandate of Synod as to curriculum, kind of materials to be produced, and carrying on its work as a synodically appointed Sunday School Committee.

B. If any organizational change takes place re our denominational education program, the Sunday School Committee expresses the hope that Synod will follow the substance of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee to the Synod of 1959, which said, "2. Synod do not adopt the plan for a Department of Religious Education . . ." (It is to be observed that, contrary to the 1959 Report of the Committee on Education, the 1960 recommendation does not even propose to consult the Sunday School Committee as to the date when it will be dissolved.)

"3. Synod appoint a permanent committee to provide catechetical materials.

"4. The permanent committee do not employ a Secretary of Education . . .

"5. The permanent committee be authorized to employ a part-time editor in order to fulfill its task.

"7. The Committee for Catechism Materials be given the mandate to produce Catechism books and materials according to the curriculum adopted by the Synod of 1954 . . ."

Respectfully submitted,

G. J. Rozenboom, Pres.

Marian Ippel, Sec'y

John L. De Beer

Jay Poel

George Goris

Marian Schoolland

John Van Bruggen

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 15

(Articles 84, 172)

**KOREAN MATERIAL AND SPECIAL TYPHOON  
DISASTER RELIEF****ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

Once again the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference is pleased to report on the work accomplished in the past year regarding the mandate of Synod, to promote and handle funds gathered for the material relief of our Reformed brethren of Korea.

A financial report of receipts and disbursements for both our Korean material relief fund and Japan and Korea special typhoon relief has been prepared and is included in our report.

The work of a medical team which spreads the gospel as it cares for the sick in rural areas, is being continued. The requests for powdered whole milk and drugs exceed the amount being sent. We are also continuing to send hospital supplies and medical equipment to Korea.

The program for orphan relief and orphanages is being continued with very good response from our churches at large, as the financial report indicates.

Following the typhoon in Japan, our missionaries corresponded with the Synodical Committee, requesting aid. Your Deacons' Conference was asked to undertake this project. The churches were then asked to set aside a special collection for this cause and a very fine response was made as the typhoon financial report indicates. This work is being continued.

This past year our committee also worked in close conjunction with the special synodical study committee appointed to reevaluate the Korean Material Relief and in view of this study we present the following recommendations:

1. That the work of Material Relief for our Korean brethren be continued under the direction of the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference.
2. That the Korean Material Relief cause be referred to the Synodical Budget Advisory Committee for consideration to be placed on the list of accredited causes for one or more offerings in 1960.
3. That Rev. J. Hasper, our adviser, represent our conference before your committee if any further information is required.

We covet the prayers of the church that we may be given grace to continue this ministry and witness of mercy.

Sincerely yours,

Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference,  
Aldert J. Postma, *Secretary*

**KOREAN MATERIAL RELIEF FUND****Receipts and Disbursements — Calendar Year 1959****RECEIPTS**

January .....	\$ 8,345.56	
February .....	1,077.83	
March .....	2,707.51	
April .....	2,914.87	
May .....	6,302.63	
June .....	1,473.14	
July .....	4,195.34	
August .....	1,757.08	
September .....	1,912.16	
November .....	2,963.41	
December .....	1,803.53	
		<b>\$35,453.06</b>

**DISBURSEMENTS**

Orphanages .....	\$14,633.72	
Milk Powder .....	6,839.30	
Medical Team .....	6,000.00	
Medical Supplies .....	2,369.58	
Administrative Expenses .....	390.06	
Clothing .....	137.59	
Patient Care — Gospel Hospital .....	500.00	
Typhoon Relief Fund .....	45.48	
		<b>\$30,915.73</b>
Net balance for calendar year .....	\$ 4,537.33	
Add: Cash on hand, January 1, 1959 .....	8,787.90	
Cash on hand, December 31, 1959 .....		<b>\$13,325.23</b>

**GENTLEMEN:**

Pursuant to your request, I have made an examination of the various records and data submitted by the treasurer of the Korean Material Relief, for the period January 1, 1959, through December 31, 1959.

The scope of my examination included the following funds: General Receipts, Disbursements and fund balances.

In connection therewith, my examination included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances. In my opinion, the exhibits submitted properly reflect the fund balances, cash receipts and disbursements during the period indicated based upon recorded receipts and disbursements.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roy Peterson

**TYPHOON RELIEF FUND**

March 4, 1960

Receipts to date .....	<b>\$107,625.68</b>
	<b>\$107,625.68</b>

## DISBURSEMENTS

Korea .....	\$26,000.00
Japan .....	49,000.00
Administrative Exp. ....	221.92
Misc. Charge (Bank) .....	4.45
Total Disbursements .....	<u>\$ 75,226.37</u>
*Cash funds on hand .....	\$ 32,399.31
Savings Account .....	\$31,621.23
Checking Account .....	778.08
	<u>\$32,399.31</u>

## GENTLEMEN:

Pursuant to your request, I have made an examination of the various records and data submitted by the treasurer of the Typhoon Relief Fund.

The scope of my examination included the following funds: Receipts, disbursements and fund balance.

In connection therewith, my examination included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, the exhibit submitted properly reflect the fund balance, cash receipts and disbursements during the period indicated based upon recorded receipts and disbursements.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Peterson

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 16

(Articles 91, 154)

REQUEST OF INTERIM COMMITTEE OF  
REFORMED ECUMENICAL SYNOD

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN :

The Interim Committee of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod takes this opportunity to thank the Christian Reformed Church for its unstinted cooperation in the creation of a Reformed Ecumenical Synod. It is pleased that the 1963 Ecumenical Synod will be held in Grand Rapids, the Christian Reformed Church serving as host.

A legitimate universal desire of all the constituent member churches of the Ecumenical Synod is to make our synods more effective and efficient. A wholesome self-criticism was vocal at Potchestroom in 1958. Criticism arose from its best friends. The Synod of 1958 decided to move forward.

From an organizational point of view the first step in the right direction is the appointment of a General Secretary *Pro Tem*. At this juncture we so designate this office with the understanding that in 1963 there may be a complete report covering the nature and duration of term of office. The appointee to the office *pro tem* will also play a creative and definitive role. Some one with leisure and love for the cause can do constructive thinking.

I. *The Need of a General Secretary*

The first need to underscore is the early edition of the *Agenda* of an Ecumenical Synod. There is nothing more embarrassing than to go to a synod unprepared. We can incriminate each other, but the fact remains that many in responsible positions are over-burdened with work.

A corollary to this first need is an early distribution and press releases. Press releases and reactions create a consensus of opinion, a basic requirement of true ecumenicity. Some reports could be published in pamphlet form and set up in such a way as to make them suitable for grass root studies. There is no doubt that this latter method has contributed to the success of the WCC and the WPA.

Equally important is a specific address to which reports can be sent and where inquiries can be made.

No less of importance is to secure a secretary who can remind committees of deadlines for their reports.

*Duties of a General Secretary*

The General Secretary shall keep in close touch with the Interim Committee and with the calling church.

He shall make his report to the Ecumenical Synod.

He shall receive and publish all reports.

He shall have such duties as are inherent and commonly accepted in the office of a General Secretary.

*Finances*

The Potchefstroom Synod felt the need of having all the churches shoulder the financial responsibilities of membership in the Ecumenical Synod. Some of the younger churches will find it impossible to do so. Finances will be one of the problems of the Interim Committee. We do not have an Ecumenical Treasurer. "The Standing Orders of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod" make no provision for it (cf. Art. 5, p. 14; *Acts* of 1958) since they deal only with synodical procedure.

The office of a General Secretary is urgent. The question of finances must be faced since no adequate provision has been made. The principle of proportionate responsibility is sound and must be put into practice, but at this stage it cannot be realized as yet. We, therefore, hopefully invite the Christian Reformed Synod, since the coming Ecumenical Synod will be its charge, grant the General Secretary an honorarium of five hundred dollars per annum until the 1963 Ecumenical Synod.\*

The General Secretary will be of great assistance to our calling church and its busy consistory and to our denomination.

*Appointment*

The Interim Committee of the Ecumenical Synod has the pleasure of informing the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church that they have appointed Rev. Gerrit Hoeksema as General Secretary.

In him we have a canonist in his own rights. His foresight, editorial propensities, and statesmanship are invaluable assets for this office. We are thankful for his vigor of mind and body beyond retirement age and that his services can be employed now that he is free from congregational pastoral duties.

We trust Synod will be pleased with this appointment and give the Rev. G. Hoeksema its coöperation.

With a constant wish for the guidance of the Holy Spirit,

In our Lord,

Interim Committee of the Ecumenical Synod  
Jacob T. Hoogstra, Reporting

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\*The consensus of opinion expressed in the inter-correspondence of the Interim Committee is that a General Secretary is a must, and that we must forge ahead as a synod. The wish has been expressed that the Christian Reformed Church for the sake of the cause might be willing to assume the granting of this honorarium because of several factors: synod will be held here; impossible to approach all the churches; and especially the time factor. Your member on the Interim Committee assumes the responsibility of requesting the Christian Reformed Church so that the work may not be stymied as it was the case before other synods.  
J. T. H.

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 17

(Articles 22, 148, 172)

## THE LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE OF CANADA

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

I herewith submit report to Synod in respect to the activities of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada. I do so in behalf of the Rev. Dr. L. Praamsma also, who is my alternate, and attended the annual meeting of the Dominion Board of the Alliance during the month of February when I was unable to be there.

Upon the basis of almost two years of membership in this board, which meets once a year as Dominion (national) Board, and almost every other month as executive committee or in regular session as provincial (Ontario), I am deepened in the conviction that there is need of a great awakening of public opinion in Canada so as to secure a reasonable enforcement of the Lord's Day Act of Canada. This Act, among other things, states: "It shall not be awful for any person on the Lord's Day, except as provided herein, or in any Provincial Act or law of hereafter in force, to sell or offer for sale or purchase any goods, chattels, or other personal property, or any real estate, or to carry on or transact any business of his ordinary calling, or in connection with such calling, or for gain to do, or employ any other person to do, on that day, any work, business or labor."

Viewing the frequently futile efforts on the part of the Alliance to secure a reasonable enforcement of this Lord's Day Act because of the general Canadian lack of observance of Sunday, there is cause for great concern on the part of all, and surely the Christian Reformed Church in Canada. Unnecessary Sunday labor is on the rise and, our people will be called to say "no" to such unnecessary work, with increasing difficulty. Canada's population has doubled since the last war, largely through immigration from Europe; these people, and the natives who have long lived with a low standard of living, are strongly minded to make material amends for the past. Added to this growing materialism, is the hedonistic spirit of our time. Not only is there needless Sunday selling in variety stores, and Sunday real estate sales, but there is also a mad quest for entertainment, refined, rowdy, or otherwise. Due to the feeble preaching by the church in general, and because only a minority of Canada's population go to church, the fourth commandment seems to make little impact on the general public. Thus, inasmuch as the spirit of our Lord's Day 38 is making little impression on Canada in general, the letter of the Lord's Day Act of Canada is about to be broken in many places.

Last spring (1959), the alliance appealed to the Supreme Court of Canada from the decision of the British Columbia Court of Appeal on the B.C. Legislature's provision for commercial Sunday sports in the City of Vancouver. This appeal met with unanimous rejection, and thus confirmed the power of the legislative assembly of British Columbia to amend



the charter of the city of Vancouver, permitting that city to allow within its boundaries the playing of games on Sunday at which spectators may be charged for admission and employees may be paid, practices which, except for the B.C. Act, would be illegal under the Lord's Day Act of Canada. This decision of the Supreme Court of Canada is even more far-reaching in effect. It set open the floodgates for all kinds of provincial legislature which make exception after exception to the prohibitions of the Lord's Day Act of Canada.

The Lord's Day Alliance, though made up of representatives of the many well-known and of some modernistic denominations in Canada, with all their strength and weakness, is seeking to adjust itself in the face of this present crisis. The alliance is shifting the front of its battle from the dominion (national) to the provincial level, and, it feels compelled to render no objection to amendment of the Ontario Lord's Day Act in deference to the desire of the Stratford Festival organization, except that it is striving that the Act be altered no more than to allow Sunday afternoon performances of symphony orchestras. However, since the battle of the alliance is now going to be staged on provincial level, it needs to be strong provincially and needs funds to be all over Canada at the same time. The alliance, now already in somewhat serious financial trouble, is assessing its situation; expert advice has been obtained, especially as to how appeals for funds are to be made in the future, and is adding "laity" to the board membership. These "laymen" are being elected on the basis of their interest in and qualifications to serve the purposes of the alliance, also financial.

Furthermore, a study committee has been appointed to consider special problems, such as automation, transportation, relationships with parishes and congregations, national strategy (to give substance to the alliance as a national body, strengthening provincial branches and relating them to the dominion organization and policy), relationships of the alliance with organized labor, and modern pressures against the Christian observance of Sunday. Another committee was appointed to make a comprehensive study respecting legal and other aspects of Lord's Day observance in Canada, and to study the approach and emphasis of the alliance on Sunday problems both on dominion and provincial level. What the effects of these committees will be, remains to be seen. The alliance, after all, is no better than its members, and it is a patent fact that today's church in Canada is busy conforming to the world. Whether the alliance will feel compelled to make that adjustment is a matter for future report, but surely calling for witness and prayer.

I again suggest that the Christian Reformed Church, through its Canadian members and congregations, wholeheartedly support and seek to advance the work of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada. Let us do so primarily by preaching and prayer so that all our members, and then others also, rise to defend the claims of Christ for His day. Let us also coöperate with the general secretary, Rev. Mr. A. S. McGrath, when he wishes to promote the cause of the alliance among us, whether on classical or congregational level. And, most of all, let us heed the alliance

letter which comes to our consistories annually that we support this labor financially.

Thus, on behalf of the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada, I request that Synod again recommend this cause to our Canadian churches for financial support. Furthermore, let Synod instruct our Canadian classes to inform our consistories, that if any of our people or churches find themselves in a community which has a "Sunday problem," that they write Rev. Mr. McGrath, General Secretary, the Lord's Day Alliance of Canada, Room 542, 17 Queen St., E., Toronto I, Ontario, Canada. Let our consistories write Rev. Mr. McGrath for literature and promotional material to interest our people in this cause which the Lord lays upon us to foster so that the day of the Lord be not despoiled, but remain holy, to the glory of our God, and for the general welfare of this nation.

May our Lord Jesus Christ, through His Word and Spirit, direct our 1960 Synod in all her deliberations!

Humbly submitted,

Henry A. Venema

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 18

(Articles 148, 154, 172)

## CHURCH HELP FUND, INC.

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Church Help Fund Committee reports the following for the year 1959.

During the year the committee lost the services of its chairman, Rev. Andrew Baker, who retired because of ill health. A word of appreciation is due Rev. Baker for his many years of faithful service on the committee, which started in 1952. Rev. C. R. Veenstra was elected as the new chairman and Rev. J. Vande Lune was added to complete the committee.

During the past year many churches were aided in their building programs through loans from the Church Help Fund. All churches considered "weak and needy" were given help, although in some instances payment of loans had to be deferred because of lack of funds.

A few churches responded to the committee's appeal for more rapid repayment of their loans. The committee would remind our classes to urge consistories to increase repayment of loans so that other "weak and needy" churches can be aided in their building needs. Classes are also reminded to give more careful consideration to requests coming to them, and not to recommend churches for help unless they are "weak and needy."

A total of \$112,000 was loaned to churches in 1959. The total receipts from quotas, repayments, and gifts equalled \$169,655.38. All quotas and repayments received after December 31, 1959, will be recorded on the 1960 records, even though these were payments on 1959 obligations. At present 264 churches have loans from the Church Help Fund. These loans total \$2,106,294.07.

As of December 31, 1959, the financial picture is as follows: Cash on hand, \$102,241.04; Unpaid promised loans, \$72,500.00; Balance, \$29,741.04.

Your committee recommends that Mr. Elmer Duistermars of Sioux Center, Iowa, be appointed to serve as an alternate member to this committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Church Help Fund Committee,

C. R. Veenstra, *Chairman*

L. C. Bossenbroek, *Secretary*

M. Wiersma, *Treasurer*

A. Engbers

J. Vande Lune

**THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  
THE CHURCH HELP FUND**

Orange City, Iowa

February 1, 1959 to January 31, 1960

The Chairman  
Special Advisory Budget Committee  
Church Help Committee, Inc.  
The Christian Reformed Church

I have examined the records of the Church Help Fund of the Christian Reformed Church, Orange City, Iowa, as of January 31, 1960, and the related statements of income and expenses for the year then ended.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

Our report on the examination is herewith presented together with the statements as follows:

- Exhibit "A" Statements of Assets — Analysis cash in bank  
"B" Loans Outstanding  
"C" Denominational quotas by Classes and Other Receipts  
"D" Analysis Loans, repayment basis and balance due  
"E" Detail List of expenses and summary of expenses

The balance in the Northwestern State Bank of Orange City, Iowa, was reconciled with the records of the Church Help Fund of Orange City, of the Christian Reformed Church. The balance as of January 31, 1960, was certified to by H. V. Rowenhorst, President.

I have examined the Fidelity Bond carried with the American Surety Company of New York, Bond No. 12-558-086, made payable to the Church Help Fund, Inc., of the Christian Reformed Church, for \$25,000 on Marion Wiersma, Treasurer, effective January 19, 1956, a continuous bond, premium paid on December 30, 1959, for year ended January 19, 1961.

In our opinion, subject to the above comments, the accompanying balance sheet and related Statements of income and expenses present fairly the financial position of the church as of January 31, 1960, and the results of its operations for the year then ended. In conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Respectively submitted,  
Cora M. Hilger  
Iowa License No. 58

**Schedule "A"**  
**Bank Reconciliation**

Northwestern State Bank, Orange City, Iowa

General Checking Account:

Bank Balance as per Statement, January 31, 1959 .....	\$	65,705.60
Less: Outstanding Checks .....	\$	10,000.00
		5,000.00
		6.08
		7.10
		5.64
		7.40
		5,000.00
		20,026.22
Cash Balance January 31, 1959 .....	\$	45,679.38
Add 1959 Receipts:		
Quotas and other .....	\$	24,347.89
Repayments .....		145,307.49
		169,655.38
	\$	215,334.76

Less Disbursements .....	113,093.72
Balance on hand December 31, 1959 .....	\$ 102,241.04
Bank Balance as per Statement, December 31, 1959 .....	\$ 90,528.50
Add Deposit late December 31 .....	\$ 54.63
Deposit late December 31 .....	11,657.91
Cash .....	\$ 102,241.04

Balance Sheet  
December 31, 1959

Cash .....	\$ 102,241.04
Loans Outstanding .....	2,106,294.07
Total .....	\$2,208,535.11

Schedule "B"  
Analysis — Loans Outstanding

No.	Church	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1958	New Loans	Payments	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1959
1.	Abbotsford, B.C., Canada ..\$	10,606.25		\$ 606.25	\$ 10,000.00
2.	Ackley, Iowa .....	2,300.00		125.00	2,175.00
3.	Acton, Ont., Canada .....	13,125.00			13,125.00
4.	Ada, Michigan .....	14,125.00		1,375.00	12,750.00
5.	Alameda, California .....	5,600.00		400.00	5,200.00
6.	Alamosa, Colorado .....	3,850.00			3,850.00
7.	Allendale, Michigan - 2nd..	7,000.00		3,500.00	3,500.00
8.	Allison, Iowa - Bethel .....	2,850.00		188.00	2,662.00
9.	Ann Arbor, Michigan .....	3,800.00		200.00	3,600.00
10.	Arcadia, California .....	7,100.00		620.00	6,480.00
11.	Athens, Ont., Canada .....	12,750.00		500.00	12,250.00
12.	Aylmer, Ont., Canada .....	4,750.00		375.00	4,375.00
13.	Barrhead, Alta., Canada ..	3,825.00		225.00	3,600.00
14.	Barrie, Ont., Canada .....	12,312.50			12,312.50
15.	Battle Creek, Michigan ....	5,250.00		500.00	4,750.00
16.	Bauer, Michigan .....	9,500.00		500.00	9,000.00
17.	Bejou, Minnesota .....	2,905.00		220.00	2,685.00
18.	Belleville, Ont., Canada ....	15,000.00			15,000.00
19.	Bellflower, Calif. - Bethany	1,800.00		1,500.00	300.00
20.	Bellflower, Calif. - Rehoboth	6,000.00		1,500.00	4,500.00
21.	Bellwood, Illinois .....	6,250.00		500.00	5,750.00
22.	Bemis, South Dakota .....	3,500.00		400.00	3,100.00
23.	Bigelow, Minnesota .....	5,850.00		325.00	5,525.00
24.	Blenheim, Ont., Canada ....	20,000.00		1,000.00	19,000.00
25.	Bowmanville, Ont., Canada	10,650.00		450.00	10,200.00
26.	Bowness-Montgomery, Alta.	15,000.00			15,000.00
27.	Bozeman, Montana .....	7,200.00			7,200.00
28.	Brampton, Ont., Canada ..	11,000.00		700.00	10,300.00
29.	Brandon, Man., Canada ....	13,420.00		306.25	13,113.75
30.	Brantford, Ont., Canada ....	11,750.00		937.50	10,812.50
31.	Britt, Iowa .....	9,500.00			9,500.00
32.	Brockville, Ont., Bethel ....	6,091.87		466.87	5,625.00
33.	Brooks, Alta., Canada .....	13,800.00		1,000.00	12,800.00
34.	Brooten, Minnesota .....	6,650.00		700.00	5,950.00
35.	Burdet, Alta., Canada .....	5,000.00		250.00	4,750.00
36.	Burlington, Ont., Canada ..	12,500.00			12,500.00
37.	Burnaby, B.C., Canada ....	8,000.00			8,000.00

No.	Church	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1958	New Loans	Payments	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1959
38.	Byron Center, Mich. - 2nd	10,000.00		500.00	9,500.00
39.	Cadillac, Michigan	5,000.00			5,000.00
40.	Calgary, Alta. - 1st	14,800.00		2,200.00	12,600.00
41.	Calgary, Alta. - 2nd	12,000.00			12,000.00
42.	Calgary, Alta. - Immanuel		\$ 3,000.00		3,000.00
43.	Cascade, Michigan	7,250.00			7,250.00
44.	Cedar, Iowa	3,950.00		400.00	3,550.00
45.	Chatham, Ont., Canada	12,875.00		1,046.30	11,828.70
46.	Chilliwack, B.C., Canada	13,505.00		380.00	13,125.00
47.	Chino, California	7,500.00			7,500.00
48.	Cincinnati, Ohio	4,400.00		1,600.00	2,800.00
49.	Clara City, Minnesota	7,600.00		725.00	6,875.00
50.	Clarkson, Ont., Canada	11,475.00		112.50	11,362.50
51.	Clinton, Ont., Canada	10,250.00		450.00	9,800.00
52.	Cobourg, Ont., Canada	15,000.00			15,000.00
53.	Cochrane, Ont., Canada	5,062.50		281.25	4,781.25
54.	Collingwood, Ont., Canada	7,200.00		400.00	6,800.00
55.	Columbus, Ohio - Olentangy	5,000.00		250.00	4,750.00
56.	Conrad, Montana	7,289.15		3,250.00	4,039.15
57.	Cornwall, Ont., Canada	11,062.50		625.00	10,437.50
58.	Crookston, Minnesota	782.90		27.27	755.63
59.	Cutlerville, Mich. - East	8,500.00		500.00	8,000.00
60.	Dearborn, Michigan	11,530.00		910.00	10,620.00
61.	Decatur, Michigan	9,804.12		972.66	8,831.46
62.	Delavan, Wisconsin	4,550.00		350.00	4,200.00
63.	Denver, Colo. - 2nd	250.00		250.00	—
64.	Denver, Colo. - 3rd	7,500.00		500.00	7,000.00
65.	Denver, Colo. - Trinity		5,000.00		5,000.00
66.	Des Plaines, Illinois	4,875.00		375.00	4,500.00
67.	Dorr, Michigan	887.50		325.00	562.50
68.	Drayton, Ont., Canada	10,800.00		600.00	10,200.00
69.	Dresden, Ont., Canada	10,875.00		625.00	10,250.00
70.	Duncan, B.C., Canada	13,581.25			13,581.25
71.	Dunnville, Ont., Canada		5,000.00		5,000.00
72.	Edmonton, Alta. - 2nd	9,600.00		600.00	9,000.00
73.	Edmonton, Alta. - 3rd	10,800.00		600.00	10,200.00
74.	Edmonton, Alta. - Jasper Place	14,000.00		125.00	13,875.00
75.	Edmonton, Alta., Canada Maranatha (Beverly)	11,062.50		625.00	10,437.50
76.	Edson, Alta., Canada	15,000.00	5,000.00		20,000.00
77.	Emo, Ont., Canada	10,175.00		93.75	10,081.25
78.	Escalon, California	5,625.00		500.00	5,125.00
79.	Escondido, California	12,750.00		750.00	12,000.00
80.	Essex, Ont., Canada	17,590.00		800.00	16,790.00
81.	Everson, Washington	3,700.00		500.00	3,200.00
82.	Exeter, Ont., Canada	15,000.00			15,000.00
83.	Falmouth, Mich. - Prosper	10,000.00		2,000.00	8,000.00
84.	Ferrysburg, Michigan	1,400.00		1,400.00	—
85.	Flint, Michigan	2,000.00		675.00	1,325.00
86.	Forest, Ont., Canada	2,875.00		125.00	2,750.00
87.	Fort Lauderdale, Florida	15,000.00		1,500.00	13,500.00
88.	Ft. William, Ont., Canada	10,950.00		750.00	10,200.00
89.	Fremont, Mich. - Trinity	13,500.00		1,500.00	12,000.00
90.	Fruitland, Ont., Canada	8,887.50		506.25	8,381.25
91.	Fruitport, Michigan	8,500.00		500.00	8,000.00
92.	Galt, Ont., Canada		10,000.00		10,000.00
93.	Gary, Indiana		10,000.00		10,000.00
94.	Georgetown, Ont., Canada	15,000.00			15,000.00
95.	Goshen, New York	5,500.00		500.00	5,000.00
96.	Grand Rapids - Alger Park	7,500.00		2,500.00	5,000.00

No.	Church	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1958	New Loans	Payments	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1959
97.	Grand Rapids - Arcadia .....		5,000.00		5,000.00
98.	Grand Rapids - Immanuel .....	2,500.00		500.00	2,000.00
99.	Grand Rapids - Millbrook .....	8,500.00		500.00	8,000.00
100.	Grand Rapids - Plymouth Heights .....	5,250.00		750.00	4,500.00
101.	Grand Rapids - Riverside .....	18,900.00		1,900.00	17,000.00
102.	Grand Rapids - Roger Hts .....	5,000.00		250.00	4,750.00
103.	Grand Rapids - 36th St. ....	8,000.00		500.00	7,500.00
104.	Grandville, Mich. - South .....	9,000.00		500.00	8,500.00
105.	Granum, Alta., Canada .....	6,775.00		500.00	6,275.00
106.	Greenville, Ont. - Calvin .....	15,000.00			15,000.00
107.	Guelph, Ont., Canada .....	15,000.00			15,000.00
108.	Hamilton, Michigan .....	5,200.00		2,600.00	2,600.00
109.	Hamilton, Ont., Canada .....	5,050.00			5,050.00
110.	Haney, B.C., Canada .....	9,600.00		450.00	9,150.00
111.	Hartley, Iowa .....	3,500.00		250.00	3,250.00
112.	Hawarden, Iowa .....	1,551.65		400.00	1,151.65
113.	Hoboken, New Jersey .....	4,650.00		100.00	4,550.00
114.	Holland, Mich. - Calvin .....	9,500.00		500.00	9,000.00
115.	Holland, Mich. - Faith .....	6,000.00		1,500.00	4,500.00
116.	Holland, Michigan - Holland Heights .....	9,875.00		1,375.00	8,500.00
117.	Holland, Mich. - Maranatha .....	5,000.00		2,000.00	3,000.00
118.	Holland, Mich. - Park Church .....	8,000.00		500.00	7,500.00
119.	Holland, Minnesota .....	1,800.00		216.00	1,584.00
120.	Holland Center, S. Dak. ....	8,200.00		642.42	7,557.58
121.	Holland Marsh, Ont., Can. ....	10,960.00		974.47	9,985.53
122.	Houston, B.C., Canada .....	2,250.00		250.00	2,000.00
123.	Ingersoll, Ont., Canada .....	15,000.00			15,000.00
124.	Iowa Falls, Iowa .....	896.00		896.00	--
125.	Iron Springs, Alta., Canada .....	15,625.00		1,750.00	13,875.00
126.	Irving Park, New Jersey - Midland Park .....	9,000.00		500.00	8,500.00
127.	Jarvis, Ont., Canada .....	8,450.00		800.00	7,650.00
128.	Jenison, Mich. - Trinity .....	4,750.00		250.00	4,500.00
129.	Kalamazoo, Michigan - Knollwood .....	3,400.00		200.00	3,200.00
130.	Kalamazoo, Michigan - Prairie Edge .....	10,000.00	5,000.00	500.00	14,500.00
131.	Kalamazoo, Michigan - Westwood .....	7,500.00		500.00	7,000.00
132.	Kemptville, Ont., Canada .....		4,000.00		4,000.00
133.	Kenora, Ont., Canada .....	5,000.00			5,000.00
134.	Kingston, Ont., Canada .....	10,375.00		125.00	10,250.00
135.	Kitchener, Ont., Canada .....	11,187.50		656.25	10,531.25
136.	Lacombe, Alta - 1st .....	6,075.00		700.00	5,375.00
137.	Lacombe, Alta. - Bethel .....	15,000.00			15,000.00
138.	Ladner, B.C., Canada .....	11,600.00			11,600.00
139.	Langley, B.C., Canada .....	11,322.50		437.50	10,885.00
140.	Lansing, Illinois - Oak Glen .....	7,000.00		500.00	6,500.00
141.	Lansing, Michigan .....	1,500.00			1,500.00
142.	Leamington, Ont., Canada .....	4,350.00		300.00	4,050.00
143.	LeMars, Iowa .....	8,000.00		500.00	7,500.00
144.	Lethbridge, Alta., Canada .....	11,600.00		1,000.00	10,600.00
145.	Lindsay, Ont., Canada .....	8,500.00		300.00	8,200.00
146.	Lodi, New Jersey .....	2,075.00		500.00	1,575.00
147.	London, Ont., Canada .....	6,862.50		387.50	6,475.00
148.	Luverne, Minnesota .....	14,500.00		1,250.00	13,250.00
149.	Lynden, Wash. - Bethel .....	7,500.00		3,500.00	4,000.00
150.	Maple Heights, Ohio .....	10,000.00		500.00	9,500.00

No.	Church	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1958	New Loans	Payments	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1959
151.	Martin, Michigan - East ....	7,500.00		1,125.00	6,375.00
152.	Medicine Hat, Alta., Can.	15,000.00		500.00	14,500.00
153.	Miami, Florida .....	15,000.00		3,000.00	12,000.00
154.	Milwaukee, Wisconsin .....	6,750.00			6,750.00
155.	Minneapolis, Minnesota ....	3,500.00		350.00	3,150.00
156.	Modesto, California .....	3,600.00		300.00	3,300.00
157.	Monroe, Washington .....	6,300.00		900.00	5,400.00
158.	Montreal, Quebec, Canada	5,000.00			5,000.00
159.	Morrison, Illinois .....	3,000.00		250.00	2,750.00
160.	Mountain Lake, Minnesota	3,196.75		168.25	3,028.50
161.	Mt. Hamilton, Ont., Can.	11,250.00		400.00	10,850.00
162.	Mount Vernon, Wash. - 1st	15,000.00		1,500.00	13,500.00
163.	Muskegon, Mich. - Bluffton	6,550.00		350.00	6,200.00
164.	Muskegon, Mich. - Grace	13,000.00			13,000.00
165.	Navon, Ont., Canada .....	4,000.00			4,000.00
166.	Neerlandia, Alta., Canada	5,600.00		620.00	4,980.00
167.	Newmarket, Ont., Canada	5,000.00			5,000.00
168.	New Liskeard, Ont., Can.	8,000.00	2,500.00		15,000.00
	New Liskeard, Ont., Can.		4,500.00		5,000.00
169.	New Richmond, Michigan		5,000.00		6,125.00
170.	Newton, New Jersey .....	6,750.00		625.00	10,537.50
171.	New Westminster, B.C. ....	11,250.00		712.50	15,000.00
172.	Niagara Falls-Stamford, Ont.	15,000.00			15,000.00
173.	Nobleford, Alta., Canada ....	1,400.00		1,400.00	---
174.	North Haledon, New Jersey	13,600.00		1,200.00	12,400.00
175.	Oak Lawn, Illinois .....	2,000.00		1,000.00	1,000.00
176.	Ogilvie, Minnesota .....	15,400.00		1,000.00	14,400.00
177.	Ontario, California .....	8,000.00		500.00	7,500.00
178.	Oostburg, Wisconsin - 1st ..	5,000.00		1,000.00	4,000.00
179.	Orangeville, Ont., Canada	13,525.00		350.00	13,175.00
180.	Orillia, Ont., Canada .....	5,000.00	10,000.00		15,000.00
181.	Oshawa, Ont., Canada .....	20,000.00		1,000.00	19,000.00
182.	Oskaloosa, Iowa - Bethel ..	8,600.00		550.00	8,050.00
183.	Ottawa, Ont., Canada .....	15,500.00			15,500.00
184.	Owen Sound, Ont., Canada	8,137.50		1,637.50	6,500.00
185.	Palos Heights, Illinois .....	12,100.00		700.00	11,400.00
186.	Parchment, Michigan .....		10,000.00		10,000.00
187.	Peers, Alta., Canada .....	10,125.00			10,125.00
188.	Pella, Iowa - Calvary .....	4,750.00		250.00	4,500.00
189.	Pembroke, Ont. - Zion .....	12,000.00		479.00	11,521.00
190.	Peterborough, Ont., Can. ..	12,000.00		350.00	11,650.00
191.	Phoenix, Arizona .....	6,200.00			6,200.00
192.	Pine Creek, Michigan .....	4,200.00		300.00	3,900.00
193.	Pipestone, Minnesota .....	8,000.00		500.00	7,500.00
194.	Plainfield, Michigan .....	7,659.00		425.00	7,225.00
195.	Port Alberni, B.C., Can. ....	5,800.00			5,800.00
196.	Portland, Michigan .....		5,000.00		5,000.00
197.	Port Williams, N. S. ....	5,000.00			5,000.00
198.	Preakness, New Jersey .....	5,000.00		1,000.00	4,000.00
199.	Randolph, Wisconsin - 2nd	4,500.00		375.00	4,125.00
200.	Raymond, Minnesota .....	3,120.00		375.00	2,745.00
201.	Red Deer, Alta., Canada ..	10,312.50		562.50	9,750.00
202.	Redlands, Calif. - 2nd .....	5,200.00		425.00	4,775.00
203.	Regina, Sask., Canada .....		5,000.00		15,000.00
	Regina, Sask., Canada .....		10,000.00		15,000.00
204.	Renfrew, Ont., Canada ....	15,000.00			15,000.00
205.	Richmond, B.C., Canada ..	15,000.00		1,000.00	14,000.00
206.	Ridgewood, New Jersey .....	5,000.00		5,000.00	---
207.	Ripon, Calif. - Immanuel ..	5,125.00		625.00	4,500.00
208.	Rock Rapids, Iowa .....	2,395.00			2,395.00



No.	Church	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1958	New Loans	Payments	Outstanding Dec. 31, 1959
209.	Rock Valley, Iowa - Calvin	5,500.00		950.00	4,550.00
210.	Rocky Mountain House, Alta. ....	10,762.50		765.00	9,997.50
211.	Rudyard, Michigan .....	1,600.00		800.00	800.00
212.	Saginaw, Michigan .....	11,650.00		1,375.00	10,275.00
213.	San Diego, California .....	5,000.00		1,100.00	3,900.00
214.	San Jose, California .....	8,750.00			8,750.00
215.	Sarnia, Ont., Canada - 1st	12,250.00			12,250.00
216.	Sarnia, Ont., Canada - 2nd	11,250.00		650.00	10,600.00
217.	Saskatoon, Sask. - Bethel	15,000.00		500.00	14,500.00
218.	Seattle, Wash. - First	11,900.00		775.00	11,125.00
219.	Seattle, Wash. - Calvary	14,750.00		500.00	14,250.00
220.	Sheboygan, Wis. - Calvin	15,000.00		750.00	14,250.00
221.	Sibley, Iowa .....	3,600.00		180.00	3,420.00
222.	Simcoe, Ont., Canada .....	5,000.00	4,000.00		9,000.00
223.	Sioux City, Iowa .....	8,000.00		500.00	7,500.00
224.	Sioux Falls, South Dakota	3,000.00		1,000.00	2,000.00
225.	Smithers, B. C., Canada	14,500.00		1,225.00	13,275.00
226.	Smithers & Telkwa, B. C.	5,000.00			5,000.00
227.	South Holland, Ill. - Cottage Grove .....	4,000.00		1,000.00	3,000.00
228.	Springdale, Ont., Canada	17,687.02		547.50	17,139.52
229.	St. Catharines, Ont., Can.	10,012.50		637.50	9,375.00
230.	Strathroy, Ont., Canada	10,900.00		900.00	10,000.00
231.	St. Thomas, Ont., Canada	14,500.00		225.00	14,275.00
232.	Sun Valley, Calif. - Bethel	12,500.00		750.00	11,750.00
233.	Sussex, New Jersey .....	8,325.00		525.00	7,800.00
234.	Taber, Alta., Canada .....	10,771.85			10,771.85
235.	Telkwa, B.C., Canada .....	7,500.00		375.00	7,125.00
236.	Terrace, B.C., Canada .....	12,500.00		375.00	12,125.00
237.	Terra Ceia, North Carolina	7,275.00		250.00	7,025.00
238.	Toronto, Ont., Canada - 1st	6,950.00		450.00	6,500.00
239.	Toronto, Ont. - 2nd Weston	15,000.00			15,000.00
240.	Toronto, Ont. - Annette	4,350.00		300.00	4,050.00
241.	Tracy, Iowa .....	4,750.00		250.00	4,500.00
242.	Transcona, Man., Canada	5,000.00			5,000.00
243.	Trenton, Ont., Canada	9,750.00		375.00	9,375.00
244.	Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada	10,000.00			10,000.00
245.	Tyler, Minnesota .....	585.00			585.00
246.	Vancouver, B.C. - 1st	8,373.00		1,000.00	7,373.00
247.	Vancouver, B.C., - Bethel	11,250.00			11,250.00
248.	Vauxhall, Alta., Canada	1,650.00	4,000.00	200.00	5,450.00
249.	Victoria, B.C., Canada	12,100.00			12,100.00
250.	Vogel Center, Michigan	10,000.00		500.00	9,500.00
251.	Wallaceburg, Ont., Canada	13,937.50		525.00	13,412.50
252.	Washington, D.C. ....	1,250.00		200.00	1,050.00
253.	Wayland, Michigan	9,500.00		500.00	9,000.00
254.	Wellandport, Ont., Canada	10,625.00		187.50	10,437.50
255.	Western Springs, Illinois	7,500.00		375.00	7,125.00
256.	Westlock, Alta., Canada	4,275.00		225.00	4,050.00
257.	Wheaton, Illinois .....	6,500.00			6,500.00
258.	Williamsburg, Ont., Canada	12,500.00			12,500.00
259.	Winnipeg, Man., Canada	8,450.00		650.00	7,800.00
260.	Woodstock, Ont., Canada	9,599.75		800.25	8,799.50
261.	Wyckoff, New Jersey .....	7,000.00		500.00	6,500.00
262.	Wyoming, Ont., Canada	12,000.00		1,300.00	10,700.00
263.	Zeeland, Michigan - Bethel	5,500.00		500.00	5,000.00
264.	Zillah, Washington .....	3,525.00		225.00	3,300.00

TOTALS .....\$2,139,601.56 \$112,000.00 \$145,307.49 \$2,106,294.07

## Schedule "C"

## Denominational Quotas by Classes and Other Receipts

Classes	1958	1959
Alberta North .....	\$ 1,096.79	\$ 217.42
Alberta South .....	693.72	271.50
British Columbia .....		307.71
Cadillac .....	662.25	339.92
California .....	2,116.05	975.67
Chatham .....	1,525.98	898.29
Chicago North .....	2,215.50	841.89
Chicago South .....	2,846.48	1,440.94
Eastern Ontario .....	843.82	411.33
Grand Rapids East .....	3,640.36	1,485.65
Grand Rapids South .....	4,330.75	1,219.72
Grand Rapids West .....	1,986.50	727.87
Grandville .....		820.58
Hackensack .....	1,311.26	648.08
Hamilton .....	1,504.94	870.72
Holland .....	2,725.75	1,029.52
Hudson .....	1,845.21	907.98
Kalamazoo .....	1,673.70	906.24
Minnesota North .....	1,417.23	554.49
Minnesota South .....	1,158.02	500.32
Muskegon .....	2,002.00	613.78
Northcentral Iowa .....	753.66	232.36
Orange City .....	1,261.29	384.86
Pacific .....	2,325.45	451.20
Pella .....	1,299.51	437.85
Rocky Mountain .....	851.17	371.50
Sioux Center .....	1,845.15	634.40
Toronto .....	960.38	214.47
Wisconsin .....	1,136.30	595.71
Zeeland .....	2,387.67	874.63
Canadian Exchange .....	675.64	656.29
Gift .....	2,584.26	3,505.00
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$51,676.79</b>	<b>\$24,347.89</b>

## Summary

Balance on hand January 31, 1959 .....		\$ 45,679.38
Receipts:		
Repayment .....	"B" \$145,307.49	
Quotas and other .....	"C" 24,347.89	169,655.38
		<u>\$215,334.76</u>
Disbursements: New Loans —		
Notes .....	"B" 112,000.00	
Administration Expense .....	"E" 1,093.72	\$113,093.72
		<u>\$102,241.04</u>

## Explanation of Exhibit "D"

Date: The date as shown on the note.

%: The percentage of the annual repayment.

Years: The number of years from the date of the note when the annual repayments are to begin.

Amount: The amount as shown on the face of the note.

Annual Repay Schedule: The amount to be repaid annually.

Repay Due December 31, 1959: The total amount that should have been paid.

Loans Outstanding: The balance due as shown on our ledger.

As you examine exhibit "D," you will note that the total as shown in the amount column less repay due should equal the balance of loans outstanding. If the amount in the column of loans outstanding is greater, the repayments are behind schedule. If the total is less, they are ahead of schedule.

**Schedule "D"**  
**Analysis — Loans Outstanding**

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
1.	3-13-52	Abbotsford, B. C.	5	5	\$ 4,125.00	\$ 206.25	\$ 618.75	\$
	12-31-52	Abbotsford, B. C.	5	5	2,625.00	131.25	393.75	
	12-31-52	Abbotsford, B. C.	5	1	3,500.00	175.00	1,225.00	
	5-20-54	Abbotsford, B. C.	5	5	1,875.00	93.75	93.75	10,000.00
	4-20-57	Ackley, Iowa	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	250.00	2,175.00
3.	10-21-54	Acton, Ont.	5	5	1,875.00	93.75	93.75	
	10-21-54	Acton, Ont.	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	625.00	
	9-28-56	Acton, Ont.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		13,125.00
4.	6-14-58	Ada, Michigan	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	
	6-14-58	Ada, Michigan	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	12,750.00
5.	12-31-52	Alameda, Calif.	5	1	8,000.00	400.00	2,800.00	5,200.00
6.	5-25-51	Alamosa, Colo.	5	1	7,000.00	350.00	2,800.00	3,850.00
7.	9- 1-53	Allendale, - 2nd	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	3,000.00	3,500.00
8.	11-29-57	Allison, Ia. - Bethel	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	300.00	2,662.00
9.	5-11-57	Ann Arbor, Mich.	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	400.00	3,600.00
10.	4-21-45	Arcadia, Calif.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	3,500.00	
	3-25-48	Arcadia, Calif.	5	1	1,900.00	95.00	1,045.00	
	12-10-54	Arcadia, Calif.	5	1	5,500.00	275.00	1,375.00	6,480.00
11.	7-31-54	Athens, Ont.	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	
	7-31-54	Athens, Ont.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,250.00	
	9- 5-56	Athens, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		12,250.00
12.	2- 3-50	Aylmer, Ont.	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,875.00	4,375.00
13.	3-13-52	Barrhead, Alta.	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	675.00	3,600.00
14.	10-15-53	Barrie, Ont.	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	10-15-53	Barrie, Ont.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,500.00	
	6- 1-35	Barrie, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		12,312.50
15.	12- 9-48	Battle Creek, Mich.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,750.00	4,750.00
	11-29-49	Battle Creek, Mich.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,500.00	
16.	11- 1-57	Bauer, Michigan	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	9,000.00
17.	12-29-50	Bejou, Minnesota	5	1	2,000.00	100.00	900.00	2,685.00
	11-19-56	Bejou, Minnesota	5	1	2,400.00	120.00	360.00	
18.	5- 2-55	Belleville, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	8-15-55	Belleville, Ont.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		15,000.00
19.	5-25-44	Bellflower, Calif.,						
		Bethany	5	1	6,000.00	300.00	4,500.00	300.00
20.	12-31-57	" Rehoboth	20	1	7,500.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	4,500.00
21.	3- 8-51	Bellwood, Illinois	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	4,000.00	5,750.00
22.	8- 2-48	Bemis, S. Dak.	5	1	8,000.00	400.00	4,400.00	3,100.00
23.	9-15-56	Bigelow, Minnesota	5	1	6,500.00	325.00	975.00	5,525.00
24.	7-30-55	Blenheim, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	2- 6-58	Blenheim, Ont.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		
	3- 1-58	Blenheim, Ont.	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	19,000.00
25.	5- 8-51	Bowmanville, Ont.	5	5	6,000.00	300.00	1,200.00	
	12- 5-51	Bowmanville, Ont.	5	5	3,000.00	150.00	600.00	
	4-11-56	Bowmanville, Ont.	5	5	3,000.00	150.00		10,200.00
26.	11-10-56	Bowness-						
		Montgomery, Alta.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		
	11- 1-57	Bowness-						
		Montgomery, Alta.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		15,000.00
27.	4- 4-46	Bozeman, Montana	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	3,250.00	
	5-31-47	Bozeman, Montana	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	1,800.00	
	4-19-54	Bozeman, Montana	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,250.00	7,200.00

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
28.	12-31-52	Brampton, Ont.	5	1	8,000.00	400.00	2,800.00	
	1-30-53	Brampton, Ont.	5	5	6,000.00	300.00	600.00	10,300.00
29.	3-10-54	Brandon, Manitoba	5	1	3,500.00	175.00	875.00	
	3-10-54	Brandon, Manitoba	5	5	2,625.00	131.25	131.25	
	3-8-55	Brandon, Manitoba	5	5	8,000.00	400.00		13,113.75
30.	8-12-53	Brantford, Ont.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,500.00	
	8-12-53	Brantford, Ont.	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	10-5-54	Brantford, Ont.	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	625.00	
	10-5-54	Brantford, Ont.	5	5	1,875.00	93.75	93.75	10,812.50
31.	10-26-57	Britt, Iowa	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	9,500.00
32.	2-6-51	Brockville, Ont.						
		Bethel	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	5,625.00
33.	6-14-52	Brooks, Alta.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	337.50	
	11-2-55	Brooks, Alta.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	2-6-58	Brooks, Alta.	5	5	4,000.00	200.00		
	2-6-58	Brooks, Alta.	20	1	3,000.00	600.00	600.00	12,800.00
34.	5-25-57	Brooten, Minnesota	5	1	7,000.00	350.00	700.00	5,950.00
35.	4-18-56	Burdett, Alta.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		4,750.00
36.	9-24-56	Burlington, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	10-23-58	Burlington, Ont.	5	5	7,500.00	375.00		12,500.00
37.	10-29-58	Burnaby, B. C.	5	5	8,000.00	400.00		8,000.00
38.	2-25-58	Byron Center, Mich.						
		2nd	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	9,500.00
39.	5-31-48	Cadillac, Michigan	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	1,375.00	
	10-29-48	Cadillac, Michigan	5	1	7,500.00	375.00	4,125.00	5,000.00
40.	9-3-52	Calgary, Alta. - 1st	5	5	12,000.00	600.00	1,800.00	
	12-8-57	Calgary, Alta. - 1st	20	1	4,000.00	800.00	1,600.00	12,600.00
41.	5-4-57	Calgary, Alta. - 2nd	5	5	12,000.00	600.00		12,000.00
42.	6-22-59	Calgary, Immanuel	5	5	3,000.00	150.00		3,000.00
43.	11-17-52	Cascade, Michigan	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,750.00	
	8-26-53	Cascade, Michigan	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,500.00	7,250.00
44.	3-17-54	Cedar, Iowa	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,250.00	3,550.00
45.	10-5-48	Chatham, Ont.	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	5,500.00	
	12-31-48	Chatham, Ont.	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	5,500.00	11,828.70
46.	11-23-53	Chilliwick, B. C.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	12-11-53	Chilliwick, B. C.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	
	1-11-55	Chilliwick, B. C.	5	5	4,000.00	200.00		
	6-7-57	Chilliwick, B. C.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		13,125.00
47.	11-28-58	Chino, Calif.	20	1	7,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	7,500.00
48.	9-14-49	Cincinnati, Ohio	5	1	8,000.00	400.00	4,000.00	2,800.00
49.	12-31-51	Clara City, Minn.	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	1,600.00	
	4-28-52	Clara City, Minn.	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	1,400.00	
	9-14-54	Clara City, Minn.	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	625.00	6,875.00
50.	8-18-53	Clarkson, Ont.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	8-18-53	Clarkson, Ont.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	
	7-26-54	Clarkson, Ont.	5	5	3,375.00	168.75	168.75	
	7-26-54	Clarkson, Ont.	5	1	4,500.00	225.00	1,125.00	11,362.50
51.	7-1-52	Clinton, Ont.	5	5	3,375.00	168.75	506.25	
	3-26-54	Clinton, Ont.	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	375.00	9,800.00
52.	4-4-56	Cobourg, Ont.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		
	6-29-57	Cobourg, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		15,000.00
53.	7-1-52	Cochrane, Ont.	5	5	5,625.00	281.25	843.75	4,781.25
54.	2-14-56	Collingwood, Ont.	5	5	8,000.00	400.00		6,800.00
55.	7-30-58	Columbus, Ohio						
		Olentangy	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	250.00	4,750.00
56.	5-10-52	Conrad, Montana	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,750.00	4,039.15
	12-31-54	Conrad, Montana	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,250.00	
57.	5-8-53	Cornwall, Ont.	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	5-8-53	Cornwall, Ont.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,500.00	

No.	Note Date	Church	% Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans
							Outstanding 12-31-59
	1-14-54	Cornwall, Ont. ....	5 5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	10,437.50
58.	12-12-50	Crookston, Minn. ....	5 1	2,000.00	100.00	900.00	755.63
59.	7-30-55	Cutlerville, Mich. -					
		East	5 1	10,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	8,000.00
60.	12-31-47	Dearborn, Mich. ....	5 1	8,000.00	400.00	4,800.00	10,620.00
	12-31-51	Dearborn, Mich. ....	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	2,000.00	
	5-17-56	Dearborn, Mich. ....	5 1	5,200.00	260.00	780.00	
61.	7-13-57	Decatur, Michigan	5 1	10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	8,831.46
62.	12-30-50	Delavan, Wis. ....	5 1	7,000.00	350.00	3,150.00	4,200.00
63.	11- 1-53	Denver, Colo. - III	5 1	10,000.00	500.00	3,000.00	7,000.00
64.	3-10-59	Denver - Trinity ....	5 1	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
65.	12-30-50	Des Plaines, Ill. ....	5 1	7,500.00	375.00	3,375.00	4,500.00
66.	11-24-47	Dorr, Michigan	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	3,000.00	562.50
67.	1-30-52	Drayton, Ont. ....	5 5	12,000.00	600.00	1,800.00	10,200.00
68.	12-31-52	Dresden, Ont. ....	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	1,750.00	10,250.00
	1-28-53	Dresden, Ont. ....	5 5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	4-12-54	Dresden, Ont. ....	5 5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	
69.	12-22-53	Duncan B. C. ....	5 5	3,375.00	168.75	337.50	
	12-22-53	Duncan, B. C. ....	5 1	4,500.00	225.00	750.00	
	9-12-55	Duncan, B. C. ....	5 5	2,000.00	100.00		
	8-13-57	Duncan, B. C. ....	5 5	5,000.00	250.00		13,581.25
70.	6- 2-59	Dunnville, Ont. ....	5 5	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
71.	7-23-51	Edmonton, Alta. -					
		2nd	5 5	7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	9,000.00
	12- 5-51	"	2nd	5 5	4,500.00	225.00	900.00
72.	4-14-52	"	3rd	5 5	12,000.00	600.00	1,800.00
73.	8-21-54	" Jasper Place	5 5	1,875.00	93.75	93.75	
	8-21-54	" Jasper Place	5 1	2,500.00	125.00	625.00	
	1-31-55	" Jasper Place	5 5	10,000.00	500.00		13,875.00
74.	9-28-53	" Beverly	5 5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	11-19-53	" Beverly	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	1,500.00	
	6- 2-54	" Beverly	5 5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	10,437.50
75.	9-15-56	Edson, Alta. ....	5 5	10,000.00	500.00		
	7-22-57	Edson, Alta. ....	5 5	5,000.00	250.00		
	9-17-59	Edson, Alta. ....	20 1	5,000.00	1,000.00		20,000.00
76.	11-29-54	Emo, Ont. ....	5 5	1,875.00	93.75	93.75	
	5-26-55	Emo, Ont. ....	5 5	7,000.00	350.00		
	11- 2-55	Emo, Ont. ....	5 5	1,500.00	75.00		10,081.25
77.	12-31-49	Escalon, Calif. ....	5 1	7,500.00	375.00	3,750.00	
	12-30-50	Escalon, Calif. ....	5 1	2,500.00	125.00	1,125.00	5,125.00
78.	4- 1-54	Escondido, Calif. ..	5 1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	
	11- 4-57	Escondido, Calif. ..	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	500.00	12,000.00
79.	3- 1-50	Essex, Ont. ....	5 5	4,125.00	206.25	1,031.25	
	11-27-54	Essex, Ont. ....	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	1,250.00	
	9-24-57	Essex, Ont. ....	5 5	6,275.00	313.75		
	11-29-57	Essex, Ont. ....	5 5	1,000.00	50.00		
	12-28-57	Essex, Ont. ....	20 1	4,000.00	800.00	1,600.00	16,790.00
80.	12-31-43	Everson, Wash. ....	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	4,000.00	
	6-17-46	Everson, Wash. ....	5 1	5,000.00	250.00	3,250.00	
	10-23-47	Everson, Wash. ....	5 1	1,000.00	50.00	600.00	3,200.00
81.	8-22-55	Exeter, Ont. ....	5 5	10,000.00	500.00		
	1-26-59	Exeter, Ont. ....	5 5	5,000.00	250.00		15,000.00
82.	4- 3-58	Falmouth, Mich. -					
		Prosper	20 1	10,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	8,000.00
83.	8-20-41	Flint, Michigan ....	5 1	2,500.00	125.00	2,250.00	
	11-13-41	Flint, Michigan ....	5 1	1,000.00	50.00	900.00	
	12-31-42	Flint, Michigan ....	5 1	2,000.00	100.00	1,700.00	
	1-14-54	Flint, Michigan ....	5 1	2,550.00	127.50	637.50	1,325.00
84.	11-12-54	Forest, Ont. ....	5 5	1,875.00	93.75	93.75	2,750.00

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
	11-12-54	Forest, Ont. ....	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	625.00	
85.	2- 8-58	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	
	2- 8-58	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. 20	1	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	13,500.00
86.	4-28-53	Ft. William, Ont. ..	5	5	5,250.00	262.50	525.00	
	8-21-54	Ft. William, Ont. ..	5	5	750.00	37.50	37.50	
	4-28-53	Ft. William, Ont. ..	5	1	7,000.00	350.00	2,100.00	10,200.00
87.	4-14-55	Fremont, Mich. ....						
		Trinity 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	
	2- 6-58	Trinity 20	1	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	12,000.00
88.	7-28-51	Fruitland, Ont. ....	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	900.00	8,381.25
	7- 1-52	Fruitland, Ont. ....	5	5	5,625.00	281.25	843.75	
89.	12-27-55	Fruitport, Mich. ....	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	8,000.00
90.	7-28-59	Galt, Ont. ....	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		10,000.00
91.	8-12-59	Gary, Indiana ....	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		10,000.00
92.	3-15-59	Georgetown, Ont. ....	5	5	15,000.00	750.00		15,000.00
93.	12-30-50	Goshen, New York 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	4,500.00	5,000.00
94.	7- 1-53	Grand Rapids, Mich. ....						
		Alger Park 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	3,000.00	5,000.00
95.	11-23-59	Arcadia 5	1	1	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
96.	8- 2-48	Immanuel 5	1	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,750.00	2,000.00
97.	12-31-54	Millbrook 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	8,000.00
98.	7-28-52	Plymouth Heights 5	1	1	7,500.00	375.00	2,625.00	4,500.00
99.	11-22-55	Riverside 5	1	1	4,000.00	200.00	800.00	
	3- 7-57	Riverside 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	
	3-24-58	Riverside 20	1	1	6,000.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	17,000.00
100.	11-13-58	Roger Heights 5	1	1	5,000.00	250.00	250.00	4,750.00
101.	11-18-54	36th St. 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	7,500.00
102.	11- 2-55	Grandville, Mich. ....						
		South 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	8,500.00
103.	11-29-49	Granum, Alta. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,875.00	
	4-24-51	Granum, Alta. ....	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	1,000.00	6,275.00
	7-11-56	Granum, Alta. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
104.	6-14-58	Greensville, Ont. ..	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		15,000.00
105.	9-16-55	Guelph, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	11-15-55	Guelph, Ont. ....	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		15,000.00
106.	4-23-51	Hamilton, Mich. ....	5	1	8,000.00	400.00	3,200.00	2,600.00
107.	11-29-49	Hamilton, Ont. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,875.00	5,050.00
108.	1-26-54	Haney, B. C. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	
	11- 6-52	Haney, B. C. ....	5	1	9,000.00	450.00	3,150.00	9,150.00
109.	12- 4-51	Hartley, Iowa 5	1	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,000.00	3,250.00
110.	8- 2-48	Hawarden, Iowa 5	1	1	6,000.00	300.00	3,300.00	1,151.65
111.	5-18-51	Hoboken, N. J. ....	5	1	1,500.00	75.00	600.00	
	12-31-52	Hoboken, N. J. ....	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	1,400.00	
	5- 2-53	Hoboken, N. J. ....	5	1	650.00	32.50	195.00	4,550.00
112.	11- 1-57	Holland, Mich. ....						
		Calvin 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	9,000.00
113.	10-26-57	Faith 20	1	1	7,500.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	4,500.00
114.	11-21-51	Holland Heights 5	1	1	7,500.00	375.00	3,000.00	
	5-15-58	Holland Heights 20	1	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	8,500.00
115.	12-31-58	Maranatha 20	1	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	3,000.00
116.	8-23-54	Park Church 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	7,500.00
117.	6-19-50	Holland, Minn. ....	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	1,350.00	1,584.00
118.	5-25-56	Holland Center, South Dakota 5	1	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	7,557.58
119.	3-25-48	Holland Marsh, Ont. 5	1	1	4,000.00	200.00	2,200.00	
	7-15-55	Holland Marsh, Ont. 5	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		9,985.53
120.	10- 1-47	Houston, B. C. ....	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	3,000.00	2,000.00
121.	3-14-55	Ingersoll, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	11-16-55	Ingersoll, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
	4- 6-58	Ingersoll, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		15,000.00
122.	11-29-49	Iron Springs, Alta. 5	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,875.00	
	12- 5-51	Iron Springs, Alta. 5	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	750.00	
	12-31-58	Iron Springs, Alta. 10	1	1	10,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	13,875.00
123.	4-25-56	Irving Park, N. J. ...	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	8,500.00
124.	2- 3-50	Jarvis, Ont. ....	5	5	9,000.00	450.00	2,250.00	
	3- 8-51	Jarvis, Ont. ....	5	5	3,000.00	150.00	600.00	7,650.00
125.	3-15-57	Jenison, Michigan - Trinity	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	500.00	4,500.00
126.	5-12-55	Kalamazoo, Mich. - Knollwood	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	800.00	3,200.00
127.	12- 3-58	Prairie Edge	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	
	9-17-59	Prairie Edge	5	1	5,000.00	250.00		14,500.00
128.	6- 1-53	Westwood	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	3,000.00	7,000.00
129.	2-15-59	Kemptville, Ont. ...	5	5	4,000.00	200.00		4,000.00
130.	4-23-56	Kenora, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
131.	12-31-52	Kingston, Ont. ....	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,750.00	
	2- 5-53	Kingston, Ont. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	9-14-54	Kingston, Ont. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	10,250.00
132.	5-15-53	Kitchener, Ont. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	5-15-53	Kitchener, Ont. ....	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,500.00	
	9-24-54	Kitchener, Ont. ....	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	625.00	
	9-24-54	Kitchener, Ont. ....	5	5	1,875.00	93.75	93.75	10,531.25
133.	12-31-45	Lacombe, Alta. - 1st	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	2,800.00	
	12-31-46	Lacombe, Alta. - 1st	5	1	1,000.00	50.00	650.00	
	6-23-48	Lacombe, Alta. - 1st	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	2,200.00	
	7- 7-48	Lacombe, Alta. - 1st	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	2,200.00	
	12-31-48	Lacombe, Alta. - 1st	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	1,650.00	5,375.00
134.	6-20-55	Lacombe - Bethel	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		15,000.00
	7- 2-56	Lacombe - Bethel	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
135.	12- 5-51	Ladner, B. C. ....	5	5	6,000.00	300.00	1,200.00	11,600.00
	12-27-55	Ladner, B. C. ....	5	5	1,500.00	75.00		
	5-15-58	Ladner, B. C. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
136.	11- 6-52	Langley, B. C. ....	5	1	7,000.00	350.00	2,450.00	
	4-28-53	Langley, B. C. ....	5	1	1,000.00	50.00	300.00	
	4-28-53	Langley, B. C. ....	5	5	750.00	37.50	75.00	10,885.00
137.	12-31-52	Lansing, Illinois - Oak Glen	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	3,500.00	6,500.00
138.	12- 4-42	Lansing, Michigan	5	1	7,500.00	375.00	6,375.00	1,500.00
139.	10-15-53	Leamington, Ont. ...	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	10-15-53	Leamington, Ont. ...	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	4,050.00
140.	5-12-54	LeMars, Iowa	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	7,500.00
141.	2- 5-52	Lethbridge, Alta. ...	5	1	8,000.00	400.00	2,800.00	
	12-31-53	Lethbridge, Alta. ...	5	5	6,000.00	300.00	600.00	10,600.00
142.	11- 6-53	Lindsay, Ont. ....	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	
	11- 6-53	Lindsay, Ont. ....	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	10-29-58	Lindsay, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		8,200.00
143.	10-19-50	Lodi, New Jersey ..	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	1,125.00	
	8- 3-57	Lodi, New Jersey ..	5	1	1,000.00	50.00	100.00	1,575.00
144.	7- 1-52	London, Ont. ....	5	5	6,000.00	300.00	900.00	
	3-14-53	London, Ont. ....	5	5	750.00	37.50	75.00	
	2-14-53	London, Ont. ....	5	1	1,000.00	50.00	300.00	6,475.00
145.	9- 5-52	Luverne, Minnesota	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	3,500.00	
	5-28-58	Luverne, Minnesota	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	250.00	
	5-28-58	Luverne, Minn. ....	20	1	2,500.00	500.00	500.00	13,250.00
146.	5-12-53	Lynden, Wash. - Bethel	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	3,000.00	4,000.00
147.	11-13-58	Maple Hts., Ohio. ..	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	9,500.00

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
148.	10-29-58	Martin, Michigan -						
		East	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	6,375.00
	10-29-58	East	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	125.00	
149.	2-16-55	Medicine Hat, Alta.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		14,500.00
	3-24-58	Medicine Hat, Alta.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
150.	10-14-57	Miami, Florida	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	12,000.00
	10-14-57	Miami, Florida	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	
151.	12-31-42	Milwaukee, Wis.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	4,250.00	6,750.00
	9-26-52	Milwaukee, Wis.	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	1,400.00	
	8-15-56	Milwaukee, Wis.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	450.00	
152.	5- 1-48	Minneapolis, Minn.	5	1	7,000.00	350.00	3,850.00	3,150.00
153.	7- 5-50	Modesto, Calif.	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	1,800.00	
	7-26-50	Modesto, Calif.	5	1	2,000.00	100.00	900.00	3,300.00
154.	12-31-51	Monroe, Wash.	5	1	9,000.00	450.00	3,600.00	5,400.00
155.	8-15-56	Montreal, Quebec	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
156.	2-27-50	Morrison, Illinois	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,250.00	2,750.00
157.	5-11-57	Mountain Lake, Minn.	5	1	3,365.00	168.25	336.50	3,028.50
158.	4-28-53	Mt. Hamilton, Ont.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	4-28-53	Mt. Hamilton, Ont.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	
	6- 1-54	Mt. Hamilton, Ont.	5	5	6,750.00	337.50	337.50	10,850.00
169.	4-18-58	Mt. Vernon, Wash.						
		1st	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	13,500.00
	4-18-58	1st	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
160.	7-22-57	Muskegon, Mich.						
		Bluffton	5	1	7,000.00	350.00	700.00	6,200.00
161.	3-18-55	Grace	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	
	3- 7-57	Grace	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	400.00	13,000.00
162.	12-16-58	Navan, Ont.	5	5	4,000.00	200.00		4,000.00
163.	6- 6-49	Neerlandia, Alta.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,500.00	
	5-27-50	Neerlandia, Alta.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,250.00	4,980.00
164.	11- 4-57	Newmarket, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
165.	12- 2-57	New Liskeard, Ont.	5	5	8,000.00	400.00		15,000.00
	4-13-59	New Liskeard, Ont.	5	5	4,500.00	225.00		
	4-13-59	New Liskeard, Ont.	20	1	2,500.00	500.00		
166.	4-22-59	New Richmond, Michigan	5	1	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
167.	10- 4-47	Newton, N. J.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	3,000.00	
	5-22-50	Newton, N. J.	5	1	7,500.00	375.00	3,375.00	6,125.00
168.	8-18-53	New Westminster, B. C., Canada	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	8-18-53	"	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	800.00	
	7- 6-54	"	5	5	6,750.00	337.50	337.50	10,537.50
169.	12-31-55	Niagara Falls-Stamford, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	5-15-58	Niagara Falls-Stamford, Ont.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		15,000.00
170.	2- 6-56	North Haledon, N.J.	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	600.00	
	11-29-57	North Haledon, N.J.	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	12,400.00
171.	11- 8-49	Oak Lawn, Ill.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,500.00	1,000.00
172.	8- 6-46	Ogilvie, Minnesota	5	1	2,000.00	100.00	1,300.00	14,400.00
	5- 7-47	Ogilvie, Minnesota	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	1,800.00	
	8-18-52	Ogilvie, Minnesota	5	1	1,000.00	50.00	350.00	
	8- 1-55	Ogilvie, Minnesota	5	3	7,500.00	750.00	1,500.00	
	8- 1-55	Ogilvie, Minnesota	5	3	7,500.00	750.00	1,500.00	
173.	4-13-54	Ontario, Calif.	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	7,500.00
174.	3-15-58	Oostburg, Wis. - 1st	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00
175.	8-18-53	Orangeville, Ont.	5	1	2,500.00	125.00	750.00	
	8-18-53	Orangeville, Ont.	5	5	1,875.00	93.75	187.50	



No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
	3- 7-57	Orangeville, Ont. ..	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	3-23-57	Orangeville, Ont. ..	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		13,175.00
176.	3-24-58	Orillia, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	7-28-59	Orillia, Ont. ....	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		15,000.00
177.	6- 8-55	Oshawa, Ont. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50		
	10-17-56	Oshawa, Ont. ....	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		
	2-21-57	Oshawa, Ont. ....	5	5	1,250.00	62.50		
	8-23-57	Oshawa, Ont. ....	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	19,000.00
178.	12-30-50	Oskaloosa, Iowa -						
		Bethel 5	1		6,000.00	300.00	2,700.00	8,050.00
	6-14-58	" Bethel 5	1		5,000.00	500.00	500.00	
179.	5-26-54	Ottawa, Ont. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	375.00	
	3-23-57	Ottawa, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	4-18-58	Ottawa, Ont. ....	20	1	3,000.00	600.00	600.00	15,500.00
180.	6-11-51	Owen Sound, Ont. 5	5		7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	6,500.00
	12-31-52	Owen Sound, Ont. 5	1		3,000.00	150.00	1,050.00	
	1-26-53	Owen Sound, Ont. 5	5		2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
181.	6-18-55	Palos Heights, Ill. 5	1		10,000.00	500.00	2,000.00	
	7-25-56	Palos Heights, Ill. 5	1		4,000.00	200.00	600.00	11,400.00
182.	3- 3-59	Parchment, Mich. 5	1		10,000.00	500.00		10,000.00
183.	4- 6-51	Peers, Alta. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	
	6-29-54	Peers, Alta. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	10,125.00
184.	4-13-57	Pella, Iowa-Calvary 5	1		5,000.00	250.00	500.00	4,500.00
185.	12-31-52	Pembroke, Ont. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	562.50	
	12-31-52	Pembroke, Ont. ....	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,750.00	
	9-12-57	Pembroke, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		11,521.00
186.	6-26-55	Peterborough, Ont. 5	5		7,000.00	350.00		
	11-13-58	Peterborough, Ont. 5	5		5,000.00	250.00		11,650.00
187.	12-31-48	Phoenix, Arizona ..	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,750.00	
	7-26-50	Phoenix, Arizona ..	5	1	6,000.00	300.00	2,700.00	6,200.00
188.	12-31-51	Pine Creek, Mich. 5	1		6,000.00	300.00	2,400.00	3,900.00
189.	5-18-54	Pipestone, Minn. ...	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	7,500.00
190.	10-18-56	Plainfield, Mich. ...	5	1	8,500.00	425.00	1,275.00	7,225.00
191.	12-11-53	Port Alberni, B. C. 5	5		1,125.00	56.25	112.50	
	12-11-53	Port Alberni, B. C. 5	1		1,500.00	75.00	450.00	
	10- 1-55	Port Alberni, B. C. 5	5		5,000.00	250.00		5,800.00
192.	11-23-59	Portland, Michigan 5	1		5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
193.	12-20-58	Port Williams, N. S. 5	5		5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
194.	10- 4-58	Preakness, N. J. ....	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00
195.	12-12-50	Randolph, Wisconsin -						
		Second 5	1		7,500.00	375.00	3,375.00	4,125.00
196.	7-25-39	Raymond, Minn. ...	5	1	1,500.00	75.00	1,500.00	
	9-29-41	Raymond, Minn. ...	5	1	1,000.00	50.00	900.00	
	3-15-50	Raymond, Minn. ...	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,250.00	2,745.00
197.	1-30-52	Red Deer, Alta. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,125.00	
	6-11-54	Red Deer, Alta. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	187.50	9,750.00
198.	12-23-49	Redlands, Calif., 2nd 5	1		5,000.00	250.00	2,500.00	4,775.00
	10-10-52	Redlands, Calif., 2nd 5	1		3,500.00	175.00	1,225.00	
199.	3- 3-59	Regina, Sask. ....	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		
	8-12-59	Regina, Sask. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		15,000.00
200.	5- 2-55	Renfrew, Ont. ....	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		
	10-14-57	Renfrew, Ont. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		15,000.00
201.	2-25-58	Richmond, B. C. ...	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		
	2-25-58	Richmond, B. C. ...	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	14,000.00
202.	10-10-46	Ripon, Calif. -						
		Immanuel 5	1		7,500.00	375.00	4,875.00	
	12-30-50	" Immanuel 5	1		5,000.00	250.00	2,250.00	4,500.00
203.	5-17-50	Rock Rapids, Iowa 5	1		5,000.00	250.00	2,250.00	
	6-26-51	Rock Rapids, Iowa 5	1		1,000.00	50.00	400.00	2,395.00

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
204.	10- 2-51	Rock Valley, Iowa - Calvin	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	4,000.00	4,550.00
205.	4- 6-51	Rocky Mountain House, Alta.	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	
	5- 8-53	" "	5	1	2,250.00	112.50	675.00	
	5- 8-53	" "	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	9,997.50
206.	7-23-57	Rudyard, Michigan	5	1	2,000.00	100.00	200.00	800.00
207.	12-31-47	Saginaw, Michigan	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	6,000.00	
	8-28-51	Saginaw, Michigan	5	1	7,500.00	375.00	3,000.00	10,275.00
208.	8-20-46	San Diego, Calif.	5	1	7,000.00	350.00	4,550.00	
	8-19-49	San Diego, Calif.	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	2,000.00	3,900.00
209.	12-31-54	San Jose, Calif.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,250.00	
	9-24-57	San Jose, Calif.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	500.00	8,750.00
210.	10-19-43	Sarnia, Ont. - 1st.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	2,400.00	
	8- 2-48	Sarnia, Ont. - 1st.	5	1	12,000.00	600.00	6,600.00	
	4-21-49	Sarnia, Ont. - 1st.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	2,500.00	12,250.00
211.	8- 9-52	Sarnia, Ont. - 2nd	5	5	6,000.00	300.00	900.00	
	11- 6-53	Sarnia, Ont. - 2nd	5	5	3,000.00	150.00	300.00	
	11- 6-53	Sarnia, Ont. - 2nd	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	1,200.00	10,600.00
212.	9-23-54	Saskatoon, Sask. - Bethel	5	5	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	
	5-15-58	" Bethel	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		14,500.00
213.	12-21-49	Seattle, Wash. - 1st	5	1	8,000.00	400.00	4,000.00	
	2-25-58	Seattle, Wash. - 1st	5	1	7,500.00	375.00	375.00	11,125.00
214.	8-24-57	Seattle - Calvary	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	500.00	
	5-15-58	Seattle - Calvary	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	500.00	14,250.00
215.	4-26-58	Sheboygan, Wis. - Calvin	5	1	15,000.00	750.00	750.00	14,250.00
216.	8-25-56	Sibley, Iowa	5	1	4,000.00	200.00	600.00	3,420.00
217.	2- 1-59	Simcoe, Ont.	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	6-22-59	Simcoe, Ont.	5	5	4,000.00	200.00		9,000.00
218.	5-18-54	Sioux City, Iowa	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	7,500.00
219.	3- 6-50	Sioux Falls, S. Dak.	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	4,500.00	2,000.00
220.	4- 9-52	Smithers, B. C.	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	675.00	
	6-10-57	Smithers, B. C.	5	5	7,600.00	380.00		
	11-14-57	Smithers, B. C.	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	13,275.00
221.	1-29-55	Smithers & Telkwa, B. C.	5	1	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
222.	12-31-57	South Holland, Ill. - Cottage Grove	20	1	5,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	3,000.00
223.	5-17-51	Springdale, Ont.	5	5	5,700.00	285.00	1,140.00	
	5-19-53	Springdale, Ont.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	5-19-53	Springdale, Ont.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	
	2-19-55	Springdale, Ont.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		17,139.52
224.	2- 3-50	St. Catharines, Ont.	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,875.00	
	6- 4-53	St. Catharines, Ont.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	6- 4-53	St. Catharines, Ont.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	9,375.00
225.	12- 5-51	Strathroy, Ont.	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	
	12-31-52	Strathroy, Ont.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	1,050.00	
	2-19-53	Strathroy, Ont.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	10,000.00
226.	5-12-53	St. Thomas, Ont.	5	5	2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	5-12-53	St. Thomas, Ont.	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	900.00	
	6-11-55	St. Thomas, Ont.	5	5	10,000.00	500.00		14,275.00
227.	12-29-54	Sun Valley, Calif. - Bethel	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	11,750.00
	12-29-56	" Bethel	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	750.00	
228.	12-31-51	Sussex, New Jersey	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	1,200.00	
	4-23-55	Sussex, New Jersey	5	1	7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	7,800.00

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
229.	6- 4-52	Taber, Alta. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,125.00	
	12-31-52	Taber, Alta. ....	5	1	2,750.00	137.50	962.50	
	2-14-53	Taber, Alta. ....	5	5	2,062.50	103.13	206.26	10,771.85
230.	6- 1-54	Telkwa, B. C. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	375.00	7,125.00
231.	5-24-54	Terrace, B. C. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	375.00	
	5-25-56	Terrace, B. C. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		12,125.00
232.	12-31-47	Terra Ceia, N. Car. 5	1		4,000.00	200.00	2,400.00	
	5-19-48	Terra Ceia, N. Car. 5	1		2,000.00	100.00	1,100.00	
	11-26-49	Terra Ceia, N. Car. 5	1		1,000.00	50.00	500.00	
	12-31-54	Terra Ceia, N. Car. 5	1		4,900.00	245.00	1,225.00	7,025.00
233.	11- 9-50	Toronto, Ont. - 1st 5	5		9,000.00	450.00	2,250.00	6,500.00
234.	11- 5-56	Toronto, Ont. - 2nd Weston 5	5		15,000.00	750.00		15,000.00
235.	8-18-53	Toronto - Annette 5	5		2,250.00	112.50	225.00	4,050.00
	8-18-53	Toronto - Annette 5	1		3,000.00	150.00	900.00	
236.	6-30-45	Tracy, Iowa ....	5	1	3,500.00	175.00	2,450.00	
	9-13-57	Tracy, Iowa ....	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	500.00	4,500.00
237.	4- 2-55	Tanscona, Man. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		5,000.00
238.	7-20-50	Trenton, Ont. ....	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	1,125.00	
	1-15-51	Trenton, Ont. ....	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	900.00	
	3- 8-51	Trenton, Ont. ....	5	5	3,000.00	150.00	600.00	9,375.00
239.	8-24-57	Truro, Nova Scotia 5	5		10,000.00	500.00		10,000.00
240.	6-26-51	Tyler, Minnesota.. 5	1		900.00	45.00	360.00	585.00
241.	10- 1-47	Vancouver, B.C. - 1st 5	1		7,500.00	375.00	4,500.00	
	11-29-48	Vancouver 1st 5	1		10,000.00	500.00	5,500.00	7,373.00
242.	6-18-54	Vancouver - Bethel 5	5		11,250.00	562.50	562.50	11,250.00
243.	1-14-54	Vauxhall, Alta. ....	5	5	4,125.00	206.25	206.25	
	11-23-59	Vauxhall, Alta. ....	5	5	4,000.00	200.00		5,450.00
244.	9- 5-56	Victoria, B. C. ....	5	5	5,000.00	250.00		
	8- 1-56	Victoria, B. C. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00		12,100.00
245.	4- 3-58	Vogel Center, Mich. 5	1		10,000.00	500.00	500.00	9,500.00
246.	12-31-52	Wallaceburg, Ont... 5	1		3,000.00	150.00	1,050.00	
	2- 2-53	Wallaceburg, Ont... 5	5		2,250.00	112.50	225.00	
	2-15-56	Wallaceburg, Ont... 5	5		10,000.00	500.00		13,412.50
247.	3-17-45	Washington, D. C. 5	1		3,850.00	192.50	2,695.00	1,050.00
248.	10-14-57	Wayland, Mich. ... 5	1		10,000.00	500.00	1,000.00	9,000.00
249.	11- 6-52	Wellandport, Ont... 5	5		3,750.00	187.50	562.50	
	11- 6-52	Wellandport, Ont... 5	1		5,000.00	250.00	1,750.00	
	3-24-64	Wellandport, Ont... 5	5		3,750.00	187.50	187.50	10,437.50
250.	3-15-58	Western Springs, Illinois .....	5	1	7,500.00	375.00	375.00	7,125.00
251.	3-13-52	Westlock, Alta. ....	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	675.00	4,050.00
252.	9- 9-51	Wheaton, Illinois .. 5	1		10,000.00	500.00	4,000.00	6,500.00
253.	1-14-54	Williamsburg, Ont. 5	5		7,500.00	375.00	375.00	12,500.00
	7-16-55	Williamsburg, Ont. 5	5		5,000.00	250.00		
254.	6- 4-52	Winnipeg, Man. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,125.00	
	12-30-50	Winnipeg, Man. ....	5	1	3,000.00	150.00	1,350.00	7,800.00
255.	4- 6-51	Woodstock, Ont. ....	5	5	7,500.00	375.00	1,500.00	
	10- 9-51	Woodstock, Ont. ....	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	900.00	8,799.50
256.	10-13-47	Wyckoff, New Jersey - Calvin 1	1		5,000.00)			
	10- 2-48	" " " " " 1	1		5,000.00)	Bonds		6,500.00
	3- 9-53	" " " " " 1	1		2,000.00)			
	53	X Bonds			10,000.00	500.00	3,500.00	
256.	5-10-52	Wyoming, Ont. ....	5	5	4,500.00	225.00	675.00	
	11-28-53	Wyoming, Ont. ....	5	5	3,750.00	187.50	375.00	
	11-28-53	Wyoming, Ont. ....	5	1	5,000.00	250.00	1,500.00	10,700.00

No.	Note Date	Church	%	Yrs.	Amount	Annual Repay	Repay Due 12-31-59	Loans Outstanding 12-31-59
258.	12-30-50	Zeeland, Michigan -						
		Bethel	5	1	10,000.00	500.00	4,500.00	5,000.00
259.	12-31-53	Zillah, Washington	5	1	4,500.00	225.00	1,350.00	3,300.00
Total Loans Outstanding .....								\$2,106,294.07

## Schedule "E"

## Administration Expense

Total Administration Expense .....\$1,093.72

(itemized accounts available)

**SUPPLEMENT NO. 19**

(Articles 58, 129, 172)

**INFALLIBILITY AND INSPIRATION**

Synod of the  
Christian Reformed Church  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Esteemed Brethren:

The committee which Synod of 1959 appointed to "Study Matters of Infallibility and Inspiration" wishes to report that diligent work is being done to carry out the mandate of Synod. Already a number of meetings have been held and more are planned in the course of the summer and fall of this year. With God's blessing we hope to complete our work and present our report in time to be printed in the Agenda of Synod for 1961.

Respectfully yours,

Paul G. Schrotenboer, *Sec'y.*

SUPPLEMENT NO. 20  
(Articles 52, 102, 154, 172)

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CALVIN  
COLLEGE AND SEMINARY

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary herewith submits its report, together with its recommendations. A supplementary report will be submitted after the May meeting.

I. INFORMATION

A. *Board of Trustees*

1. *Membership*

That there is a rapid and constant change in the membership of the Board of Trustees was again indicated at the February meeting, for twelve new members were present.

2. *Officers*

The following were chosen as officers:

President, Rev. W. Van Rees

First Vice-President, Rev. T. C. Van Kooten

Second Vice-President, Rev. M. Goote

Secretary, Rev. J. F. Schuurmann

Assistant Secretary, Rev. L. Veltkamp

3. *Meeting*

The winter sessions of the Board, held during the first week of February, 1960, required three and a half days to complete the scheduled work. The agenda of the meeting consisted of items presented by the Executive Committee as well as the reports of the president of the seminary, of the president of the college and of the committees of the Board.

4. *Executive Committee*

a. *Meetings.* Twelve members of the Board of Trustees (seven ministers and five laymen) function as an Executive Committee which meets once a month to administer the work of our institution between Board sessions. These are elected by the Board of Trustees in May.

b. *Class visits* were made by members of the Executive Committee and members of the Board of Trustees living in Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Ontario. The class visits are not only of the members of the teaching staff that are up for reappointment, but of all teachers in Seminary and College. One hundred thirty-two visits were assigned last year.

5. *Committees*

a. *Long Range Planning Committee.* The committee reported that the erection of the Centennial Memorial Seminary Building has proceeded to date without serious interruption. Relations of the school administration with the architects and contractors have been uniformly good. No labor

difficulties have arisen and there have been no serious obstacles to the procurement of the necessary supplies.

Upon the recommendation of the committee the Board appointed a committee of six which will be responsible for furnishing the new Seminary Building.

In accordance with the recommendation of the committee, the Board also approved the construction of a library-classroom building and authorized the Executive Committee to approve the plans as they are forthcoming from the architects and approved by the Long Range Planning Committee. This action is a modification of, although in harmony with, the decision of Synod, 1959 (*Acts*, p. 25, Art. 84, II, 2).

The committee informed the Board that the Calvin College Alumni Association pledges to attempt to raise the \$500,000 needed from it for Alumni Hall, with the understanding the college accepts the responsibility for the balance of funds needed. (This is in accord with the decision of Synod, *Acts*, 1957, p. 65, Art. V.) This offer the Board accepted with thanks. In agreement with the recommendation of the committee the Board confirmed the decisions of its Executive Committee in awarding construction contracts for the Centennial Memorial Seminary Building and for the college athletic field at Knollcrest and approved the Knollcrest Master Plan as completed by the Board of Design.

b. *Committee Regarding the Examination of Candidates for the Ministry.* The Synod of 1959 instructed the Study Committee on Particular Synods and Candidates' Examination to confer with the Calvin Seminary Faculty and the Board of Trustees on the decision that Synod discontinue the examination of men aspiring to candidacy in the Christian Reformed Church by Synod at its annual session. The Executive Committee appointed a committee to study this matter and the recommendations of this committee were adopted by the Board of Trustees and forwarded to the Synodical Study Committee.

## B. Seminary

### 1. Faculty

a. All of the professors have signed the Formula of Subscription.

b. Dr. Henry Stob was re-elected as Secretary and Rev. Harold Dekker as Registrar.

c. Prof. Bastiaan Van Elderen was ordained to the ministry and inducted into office at the morning worship service of the First Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids on Sunday, September 27, 1959.

d. Dr. Fred Klooster is spending the present school year in Basel, Switzerland.

e. Prof. Marten Woudstra is studying at Westminster Seminary the second semester of the present school year, and is working toward his doctorate.

f. Dr. Henry Stob was granted a sabbatical leave for the year 1960-61. He plans to study abroad with a view to doing some writing in the field of Ethics.

g. The Board of Trustees interviewed Drs. A. Hoekema and R. Stob, who are being considered for reappointment. The recommendations to Synod concerning their appointments appear in Part II of this report.

h. The Board of Trustees, in considering nominees for Professor of Old Testament, interviewed Prof. David Kerr, Rev. John Stek, and Dr. John Zinkand.

i. *Faculty Activities.* The members of the faculty have again been active in extra-curricular work designed to be of service to the school and the church. Of these various activities only one will be mentioned. Upon the invitation of Rev. John Vander Ploeg, Editor of *The Banner*, each of the faculty members has agreed to write three articles on the general subject "Emphases in Reformed Theology at Calvin Seminary."

j. With respect to the inauguration of professors with indefinite tenure, the Board adopted the following:

(1) That faculty members who receive indefinite tenure on the faculty of Calvin Seminary be formally confirmed in office in an academic ceremony as soon as possible during the academic year following such appointment by Synod.

(2) That the following general rules be adopted regarding ceremonies honoring and confirming in office persons receiving indefinite tenure to the faculty of Calvin Seminary:

(a) Invitations shall be extended to the public and formal invitations to selected officials and professors of the larger academic community.

(b) Participation and general procedure:

1<sup>st</sup> The faculty shall appear in academic procession.

2<sup>nd</sup> The president of the seminary shall preside.

3<sup>rd</sup> The president of the Board of Trustees shall confirm the honored professor in his office by reading an appropriately-worded version of the synodical decision concerning his appointment and shall require of him an oral endorsement of the *Formula of Subscription*.

4<sup>th</sup> The president of the seminary shall offer a prayer of consecration.

5<sup>th</sup> The honored professor shall deliver an inaugural address.

(c) A reception shall follow the ceremonies.

(d) Provisions shall be made for the publication of the inaugural address.

(3) That the above rules be made to apply retroactively to Prof. Henry Stob's recent appointment.

## 2. Curriculum

a. All the required courses have been taught in the seminary.

b. *Elective Offerings.* The following elective courses were taught during the past semester: 143g, *Problems in Old Testament Biblical Theology* (The Servant of Jehovah in Isaiah); 146, *The History of Revelation with Regard to the Idea of Missions*; 149, *The Messages of the Psalmists*; Dr. Wyngaarden; 159, *Hebrew Reading*, Prof. Woudstra; 245, *The Fulness of Time*, Dr. R. Stob; 544, *The Philosophy of St. Augustine*



Dr. H. Stob; 646, *Studies in the History of Preaching*, Prof. C. Kromminga; 745, *The History of Christian Missions*, Prof. Dekker.

The following elective courses were offered for the second semester: 144, *Problems in Old Testament Introduction*, 154, *The Messages of the Minor Prophets*, Dr. Wyngaarden; 245, *The Fullness of Time*, 248, *Exegesis of Romans*, Dr. R. Stob; 251, *Biblical Archaeology*, Prof. Van Elderen; 341, *Roman Catholicism Since the Reformation*, Dr. J. Kromminga; 546, *The Ethics of Karl Barth*, Dr. R. Stob; 651, *Reformed Church Polity*, Prof. Monsma, 749, *Contemporary Missionary Problems*, Prof. Dekker.

c. *Dutch Examinations.* With the coöperation of Prof. Walter Lagerwey of Calvin College, a system and schedule of Dutch reading examinations for seminary entrance has been set up and adopted. This is in keeping with the provisions adopted by the Board and the Synod in 1959.

d. The Board approved a change in the seminary curriculum so that Senior students are allowed to elect two of the following three courses:

Modern Religious Cults (Dr. Hoekema)

Ethnic Religions (Prof. Dekker)

The History of Christian Missions (Prof. Dekker)

This change, in which the Board concurred, will allow a shade more room for student election in our curriculum, which at present is probably more tightly prescribed than any other in the country. The choice will also permit some slight degree of specialization by those who are hoping to enter the fields, respectively, of foreign missions, home missions, or the regular pastorate.

e. *Prizes.* The Board adopted the following regulations with respect to prizes in the seminary:

(1) That a prize of \$200 shall be offered bi-annually in each department for the best research paper submitted on a subject chosen by the department. This subject is to be distinct from those on which students are required to write term papers, and the research paper is to be other than that required in any regular course. For the purpose of awarding prizes, Missions shall be considered a separate department. The departmental order of awards shall be as follows:

*Year A:* Old Testament, Dogmatics, Church History, Missions;

*Year B:* New Testament, Ethics and Apologetics, Practical Theology.

(2) That no professor may submit more than one subject for a given prize. (Thus in departments having only one professor there will be only one topic, but in departments having two professors there may be two topics from which a choice will be made by those competing for that prize.)

(3) That only middler and senior students in good academic standing shall be considered eligible to compete for these prizes. No student may submit more than one entry each year.

(4) That awards shall be made by the faculty upon the recommendation of the department concerned.

(5) That when private individuals or groups finance the prizes the following requirements shall be met for attaching to any of these prizes a name in addition to that of the department concerned:

(a) An endowment must be given in sufficient amount to maintain the prize in perpetuity.

(b) Approvals must be granted by the seminary faculty and the Board of Trustees.

(6) That with respect to prizes currently offered the following policy shall be in force:

(a) The Alumni-Seminary Faculty Memorial Award shall be retained for the Junior Class.

(b) The Class 1943 Speech Award shall be given as heretofore until the steadily diminishing Fund has been expended.

(c) The donors of other prizes (the Manhattan Junior Prize, the Pastoral Counselling Prize, and the Jewish Evangelism Prize) shall be informed regarding this new system of prizes and be given an opportunity to participate on its terms.

(7) That the faculty request the Board of Trustees to supply the funds for these prizes.

(8) That the implementation of these decisions and the continuing programming of these prizes shall be the responsibility of the president of the seminary.

## 2. Students

a. The present enrollment in Calvin Seminary is 117. There are 36 Juniors, 37 Middlers, 27 Seniors, 14 Graduate Students, and 3 Part-Time students.

b. Seven special seminary students were given regular status upon recommendation of the seminary faculty.

c. A sub-committee of the Executive Committee interviewed 28 college students for pre-enrollment in the seminary. This is related to their draft status.

d. *Diamond Jubilee Scholarship.* The faculty presented Mr. John Koole, a Senior seminarian, as candidate for the Diamond Jubilee Scholarship. The Board decided to award the Scholarship to Mr. J. Koole.

e. *Student Exhorting.* The number of requests for the services of student exhorters has been lower than desired. Through Prof. Carl Kromminga, Director of Field Work, efforts have been made to improve this situation.

## C. College

### 1. Faculty

a. At its last meeting the Board of Trustees took action on the re-appointment of 25 members of the college staff. Of this number one is on the administrative staff. Interviews were conducted with those teachers who are being recommended for faculty status and for those

who are being considered for an appointment to the college staff. The list for Synod's approval appears in Part II of this report.

b. The board took note of and congratulated the following:

(1) Dr. John De Vries, who has been honored by his appointment to the staff of the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C., as a Professional Assistant to the Academic Year Institutes Program.

(2) Mr. Richard Tiemersma, who has been awarded a scholarship from the Danforth Foundation.

(3) Mr. Alan Gebben, who received a National Science Foundation Faculty Fellowship.

(4) Professor Henry Van Til, who is the author of a new book, *Calvinistic Concept of Culture*.

(5) Dr. Nicholas Wolterstorff, who read a paper titled "Causality" at the Wheaton Philosophical Conference.

(6) Mr. Bernard Ten Broek, who read a paper at the recent American Association for the Advancement of Science Convention.

(7) Dr. Thedford Dirkse and Dr. John De Vries, who collaborated on a bit of research, on which each reported at the convention of the Electro-Chemical Society, at Columbus, Ohio.

(8) Dr. Roger Faber, who received an \$11,500 research grant from the National Science Foundation for work on *Electron Spin Resonance Study of Organic Free Radicals in Solution* and a grant of \$2,090 from the Research Corporation for research on *Solvent and Temperature Effects in Paramagnetic Resonance Spectra of Free Radicals in Solution*.

(9) Prof. Harold Geerdes, under whose direction the Calvin College Concert Band appeared at the Midwestern Music Conference at Ann Arbor, Michigan, on January 9, 1960, the first small-college band to play for this music teacher's conference, which is sponsored jointly by the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association and the University of Michigan.

c. *Leaves of Absence*. The Board decided that

(1) Mr. Alan Gebben, studying biology at the University of Michigan, be given a one-year extension of his leave of absence in order that he may be able to complete his graduate requirements for the Ph.D. degree.

(2) Dr. John De Vries be given a leave of absence in order that he may accept the appointment to the staff of the National Science Foundation in Washington, D.C., as a Professional Assistant in the Academic Year Institutes Program (1960-61).

(3) Mr. Richard Tiemersma be given a one-year leave of absence to accept a scholarship from the Danforth Foundation.

(4) Miss Henrietta Ten Harmsel be given a year's extension of her leave of absence, which will bring her far toward the fulfilling of graduate course requirements for an advanced degree.

d. *The Campus Health Service*. The Health Center is now staffed by two physicians, Dr. Harvey Bratt (surgeon) and Dr. Laurence Feenstra

(internist), who alternate in keeping office hours one hour each morning, Monday through Friday.

The new campus nurse, Mrs. Henry Zwaanstra, capably fills her important position. The office hours at the Health Center have been extended, necessitating employment of an additional part-time nurse. This semester, 1949 out-of-town students called at the Health Center, while 359 in-town students availed themselves of the service.

Dr. Léonard Vander Linde, the College Psychologist, also keeps office hours at the Health Center. He is stationed at the Health Center all day on Thursdays.

## 2. Curriculum

### a. Education Department Course Offerings.

(1) The Education Department is making a thorough appraisal of its course offerings. Some important changes have already been introduced. The single-semester course in the *History of Education* is being revised into a full-year course now titled *Philosophical Foundations of Education*. Likewise, an attempt is being made to eliminate special secondary school methods courses and concentrate consideration of general educational methods into the course on *Principles of Education*.

(2) The long-range needs of the department have been spelled out, and a reorganization of the administration of the teacher-training program has been proposed.

(3) Calvin College has made application for recognition by the National Council of Accrediting Teacher Education, and an elaborate study of Calvin's teacher-training program and of its relation to the College as a whole is being made.

## 3. Chapel Readings

A new booklet of responsive *Chapel Readings*, compiled and edited by Dr. Lewis Smedes, is being used in the College chapel services, and has been enthusiastically received by students and faculty.

## 4. Students

a. Four hundred eighty-nine students were enrolled in the summer session of 1959, as compared with 571 in 1958. The decrease in enrollment was due to better economic conditions which made job opportunities more plentiful.

b. The enrollment at Calvin for the fall term of the academic school year 1959-60 is 2,015, an increase of 104 students over last year's enrollment. The United States is represented by 28 states and Canada by five provinces, while there are students from nine foreign countries.

## D. Property and Finance

### 1. Sale of Campus

a. The Calvin Campus Sale Committee, appointed by the Synod of 1959, recommended to the Board of Trustees a non-negotiable, set price for the main campus, six buildings, grounds and fixed equipment. This was approved by the board.

b. The recommendation of the Calvin Campus Sale Committee that we incorporate into the minutes that we are willing to negotiate terms with a buyer who is acceptable and who is able to provide responsible assurance as to the completion of the financial transaction and to an orderly occupancy of the buildings so as to guarantee a minimum amount of academic and administrative confusion was adopted.

c. The Board declared that at the present sale price the sale of the campus is not commissionable. If a real estate firm should enter into negotiations of sale, we hereby affirm that such a contract should be with the buyer and not the seller.

## *2. Seminary Building*

With respect to the new seminary building the board adopted the following:

### *a. Bidding Policy*

(1) That we ask for separate bids from the prime contractors (general, mechanical, and electrical).

(2) That we advertise for pre-qualified bidders.

(3) That the successful combination of low contractors must give the Board of Trustees assurance, before the awarding of contracts, of agreeable relationships and trouble-free operation.

### *b. Name of the New Seminary Building*

(1) That the new Seminary Building be called

## CENTENNIAL MEMORIAL SEMINARY BUILDING

and that "of the Christian Reformed Church, 1857-1957, erected in 1959" be added on the cornerstone.

(2) That if portions of the Seminary Building are to be given distinctive names, these shall be names reflecting concepts, and any recognition of donors shall be made by way of a plaque.

(3) That a plaque be placed in a prominent place in the new Seminary Building in recognition of the past generosity of the Hekman family.

### *3. Building Name Policy*

The Board decided that the college be governed by the following considerations in naming the buildings to be constructed on Knollcrest:

a. The major college buildings on the Knollcrest campus shall be given appropriate names other than merely functional designations.

b. As a general rule, the name to be considered should involve an appropriate concept or an historical place or event which stems from our religious, ethnic, or cultural background.

c. Naming a building to honor a person, either for his (or her) significant contribution to the life of the church or the college, or to honor a gift or a memorial, shall be permitted, but each case shall be considered on its own merits and in keeping with our gift solicitation policy. Note: Precedents exist in using such names — Hekman Memorial Library, Cayvan Room.

d. The naming of parts of buildings or areas on the campus, where this is deemed to be appropriate, shall follow the policy given above.

e. Names shall be submitted by the college administration to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

This was adopted.

#### 4. *Gifts*

Dr. John H. Kromminga reported to the Synod of 1959 that a Grand Rapids area family had agreed to donate the sum of \$75,000 for the erection of the chapel unit of the seminary building. The first installment of this magnificent gift has been received, with the assurance that the balance will be forthcoming through regular payments over a period of five years.

#### 5. *Library Long Range Plans*

Dr. Spoelhof brought to the attention of the Board the second part of the plans for a library-classroom building on Knollcrest on which the Executive Committee has taken initial action.

The first part of this plan, which is principally a Long Range Planning Committee matter, was adopted when the report of the Long Range Planning Committee was considered.

The Board of Trustees approved "The Heritage Collection" project which is the implementation and more active and purposeful prosecution of our desire to make the Calvin Library the great center of Calvin and Calvinism studies.

This part of the program has two parts. There is, first of all, the wish to acquire material on our colonial origins and on the history of our church.

The second part of our Heritage Collection plan has to do with the acquisition of material on Calvin and Calvinism, be that manuscript, book, or some form of photocopy of such material.

#### 6. *Revised Budget*

The Board accepted the revised budget for the year 1959-1960 in the amount of \$1,352,440 with an anticipated revenue of \$1,334,000. Adopted.

7. The "White Envelope" appeal as authorized by Synod has been instituted. The Development Secretary is currently stimulating it by letters and personal contacts.

## II. *Recommendations*

### A. *Appointments and Reappointments*

#### 1. *Seminary*

The Board of Trustees recommends that

a. Dr. Anthony Hoekema be reappointed as Associate Professor of Systematic Theology for a period of four years.

b. Dr. Ralph Stob be reappointed as Professor of New Testament Studies with indefinite tenure.

The Board further presents Prof. David Kerr as nominee for Professor of Old Testament. If Professor Kerr is appointed by Synod the Board recommends a four year appointment.

According to the rules for making seminary appointments the Board shall give its reasons, if a nomination of one name is submitted to Synod. These reasons will be presented in the supplementary report of the Board of Trustees.

## 2. College

The Board of Trustees submits the following to Synod for approval:

- a. Melvin Berghuis, A.M., was reappointed as Registrar for four years.
- b. Edgar Boeve, M.S.D., was reappointed as Instructor in Education for two years.
- c. Ervina Boeve was reappointed to the Speech Department and her position to that department and the faculty was clarified.
- d. Roger Faber, Ph.D., was reappointed as Assistant Professor of Physics for two years.
- e. John Hamersma, S.M.M., was appointed as Assistant Professor of Music for two years.
- f. George Harris, A.M., was reappointed as Assistant in Classical Languages for one year.
- g. Henry Holstege, A.M., was reappointed as Instructor in Sociology for two years.
- h. Henry Ippel, Ph.D., was reappointed as Professor of History with indefinite tenure.
- i. Charles Miller, Ph.D., was reappointed as Professor of History with indefinite tenure.
- j. Donald Oppewal, A.M., was appointed as Assistant Professor of Education for two years.
- k. Peter Oppewal, A.M., was reappointed as Assistant Professor of English for two years.
- l. Arthur Otten, A.M., was reappointed as Assistant Professor of Modern Languages for two years.
- m. H. Evan Runner, Ph.D., was reappointed as Professor of Philosophy for four years.
- n. Louis Rus, Ph.D., was appointed as Associate Professor of English for two years.
- o. Carl Sinke, Ph.D., was reappointed as Associate Professor of Mathematics for four years.
- p. Bernard Ten Broek, Ph.D., was appointed as Assistant Professor in Biology for two years.
- q. Walter Terris, A.M., was reappointed as Assistant in Speech for two years.
- f. John Vanden Berg, Ph.D., was reappointed as Professor of Economics with indefinite tenure.

s. Marlene Van Kley, A.B., was reappointed as Assistant in Modern Languages for one year.

t. Sherman Van Solkema, Jr., A.M., was appointed as Assistant Professor of Music for two years.

u. Ernest Van Vugt, A.M., was reappointed as Instructor in Classical Languages for two years.

v. George Van Zwahlenberg, A.M., was appointed for two years, as Visiting Lecturer for the first year, and as Assistant Professor of Mathematics for the second year.

w. Anthony D. Vroon, A.B., was reappointed as Assistant in Physical Education for two years.

x. Johan Westra, A.M., was reappointed as Instructor in History and Political Science for two years.

y. Paul Zwier, A.M., was appointed as Assistant Professor of Mathematics for two years.

#### *B. Centennial Memorial Seminary Building Fund*

With respect to the Memorial Seminary Building Fund, the Board finds it necessary to notify Synod that the Centennial Memorial Seminary Building Fund is approximately \$82,000 short of the amount necessary for building construction.

In view of the above shortage the Board suggests that this amount be raised by a Special Synodical Quota or a Special Memorial Seminary Offering in the churches.

#### *C. Diamond Jubilee Scholarship*

*Correction of Rules.* The Board recommends to Synod a correction in rule "e" (*Acts*, 1959, p. 330) whereby the word "abroad" be inserted between "institution" and "true."

*Ground:* This Board decision was inadvertently omitted in the report and recommendation to Synod.

Humbly submitted,

Board of Trustees of  
Calvin College and Seminary  
J. F. Schuurmann,  
Secretary



## SUPPLEMENT NO. 20-A

(Articles 102, 154, 172)

## CALVIN CAMPUS SALE COMMITTEE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The mandate of your committee is found on page 26 of the *Acts of Synod*, 1959, and is comprehended in the following quotation:

"With reference to the possible sale of the present campus the Board of Trustees requests Synod to appoint a committee of businessmen who are to function with the Board of Trustees in the stipulation and negotiation of terms for the sale of the campus. This synodically-appointed committee and the Board of Trustees are to have full power to arrange and conclude a sale. The majority of the synodically-appointed committee and a majority of the Board of Trustees must approve the sale."

The Synod of 1959 approved this request of the Board of Trustees and subsequently appointed a Campus Sale Committee consisting of the following members: Chairman, Mr. Edward Hekman, President, United Biscuit Co.; Mr. Lambert Beré, President, Bank of Clearing, Chicago, Illinois; Mr. Julius Mellema, Business Manager of Styling Division of the Ford Motor Co., Dearborn, Michigan; Mr. Jerry De Nooyer, President, De Nooyer Chevrolet, Kalamazoo, Michigan; Mr. Marvin Muller, President, Muller Realty Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan.

The full committee met five times during the year, exclusive of sub-committees which held additional sessions for special studies.

At its first meeting, the Campus Sale Committee requested the President, the Business Manager, and the Development Secretary of Calvin College to attend all meetings as advisory, non-voting members. The Chair appointed Sydney Youngsma to function as secretary for the Campus Sale Committee.

We reviewed the various contacts which had been made by the administrative staff of Calvin College. These contacts include:

- City of Grand Rapids
- University of Michigan
- Michigan State University
- Department of General Services, Washington, D. C.
- Michigan Economic Development Commission
- Catholic interests
- Baptist denomination
- Assembly of God
- Episcopalian interests
- Christian Reformed use
- Osteopathic Hospital
- Wall Street Journal inquiries

We established a non-negotiable, net price for the six buildings, the fixed equipment and the approximately 10 acres of ground.

Throughout our discussions we regarded the 12 guild houses, their furnishings, and the approximately  $7\frac{1}{2}$  acres of vacant property to the east of our original site as separate units and therefore not part of the immediate sale.

We agreed that we are willing to negotiate terms with an acceptable buyer providing there is reasonable assurance as to the buyer's ability to complete the financial transaction and that an orderly occupancy of the buildings to guarantee optimum conditions for academic and administrative transition can be arranged. We construe "immediate occupancy" of the Calvin property, as outlined in the terms of purchase to be two years from the date of sale.

As an added precaution in the establishment of a fair market value for our present facilities, we entered into a contract with the American Appraisal Co. to prepare a complete appraisal. The appraisal dealt with such factors as the following:

**Location and description of property site**

**Improvements:**

- number of buildings
- extent
- type of construction
- use
- condition
- obsolescence

**Neighborhood**

**Valuation premise:**

- valuation of land
- cost
- income

**Conclusion — Value in the light of full investigation of all facts**

This appraisal is available to the delegates of Synod and may be perused in the office of the Business Manager of Calvin College and Seminary.

It is worth noting that both the American Appraisal Co. and the Campus Sale Committee, operating independently and without either group consulting the other, came within \$34,000 of the appraisal for a fair market value figure.

It should also be noted that the fair market value of our present property is based upon consideration of its highest and best use which is continued utilization as a college or similar academic institution. If the property should be sold for some other than educational use, which would require changes in the zoning restrictions and some rehabilitation and conversion costs, then such costs, and further items of functional and economic obsolescence would detract substantially from the fair market value established by the Campus Sale Committee and the American Appraisal Co.

To assure complete understanding of our responsibilities and to establish clear channels of communication, we consulted both with the Executive Committee, and, through the administration, we communicated with the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary.

It was made a matter of record in the Executive Committee's minutes of August 13, 1959, that the Calvin Campus Sale Committee recommended a non-negotiable, set price for the main campus, six buildings, grounds and fixed equipment. This was approved and the figure was made available upon inquiry.

We also recommended to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary that it be incorporated into the minutes that we mutually agree upon our willingness to negotiate terms with a buyer who is acceptable and who is able to provide responsible assurance as to the completion of the financial transaction and to an orderly occupancy of the buildings so as to guarantee a minimum amount of academic and administrative confusion. This recommendation was adopted by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary and included in their minutes of the meeting of August 13, 1959.

To expedite the sale of our present campus your committee prepared a pamphlet entitled: "Anybody Want to Buy a College Campus?" At least 8,500 copies of this pamphlet will be distributed to possible prospects by the Michigan Economic Development Commission.

We also produced a compilation of data in monograph form for potential buyers. This brochure contains an aerial view of our present campus, a photograph of each building, floor plans of each building, descriptive information about the site, the neighborhood and the city. Copies of this sales brochure are available at the office of the Business Manager of Calvin College and Seminary.

To augment our activities in selling the present campus we investigated several sales procedures including

- Listing the property with a national realty firm
- Continued and expanded personal contacts
- Full time of college staff member devoted to sale of campus
- Employing a competent specialist to prosecute the sale

We have, thus far, made no commitments regarding specific sales procedure.

In the light of the above information, the Campus Sale Committee concludes that it has arrived at a fixed, set price and would like to communicate this to the Synod. However, for practical business reasons, this does not appear to be feasible.

We do suggest that Synod be informed of the fact that the replacement cost of our present campus has been established by the American Appraisal Co. as \$4,623,000. The depreciated, current market value of our present campus would, of course, be considerably less than replacement cost.

Should Synod wish to know the price established by the Campus Sale Committee, this will be available on demand in executive session. The Campus Sale Committee feels that the best interests of the college will be served if the amount is not revealed publicly at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Hekman, Chairman

Lambert Beré

Julius Mellema

Marvin Muller

Jerry De Nooyer

William Spoelhof

Henry De Wit

Sydney Youngsma, Sec'y

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 20-B

(Articles 36, 102, 172)

**THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CALVIN COLLEGE  
AND SEMINARY**

To the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary submits the following supplementary report. The Board held its spring meeting during the fourth week in May, which accounts for the late appearance of this report. The supplementary report will follow the outline of the report printed in the *Agenda*.

**I. INFORMATION****A. Board of Trustees**

1. The spring meeting of the Board of Trustees was held May 24 to 27, 1960. The President of the Seminary and the President of the College submitted reports which were acted upon, and the work of the Executive Committee with its recommendations was considered. The Long Range Planning Committee reported and presented proposals, and several other committees presented their reports and recommendations.

2. *Executive Committee.* By ballot the following seven ministers and five laymen were elected to the Executive Committee: Rev. John Breuker, Mr. Gordon Buter, Dr. Ernest Feenstra, Rev. John Gritter, Dr. Wm. Hendriksen, Rev. John Schuurman, Mr. George Tinholt, Mr. Richard Tolsma, Rev. Wm. Van Rees, Mr. Cornelius Van Valkenberg, Rev. Thomas Yff, and Rev. Henry Zwaanstra. These take office September 1, 1960.

**B. Seminary**

1. *Items of Interest.* Twenty-seven students graduated with the B.D. degree on June 1, 1960. Twenty-eight Junior seminarians were licensed to conduct religious services in the Christian Reformed Church, and 12 graduates of the Seminary received extension of licensure to exhort in the Christian Reformed churches. The Board of Trustees, after interviews with the applicants which have been processed by the Seminary Faculty, unqualifiedly admitted 16 students to the Seminary, and six contingent upon removal of academic deficiencies.

2. *Prof. David Kerr — Withdrawal from nomination.* In a communication dated May 3, 1960, Prof. Kerr informed the Board of Trustees of certain difficulties which trouble him concerning his nomination to Synod, and requested that his name should not come before the Synod.

3. *No Nomination to the Chair of Old Testament.* The Board of Trustees decided not to make a nomination to the Chair of Old Testament at this time.

*Ground:* Such a nomination at this time would be contrary to the established rules of procedure.

4. *Student Recruitment.* The Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions in a statement to Synod is outlining a program for recruitment of additional missionaries and ministers, asking Synod to adopt such a program. The Board of Trustees enthusiastically endorses the adoption of such a program.

5. *Institute of Missions.* In view of the steadily increasing growth of missionary interest in our church in recent years, in view of the fact that there is no school of missions in our country which can adequately serve the Reformed constituency, and in view of the urgent appeals made in this regard by both of our Mission Boards, the Board of Trustees resolved to broaden the scope, expand the range of offerings, and intensify the efforts in the training of missionaries at Calvin College and Seminary.

To implement the foregoing proposal the Board decided:

a. That we move in the direction of a *Calvin Institute of Missions*, operating within the present structure and framework but recognizable as a distinct, identifiable entity.

b. That we initiate the movement with a *Summer Institute in 1961*, using existing courses, our own teaching personnel augmented by missionaries on furlough, and experimenting with linguistics in theory or in practice.

c. That we give immediate consideration to the addition of a cultural anthropologist and an expert in missionary linguistics to the staff of the College.

d. That we draw upon the special knowledge and skills of faculty members (historians, sociologists, psychologists, economists, etc.) as it applies to missions and its problems, utilizing these men for a full course or as special lecturers in existing courses.

e. That we draw on the services of our missionaries on furlough.

f. That we entrust the guidance and execution of this program to Prof. H. Dekker, our professor of Missions.

6. *Emeritation of Professors.* With respect to the emeritation of professors the Board decided that:

a. The ministerial professors in College and Seminary be granted the privilege of honorable retirement with full retirement benefits at the age of 65 if they so desire.

b. Ministerial professors in College and Seminary who contemplate retirement before reaching the age of 70 should, if possible, give to the administration notification of their intention at least one year in advance of the contemplated retirement date.

c. As to the status of ministerial professors in College and Seminary after 65, the Board does not adopt any formal regulation. Each individual case is to be left to the discretion of the administration and the Board of Trustees.

### C. College

1. *Graduation.* A graduating class of 384 students received their appropriate degrees or certificates from Calvin College at the end of the semester. Commencement exercises were held in the Civic Auditorium, Grand Rapids, Michigan, June 1, 1960, with Dr. Gwyn Walters, Professor of Christian Ethics, School of Theology, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, delivering the commencement address.

2. *Prof. Albert Muyskens — Anniversary.* Prof. Albert Muyskens has been professor at Calvin College for the past 25 years. The Board had an anniversary luncheon in his honor.

## II. RECOMMENDATIONS

### A. Nomination for the Board of Trustees

1. The Board of Trustees at its spring meeting made the following suggested nomination to Synod for a lay member and his alternate who must be elected to fill the vacancy of Dr. J. Hoekzema, representing the Far West District. (Dr. Hoekzema has served for six years.)

For regular delegate — Harold De Jong and Harm te Velde.

For alternate delegate — Harold Apol and Henry Hoving.

2. The Board requests Synod that the nominee who is not elected as regular delegate be added to the nomination for alternate.

### B. Seminary

1. *Election of the President of Calvin Seminary.* The Board respectfully recommends to Synod that in Step 6 of the Rules for Election of the Presidency of Calvin Seminary (*Acts of Synod*, 1955, pp. 319, 320) the phrase if *re-elected* be revised to if *re-appointed*.

*Ground:* This will put the language in agreement with the rules dealing with Synod's reappointment of Professors of the Seminary.

The Board further recommends to Synod the adoption, as Step 7 of the Rules for the Election of the President of Calvin Seminary, the following: During the year in which the term of appointment of the President of the Seminary terminates, the faculty shall present to the Board of Trustees at its February meeting, its recommendation with reference to his reappointment. In the light of the faculty's recommendation, and after a personal interview with the President, the Board shall prepare its recommendation to Synod.

2. *Laying of the Cornerstone.* The Board respectfully recommends to Synod that it participate in cornerstone-laying ceremonies for the Centennial Memorial Seminary Building, to be scheduled during the synodical sessions.

### C. College

The following appointments have been made by the Board of Trustees to the teaching staff of Calvin College since the regular report was submitted, and Synod's approval is sought.

1. Albertus Bratt, M.S., was reappointed as Assistant in Biology for one year.

2. Mrs. Winifred Byker, A.B., was appointed as Assistant in Physical Education for one year.

3. Roel Bijkerk, Drs., was reappointed as Assistant Professor of Psychology for two years, deferred until he returns to the United States.

4. Beverly Klooster, A.B., was provisionally appointed in Biology.

5. Bernard Kreuzer, A.M., was appointed as Instructor in Modern Languages to teach German for two years.

6. Gertrude Vander Ark, A.M., was appointed as Instructor in Education for two years.

7. William Oldenberg, A.M., was appointed as Assistant in English for one year.

8. Marion Snapper, Ph.D., was appointed as Assistant Professor in Education for two years.

9. Reona Tanis, A.B., was appointed as Assistant in English for one year.

10. James VandenBerge, A.M., was reappointed as Assistant in Biology for one year.

11. Gordon Van Harn, M.S., was provisionally appointed in Biology.

12. Richard Westmaas, A.M., was provisionally appointed in Psychology.

13. John Zegers, A.M., was appointed as Visiting Professor in Modern Languages teaching French for two years.

#### *D. Property and Finance*

1. The Board seeks approval of its adoption of the proposed budget as a whole for 1960-61. Budgeted expenses total \$1,479,045. Copies of the proposed budget are available from the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

2. The Board adopted the following tuition rates and seeks Synod's approval.

##### *a. For the college:*

Non-Christian Reformed raised from \$275 to \$305.

Christian Reformed students:

Grand Rapids, \$205 to \$235; within 300 miles, \$175 to \$185; within 1,000 miles, \$145 to \$155; over 1,000 miles, \$105 to \$115.

##### *b. For the seminary:*

Students living in Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, \$45.

Students living in areas between the above states and Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico, \$30.

Students living in and beyond Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico, \$15.

3. The Board of Trustees adopted an increase of \$100 in the base pay of the faculty of the college and seminary. All members of the faculty



eligible for an increment were recommended for such an increase for the next fiscal year. This needs Synod's approval.

4. A quota of \$15 per family is requested by the Board of Trustees for the year 1961. This is the same as last year.

5. The Board decided to grant the following annual scholarships:

\$300 to a worthy student of Dordt College,

\$300 to a worthy student of Trinity College,

Two similar scholarships to Calvin sophomores who plan to continue their junior year at Calvin, and a similar scholarship to a pre-nursing student.

Synod's approval is anticipated.

6. The Board decided to ask Synod to remind the churches of Calvin's needs and to recommend to the membership of all our churches the remembrance of these needs in prayers and in gifts.

7. The Board requests Synod to continue the Campus Sale Committee both as to function and as to membership, since the assignment is not yet complete.

The Secretary of the Board of Trustees is available to meet with the Advisory Committee at Synod to interpret the report of the Board of Trustees to Synod.

May the Holy Spirit guide you in all of your labors.

Respectfully submitted,

Board of Trustees of  
Calvin College and Seminary

J. F. Schuurmann, Secretary

SUPPLEMENT NO. 21  
(Articles 128, 148, 154, 171, 172)

**THE BACK-TO-GOD HOUR**

**ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

The Back-to-God Hour Committee is pleased to present its report of activities for the year 1959. We give thanks to God for the blessings He has given us upon the radio and television work of the Christian Reformed Church. References to The Back-to-God Hour are found on pages 52, 76, 97, 304, 307, 312, and 577 of the 1959 Acts of Synod.

**I. ADMINISTRATION AND PERSONNEL**

**A. *The Back-to-God Hour Committee***

The following compose the membership of the committee: Revs. C. O. Buus, L. A. Bazuin, J. Geels, K. Hart, J. Hasper, G. S. Kok, and J. P. Smith; and Messrs. L. Beré, J. De Nooyer, R. L. Hoekstra, J. Jonker, R. J. Vermeer, and A. Van Noord. At the September meeting of 1959, the following officers were elected: Mr. L. Beré, President; Rev. C. O. Buus, Vice-president; Mr. A. Van Noord, Secretary; and Mr. R. L. Hoekstra, Treasurer. The terms of Rev. C. O. Buus, Rev. J. Geels, Mr. R. Vermeer, and Mr. A. Van Noord expire this year. All of these are eligible for reelection. Nominations for vacancies will appear in section VI-B of this report.

**B. *The Office Staff***

Mr. Harold Pals has this year again served faithfully and efficiently as our office manager, with Mr. Donald Dykstra as assistant office manager. Working with them on the office staff are: Mrs. H. De Boer, Mrs. A. Decker, Mrs. J. Kuiper, Miss J. Oostman, Miss P. Van Beek and Messrs. K. De Boer, P. Kortenhoven and J. Kuiper. We are deeply thankful to all of our office staff for their faithful services. They will be happy to conduct all visitors on tours of the office to inspect the work that is being done there. Visitors will be impressed and inspired by all the evidence of God's blessing upon this witness.

**C. *Building***

The Back-to-God Hour office is located at 10858 S. Michigan Avenue, in Roseland, Chicago. The building was left in the legacy of Mr. D. Van Eck. It is kept in good repair. In addition to The Back-to-God Hour office, three business concerns also occupy the building. Standard rentals are made. The net income, after expenses and taxes are paid, is small, but we do enjoy adequate housing for our headquarters. The financial report for 1959 relative to the building operations will be in the hands of the synodical delegates when Synod convenes.

**D. *The Radio Minister***

Rev. Peter H. Eldersveld has enjoyed good health during the past year, and is performing his many labors in directing the office, in ad-

ministrative matters and in various public appearances, as well as preparing and delivering his sermons over the air. The response to his messages continues to be most encouraging and gives every indication of God's rich blessings upon the broadcast. Rev. H. Baker has been engaged on a part-time basis to aid Rev. Eldersveld in the duties of the office and in visiting the classes. His long experience as a committee member gives him a knowledge of our problems, which makes his services most valuable to us. The summer speakers for 1959 were: Revs. Marvin Baarman, William Heynen, Henry Baker and Bassam Madany. Their messages were well received, and we take this opportunity to express our thanks to them.

#### E. *Rev. Bassam Madany*

Rev. Madany is pursuing his work of translation and broadcasting in the Arabic language with great zeal and enthusiasm. Reports so far received indicate that our program is being very well received, and that God is blessing this work in the Arab world. His transcribed messages in the Arabic language are sent to station ELWA, a powerful 50,000 watt short wave station in Monrovia, Liberia. Rev. Madany is also translating pamphlets and the Family Altar into the Arabic language. These are being sent to 50 addresses in 14 different countries and territories, and redistributed by missionaries and national evangelists to the Arab people.

#### F. *The Radio Choir*

The Calvin College Radio Choir continues under the effective and inspiring direction of Prof. James De Jonge. They faithfully provide music which meets the high standard of spirituality, dignity and quality that has been set for our radio program. Many highly complimentary comments regarding the music are received from our listeners.

### II. RADIO BROADCASTING

A. Our list of stations is constantly undergoing change. At this writing there are some 300 stations carrying the program. Currently 144 stations of the Mutual Broadcasting System, 35 of the Intermountain Network and 14 of the Yankee Network are carrying our program. In addition, 87 NBC stations and 57 independent or spot basis stations comprise our broadcast outlets for U.S. and Canada. *Some of these stations are paid for by extra gifts of certain Christian Reformed congregations; gifts over and above their regular quota payments.* We wish to express our sincere thanks for their generosity and their example.

B. A number of stations, particularly in the Rocky Mountain and New England regions, have left the Mutual Broadcasting System and have formed independent systems of their own. A number of other stations have gone independent. It is now necessary to negotiate contracts with four networks — Mutual, NBC, Intermountain and Yankee — and with more independent stations than a year ago. This has resulted in increased cost for broadcasting, due to the loss of the benefits previously obtained through the network hookup. This situation is becoming more and more prevalent in all of the broadcasting world today. At the present time Mutual ownership seems to be stabilized and we will con-

tinue to use this network, of course, because it still gives us a tremendous Sunday morning audience.

After much negotiating, in 1958 we were able to sign contracts with the National Broadcasting Company. This was done with the approval of Synod in 1958, and again in 1959, and your committee was authorized to make special appeals for funds in order to carry the NBC stations in our programming. This was over and above our quota. So far, 87 NBC stations have been cleared. The committee is taking full advantage of discounts by prompt payments. However costs continue to mount. The Back-to-God Hour Committee therefore asks Synod to authorize further appeals for special funds to cover the cost of NBC stations. Our people have always responded with liberality when special need arose, and these needs are certainly with us at this time.

A number of stations formerly associated with networks have during the past year become independent stations. The rates of these stations are consequently higher thus increasing our costs again. The committee feels that many of these should continue to be used, because of their wide coverage in strategic areas. Your committee is constantly trying to pare down costs, such as eliminating stations which would duplicate coverage, and at the same time maintaining as wide a coverage as possible. In January of 1960 it was necessary for us to reduce our broadcast billing by \$53,000, in order to prevent an insurmountable budget deficit for the current year. This is a considerable loss of audience, of course, but it was unavoidable because our anticipated receipts would not be enough to meet the increase in costs.

We are also experimenting at present with a 25-minute program on the Mutual Network (instead of the customary half-hour). This is done at the request of the network, in order to allow for a 5-minute newscast preceding our program (which we believe is to our advantage), but it also represents an annual saving of about \$10,000.

### C. *Church-owned Radio Stations*

In 1958 Synod was alerted to the question of whether the church should go in the direction of owning and operating radio stations. This matter was referred to The Back-to-God Hour Committee for further study. In accordance with this decision, your Committee studied this matter, enlisting aid from all available sources. The following are its observations and recommendations:

1. That the church should not go in the direction of church-owned radio stations.

#### *Grounds:*

- a. The church has mandated the Radio Committee to make our weekly denominational radio program available to as much of North America as possible. In view of this, we would not feel justified in using denominational funds to undertake ownership and operation of a radio station or stations which would have a limited audience.

- b. The cost of securing such a station should be borne by the area which it serves. When the purpose of any such undertaking does not

serve in some way the denomination as a whole, denominational funds should not be used, and denominational responsibility does not exist.

2. The committee recommends that Synod move in the direction of encouraging the establishment of privately-owned radio stations by organizations within the church, committed to our Reformed life and world view.

*Grounds:*

a. The limited area of coverage of radio stations would make it reasonable to expect enthusiasm and support from the local areas such a station would serve and that control and responsibility should also be under direction and supervision of a local society.

b. Christian activity of the type covered by broadcasting does not rightfully belong under the jurisdiction of the church. This activity can best be served by a society organized for this purpose and for the area it is to serve.

It should be noted that at present there is such an organization being launched in northwest Iowa, with about 135 men representing some 30 churches. Also, it should be noted that, according to reliable information, 50 new AM clear channel frequencies have now been made available by FCC, and that many of them will be located in areas where our churches are found.

*D. Foreign Broadcasting*

This phase of our radio witness continues to increase in effectiveness. There are many areas of the world where The Back-to-God Hour can now be heard. Reference has already been made to the excellent work of the Rev. Madany in his message to the Arab world. The whole cause of foreign broadcasting is again recommended to our church, for its prayers and support. It depends upon additional free will gifts and offerings. There is no provision for it in our denominational radio quota.

III. TELEVISION

*A. Available Films*

Two film series are available for TV showing, the first on the Ten Commandments and the second on the Lord's Prayer. The latter is available in color. There is now no new series in the making, and therefore there is no request for special offerings for 1961.

*B. Local Station Contact*

Free time is still available on various local stations for the showing of these films. A packet of material and instructions is available on request for our congregations and members to help them in approaching television stations.

IV. RESPONSE

*A. Mail*

During 1959 The Back-to-God Hour office received some 59,376 pieces of mail. Each of the United States, and Canadian Provinces, as well as

65 separate foreign countries, was represented in the mail. From time to time, samplings of these are given in *The Banner* and the *Radio Bulletin*. Our people are asked to take note of these and to continue to pray for these people. Our witness to our listeners needs the faithful prayers of the church.

### B. *Literature*

Nearly 2 million copies of the radio messages were mailed in 1959. Each month some 123,500 copies of the *Family Altar* booklet are printed and mailed, with more than 92% going to people outside the Christian Reformed Church. We express our thanks to all the writers of the *Family Altar*. Hundreds of home study Bible courses were sold, and many recommended books were purchased by our radio listeners.

The major portion of our printing is now being done by the Christian Reformed Publishing House. We are very grateful to them for their fine work and their spirit of coöperation and understanding.

## V. FINANCES

The treasurer's report for 1959 is attached, along with the proposed budget for 1961. A supplementary report to Synod will contain an additional financial report for the first five months of 1960.

## VI. MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE SYNODICAL ATTENTION

### A. *Expression of Thanks*

The Committee recommends that Synod extend a word of thanks to Rev. P. H. Eldersveld; Rev. B. Madany; Rev. H. Baker; the summer speakers; the retiring board members; the radio choir and its director, Professor James De Jonge; Mr. Ralph Rozema, our agency representative; the office staff; the announcers and the technicians for their faithful and effective service.

### B. *Nominations*

The committee brings the following nominations for committee members:

1. To replace Rev. C. Oliver Buus: Rev. C. Oliver Buus and Rev. Herman Hoekstra (Chicago area)
2. To replace Rev. John Geels: Rev. John Geels and Rev. Peter De De Jong (Northwest district)
3. To replace Mr. Ralph Vermeer: Messrs. Ralph Vermeer and Nick Vander Ploeg (Pella district)
4. To replace Mr. Andrew Van Noord: Messrs. Andrew Van Noord and James Zoetewey (California district)

### C. *Budget*

The committee recommends that the proposed budget for 1961 and a quota for \$8 be adopted. This is an increase of 75¢ per family, and is due to our increased costs of broadcasting.

D. The committee requests that Synod approve special offerings for supplementary funds for the NBC expenditures. (Note we are not requesting any special offerings for television this year).

E. See II-C for recommendations re church-owned stations.

F. The committee requests that Rev. Eldersveld be given the privilege of the floor when The Back-to-God Hour matters are discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

### THE BACK-TO-GOD HOUR COMMITTEE

Mr. L. Beré, President  
 Rev. C. O. Buus, Vice-president  
 Mr. A. Van Noord, Secretary  
 Mr. R. L. Hoekstra, Treasurer  
 Rev. L. A. Bazuin  
 Mr. J. De Nooyer  
 Rev. J. Geels  
 Rev. K. Hart  
 Rev. J. Hasper  
 Mr. J. Jonker  
 Rev. G. S. Kok  
 Rev. J. P. Smith  
 Mr. R. J. Vermeer

### THE BACK-TO-GOD HOUR

Financial Report — January 1, 1959 to December 31, 1959

#### Receipts:

Synodical Quotas .....	\$336,294.19
Churches .....	20,812.27
Organizations .....	7,933.16
Individual Gifts .....	154,396.95
Literature and Records .....	6,720.72
Television .....	19,407.53
Foreign Broadcasting .....	13,604.55
Radio Station Sponsorship .....	2,998.88
Rallies .....	2,978.54
Canadian and Foreign Exchange .....	1,023.52
Others .....	15.00
Loan — Pullmann Trust and Savings Bank .....	60,000.00
<b>Total Receipts .....</b>	<b>\$626,185.31</b>

#### Disbursements:

<b>Broadcasting:</b>	
Mutual .....	\$153,540.73
NBC .....	117,230.67
Spot Station and Recording .....	153,388.77
Foreign .....	23,455.01
Television .....	3,013.87
Salaries .....	43,925.57
Committee Expense .....	2,973.73
<b>Office:</b>	
Rent .....	3,000.00
Supplies .....	7,999.64

Equipment .....	1,699.05	
Utilities .....	2,627.80	
Travel .....	2,468.29	
Family Altar:		
Printing .....	35,977.47	
Postage .....	17,055.51	
Writers .....	1,400.00	
Sermons:		
Printing .....	26,782.42	
Postage .....	5,655.50	
Radio Bulletin:		
Printing .....	13,818.32	
Postage .....	6,110.68	
Other Printing .....	4,448.10	
Literature .....	4,243.03	
Choir:		
Music and Equipment .....	627.60	
Travel (tours) .....	2,956.00	
Salaries .....	3,285.00	
Repairs:		
Office .....	373.00	
Manse .....	461.95	
Advertising .....	2,938.56	
Insurance .....	901.53	
Auto Allowance .....	800.00	
Social Security Expense .....	707.87	
Moving Expense and Rent — Rev. Madany .....	1,061.62	
Audit .....	372.48	
Choir Recording .....	5,234.71	
Honorariums .....	775.00	
Interest .....	327.29	
Adjustments (funds remitted to us in error and spurious checks) .....	78.25	
Total Disbursements .....		\$651,715.02
Cash Balance, December 31, 1958 .....	\$ 25,765.20	
Disbursements over Receipts .....	25,529.71	
Cash Balance, December 31, 1959 .....	\$ 235.49	
Unpaid Invoices, December 31, 1959 .....		\$ 48,962.85
Loan, Pullman Trust and Savings Bank .....		60,000.00
		<u>\$108,962.85</u>

### THE BACK-TO-GOD HOUR BUILDING FUND

#### Financial Report — 1959

##### Receipts:

Balance, January 1, 1959 .....		\$ 5,823.49
Rentals .....	\$ 8,650.00	
General Fund .....	3,000.00	
Garage Rent — Van Eck Property .....	600.00	
Workmens' Compensation Insurance Returned — Van Eck Estate .....	52.00	
Total Receipts .....		<u>12,302.00</u>
		\$ 18,125.49



**Disbursements:**

Janitor's Salary .....	\$ 1,456.08
Care of Sam Van Eck .....	3,305.20
Real Estate Taxes .....	4,067.26
Repairs .....	2,319.70
Coal .....	1,074.00
Water .....	16.80
Awnings .....	40.00
Insurance .....	138.01
Scavenger Service .....	96.00
Miscellaneous .....	13.80

Total Disbursements ..... 12,526.85

BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1959 ..... \$ 5,598.64

**Financial Report — January 1, 1960 to May 31, 1960****Receipts:**

Synodical Quotas .....	\$193,041.08
Churches .....	25,013.54
Organizations .....	4,928.62
Individual Gifts .....	54,323.01
Literature and Records .....	3,283.09
Television .....	11,009.55
Foreign Broadcasting .....	4,230.40
Radio Station Sponsorship .....	433.08
Rallies .....	1,642.04
Canadian and Foreign Exchange .....	942.21
Legacies .....	740.84
Loan — Building Fund .....	5,000.00
Loan — Pullman Trust and Savings Bank .....	35,000.00

Total Receipts ..... \$339,587.46

**Disbursements:****Broadcasting:**

Mutual, Yankee and IMN .....	\$ 44,827.14
NBC .....	48,218.17
Spot Stations and Recording .....	95,647.58

\$188,692.89

Less Discounts Earned .....	11,473.03	\$177,219.86
Foreign .....		4,957.21
Television .....		550.48
Salaries .....		19,812.32
Committee Expense .....		1,766.49

**Office:**

Rent .....	1,250.00
Supplies .....	2,294.78
Equipment .....	886.19
Utilities .....	923.60
Travel .....	311.88

**Family Altar:**

Printing .....	14,959.32
Postage .....	6,258.13
Writers .....	400.00

**Sermons:**

Printing .....	7,632.40
Postage .....	3,812.40

Radio Bulletin:		
Printing .....	3,412.50	
Postage .....	1,732.87	
Other Printing .....	3,439.91	
Choir:		
Salaries .....	1,412.50	
Music and Equipment .....	2,031.67	
Tours .....	3,064.56	
Repairs:		
Office .....	65.00	
Manse .....	320.30	
Advertising .....	1,043.51	
Literature .....	396.43	
Insurance .....	247.39	
Social Security Expense .....	521.69	
Auto Allowance — Rev. Eldersveld .....	800.00	
Rent — Rev. Madany .....	250.00	
Post Office Box Rent .....	16.00	
Interest .....	261.25	
Equipment Repair .....	129.96	
Travel — Rev. Eldersveld .....	808.69	
Travel and Services — Rev. Baker .....	569.29	
Repayment of Loan .....	60,000.00	
Bank Adjustment .....	(212.59)	
Total Disbursements .....		\$323,345.99
Balance — Dec. 31, 1959 .....	\$ 235.49	
Receipts over Disbursements .....	16,241.47	
Balance — May 31, 1960 .....		\$16,476.96
Unpaid Invoices, May 31, 1960 .....	\$ 2,631.53	
Loan — Building Fund .....	5,000.00	
Loan — Pullman Trust and Savings Bank .....	35,000.00	
		\$ 42,631.53
Less Balance — May 31, 1960 .....	16,476.96	
Total Indebtedness — May 31, 1960 .....		\$ 26,154.57
Richard L. Hoekstra, Treasurer		

### THE BACK-TO-GOD HOUR — TENTATIVE BUDGET — 1961

#### Estimated Receipts:

Synodical Quotas (51,000 families @ 8.00)* .....	\$408,000.00
Churches .....	20,000.00
Organizations .....	8,000.00
Individual Gifts .....	155,000.00
Literature and Records .....	5,000.00
NBC (replacing TV) .....	20,000.00
Foreign Broadcasting .....	17,000.00
Radio Station Sponsorship .....	3,000.00
Rallies .....	3,000.00
Others .....	500.00
	<hr/>
	\$639,500.00

\*(Note: this figure has been raised to \$8.00 which represents an increase of \$.75).

#### Disbursements:

##### Broadcasting:

Mutual (including Yankee and IMN) .....	\$105,000.00
NBC .....	121,000.00

Spot stations and Recording .....	186,200.00
Foreign .....	17,000.00
Television .....	3,000.00
Salaries .....	47,000.00
Committee Expense .....	3,000.00
Office:	
Rent .....	3,000.00
Supplies .....	8,500.00
Equipment .....	2,000.00
Utilities .....	2,700.00
Travel .....	2,500.00
Family Altar:	
Printing .....	37,500.00
Postage .....	18,000.00
Writers .....	1,200.00
Sermons:	
Printing .....	27,000.00
Postage .....	6,000.00
Radio Bulletin:	
Printing .....	14,500.00
Postage .....	6,500.00
Other Printing .....	6,000.00
Literature .....	4,500.00
Choir:	
Music and Equipment .....	2,600.00
Travel (tours) .....	3,000.00
Salaries (Director, engr., org., annocr.) .....	3,500.00
Repairs:	
Office .....	500.00
Manse .....	1,000.00
Advertising .....	3,000.00
Insurance .....	1,000.00
Auto Allowance .....	800.00
Social Security Expense .....	1,000.00
Audit .....	400.00
Honorariums .....	600.00
	\$639,500.00

Richard L. Hoekstra, Treasurer

SUPPLEMENT NO. 21-A  
(Articles 128, 148, 154, 171, 172)

**THE BACK-TO-GOD-HOUR COMMITTEE**

**ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

The Back-to-God Hour Committee herewith presents its supplementary report, to call Synod's attention to the following:

**I. ASSOCIATE MINISTER**

For the past several years the Radio Committee has strongly felt the need of an associate minister for our broadcasting program. This need was brought to the 1954 Synod, and at that time Synod gave the Radio Committee authority to proceed with the appointment of either a minister or layman to assist our radio minister in the work of The Back-to-God Hour. Because of the subsequent appointment of a Business Manager, the appointment of an associate minister was deferred. However, the need has now become even more urgent, and hence your committee felt it should delay no longer.

At the May meeting of the committee, an appointment was given to the Rev. Harold Dekker, Associate Professor of Missions at Calvin Seminary, to serve as Associate Minister of The Back-to-God Hour.

We request the prayers of Synod and of our entire church for Prof. Dekker in making his decision.

**II. ARABIC BROADCAST**

In addition to the regular weekly Arabic broadcast, station ELWA, Monrovia, Liberia is also broadcasting our program on Tuesdays at 6:45 a.m. This station has also offered us time for a daily 15-minute program. It is important to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to reach the Arab world daily with our Reformed message. The Koran is read each day over all Arabic stations from Morocco to Baghdad, Iraq, but now the Reformed interpretation of Biblical truths will also be heard daily.

Your committee has accepted this offer by the station, and has asked the office to support this program with proper publicity to increase receipts of voluntary gifts and the number of supporting churches to meet the increased cost. The time cost is approximately \$5 per program, plus the cost of recording, printing and mailing.

A special word of commendation is due the Rev. Bassam Madany for his excellent work, which led to this unusual opportunity for expanding our witness. The offer of daily programing is a tribute to his ministry, which we recognize with humble gratitude to God.

**III. STATION COVERAGE AND FINANCES**

**A. Coverage**

The changes in broadcasting outlets as referred to in the Agenda (page 118) continue to occur. Additional stations have severed their

connections with network hookups, resulting in additional cost to us during the past few months. Your committee is constantly in the process of paring expenses by eliminating station coverage in those areas where it feels that this can best be effected.

In May, the committee felt it necessary to reduce the number of stations in the Rocky Mountain area. Even though from a financial standpoint this type of reduction is necessary, we are feeling the effects in the letters received from listeners. They express their deep sorrow in no longer being able to hear The Back-to-God Hour program on their local stations.

It is also becoming evident that more and more stations, both in the United States and in Canada, are refusing to sell any time for religious programs. They are giving notice that they will broadcast religious programs only on a public service basis (free time) rather than accept any more paid religious programing. Two of our best stations are among them, WLS in Chicago and CFRB in Toronto. These stations, and many others like them — 67% of all stations in the U.S. — divide whatever time they may give toward religious broadcasting proportionately between the Roman Catholic, Jewish and Protestant faiths, with no room for denominational distinctiveness.

We feel that this policy violates the principle of religious freedom, but, unfortunately, there is plenty of evidence that, at least in part, stations are dropping their paid religious programs because so many fundamentalist broadcasts of the gospel have become too commercial in their solicitation of funds. From the stations' point of view, this has a tendency to cheapen religion and does not represent the caliber of programing the stations desire. Even though our program, as well as others, is not placed in this category, we do, however, find ourselves being seriously affected by this change in policy. In other words, many programs that ask for money are hurting the cause of religious broadcasting, as well as disgracing the gospel of Christ.

Because of these changing conditions, your committee hesitates to drop any more stations at this time, for once off the air we experience great difficulty in reestablishing station contacts to reinstate our program. Moreover, the number of available stations for paid religious broadcasting is constantly decreasing.

### *B. Finances*

It has been necessary during the past months to borrow funds in order to meet our current expenses. Because of the changing conditions in broadcasting policies and the retrenchment in paid religious programing, your committee feels it should inform Synod of these matters, and also report that we are experiencing serious financial problems at this time, resulting from increased broadcast costs. In spite of these financial difficulties, we feel that this is not the time for further reducing the number of stations carrying our program. It is our intention to acquaint our people fully with our problems and financial picture. We have every confidence that they will respond in such a way as to keep as many stations as possible on the air broadcasting our Back-to-God Hour mes-

sage. We anticipate that by the end of the current year our financial picture will look much better.

C. A financial report for the first five months of 1960 has been placed in the hands of the budget committee.

#### IV. CANADIAN MAILING ADDRESS

In response to several appeals from Canadian churches, we have thoroughly investigated the possibility of a Canadian mailing office, and we have taken the following action:

A. That a responsible Canadian representative be engaged for this function.

B. That a post office box in Toronto (preferably) be used as the mailing address for Canada.

C. That all mail is to be picked up daily and forwarded to our Chicago office for handling.

D. That appropriate announcements be used on our program specifically for our Canadian listeners.

#### V. NOMINATIONS

The Rev. G. Kok has tendered his resignation to the committee because he is leaving the area which he represents. We are grateful for his service and regret to see him leave the committee.

The committee brings the following nomination to fill Rev. Kok's unexpired term of one year: Rev. John B. Hulst and Rev. Henry C. Van Wyk.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. L. Beré, President  
Rev. C. O. Buus, Vice president  
Mr. A. Van Noord, Secretary  
Mr. R. L. Hoekstra, Treasurer  
Rev. L. A. Bazuin  
Mr. J. De Nooyer  
Rev. J. Geels  
Rev. K. Hart  
Rev. J. Hasper  
Mr. J. Jonker  
Rev. G. S. Kok  
Rev. J. P. Smith  
Mr. R. J. Vermeer

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 22

(Articles 148, 171, 172)

## FAITH, PRAYER AND TRACT LEAGUE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The year 1959 was indeed a year of expanding work and of blessings.

A total of 7,249,000 were sent out during the year which was in itself an increase of 1,700,000 or 30% over 1958. All of the \$10,000 needed to cover this increase was supplied by the sale of tracts.

Of the total sent out, 1,378,000 were sent out free. No request is denied. Parcels of tracts are constantly being sent to every country in the world.

A significant step was taken by the board in setting aside a fund for the printing of tracts in foreign languages in the foreign lands themselves. With labor and materials usually far below United States costs, the Lord's money can be more profitably spent this way than to do all printing locally.

Under this program three printings were made:

(a) 100,000 tracts were printed in Korea under the supervision of Rev. Robert Rice.

(b) 25,000 tracts were printed in the Amharic language in Ethiopia under the supervision of Mrs. John Koops.

(c) 20,000 tracts were printed in Sinhalese under the supervision of Rev. Roger Greenway, secretary of the Evangelical Fellowship of Ceylon.

In addition 30,000 tracts in the Spanish language were printed locally. These are in the main sent free throughout the Americas.

The early months of 1960 have seen three printings made in Spain under the supervision of Rev. Samuel Vila, another printing in Sinhalese, and our missionaries in Ceylon are preparing to print in the Tamil language for free distribution throughout India.

The board again asks that the League be recommended to our churches and that a representative be appointed to meet with the board. A summary of the financial report is inclosed and the audited report will be sent to the proper committees.

Respectfully submitted,

John Keuning  
Synodical representative

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance on hand, January 1, 1959 .....	\$ 2,508.87
Receipts:	
Sale of tracts .....	\$ 39,102.83
Donations .....	11,555.34

Sale of tract racks .....	604.07
Membership fees .....	417.50

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\$ 51,679.74

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\$ 54,188.61

**Disbursements:**

Printing .....	\$ 28,994.84
Wages and salaries .....	9,357.61
Postage .....	6,172.60
Supplies .....	2,273.16
Advertising .....	1,559.21
Artist's fees .....	649.50
Purchase tract racks .....	539.91
Rent .....	480.00
Miscellaneous .....	1,023.12

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Total Disbursements .....\$ 51,049.95

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Balance on hand, December 31, 1959 .....\$ 3,138.66

Tracts sold, 1959 ..... 5,870,577

Tracts donated, 1959 ..... 1,378,498

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Total sent out, 1959 ..... 7,249,055

Tracts printed, 1923-'58 ..... 45,056,800

Tracts printed, 1959 ..... 8,004,000

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Total printed 1923-'59 ..... 53,060,800



## SUPPLEMENT NO. 23

(Articles 148, 158, 172)

## KOREAN SPIRITUAL RELIEF

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Your Committee for Korean Spiritual Relief has continued its work for the relief of the churches of the General Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in Korea. Especially in view of the tragic flood conditions in the area of Pusan, this help has been greatly needed and appreciated.

Aid to the churches has been given in the amount of \$900 per month. When we remember that there are more than 400 churches in this group we realize that this amount is intended to help only where the need is urgent.

The seminary has continued to receive \$500 per month. There are at present seven part-time professors, with the president giving full time service. The part-time professors also serve as pastors in congregations.

The Bible School, which trains lay missionaries, receives \$150 per month. All this assistance is greatly appreciated.

The Korean Reformed Spiritual Relief Committee of Synod has been in existence since 1951, and during these years has worked in coöperation with the Korean Material Relief Committee. The advantage of consolidating this work under one committee is becoming increasingly evident. In Korea these funds are distributed by a single committee, which would make it beneficial to have a single committee here. If there were a single committee here, this would also allow for more direct supervision over the allocation of funds on the other side.

## Recommendations:

1. That Korean Spiritual Relief be recommended to the churches for offerings during the coming year.
2. That Synod authorize the Korean Spiritual Relief Committee to contact the Korean Material Relief Committee with this in mind, that at the 1961 Synod this work be consolidated under the Korean Material Relief Committee. This is in the spirit of the decisions of Synod (Acts of Synod 1957, p. 240; 1958, p. 25; 1959, p. 48).

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Hoogstra, *President*  
E. J. Masselink, *Secretary*  
E. Vermaat, *Treasurer*  
E. G. Cooke  
A. Naber

## KOREAN SPIRITUAL RELIEF

1959

Balance brought forward January 1, 1959 .....	\$ 1,958.78
<b>Receipts for the year 1959</b>	
January .....	\$ 6,493.71
February .....	634.78
March .....	369.74
April .....	1,206.34
May .....	2,847.02
June .....	2,119.05
July .....	1,933.74
August .....	1,335.56
September .....	1,958.12
October .....	790.09
November .....	1,490.46
December .....	873.59
	<u>\$22,052.20</u>
Total Receipts .....	\$24,010.98

## Disbursements

Sent to Korea .....	\$21,600.00
Chr. Ref. Publishing House .....	26.72
Charges for bank exchange .....	1.15
Total Disbursements .....	\$21,627.97
Balance on hand December 31, 1959 .....	\$ 2,383.11

I have examined the records of the Korean Spiritual Relief Fund and have found them to be correct.

The receipts and disbursements were examined, in so far as possible, and the bank balance of 2,383.11 on December 31, 1959, was also verified.

February 23, 1960

Nicholas Baker  
1107 Neland Ave., S.E.

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 24

(Articles 72, 148, 172)

**CHRISTIAN REFORMED RESETTLEMENT  
SERVICE COMMITTEE**

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Synod of 1959 mandated your committee to continue its work of sponsoring Dutch immigrants under the usual quota allotment permitted by our government, and to assist immigrants already living within our country desirous of relocating to territories where our churches and Christian schools are located. Under the ordinary quota allotment 3100 immigrants may be admitted per year and of this number there is from year to year a variable number of Reformed persuasion requesting an Affidavit of Support to be admitted to our country as permanent residents. Again this past year your committee was able, in coöperation with the Christelijke Emigratie Centrale of the Netherlands, to place all such immigrants and to supply them with a sponsoring church within our denomination.

In addition to the above assignments our mandate implied that we are to provide Affidavits of Support and that we are to locate sponsoring churches for a large number of repatriated Indonesians living in the Netherlands and are eligible for permanent residence in the United States under the Walter-Pastore Act. Under this act, which will expire on June 30, 1960, approximately 8,000 persons will be given permanent residence in the United States.

To obtain first hand knowledge of the conditions and of the economic status of the 45,000 repatriated Indonesians who have found asylum in the Netherlands our corresponding secretary, Dr. R. J. Danhof, was invited by the Dutch government to attend various meetings in assigned places in the Netherlands. Group meetings were arranged, interviews were held, and a plan of procedure was approved mutually agreeable to our committee as a recognized voluntary agency by our government and the officially recognized Dutch emigration agency, the Christelijke Emigratie Centrale. Our corresponding secretary was a guest of the Dutch government in this enterprise.

Soon after his return numerous dossiers of Indonesian repatriates were processed and allocated by our corresponding secretary to various churches who were willing and ready to serve as sponsors. Since this part of our program went into effect 20 families were placed under the regular Dutch Quota allotment and 45 families under the Walter-Pastore Act — a total of 249 souls. In addition, 8 families of immigrants within the United States have been relocated.

In view of the fact that many more are eligible under the Walter-Pastore Act it is estimated that more than 18,000 who have applied will be disappointed because of the expiration date, June 30, 1960. For this reason our corresponding secretary, being acquainted with the economic

hardships of both Dutch and Indonesian repatriates, requested Representative Gerald Ford, Jr., to introduce a bill in the 2nd session of the 86th Congress, now in session, to extend the Walter-Pastore Act until 1962. Congressman Ford has gladly complied with this request and has submitted a copy of this proposed bill which he has introduced. It is our hope and prayer that Congress will act favorably on this bill.\*

During the past year one Hungarian refugee has been received. At the time that this report is being written affidavits have been prepared for 89 individuals under the regular Dutch quota and 160 under the Walter-Pastore Act. Some of these are in the process of coming to the United States and others have already arrived at their destination.

The Synod of 1959 also requested your committee to solicit funds to discharge a task of aiding Hungarian displaced refugees living in Austria since world war II and since the Hungarian rebellion of more recent date. The funds obtained were to be used to underwrite a portion of the salaries of two Hungarian ministers and three part-time assistants laboring among these displaced Reformed refugees under the supervision of our sister church in the Netherlands. The plan provides for the sending of \$5,000 annually for a period of three years for this specific aid to minister the gospel to these impoverished and helpless victims of the cruelties of war. In addition your committee was requested to raise a sum of approximately \$16,000 to assist the small struggling Reformed congregation in Salsburg, Austria, to erect a small barrack church building. To implement this part of our mandate we drafted a special letter describing this specific need and we sent this letter to our consistories. We are deeply grateful for the favorable response given to this call for financial help. Though we have not yet received the full amount required to discharge this work of mercy we anticipate that within the very near future the balance required to fulfill our pledge will be forthcoming from some of our churches who probably have postponed action upon our appeal until the year 1960.

One problem which confronted your committee was to devise a plan through which we could efficiently distribute the money collected for

\* The following letter was received:

"March 18, 1960  
"Washington, D. C.

"Rev. R. J. Danhof, Stated Clerk  
"Christian Reformed Church,  
"2850 Kalamazoo Ave., S.E.  
"Grand Rapids 8, Michigan.

"Dear Rev. Danhof:

"Just a note to tell you that on March 7th the House of Representatives passed H.R. 10419, the bill including provisions for additional immigration to this country of Indonesians in the Netherlands.

"The bill is now with the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, and you may want to urge the Senators from Michigan to request expeditious action on the bill.

"Warmest personal regards."

(w.s.) Sincerely,  
Gerald R. Ford, Jr.

the purpose stipulated by the Synod of 1959. Our corresponding secretary was requested to meet with the committee of the Reformed Churches of the Netherlands, who also are engaged in a similar project among the refugees in Austria and among some 5000 within the borders of the Netherlands, to devise a joint plan whereby also our committee would have a voice in properly distributing our funds in the most efficient manner. We mandated our corresponding secretary during the time of his visit to the Netherlands, to arrange a meeting with the committee of the Reformed Churches of the Netherlands with the purpose of organizing a Gereformeerd-Christian Reformed committee to jointly engage in this work. Providentially, Rev. Willis De Boer, a post-graduate at the Free University, was familiar with the situation, inasmuch as upon a previous occasion he provided a splendid report after he had undertaken a trip to Austria upon our request to ascertain the status of conditions existing among these Reformed Hungarians. A Gereformeerd-Christian Reformed committee was organized, with Rev. De Boer as one of its members representing the Christian Reformed Church. Through this method a solution was found to our problem.

From October 28 to November 12, 1959, a committee of three members — Mr. Laernoës, Rev. E. De Jong, and Rev. Willis De Boer again made an extensive investigation of the entire refugee situation, and as a result of this visit we have received a 16 page typewritten report of their findings from Rev. De Boer. In order that Synod may obtain a somewhat clearer understanding of the status of the Reformed Hungarians in Austria we quote from Rev. De Boer's report as follows:

"The trip of the two Gereformeerde representatives and myself included the same places as the former trip: Linz, Oberwart, Salzburg, and Innsbruck. It included visits to the refugee camps and homes, conversations with the refugees, conversations with the pastors working in the Hungarian work, and with the leaders of the Austrian Reformed Church. A real friendship has developed in the Austrian and Hungarian leaders for Mr. Laernoës in particular. He has been there on all six trips and is now well known to them. By staying a couple of days in the various places, the problems, difficulties, tensions, and all sides of the work are pretty well aired, and one receives a good over-all picture of the whole situation. I must convey some of the impressions of the magnitude of the problem of the refugees and of the almost hopelessness of its being solved.

"There is some hope with the talk about the World Refugee Year, but there is some cynicism about it too. Some of the leaders in Austria fear that all the publicity may raise the hopes of the refugees higher than realities warrant, and then finally result in their being more disappointed, frustrated, and hopeless than ever. I see no easy solution of the matter, even if there were money available without limits. Some people have lived in the camps long enough now that they do not adjust easily to different and, by common standards, better living conditions. Moving people out of the camps does not solve their basic problem.

"The main problem is to help them find a place in the economic and social world around them. The Austrian economy at present is not prosperous enough to absorb them. Some have lost all initiative and most of their desire to better themselves. Some have dropped to such a low moral state that they are no longer acceptable members of normal society. Some are in too poor health ever to be able to offer regular support for themselves and their families. Some are very uneasy — even afraid, because there are known instances of kidnapping and of being smuggled back behind the Iron Curtain again. Many of the young people can see no future for themselves.

"All this, I hope, helps to emphasize the importance of the work we have taken upon ourselves. In a certain sense you can say that the work of offering spiritual care is very far removed from their basic problem, which is an economic, political and social one. The other side of the matter is that the economic, political, and social problem is not going to be solved very soon, and we have the challenge to give people spiritual and moral help in living with their problems and bearing their burdens during these difficult years. Spiritual care is always necessary, but it is never more necessary than when people are surrounded by problems and by suffering.

"In consultation with the Dutch brethren, a plan of procedure for the coöperation of our church in this work has been worked out. Also, the money which you sent has been delivered, and partially put into action. The financial situation of the Hungarian work for this year is as follows: The Gereformeerde Kerken sent their promised part of the yearly budget early in the year, thus giving immediate cash for the work. In the middle of the year, the World Council of Churches made a payment, and promised to make a further payment later. The Swiss Church has promised to make up what deficiency there is in the budget at the end of the year, after the WCC has made what payments it can. To have our money appear in the proposed budget for the new year would undoubtedly have an adverse effect on further support by the WCC and the Swiss Church. Insofar as the basic budget can be met from these sources, our money is available for special circumstances and difficulties which the budget does not cover. These needs have mainly to do with the Hungarian pastor's personal and family situation."

Rev. De Boer further reports that conditions of poverty exist in the homes of the Hungarian pastors. They lack proper living quarters, heating, light and food, while the cost of rentals is high. A part of the money already disbursed has been used to improve the living conditions for the Pastors Soos and Veghy. In addition, a part was also earmarked for diaconal purposes among the refugees and to supplement the meager incomes of these Hungarian pastors and their assistants.

The committee of investigation has also proposed the erection of an inexpensive church building on the outskirts of the city of Salsburg,

where a group of refugees have the ministry of Rev. Heinrich Bolz. In this group there are many families and many children. It was the united judgment of the Austrian church leaders Rev. Veghy and Rev. Bolz and our joint committee in Holland to build this barrack church in the suburb Salzburg-Gneis, and plans for its erection are already under way.

It is to this specific building enterprise that our past Synod directed us to allocate the sum of \$16,000. Blue prints and building operation will be supervised by our Gereformeerd-Christian Reformed committee. It is hoped that the small struggling congregation worshipping in a cellar will soon be able to worship in a more dignified place.

Other details of the activities carried on in behalf of the Reformed Hungarian Refugees in Austria were presented to the Synod of 1959. These can be found on pages 285-291 of the Acts of Synod, 1959.

Your committee expresses hearty thanks to all the churches and individuals who have contributed to this work of mercy among these Hungarian refugees of Reformed persuasion living in exile in Austria.

Messrs. N. L. Krombeen, J. R. Piper, and G. S. Zylstra have completed five years of service as members of your committee and it is their desire to terminate their membership at this time. Mr. M. Bouwman has completed a three-year term and he does not wish to be reappointed. We thank these men for the faithful service which they have rendered.

The foregoing account shows that your committee continues to carry out the mandate of previous Synods, but it also clearly indicates that much work remains to be done. In order that the work may continue your committee recommends that:

1. Synod continue the original mandate regarding sponsorship of Dutch and Indonesian immigrants and the relocation of Dutch immigrants already in the United States (cf. Acts, 1957, p. 68; Acts, 1958, p. 65; and Acts, 1959, p. 15).

2. Synod continue the mandate of this committee to permit work toward the resettlement of immigrants and the relocation of immigrants already in the United States regardless of nationality (cf. Acts, 1959, p. 15).

3. Synod continue to give encouragement and support to your committee in the projects of a spiritual and material nature done in behalf of the Reformed Hungarians in Austria in coöperation with the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands.

4. Synod reduce the number of members on the committee from nine members to six members.

*Ground:* The nature of the work done by this committee does not demand a large membership.

5. Synod reappoint Dr. L. B. Smedes and Mr. Henry Velzen, Sr., for a three-year term.

6. Synod appoint Dr. Wesley De Young, a member of the LaGrave Ave. Christian Reformed Church, to membership on our committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian Reformed Resettlement Service Committee

Dr. Lewis B. Smedes, *President*  
 Dr. R. J. Danhof, *Executive Secretary*  
 Rev. William Haverkamp  
 Mr. Clarence Beute  
 Mr. Maynard Bouwman  
 Mr. Norman L. Krombeen  
 Mr. Jay R. Piper  
 Mr. Henry Velzen, Sr.  
 Mr. Gerald S. Zylstra, *Secretary*

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT HUNGARIAN RELIEF IN AUSTRIA

#### Receipts:

1. Gifts from churches and individuals .....	\$ 27,493.47
2. Exchange on Canadian checks .....	142.89
3. Interest .....	178.97
	<hr/>
	\$ 27,815.33

#### Disbursements:

1. Disbursed to Geref. Chr. Ref. Committee for aid to Hungarian Ref'd ministers in Austria .....	\$ 5,000.00
2. For erection of church in Salzburg, Austria .....	16,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 21,000.00
Cash Balance in Union Bank and Trust Co .....	\$ 6,815.33
3. Amount required to discharge pledge of 1959 Synod for aid for two more years to aid Hungarian Ref. ministers .....	\$ 10,000.00
4. Amount to be raised to discharge item 3 .....	\$ 3,184.67

March 15, 1960

R. J. Danhof, Sec.-Treas.



## SUPPLEMENT NO. 25

(Articles 22, 172)

## PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Publication Committee of the Christian Reformed Church, with thankfulness to God for His blessings on our activities the past year, presents its 1959 report to your honorable body.

*1. Committee Membership*

The Publication Committee is divided into committees, designated as the Editorial Committee and the Business Committee. The Editorial Committee is as follows: Revs. N. Veltman, G. Goris, J. Schuurmann, R. Rienstra. The Business Committee is as follows: J. Vredevoogd, G. Buist, C. Van Valkenburg, R. Van Kuiken. The entire committee meets the first Thursday night of the month; the sub-committees once a month or oftener.

Election of officers of the entire committee took place September 3, 1959, as follows:

President — Rev. Nelson Veltman

Secretary — Rev. Richard Rienstra

Vice-president and Assistant Secretary — Dr. George Goris

Treasurer — Mr. Gerrit Buist

The synodical rule concerning tenure of office for denominational boards and committees requires a change in our membership at this time. Rev. N. Veltman and Mr. C. Van Valkenburg have each filled two consecutive terms and must therefore retire after a period of six years of service. Rev. N. Veltman served very capably as president of our committee for the last two years and Mr. C. Van Valkenburg served very efficiently as secretary of the Business Committee for six years. We thank these men for their faithful service and many labors. Mr. G. Buist's term of service expires this year, but since he has only served one term he is eligible for reelection.

The following nominations are submitted:

*For a three-year term (one to be elected)*

Rev. Clarence Boomsma

Rev. Henry De Mots

*For a three-year term (one to be elected)*

Mr. Gerrit Buist\*

Dr. Henry Homan

*For a three-year term (one to be elected)*

Mr. Gene Broene

Mr. John Van Dellen

\*Indicates now serving, eligible for reelection.

## 2. Editors and Editorial Matters

We are pleased to report that our editors have been able to perform all the duties relating to their position. Rev. John Vander Ploeg has faithfully and diligently served as editor of *The Banner* since September 1, 1956. The Lord has supplied the necessary strength for this responsible and demanding task. Since his term as editor expires at this time, the Publication Committee, in accordance with synodical ruling, presents the following nomination:

For Editor of *The Banner* (a two-year term)

Rev. John Vander Ploeg

Dr. John Bratt

Rev. Peter Van Tuinen

Rev. E. Van Halsema has served in the dual capacity as editor of *De Wachter* and instructor at Calvin College since 1956. Synod decided to continue this arrangement until 1960. We recognize the fact that he has been associated with *De Wachter* as a writer for its pages for 25 years. The last 12 years he has served as its editor. We congratulate him on his years of valuable service for the church and the committee is grateful to the Lord for the ability granted to discharge his many duties. Since his term as editor expires at this time, we respectfully request Synod to give a direct appointment as editor of *De Wachter* for two years to Rev. Emo F. J. Van Halsema. We make this recommendation, in view of the fact that there is no rule for the retirement of an editor of *De Wachter* at a specific age, and the position does not require full-time service. In the event that Synod would desire an election the committee is prepared to present a nomination.

The reaction to the attempt to indicate the religious character of our church periodical, with the new format of *The Banner*, has been very favorable.

A committee, in accordance with the synodical decision of 1959, has been appointed to study the matter of Daily Vacation Bible School Material. It expects to have a report ready for the Synod of 1961.

## 3. Business Activities

As of March, 1960, the number of subscriptions for *The Banner* is 38,800; *De Wachter* totals 5,300. Constant efforts are being put forth to increase our circulation. Our goal is to get our church papers in the homes of all families of our denomination.

The year 1959 marked the appearance of our new Psalter Hymnal in four styles. Sales for 1959 approximated 58,000 copies, requiring a re-printing of both the pocket size and the regular pew size Psalter Hymnals.

Two additional catechism books were published during 1959. We now carry in stock four catechism books prepared by the Committee on Education. Sales for the 1959-1960 catechism season exceeded 17,000 copies.

The statement of dismission form approved by the 1959 Synod has been made available to our churches.

Interest in the Proposed Revisions of the Form for the Lord's Supper has been very gratifying. Our churches have ordered over 45,000 copies.

We are preparing an attractive Marriage Booklet which will include the Form for the Solemnization of Marriage and other features.

*The Banner*, *De Wachter*, Sunday School papers, Back-to-God Hour sermons are printed weekly. *The Way* and The Back-to-God Hour monthly sermon booklet and *Family Altar* are printed each month. *The Key* is a semi-quarterly publication. The *Prayer Guide* and *Radio Bulletin* are quarterly publications. *The Yearbook*, *Agenda* and *The Acts* are printed on an annual basis. Catechism books, tracts, church supplies and numerous other printings for recognized denominational boards and agencies are printed as needed.

Total personnel in the Christian Reformed Publishing House totals 45 employees. This includes, editorial, supervisory, office and production employees.

#### 4. Summary

The following matters require the action of Synod:

##### I. Election of committee members:

###### A. For a three-year term (one to be elected)

Mr. Gerrit Buist\*

Dr. Henry Homan

###### B. For a three-year term (one to be elected)

Mr. Gene Broene

Mr. John Van Dellen

##### II. Election of Editor of *The Banner* for a two-year term

Rev. John Vander Ploeg

Dr. John Bratt

Rev. Peter Van Tuinen

##### III. Request for appointment of an editor for *De Wachter*

\*Indicates now serving, and eligible for reelection.

Humbly submitted,

Richard Rienstra, *Secretary*

## BALANCE SHEET

The Publication Committee of the Christian Reformed Church, Inc.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

December 31, 1959

## ASSETS

## CURRENT

Cash on Deposit .....	\$ 23,279.56	
Accounts Receivable .....	47,471.77	
Inventories .....	52,375.74	
Prepaid Expense .....	9,730.15	
TOTAL CURRENT .....		\$132,857.22

## OTHER

New Equipment Fund Investments .....	\$ 55,000.00	
Inventory .....	6,658.65	61,658.65

## FIXED

	Cost	Allow. for Depreciation	Net
Land and Building .....	\$530,816.18	\$ 35,918.43	\$494,897.75
Mach. and Equipment ....	258,969.13	93,091.68	165,877.45
Rental .....	13,372.08	1,270.80	12,101.28
	<u>\$803,157.39</u>	<u>\$130,280.91</u>	<u>\$672,876.48</u>
			<u>\$867,392.35</u>

## LIABILITIES

## CURRENT

Accounts Payable .....	\$ 17,567.87	
Accrued .....	12,412.89	
Current requirement on long-term indebtedness .....	15,800.00	
TOTAL CURRENT .....		\$ 45,780.76

## LONG TERM

Mortgage Payable .....	\$ 91,746.50	
Less current requirements included above .....	15,800.00	\$ 75,946.50

## DEFERRED INCOME

Unearned subscriptions .....	\$ 83,474.75	
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RESERVE FOR PENSION .....	\$ 19,702.07	
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## CAPITAL

OPERATIONS .....	\$516,505.83	
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## CONTRIBUTED

Building .....	\$120,918.11	
Furnishings .....	5,064.33	125,982.44
		<u>642,488.27</u>
		<u>\$867,392.35</u>

## STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE

The Publication Committee of the Christian Reformed Church, Inc.  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Year Ended December 31, 1959

## INCOME

Subscriptions and Sales .....\$608,202.27

## COSTS

Merchandise for Resale .....	\$ 98,463.02	
Material .....	132,636.33	
Labor .....	78,292.96	
Manufacturing Expenses .....	76,185.98	
Contributors .....	16,179.97	
Mailing Costs .....	34,423.04	436,181.30

## GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

Direct (Clerical-Editorial-Managerial) .....	72,706.21	
Indirect (Depreciation-Insurance-Office Supplies Postage-Utilities) .....	34,935.13	107,641.34

INCOME OVER EXPENSE .....\$ 64,279.63

We have examined the balance sheet of the Publication Committee of the Christian Reformed Church, Inc., as of December 31, 1959, and the related statement of income for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet and statement of income present fairly the financial position of the corporation at December 31, 1959, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

KAUFFMAN, HUNGERFORD & CO., C.P.A.

Substantial sales of the new Psalter Hymnal during 1959, which will not repeat to the same extent in the near future, accounts for the major contributing factor of the increase in the net income for the calendar year 1959 over 1958. The Publication Committee has made the following dispositions of the funds: (a) new equipment, (b) partial retirement of long-term indebtedness, (c) increased working capital necessitated by increasing inventory requirements.

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 26

(Articles 168, 172)

SYNODICAL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF  
THE YOUNG CALVINIST FEDERATION

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

As representatives of Synod to the Young Calvinist Federation, we submit the following report:

1. The blessing of God has been very evident in the work that has been carried on by the Young Calvinist Federation on behalf of the youth of the churches during the past year. A very successful convention was held in Edmonton last summer. One of the great values of this particular convention was that young people from Canada and the States were brought together in fellowship which promoted understanding and unity among them. The Young Calvinist has provided three sets of outlines for Bible study: Prof. Carl Kromminga and Miss Katie Gunnink wrote outlines for young people, and Rev. James Lont for boys and girls. Helps for societies are constantly being reviewed and improved. At present there are a total of 575 societies which form the membership of the Federation.

2. Inquiry was made by leagues in Canada to the Federation Board about the possibility of receiving boys' clubs into the membership of the Federation. Since the Federation has provision in its Constitution for receiving such organizations, the request was considered. However, since the Calvinist Cadet Corps provides a program for such clubs, it was decided by the board to table this matter for one year, in order to discuss this with the Calvinist Cadet Corps, with the hope that a merger might be effected between the two organizations. A series of meetings have been held, but no concrete progress has been made in that direction.

3. The Calvinette Division of the YFC continues to expand at a rapid rate. In the last report to Synod mention was made of 29 clubs belonging to this division. At present 67 clubs are affiliated with the Calvinettes. Mrs. L. Vredevoogd has been employed by the YCF to develop the program in coöperation with the Executive Committee of the Calvinettes and the Federation Director, and also to aid in the organization of new clubs. Commendable progress has been made in providing materials for the girls, such as the Leaders' Manual, and the development of an award program.

4. Mr. Richard Postma, our Federation Director, has called the attention of the board to the fact that the time for his retirement is approaching. He has labored on behalf of the Federation for 41 years, having been associated with the organization from its inception, and he has properly earned the title of "Mr. Young Calvinist." The board sincerely regrets that in the very near future our youth movement will be deprived of his very valuable services.

A committee has been appointed to find a successor for him. Many names have been suggested. Realizing the importance of this position, the committee is screening each name carefully. We hope to secure a replacement for Mr. Postma during the course of this year. To find a layman who will be as qualified for this task as Mr. Postma has been, is a difficult thing. We would like Synod to know that the names of several ministers are also being considered, and that the possibility exists that a minister will be appointed to this position. There are arguments to be advanced on both sides of the question. It can be argued that ministers should be disqualified from consideration since this work does not seem to be entirely in harmony with the task assigned to the minister in the Form of Ordination. On the other hand, it can be argued that this position is one which is of such vital concern to the church, since it directly effects the spiritual well being of the youth of the denomination, that it warrants the appointment of an ordained man. The minister, by virtue of his training and position, has an advantage over a non-ordained man in rendering the kind of service required from a Federation Director. The Young Calvinist enters the homes of some 23,000 families of our church, and its editor must be conversant with, and wholly committed to, the Reformed faith. It is self evident that the kind of leadership given by our Federation Director to our young people is of vital concern to our entire denomination. We covet your prayers in this important decision.

5. Our churches have continued to show their financial support to the organization. A total of \$8,930.30 was contributed by the churches; \$4,501.37 for the Young Calvinist Servicemen's Fund, \$3,159.25 for the Federation work, and \$1,269.68 for the Building Fund. This support is gratefully received. We trust that Synod will once again recommend the Federation to the churches for financial support.

Humbly submitted,

Rev. Louis J. Dykstra

Mrs. Dick L. Van Halsema

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 27

(Articles 79, 85, 89, 130, 135, 141, 142, 154, 172)

## CHRISTIAN REFORMED BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

God's work goes forward and our report at this time will be a summary review of the activities of our church in the field of foreign missions as conducted under the care of the Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions. Our work has been richly blessed in that the Word of God has been preached in all our mission stations; literally millions have heard the gospel through our mission effort, and many have come to know Him whom to know is life everlasting. Surely, many weaknesses and failures have marked our way, but God has given increase for which we give thanks. Assignment for foreign missions carries with it profound responsibilities and with the extensive outreach of our church into 10 mission fields we can well observe that God has given us wonderful opportunity for service in his kingdom. It is the prayer of our Board that Synod may be led by the Holy Spirit and that the missionary challenge confronting our church may register upon Synod and so upon all our people as of primary importance. Surely no church has a better message than ours and we know ours is good only inasmuch as we faithfully present the Word of God. Certainly no age was more in need of the message than ours. Finally, it may also be said, no church is in better situation as far as ecclesiastical, political, financial, and educational advantages are concerned to be of service to God in the realm of missions. May God be pleased to use us as a church as his tool for an effective witness to the ends of the earth.

## SECTION ONE

## Organization and Personnel

## A. Board

The Board met in regular session February 9-12, 1960, and during the course of the year since last Synod the Executive Committee met once per month. The following officers were elected for a two year term: President, Rev. Fred M. Huizenga; Vice-president, Dr. Richard S. Wierenga; Treasurer, Mr. Joseph T. Daverman; Assistant Treasurer, Dr. Richard De Mol; Minute Clerk, Rev. John C. Scholten. Rev. Henry J. Evenhouse continues as Executive Secretary.

In order to have full synodical endorsement for all classical appointees, we ask Synod to approve the following:

Classis	Member	Alternate
Alberta North .....	Rev. Garrett H. Vande Riet	Rev. Bastiaan Nederlof
Alberta South .....	Rev. Peter J. Hoekstra	Rev. Henry Bouma
British Columbia .....	Rev. Repko W. Popma	Rev. Cecil W. Tuininga
Cadillac .....	Rev. Frank Einfeld	Rev. Sidney Newhouse
California .....	Rev. John Morren	Rev. Harold Petroelje



Classis	Member	Alternate
Chatham .....	Rev. John C. Verbrugge .....	Rev. Sidney Cooper
Chicago North .....	Rev. Oliver Breen .....	Rev. John Meppelink
Chicago South .....	Rev. John C. Scholten .....	Rev. Roger E. Van Harn
Eastern Ontario .....	Rev. Arnold Rumph .....	Rev. Klaas Hart
Grand Rapids East .....	Rev. Jacob Hasper .....	Rev. Arthur Verburg
Grand Rapids South .....	Dr. Richard S. Wierenga .....	Rev. Dewey Hoitenga
Grand Rapids West .....	Rev. Gysbert Rozenboom .....	Rev. Bernard Niemeyer
Grandville .....	Rev. Sidney A. Werkema .....	Rev. Paul Zylstra
Hackensack .....	Rev. Theodore Verseput .....	Rev. Clarence J. Vos
Hamilton .....	Rev. D. J. Scholten .....	Rev. Adam Persenaire
Holland .....	Rev. A. Paul Veenstra .....	Rev. John Rickers
Hudson .....	Rev. Nelson Vanderzee .....	Rev. Harry Arnold
Kalamazoo .....	Rev. Oren Holtrop .....	Rev. George Yff
Minnesota North .....	Rev. John H. De Haan .....	Rev. Maynard Keuning
Minnesota South .....	Rev. John H. Rubingh .....	Rev. Menzo Dornbush
Muskegon .....	Rev. Abel Poel .....	Rev. Simon Viss
North Central Iowa .....	Rev. Carl J. Toeset .....	Rev. James A. Bultman
Orange City .....	Rev. John B. Hulst .....	Rev. Leonard Bossenbroek
Pacific .....	Rev. Peter De Jong .....	Rev. John Geels
Pella .....	Rev. Peter Y. De Jong .....	Rev. William Vande Kieft
Rocky Mountain .....	Rev. Roger Posthuma .....	Rev. Albert J. Haan
Sioux Center .....	Rev. Christian Huissen .....	Rev. Alan A. Arkema
Toronto .....	Rev. Henry W. Kroeze .....	Rev. Jacob Kuntz
Wisconsin .....	Rev. Peter Vander Weide .....	Rev. Marvin Vanderwerp
Zeeland .....	Rev. Fred M. Huizenga .....	Rev. Lubbertus Oostendorp
Member-at-Large .....	Mr. Joseph T. Daverman.....	{ Mr. John Van Dellen
Member-at-Large .....	Dr. Richard De Mol.....	

### *B. Members-at-Large*

It will be necessary for this Synod to appoint two men to our Board as members-at-large. In June Dr. Richard De Mol will have served four and one-half years on our Board and it is presumed by the Board he will be ineligible for reappointment for another term of three years. Mr. Maynard Vander Wal, who was appointed by the Synod of 1958, has tendered his resignation finding that his present work demands too much of his time to permit him to do justice to the work of our Board. His resignation has been reluctantly accepted. It is the desire of our Board to have Dr. De Mol appointed by Synod to complete the unexpired term of Mr. Vander Wal, and have Synod elect a new member and one alternate from the following nominations: Harold Gelderloos, C. Schrader, Louis Van Ess, Dr. Edward Y. Postma.

### *C. Representation at Synod*

The Board respectfully requests that besides the Secretary of Missions, the President and the Treasurer be permitted to represent the Board on matters coming before Synod. Rev. H. J. Schripsema will be available for matters relating to the Indian field and Rev. Ralph Baker as representative from the Sudan field, both having been designated by their respective conferences. We expect Rev. Robert Sutton to be available also, as he is presently on furlough from Japan and will still be in the U.S. while Synod is in session.

**D. Field Personnel and Calling and/or Supporting Churches**

The following is a list of our present missionary personnel and their calling and/or supporting churches:

Field or Post	Missionary	Calling and/or Supporting Churches
<b>Argentina</b>		
Mar Del Plata.....	Rev. Angus MacLeod.....	Bethany, Holland
Sarmiento.....	Rev. W. Thomas DeVries.....	Seymour, Grand Rapids
Tandil.....	Rev. Raymond Brinks.....	Prosper, Falmouth, Mich. SS, First, Fremont, Mich. Lodi, New Jersey Millbrook, Grand Rapids Riverside, Grand Rapids
Tres Arroyos.....	Rev. Edward Meyer.....	East Saugatuck, Mich. Volga, South Dakota
<b>Australia</b>		
Geelong.....	Rev. Gerard Van Groningen.....	Borculo, Mich. Reformed Church in Australia
	Second ordained man.....	First, Pella, Iowa
<b>Brazil</b>		
Castrolanda.....	Rev. William Muller.....	Reformed Church in Brazil
<b>Ceylon</b>		
	Rev. Richard De Ridder.....	Wyoming Park, Grand Rapids
	Rev. Roger Greenway.....	Dutch Ref. Church of Ceylon Burton Heights, Grand Rapids
	Rev. Clarence Van Ens.....	Dutch Ref. Church of Ceylon Richfield, Clifton, New Jersey Moline, Mich.
	Rev. John Van Ens.....	Dutch Ref. Church of Ceylon First, Edgerton, Minnesota Nobleford, Alta., Canada Dutch Ref. Church of Ceylon
<b>Cuba</b>		
	Rev. Clarence Nyenhuis.....	Lagrange Ave., Grand Rapids Burton Heights, Grand Rapids SS, Fulton, Illinois Third, Kalamazoo, Mich. Kelloggsville, Grand Rapids
	Rev. Vicente Izquierdo.....	Lagrange Ave., Grand Rapids
	Ordained man.....	Second, Pella, Iowa Fourth Roseland, Chicago
	Cuba field.....	Oak Lawn, Illinois North St., Zeeland, Mich. First, Orange City, Iowa Anonymous supporter
<b>Formosa</b>		
	Miss Lillian Bode.....	Second, Grand Haven, Mich.
	Rev. Isaac Jen.....	Lee St., Grand Rapids Central Ave., Holland, Mich. Kanawha, Iowa Ninth St., Holland, Mich. N. China Theol. Foundation
	Rev. William Kosten.....	First, Cicero, Illinois Bethany, Muskegon, Mich. Hull, Iowa Manhattan, Montana
<b>Indonesia</b>		
	First ordained man.....	Springdale, Ontario
	Second ordained man.....	Nobleford, Alberta Granum, Alberta Classes Alberta N., Alberta S., and British Columbia

Field or Post	Missionary	Calling and/or Supporting Churches
<b>Japan</b>		
Chichibu.....	Rev. Maas Vander Bilt.....	Coldbrook, Grand Rapids First, Bellflower, California
Kawagoe.....	Rev. Richard Sytsma.....	Bethel, Grand Rapids
Kofu.....	Rev. Henry Bruinooge.....	Emden and Raymond, Minn. Third, Bellflower, California Calvin, Rock Valley, Iowa
Shin-Tokorozawa.....	Rev. Leonard Sweetman.....	Grandville Ave., Grand Rapids
Tokyo.....	Rev. Robert Sutton.....	Prospect Park, Holland, Mich.
	Rev. Edward A. Van Baak.....	Fourteenth St., Holland, Mich. First, Artesia, California SS, Trinity, Fremont, Mich.
<b>Japan Christian Academy</b>		
Language Study.....	Mr. Martin Essenburg.....	
	Rev. Harvey Smit.....	Midland Park, New Jersey
	Rev. John Timmer.....	Immanuel, Hudsonville, Mich. Ridgewood, New Jersey
<b>Korea</b>		
	First ordained man.....	Ebenezer, Berwyn, Illinois
	Second ordained man.....	Grace, Kalamazoo, Mich.
<b>New Zealand</b>		
	Rev. Richard Venema.....	Auburn Park, Chicago Second, Englewood, Chicago Ref. Church in New Zealand
<b>Sudan</b>		
Asukunya.....	Rev. Rolf Veenstra.....	Sheldon, Iowa
Baissa.....	Rev. Robert Recker.....	First, Orange City, Iowa
	Miss Ruth Vander Meulen.....	Holland Heights, Holland Second, Fremont, Mich.
Gindiri.....	Rev. Harry R. Boer.....	First, Roseland, Chicago
	Mr. William Bierma.....	Alger Park, Grand Rapids
Harga.....	Rev. Ralph Baker.....	Seymour, Grand Rapids
Hillcrest School.....	Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Swartz.....	Second, Grand Haven, Mich.
	Miss Elsie Vanderbrug.....	
	Miss Gertrude Van Haitsma.....	First, Zeeland, Mich.
Kunav.....	Rev. Harold De Groot.....	Neland Ave., Grand Rapids
	Miss Angie Hoolsema.....	SS, Rudyard, Mich. Millbrook, Grand Rapids
	Miss Betty Vanden Berge.....	First, Kalamazoo, Mich.
	Kunav station support.....	Faith, Holland, Mich.
Lupwe.....	Rev. Edgar H. Smith.....	Ninth St., Holland, Mich.
	Rev. Gilbert Holkeboer.....	Maple Ave., Holland, Mich.
	Miss Anita Vissia.....	Midland Park, New Jersey Overisel, Mich.
	Miss Margaret Dykstra.....	SS, Burton Heights, Gr. Rapids
	Mr. Stuart K. Bergsma.....	Bethel, Paterson Second, Fremont, Mich.
	Mr. Harold Bergsma.....	Second, Allendale, Mich. Calvin, Grand Rapids First, Zeeland, Mich.
	Mr. Raymond Browneye.....	Alger Park, Grand Rapids Second, Fremont, Mich.
Mkar.....	Rev. Peter Ipema.....	First, Rock Valley, Iowa East Paris, Mich.
	Mr. Peter Bulthuis.....	Bethel, Lynden, Washington
	Mr. Ralph Dik.....	First, South Holland, Illinois Third, Zeeland, Mich.
	Mr. Stephen Lambers.....	East Leonard, Grand Rapids SS, First, Fremont, Mich.
	Rev. Gerard Terpstra.....	Alpine Ave., Grand Rapids

Field or Post	Missionary	Calling and/or Supporting Churches
Mkar Hospital	Mr. William Lemcke	First, Denver, Colorado
		Second, Fremont, Mich.
	Mr. Henry Driesenga	Highland Hills, Grand Rapids
	Mr. Harvey Poel	1st & 2nd, Grand Haven, Mich.
	Dr. Herman Gray	First, Cicero, Illinois
	Dr. Len Van Ieperen	Wyoming Park, Grand Rapids
	Miss Mac Mast	Drenthe, Mich.
		Second, Fremont, Mich.
	Miss Jessie De Jong	1st & 2nd, Sarnia, Ontario
	Miss Neva De Vries	Prinsburg, Minnesota
Sevav	Miss Geraldine Geleynse	Third, Lynden, Washington
	Miss Frances Vander Zwaag	
Takum	Rev. Eugene Rubingh	First, Grand Rapids
Chr. Hospital	Dr. John Vroon	Lagrange Ave., Grand Rapids
	Dr. Lawrence Den Besten	Sherman St., Grand Rapids
Turan		First and Calvary, Pella, Iowa
	Dr. Edward Stehouwer	Ann Arbor, Mich.
	Mr. Harold Padding	First & East, Cutlerville, Mich.
	Miss Ella Boer	Central Ave., Holland, Mich.
		Second, Fremont, Mich.
	Miss Bena Kok	First, Englewood, Chicago
	Miss Margaret Kooiman	First, Roseland, Chicago
	Miss Jean Van Beck	First, Roseland, Chicago
	Miss Evelyn Vredevoogd	Godwin Heights, Grand Rapids
	Rev. George Spce	Montello Park, Holland, Mich.
Uavande		Kelloggsville, Grand Rapids
	Miss Geraldine VandenBerg	Trinity, Jenison, Mich.
Wukari	Miss Nancy Chapel	Mayfair, Grand Rapids
	Rev. Peter Dekker	Fuller Ave., Grand Rapids
Zaki Biam	Rev. Cornelius Persenaire	Spring Lake, Mich.
	Miss Dorothy Sytsma	DeMotte, Indiana
	Miss Laura Beelen	Central Ave., Holland, Mich.
Another	Mr. Ralph Cok	Bethel, Paterson, New Jersey
Ordained man		Central Ave., Holland, Mich.
Indian		
Beautiful Mountain	Mr. Edward Henry	
Brigham City	Rev. Cornelius Kuipers	Peoria, Iowa
	Mr. Leroy Baas	
	Miss Lena Benally	
Carrisso	Mr. Marvin Vugteveen	
Crown Point	Rev. Earl Dykema	Lagrange Ave., Grand Rapids
Farmington	Rev. Herman J. Schripsema	Oakdale Park, Grand Rapids
	Miss Kathleen De Haan	First, Second, and Calvary, Pella, Iowa
Gallup	Rev. Donald E. Houseman	Second, Kalamazoo, Mich.
Indian Village	Miss Lena Bulthuis	First, Englewood, Chicago
Naschitti	Mr. Marinus Harberts	Fuller Ave., Grand Rapids
Phoenix	Rev. Jacob Van Bruggen	Sixteenth St., Holland, Mich.
		Ninth St., Holland, Mich.
Red Rock	Mr. Paul Redhouse	
Rehoboth	Miss Wilma Bambacht	SS, Central Ave., Holland
	Mr. Edward Berkompas	
	Miss Janet Boogman	
	Dr. Louis H. Bos	Second, Roseland, Chicago
	Mr. Arthur Bosscher	
	Rev. Rodger Buining	Rehoboth, New Mexico
	Mr. Julius Den Bleyker	

Field or Post	Missionary	Calling and/or Supporting Churches
	Miss Henrietta Diephuis.....	Burton Heights, Grand Rapids
	Miss Julia Ensink.....	Zutphen, Mich.
	Mr. Paul Hekman.....	
	Miss Lillian Heronimus.....	
	Miss Marie Hockstra.....	Overisel, Mich.
	Mr. William Hoekstra.....	
	Miss Dora Hofstra.....	SS, Seymour, Grand Rapids
	Mr. Roland Kamps.....	
	Miss Betty Kollis.....	
	Miss Clara Kollis.....	
	Mr. Bernard Koops.....	DeMotte, Indiana
	Miss Mary Kuik.....	Waupun, Wisconsin
	Miss Gertrude Oranje.....	First, Zeeland, Mich.
	Miss Ruth Rooze.....	
	Miss Aletta Rus.....	Niekerk, Mich.
	Miss Wilma Smit.....	First, Orange City, Iowa
	Mr. & Mrs. Russell Smitter.....	
	Mr. Clarence Start.....	
	Miss Renzina Stob.....	SS, Alger Park, Grand Rapids
	Rev. Gordon Stuit.....	Third, Kalamazoo, Mich.
	Mr. Theodore Tibboel.....	
	Miss Bessie Tjoelker.....	
	Miss Bessie Van Boven.....	Hull, North Dakota
	Miss Thelma Vander Ven.....	
	Miss Marie Vander Weide.....	
	Miss Rena Vander Woude.....	Third, Roseland, Chicago
	Miss Sadie Van Dyken.....	
	Miss Theresa Van Houw.....	Sixteenth St., Holland, Mich.
	Miss Hattie Veurink.....	Pease, Minnesota
San Antone.....	Mr. Jacob Bol.....	
Shiprock.....	Rev. Floris Vander Stoep.....	Classis Zeeland
	Miss Nellie Van Mersbergen.....	
Toadlena.....	Rev. J. C. Kobes.....	First & Immanuel, Ripon, Calif.
Tohatchi.....	Rev. J. R. Kamps.....	Drenthe, Mich.
Tohlakai.....	Mr. Richard Kruis.....	Jamestown, Mich.
Whitehorse.....	Mr. Alfred Becenti.....	
Zuni.....	Miss Ann De Vries.....	Lucas, Mich.
	Miss Winabelle Gritter.....	
	Rev. Bernard Haven.....	First, Wellsburg, Iowa
	Mr. Stanley Koning.....	Lamont and Walker, Mich.
	Miss Eunice Post.....	
	Miss Wilma Van Dam.....	Oakland, Mich.

The following are employed on our Indian field, although not under the direct (contract) appointment of our Board:

Carisso.....	Mr. Howard Redhouse	Rehoboth.....	Miss Amy Rose Pinto
Crown Point.....	Mr. Jack Toledo		Miss Louise Redhouse
	Mr. Clarence Tsosie		Miss Bernice Shorty
Farmington.....	Mr. Fred Begay		Mr. Herbert Thomas
Gallup.....	Mr. Stewart Barton, Sr.		Miss Violet Warner
Indian Village.....	Mrs. Sarah B. Long		Miss Anna Mae Woody
Naschitti.....	Mr. Ben Henry	Shiprock.....	Mr. Boyd Garnenez
Red Rock.....	Paul Belin		Miss Jennie Pettigrew
Rehoboth.....	Mr. Stewart Barton, Jr.	Toadlena.....	Mr. Sidney Nez
	Mr. John Charles	Tohlakai.....	Mr. George Begay
	Mrs. Alice D. Hamilton	Two Wells.....	Mr. Melvin Chavez
	Mr. Tullie James	Zuni.....	Mr. Rex Natewa
	Miss Jean Nabahi		Mr. Rex Chimoni

## Section Two

### General Matters

#### A. *Recruitment Program for Missionaries*

The Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions in a document to Synod is outlining a program for recruitment of additional missionaries and ministers, asking that Synod take positive action in this matter. Our Board is convinced that serious attention must be given to the need of more workers both in the regular ministry and on the mission fields and asks that Synod give careful and favorable attention to the request of the Board of Home Missions on this matter.

#### B. *Relief for Distressed Areas*

During the latter part of 1959 our church carried on a program of relief work in Japan at the urgent request of our missionaries who were confronted with the problems arising because of the typhoon which had struck the Far East. This program of relief was handled by the Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference and it led to a serious consideration by our Board of the need for the establishment of an emergency relief committee. In view of the fact that our missionaries have been challenged by the demand for relief assistance, and emergency measures had to be taken to make necessary provisions, our board recommends to Synod that a synodical committee be appointed to give specific attention to emergency needs arising on mission fields because of storm and other major calamities. We also inform Synod that we endorse the proposal of the Deacons Conference which is being presented to Synod regarding assistance to indigent people in mission areas. On our mission fields, especially where medical work is being carried on, our missionaries are constantly dealing with people who are unable to meet their immediate needs, especially for medical assistance, and since this creates a serious drain on mission funds for the care of the poor we judge it a warranted and worthy project for the attention of our deacons.

#### C. *Mission Promotion*

It has been the conviction of our Board that with a view to long range mission needs additional help would be needed in our office to provide the necessary publicity materials concerning our work and needs. This was judged necessary especially since Synod has placed the task upon our Board of extending missionary labors into new areas without providing the necessary budget. Instruction was given to open new work, but to secure funds through special gifts. Obviously this would require increased promotional activity. Both the Finance and the Promotion Committees of our Board were instructed to study this matter and report to the Board. This was done and the following action resulted:

1. Permission was granted to seek the services of a full-time layman, charged with the duties of implementing a public information service.
2. The duties and responsibilities of this person are to be established by the Executive Committee.

3. The Recruiting Committee of our Board was instructed to seek applicants for this position as soon as possible.

The Recruiting Committee has begun work on this and if there is any definite progress by the time Synod meets it will be reported to Synod.

#### *D. Aid to Foreign Students*

Appeals from both Japan and Nigeria for assistance to nationals seeking training for spiritual leadership in their own lands have been carefully studied by our Board and the following position has been adopted, which we trust will meet with synodical approval:

1. The training and preparation of national Christians for religious leadership among their own people is an important and crucial aspect of the total mission program of the church, and therefore money spent to assist promising students for such leadership represents a legitimate use of mission funds.

#### *Grounds:*

a. The Synod has implicitly approved this principle in its undertaking the program of the sponsorship and support of foreign students, for there can be no doubt that the motivation for this program is in part a mission one, and the funds used, though not specifically called by that name and though they are raised through special channels, are as a matter of fact mission funds. That the Synod itself felt the mission bearing of its program is clearly indicated by the constituency of the committee in charge of the program. Besides representatives from Calvin, the committee is made up of representatives of our mission agencies.

b. We are already acting on the basis of this general principle in our expenditure of funds for various educational enterprises on our fields or in the countries where our fields are located.

c. The best hope for the earliest possible transfer of our fields to indigenous leadership is through a vigorous and aggressive program of training of promising nationals for such leadership. Whether we spend moneys for the establishing and operating of schools of our own at all levels on all our fields for the purpose of giving such training, or whether we spend moneys to help needy students attend schools already existing which we can approve for that training makes no principal difference. Hence there can be no objection on principle to the use of mission funds to assist promising nationals to prepare themselves for religious leadership by attending approved schools in their own lands. The latter method will surely be far less costly to us than the establishing and operating of advanced schools on all our fields.

2. Authorization will be given for a budget item on fields requesting it for aid to nationals preparing themselves at approved schools for evangelistic and ministerial service to their own people, this fund to be administered by each field conference in accordance with a set of regulations to be drawn up by the Executive Committee.

3. Requests for aid to nationals preparing themselves for some other aspects of Christian service than the directly evangelistic and ministerial

ones will be referred to our office for possible contact with willing supporters.

### Section Three

#### Indian Field

##### *A. Intermountain School, Brigham City, Utah*

The work among the Navaho students at Intermountain School has been carried on since 1954. More than 400 students in that school are registered "Christian Reformed." In 1958 the Board advised Synod that plans were being formulated for the construction of a chapel and multi-purpose building at an approximate cost of \$22,000. Cash on hand and pledges make it possible to proceed with the erection of this building and plans are being drawn up. The total cost has increased somewhat and will be between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

##### *B. Rehoboth School*

For a number of years our teachers in the Rehoboth Elementary School have been teaching in a building that is inadequate and actually unsafe. The state authorities have now condemned the school, giving us no alternative but to construct a new building. The Board respectfully requests Synod's approval to our plan to replace the school building at Rehoboth with a new building at an estimated cost of \$42,000.

A few years ago the administration of the dormitories in Rehoboth was placed in the care of the Educational Superintendent. This work coupled with his school administration, teaching four classes, counseling, etc. necessitates some relief. In order to allow for more time for actual administration, organizing Parent-Teacher Associations and developing a Christian school spirit among our Christian Indians, the field conference and the Board have decided that an additional teacher, preferably a lady, is needed in the Rehoboth High School, and we ask Synod's approval on this action.

##### *C. Two Wells*

In 1959 the Board decided "not to continue Two Wells as a mission post of the Christian Reformed Church, and to instruct General Conference to carry out the details required for closing this post. It was also decided to request General Conference to investigate the possibility of continuing the evangelistic work at the Trailer School and the Cousins School."

The report to the Synod of 1959 simply stated that it had been decided to "discontinue the residence of a white missionary at this location, although the work in the Trailer and Cousins Schools will be continued."

The Board therefore recommends that Synod approve the decision of the Board to close the Two Wells post.

##### *D. House for Missionary at Indian Village*

The believers group at Indian Village has requested the privilege of buying the chapel at Indian Village. Attached to this chapel are the



living quarters of our missionary, Miss Lena Bulhuis. Sale of the building to the believers is a step in the right direction, but does entail thereby the loss of our missionary's home. If this plan is carried through a new home will have to be built for the missionary. The income for the sale of the chapel will be handled over a long term contract and the new house will be financed through mission funds and be erected by our own building staff.

#### *E. White Horse Lake*

Since 1955 Mr. Alfred Becenti has been the Navaho evangelist at White Horse Lake. This work is under the supervision of the Crown Point missionary, and because of an inadequate water supply the construction of a home was delayed. There is now assurance of sufficient water and since the Board in 1956 decided to build a home when there was such assurance Synod is now asked to approve the erection of a home in White Horse at an approximate cost of \$11,500.

#### *F. Assistance for Students*

A number of our young Navaho Christians are eager to prepare for the ministry but do not have the means to finance an education, and the Board has no provision for such educational help. The Board respectfully requests Synod to permit these prospective ministers to be included among those who may apply for benefits from the synodical committee for Sponsorship of Foreign Students.

### **Section Four**

#### **Far East**

##### *A. Formosa*

Our mission staff consists of Miss Lillian Bode, Rev. and Mrs. Isaac Jen, and Rev. and Mrs. William Kosten. Mr. and Mrs. Kosten are chiefly engaged in language study as yet, but even so all are actively working in one phase of the work or another. Mr. Jen spends a considerable part of his time in teaching at the Taiwan Theological Seminary in Taipei, and in the preparation of radio broadcasts over local stations.

In order to carry on the work in good order and with good understanding as to assignment and purpose the Board has adopted a "Tentative Mandate" for Formosa. It is not the desire of our Board that Synod declare itself on this mandate at this time. Further time should be given so that the missionaries can evaluate the details of the mandate and the Board has time to observe it as a working plan.

It is the plan of our Board to increase our staff in Formosa with the appointment of an additional lady worker. The Recruiting Committee of the Board has been instructed to secure a candidate for this appointment and attend to necessary arrangements.

##### *B. Japan*

We are pleased to report that during the past year all eight openings for the Japan field were occupied. Rev. Harvey Smit and Rev. John

Timmer are still engaged in language study. Their eventual location is still undecided. The Rev. Leonard Sweetman, whom the Lord graciously restored to full strength, has returned to the field after one year sick leave, and he will open work in Shin-Tokorozawa. This city was recommended to our Board as a strategic and needy center for evangelistic labor and authority has been given Mr. Sweetman to establish his residence there.

### *Kobe Seminary*

1. Lectureship. Rev. S. Fujii, a former student at Calvin Seminary and a pastor of the Japan Reformed Church at Gifu, has been invited to serve as full-time professor at Kobe Seminary if support could be secured for his salary. In view of the fact that Kobe Seminary is of great importance to us in our work in Japan, and its very existence obviates our need to establish a training school of our own, the Board decided to authorize the payment of \$1000 annually towards the salary of Mr. Fujii. It was noted that already \$300 of this amount is annually being raised by one of our local congregations.

2. House. The request for \$1,700 to help build a house for the newly appointed professor was approved.

3. Budget. It was decided to approve the grant of \$800 to Kobe Seminary for the general operation of this school for the calendar year 1961, as previously done.

### *C. Korea*

The decision of Synod to send two missionaries to Korea has not yet been carried out. This is due in part to the decision that support for these missionaries be secured independent of quota. In the opinion of the Executive Committee this meant that funds had to be assured from churches ready to underwrite the program. This assurance has not been sufficient during the past year to cover even the cost for one year. However, the Board has now decided "to authorize the Executive Committee to call missionaries for Indonesia and Korea when it shall deem it wise and not be bound by strictures of having money on hand."

## Section Five

### *Latin America*

#### *A. Argentina*

Four ministers of the Christian Reformed Church are serving as missionary-pastors in Argentina. The work is conducted in coöperation with a mission committee appointed by the Reformed Churches of Argentina. Recently the Gereformeerde Kerk of the Netherlands sent a delegation of two to investigate the mission situation and needs and opportunities in South America. This committee sent a report to their sending body and now one of the members of this committee has returned to continue his study of the mission needs and opportunities for the church in the Netherlands. The decision as to whether Argentina shall be established as a mission field for continued service is being delayed until

their representative, Rev. J. A. C. Rullmann, reports to them after three years of residence in Argentina.

Since this action of the church in the Netherlands directly affects also our work and since there will have to be a clear understanding of relationships and missionary planning, the Board decided to send the Secretary of Missions to South America in the fall of 1960.

#### *Grounds:*

1. For anyone from here to attend the meeting of Classis Buenos Aires this spring in the hope of preparing for such possible arrangements seems premature, since Rev. Rullmann has but recently come to South America.

2. It appears inadvisable, however, to postpone taking this preparatory step until Rev. Rullmann's three year stay draws to a close.

3. It will be definitely advantageous to both the Board and our missionaries in the Argentina to have personal contact between our Secretary and the missionaries during the coming year.

#### *B. Brazil*

Rev. Wm. V. Muller continues his missionary service in Brazil. During the past year he visited the Netherlands to confer with the committee in charge of immigration and made plans for the opening of a third colony in Brazil. Planning on this development is under way. Besides this aspect of his work the missionary thrust of the church into the Brazilian community is also being advanced with Brother Muller preaching in the Portuguese language and guiding the Reformed churches into a program of community evangelism.

#### *C. Cuba*

The international relationships existing between the U.S.A. and Cuba have been darkening, but we can be thankful to the Lord that thus far there has been no interference with the work of the mission because of the North American contacts. Since our work in Cuba is new and plans had to be made as to basic policy, Rev. Clarence Nyenhuis and Rev. Vicente Izquierdo were invited to come to Grand Rapids to confer with our Executive Committee. The following basic statement was approved for our conduct of the work:

For the present Rev. Vicente Izquierdo and Rev. Clarence Nyenhuis are together in charge of the Cuban work. In order to provide a good working relation on the field we present the following outlines: (Note Future developments on the field may call for a revision of the arrangements here outlined.)

##### *I. Steering Committee*

###### *A. Composition*

1. Rev. V. Izquierdo and Rev. C. Nyenhuis will presently form the Steering Committee.

2. The chairmanship of this committee shall rotate between these two men.

3. Rev. C. Nyenhuis shall serve as the secretary of the committee.

B. Duties

1. The committee shall meet normally once per month.

2. It shall see to it that all the work on the field shall be carried out effectively and efficiently.

3. It shall receive and process the monthly pastoral reports from the pastors on the field.

4. It shall make all decisions regarding pastoral appointments and possible dismissals.

5. It shall make all decisions regarding the appointment of teachers in the Christian School.

6. It shall consider all major expansion on the field and make recommendations to the Board accordingly.

7. It shall make recommendations to the Board regarding additional personnel appointments and salary schedules of the native pastors.

8. It shall adopt the annual budget and present it to the Board for approval.

9. It shall consider emergency needs beyond the budget and make recommendations to the Board accordingly.

10. It shall make recommendations to the Board in regard to the gifts received for special purposes.

11. It shall make all vacation schedules.

12. It shall consider all business referred to it by the Board.

13. It shall take to the Board all matters which it as Committee cannot resolve.

14. Any other problems relating to the welfare of the field shall also be considered by this committee.

II. *Rev. Clarence Nyenhuis*

He shall supervise all of the spiritual activities of the field. Among other things this shall include:

A. Evangelical work.

1. Such as preaching in the various mission stations and churches.

2. Personal work with the people inasmuch as his time allows.

3. Distribution of Christian literature.

4. Any other forms of evangelism as are opened to him.

B. Instructional work.

1. Teaching the pastors and Sunday School teachers the doctrines and polity of the church. (Note: The pastors are to be released from some of their duties so that this instruction can be carried on.)

2. Selecting Sunday School and teaching materials for the instructional program of the mission.

C. Consultation with the pastors in spiritual matters, and with any others who need spiritual guidance.

### III. *Rev. Vicente Izquierdo*

He shall supervise all financial and business activities. Among other things this shall include:

A. The duties of treasurer. As treasurer he shall:

1. Receive all monies.
2. Disburse all funds within the limit of the budget. (For such expenses as pastor's salaries, rent, light, water, etc.)
3. Keep accurate record of all receipts and disbursements and report once each month to the Board.
4. Prepare a budget to be presented annually to the Steering Committee.
5. Make a regular audit of financial records in each district of the mission.

B. The duties of purchasing agent—to supervise the purchase of all the needed supplies covered by the budget.

C. The duties of contact man with the government.

He shall supervise the Christian School.

A. In all the financial matters of the school.

B. In all of the personnel matters.

### IV. *Staff Meetings*

A. The present monthly meetings of the pastors shall be known as Staff Meetings.

B. For the present the Staff Meetings shall include all the native pastors and the members of the Steering Committee.

C. The chairmanship of this committee shall rotate between the two men presently on the Steering Committee, i.e. Revs. V. Izquierdo and C. Nyenhuis.

D. The purpose of the staff meetings shall be to discuss the work of the field and make recommendations to the Steering Committee.

### V. *Board policy regarding missionary wives*

A. It is the policy of the Board that the missionaries' wives do not work for the Board in an official capacity. They may, however, work on a voluntary basis and the Board recommends that the wives on the field be permitted to take part in the mission work in as far as their home duties permit.

B. In cases of special needs the mission may hire wives with special qualifications for certain positions in the mission (such as teachers and nurses).

The work in Cuba has been extended into a new area known as La Ciénaga de Zapata. This work lies in a swamp area south of Jaguey Grande and offers great challenge to the workers serving the Interior Gospel Mission. Since the Oak Lawn Christian Reformed Church had

agreed to underwrite the cost of this work, the Board approved the development and so informs Synod, trusting this will meet with Synod's approval.

Synod has approved sending two ordained men to Cuba. Thus far only the Rev. Clarence Nyenhuis has been sent. The Board has now decided "to proceed at once with calling a second man whose duty it shall be chiefly to investigate and plan for the opening of the Bible School to train Cuban nationals, and to carry this investigation on in close coöperation with present members of the Steering Committee. Further, that this man shall take sufficient training before entering the Cuban field so that he will be somewhat proficient in the use of the Spanish language.

#### Grounds:

1. The need for this school has been recognized even before we officially took over the field.

2. It has been approved by Synod.

3. Rev. V. Izquierdo is also strongly of the opinion that it is essential that any new missionary for Cuba shall know the language before he arrives."

In view of the fact that our Cuban field is in a period of transition and that the projected Bible School may not be in operation before the need for some additional workers may arise, the Board decided:

1. That the securing of any additional personnel shall be kept at a bare minimum.

2. That when the securing of an additional worker is approved by the Board or Executive Committee, the following provisions shall constitute our policy:

- a. The Cuban Steering Committee shall confer with the new field personnel under consideration for appointment as to their commitment to the Reformed faith.

- b. It shall require of those uncommitted an expressed willingness on the part of such possible appointees to study the Reformed faith as a definite qualification for such appointment.

- c. It shall further require that such appointees agree to retire from service for the mission, if after a two year period of study they still find themselves unable to agree wholeheartedly to the Reformed faith.

## Section Six

### South Asia

#### A. *Australia*

We regret to inform Synod that we have not been able thus far to secure additional men to enter into the work in Austrailia even though the appeal for additional help is very urgent and the opportunities are ripe for significant contribution to the cause of the Reformed faith. Calls have been issued but not accepted. We will continue to issue calls

for ministers to join Rev. G. Van Groningen. Three ministers have been authorized for Austrailia and we request Synod to permit us also to send a lay worker to assist the Rev. Van Groningen at Geelong.

### *B. Ceylon*

The island of Ceylon continues to be a field of great missionary opportunity for our church. We trust that Synod will be able to hear direct report from Ceylon, as two of our missionaries expect to be home from the field this summer. Aside from the regular budget requests we have nothing particular to ask of Synod with reference to Ceylon, but can indicate what is being discussed with special interest at the present time. The General Consistory and our Board are currently weighing the question whether our missionaries can progressively be relieved of pastoral service to the established churches to engage fully in missionary labors with those outside the church. Originally our men went to Ceylon to serve as loaned pastors. Our men have increasingly felt that the need for missionary labors is so great and the demands for congregational duty so severe that the two functions cannot be carried jointly with full justice being done to each. In view of the fact that our assistance by way of providing pastors to the DRC was intended to be temporary and also since direct evangelistic work among the unconverted is more in line with our task as expressed in our Mission Order, it was decided to advise the General Consistory of the Board's concern that "as rapidly as feasible, our missionaries engage more fully in mission work among the Tamils and the Sinhalese, and further, that the General Consistory be respectfully requested to make specific plans for each missionary now on the field to give himself exclusively to missionary endeavor of this type as soon as possible after return from his next furlough."

### *C. Indonesia*

No calls have been issued for Indonesia. This was in part due to the same financial considerations as explained with reference to Korea. The decision of the Board concerning both Korea and Indonesia reads as follows: "It was decided to authorize the Executive Committee to call missionaries for Indonesia and Korea when it shall deem it wise and not be bound by the strictures of having the money on hand."

### *D. New Zealand*

Rev. Richard Venema continues to serve as our missionary in New Zealand. The name "missionary" seems more appropriate today than it did before. Mr. Venema was sent to New Zealand to serve as pastor of the Dunedin Church and to carry on missionary work amongst the immigrants from Holland and the older Australian residents. During the past year request was received from the church in New Zealand and from Mr. Venema that he be enabled to fix attention completely on the mission needs, being released of commitment as pastor to the local group. This was granted. It involves increased cost to our church since the contribution first made towards Mr. Venema's salary by the local group is now directed towards the salary of a resident pastor and all

the salary and budget needs of Missionary Venema are now underwritten by our church.

## Section Seven

### Sudan

Nigeria will receive her independence this year and our situation in Northern Nigeria as a witness for the gospel of Christ is of tremendous importance. We have assurances of continued freedom to bring the gospel, but the national movement will also tend to accentuate the drive on the part of the nationals to exercise their freedom in matters relating to the church and education, as well as to political matters. This will require on the part of our home church great sensitivity for the deep feelings pulsing in the souls of the people. Our work in the past year has been wonderfully blessed. Several new missionaries have entered the field and God has given many converts. On the other hand the hazard is present that the great interest in nationalism and in economic development will divert attention from spiritual concerns and that the church will lose some of its early spiritual enthusiasm.

We are pleased to inform Synod that Dr. B. De Groot of Seattle, Washington, is planning to enter our work as a member of our medical staff. Two of our missionaries will discontinue their missionary service for the time being to enter into further studies. Dr. Lawrence Den Besten will enter a surgical residency, and Mr. S. K. Bergsma will take up graduate work in education. We trust both will eventually come back into the full-time work under our Board.

### *African Delegation*

The decision of Synod last year to invite two delegates from the church in Nigeria to visit our church and attend our Synod has been accepted and we can expect them in the summer of 1961. They will be selected by the Tiv Synod and the Regional Church Council and be brethren thoroughly conversant in the English language.

### *Special Gift Fund for TCNN*

The Nigerian General Conference at its November meeting requested the Board to establish a special gift fund for TCNN "in accordance with the provisions that were made by the Synod of 1958 in response to the request of the Benue Church and which other missions and churches are looking to us to fulfill." It was decided by our Board to heed the request of Conference. This decision was taken with the following grounds:

1. It is essential to the maintaining of good relations on the field and of retaining the good will and confidence of the national Christians.
2. We have a moral obligation over against our sister church to help her in her need.

In this connection we feel that we should inform Synod that there was considerable division of opinion on the Board concerning this



matter. There was question as to whether Synod's decision re TCNN in 1959 closed the door to such a gift fund as approved in 1958.

### *Educational Matters*

Educational matters loom large on the Sudan field and the following matters are of great importance to us as a church and should prove of great interest to our church at home.

1. It was decided to establish a two-year pre-seminary course at Lupwe. This was considered by the Nigerian Conference to be in harmony with the decision of Synod of 1959 to "instruct the Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions and the Nigerian General Conference to maintain and develop the Reformed Pastors' Training program in Nigeria with a view to hopefully establishing a Reformed Theological Seminary." It was further decided that the Rév. Gilbert Holkeboer shall serve as principal, and that the Regional Church Council and the Tiv Church have equal representation on the committee.

2. It was decided to approve the establishment of the Tiv Bible School. The following grounds were offered and these also indicate what the nature of the school will be:

- a. There is a crying need for trained Bible School teachers to carry on the evangelistic work of the Tiv Church.

- b. The establishment of this Bible School will contribute effectively to the promotion of the central task of missions, the transmission of the gospel.

- c. While considerable Bible School work is being carried on in the Eastern Province, this has been neglected in the Tiv area.

### *Religious Leadership Training Programs Subsidy*

Nigerian General Conference took the position that "in view of the churches' demonstrated inability to pay the cost of the religious leadership training programs, NGC gives the Evangelism Department permission to give up to 60% of the cost of each student in training for religious leadership. Funds are to be taken as available from the Veenstra Memorial Fund." The Board approved this decision of Nigerian General Conference "with the understanding that TCNN students will be supported until a Reformed Theological Seminary has been established."

### *Additional ordained men*

In view of commitments to the new training program requiring full-time service of missionaries who were serving mission stations, it was decided to approve the request of Conference that two additional ordained men be sent to Nigeria.

### *D.R.C.M. Missionaries*

The attention of Synod is called to the assignment of DRCM missionaries to our work. The transfer of the entire Tiv field of the DRCM to us is progressing step by step, but it involves the continuance of some of the DRCM missionaries even though the field is transferred to our

administration. With this in mind the Board has approved the recommendation of our General Conference:

1. Re ministerial status of ordained men and church membership status for laymen, that we request the DRC Synod to consider the possibility of permitting a special dispensation for the Tiv workers on loan to the CRCM.

2. Re salary, that during the two initial terms of service the salary of the DRC employees be the same as our personnel in similar work, rather than the basic salary of the DRC plus one-half of the difference between their basic salary and the CRCM basic salary.

3. Re pensions, that the CRC pay into the South African Pension Fund in the way in which the DRC is doing at present.

## Section Eight

### Financial Matters

#### A. Treasurer's Report

The following are concise statements of balance sheets and receipts and disbursements of the various funds at the close of December 31, 1959. A detailed account of all transactions will be presented to the Budget Committee of Synod.

#### CHRISTIAN REFORMED BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

##### Balance Sheet — December 31, 1959

	ASSETS	Year ended December 31, 1959	1958
CASH .....		\$ 169,188.25	\$ 252,146.80
<b>Investments:</b>			
U.S. Government Securities .....		\$ 97,379.00	\$ 96,399.00
Bank Savings Certificates .....		62,000.00	112,000.00
Marketable Securities .....		20,062.50	31,062.50
		\$ 179,441.50	\$ 239,461.50
<b>Receivables:</b>			
Notes .....		\$ 36,175.76	\$ 48,144.54
Accounts .....		10,829.89	9,799.45
Land Contracts .....		10,017.13	11,282.56
		\$ 57,022.78	\$ 69,226.55
<b>Fixed:</b>			
Land, Buildings, Furniture and Equipment.....		\$1,850,956.65	\$1,532,770.35
Less Reserve for Depreciation .....		568,260.00	483,595.12
		\$1,282,696.65	\$1,049,175.23
<b>Other:</b>			
Prepaid Salaries and Budgets .....		\$ 80,270.05	\$ 58,898.99
Inventories .....		13,777.89	13,480.39
Deferred Non-Budgeted net costs .....			2,525.09
Miscellaneous .....			1,047.41
		\$ 94,047.94	\$ 75,951.88
<b>Total Assets .....</b>		<b>\$1,782,397.12</b>	<b>\$1,685,961.96</b>

## LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS

Accounts payable and accruals .....	\$ 48,057.14	\$ 47,957.26
Liabilities for unexpended balances .....	124,331.00	249,928.83
Annuity and memorial liabilities .....	8,678.31	
Non-Budgeted fields liability .....	8,678.31	
Surplus .....	\$1,587,669.47	\$1,373,514.67
Total Liabilities and Surplus .....	\$1,782,397.12	\$1,685,961.96

## Comparative Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

## OPERATING FUND

Year ended December 31,  
1959 1958

## Revenues:

Classical Quotas .....	\$ 689,527.53	\$ 717,196.51
Salaries and Support .....	255,317.01	241,008.65
Hospital Operating .....	30,149.85	30,248.55
Board and Enrollment - Rehoboth .....	10,795.58	8,901.23
Interest .....	3,261.62	3,560.01
Miscellaneous .....	11,655.87	10,045.65
Total Revenues .....	\$1,000,707.46	\$1,010,960.60

## Expenditures:

Salaries and Wages .....	\$ 631,003.46	\$ 564,763.98
Travel and Moving .....	94,195.04	111,206.10
Depreciation - estimated .....	88,409.08	75,073.62
Repairs and Maintenance - Buildings .....	35,115.33	35,400.55
Repairs and Maintenance - Equipment .....	29,974.57	28,806.96
Hospital Supplies and Medical .....	24,891.01	27,210.15
Commissary .....	21,890.96	22,958.61
Evangelical Supplies .....	19,274.12	10,236.83
Social Security and Pension Payments .....	17,230.37	14,858.00
Rent .....	16,814.02	12,964.79
Insurance .....	15,641.83	13,647.51
Equipment Grants .....	12,000.00	19,600.00
Promotional .....	11,037.54	8,070.78
Automobile Allowance .....	9,451.42	8,491.26
Mission Supplies .....	8,517.86	5,653.04
Administrative Office Expense .....	6,975.36	4,901.40
Budget Payments .....	1,500.00	6,782.64
Miscellaneous .....	50,824.22	56,793.44
Total Expenditures .....	\$1,094,746.19	\$1,027,419.66
Excess Expenditures over Revenues .....	\$ 94,038.73	\$ 16,459.06

## Non-Budgeted Revenues and Expenditures

	Revenues	Expenditures
Formosa .....	\$ 21,982.39	\$ 15,646.31
Cuba .....	16,826.69	13,947.65
South America .....	8,789.65	10,165.27
Indonesia .....	2,990.00	
Korea .....	373.90	
Totals .....	\$ 50,962.63	\$ 39,759.23

(continued on next page)

## Comparative Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

SPECIAL GIFTS FUND	Year ended December 31,	
	1959	1958
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Designated Gifts:		
For Indian Field .....	\$ 30,128.33	\$ 15,054.86
For Foreign Fields .....	53,152.30	44,243.85
Non-Designated Gifts:		
For Indian Field .....	9,929.21	44,909.92
For Foreign Fields .....	8,539.87	42,859.23
General .....	14,909.10	30,885.59
Interest and Dividends .....	6,483.06	7,896.70
Sale of Marketable Securities (excess of cost) .....	61,069.36	
Sale of Land, Buildings and Equipment .....	15,560.38	10,129.76
Legacies, 1959 and fire insurance proceed 1958 .....	8,193.56	8,500.00
Total Revenues .....	\$207,965.17	\$204,479.91
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
For land, buildings and equipment .....	\$112,606.33	\$193,841.31
Other .....	30,579.44	6,137.99
Total Expenditures .....	\$143,185.77	\$199,979.30
Excess Revenues Over Expenditures .....	\$ 64,779.40	\$ 4,500.61

## ANNUITY FUND

	Year ended December 31,	
	1959	1958
Revenues, Consisting of Interest Earned		
on Investments .....	\$ 150.69	\$ 131.05
Expenditures, Consisting of Annuity Payment and Annuity Principle \$1,000 paid to Special Gifts		
Fund in 1959 .....	1,361.38	399.60
Excess Expenditures Over Revenues .....	\$ 1,210.69	\$ 268.55

## Comparative Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

PENSION FUND	Year ended December 31,	
	1959	1958
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Mission Board Contributions .....	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Employees and Other Contributions .....	5,480.78	5,260.95
Interest Earned on Investments .....	3,513.00	3,402.80
Total Revenues .....	\$12,993.78	\$12,663.75
<b>Expenditures:</b>		
Pension and Death Benefit Payments .....	\$ 4,471.92	\$ 4,299.36
Termination Payments .....	907.05	1,162.41
Other .....	63.23	92.92
Total Expenditures .....	\$ 5,442.20	\$ 5,554.69
Excess Revenues Over Expenditures .....	\$ 7,551.58	\$ 7,109.06

	RELIEF FUND	Year ended December 31,	
		1959	1958
<b>Revenues:</b>			
From Churches .....		\$ 1,856.43	\$ 5,942.64
Interest Earned on Investments .....		1,582.54	1,707.84
Total Revenues .....		\$ 3,438.97	\$ 7,650.48
<b>Expenditures</b> .....			
Excess Revenue Over Expenditures .....		\$ 3,438.97	\$ 7,650.48

### B. Budgets

1. *Special Request for 1960.* In addition to the budget allowed by Synod of 1959 for the year 1960, other needs have arisen which the Board feels are necessary and should be allowed by Synod. We request approval for the following expenditures which must be taken from funds on hand at the beginning of 1960:

From Operating Funds		
<b>Administrative</b>		
Additional personnel .....		\$ 10,000.00
<b>General</b>		
Foreign Scholarships .....	\$ 1,500.00	
Aid to students in foreign countries .....	3,000.00	4,500.00
<b>Indian</b>		
Brigham City - Mileage and rent .....	\$ 720.00	
Pinedale - Rent .....	300.00	
Rehoboth - Gas increase .....	1,800.00	
- Added teacher .....	1,000.00	
Toadlena - Commissary .....	200.00	4,020.00
<b>Japan</b>		
Auto replacement .....	\$ 3,000.00	
Educational help .....	5,000.00	
Kobe Seminary .....	800.00	
Fujii Scholarship .....	1,000.00	9,800.00
<b>Sudan</b>		
Additional industrial salary .....		4,600.00
<b>Argentina</b>		
Car replacement .....	\$ 6,000.00	
Cost of living allowance .....	1,613.00	7,613.00
<b>Ceylon</b>		
Auto replacement .....	\$ 3,000.00	
Additional freight .....	3,000.00	
Furlough expense .....	1,000.00	
Additional travel expense .....	5,000.00	12,000.00
<b>Australia</b>		
Additional salaries .....		4,800.00
<b>New Zealand</b>		
Additional salaries .....	\$ 9,000.00	
Auto expense .....	1,000.00	

Equipment grants .....	2,000.00	
Freight .....	3,000.00	
Rentals .....	3,000.00	
Travel to field .....	3,000.00	21,000.00
Salary increases - all fields .....		21,355.00
Total .....		\$99,688.00

## From Above Quota Fields Funds

<b>Formosa</b>		
Woman worker, salary and expense .....		\$ 6,200.00
<b>Argentina</b>		
Rev. R. Brinks, Cost of living allowance .....	\$ 375.00	
Rev. R. Brinks, Meeting place in Tandil .....	450.00	
Bible woman salary .....	250.00	1,075.00
<b>Cuba</b>		
Auto replacement .....	\$ 3,000.00	
Office Equipment .....	250.00	3,250.00
Total .....		\$10,525.00

## From Special Gifts Funds

<b>Indian</b>		
Brigham City - house .....	\$17,000.00	
- chapel increase .....	18,000.00	
House at Indian Village .....	7,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
<b>Japan</b>		
Chapels .....	\$ 9,000.00	
House for Rev. S. Fujii .....	1,700.00	10,700.00
<b>Sudan</b>		
Turan - Guest House .....	\$ 1,067.80	
Hospital duplex .....	5,620.00	
Kunav - Garage, office .....	449.60	
Tiv Bible School, Gboko:		
1 Married couple's house .....	4,215.00	
1 Single person's house .....	2,810.00	
6 Duplex, married students .....	3,231.50	
13 Single students' quarters .....	2,810.00	
3 Cooking Huts .....	126.45	
1 Classroom .....	772.75	
5 Latrines .....	168.60	
1 Well .....	281.00	
1 Garage, Office .....	1,264.50	22,817.20
<b>Australia</b>		
Homes .....	\$20,000.00	
Cars .....	6,000.00	26,000.00
Total .....		\$101,517.20

2. *Budget Request for 1961.* A complete detailed list of budget requests for 1961 will be submitted to the officers of Synod and to members

of its advisory budget committee when Synod meets. A summary of these requests follows:

*a. Operating Budget:*

Administrative, General and Promotion .....	\$ 130,100.00
Indian .....	450,971.00
Formosa .....	8,700.00
Japan .....	137,900.00
Sudan .....	450,872.20
South America .....	38,850.00
Ceylon .....	59,150.00
Australia .....	24,000.00
New Zealand .....	28,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,328,543.20
Less estimated salary support .....	260,000.00
	<hr/>
Net to be raised by quotas .....	\$1,068,543.20
Quota per family .....	20.31
We humbly request .....	17.50

*b. Operating Budget for Above Quota Fields:*

Formosa .....	\$ 25,900.00
South America .....	8,600.00
Cuba .....	44,388.60
Indonesia .....	29,800.00
Korea .....	33,800.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 142,488.60
Less expected contributions .....	70,000.00
	<hr/>
Expected deficit .....	\$ 72,488.60

*c. From Special Gifts Funds:*

Indian — Rehoboth, replace elementary school building .....	\$ 42,000.00
White Horse — additional for house .....	3,800.00
Japan — New houses .....	9,000.00
Sudan — Mkar, 1 Married couple's house .....	4,215.00
Mkar, 1 Nurses' duplex .....	5,620.00
Taraku - Guest House .....	1,124.00
North Benue - Garage, office .....	983.50
Mkar, 1 new car .....	3,000.00
Bristow Secondary School, 1 car .....	3,000.00
Tiv Bible School:	
2 Married Couple's houses .....	8,430.00
6 Duplex for married students .....	3,231.50
12 Single students quarters .....	2,810.00
3 Cooking Huts .....	126.45
2 Classrooms .....	1,545.50
	<hr/>
	\$ 88,885.95

**Section Nine**

**Items Requiring Synodical Attention**

1. Membership of Board. Section One, A.
2. Members-at-Large. Section One, B.

3. Representation at Synod. Section One, C.
4. Recruitment Program for Missionaries. Section Two, A.
5. Relief for Distressed Areas. Section Two, B.
6. Mission Promotion. Section Two, C.
7. Aid to Foreign Students. Section Two, D.
8. Brigham City Chapel. Section Three, A.
9. New School building at Rehoboth. Section Three, B.
10. Additional teacher, Rehoboth High School. Section Three, B.
11. Closing of Two Wells station. Section Three, C.
12. New house for Indian Village missionary. Section Three, D.
13. New house at White Horse Lake. Section Three, E.
14. Assistance for Indian students. Section Three, F.
15. Support and housing for Rev. S. Fujii. Section Four, B.
16. Aid for Kobe Seminary. Section Four, B.
17. Opening of new station in Cuba, La Cienaga de Zapata. Section Five, C.
18. Lay worker for Australia. Section Six, A.
19. Special Gift Fund for TCNN. Section Seven.
20. Educational Developments in Nigeria. Section Seven.
21. DRCM Missionaries. Section Seven.
22. Budgets. Section Eight.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIAN REFORMED BOARD OF  
FOREIGN MISSIONS

Henry J. Evenhouse,

*Executive Secretary*



## SUPPLEMENT NO. 27-A

(Articles 130, 135, 141, 154, 171, 172)

## CHRISTIAN REFORMED BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Because of the nature of our work the full report for Synod cannot be completed at the time the first *Agenda* for Synod is prepared. We are thankful for the privilege of submitting a supplementary report and trust the materials given can receive official attention.

## I. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

There have been changes in board membership since the writing of the earlier agenda report. We ask that the following changes be noted and given necessary attention:

<i>Classis</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Alberta North		Rev. Henry Bajema
Eastern Ontario	Rev. Klaas Hart	Rev. Aris Haalboom
Holland	Rev. D. J. Negen	Rev. A. Walcott
Pacific		Rev. John A. Hoeksema

## II. REV. CALVIN G. HAYENGA

It is with sorrow that we bring to the attention of Synod the death of one of our veteran missionaries, Rev. Calvin G. Hayenga, who served as missionary to the Indians for 33 years. We trust Synod will take due notice of this loss.

## III. ADDITIONAL MISSIONARY TO JAPAN

At the meeting of our Board in February the request of our Japan Mission for additional missionaries was rejected. The reason given is as follows: "The Board recommends that in the future Japan General Conference give specific grounds for requesting additional personnel.

"*Ground:* The Board must weigh the needs of the Japan field over against the needs of other fields."

In response to this the Japan Conference has replied asking that a missionary be sent in 1961 and providing grounds also for their request. The Executive Committee took the following decision: "... to grant the request of Japan General Conference 'to send a missionary to Japan in 1961 and to include the budgetary matters in the 1961 budget for presentation to the Synod of 1960.'

*"Grounds:*

"1. Only one-half of one per cent of the total population of 90 million in Japan are professing Christians.

"2. There are countless cities in which no Christian witness is being given.

"3. The government of Japan is congenial to the presence of missionaries in Japan. There is a 'wide open door' in Japan for the proclamation of the gospel.

"4. Historically, Synod did not limit the number of missionaries to be sent to Japan, but adopted the Board's recommendation 'to send as many missionaries as possible.' (Cf. *Acts*, 1951, p. 75; *Acts*, 1955, p. 356)

"5. In 1961 housing will be available for language students in Egota compound."

We request synodical approval of this action.

#### IV. PRAYER FOR NIGERIA

Nigerian General Conference has designated September 25, 1960, as a day of prayer for the unity of the churches of Northern Nigeria and for the welfare of the state in commemoration of Nigerian Independence. It was decided to grant this request and ask our churches to remember in prayer the state of Nigeria as it undergoes a transition to independence. We trust this will receive the endorsement of Synod and that official recommendation will be made that throughout our churches September 25, 1960, be designated as a day for special prayer in behalf of this new country.

#### V. MEXICO

The Board of Home Missions has decided to place before Synod the question whether Mexico shall be recognized as the area of mission responsibility for the Board of Home Missions or the Board of Foreign Missions. It was decided to inform Synod that we consider Mexico outside the province of "Home Missions" and properly within the province of "Foreign Missions," that our Mission Order specifically indicates that all "foreign work" shall be administered by the Board of Foreign Missions; and that there is no valid reason why the familiar and accepted division of missionary assignment should be altered.

#### VI. INCREASE IN BOARD MEMBERSHIP

*Acts of Synod*, 1959, p. 41; Overture No. 39. An overture to the Synod of 1959 requested the inclusion of Canadians among the members-at-large on our denominational boards. Synod called this matter to the attention of the denominational boards.

In response to this request the Board of Foreign Missions proposes to enlarge the Board by seven laymen — three from Canada and four from the United States. As a general division for such representation it is proposed to have one representative each from Eastern Canada, Central Canada, and Western Canada; and in the United States one representative from each of the four major divisions — the East, the Central area, the Midwest, and the Far West.

To elect such members to the Board, and to re-elect when terms of office expire, the delegates from each of the above regions will recommend to the Board at its annual meeting such men who are able and willing to serve. The Board at its annual meeting will elect nominees

from each region. The Synod shall elect the Board members from the nominees offered by the Board of Foreign Missions.

#### VII. TWO WELLS, NEW MEXICO

In view of the fact that the Indian General Conference is requesting a reversal of the Board decisions of 1959 and 1960 to close Two Wells, the Executive Committee decided to forward this request to Synod without our comments.

#### VIII. AUSTRALIA

Rev. Robert Sutton visited Australia while en route to the United States for furlough, and the church in Australia has requested that he be permitted to represent her at Synod. It was decided to forward this request to Synod.

#### IX. SOKEI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL OF JAPAN

The Synod of 1959 approved the Sokei Christian School of Japan for financial support not to exceed \$10,000. Our Board has not initiated the request for funds to Synod, nor is it now ready to initiate the request. Therefore the request of Japan General Conference as stated below is forwarded to Synod without approval.

*"Sokei Christian School (ECM 924).* The Executive Committee of Conference appreciates that ECM 924 was the only action the Board could take re the Sokei School on the basis of information then available. However, upon recommendation of the Conference's Finance Committee the Executive Committee of Conference was requested to give additional advice to the Board Secretary with regard to the matter of the Sokei School request for being put on the Synodical list of approved causes again. After discussion, the Executive Committee decided to send its Finance Committee to the Sokei School to discuss the plans of that school to buy more land and buildings. In view of the 10,000,000 yen (U.S. \$27,777.78) amount of 'monies payable' in the financial report submitted to the Board and Synod, the Executive Committee felt that a request for funds submitted to our Synod should only be in the context of debt reduction and not for further expansion. The Finance Committee relayed this concern to Rev. Matsuo and the Sokei School Board chairman and stated that the Japan Conference would recommend that his request be given favorable consideration if both he and his Board agree not to go ahead with the purchase of any more land or buildings for the next five years. This condition was given in the interest of stabilizing the financial structure of the present Primary School. We objected to the increasing tendency of the Sokei School to borrow funds for school capital expenditures without adequate assurance of receipts from home or abroad. We also agreed that if the Sokei School should have money on hand for new capital expenditures (other than from commercial loans) we would not consider our 'condition' for receipt of Christian Reformed funds to be necessary. Since the Sokei School officials agreed to this condition, the Executive Committee of the Japan Mission would like to make the following recommendations to be forwarded to the proper Synodical Committee:

"A. The Japan Conference wishes to endorse the request to have the Sokei Christian School again put on the approved synodical list for 'Causes Recommended for Financial Support,' not to exceed a cumulative amount of \$10,000.

*"Grounds:*

"1. Through a misunderstanding of our Synod's financial workings, the Sokei School has borrowed money at high interest on the strength of last year's Synodical action in approving the school's request.

"2. The financial report shows that the school is quite heavily in debt and we wish our contribution to go towards strengthening the existing Primary School.

"3. The Japan Mission has solicited the Sokei School's officials' agreement not to borrow any more money from commercial sources for land or buildings for five years or until they have money on hand from other sources.

"4. This is a worthy kingdom cause and our past investments in this school have brought into being a school based upon Reformed principles.

"B. We further request that the Sokei School be continued on the list of 'Causes Recommended for Financial Support' in succeeding years until a cumulative amount of \$10,000 has been collected.

*"Grounds:*

"1. Since last Synod only about \$1,500 has been collected.

"2. It may take several years to raise this amount.

"3. With this assurance the Sokei School can more readily obtain gifts for expansion from Japanese sources."

#### X. THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE OF NORTHERN NIGERIA

The Nigerian General Conference at its April session took the following decision:

"3161 STATEMENT ON TCNN. NGC having taken notice of the minutes of the Home Board, February, 1960, regarding the TCNN, declares:

"1. that it expresses appreciation for the decision to set up a special gift fund to fulfill the promise made in 1958 of financial aid to the Benue Church for support of TCNN.

"2. that it informs the Home Board that the setting up of training projects (viz., the Tiv Vernacular pastor's training program, the Tiv Bible School, the Hausa vernacular pastor's training program, the Lupwe pre-seminary course) should in no way be construed as steps toward an eventual establishment of a separate seminary in competition with the TCNN.

"3. that it takes note of the action of the Tiv Church Synod of April 1960, which, when confronted with a choice between the TCNN and a separate school, decided in the interests of her solidarity with her sister churches of the Tarayya, to continue her participation in the TCNN, and

so has asked the CRC to pay her (viz., the CRC's) proportionate share of the financial support of the TCNN.

"b. that we adhere to the position regarding the desirability of a united Theological Seminary which we have held from the beginning.

"In view of these considerations and considering that the Tiv and East Benue Churches have consistently supported the TCNN and that strained relationships would be formed between our mission and these churches, and between these churches and their sister churches in the Tarayya; NGC cannot in good conscience support the founding of a separate seminary in competition with the TCNN and therefore requests counsel from the Home Board."

The Executive Committee of the Board of Foreign Missions in its June 9, 1960, session took notice of this decision and adopted the following:

"That the Executive Committee inform Synod of the concern of our missionaries as shown in this minute. We would impress on Synod that this is, in our opinion, a sincere and honest response of our missionaries arising from their convictions that they cannot comply with that decision of the Synod of 1959 as it pertains to the establishing of a separate seminary apart from and in competition with TCNN.

"The question now is what action the missionaries, feeling themselves unable to comply with the decision of 1959, should take. Our missionaries are burdened by the strained relation this decision will cause on the field and how it will impair the unity of the work.

"We ask Synod for its advice."

#### XI. MEMBERSHIP IN NIGERIAN CHURCH

Our Nigerian General Conference has come with the following request:

"NGC considers that present church relationships make it highly advisable and desirable that missionaries be full members of the national churches with which they are associated. At the same time the missionaries are reluctant to surrender official membership in their home churches. NGC therefore requests the Board to approach the Synod of 1960 and ask it to explore the possibilities of dual membership which NGC considers to be the answer to our problem."

The Executive Committee of the Board decided to call the attention of Synod to this request, and to ask that because of the urgency of this matter Synod appoint a committee to report to the Synod of 1961.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIAN REFORMED BOARD OF  
FOREIGN MISSIONS

Henry Evenhouse,  
Executive Secretary

SUPPLEMENT NO. 28  
(Articles 148, 154, 171, 172)  
**FUND FOR NEEDY CHURCHES**

**ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

We respectfully submit the following report:

**I. *Membership and Organization***

The committee:

Mr. Abraham Sluis, Chicago, Ill., President

Mr. Maurice Vander Velde, Oak Park, Ill., Treasurer

Mr. Henry P. Ottenhoff, Berwyn, Ill., Vice-president

Rev. Herman Hoekstra, Berwyn, Ill.

Rev. William Verwolf, Evergreen Park, Ill., Secretary

Mr. C. Van Malsen, ex officio, Home Mission Board

**II. *Administration***

The committee processed one hundred twenty applications for assistance in 1960, and approved grants to all but three. Twenty-two churches that received aid in 1959 will not receive it this year. Ten other churches have made application to the fund for the first time.

Your committee has had close contact with, and good coöperation from the Home Missions Committees of the Classes.

Receipts on quotas from the classes was 72% (97% in the USA, and 46.9% in Canada). Receipts were very slow in coming in the first part of the year, which caused some concern.

A schedule of payments made in 1959 follows this report.

**III. *Recommendations***

1. We recommend that the salaries to be paid to ministers by the churches receiving assistance from the FNC be not less than \$4,200.

2. We recommend that the per family contribution towards the minister's salary in aid-receiving congregations be set at not less than \$70 in the U.S., and at not less than \$60 in Canada.

3. We recommend that an allowances of \$200 per child in excess of the salary paid be granted.

4. We recommend that mileage allowances in congregational work be granted according to the following schedule:

No allowance for the first 5,000 miles on the field.

a. In the U.S. at 7¢ per mile for not more than 3,500 miles.

b. In Ontario and Quebec at 7¢ per mile for not more than 5,000 miles.

c. In the Western and Maritime provinces of Canada at 8¢ per mile for not more than 6,500 miles.

5. We recommend that the per family quota for the FNC be set at \$5.25 for 1961.

6. We recommend that Mr. Abraham Sluis, chairman of the committee, be given the privilege of the floor in matters pertaining to the FNC.

7. In re moving expenses the FNC Committee will adopt a new and very simple policy: to pay moving expenses at the same rate percentage-wise, as subsidy, and for the same reasons. Example: A church receives \$1,000 in subsidy (25% of \$4,000). They may, if the need is demonstrated receive 25% of their moving expenses.

8. The FNC Committee desires a clarification of the membership of its committee. We appreciate very much the assistance and advice that has been given to us, and our wish for clarification is not to be construed as any reflection upon the "ex-officio" member. However, compare *Acts* 1958, p. 75, 2 b, "This committee shall be composed of five members: two ministers and three laymen," (Compare also the grounds under C 1.) with *Acts* 1959 p. 121 (33) where a sixth name is added, "for the Home Mission Committee."

Respectfully submitted,

FNC COMMITTEE

A. Sluis, Pres.

W. Verwolf, Sec'y.

H. P. Ottenhoff

H. Hoekstra

M. Vander Velde, Treas.

FUND FOR NEEDY CHURCHES COMMITTEE, INC.

Schedule of Subsidy Payments made for the Year 1959

Name of Church	Total Payment	Salary	Children's Allowance	Mileage	Moving Expenses
<b>Classis Alberta North</b>					
Barrhead-Westlock ....	\$ 650.00	\$ 650.00			
Edson .....	2,170.00	1,700.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 70.00	
LaCombe (Bethel) ..	1,801.00	980.00	821.00		
Peers .....	2,183.34	1,583.34	300.00		\$ 300.00
<b>Classis Alberta South</b>					
Brooks .....	841.00	708.00	133.00		
Burdett .....	3,110.00	2,200.00		910.00	
Calgary (Emmanuel)	600.00		600.00		
Vauxhall-Taber .....	634.05	535.00		99.05	
<b>Classis British Columbia</b>					
Ladner .....	1,900.00	500.00	1,400.00		
Chilliwack .....	2,990.53	1,400.00	1,200.00	390.53	
Duncan .....	1,700.00	1,100.00	600.00		
Haney .....	450.00	150.00	300.00		
Langley .....	1,570.00	500.00	1,070.00		
Richmond .....	1,895.00	1,040.00	400.00	455.00	
Terrace .....	1,980.00	1,680.00			300.00
Vancouver (Bethel) ..	1,820.00	800.00	600.00	420.00	
Victoria .....	1,200.00		1,200.00		
Port Alberni .....	1,040.00	1,040.00			
Houston .....	1,200.00	1,200.00			

Name of Church	Total Payment	Salary	Children's Allowance	Mileage	Moving Expense
<b>Classis Cadillac</b>					
McBain (Calvin) ....	800.00		800.00		
Highland .....	700.00		700.00		
Atwood .....	2,067.00	1,500.00	567.00		
Cadillac .....	1,300.00	100.00	200.00		
<b>Classis California</b>					
Redlands II .....	2,330.00	930.00	1,400.00		
Escalon .....	1,200.00	1,000.00	200.00		
San Jose (Moorpark) ..	1,834.00	1,350.00	484.00		
Anaheim .....	2,200.00	1,800.00	400.00		
Lakewood .....	1,047.50	697.50	350.00		
<b>Classis Chatham</b>					
Blenheim .....	1,127.50	752.50	375.00		
Exeter .....	1,968.00	1,280.00	400.00	288.00	
Forest .....	1,710.00	970.00	350.00		390.00
Ingersoll .....	1,650.00	1,100.00	550.00		
Leamington .....	2,640.00	2,240.00	400.00		
Wallaceburg .....	560.00	560.00			
Dresden .....	1,000.00		1,000.00		
<b>Classis Chicago North</b>					
Bellwood .....	600.00		600.00		
<b>Classis Chicago South</b>					
Momence .....	50.00		50.00		
Pkview Hts. Cincinnati	1,750.00	1,400.00	350.00		
<b>Classis Eastern Ontario</b>					
Pembroke .....	600.00	300.00			300.00
Cobourg .....	2,714.00	1,820.00	684.00	210.00	
Lindsay .....	2,160.00	1,460.00	400.00	300.00	
Peterborough .....	1,840.00	1,040.00	800.00		
Kentville, N.S. ....	2,227.74	1,416.67	211.07	300.00	300.00
Renfrew .....	1,760.00	1,460.00	300.00		
Campbellford .....	500.00	500.00			
<b>Classis Grand Rapids East</b>					
Flint .....	2,097.14	1,800.00	200.00	97.14	
Saginaw (Community)	2,340.00	2,340.00			
Portland .....	525.00	375.00	150.00		
<b>Classis Grand Rapids South</b>					
Wayland .....	2,561.00	1,560.00	800.00	201.00	
<b>Classis Grand Rapids West</b>					
Arcadia .....	2,542.50	1,350.00	1,000.00	192.50	
Comstock Park .....	1,200.00	1,200.00			
<b>Classis Grandville</b>					
Rogers Hts., G. R. ..	1,417.50	1,117.50	300.00		
<b>Classis Hackensack</b>					
Bradenton, Fla. ....	1,460.00	1,060.00	400.00		
Englewood, N. J. ....	2,890.00	2,890.00			
Lake Worth, Fla. ....	1,107.08	343.75	733.33	30.00	
Miami, Fla. ....	3,627.76	2,120.00	1,400.00	107.76	
Monsey, N. Y. ....	2,250.00	1,700.00	550.00		
Terra Ceia, N. C. ....	3,190.00	2,190.00	1,000.00		
Newton, N. J. ....	460.00	250.00		210.00	
Wanamassa, N. J. ....	2,310.00	2,010.00	300.00		
Trinity Chapel, Phila.	3,420.00	2,820.00	600.00		

(continued on next page)



Name of Church	Total Payment	Salary	Children's Allowance	Mileage	Moving Expenses
<b>Classis Hamilton</b>					
Dunnville .....	300.00	300.00			
Galt .....	1,360.00	1,160.00	200.00		
Kitchener .....	388.78	178.08	210.70		
Dundas .....	500.00		500.00		
Niagara Falls .....	900.00		600.00	300.00	
<b>Classis Holland</b>					
Hamilton .....	900.00	300.00	600.00		
Maranatha, Holland .....	885.00	160.00	725.00		
New Richmond .....	3,589.98	2,820.00	600.00	169.98	
Noordeloos .....	1,400.00	1,000.00	400.00		
<b>Classis Hudson</b>					
Hoboken, N. J. ....	3,375.00	2,400.00	975.00		
No. Haledon, N. J. ....	1,940.00	1,140.00	800.00		
Washington, D. C. ....	1,150.00	350.00	800.00		
<b>Classis Kalamazoo</b>					
Decatur .....	2,416.67	2,100.00	316.67		
Knollwood, Ka'zoo ..	2,540.40	2,100.00	494.40		
Maple Hts., Ohio ....	2,942.16	2,050.00	800.00	92.16	
Prairie Edge, Ka'zoo ..	2,590.00	2,190.00	400.00		
<b>Classis Minnesota North</b>					
Willmar .....	726.67	426.67			300.00
Bejou .....	280.00	230.00	50.00		
Clara City .....	2,310.00	1,910.00	400.00		
Crookston .....	2,480.00	1,770.00	500.00	210.00	
Hancock .....	1,410.00	1,210.00	200.00		
Ogilvie .....	816.67	300.00	516.67		
Emo .....	2,787.30	1,767.30	450.00	270.00	300.00
<b>Classis Minnesota South</b>					
Bemis, S. Dak. ....	507.50	507.50			
Brandon, Man. ....	900.00	500.00	400.00		
Luverne .....	1,416.67	600.00	816.67		
Mountain Lake .....	2,675.00	1,800.00	875.00		
Pipestone .....	1,400.00	750.00	650.00		
Transcona, Man. ....	1,320.00	920.00	400.00		
Tyler .....	2,556.17	2,138.50	417.67		
Estelline, S. Dak. ....	375.00	375.00			
<b>Classis Muskegon</b>					
Bluffton, Muskegon ..	1,977.50	1,242.50	525.00	210.00	
Grace, Muskegon .....	1,590.00	580.00	800.00	210.00	
Hope, Muskegon .....	1,690.67	1,380.00		210.00	100.67
Sullivan .....	1,687.50	1,387.50	300.00		
<b>Classis North Central Iowa</b>					
Allison, Bethel .....	2,550.00	2,150.00	400.00		
Britt .....	3,480.02	2,800.00	400.00	280.02	
Iowa Falls .....	1,800.00	1,000.00	800.00		
Ackley .....	743.34		533.34	210.00	
<b>Classis Orange City</b>					
Sioux City .....	2,970.00	1,910.00	850.00	210.00	
Le Mars .....	2,616.67	2,400.00	216.67		
Hartley .....	2,650.00	2,400.00	150.00		100.00
Middleburg .....	1,200.00	1,000.00	200.00		
Bigelow, Minn. ....	2,850.00	2,050.00	800.00		
<b>Classis Pacific</b>					
Seattle (Calvary) ....	2,250.00	1,800.00	450.00		
Zillah .....	1,075.00	1,000.00		75.00	

Name of Church	Total Payment	Salary	Children's Allowance	Mileage	Moving Expenses
<b>Classis Pella</b>					
Cedar .....	2,700.00	1,900.00	800.00		
Des Moines .....	2,090.00	1,490.00	600.00		
Tracy .....	2,100.00	1,700.00	400.00		
<b>Classis Rocky Mountain</b>					
Alamosa, Colorado ....	1,240.00	1,140.00	100.00		
Denver (Trinity) ....	2,860.00	2,260.00	600.00		
Tucson, Arizona .....	2,240.00	1,440.00	800.00		
<b>Classis Sioux Center</b>					
Holland Cen., S. Dak.	2,861.17	1,938.40	712.77	210.00	
Pure Water, S. Dak.	1,900.00	1,750.00	150.00		
<b>Classis Toronto</b>					
Newmarket .....	762.50	612.50	150.00		
Orillia .....	2,460.00	1,760.00	400.00	300.00	
Alliston .....	1,800.00	800.00	700.00	300.00	
<b>Classis Wisconsin</b>					
Sheboygan, Calvin ....	1,507.26	1,070.00	437.26		
Vesper .....	510.00	460.00	50.00		
Birnamwood .....	3,100.00	2,500.00	600.00		
Milwaukee .....	2,726.67	1,630.00	916.67	180.00	
	<b>\$212,599.91</b>	<b>\$146,523.21</b>	<b>\$55,967.89</b>	<b>\$7,718.14</b>	<b>\$2,390.67</b>

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 29

(Articles 57, 148, 154, 172)

## THE MINISTERS' PENSION AND RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

## Part I

## Personnel and Organization

The Board of Trustees of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration herewith respectfully submits its annual report to your honorable body.

The Board is composed of Rev. F. Handlogten, President; Dr. M. Martinus, Vice-president; Rev. D. J. Drost, Secretary; Mr. Wendell Bonnema, Treasurer; and Mr. Jerry Jonker, Vice-Secretary-Treasurer. The alternates are: Rev. F. Huizenga, Rev. T. Yff; Messrs. W. De Hoog, Kenneth Bergsma, Dr. James Harkema.

The term of Mr. Jerry Jonker expires. He has served two three year terms and according to synodical regulation is not subject to reappointment. The Board presents the following nomination for a regular member of the Board in his place: Mr. Nelson Gritter (Kalamazoo), Mr. Peter Marcusse (Faith, Holland). One to be chosen.

The secretary, Rev. D. J. Drost, has been designated to represent the Board at Synod should further information be desired.

## Part II

## Information on Pensioners

The Synod of 1959 approved the honorable emeritation of the following who were added to the pension rolls: Revs. I. Couwenhoven, A. Disselkoen, A. Dusseljee, H. Dykstra, L. Sweetman, R. Veldman, H. Verduin and Dr. J. G. Van Dyke.

The emeritation of Rev. Leonard Sweetman was terminated by Classis Zeeland, September 9, 1959. He has subsequently been removed from the rolls, as pensioner, since he has received a call.

Rev. Harry Blystra, whose emeritation was approved by the Synod of 1957, became effective December 31, 1959.

The Board has been informed of the honorable emeritation of the following:

1. Rev. Edward Joling by Classis Kalamazoo in session September 11, 1959. Grounds: Retirement age.

2. Rev. Dr. Jacob H. Bruinooge by Classis Zeeland in session January 20, 1960. Grounds: Retirement age.

3. Rev. Nicholas J. Monsma by Classis Hudson in session January 26, 1960. Grounds: Retirement age.

4. Rev. Andrew Baker by Classis Orange City in session September 2, 1959. Grounds: Ill health.

5. Rev. Herman Moes by Classis British Columbia in session February 24, 1960. Grounds: "He has reached the retirement age, and being a missionary the Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions does not permit anyone beyond the age of seventy to continue."

6. Classis Alberta South at its meeting, March 1, 1960, approved the honorable emeritation of Rev. A. H. Selles due to retirement age and for reasons of health, to become effective on July 1, 1960.

7. Classis G.R. West approved the request to honorably emeritate Rev. G. Andre to become effective November 1, 1960, at its session in January 19, 1960. Ground: Retirement age.

The following ministers who were pensioners have been removed by death: Rev. William Meyer on June 11, 1959; Rev. Andrew Folke-ma, on July 1, 1959; Rev Herman Goodyke, on July 18, 1959; Rev. J. M. Van De Kieft on August 25, 1959; Rev. Simon A. Dykstra on October 27, 1959; Rev. Dirk De Beer on January 19, 1960. Their widows and dependent children were added to the rolls.

Rev. Henry Schultze passed away while in active service on March 6, 1959. Rev. M. Van Der Zwaag died suddenly while in active service on December 25, 1959. Upon the termination of their salaries their widows and dependent children were added to the pension rolls.

The number of pensioners as of January 1, 1960, is 68 ministers, 90 widows and one orphan.

### Part III

#### The Ministers' Pension Fund

##### 1. Average Salary:

The average salary of 544 ministers reporting is \$5,403.79. A statement of the names of the ministers and of their salaries and allowances is available to Synod, should Synod desire it.

The pension of the retired minister is 50% of the average salary computed to the nearest multiple of 10, is \$2,700. That of a widow, which is 40% of the average salary computed to the nearest multiple of 10, is \$2,160. Accordingly, the ministers' pensions are increased by \$160 per year and those of widows by \$130 per year for 1960.

##### 2. Budget for 1961:

##### *Estimated Receipts*

<i>Quotas</i>	53,000 families at \$6.50 .....	\$344,500.00
	Less anticipated shortages .....	25,000.00
		<hr/>
		\$319,500.00
	560 ministers at estimated average salary	
	of \$5,500 @ 3½% .....	\$107,800.00
	Interest on Investments .....	4,000.00
		<hr/>
<i>Total anticipated receipts</i>	.....	\$431,300.00

*Estimated Disbursements*

Ministers' Pensions 75 @ 50% of Average Salary (5,500) .....	\$202,500.00
Widows' Pensions 90 @ 40% of Average Salary (5,500) .....	198,000.00
Dependents Allowances .....	2,000.00
Administration Costs .....	2,000.00
Possible Additions to number of recipients .....	20,000.00
Total anticipated disbursements .....	\$424,500.00
Anticipated gain .....	\$ 6,800.00

In view of the above projected estimates and the fact that the administration has been able to maintain a favorable position in the year 1959 the Board feels that we will be able to operate and provide for the retired ministers and the widows of our ministers if the same quotas are maintained in the year 1961 as prevail in the year 1960 (\$6.50 per family on a quota basis and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  or  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ , as the particular case may be from the ministers' salaries).

3. *The Report on Classical Quotas Paid:*

## A. The following classes paid their quotas in full:

Holland	Chicago South
Wisconsin	Grand Rapids South
Zeeland	Grand Rapids West
Chicago North	

## B. The following classes failed to meet their quotas by the amounts shown:

Alberta North .....	\$4,674.64	Kalamazoo .....	466.19
Alberta South .....	2,052.05	Minnesota North .....	820.28
British Columbia .....	1,871.89	Minnesota South .....	481.48
Cadillac .....	38.50	Muskegon .....	278.62
California .....	497.50	North Central Iowa ....	107.97
Chatham .....	6,827.90	Orange City .....	172.39
Eastern Ontario .....	5,402.71	Pacific .....	628.87
Grand Rapids East .....	409.12	Pella .....	198.00
Grandville .....	34.46	Rocky Mountain .....	332.02
Hackensack .....	212.68	Sioux Center .....	475.21
Hamilton .....	5,193.21	Toronto .....	1,768.82
Hudson .....	58.02		

Note: In 1958 the churches paid 91.4% of their quotas on time plus approximately 10% of the 1957 arrearages. The total arrearages in 1958 were \$22,148.57. In 1959 the churches paid 88.6% of their quotas on time plus 15.7% of the 1958 arrearages. Total arrearages for the year 1959 amounted to \$33,016.73. The Board has followed the mandate of Synod and has corresponded with each individual church and has urged them to meet their quota and to pay the arrearages. Details concerning individual churches are available to Synod if desired.

## Part IV

### Relief Fund

1. The Relief Fund was established by Synod to aid ministers, widows and orphans whose pensions are inadequate because of adverse conditions. It is maintained by the free-will offerings of the congregations. We are grateful that it is not necessary to request a free-will offering in 1961 since the balance on hand is adequate.

2. A detailed statement of Relief Disbursements will be submitted to the Advisory Budget Committee of Synod and, if Synod so desire, to Synod, itself in executive session. This is in accordance with the rule adopted by Synod.

3. Throughout the year the Board has sought to administer both the Pension Fund and the Relief Fund in a responsible manner. The cost of operation has been kept to a minimum,  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1% of the total money received.

## Part V

### Moving Expenses

By synodical ruling the Board is charged with the responsibility of approving moving expenses of retired ministers, or widows moving to their place of respective dwelling. During the past year the Board has approved the moving expenses of three ministers. The amount was certified to the synodical treasurer, who made payment and will submit his statement to Synod.

## Part VI

### Matters Requiring Synodical Attention

1. Appointment of a layman as a regular member of the Board.

2. Adoption of the Budget and approval of the quota for 1961.

It is with gratitude to God and His people for the care of those who are retired from their labors in His vineyard that we humbly submit this report.

D. J. Drost, Secretary

## Part VII

### Financial Statement

Board of Trustees  
The Ministers' Pension and Relief  
Administration of the Christian  
Reformed Church  
Kalamazoo, Michigan  
Gentlemen:

We have examined the Balance Sheet of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration of the Christian Reformed Church as at January 31, 1960, on a cash basis, and the related Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally

accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedure as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying Balance Sheet and the related Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements present fairly the financial position of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration of the Christian Reformed Church at January 31, 1960, on a cash basis, and the results of its operations for the fiscal year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Respectfully submitted,

Maihofer, Moore & DeLong

Certified Public Accountants

### Scope of Examination and General Comments

In the course of our examination, we verified the cash on deposit in the banks by reconciliation of the ledger balance with the amount stated in a certificate received from the depository.

Recorded cash receipts were traced from their source to their deposit in the bank and recorded cash disbursements were vouched by checking all cancelled checks returned for the year against the book entries.

The securities held as investments by the administration were inspected and we verified the amount of interest received. Cash on deposit with the Muskegon Federal Savings and Loan Association was confirmed by direct correspondence.

We examined the Treasurer's fidelity bond and verified the payment of premiums to cover the year ending November 1, 1960. We examined other paid vouchers, checked various transactions, test-checked general ledger postings and test-footed books of original entry sufficiently to establish their accuracy.

We did not inspect the minutes of the secretary.

Our examination was concerned particularly with the verification of cash receipts and disbursements of both funds. All monies collected thru September 30, 1959, were deposited in the Hackley Union National Bank & Trust Company, Muskegon, Michigan, and thereafter were deposited in the First Michigan Bank & Trust Company, Zeeland, Michigan. Each of the two funds maintained by the administration has a claim against monies and investments for the amount shown as the balance of such fund as detailed in Schedule A-2.

During the year under review, the administration purchased Federal National Mortgage Association 5 $\frac{1}{8}$ % Series SM 1961 A Bonds in the face amount of \$14,000 for \$13,965. The bonds were recorded at par or face value and the discount of \$35 was recorded as an addition to the Pension Fund balance. In our opinion, generally accepted accounting principles require that the discount be set up as a deferred credit and written off by systematic credits to fund income over the remaining life of the bonds. The resulting overstatement of investments and fund balances was not considered material enough, however, to warrant a change in the records.

### Exhibit A

#### BALANCE SHEET

January 31, 1960

##### Assets

##### Current Assets

Cash in Banks (Exhibit B).....\$102,185.97

##### Investments (Schedule A-1)

United States Savings Bonds, Series G, H & K—Cost.....\$ 71,000.00

United States Treasury Bonds, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ %s of 1961 (Par)  
(Cost \$64,778.91) ..... 67,500.00

United States Treasury Bonds, 2½% of 1965 (Par) (Cost \$4,207.50)	4,500.00	
United States Treasury Notes, 4¼% Treasury Notes, Series A-1964 (Cost)	16,000.00	
Federal National Mortgage Association, 5½% Series S.M. 1961 A (Par) (Cost \$13,965)	14,000.00	
Savings Account—Muskegon Federal Savings and Loan Association	10,000.00	183,000.00

TOTAL ASSETS .....\$285,185.97

#### Liabilities and Fund Balances

Current Liabilities .....	\$	—
Fund Balances (Schedule A-2)		
Pension Fund .....	\$231,722.01	
Relief Fund .....	53,463.96	285,185.97
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		\$285,185.97

#### Schedule A-1

#### STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS

U.S. Treasury Bonds and Federal Mortgage Associations \$183,000.00. Of this amount \$134,500.00 is earmarked for the Pension Fund and \$48,500.00 for the Relief Fund (See Exhibit A).

#### Schedule A-2

#### STATEMENT OF FUND BALANCES

January 31, 1960

	Pension	Fund Relief	Totals
Fund Balances—January 31, 1959 .....	\$220,795.90	\$ 54,041.18	\$274,837.08
Additions			
Cash Receipts (Exhibit B) .....	386,850.14	6,512.78	393,362.92
Discount on Bonds Purchased* .....	35.00	—	35.00
Totals .....	\$386,885.14	\$ 6,512.78	\$393,397.92
Less Intra-Fund Transactions (Receipts which do not increase fund Assets) proceeds from matured United States Savings Bonds—Series G .....	23,800.00	5,000.00	28,800.00
Total Additions .....	\$363,085.14	\$ 1,512.78	\$364,597.92
Total Funds available for use .....	\$583,881.04	\$ 55,553.96	\$639,435.00
Deductions			
Cash Disbursements (Exhibit B) .....	\$377,124.03	\$ 7,090.00	\$384,214.03
Less Intra-Fund Transactions (Disburse- ments which do not reduce Fund As- sets)			
Purchase of Federal National Mortgage Association 5½% Series SM 1961 A ..	\$ 13,965.00	\$ —	\$ 13,965.00
Purchase of United States 4¼% Treas- ury Notes Series A 1964 .....	11,000.00	5,000.00	16,000.00
Totals .....	\$ 24,965.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 29,965.00
Total Deductions .....	\$352,159.03	\$ 2,090.00	\$354,249.03

(continued on next page)



	Pension	Fund Relief	Totals
<b>Fund Balances - January 31, 1960 (Exhibit A)</b> .....	\$231,722.01	\$ 53,463.96	\$285,185.97
<b>Represented By:</b>			
First Michigan Bank & Trust Company Zeeland, Michigan - Checking Account \$	88,752.24	\$ 4,963.96	\$ 93,716.20
Hackley Union National Bank & Trust Compny, Muskegon, Michigan - Check- ing Account .....	8,469.77	—	8,469.77
Muskegon Federal Savings and Loan As- sociation, Muskegon, Michigan - Sav- ings Account .....	10,000.00	—	10,000.00
United States Bonds & Notes .....	110,500.00	48,500.00	159,000.00
Federal National Mortgage Association Bonds .....	14,000.00	—	14,000.00
<b>Totals (as above)</b> .....	\$231,722.01	\$ 53,463.96	\$285,185.97

\*See comment in Scope of Examination and General Comments.

### Exhibit B

## STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Year ended January 31, 1960

<b>Cash Balance per Report - Jan. 31, 1959</b> ....	\$ 87,495.00	\$ 5,541.18	\$ 93,037.08
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Quotas from Classical Treasurers .....	\$252,428.72	\$ —	\$252,428.72
Ministers' Contributions .....	105,547.51	—	105,547.51
United States Bonds matured and cashed (Series G) .....	23,800.00	5,000.00	28,800.00
Interest received on investments .....	3,317.53	1,318.60	4,636.13
Other .....	103.42	—	103.42
Premium or Canadian Exchange .....	1,314.64	—	1,314.64
Donations .....	338.32	194.18	532.50
<b>Total Receipts (Schedule A-2)</b> ....	\$386,850.14	\$ 6,512.78	\$393,362.92
<b>Totals</b> .....	\$474,346.04	\$ 12,053.96	\$486,400.00
<b>Cash Disbursements</b>			
<b>Payments to Beneficiaries</b>			
Ministers .....	\$173,799.71	\$ 300.00	\$174,099.71
Widows .....	176,129.03	1,790.00	177,919.03
<b>Purchase of Investments</b>			
Federal National Mortgage Association 5½% Series S.M. 1961A .....	13,965.00	—	13,965.00
United States Treasury Notes, Series A 1964 .....	11,000.00	5,000.00	16,000.00
Accrued Interest .....	68.70	—	68.70
<b>Salaries:</b>			
Secretary .....	500.00	—	500.00
Treasurer .....	500.00	—	500.00
Clerical .....	93.50	—	93.50
Travel Expenses .....	31.60	—	31.60
Professional Services .....	210.00	—	210.00
Insurance .....	62.50	—	62.50
Bank Charges .....	5.85	—	5.85
Office Supplies and Postage .....	399.65	—	399.65
Rules Booklet .....	89.00	—	89.00

	Pension	Fund Relief	Totals
State Privilege Fee .....	2.00	—	2.00
Refund - Ministers' Contribution .....	267.49	—	267.49
Total Disbursements (Schedule A-2)	\$377,124.03	\$ 7,090.00	\$384,214.03
Cash Balances - January 31, 1960 .....	\$ 97,222.01	\$ 4,963.96	\$102,185.97

## Exhibit A

## Represented by:

Cash in First Michigan Bank & Trust Company, Zeeland, Mich.....	\$ 93,716.20
Cash in Hackley Union National Bank & Trust Company, Muskegon, Mich .....	8,469.77
Total (as above) .....	\$102,185.97

## SUPPLEMENT NO 29-A

(Articles 57, 72, 154, 172)

## MINISTERS' PENSION AND RELIEF ADMINISTRATION

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

We wish to inform Synod of the following matters that have been considered by the Board since the filing of our regular annual report as it appears in the printed Agenda.

## Part II

## Information on Pensioners

The Board has been informed of the emeritation of the following ministers in addition to those mentioned in the printed Agenda report.

8. Rev. Hessel Kooistra by Classis California in session Feb. 24, 1960.

*Grounds:* Ill health. Effective April 1, 1960.

9. Rev. Christian Ter Maat by Classis Muskegon in session May 11, 1960.

*Grounds:* Ill health. Effective May 15, 1960.

10. Rev. Wesley Prince by Classis Grand Rapids East in session May 19, 1960.

*Grounds:* Retirement age. Effective July 1, 1960.

## Deaths

We note with sorrow the passing of Rev. John Kolkman on March 31, 1960. His widow, Mrs. John Kolkman, has been added to the pension rolls. A recent issue of The Banner also notes the passing of Rev. Calvin G. Hayenga. The Board has not been officially informed, but we expect to take the required action when the required information is received.

## Reply to Standing Advisory Budget Committee

Inasmuch as the Standing Advisory Budget Committee is presenting to Synod its support of the appeal of Rev. Henry De Rooy for his admittance to the Pension Fund after the year of grace has passed by, the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration would petition Synod to consider its reactions to this appeal, which are as follows:

1. We question whether the appeal of Rev. Henry De Rooy is properly in order since it is not addressed directly to Synod but to an Advisory Committee of Synod mandated to consider the changing of the Rules of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration.

2. Article IX, 4, of the Rules of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Committee provides for the need of our emeritated ministers who did not join the Pension Fund. This article reads: "The amount of aid granted

a minister who, while in active service, has not united with the Pension Plan shall not exceed 25% of the average annual salary of the ministers of the Christian Reformed Church." This rule of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration carries out the principle laid down in Art. 13 of the Church Order, "That the church which (the emeritated ministers) have served shall provide honorably for them out of the common fund." Previous to the adoption of the present Pension Plan the emeritated ministers were provided for according to their need.

3. Although every Christian Reformed minister in accordance with Art. 13 of the Church Order may expect the church to take care of his needs and to provide honorably for him; he can only expect to receive a regular pension when he has met the terms of the contractual arrangement between the church and himself as provided in the Rules of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration which requires a percentage of his salary as well as a quota from the churches. The pension portion of the arrangements for caring for our emeritated ministers is entered into voluntarily by those agreeing to its terms. It is like an insurance.

4. The Rule V-E of the Pension Fund has been in operation for 20 years. If it should now be set aside, and ministers who have served for many years should be admitted to the fund, it would be very difficult to determine how much their back salary is, on which they will be required to pay  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  plus 6 per cent interest.

5. We believe that each request for admittance to the Pension Fund, after the year of grace has passed by, should be considered on its own merits and that no blanket decision should be made by Synod, to cover all those who have failed to join the fund within the first year since ordination or installation in the Christian Reformed ministry.

6. "The Pension portion" of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration plan is not intended to be a demonstration of the mercy of the Master. The mercy of the Master is shown in "the Relief portion" of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration plan which provides for the needs of the minister up to 25% of the average salary of the Christian Reformed minister.

7. The Board has considerable misgivings regarding the administration of the fund if our ministers are permitted to enter the Pension Fund whenever they desire. It will then be practically impossible to administer it fairly and properly.

8. We believe that the Ministers' Pension and Relief arrangement as set forth in the rules adopted in the past and now proposed in the recommended revisions is completely in agreement with the spirit and intent of Art. 13 of the Church Order in that it has provision made in its Rules to take care of "the needs" of all emeritated ministers and provides "a pension" in addition only for those who have contributed the  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  (or  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) of their salary as the rules required.

Humbly submitted,

Rev. D. J. Drost, Sec'y

## Report on the Revision of the Rules of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration

In accordance with Art. 112, C, 4, *Acts of Synod*, 1959, the special Advisory Budget Committee in consultation with the Ministers' Pension and Relief Committee, to make a detailed study of the administrative rules and regulations of the Ministers' Pension Fund, and to come with definite recommendations to the Synod of 1960.

The above mentioned committee having carefully reviewed the rules recommends the following changes of the present rules:

### *Article II*

The administration of these funds shall be in charge of a Board of Trustees of seven persons appointed by the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church. This Board shall be composed of three ministers and four laymen. It shall be incorporated as the "Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration of the Christian Reformed Church." Synod shall appoint trustees for a term of three years. Trustees who are functioning may be re-elected. An alternate shall be appointed for each trustee.

### *Article III*

A. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, and Assistant Treasurer.

*Ground:* The expanded activities of the Board and the large expenditures of denominational funds make it desirable to enlarge the Board.

3. The assistant secretary shall act in the absence or incapacity of the secretary.

### *Duties of the Officers:*

4. The treasurer shall have charge of the funds of the Board of Trustees, subject to its instruction, and shall keep an accurate set of records, and account of all receipts and disbursements. He shall sign all checks. The treasurer shall be required to furnish a Surety Company Bond in the amount of \$50,000 (raised from \$25,000 to \$50,000) in favor of the Board and the premium of such bond shall be paid by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall designate and determine the bank or banks to be used as depositories for all funds of the Board.

The books of the treasurer shall be audited annually at the close of the fiscal year. The auditor shall be named by the Board of Trustees each year, and it shall bear the cost of such audit.

The assistant treasurer shall act in the absence or incapacity of the treasurer.

### *Article V-E*

(The following new rule is recommended in place of the rule appearing in Article V-E. With the adoption of this rule, the rule appearing in the Addenda IV, Pension, 2, page 15 is to be eliminated.)

V-E. "All those entering upon active service in the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church, and desiring coverage by the Pension Plan, shall begin payments immediately from the date of ordination (or installa-

tion). First payment shall be made by the church treasurer, at the close of the first full calendar quarter following ordination (or installation), and at the close of each quarter thereafter."

*Grounds:*

1. It is difficult for a minister on a low salary to make up the payment of a whole year's obligation to the Ministers' Pension Fund. This difficulty does not arise if his church treasurer pays his  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  (or  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) beginning with the first quarter of his ordination (or installation).

2. Under the old rule, the minister is covered by pension rights during the year following ordination (or installation) in which he is given the opportunity of choice, though no payments are made. It is only logical that he should begin paying for such coverage as soon as it begins.

3. As soon as he becomes a candidate the secretary of the Ministers' Pension Board gives him full details of the Pension Plan. Ample time is therefore given the candidate entering the ministry, before his ordination, to consider the Pension Plan.

*Article VI-D*

Orphans of ministers who have served in the Christian Reformed Church shall receive an annual pension of \$600 (raised from \$400) per person until they shall have attained their 19th birthday, unless physically or mentally incapacitated and so certified by two competent physicians appointed by the Board of Trustees, in which case their pension shall be continued. However, orphans of one family shall never receive collectively more pension than that to which their mother would be entitled.

*Ground:* The increased cost of living makes it advisable to grant this increase.

*Article VI-E*

Dependents or orphans of deceased ministers, *who cease to be members* of the Christian Reformed Church, shall not be entitled to pension.

*Article VIII-C*

In event a contributing minister fails to pay through his consistory or whatever other body pays his salary, the contribution of  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  (or  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) of his salary due, he shall be notified by mail of such failure, and if the same shall remain unpaid for six months, then the benefits from this fund to either him or his widow or dependents shall be reduced to the ratio mentioned in Section B above. However, if such minister shall within a period of two (instead of five) years pay in full his past unpaid annual contributions plus 6% interest, the full benefits shall apply. (Interest on arrearages begins from the time that these monies were due and not from the time of notification of arrearages.)

*Ground:* Five years is too long a time to allow delinquency for proper operation of the fund.

*Article IX 3*

The total pension and relief granted a minister in one year shall never exceed 66⅔% of the average annual salary of the ministers of the Christian Reformed Church; nor shall the total pension and relief to a widow exceed 50% of such aforementioned salary; nor shall the total pension and relief to orphans exceed \$900 (raised from \$700) per year per person.

*Ground:* The increased cost of living necessitates increased remuneration.

*Addenda Article III-b*

Ministers who provide a home for themselves out of the salary received may deduct from their salary the rent, but not to exceed \$1,200 per year.

(Addenda Synodical Decisions I, Ministers, 3, is to be eliminated in view of the increase of house rental allowance—from a maximum of \$600 to \$1,200—recommended in rule Addenda III, Salary, b, page 14.)

*Ground:* The increased cost of rent demands it. (This increase is suggested with the understanding that Addenda III, Salary, G, be given consideration.)

*Addenda Article II, Widows, 3, page 13*

The pension of a widow with a dependent child or dependent children shall be augmented at the rate of \$200 (raised from \$150) per year per dependent child until the dependents reach the 19th birthday. However, the pension to such a widow shall not exceed 50% of the average salary of our ministers in active service.

*Addenda Article II, Widows, 5, page 14*

The following rule is recommended: "If a pensioner is employed and receives remuneration for such employment it shall not prejudice his (her) pension allowance unless remuneration exceeds his (her) pension allowance. In such events the pensioner shall report his(her) earnings to the secretary of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration, and the excess amount of the salary over the pension shall be deducted from his (her) pension allowance as long as this condition continues."

*Grounds:*

1. The Board is faced increasingly with the problem of ministers emeritated for reasons other than age and/or length of service, as well as their widows, who are working and at the same time requesting pension.
2. It is felt that an amendment such as the above is needed to safeguard our pension funds.

*Addenda III, Salary-G*

Add rule as g, under Addenda III, Salary: "A minister who is not called to a particular congregation as its pastor but is engaged as an official of the church in another type of ecclesiastical organization which affords him the opportunity of adding to his salary by preaching and stated supply, shall add such remuneration received to the salary on

which  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  (or  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) is to be paid. Such earnings shall be reported annually to the Board."

*Ground:* It is suggested as a fair requirement in view of their increased rental allowance and their availability for paid preaching services.

*Addenda Moving Expenses, B, 4.* The following costs shall be paid:

*Personal Travel Expense.* Coach fare for the minister, his wife, and qualified dependents; coach fare for the widow, and her children under 19 (changed from 18) years of age. If travel is by auto the equivalent of coach fare is to be allowed.

*Addenda Special Matters.* It is recommended that these rules be incorporated in the body of the regular rules listed previously.

1. To be added to Article X.
2. To be added to Article VI A.
3. To be added to Article VI C.

Humbly submitted,

Special Advisory Budget Committee  
and Ministers' Pension and Relief

Rev. D. Drost, Sec'y



## SUPPLEMENT NO. 30

(Articles 160, 172)

## EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES

To the Synod of 1960,

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Your study committee herewith presents its report in fulfillment of the mandate given at the Synod of 1959.

The materials that pertain to our mandate are found in Article 171 Acts of Synod 1959, pages 88-92.

Synod, in dealing with the report which we submitted last year, adopted the first recommendation which reads as follows:

"Synod discontinue the examination of men aspiring to candidacy in the Christian Reformed Church by Synod at its annual sessions.

"Grounds:

"a. The increasing size of Synod's agenda and of the classes of seminarians make it impossible to perform this work in a satisfactory manner. Experience has shown the present method to be impractical.

"b. An examination for candidacy by Synod as our broadest assembly has tended to rob the classical examinations of their significance, and has placed more stress on the preparatory than on the final examination."

Because this matter was considered by Synod on Tuesday of the third week of its session, members felt that time and strength did not permit a thorough discussion and responsible decision. Synod then decided:

"(1) to withhold action on the remainder of this report;

"(2) to postpone the implementation of recommendation 1;

"(3) to recommit the report to the Study Committee;

"(4) to instruct the Study Committee to confer with the Calvin Seminary Faculty and the Board of Trustees on this plan: and

"(5) to refer the whole matter to the churches for further study."

We wish to report that at the end of February we have received no official reaction from the churches.

Your committee has consulted with both the Faculty and Board of Trustees. The chairman and secretary of the committee arranged conferences with both bodies and discussed pertinent parts of the report.

In the conference with the Faculty various opinions were expressed. We have received no communication stating their official reactions to the report. The members of the Faculty will undoubtedly express their personal reactions at Synod when this matter is considered.

We have received a communication from the Board of Trustees which reads as follows:

"The Board decided to forward to the Synodical Study Committee the report of the Board's sub-committee, embodying the following suggestions:

"1. That all students recommended by the Faculty be interviewed by the Board.

"2. That all prospective candidates be admitted by Faculty and Board action, regardless of their educational background.

"3. That examination of candidates by Synod may still be the preferable procedure."

Having considered the remarks and suggestions offered we are of the opinion that our plan as originally presented still has much in its favor. When all factors, as mentioned in our 1959 report, are taken into consideration there are good reasons for following the procedures outlined. We, therefore, resubmit our recommendations for the consideration of Synod. Since these recommendations are an integral outgrowth of our report we submit the entire report and recommendations which were before the Synod of 1959. At the end of this report we shall give our reactions to the three suggestions presented by the Board.

## REPORT ON EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES

### ESTEEMED BRETHERN:

The matter of examination of candidates was referred to the study committee for Particular Synods, cf. Acts, 1957, Art. 168, 4 (page 100). "Synod refers the matter of the examination of candidates, including the report of the Study Committee and the overture pertaining thereto, to the Committee for Particular Synods — Adopted." The overture referred to is that of Classis Pella, No. 32, pages 136, 137, of the Acts of Synod. On the basis of Synod's action the entire problem has been placed before us for study; no doubt it was referred to us because previous study committees studying particular synods had included references to this matter as either directly or indirectly involved in the work of (possible) particular synods. Any change from annual to biennial synods will affect our present method of conducting such examinations. However, we as committee are first of all confronted with the specific proposals of the 1957 report and the Pella overture, which are in basic agreement as to suggested changes. Hence in addressing ourselves to this problem we shall in the main follow the points raised by the previous committee and indicate agreement or disagreement; on the basis of the various considerations raised we shall offer our own plan.

We call attention to the historical survey, and reemphasize the desirability that synodical delegates also read the report submitted in 1942. To avoid undue repetition we therefore address ourselves directly to the recommendations, Acts of Synod 1957, p. 233 ff.

The first recommendation of the committee is really composed of three elements, all of which involve changes from our present system. We believe it will be in the interest of clarity and order to break this complex motion into its component parts and discuss them seriatim.

1. "The examination of candidates for the ministry of the Word and the Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church shall no longer be conducted by synod at its annual sessions."

It is our opinion that this change should be made. We concur with the grounds given by the committee, as found under P, 1, a: "The increasing agenda of our annual synods makes it impossible for their assemblies to devote the necessary time and attention to this important work," and under objections to present method, especially c, 2, 3, 4, "many of these examinations are considered inadequate by the churches." "... under the present method the synod is hardly capable of assessing the fitness of the men who desire to be declared eligible for call by the churches." "... the present system does injustice both to the candidate who accepts a call and to the church whose call he has accepted." Our present method was adopted by Synod in 1937 in response to an overture of Classis Pella. Synod rejected the advice of the advisory committee with its grounds; advice that history has proved valid: "(1) The synod would be an unwieldy body to conduct this examination; (2) It would add to the duration of synods." Synod 1937 adopted Pella's overture with its grounds which were: "(1) Church assemblies must do directly whatever they can. (2) The elders should have a voice in declaring candidates.

Before rescinding the decision of 1937, synod must address itself to the grounds upon which it was taken. These are basic principles of our church polity. We shall not at this time discuss them at length, since we shall try to meet objections based upon them when we come to the following proposals for replacing the present method. Weighty though these considerations are, we are convinced that practical considerations have clearly demonstrated that examination for candidacy as now carried out by synod is not the best method of applying these basic principles. There is overwhelming dissatisfaction as indicated by the four overtures which led to the appointment of the study committee in 1956. With the increasing size of our church and seminary these difficulties will also increase. Not only does the increasing agenda of synod make it impossible for that assembly to devote sufficient time to this important matter, but even if Synod took more time, no single ecclesiastical body can do justice to examining up to 50 candidates in a thorough manner. As the advisory committee in 1937 well stated, "Synod is an unwieldy body to conduct this examination." We believe that all are agreed that our present examination for candidacy by synod in regular session has outlived its usefulness and must be discarded.

2. The second element of the study committee's recommendation is more radical. "The examination of candidates . . . be conducted . . . in *one examination* for both candidature and ordination." The examination suggested is to be by the several classes, but that is a third element, to be considered by itself. This recommendation involves a rather decided departure from a long established policy, not only in our denomination, but in other Reformed and Presbyterian Churches.

We as committee are not opposed to the (virtual) elimination of one of the two traditional examinations. But it is our opinion that this ought to be done only in the case of regular students of our Seminary, and provision should be made for a preparatory examination in the case of post-graduate students or those who have not been students at Calvin.

It is our judgment that before dropping one or the other of the present examinations, Synod ought to have more adequate grounds than adduced by the committee in D, 1, c. This ground is, it is true, enlarged under C, 1, where it is argued that at present our candidates are subjected to too many examinations. However, this objection has weight only if these examinations duplicate one another. This has been the case in practice, but in theory, according to synodical decisions in 1920 and 1939, these examinations differ both in purpose and content, and also as to the body which conducts them. The study committee would make the so called "praeparatoir" or examination for candidacy the only examination. When Synod assumed this examination the question of continued need for the so called "peremptoir" or examination for ordination arose. Synod appointed a committee to study the problem. The excellent report can be found in Agenda 1939 page 7. Synod decided to keep two examinations, and gave grounds for doing so. Before dropping the "peremptoir" examination for ordination Synod ought to confront those grounds with more than the arguments advanced by the committee in 1957. As will appear below, we favor retaining the examination for ordination as now conducted by the classis of the calling church. We shall give grounds for rejecting the present suggestion and for recommending our plan when we come to that point. Our present purpose is merely to call Synod's attention to the fact that the plan of 1957 involves a radical departure from historic procedure and is recommended without giving Synod adequate motivation.

3. This one examination for both candidacy and ordination shall be conducted "by the several classes of the Church." In direct connection with this we discuss recommendation 2, page 234: "The classes in which the prospective candidate resided immediately prior to his enrollment in college and seminary shall be designated as the examining classis." A footnote suggests the alternative plan of assigning candidates by alphabetical order. Recommendation 3 in turn provides for a dossier by the Seminary Faculty to guide classis in its examination, this dossier to be furnished at least five days before the examination (recommendation 4). Recommendations 6 and 8 suggest that all examinations be conducted in the period from May 5 through 15, and that three synodical delegates be present according to previous synodical decisions. These recommendations belong together because they constitute parts of a plan that necessarily involves these details. To these we may add provision 10, which suggests that all successful candidates appear at synod for confirmation and announcement of candidacy.

#### *Observations:*

a. The plan has one excellent feature; it restores the final examination of candidates to the classes. Thus the principle basic to the decision of 1937 are honored, and the church in ecclesiastical assembly does directly what it can, and the elders take an active part in such work. Historically this has always been the work of the classis and the classical examination, which has been overshadowed by the examination by synod, must again be restored to importance and definitive significance.

b. Granting this virtue, however, we nevertheless feel the plan of the committee is burdened with a great weakness on the basis of principles of church polity, namely, that it eliminates the final examination *after* a call has been received, and thus departs from the traditional order mentioned in Art. 4 of the Church Order. This procedure would stress unduly the denominational significance of the ministry, while ignoring the fact that ordination is always as minister in a local church. We shall come back to this when we argue for maintaining the *peremptoir* or examination for ordination.

c. Another objection to having such an examination is that a man could be declared a candidate and not ever be called; or be a candidate for such a long time that re-examination would be advisable. Provisions should be made for such cases. Also no suggestions are given in the plan for dealing with those students who have not followed the regular course at Calvin or have taken extensive post-graduate work, especially at unreformed seminaries. An increasingly large number of men are taking post-graduate work; it would work a real hardship to tie them down to the schedule as proposed.

d. It is the judgment of your committee that the plan of the committee of 1957 will prove just as unsatisfactory as the present method if put into practice. We mention a few practical problems that arise. The examinations, necessitating in some cases much travel for the candidates, would mean advancing the examinations in the seminary so as to disrupt the entire last semester. In order to have the dossier ready and sent e.g. to Vancouver or San Diego, the Faculty would have to conduct its examinations and interviews early in April. The suggested dates, May 5 - 15 are wholly impractical for many rural areas and it would be difficult for many classes to meet at that time; it is questionable on the basis of church polity principles whether synod may dictate to classes as to time of meeting. Moreover, the requirement that delegates for examination be present would either mean that they could not attend their own classes or they would have to do almost superhuman feats in the way of travel. If we subtract the three week-end days when it is impractical to have a classical meeting, there are only seven days in which all thirty (or more) classes would have to meet. These, and other practical considerations, lead us to the conclusion that such a method would result in a hasty, mechanical and perfunctory examination which would not be an adequate safeguard for admission to the ministry. We sincerely hope that Synod will reject the plan and the overture of Classis Pella and so advise.

Turning now to our own recommendations and proposed method, we suggest, first,

I. Synod decide to discontinue the present examination for candidacy for the ministry of Word and Sacraments in the Christian Reformed Church by the (General) Synod at its annual sessions. We will formulate specific grounds in our summary of recommendations, but it will suffice to refer to the discussion under this head above. We are in agreement.

II. Synod decide that in the case of "regular students" who graduate from our seminary, the examination for candidacy be discontinued. Instead, such graduates shall be declared candidates by the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Seminary Faculty. Such recommendations shall be in the form of a complete statement of academic and other qualifications, and each candidate shall be processed individually by the Board of Trustees. In case of doubt, the Board shall have a personal interview with the candidate. In connection with this we recommend that the Board be instructed to study ways for improved supervision of and contact with the students throughout their seminary studies. (cf. Report to Synod 1946 re this matter, Acts 1946, pp. 223-228)

*Remarks:*

a. Notice "regular students" is in quotation marks because it is the technical name for students admitted to the seminary as aspirants to the Christian Reformed ministry. Exceptional, or special cases, would have to be dealt with according to circumstances. Since this entire matter is under study by the Board of Trustees we make no further recommendations.

b. We realize this proposal is fully as radical as that of the previous study committee in that it not only goes back to the old, pre-1937 method, but even proposes dropping one of the two examinations altogether. It gives to the Board of Trustees once more the very important right of declaring men candidates and thus seems to violate the principles of 1937. But we make this proposal only because we would maintain the examination for ordination, and even make it more rigid. By doing so we safeguard the right of the ecclesiastical assemblies to determine who shall be ordained as ministers.

c. We have arrived at the conclusion that the above method will be best, a conclusion reached in part by process of elimination. What alternatives are there?

1. Experience has shown that the present method of having synod do this work is impractical; moreover, it is open to theoretical objections as well.

2. The old method, in vogue before 1937, and carefully regulated by Synod of 1920, of having the Board of Trustees conduct an examination is also open to objections; it is too big a task for the Board with its growing agenda and therefore would be done much as the present synodical examination. Moreover, it has been rejected on grounds of principle by Synod in 1937.

3. A separate committee, like that suggested as a temporary measure by the advisory committee to Synod 1957, might be charged with this task. But this would be a stop-gap expedient that would be open to the same weaknesses as present methods.

4. It has been suggested that this examination could be entrusted to five or six classes, closest to the Seminary, subject to final approbation by Synod. This plan has the merit of giving this work to the classis, which is the traditional and logical body to do it. But it has the serious weakness of centralizing it in a few classes, which is not fair to the out-

lying districts. Besides, it would saddle these classes with a heavy task — examining from eight to ten men—at a very busy time of the year. There is reason to believe that it would easily degenerate into a routine affair.

5. Another alternative would be to adopt the system of the Reformed Church of America and that followed in the Netherlands by De Gereformeerde Kerken. A seminary graduate must be examined for licensure by his home classis and again for ordination by the classis in which he is called. In the Reformed Church, where the situation academically and geographically is much more like ours than that in Holland, this involves calling of special classes in June; also much travel by the “candidates” and considerable duplication, so that in practice the results of the first examination may largely be accepted in the second. Also in the Reformed Church there is discussion of ways and means to improve the system. It seems to your committee that adopting that method would be costly in time and money. It surely would be open to the objections re multiplying examinations well stated by the committee of 1957. Although justified historically because of study in state universities, and in the Netherlands because of the Free University which is not a church seminary, and also where distances are not a factor, it would be, to our mind, anachronous and unnecessary to introduce this system among us.

6. One other possibility remains, namely, having regional synods do this work. Apart from the fact that it is not certain that we will have such synods, there are many objections of a practical nature. For one thing, these regional synods would probably not meet in June or May. No denomination having particular synods has ever given them this task; it has always been considered the natural domain of classes. And there remains the objection that such a synodical examination for candidacy would make an examination by a classis appear superfluous. This is a serious objection to our present method; it has tended to rob the final classical examination of dignity and significance.

d. The following are a few positive considerations which lead us to conclude that in case of “regular students” of Calvin Seminary the examination for candidacy can be dropped:

1. Traditionally this examination was made necessary by the rise of Arminian heresy in the Dutch State Universities. But we have a seminary controlled by the church. Calvin Seminary is first of all a *school*, but it was not established only for the scientific pursuit of theological knowledge. Its function is also practical and closely tied in with the church. This fact is officially stated in the form for installation of Professors of Theology; what is true of each professor individually, is also true of the faculty collectively. They are not merely teaching students, but training ministers for our church. The church entrusts to them one of its most important tasks and may therefore also trust their judgment in recommending men as acceptable candidates for ordination.

2. Furthermore, the church (synod) supervises the work of the seminary. It elects the professors, and through the Board of Trustees keeps in close touch with its program. This is also true of the status of the students of the seminary. They are admitted by the Board after an interview; they are again interviewed before being given licensure to exhort.

Perhaps there is room for improvement in this supervision. Fact is, however, that both college and seminary Faculties and the Board coöperatively keep special contact with these students over a period of years. The church has had these men before it, and they are her own sons. She has prepared them in her own school of the prophets. It hardly seems necessary to subject them to a perfunctory examination before declaring them eligible for a call.

3. In distinguishing between the two current examinations Synod has declared that the first is to emphasize academic qualification; the second is to be more practical. But in practice it is difficult to distinguish sharply. Granting the distinction, may we not consider a B.D. degree from Calvin Seminary, plus the additional recommendation of Faculty and Board, a sufficient assurance of competence for doing ministerial work? The so-called *praeparatoir* examination is an element in the training of the ministry (*opleiding tot het ambt*). It is our conviction that it can be integrated into that training at the School of the Church.

III. Synod decided that in case of students who have taken two years of their training at schools other than Calvin Seminary; and also in the case of students who have pursued one or more years of post-graduate work after graduation from Calvin Seminary, such students be required to submit to an interview with the classis of which they were originally members ("home classis"). As an aid in this interview the Seminary Faculty shall furnish classis the same information otherwise given the Board of Trustees. Such interviews shall be similar to those held with ministers coming from other denominations (Art. 9, C.O.), classes to be guided by special circumstances and background of the aspirant in each case. Such interviews shall be attended by three synodical delegates for examination; in case of difference of opinion between them and classis, synod itself shall rule on the candidacy of the person involved.

*Remarks:* This examination should be the ecclesiastical test for the position to recommend men who have studied at Calvin Seminary for only one year. They will not have opportunity to do field work or to preach in the churches. Meanwhile, we would not close the door to those who have not taken all three years at Calvin. In the case of non-Christian Reformed men who become members of our church while in seminary, they can apply to their classis for candidature. Also in the case of men who have studied elsewhere, it would not be advisable to have the Seminary Faculty examine them again, though it can advise the classis involved. Often these men cannot conveniently meet with the Board or even Synod; classes have more flexible schedules and meet more often. We have precedent for such examinations in the procedure of Article 9, C.O. Just as those interviews are left to the judgment of the classes, these can also, with exception of such stipulations as we shall later recommend when dealing with the content of the examinations.

IV. Synod decide to maintain the present classical examination for ordination by the classis within whose boundaries the candidate has received a call. This examination shall be conducted according to a synodically approved schedule, and be attended by three synodical examiners from neighboring classes.



*Remarks:* This examination should be the ecclesiastical test for the student. It ought to be made thorough and be given conscientiously. It will serve not only as a judgment upon the candidates, but upon the seminary which trains them. By means of these examinations the denomination will exercise a most effective check on the quality of Calvin's teaching and influence, academically, theologically and practically. These examinations will not be a duplication of others already taken, but must be as objective and searching as possible. Classes ought to allow ample time, and consider this one of their chief tasks. It should not be taken for granted by either the calling church or the candidate that success is a foregone conclusion.

In this connection we encounter the objection that waiting until a man has been called may involve him and the congregation in embarrassment. Such a possibility exists, but it can be reduced to a minimum if such practices as having all arrangements for ordination services made, moving the candidate's furniture and family, etc., be avoided. If the time of eligibility for a call could be set at June 1 instead of July 1 and the classes would meet as early in September as possible, there would be no need of undue haste. For the rest, the church cannot be guided by sentiment. We do not lower our standards for ministers coming from other denominations. It has even happened that such were rejected after being called and crossing the ocean.

Our main reason for making the examination for ordination the definitive examination is that it rests on good church polity principles. Synod of 1937 has adopted these principles as set forth in the report of its study committee, and we need not repeat them in detail. Suffice it to repeat that there is a great difference between declaring a man eligible for a position, and accepting him for the position. The denomination can do the former, but strictly speaking, only the calling congregation can do the latter. Conceivably men can be declared candidates and not receive a call. The call by a church is the final divine indication that a man is called to the ministry. This crucial point is the logical place for the definitive and exhaustive ecclesiastical test as to his competence and fitness. This examination is not a part of a man's training for office, but it is the church's official gateway admitting to the exercise of the office. This is a fundamental principle which no mere considerations of convenience should obscure.

#### V. Content and method of the examinations.

- A. Procedure for Board of Trustees in recommending for candidacy:
  1. Faculty recommendations on grades, conduct, character, etc.
  2. Consistorial, physical, psychological, etc., recommendations.
  3. Opportunity for interview if desired by members.
  4. Announcement of eligibility for call as soon as possible, not subject to approval of Synod.
  5. Aspirants not recommended may appeal to synod only in cases where such rejection is based on personal, doctrinal or ethical considerations; not in cases of failure to meet approved academic standards.

B. Procedure in classical interviews of "special" and post-graduate students in recommending for candidacy.

1. Only such students as are recommended by the Faculty of Calvin Seminary as having met academic requirements (or satisfactory equivalents) may apply to a classis for candidacy.

2. Ordinarily such students shall have taken at least one year at Calvin Seminary, in such courses as the Faculty deems most advisable. Exceptional cases shall first be approved by synod, and then be examined by a classis.

3. The examining classis shall read the Seminary Faculty's evaluation, based on time spent at Calvin. In case of post-graduate students this evaluation shall be the same as that furnished the Board for regular graduates.

4. The same credentials and testimonials re church status, physical and mental health shall be submitted.

5. In the interview classis shall be especially concerned with reasons for desiring to become a minister in the Christian Reformed Church and the aspirant's harmony with our principles and practice. Stress should be according to the background and schooling. Synod does not prescribe a schedule, but at least one hour shall be devoted to this examination.

6. The synodical examiners of three neighboring classes shall be present and give advice. In case of difference between classis and examiners, synod shall rule on the candidacy.

C. Subjects and procedure in classical examination for ordination.

1. The candidate is to prepare a sermon on a text assigned by classis. A copy of this sermon to be submitted to the sermon critics of classis at least one week before examination. The sermon critics shall report whether or not the sermon warrants the continuation of the examination and shall discuss with the candidate in private the weakness or strength of his product.

In presenting the oral sermon before classis, the length of such presentation shall be left to the discretion of classis.

2. Credentials will not be required of the candidate. The basic credentials will be examined by the Board of Trustees in declaring the individual eligible for call. The documents of call and letters of acceptance are implied in the application of the calling church for the examination.

3. The examination shall be conducted in the following branches of theology: Dogmatics, Ethics, Christian Reformed Church History, Church Polity, Knowledge of the Scriptures, Old Testament and New Testament Exegesis, Knowledge of the Standards and Practica.

*Observations:*

a. The examination in Church History should be limited to specifically Christian Reformed Church History; with due consideration to the roots, development and contributions of our church to the United States and Canada. This will aid in testing the fitness of the candidate for the ministry in our churches.

b. The Exegesis examination in the Old and New Testament should be conducted on two assigned passages of from one to two chapters in each Testament. The assignment should be made three weeks prior to the examination. There is good warrant for including this in the examination. This is a part of the examination by other Reformed denominations and stresses a very important aspect of theological training.

While it is possible that the elders are not able to judge of the content of this examination, it can be conducted in such a way as to reveal the candidate's competence or lack of it.

This inclusion will serve as a valuable check on the exegetical teaching in the seminary: it will also offer a criterion for evaluating the Faculty's recommendations in this area.

c. To include the Knowledge of the Standards will enable the classis to judge more adequately on the candidate's knowledge of and loyalty to our confessional standards as well as his ability to defend the Reformed faith against false doctrine.

d. We refer to the decision of 1920 for an excellent description of the manner in which this examination is to be conducted. Stress should be placed on the ability to clearly declare and defend Reformed positions. In the examination in Dogmatics special stress should be placed on Scripture proof for doctrine.

4. Each candidate shall be examined for 15 minutes in each locus in Dogmatics and in each of the other branches. When more than one candidate present themselves for examination at a classical session the length of the examination may be changed at the discretion of classis. In accordance with the accepted practice in the churches, the length of the examination in Practica shall be left to the discretion of the examiner appointed by classis.

5. At such examinations the synodical delegates of three neighboring classes shall be present.

*Recommendations to Synod* — we recommend:

1. That Synod discontinue the examination of men aspiring to candidacy in the Christian Reformed Church by Synod at its annual sessions.

*Grounds:*

a. The increasing size of Synod's agenda and of the classes of seminarians make it impossible to perform this work in a satisfactory manner. Experience has shown the present method to be impractical.

b. An examination for candidacy by synod as our broadest assembly has tended to rob the classical examinations of their significance, and has placed more stress on the preparatory than on the final examination.

2. That Synod authorize the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary to declare "regular students" who graduate from our Seminary candidates for a call to the ministry of the Word and Sacraments. The Board shall make such announcement upon recommendation of the Seminary Faculty as to the academic and spiritual fitness of the candidates. Each candidate shall be considered individually, and in dubious

cases the Board shall interview the candidates in question. The Board shall set the date for receiving calls as soon as practicable after it has taken action. Students who are not approved may in specified instances appeal to synod. Such candidacy shall be valid for one year. In case a candidate does not accept a call before the fall meeting of his home classis one year later, he must appear before that classis and have his candidacy reconfirmed.

*Grounds:*

a. Since Calvin College and Seminary are church schools the men who graduate from them after the regular course of study have been under scrutiny of Board and Faculties and can be recommended to the churches without further ecclesiastical examination.

b. All other alternative plans, now used by other churches or proposed as substitutes for our present synodical examination are open to serious objections and subject to the same problems we now face.

c. There is a tendency to duplication of examination which may be necessary under different circumstances, but in our situation requires unwarranted expenditures of money, time and energy.

3. That Synod instruct the Board of Trustees to study the matter of closer contact with and supervision of the students during their course of study at the seminary.

*Ground:* This will result in more efficient and meaningful performance of the important task of announcing candidacy.

4. That Synod decide that students who have studied less than two years at Calvin Seminary, and graduates of the seminary who have pursued one or more years of post-graduate study submit to an interview with the classis of which they were members when they enrolled as (college) students. This interview shall be attended by three synodical examiners from neighboring classes. Classis shall receive a dossier of information and recommendation from the Board of Calvin similar to that given by the faculty for "regular students."

*Grounds:*

a. Since on the one hand the Board and Faculty cannot know enough about men who study only one year or less at Calvin; and since on the other hand a year or more of post-graduate study could possibly change a man's views, it is unwarranted to make the Board of Trustees responsible for declaring a man a candidate in such exceptional cases.

b. This is in line with our current practice for ministers coming from other denominations (art. 9, C.O.).

c. This work can best be done by a classis because of time factors and greater flexibility of approach. The presence of synodical examiners safeguards the interest of the denomination.

5. That Synod retain the present examination for ordination (peremptory) by the classis in which the calling church is located after a candidate has accepted a call.

*Grounds:*

a. This examination is an integral part of the lawful calling as outlined in Article 4 of the Church Order.

b. Synod of 1939 has clearly stated the reasons for maintaining this final examination; these are still valid.

c. Making this examination the exclusive and final one will restore the honor and significance of this work of the classes.

d. Such a single and thorough examination will be a significant ecclesiastical check on the effectiveness and faithfulness of our seminary.

6. That Synod adopt the proposed regulations and provisions for the examinations as specified in point, "5, a, b, c." Content and Method of Examinations.

7. That Synod appoint a committee to translate relevant parts of the Report of 1920 and incorporate them in a future copy of the Acts as a supplement.

*Ground:*

This valuable guide for our classes in conducting examinations is inaccessible to many because of the language and date.

*Addendum:*

A few classes in reacting to our tentative plan have suggested the desirability of changing the present academic arrangement so that students would have more freedom in pursuing their course of study at Calvin Seminary, with the result that they may apply for candidacy at various times rather than only at the close of the school year. That is, the desirability of following a system somewhat similar to that followed in the Netherlands. We quote in part "... the possibility of introducing within the near future a freer form of theological training." "Presently we have a mad rush by all our interested churches upon all the candidates en masse until the last of the candidates has been seized. Thereupon there is a period of mysterious quietness, until the churches have become astir for the next mad rush."

We recommend that Synod refer these suggestions to Board and Seminary Faculty for consideration and later report.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

**Reactions**

We now give our reaction to the suggestions presented by the Board of Trustees. We shall consider No. 3 first.

The Board suggests that examination of candidates by Synod may still be the preferable procedure. They present the following arguments as outlined by their study committee:

"The committee favors a synodical examination. Since the candidates will move within the entire denomination once they are ordained and

since the entire church is vitally interested in the doctrinal and moral convictions of her ministry it is imperative that a representative body of the whole church conduct the examinations. In addition to the ideal of representation which may be found in the Board of Trustees of Calvin, the elder representation as found at Synod is valuable inasmuch as the candidate must confront the denomination as represented by both laity and ministry and both laity and ministry will become acquainted with the candidates."

We remind Synod that the advisory committee to the Synod of 1959 unanimously recommended adoption of our recommendations, including the first recommendation, and that Synod by an almost unanimous vote decided to adopt this first recommendation. This means that proposals to retain synodical examinations constitute a request to rescind a synodical decision. The reasoning of our committee upon which the two grounds are based is found in the report to the Synod of 1959 — Part 1 at the beginning of the report.

The Board suggests also "that all students recommended by the Faculty be interviewed by the Board."

Our reasoning for eliminating the examination for candidacy which applies also to an interview by the Board of Trustees is found under Recommendations and Proposed Method Part II. We refer Synod also to the "Remarks" attached to this recommendation.

Our "Recommendation to Synod — 2" and its three grounds, authorizes the Board to declare regular students as candidates for a call without interview except in dubious cases. Such dubious cases would occur, for example, when a student is not unanimously recommended by the Faculty. The interview would then become necessary so that the Board would be in position to decide whether or not to declare the student a candidate. We call Synod's attention to ground "c" of our Recommendations to Synod. "There is a tendency to duplication of examination which may be necessary under different circumstances, but in our situation requires unwarranted expenditures of money, time and energy" — see also "d" of the report — "The following are a few positive considerations which lead us to conclude that in the case of 'regular' students of Calvin Seminary the examination for candidacy can be dropped," etc.

We would also remind Synod that our proposals to eliminate the examination for candidacy raises the examination for ordination as conducted by classis to its rightful position. Any fear of "letting down the bars" is unwarranted, since we would see classes exercise more vigilance and thoroughness than is now often the case. A very extensive interview conducted by the Board of Trustees involves the danger that classis in examination assumes that the candidate is qualified for ordination, a lesser interview with "regular students," unanimously recommended by the Faculty, would soon become perfunctory and constitute a needless expenditure of time.

The Board's third suggestion is "that all prospective candidates be admitted by Faculty and Board action, regardless of their educational background." This is suggested over against our "Recommendation to Synod 4" with its three grounds. See also "III" of the Report.

One of the basic reasons for advocating that Synod entrust the declaring of candidacy to the Faculty and Board of Trustees in the case of "regular students" is that they are well acquainted with these men. They have been in contact with these students for three years just prior to declaring them candidates. This is not the case with a student who has spent only one year at the seminary or one who has taken post-graduate study. We contend, that such students cannot be well known to the Faculty and the Board, their fitness for candidacy must therefore be established in a different manner than on the basis of "having been in continuous contact."

We also make a point of the fact that "regular students" have been trained in the school of our church. This is not entirely the case with students who have taken post-graduate work.

It is evident that an examination is required to determine the fitness and orthodoxy of such students. This should be done by the church. The examination should be conducted by an ecclesiastical body. There are overwhelming historical and church polity reasons for referring this matter to the classes, as is the case with ministers coming from other denominations. To relegate to a committee, what is clearly the task of an ecclesiastical body, may be done only for well defined reasons.

We would also add that the Board of Trustees is appointed to govern an academic institution and should not be burdened with the extra duty of judging on the qualifications of an applicant who is not well known to its members.

Again the fear of "letting down the bars" is unwarranted for classis shall receive a dossier of information and recommendation from the Board of Trustees similar to that given by the Faculty for "regular students." Such recommendation could not be given if the prospective candidate is deficient in any requirement which we make of "regular students."

The interests of the denomination are also safeguarded by the presence of three synodical examiners.

In the event that Synod should follow suggestions 1 and 2 of the Board, the Board has submitted to us a revision of our Recommendation which would fit such a situation. This revision is available to Synod, if needed.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

E. Oostendorp, Chairman  
W. Vander Haak, Sec'y  
G. J. Hoytema  
C. Vos  
A. Sluis  
S. Van Til  
J. Zoetewey

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 31

(Article 136)

## PARTICULAR SYNODS

To the Synod of 1960

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The decisions of Synod 1959 regarding Particular Synods may be found in articles 71 and 172 of the Acts of Synod (pages 20, 92). By the decision of article 71 Synod rejected the advice of the Advisory Committee not to accede to requests of Overtures 11, 22, 26, 44 and 45 that Synod reconsider or postpone indefinitely the introduction of Particular Synods. This left the status of these overtures and the report of the study committee in a very indefinite position. Synod then recommitted the matter to the Advisory Committee for a new recommendation.

In article 172 the Advisory Committee advised that Synod — "(1) in the spirit of Overtures 11, 23 and 45, present the study committee's plan for Particular Synods to the consistories for study for one year; (2) continue the present committee that it may receive the reactions of consistories and pursue the study of this matter; (3) instruct the study committee to study Particular Synods in the light of Overtures 7 and 8, II, B; (4) declare that this be considered its answer to Overtures 11, 22, 26, 44, 54, and the letter of Kalamazoo I, endorsing Overture 11." These were adopted by Synod.

I. Your committee did not consider it our task to again solicit official reactions to our proposed plan. The decision of Synod to present this plan to the consistories for study has so far elicited only two responses. These communications do not so much address themselves to the merits of our plan as such, but attack the principle of Particular Synods. Thus they tend to cover much the same ground as the overtures to the Synod of 1959, referred to above. We have not received official criticism, constructive or destructive, in the light of which we have been led to make changes in our plan. Having considered it carefully for a period of eight months individually and by correspondence and in committee session together, we feel constrained to resubmit our plan with only a few changes.

We call Synod's attention to the fact that our report envisions a *gradual* implementation of the plan. We are convinced that such Synods cannot spring full-grown from a fiat of Synod, but must come to full stature by a process of growth, resulting from the coöperative efforts of Synod, the classes and denominational boards. The majority of our committee, moreover, does not share the interpretation of Article 30 of the Church Order which has become the basis for the radical criticism leveled against all centralization of organization and work in the church.



## II. PARTICULAR SYNODS (Report to the Synod of 1959)

### ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Your committee for Particular Synods herewith presents its report in fulfillment of the mandate given at the Synod of 1957.

### HISTORY AND MANDATE

The Synod of 1957 adopted the following:

#### I. SYNOD TAKE STEPS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTICULAR SYNODS

##### *Grounds:*

- a. They have a legitimate place in the Reformed system of Church government and are provided for in Article 47 of the Church Order.
- b. In the light of the present strength and number of our classes and anticipated growth, the institution of Particular Synods is warranted.
- c. The institution of Particular Synods may greatly benefit our churches.

—*Adopted*

#### II. THAT SYNOD APPOINT A REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE WITH THE MANDATE TO:

- a. Draw up a plan for denominational organization in which Particular Synods would form an integral part, taking into account the work of the study committee of 1956 (see Article 178, V, C.).
- b. Present this plan to the various classes for their consideration, individually and in conference with neighboring classes if they so desire. The classes will then offer their judgment regarding the plan to the committee.
- c. Present this plan to the various denominational boards and committees concerned, for their judgment.
- d. Present its final plan for the consideration of the Synod of 1959.

—*Adopted*

A detailed study of the history of Particular Synods is given in the Report of the study committee presented to the Synod of 1957 (see Acts of Synod, p. 287).

We interpret our mandate to mean that a plan is to be drawn up by which steps may be taken for the establishment of Particular Synods. This plan to be drawn up by taking into consideration the plan proposed by the committee reporting to the Synod of 1957 and guided by the judgment of the classes and denominational boards and committees. We have addressed ourselves to the formulation of a plan of organization in which particular synods form an integral part and have considered means of implementing this plan.

In December of 1957 a tentative plan was sent to the classes and denominational boards and committees. To this proposed tentative plan we have received the reaction of 25 classes and 5 denominational boards and committees. Seven classes expressed disapproval for the idea of Particular Synods. In so far as those opposed attacked the idea of

Particular Synods we consider these objections directed against the decision of Synod 1957 and not against the plan as proposed. 15 classes expressed approval of the plan and in many instances offered helpful recommendations for changes. In 3 responses it was difficult to determine whether the classis was for or against the idea of Particular Synods. We also profited greatly from the replies sent in by the committees and boards. Guided by these responses we have drawn up our final plan which, we believe, will be acceptable to the denomination.

We have concluded that Synod by its decision accepted the principle that institution of Particular Synods is feasible and desirable. We need not defend these points as previous committees have done. (See Acts of Synod, 1957, P. 287f.). The grounds for the decision of Synod of 1957 are ably substantiated by the previous committee.

Your committee prefers the name Regional Synods as was also indicated in several classical responses. We believe this terminology more expressive of the nature of such assemblies. The newly proposed Church Order also uses this term. We therefore take the liberty of using the expression Regional Synods.

## THE PLAN

### I. GEOGRAPHICAL GROUPING OF CHURCHES INTO REGIONAL SYNODS

#### A. *Guiding principles*

1. The Church Order suggests 4 or 5 classes combine into a Regional Synod. While it is impossible to adhere to the principle strictly, there is prospect that suggested Regional Synods, which now consists of less than four classes, will eventually develop into that number. It will be observed that previous studies advocated virtually the same number of Regional Synods.

2. We have attempted to abide by the principle that as much as possible regional synods should consist of classes having similar area interests. As an example, we are convinced that Canadian churches should be organized into Canadian regional synods for the following reasons:

a. Canada has peculiar problems all of its own such as language, immigration, publicity, relation to the government, etc.

b. Stewardship of time demands that assemblies apply themselves as much as possible to problems that are general within their areas.

c. Existing classes have divided along the national border, ex. Classes Pacific and British Columbia.

If it is feared that this will create sectionalism between the Canadian and the United States churches we call your attention to the fact that our unity is in our Confessional Standards, denominational interests, and loyalty to the Truth. We have one seminary at which our ministers are trained, etc. Sectionalism or unity is produced by the mind and attitude of people, not primarily by organizational lines. There is at present a good sense of solidarity which will undoubtedly increase rather than decrease as the Canadian and United States churches continue to work

together. There is no official sentiment among the Canadian or United States for division.

While our recommendation results in some rather large areas and others that are small, this is the inevitable result of geography and the location of our church areas. Nor is there reason to believe that this will appreciably change in these wide lands of ours.

It is also recognized that some Regional Synods are more populous than others as far as church members are concerned. However, delegation has never been established upon the basis of families or individuals, (i.e. delegates to classis or Synod), nor is this compatible with our system of church government. Minor assemblies send delegates not representatives to major assemblies.

### *B. Proposed Regional Synods*

1. *Atlantic Synod* composed of Classes Hudson and Hackensack together with new classes which may be organized in the eastern area of the United States. There is already a movement for the organization of a classis composed of the churches of eastern Michigan and Ohio. The possibility also exists that the churches of Hudson and Hackensack will eventually reorganize into three classes as new churches are added to their number.

Grounds for adding Michigan and Ohio churches to Atlantic Synod:

a. Some of the churches in this area have problems and interests akin to those of the Atlantic coast churches, especially the churches in metropolitan areas.

b. This would widen the scope of the eastern churches and tie them even more intimately with the Michigan area.

2. *Eastern Canada Synod* composed of Classes Eastern Ontario, Toronto, Hamilton and Chatham.

3. *Michigan Synod* composed of Classes Holland, Zeeland, Muskegon, Cadillac and Kalamazoo.

4. *Grand Rapids Synod* composed of Classes Grand Rapids East, South, West and Grandville.

While this Synod covers a small compact area, such a Synod will unite the churches involved in the interests and problems of the Grand Rapids area.

5. *Chicago Synod* composed of Classes Chicago North, South and Wisconsin.

6. *Midwestern Synod* composed of Classes Minnesota North, South, Sioux Center, Orange City, North Central Iowa and Pella.

7. *Western Canada Synod* composed of Classes Alberta North, South and British Columbia.

8. *Pacific Synod* composed of Classes California, Rocky Mountain and Pacific.

## II. REGULATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION

A. Each classis shall delegate three ministers and three elders to the regional synod. If the Regional Synod is composed of less than four

classes it may be constituted of more than three ministers and three elders from each classis.

B. The Regional Synod shall meet once a year or more often if it is deemed necessary.

C. Synod désignate the first named classis to convene the organizational meeting of the Regional Synod and suggests that this meeting be held in the latter part of the month of April.

D. The Regional Synod will elect its officers and appoint a stated clerk and treasurer.

E. Each Regional Synod shall draw up its own rules of procedure or do so in consultation with other Regional Synods.

F. Each Regional Synod shall organize its Home Mission set-up.

G. Each Regional Synod shall elect its delegates to the designated boards and committees of *Synod*.

### III. REORGANIZATION OF DENOMINATIONAL WORK

#### A. *Guiding Principle*

Article 30 of the Church Order states: "... In major assemblies only such matters shall be dealt with as could not be finished in minor assemblies, or such as pertain to the churches of the major assembly in common."

#### B. *Recommendation for Reorganization*

We recommend the following proposals for the reorganization of denominational work. It is our conviction that the detail work must be done in an organic and gradual way by experts in the areas concerned.

##### 1. *Home Missions:*

a. *Organization:* Each consistory shall do as much as it can locally. This is in harmony with our Church Order. Each classis shall have a Classical Home Missions Committee of three or more men, preferably including laymen and ministers. This committee shall supervise work within the classis that cannot be assigned to a local consistory but can be carried on by classis. Each Regional Synod shall have a Home Missions Committee composed of at least one minister and one layman from each classis, one of whom shall be a member of the Classical Home Missions Committee. The Regional Synod Home Missions Committee shall regulate the work that cannot be administered by the classes. The classis and Regional Synod Home Missions Committee shall meet as often as the need of their work requires determined by each classis and each Regional Synod. Each Regional Synod shall delegate one minister and one layman to a General Synod Home Missions Committee. This committee shall apply itself to policy making, administer general funds to Regional Synods needing financial assistance and recommend new areas to Regional Synods. There will still be need for a General Secretary of Home Missions. This official should function somewhat in the same manner as our present Secretary of Missions does in the work of the Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions. He would serve as a co-ordinator of Home Missions

efforts, as the present office of Missionary-at-Large prescribes, keeping in touch with the different fields and serving as an advisor to those in charge of fields. He should be the secretary of the General Home Missions Committee and work under its supervision. He should be the general expert on home mission work to whom men can turn for advice and direction. There will undoubtedly be need for a part-time treasurer on the General Committee level.

b. *Implementation*: Synod decide that the following steps be taken to effect the above organizational proposals.

(1) The present General Home Missions Committee, constituted by delegation from classes and members-at-large, be continued for a period of three years, at which time Synod shall consider reorganizing the General Missions Committee by delegation from the Regional Synods.

(2) The Regional Synods shall discuss the effectuation of the above plan on the basis of the following principles:

(a) Regional Synods shall review denominational home missions projects in their areas to determine whether they are able to administer and finance any or all of these projects. Or Regional Synod shall apply to the General Home Missions Committee for assuming responsibility for fields or projects it selects. The General Synod, with the advice of the General Home Missions Committee, shall determine when projects shall be transferred to the Regional Synod. This is in conformity with the Home Mission Order. Until such transfer denominational home missions projects shall remain under the administration of the General Home Missions Committee.

(b) In accordance with article 30 of the Church Order, the priority for assuming responsibility for new home mission projects shall be given in the following order — Consistories, Classes, Regional Synods, General Synod.

(c) Finances shall continue to be regulated according to the present arrangement, with a synodical quota. The classes and Regional Synods are to study, in consultation with General Synod, modification of present methods of financing the work of the assemblies on the various levels. A denominational quota shall be maintained as long as Regional Synods are in need of financial assistance.

## 2. *Back to God Hour*

### a. *Organization*

The work shall be continued as a denominational project. The committee shall be composed of two delegates from each Regional Synod. These delegates would represent the interest of each area from which they are delegated and serve as contact men with the broadcast facilities within that area. One of the two delegates shall be a member of the Regional Synod Home Missions Committee to provide liaison between our broadcast work and home mission activities in the interest of follow up work, etc.

The work to be supported by synodically established quotas as at present. Scope of responsibility: Broadcasting and literature distribution

along present lines. Responsibility for follow-up work to be assumed by the Regional Synod Home Missions Committees.

*b. Implementation*

The Back to God Hour Radio Committee will continue for the present as now constituted. The Regional Synods and the Back to God Hour Committee will study the best time and method to put into effect the new method of organization. After three years the General Synod shall review the progress made to this end.

*3. Board of Trustees — Calvin College and Seminary*

Since Synod (1957) has given a mandate to the Board to study the matter of administration, the matter of representation and administration shall be determined at the time that Synod deals with this matter.

*4. Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions*

*a. Organization*

A board of missions shall continue to administer the work as at present with a denominational quota determined by the General Synod. The board shall be composed of three delegates from each Regional Synod, at least one of whom is a layman.

*b. Implementation*

(1) The committee as presently constituted shall continue to function until the work is reorganized. At the organizational meeting of the Regional Synods, delegates shall be elected to the board of missions. When approved by the next following General Synod the newly constituted board shall begin to function.

(2) Synod instruct the Chr. Ref. Board of Missions, Regional Synods and classes to emphasize the desirability of the calling and supporting of missionaries by local congregations or groups of churches. The Board be instructed to work toward this end until ultimately quotas will be required only for administrative expenses.

*Grounds:*

a. This will serve to increase interest in the local church for mission activity.

b. This conforms with the spirit of article 30 of the Church Order, although the administration of mission fields, by reason of its complex nature presently belongs to one central committee.

5. All other denominational committees remain in status quo.

*Grounds:*

a. The function of many of these committees is of denominational interest.

b. It is not practical to relegate the work of these committees to Regional Synods at this time.

**IV. ANNUAL OR BIENNIAL SYNODS**

If Regional Synods function as they should the load of General Synod will be materially lightened and its time of session shortened. The

smaller constituency of General Synod should lead to increased efficiency. (See also previous committee's report. Acts of Synod, 1957, P. 290-291). Biennial synods ought to be an ideal. But the actual change can be effected by Synod only as soon as conditions warrant. Hence we recommend that synod make no change for the present, but declare itself as favoring the ideal of an eventual return to biennial synods.

#### V. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR REGIONAL SYNODS

1. Opening by minister of convening church; constituting Synod; election of officers; welcoming representatives of neighboring Synods, and others.

2. Reading of minutes of previous Synod; Approval(?); matters arising from these minutes.

3. Appointment of advisory committee(s) if necessary.

4. Report of stated clerk, correspondence: report of treasurer.

5. Report of committees appointed to execute synodical decisions.

6. Report on home mission work within Synod.

7. Reports on general Synod matters such as Board of Trustees, Foreign Missions, etc.

8. Appeals.

9. Matters brought by classes, requests for advice, etc.

10. Appointments and elections: delegates to the General Synod; regular functionaries, as stated clerk, treasurer; committees to execute decisions of Synod; any other committees; delegates to Board of Foreign Missions, Back to God Hour Committee, etc.

11. Approval of documents to be sent to General Synod.

12. Designating convening church for next Synod.

13. Thanks to entertaining church; reading of minutes; closing.

#### VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Your committee recommends that Synod:

1. Adopt the PLAN for geographic arrangement for Regional Synods.

*Grounds:*

a. The PLAN does justice to area interests in as far as this is possible.

b. The Plan follows the suggestion of the Church Order as to the number of classes in each Regional Synod in as far as this is presently possible in the light of expected changes.

2. Declare that these assemblies shall be called Regional Synods.

*Grounds:*

a. The proposed Revised Church Order so designates them.

b. The term conveys more accurately the nature of such assemblies.

3. Approve the proposed regulations and implementation for Regional Synods, calling for the first assemblies of Regional Synods in April, 1961.

4. Adopt the PLAN for the reorganization of certain denominational work.

*Ground:*

This reorganization is in harmony with article 30 of the Church Order.

5. Adopt the recommended implementation of the PLAN proposed for reorganization of Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and Back to God Hour.

*Grounds:*

a. The PLAN will not disrupt the work now being carried on.

b. The PLAN takes into consideration the factors involved in effecting the change. Such change is effected not by a decree of Synod but by the action of the bodies concerned in the change.

6. Express itself as favoring the ideal of biennial General Synods to be initiated as soon as conditions warrant.



**EXHIBIT I**  
**CLASSICAL STATISTICS ARRANGED TO REGIONAL SYNOD GROUPING**  
 (Yearbook, 1958)

	Families	Communicant Members	Total Members	Consistory Members	Congregations	Regional Synod Delegation Minister	General Synod Delegation Minister	Elder
<b>ATLANTIC SYNOD</b>								
Classis Hudson.....	1,805	4,241	7,250	203	16	4	4	
Classis Hackensack.....	1,276	3,177	5,336	195	19	4	4	
Classis Detroit.....	773	1,818	3,255	121	13	4	4	
	3,854	9,236	15,841	518	48	12	12	3
<b>EASTERN CANADA SYNOD</b>								
Classis Eastern Ontario.....	1,436	3,245	7,476	196	21	3	3	
Classis Toronto.....	1,352	3,195	6,869	182	18	3	3	
Classis Hamilton.....	1,664	3,792	8,362	189	17	3	3	
Classis Chatham.....	1,632	3,604	8,174	200	19	3	3	
	6,084	13,836	30,881	767	75	12	12	3
<b>MICHIGAN SYNOD</b>								
Classis Holland.....	2,730	6,536	11,277	298	21	3	3	
Classis Zeeland.....	2,367	5,519	10,268	236	18	3	3	
Classis Muskegon.....	2,002	4,797	8,428	247	20	3	3	
Classis Cadillac.....	658	1,576	3,133	104	12	3	3	
Classis Kalamazoo.....	1,665	4,088	7,361	165	17	3	3	
	9,422	22,516	40,487	1,050	83	15	15	3
<b>GRAND RAPIDS SYNOD</b>								
Classis Grand Rapids East.....	3,226	7,954	13,610	312	17	3	3	
Classis Grandville.....	2,317	5,358	10,050	227	14	3	3	
Classis Grand Rapids South.....	2,064	4,964	8,865	207	12	3	3	
Classis Grand Rapids West.....	1,967	4,660	8,235	225	16	3	3	
	9,574	22,939	40,760	971	59	12	12	3

# EXHIBIT I—CLASSICAL STATISTICS ARRANGED TO REGIONAL SYNOD GROUPING (Continued)

Families	Members	Members	Members	Members	Ministers	Elders	Minister	Elder	Delegation	Synod	General	Suggested
Communicant	Total	Congregational	Consistory	Congregational	Consistory	Regional	General	Synod	General	Synod	General	Suggested

## CHICAGO SYNOD

Classis Chicago North.....	2,112	4,937	8,416	229	15	4	4	4	4			
Classis Chicago South.....	2,799	6,482	11,831	259	19	4	4	4	4			
Classis Wisconsin.....	1,166	2,795	4,965	140	13	4	4	4	4			
	6,077	14,214	25,212	628	47	12	12	12	12	3	3	3

## MIDWESTERN SYNOD

Classis Minnesota North.....	1,967	2,484	5,018	142	15	3	3	3	3			
Classis Minnesota South.....	1,066	2,479	5,107	150	17	3	3	3	3			
Classis Sioux Center.....	1,713	3,950	7,564	202	19	3	3	3	3			
Classis Orange City.....	1,253	3,030	5,548	162	15	3	3	3	3			
Classis Northcentral Iowa.....	777	1,862	3,331	115	14	3	3	3	3			
Classis Pella.....	1,291	3,015	5,698	168	14	3	3	3	3			
	7,167	16,820	32,266	939	94	18	18	18	18	3	3	3

## WESTERN CANADA SYNOD

Classis Alberta North.....	1,316	2,955	6,639	168	18	4	4	4	4			
Classis Alberta South.....	667	1,614	3,451	113	16	4	4	4	4			
Classis British Columbia.....	883	2,091	4,428	122	15	4	4	4	4			
	2,866	6,660	14,518	403	49	12	12	12	12	3	3	3

## PACIFIC SYNOD

Classis California.....	2,271	5,298	10,381	281	23	4	4	4	4			
Classis Rocky Mountain.....	888	2,188	3,888	120	12	4	4	4	4			
Classis Pacific.....	1,718	3,947	8,053	202	18	4	4	4	4			
	4,877	11,433	22,322	603	53	12	12	12	12	3	3	3

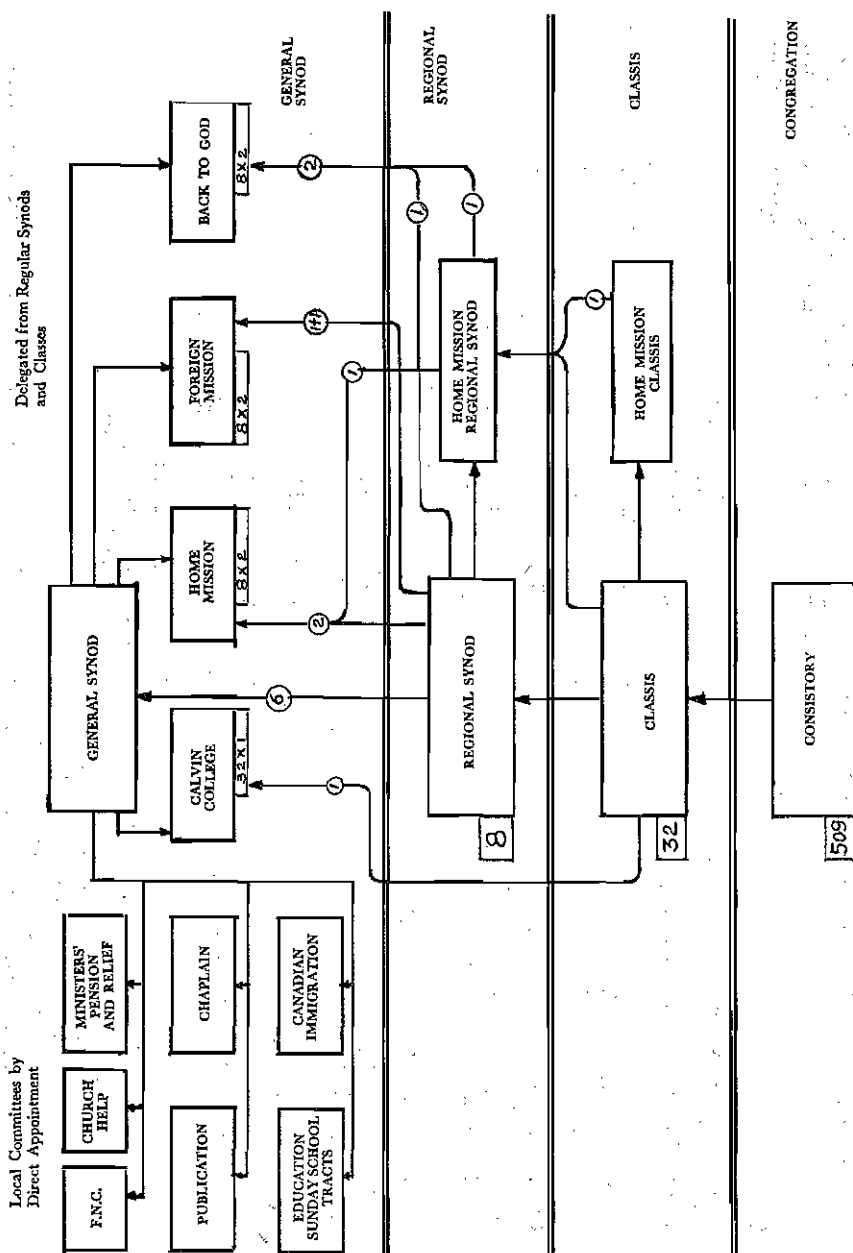
NOTE: These statistics have incorporated the following changes from existing conditions:

1. Eastern Michigan Churches subtracted from Classis Grand Rapids East.
2. Ohio Churches subtracted from Classis Kalamazoo.
3. Cincinnati church subtracted from Classis Chicago South.

(The above are included in proposed Classis Detroit)

REPRESENTATION: Each classis will delegate 3 ministers and 3 elders to the regional synod except where a regional synod is composed of less than four classes, the delegation may consist of 4 ministers and 4 elders.  
Each regional synod will delegate 3 ministers and 3 elders to the general synod which is composed of 48 delegates.

# EXHIBIT II ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## EXHIBIT 3

## ESTIMATED COST OF CONSTITUTING REGIONAL SYNODS

**PRESENT BASIS:** This represents grouping of actual expenses reported by each Classical Treasurer for the year 1957 within the area of the proposed Regional Synod.

**REGIONAL SYNOD BASIS:** This represents the redistribution of the actual expenses as a basis for estimating probable costs under the proposed basis. Lower expenses are largely determined by the lesser number of delegates proposed in the plan.

## DELEGATES EXPENSE

A. *Travel and Lodging*—Actual Classical expense pro-rated to reduced number of delegates. Greater distance involved offset by one meeting annually instead of two or three.

B. *Meals*—This reported actual expense is:

1. Reduced to cost per delegate.
2. Multiplied by the number of delegates as proposed.
3. Assumes that Regional Synods would not exceed two or three day sessions. Therefore comparable to sessions of Classis in one year.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**—One-half of the reported actual Classical expense is set up to allow for variations.

**AGENDA AND ACTS**—\$1,000 estimated as ample for each Regional Synod. Computed on the basis of comparable expenses in other denominations having Particular Synods.

**NOTE:** This estimated outlay is in addition to the present Classical cost of operations. It is based upon a period of one year's activity.

REGIONAL SYNODS	Delegates	Delegates Expenses	Administration	Agendas and Acts	Total Cost
<i>Atlantic</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	90	\$ 3,385.55	\$ 1,707.01		\$ 5,092.56
Regional Synod Basis	24	902.40	853.50	1,000.00	2,755.90
<i>Eastern Canada</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	146	2,871.66	5,365.99		8,237.65
Regional Synod Basis	24	469.92	2,683.00	1,000.00	4,152.92
<i>Michigan</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	166	1,003.21	5,306.00		6,309.21
Regional Synod Basis	30	171.20	2,653.00	1,000.00	3,824.20
<i>Grand Rapids</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	112	2,413.56	3,863.98		6,277.54
Regional Synod Basis	24	517.18	1,931.99	1,000.00	3,449.17
<i>Chicago</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	94	1,448.80	2,605.67		4,045.47
Regional Synod Basis	24	369.84	1,302.84	1,000.00	2,672.68
<i>Midwestern</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	186	2,511.09	4,322.63		6,833.72
Regional Synod Basis	36	482.76	2,161.32	1,000.00	3,644.08
<i>Western Canada</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	94	1,236.96	1,777.00		3,013.96
Regional Synod Basis	24	315.60	888.50	1,000.00	2,204.10
<i>Pacific</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	128	4,047.00	3,845.25		7,892.25
Regional Synod Basis	24	758.64	1,922.63	1,000.00	3,681.27
<b>SUMMARY</b>					
Present (Classical) Basis	1120	\$18,917.83	\$32,638.78		\$51,556.61
Regional Synod Basis	234	3,987.54	14,396.78	8,000.00	26,384.32

## EXHIBIT 4

## COMPARISON OF GENERAL SYNOD COST

## PRESENT (Classical) BASIS vs. REGIONAL SYNOD BASIS

**PRESENT BASIS:** This represents grouping of actual expenses reported by the Stated Clerk's office for the year 1957 within the area of the proposed Regional Synod.

**REGIONAL SYNOD BASIS:** This represents the re-distribution of the actual expenses as a basis for estimating probable costs under the proposed basis. Lower expenses are largely determined by the lesser number of delegates proposed in the plan.

*Travel and Lodging*—Pro-rated on the basis of reduced number of delegates.

*Meals*—Pro-rated on the basis of reduced number of delegates.

*Other expenses*—The 1957 amounts are used in this study. This provided for extra secretarial services, public address system, report preparation, etc.

*Agenda and Acts*—The 1957 amounts are used in this study. This effort is denominational wide in its service and application. Charged against Synodical expense in prior years.

REGIONAL SYNOD	Delegates	Travel & Lodging	Meals	Other	Agendas and Acts	Total Cost
<i>Atlantic</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	12	\$ 927.56	\$103.25	\$ 819.05	\$ 1,202.95	\$ 3,052.81
Regional Synod Basis	6	463.78	51.63	819.05	1,202.95	2,537.41
<i>Eastern Canada</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	16	751.11	87.05	1,092.08	1,737.05	3,667.25
Regional Synod Basis	6	271.64	32.64	1,092.08	1,737.05	3,133.41
<i>Michigan</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	20	199.36		1,365.10	2,486.20	4,050.66
Regional Synod Basis	6	59.88		1,365.10	2,486.20	3,911.18
<i>Grand Rapids</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	12	71.02	10.12	819.05	2,288.30	3,188.49
Regional Synod Basis	6	35.51	5.06	819.05	2,288.30	3,147.92
<i>Chicago</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	12	433.82	46.50	819.05	1,506.75	2,806.12
Regional Synod Basis	6	261.91	23.25	819.05	1,506.75	2,565.96
<i>Midwestern</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	24	1,779.42	102.40	1,638.10	2,459.26	5,979.18
Regional Synod Basis	6	444.85	25.60	1,638.10	2,459.26	4,567.81
<i>Western Canada</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	12	1,680.25	182.10	819.05	931.00	3,612.40
Regional Synod Basis	6	840.13	91.05	819.05	931.00	2,681.23
<i>Pacific</i>						
Present (Cl.) Basis	12	2,525.29	242.00	819.05	1,372.00	4,958.34
Regional Synod Basis	6	1,262.65	121.00	819.05	1,372.00	3,574.70

## SUMMARY

Present (Cl.) Basis	120	\$8,367.83	\$773.42	\$8,190.53	\$13,983.51	\$31,315.29
Regional Synod Basis	48	3,595.35	350.23	8,190.53	13,983.51	26,119.62

## EXHIBIT 5

## COMPARISON OF BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COSTS

## Home Missions - Present (Classical) Basis vs. Regional Synod Basis

**PRESENT BASIS:** This represents grouping of actual expenses reported by the Home Mission Treasurer's office for the year 1957, within the area of the proposed Regional Synod.

*Travel and Lodging*—Pro-rated on the basis of reduced number of delegates.

*Meals*—Pro-rated on the basis of reduced number of delegates.

*Miscellaneous*—The 1957 amounts are used in this study.

REGIONAL SYNODS	Dele- gates	Travel & Lodging	Meals	Misc.	Total Cost
<i>Atlantic</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	2	\$ 198.12	\$ 35.22	\$	\$ 233.34
Regional Synod Basis	2	198.12	35.22		233.34
<i>Eastern Canada</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	4	136.66	70.44		207.10
Regional Synod Basis	2	68.33	35.22		103.55
<i>Michigan</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	3	41.54	88.05	268.72	398.31
Regional Synod Basis	2	16.62	35.22	268.72	320.56
<i>Grand Rapids</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	3	27.30	52.73	272.17	352.20
Regional Synod Basis	2	18.20	35.15	272.17	325.52
<i>Chicago</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	3	108.90	52.83		161.73
Regional Synod Basis	2	72.60	35.22		107.82
<i>Midwestern</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	6	414.49	105.66		520.15
Regional Synod Basis	2	138.16	35.22		173.38
<i>Western Canada</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	2	293.12	35.22		328.34
Regional Synod Basis	2	293.12	35.22		328.34
<i>Pacific</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	3	525.53	53.03		578.56
Regional Synod Basis	2	350.35	35.35		385.70
<b>SUMMARY</b>					
Present (Classical) Basis	28	\$1,745.66	\$493.18	\$540.89	\$2,779.73
Regional Synod Basis	16	1,155.50	281.82	540.89	1,978.21

## EXHIBIT 6

## COMPARISON OF BOARD AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COSTS

## Foreign Missions - Present (Classical) Basis vs. Regional Synod Basis

**PRESENT BASIS:** This represents grouping of actual expenses reported by the Foreign Mission Treasurer's office for the year 1957, within the area of the proposed Regional Synod.

**REGIONAL SYNOD BASIS:** This represents the re-distribution of the actual expenses as a basis for estimating the probable cost under the proposed basis. Lower expenses are largely determined by the revised number of delegates proposed in this plan.

*Travel and Lodging*—Pro-rated on the revised number of delegates.

*Meals*—Pro-rated on the revised number of delegates.

*Miscellaneous*—Pro-rated on the basis of the revised number of delegates.

REGIONAL SYNODS	Dele- gates	Travel & Lodging	Meals	Misc.	Total Cost
<i>Atlantic</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	2	\$ 181.42	\$ 30.38	\$ 6.18	\$ 217.98
Regional Synod Basis	3	241.89	40.51	9.27	291.67
<i>Eastern Canada</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	3	150.57	69.76	12.36	232.69
Regional Synod Basis	3	150.57	69.76	12.36	232.69
<i>Michigan</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	5	650.39	225.61	15.45	891.45
Regional Synod Basis	3	390.23	135.37	9.27	534.87
<i>Grand Rapids</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	6	9.00	28.16	9.27	46.43
Regional Synod Basis	6	9.00	28.16	9.27	46.43
<i>Chicago</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	3	586.71	96.39	9.27	692.37
Regional Synod Basis	3	586.71	96.39	9.27	692.37
<i>Midwestern</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	6	552.43	110.64	20.04	683.11
Regional Synod Basis	3	276.22	55.32	10.02	341.56
<i>Western Canada</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	2	300.00	48.38	27.18	375.56
Regional Synod Basis	3	450.00	72.57	40.77	563.34
<i>Pacific</i>					
Present (Classical) Basis	3	516.68	41.07	9.27	567.02
Regional Synod Basis	3	516.68	41.07	9.27	567.02
<b>SUMMARY</b>					
Present (Classical) Basis	30	\$2,947.20	\$650.39	\$109.02	\$3,706.61
Regional Synod Basis	27	2,621.30	539.15	109.50	3,269.95

## III. OVERTURES 7 AND 8, II, B

A. Overture 7 (Acts 1959, p. 512) is a request of Classis Pella that, before instituting Regional Synods, Synod first define very carefully, in the light of the principle of Church Order the jurisdictional authority of such ecclesiastical bodies. Two good grounds are given. This is indeed an important point.

We first of all call attention to the fact that in a *practical* way — in distinction from considerations of *principle* — our plan includes juris-

dictional considerations by suggesting organization of Regional Synods and their relationship to classes on the one hand and to Synod on the other; also by giving a suggested agenda for such Synods; and finally by proposing the reorganization of some aspects of denominational work. Although not always specified these suggestions are made in the light of church polity principles.

In our judgment there are especially three articles which bear on the subject of the authority of Regional Synods, viz. Art. 30, 31 and 36. Since the latter speaks specifically of *jurisdiction* we refer first to it. "The Classis has the same jurisdiction over the Consistory as the Particular Synod has over the Classis and the General Synod over the Particular." For a discussion of the full implications of this article we refer to commentaries on the Church Order (e.g. Monsma and Van Dellen, pp. 160-163). To the best of our knowledge the church has never spelled out the exact extent of the authority of each classis with respect to Synod. The principle of the autonomy of the local church has led to the position that minor assemblies possess all authority to discharge those tasks which they have not delegated to major assemblies. Much as in the Federal Government (U.S.A.) the 10th amendment reserves to the states and the people all powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, so each successive minor assembly has all the powers it has not delegated to major assemblies. However, since the Church Order is not a political constitution, but a statement of guiding principles, it would be presumptuous for any Synod to attempt a detailed delimitation of the authority of each class of assemblies.

Further light is thrown on this matter by the specifications of Art. 30. In recent discussions this article is often quoted as if it consisted only of the first part, "only such matters shall be dealt with as could not be finished in minor assemblies" period. However, this article also clearly recognizes that there are matters that pertain to the churches in common. What these latter matters are must be determined by the churches themselves in the light of God's Word, the principles of the Church Order, and practical considerations furthering the profit of the church and its work. How this article is to be implemented in practice is determined by the rules of procedure as adopted by classes, Regional Synods and Synod. In this connection we as committee heartily endorse the decision of Synod in adopting the overture of Classis Wisconsin, changing the Rules to force minor assemblies to do a maximum amount of work before appealing to major assemblies (see Acts 1959, p. 23, IV, B). This principle ought to be adhered to by consistories and classes in reference to Regional Synods also, as well as by Regional Synods in reference to the General Synod. As we state in our plan, we have tried to apply Article 30 as a basic principle.

Article 31 is of basic importance. One classis suggested to your committee that cases of appeal be limited to Regional Synods. In other words, protestants and appellants could approach only consistory, classis and Regional Synod; the last named would give the ultimate verdict. It is the opinion of your committee that this would violate Art. 31, which clearly gives the final word to the General Synod. This would especially



be true of matters involving doctrine; but hardly less so in cases of conduct, since General Synod also makes pronouncements on standards of conduct. On the basis of Art. 31 all cases of protest and appeal may be carried to the broadest ecclesiastical assembly but only when they have first been submitted to all other assemblies in their order.

Applications of the principles of these three articles will provide the guiding markers of a course steering clear of the dangers mentioned by Classis Pella of too much decentralization and robbing General Synod of authority on the one hand, and on the other of organizing Regional Synods devoid of all real purpose and function.

*Recommendation.* We recommend that Synod declare that the above explanation constitutes Synod's answer to the overture of Classis Pella.

B. Overture of Classis Wisconsin, No. 8, II, B. This part of the overture suggests changes in the operation of our Home Missions program. Classis does not favor Regional Synods, but would have more power given to classes when the nature of Home Mission projects permits. To that end it also asks that a proportionate share of the Home Missions quota be given the classes for work within their borders.

It is our judgment that the objective aimed at by the overture would be realized if the plan for Regional Synods is adopted. (See report b, (2) (a) (b) (c). It is true, Classis Wisconsin does not see a need for Regional Synods, but Synod of 1957 did. Application of the principle of Article 30 to evangelization projects will be more effective if undertakings of some magnitude can be supervised and supported, not by two or more classes jointly, but by the ecclesiastical assembly of a Regional Synod in an official way.

*Recommendation.* Synod wait with answering Classis Wisconsin until action has been taken on that part of our plan regarding Home Missions; should the plan be adopted, Synod declare that the changes involved constitute an answer to classis' request, and will meet the objectives outlined by its overture.

We call Synod's attention to the fact that our mandate permits only a study of *Regional Synods* in the light of the recommendations of Overture 8, II, B. Hence we have not discussed the merits of the proposals as such, and remind Synod that, if the plan of our committee is rejected, Synod must still act upon this overture which was not acted upon by Synod 1959.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee

E. Oostendorp, Chairman  
W. Vander Haak, Secretary  
G. J. Hoytema  
C. Vos  
A. Sluis  
S. Van Til  
J. Zoetewey

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 32

(Articles 171, 172)

## CHAPLAIN COMMITTEE

To the Synod of 1960

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

*I. Committee Membership*

The membership of the Chaplain Committee during the past year has consisted of the following: Rev. D. Hoitenga, President; Rev. H. Dekker, Secretary; Rev. R. Wezeman, Secretary for Active Duty Chaplains; Mr. Louis Vandertill, Treasurer; Rev. L. Dykstra, Rev. F. Van Houten and Dr. Wm. Vander Ploeg.

At this time the second consecutive terms of Rev. Hoitenga and Dr. Vander Ploeg expire. We wish to express here an earnest word of gratitude to these brethren for their competent and devoted participation in the work of this committee, with special recognition of Rev. Hoitenga's six years service as president. It should also be noted that first consecutive terms for Revs. Dekker and Wezeman expire this year.

In accordance with the rules of Synod the following nominations are presented:

*For the place of Rev. Dekker:*

Revs. Harold Dekker and G. Bernard Dokter

*For the place of Rev. Hoitenga:*

Revs. Jacob D. Eppinga and Dick L. Van Halsema

*For the place of Dr. Vander Ploeg:*

Messrs. Harry Faber and Evan Van Lopik

*For the place of Rev. Wezeman:*

Revs. Nicholas H. Beversluis and Richard H. Wezeman

*II. Active Duty Military Chaplains*

Since our report to the Synod of 1959 three men have entered the active duty chaplaincy and three chaplains have returned to civilian status. The three who entered the military chaplaincy are Bruce Hemple, John Hoogland and Andrew Rienstra, all candidates of 1959. The three chaplains who returned to civilian status are Harvey Smit, Jay Vander Ark and G. Bernard Dokter.

Our present active duty force includes Chaplain Jay Harold Ellens, a graduate of 1956, stationed with the Army in Germany since December, 1957; Chaplain Paul H. Vruwink, a graduate of 1958, presently with an Army Airborne Group at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Chaplain Arlo Dahm, a graduate of 1958, with the Navy, attached to the Commander Destroyer Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet; and Chaplain Elton Holthrop at Battle Creek, serving in the Veterans Hospital.

Concerning those who entered last year, Chaplain Bruce Hemple is in the Army. The past year he has been serving at Fort Riley, Kansas. Chaplain Hoogland is due to be on his way to Germany after service at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Chaplain Rienstra is in the Air Force, stationed at Richards-Gebaur Air Base, Missouri.

The three who left the military chaplaincy are busily engaged in the work of the church. Rev. Smit is attending language school in Tokyo as a foreign missionary, while Rev. Vander Ark is a home missionary at Hayward, California, and Rev. Dokter is serving the congregation at Ferrysburg, Michigan.

### III. *Institutional Chaplaincy*

As yet the Chaplain Committee has not exercised the authority granted by the Synod of 1959 to endorse chaplains in the institutional field. It may be noted that Rev. Earl Jabay assumed a full-time chaplaincy, with accreditation by the Council for Clinical Training, at the New Jersey State Neuro-Psychiatric Institute, Trenton, New Jersey. The precise nature of the endorsement required and the responsibility of the Chaplain Committee for it is being investigated. It seems that so far Chaplain Jabay has been serving under an endorsement given by Clasis Hackensack.

It may also be reported that your committee is currently negotiating with the Michigan State Veterans Facility, Grand Rapids, regarding the appointment of a chaplain. Several Christian Reformed ministers are under consideration and some have been interviewed. Ecclesiastical endorsement will be required, and clinical training must be taken if the appointee does not already have it.

In addition, the committee is exploring other possible openings for our men in the institutional ministry. It is expected that an additional prison chaplain will be appointed in Michigan. Dr. Garrett Heyns, Director of Institutions for the state of Washington, is keeping us informed regarding vacancies in his administration. Other states are also to be investigated. It should be understood, however, that there is no central agency for institutional chaplaincies as there is in the military field. Therefore all our ministers and consistories are urged to be alert for vacancies or new chaplaincies in the institutions of their committees and to inform the Chaplain Committee immediately regarding them.

### IV. *Recruitment*

The need for more chaplains continues. Early in 1960 two of our Air Force chaplains left active duty. This was in no sense due to dissatisfaction on the part of the Air Force or of the chaplains concerned. Actually both of these men had served far beyond their agreed minimum of two years. One of our Army chaplains expects to discontinue next fall, after more than four years of active duty. Over against a retirement of three chaplains in 1960, we are anticipating that two seminary graduates will enter the active chaplaincy. Present knowledge indicates that there will be no gains from our active ministers. Repeated *Banner* notices bring little response and no actual recruits. However ministers are now taking steps to enter the inactive reserves.

We feel that once again we must bring to the attention of Synod the needs of this vital ministry in the Armed Forces. By the fall of this year we expect to be meeting our basic quota in all branches except the Air Force, which will be one short. However, both the Army and the Navy will accept other well qualified Christian Reformed applicants. Such above-quota placement is possible because of the good record made by our chaplains, a record which in some cases is no less than outstanding.

The above-quota opportunities which we as a denomination face are reason for much satisfaction and gratitude to God. The very fact that we have these opportunities shows how much our ministry and our witness are wanted. The kind of men who are trained at Calvin Seminary and who qualify for the military chaplaincy are the kind of men most in demand today. We will fail to honor God's blessing upon our efforts if we fail to take advantage of the opportunities which now are ours.

Here, as in other areas of the church's work, we come face to face with our crippling and distressing shortage of ministerial supply. In this connection the Chaplain Committee wishes to go on record as heartily endorsing the overture sent to Synod by the Board of Home Missions and endorsed by the Board of Foreign Missions regarding the recruitment of ministers. We pray the Lord of the harvest that He will indeed send laborers into His harvest. There is no part of it more white for reaping today than that in the military and institutional fields.

Respectfully submitted,

Harold Dekker, Secretary

### CHAPLAINS' FUND OF THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

#### Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements

March 1, 1959 to March 1, 1960

Balance on hand, March 1, 1959 .....\$5,890.04

#### Receipts:

Interest on Washington, D.C. Christian Ref. Church Bonds .....	90.00
Interest on Savings Account .....	37.50
Interest on Certificate .....	15.00
Gift .....	15.00

Total Receipts .....\$6,047.54

#### Disbursements:

Books and Literature .....	\$ 150.74
Travel .....	473.37
Clerical and Stationery .....	31.95
General Commission Dues .....	426.00
Gratuities .....	150.00
Miscellaneous .....	96.53
Total Disbursements .....	1,328.59

Balance on hand March 1, 1960 .....\$4,718.95

#### Total Assets as of March 1960:

Washington, D.C. Church Bonds .....	\$3,000.00
Old Kent Bank Savings Certificate .....	1,000.00
Old Kent Bank Savings Account .....	612.50
March 1, 1960, balance checking account .....	106.45

\$4,718.95

Louis Vandertill, Treas.

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 33

(Articles 148, 172)

## LORD'S DAY ALLIANCE, U. S.

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

In the past year I have been privileged to serve as the denominational representative of the Lord's Day Alliance.

The Alliance continues its work of distributing a large volume of literature. The demand for material such as posters, tracts, etc., has increased. This increase is the result of the intense "Sunday battle" in certain areas. This battle was probably the hottest in New Jersey, but from the reports and requests which come to the office it is clear that other areas are affected too. New Jersey witnessed not only strong opposition to "Sunday legislature," but also open defiance after the laws were passed.

As I indicated in my report last year I believe that the strength of the Alliance is in wholesome propaganda, and that its chief role should be mass education for the public, acquainting them with the blessings (spiritual, moral and economic) of observing the Lord's Day. In so far as the Alliance is ecclesiastically related and supported it should exercise discretion and restraint in pressuring legislature; but the distribution of literature and other educative means offer an unlimited field.

It is of some concern to me as a board member that the income of the Alliance has not kept pace with the needs. The audio-visual program has been held up because of insufficient funds.

May I urge the churches to avail themselves of the services of the Alliance, especially when there is a Sunday problem. I also request that generous support may be given so that the work may go forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Clarence J. Vos

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 34

(Articles 110, 172)

## SPONSORSHIP OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Committee for the Sponsorship of Foreign Students is pleased to report that once again it has been able to give valued financial support to a number of students from abroad who either are or expect to be ministers to their own people.

Only one of these beneficiaries is studying at Calvin College, namely Andrew An of Formosa, a pre-seminary student in his senior year. The others are seminary students, which is in line with the committee's announced policy, reported to Synod last year, of favoring short-term grants for more advanced studies. Hee Suk Moon and Aubrey Van Hoff, 1959 college graduates, have been taking first year studies at our seminary. Mr. Moon, however, discontinued at the end of the first semester in order to help for a time in the California office of the Korea Gospel Mission. Sam Suk Hahn of Korea has been continuing graduate work in the field of Apologetics and Ethics. Two men have been granted scholarships for the first time this year, Hee Bo Kim of Korea, pursuing a Th. M. program in Old Testament, and Peter Yang of Hongkong, in his first year of regular undergraduate work.

Your committee is convinced that its program of support, made possible by the generosity of those churches which have taken special offerings, is a significant service to the Reformed witness and to the Christian cause in the world at large. The level of academic achievement represented by our current group of students is comparatively high, giving additional reason for satisfaction. Policies established last year promise to raise this even higher as the required careful screening takes its full effect.

A financial report follows. Your committee earnestly requests that this worthy cause be placed once again on the list of those recommended by Synod for one or more offerings from each congregation. Moreover, we invite the attention of Synod to the disturbing fact that contributions to our fund have sharply decreased during the past year, that a small reserve is now nearly depleted, and that unless more of our congregations respond with offerings during the next few months our program of support will have to be seriously curtailed for the forthcoming school year. We sincerely hope that this will not become necessary, particularly in the case of students who will need additional time to complete degree programs which they have undertaken.

May God bless our educational effort not only to our own students but also to those from other places who may be immeasurably

strengthened for the Lord's work there through sharing in the benefits of our blessed heritage.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry J. Ryskamp, Chairman  
 Harold Dekker, Secretary  
 Henry De Wit, Treasurer  
 Melvin Berghuis  
 Harry Blystra  
 John Bratt  
 Alvin Huibregtse

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Cash Balance, March 1, 1959 .....	\$7,225.59	
Income: Receipts from Churches .....	1,983.11*	
		\$9,208.70
Disbursements:		
Hee Suk Moon .....	\$1,229.00	
Andrew An .....	1,155.50	
Sam Suk Hahn .....	900.00	
Aubrey Van Hoff .....	860.00	
Hee Bo Kim .....	740.00	
Young Kim .....	440.00	
Peter Yang .....	400.00	
Frank Peng .....	70.00	
Health and Life Insurance for Grantees .....	341.00	
Committee Expenses .....	68.33	6,203.83
Cash Balance, February 29, 1960 .....		\$3,004.87

\*Compared to \$6,733.21 received the previous year.

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 35

ECUMENICITY AND INTERCHURCH  
CORRESPONDENCE

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Your committee must preface this report by calling the attention of Synod to the fact that, after diligent search, we are unable to find evidence that the Synod of 1959 acted upon the report presented by this committee. It was treated by the Advisory Committee, but the matters under III. Synodical Mandates and IV. Correspondence in Supplement 19, pp. 265ff. of Acts 1959, apparently never came on the floor of Synod.

Our report, therefore, must consist in large part of a repetition of recommendations made by the committee last year. In some cases, the passage of time has removed items from Synod's concern. In other cases, supplementary information and altered opinion has led us to amplify our recommendations to some extent.

I. *World Presbyterian Alliance*

A. In carrying out the mandate of Synod, 1957, *Acts* p. 103, the committee has been engaged in a study of various national and international ecumenical organizations. The study of the World Presbyterian Alliance was finished by last year's committee. The present committee had the opportunity of conferring with Marcel Pradervand, representing the WPA and the result was that we were strengthened in the recommendations made to the Synod of 1959.

B. By way of background and orientation, we refer the Synod to the material presented in Supplement No. 19 of the *Acts* 1959, pp. 266ff.

## C. Recommendation:

That Synod do not consider seriously membership in the World Presbyterian Alliance.

*Grounds:*

1. The basis of the Constitution is indistinct.
2. The WPA is closely affiliated with the World Council of Churches.
3. The constituency of the WPA is theologically mixed. The situation is intensified due to membership of all types on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

II. *The Reformed Church in America*

A. Background: Although at the time our denomination solicited the interest of the RCA in fraternal exchange of delegates and views, (1944) we did not succeed in finding mutually satisfactory grounds for such a relationship, our Synod invited the RCA to send a delegate to



our Centennial Synod in 1957, and the invitation was accepted. The RCA Synod of 1958 invited us to send a delegate to their general Synod. This invitation was presented to our Synod last year and was not acted upon. The recommendation at that time was: "Synod instruct its committee to pursue correspondence and to report to the Synod of 1960."

**B. Recommendations:**

1 That Synod acknowledge with appreciation the invitation of the Reformed Church of America to send a fraternal delegate to their Synod.

2. That Synod accede to that invitation by delegating someone to attend the RCA General Synod in 1961, such a delegate to be advised of the principles governing fraternal relations with other churches as adopted by our Synod in 1944 and 1947.

3. That Synod inform the RCA that in accepting their kind invitation, we do so in the conviction that such fraternal delegation involves more than the exchange of pleasantries, but that our delegate shall be free to speak in a brotherly spirit concerning the real implications of such fraternal relations between churches of Reformed confession.

**III. Reformed Ecumenical Synod of 1963**

Since our committee has been given the task of making the necessary arrangements for the Reformed Ecumenical Synod which is to meet in the United States in 1963, we recommend:

That Synod call the attention of the churches to the decision of Synod, 1959, *Acts* p. 85 No. 6, regarding "a small contribution" to enable financially weak churches to send delegates to the Reformed Ecumenical Synod. Such contributions should, we believe, be sent to the Synodical Treasurer.

**IV. National Association of Evangelicals**

A. Your committee has conferred with Dr. Herbert Mekeel, president of the NAE, and has been assured by him that conditions that obtained in 1951 have changed, and that there would be genuine merit in seeking closer knowledge of this organization.

B. We anticipate that a request will come to our Stated Clerk that a speaker representing the NAE appear before Synod.

C. We recommend that Synod accede to such a request.

1. It will add measurably to our understanding of this ecumenical organization.

2. It is in harmony with the expressed desire of the Synod of 1957 to study this and similar organizations more closely.

**V. Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland**

For orientation, cf. page 146, 1959 *Agenda*, or p. 275 *Acts* 1959.

**Recommendations:**

1. That Synod express its regret that the letter of 1950 evidently never came to the attention of following synods.

2. That Synod welcome the Christelijke Geref. Kerken as a "corresponding" church in our terminology and in their terminology as a "contact" church, since in usage we mean the same thing.

3. That Synod declare that it will welcome any fraternal delegate commissioned by said church to its meetings if such a delegate should be in this region; and that it likewise will commission a fraternal delegate, if such a delegate should be in their area at the time of their major assembly.

4. That Synod express its appreciation for the labors of the "deputaten" of said church, and notes also that their historical synopsis will be placed in the supplement of the *Acts* for future historical reference. (Note: that synopsis has been placed in the Acts of 1959.)

5. That Synod send the "Christelijke Geref. Kerken" our fraternal greetings and prayer for a common faithfulness and perseverance in the work of the Lord.

#### VI. *Membership of the Committee*

We hereby inform Synod that the term of Rev. Martin Monsma has now expired and that, according to synodical rules he is not subject to reappointment.

A. We therefore recommend that Synod express its appreciation to Brother Monsma for his services.

B. We request that Synod appoint a replacement for him.

Humbly submitted:

The Committee:

M. Monsma, President

A. Brink, Secretary

R. J. Danhof, member ex officio

D. L. Van Halsema

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 36

(Articles 169, 172)

**CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE REFORMED  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, N.A.****ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

Last year Synod decided to "continue the study committee in order to have conversations and correspondence for the purpose of combined study of the areas of common concern, with a view to possible ultimate organic union on the basis of a mutual confession of Scriptural truth" (*Acts*, 1959, p. 93, II, B, 2). Your committee has continued its correspondence with the Reformed Presbyterian Church. It might be of interest to know that at present the Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America has 9 presbyteries, 73 congregations, 102 ministers, 11 theological students, 4,778 communicant members, 1,400 baptized children, 21 foreign missionaries, 56 parsonages, and 324 elders. This church also has a liberal arts college, Geneva College, located at Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania with about 800 students in day classes and almost 1,000 in evening classes. It also has a Theological Seminary located in Pittsburgh, and a Home for the Aged located in the same city. Official publications include *The Covenanter Witness* (weekly), *Blue Banner Faith and Life* (quarterly), and *The Goal Post* (fortnightly young people's paper).

We have held four meetings this past year at which various issues were discussed. The members of your committee prepared four essays on matters pertinent to our denomination and the Reformed Presbyterian Church, N.A. These essays were forwarded to the committee of the Reformed Presbyterian Church and presently we are awaiting written replies from the Reformed Presbyterian brethren. After these replies are received we plan to meet with the representatives of this denomination. One of the basic issues of difference between the Reformed Presbyterian Church and ourselves concerns the Christian's relationship to civil government. Since this issue is receiving top priority discussion at the forthcoming Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, your committee plans to attend some of the sessions of this Synod as observers. It is our opinion that such contact will help to foster the cause of mutual understanding.

We recommend that the Synod continue this committee in order to seek further contact with the Reformed Presbyterian Church with the hope of possible organic union with these brethren in the Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. A. Brink, Chairman  
Dr. A. C. De Jong, Sec'y  
Rev. Clarence De Haan  
Mr. Walter De Jong

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 37

(Articles 72, 172)

## DENOMINATIONAL SEAL

The Synod of 1958 considered an adaptation of the Centennial Seal for general use as an official seal of our denomination. Rejecting the proposed adaptation, the synod decided to appoint a committee "to prepare a denominational seal for our Church, which adequately symbolizes our historical, biblical Christian character, and that this committee present the proposed seal to the churches." The Synodical Committee appointed the Revs. William Kok, E. B. Pekelder, and John Kromminga to carry out this mandate.

The seal pictured, submitted by Jack R. Brouwer, is the one recommended by the committee. The following comments will help the viewer understand its symbolism. The seal combines the shape and colors of a cathedral window for its design basis, enabling the observer to recognize that this seal belongs to a religious organization. The victor's wreath embraces the emblem of the church in a never-ending circle of love, the gold color indicating the high standard of this love. The history of the Christian Church through the Holy Word is symbolized in three parts: first, the tables of the law representing the Old Testament; second, the cross, symbolizing Christ crucified; third, the world, symbolizing the great commission given to the Church. The hand holding the burning heart is an adaptation of the seal of John Calvin, an accepted symbol of the Reformed faith. The initials C and R represent the name Christian Reformed.

This seal is simple enough to allow for application in small form to letterheads or publications. It would make a beautiful plaque or colored window. If a motto were added, this could be attached in the form of a ribbon tied to the center bottom of the wreath.

We respectfully present this seal for consideration by the denomination.

For the Committee,

John H. Kromminga

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 38

(Articles 148, 171, 172)

## CANADIAN IMMIGRATION

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Immigration Committee for Canada presents its annual report for the year 1959.

The officers and personnel during that year were as follows: Rev. P. J. Hoekstra, Classis Alberta South, President, Mr. J. Vander Vliet, Classis Eastern Ontario, Secretary-Treasurer, Rev. M. Dornbush, Classis Minnesota South, Rev. G. Bouma, Classis Chatham, Mr. D. Maat, Classis Minnesota North, Rev. A. Persenaire, Classis Hamilton, Mr. H. J. Ten Hove, Classis Alberta North, Rev. R. Groeneboer, Classis British Columbia, Mr. M. Mol, Classis Toronto, Dr. D. L. Van Halsema, Minister of Evangelism.

During the year 1959 the committee employed only one full-time fieldman, Mr. A. De Jonge of Montreal, who resigned as per October 1. Also the secretary-treasurer and the office employee were on a full-time basis. The part-time fieldmen employed by the committee worked from 1 to 3 days a week.

*Survey of Work in 1959*

The total number of immigrants who entered Canada from the Netherlands during that year, according to official figures, was 5,106. Of these 1,263 came to us from the "Gereformeerde kerken," constituting 24.8% of the total number. In this connection it is of interest to know that in Holland this denomination comprises about 8% of the population.

The "Gereformeerden" were divided over the Canadian provinces as follows: Ontario 663, Alberta 231, British Columbia 185, Nova Scotia 71, Manitoba 56, Saskatchewan 31, Quebec 22, Prince Edward Island 4.

The immigrants were welcomed at the ports of entry by the fieldmen stationed there in the name of the church and further aided by the fieldmen in the places of destination.

The committee met twice: in Ottawa and in Fort William. Railroad, government and immigration officials discussed with the committee matters of common interest. It is important for the work of our church that these contacts be maintained.

At these meetings the fieldmen's reports were examined. Proper attention was paid to the needs of the various fields and the placement possibilities. The committee took special note of the possibilities in the Fredericton, N.B., area and Prince George, B. C. We are pleased to report that the churches in the Maritimes were substantially strengthened during the year 1959.

The decline in immigration from the Netherlands is mainly due to existing prosperity in that country and exaggerated press reports about unemployment in Canada. This condition could change at any time when we consider that Canada is rapidly emerging from a recession and that the economic position of the Netherlands is very vulnerable. The Netherlands government itself, faced with the constant problem of overpopulation, is eager to encourage a steady flow of emigrants. This would point to the necessity of our committee being ready should such a change eventuate.

Our committee is cooperating with the Canadian-Netherlands Immigration Council, an organization representing the various Dutch bodies interested in immigration. This organization made it possible for our secretary-treasurer to make a trip to the Netherlands in the interest of immigration, without expense to the denomination.

It is also through this organization that a program has been set up by which farmers' sons are enabled to work on selected Canadian farms for a period of approximately one year. These boys come here to obtain first hand information on Canadian farming so that upon their return to the homeland they can impart this knowledge to the people in the Netherlands. In 1958 there were 68 participants, in 1959 — 48, and for this year 113 are expected.

While in Holland the secretary-treasurer addressed 35 gatherings in various provinces, held consultations with officials and contacted the "Deputaten voor Emigratie" of the "Gereformeerde kerken," relative to more complete information in the future about the spiritual status of the prospective immigrants.

The committee wants to use this opportunity to express its gratitude for the faithful work performed by our fieldmen during the last 13 years. The expansion of our churches in Canada can be contributed to a great extent to their efforts.

### *Program for 1960*

Although it is difficult to predict how many immigrants will arrive in 1960 nevertheless already during the first months of this year there has been a definite increase in the number of applications from the other side. By the middle of March some 600 cases of prospective immigrants were being considered and are in the process of being placed. It can readily be understood what an enormous volume of correspondence this involves. As before, whenever necessary, guarantees are obtained from our churches. It is the intention of the committee to allocate the immigrants primarily in the smaller churches.

Your committee has endeavored to adjust itself to the new set-up occasioned by the Synod decision of 1959. Most of the fieldmen which formerly were the employees of the denomination continued to serve under classical and local auspices. The others obtained jobs elsewhere.

Practically throughout the whole of Canada it was felt that the services of the fieldmen or contactmen could not be dispensed with without detriment to the cause. It should be realized, however, that this places a

rather heavy financial burden on many of the classes and churches, which are already faced with many other obligations, such as building programs and Christian schools. Whereas formerly the churches in Canada were asked to pay 65¢ for a synodical quota now they are required to pay a classical quota of up to \$1.75 per family besides expenses for the local committees.

### *Rules and Regulations*

According to the instructions of the Synod of 1959 your committee has revised the Rules and Regulations for the Immigration Committee of the Christian Reformed Church in Canada which revision we herewith present.

### *Finances*

The financial report for the year has been placed in the hands of the Special Advisory Budget Committee and the Stated Clerk of Synod.

All Canadian classes but one have promised to pay 75¢ per family toward the maintenance of the central office.

It is expected that this will net us about \$7,000. Synod has instructed us to obtain the balance of the budget, or approximately \$6,000, from the diaconates in the United States.

At the Synod of 1959 it was reported that the cost of the central office was nominal. We wish to point out, however, that the information was erroneous, as the figures will indicate. Consequently an undue burden was placed upon the Canadian churches.

We humbly request the Synod of 1960 to remedy this situation. Being convinced that the Synod itself has authorized the maintenance of the central office the committee is of the opinion that Synod is responsible for the provision of sufficient funds. We therefore humbly request that Synod establish a small denominational per family quota in order to bring some relief to the Canadian churches. Synod should remember that these churches are now supporting their own fieldmen and local committees.

### *Recommendations*

We recommend that:

1. Synod continue the Immigration Committee for Canada as duly constituted by representatives of the various classes and of the Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions;
2. Synod approve the appointments of new members as chosen by classes;
3. Synod approve the revised Rules and Regulations as presented;
4. Synod establish a denominational quota of 25¢ per family for 1961;
5. Synod express its appreciation for the labors performed by our fieldmen in past years;
6. Synod grant the privilege of the floor to Dr. D. L. Van Halsema when Canadian immigration matters are considered.

## Rules and Regulations for the Immigration Committee of the Christian Reformed Church in Canada

### *Preamble*

The migration of Reformed families and individuals into Canada is the particular concern of each Christian Reformed congregation and classis in that country and of the denomination as a whole. In addition to the work of each church and classis in the field of immigrant settlement and ministry, it is necessary that a synodical committee be maintained to stimulate and coordinate immigration of Reformed persons in such a way that the growth of the Christian Reformed Church is promoted on a nation-wide basis.

### *Article 1*

The name of the committee in charge of the immigration work in Canada is "The Immigration Committee for Canada of the Christian Reformed Church."

### *Article 2*

**Membership:** The committee shall consist of one representative of each Classis in Canada and of the United States Classes having churches in Canada and the representative of the Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions.

### *Article 3*

a. The committee shall promote the immigration of Reformed families and individuals to Canada by maintaining contact with the immigration authorities, inter-church committees, and transportation companies in both the Netherlands and Canada, by conducting correspondence with prospective immigrants, by assisting them upon arrival in Canada and by cooperating with the classical and local organizations and their field-men and contactmen throughout Canada.

b. The committee shall administer the funds entrusted to it and shall make reports and recommendations to Synod about its work.

### *Article 4*

a. The committee shall choose a chairman and a vice-chairman.

b. The committee shall appoint a full-time secretary-treasurer whose duty it shall be to maintain an office for handling correspondence, finances, contact with other immigration agencies and organizations, and all matters pertaining to immigration into Canada. The secretary-treasurer shall be placed under bond, according to synodical rule. A vice-secretary-treasurer shall also be appointed.

c. The committee shall choose an Executive Committee consisting of three members.

### *Article 5*

**Meetings:** If possible the committee shall meet at least twice yearly to conduct its business. It shall meet in various parts of Canada in order



to acquaint itself continuously with existing conditions in different districts.

### Article 6

Finances: Synod shall provide the necessary funds for the operation of the committee and its central office.

## BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1961

### Receipts

Denominational Quota at 25¢ per family .....\$ 13,125.00

### Expenditures

#### Salaries

Secretary-Treasurer .....	\$ 4,500.00
Office help .....	3,600.00
Travelling expenses .....	500.00
Office rent, postage, stationery, telephone and telegraph .....	1,250.00
Advertising .....	500.00
Canadian-Netherlands Imm. Council .....	300.00
Expenditures at ports of entry .....	1,000.00
Auditing .....	75.00
Bonding .....	50.00
Committee meetings .....	500.00
Loss on American funds .....	500.00
Miscellaneous .....	350.00

Total .....\$ 13,125.00

Humbly Submitted,

Rev. P. J. Hoekstra, Pres.

J. Vander Vliet, Sec'y-Treas.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1959

### Receipts

Quotas Received .....	\$ 35,260.30
Donations .....	873.50
Interest .....	38.34

36,172.14

Loss on American Funds .....	2,444.05
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Net Receipts .....\$ 34,728.09

### Disbursements

Advertising .....	\$ 1,035.34	
Audit fees .....	85.00	
Committee expense .....	523.75	
Labor paid by committee members .....	3,600.00	
Miscellaneous expenses .....	498.36	
Membership fees .....	25.00	
Office supplies .....	318.85	
Postage .....	564.15	
Telephone and Telegraph .....	1,446.25	
Travelling expenses .....	6,744.78	
Wages .....	20,893.00	35,734.48
Excess of Disbursements over Receipts .....		1,006.39

**Cash Surplus**

Net Cash on Deposit, Dec. 31, 1958 .....	\$ 4,532.64
Net Cash on Deposit, Dec. 31, 1959 .....	3,526.25
Decrease in Cash Surplus .....	\$ 1,006.39

**BANK RECONCILIATION DECEMBER 31, 1958****Balance on Deposit**

The Canadian Bank of Commerce, Trenton, Ont. Branch as per Bank Confirmation Form .....	\$ 5,153.18
Less: Cheques issued and un-cashed as at Dec. 31, 1958 .....	620.54
Net Cash Deposit, Dec. 31, 1958 .....	\$ 4,532.64

**BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1959**

The Canadian Bank of Commerce, Trenton, Ont., as per Bank Confirmation Form .....	\$ 3,906.08
Less: Cheques issued and un-cashed as at Dec. 31, 1959 .....	379.83
Net Cash on Deposit, Dec. 31, 1959 .....	\$ 3,526.25

As instructed by your secretary-treasurer, I have made an examination of the books and vouchers of your committee for the year ended December 31, 1959, and present herewith the undernoted financial statements with my report thereon:

1. Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the year ended Dec. 31, 1959.
2. Bank Reconciliation Statements at Dec. 31, 1958, and at Dec. 31, 1959.
3. List of Quotas received for the year ended Dec. 31, 1959.

A detailed check of receipts and disbursements was carried out and the balances on deposit with the Canadian Bank of Commerce were confirmed as at Dec. 31, 1958, and as at Dec. 31, 1959.

An examination of your records reveals that an employee's fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$10,000 has been extended for the current year.

During 1959 a loss was recorded on American Funds in the amount of \$1,444.05.

Cash surplus was decreased by \$1,006.39 as a result of the year's operations, decreasing the Cash Surplus on deposit as at Dec. 31, 1959 to \$3,526.25.

Terrance M. Read  
Auditor  
Trenton, Ontario, Canada

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 39

(Article 148)

## CANADIAN RELIEF FUND

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

This year our report concerning our work can be brief. We might again carry on this work of mercy, to lend aid to diaconates which needed some assistance. During 1959 there were no requests for relief that required a large sum. For this we can be thankful. We believe this indicates that conditions in the churches in Canada are stabilizing, for even the number of requests for smaller amounts of aid have become less.

This leads us to say that we believe that it will not be necessary to place this cause on the recommended list for diaconal support for next year. It will be possible to meet such need as may arise by appeal to the churches in Canada, if necessity arises. The present reserve or balance makes any request unnecessary.

We are grateful for all of the assistance which has been given in the past. We also want to thank all the churches which have made a contribution to this cause during 1959. The committee will continue to function, so that if requests come they can be dealt with.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## Receipts

Balance, Jan. 1, 1959.....	\$ 6,533.40
Gifts U.S.A. Churches.....	2,995.43
Gifts, Canada Churches.....	927.46
Interest .....	195.73
Bank Difference .....	.89

Total.....\$10,652.91

## Disbursements

Relief .....	\$ 1,297.00
Exchange on U.S. funds.....	151.83
Admins. expenses .....	7.60
Balance, Jan. 1, 1960.....	9,196.48

Total.....\$10,652.91

(Of the balance, \$2,296.00 is earmarked [Aylmer Fund], leaving a general balance of \$6,900.48)

Itemized statement of gifts and offerings received is on file with the Stated Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Sypkes

104 Raleigh Street  
Chatham, Ontario

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 40

(Articles 22, 148, 172)

## SERMONS FOR READING SERVICES

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

We are grateful to report that through the efforts of your committee and with the cooperation of the Credo Publishing Company, many churches have secured a supply of sermons for reading services through subscribing to "The Living Word," an annual series of mimeographed sermons in single booklet form, published by the Credo Publishing Co., Toronto, Canada. The following is a report of the number of churches subscribing as of date, May 1, 1960: Canadian churches 134, U.S. churches 62, New Zealand 2, Australia 1, total 199.

Arrangements have been made with the Credo Publishing Co. to provide a second year of subscription to "The Living Word" to begin June 1, 1960. Letters have been sent to the churches by the publisher informing the churches of the second year of subscription and encouraging the churches either to subscribe for the first time or renew their subscription. In this second year sermons will be available in two series: Series A-30 sermons at \$8.50 (English), Series B-30 English and 15 Dutch sermons at \$12.50.

Your committee is securing, editing and forwarding sermons written by United States ministers so that, together with sermons provided by Canadian ministers, the churches can be supplied with sermons on "free" texts and on the catechism, and also with sermons for preparatory and special day services.

We respectfully present the following recommendations:

1. That Synod recommend these sermons for further use by the churches.
2. That Synod continue the Committee on Sermons for Reading Services.
3. That Synod approve the appropriation of \$15 to be used as a fund for securing supplies and postage, etc., needed to carry on the work.

Humbly submitted,

Rev. B. T. Haan, Pres.  
Rev. E. L. Haan, Sec'y  
Rev. W. Reinsma

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 41

(Articles 158, 172)

**CLOSER RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE ORTHODOX  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH****ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

Our committee met with the O.P.C. brethren on September 11, 1959, and then expected to meet with them again before Synod convened next month. Due to various circumstances, the second meeting was never held. The January meeting was cancelled when Prof. Murray became ill, and the meeting scheduled for March was cancelled due to the injury and consequent inability of Rev. B. E. Pekelder to attend at that time. Elder Watzel was also in Florida at that time. Rev. Monsma left the East early this month, and that made it impossible for us to schedule a meeting this month.

We expected to make real progress during this second meeting, and therefore regret that circumstances were such that it could not be held. We do report, however, on the progress made at the September meeting as follows:

1. Rev. N. J. Monsma presented to the joint committee a study of creedal subscription in the Christian Reformed tradition. This was to complement a similar report of Prof. Murray on creedal subscription in the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. at an earlier meeting, Nov. 10, 1958.

2. The joint committee took initial steps to implement the request of Synod that an "equitable financial arrangement" be sought whereby the doctrinal standards of the respective denominations may be circulated to the ministers and consistories (or sessions).

3. The groundwork for further progress in the joint committee was laid when "on motion it was agreed that each member of the (joint) committee prepare for the next meeting a suggested plan of procedure and study on the part of the (joint) committee looking toward the ultimate aim of ecclesiastical union of our two churches; specifying both the major issues between us and the proposed method of dealing with them; and further, that each member prepare a brief analysis of the principal differences in ecclesiastical polity between us; and further, that each member seek to formulate a statement as to the biblical basis of the necessity of seeking such ecclesiastical union."

Humbly submitted,

Rev. N. J. Monsma, Pres.  
Rev. E. T. Lewis, Jr., Sec'y  
Rev. B. E. Pekelder  
Mr. P. Watzel

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 42

(Articles 148, 154, 172)

## SPECIAL ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORTS

DENOMINATIONAL QUOTAS AND CAUSES AS RECOMMENDED  
BY SPECIAL ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE

## I. DENOMINATIONAL CAUSES

A. *Denominational Quotas*

		PER FAMILY QUOTA		
	1959	1960	Recommended for 1961	Requested for 1961
1. Back to God Radio Hour.....	\$ 7.25	\$ 7.25	\$ 8.00	\$ 8.00
2. Calvin College and Seminary.....	14.00	15.00	15.00	15.00
3. Canadian Immigration Fund.....	.65	None	None	.25
4. Church Help Fund, Inc.....	.50	None	None	None
5. Fund for Needy Churches.....	5.78	5.25	5.25	5.25
6. Home Missions .....	15.67	15.67	17.20	18.09
a. Evangelism and church ex- tension in Canada and U.S. ....	\$16.87			
b. Jewish Missions .....	.33			
7. Indian and Foreign Missions.....	16.50	16.50	17.50	17.50
8. Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration .....	5.50	6.50	6.50	6.50
9. Synodical Expense Fund.....	.35	1.00	1.15	1.15
Ecumenical Synod Expense.....			.10	.10
	\$66.20	\$67.17	\$70.70	\$71.74

B. *Denominational Causes for One or More Offerings*

1. Back to God Radio Program
2. Synodical Tract Committee (Back to God Tract)
3. Christian Seamen's and Immigrants' Home
4. Korean Material Relief — Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference
5. Korean Spiritual Relief
6. Soldiers' Fund sponsored by Home Missions Committee
7. Sponsorship of foreign students

C. *Denominational Causes Recommended for Support*

1. Christian Reformed Resettlement Service
2. Canadian Relief Fund — Canadian Churches only

## II. CAUSES RECOMMENDED FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

A. *Benevolent Causes*

1. Bethany Christian Home
2. Bethesda Sanatorium
3. Christian Sanatorium at Goffle Hill

4. Christian School Employees' Relief Fund
5. Elim Christian Training School
6. Pine Rest Christian Association

B. *Educational Causes*

1. Dordt College
2. National Union of Christian Schools (General Fund)
3. Reformed Bible Institute
4. Trinity College
5. National Union of Christian Schools (Educational Foundation)  
By-pass this in 1961, due to extremely large reserves (\$176,000) and very little activity in relation to net worth.
6. Westminster Seminary — Committee feels that finances here are in better condition than ever before and therefore leaves the decision to Synod to place or not to place this cause on the list of those recommended for financial support.

C. *Evangelistic Causes*

1. Faith, Prayer, and Tract League

D. *Miscellaneous Causes*

1. American Bible Society (U.S. churches only)
2. British and Foreign Bible Society (Canadian churches only)
3. Calvinist Cadet Corps
4. Lord's Day Alliance in U.S. (U.S. churches only)  
For moral support only — see financial report of balances and investments. Compare resources with Canadian Lord's Day Alliance. When in need of financial support, we will reconsider.
5. Lord's Day Alliance in Canada (Canadian churches only)
6. World Home Bible League
7. Young Calvinist Federation of North America
8. Young Calvinist Servicemen's Fund
9. The Gideons (For Bible distribution only)
10. Calvinistic Action Committee (See Agenda)
11. Financially weak member churches of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod
12. National Christian Association

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 42-A

(Article 154)

## AMEND CHURCH HELP FUND RULES

Synod of 1959 referred to the Standing Advisory Budget Committee and Church Help Fund, Inc., in joint consultation, Overture 31 in order to present the Synod of 1960 with a definite recommendation (*Acts of Synod*, 1959, p. 96).

Overture 31 reads as follows:

Classis Rocky Mountain respectfully overtures Synod to amend Art. 2 of the Rules for the Church Help Fund to include in addition to the assistance offered weak congregations those congregations engaged in the purchase of properties and in the erection of church buildings in the field of home evangelism.

As its main argument for amending the Church Help Fund, Classis Rocky Mountain advances the following reason:

"Churches who receive 'special grants' for such purposes from Synod must wait from one to two years before aid is received. . . . This may greatly hinder the evangelistic program of those churches which need immediate help in obtaining the properties for their programs."

The Standing Advisory Budget Committee and the Church Help Fund Administration, in joint consultation, advise Synod to reject this overture as potentially too large a burden for the Church Help Fund to carry. We also fail to understand why the waiting period of one to two years is a handicap, provided there is proper advance planning. Finally, we wish to discourage the trend towards more and more interest-free money loaned from the "central government." Rather we are in favor of a church seeking help through and from its own Classis to conduct local mission work.

Accordingly the Standing Advisory Budget Committee and the Church Help Fund Administration, in joint consultation, advise Synod to reject Overture 31.

*Grounds:*

1. The Church Help Fund cannot carry additional demands upon it, unless augmented by annual quotas. Revolving funds available are thought to be just sufficient to make loans to churches in real need, insufficient to assist otherwise financially able churches in mission endeavors.

2. The waiting period of one to two years constitutes no handicap provided there is proper planning. Local churches very seldom decide on a mission program, then rush in at once to buy land and buildings. Actually, a waiting period is often desirable to guard against unsound conclusions, due to hasty actions. Local mission programs are usually begun in neighboring schools, local halls, or even in private homes. Accordingly,



where proper planning is in evidence, the waiting period is of little consequence.

3. We feel Synod should, in general, discourage "interest free" loans for local mission work. Upon analysis, the annual interest savings per family is very nominal, and the local congregation should be able to carry it easily.

Church Help Fund Committee and  
Standing Advisory Budget Committee

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 42-B

(Articles 154, 172)

# A PROPOSAL TO SYNOD OF 1960 FOR A UNIFIED APPEAL TO OUR CONSTITUENCY REGARDING "ABOVE QUOTA" REQUIREMENTS FOR MISSION CAUSES

Your Standing Advisory Budget Committee wishes to bring to Synod certain observations regarding the Foreign Missions Budget (recommended quota—\$17.50), and also regarding mission denominational finance policies in general.

In view of the fact that the Board of Foreign Missions is requesting authority to raise an additional \$201,000 to cover 1960 expenditures not previously provided for, either already incurred or expected to be incurred, the Board is confronted with a situation which, realistically, may be summed up as follows:

Proposed 1961 Budget .....	\$1,597,000
Proposed additional 1960 Expenditures .....	201,000
<hr/>	
Total amount budgeted .....	\$1,798,000
Amount expected from churches for salary support \$330,000	
Amount realizable from \$17.50 quota based on 46,000 full-paying families .....	805,000
Amount realizable from special gifts, collections, bequests, etc., under normal circumstances, based on past experience .....	225,000
<hr/>	
	1,360,000
<hr/>	
	\$ 438,000
Deduct average normal gap between budget requests and actual expenditures based on past experience (15%) .....	270,000
<hr/>	
Shortage to be obtained by more intensive propaganda and solicitation .....	\$ 168,000

From the above it is evident that the Foreign Missions Board must raise some \$400,000 by means of collections, special gifts, bequests, etc. This is no small undertaking, and coupled with the fact that in future years, in order to keep quota within bounds and acceptable to families of average means, constantly increasing amounts will have to be raised "above quota," something special is called for.

The Foreign Missions Board proposes, as part of its 1961 budget, to spend \$12,000 in salaries to draw up attractive, descriptive literature of its varied, far-flung activities, to obtain material for a film and for audio-visual education. Moneys will also have to be spent for paper, printing, film and distribution. If say, \$25,000 so spent, could effect the collection of some \$400,000, the cost indeed is relatively low and we can hardly object to the expenditure. Mission stimulus thus obtained alone will justify the cost.

What we are concerned about, however, is the effect such special campaigns will have on other mission causes, such as Home Missions and the Back-to-God Radio Hour.

Both Foreign Missions and the Radio Hour have, in the past, been allowed by Synod to ask for one or more collections in the churches. This year, for the first time, Home Missions is asking for the same privilege. There would seem to be no good reason why Synod should withhold permission from Home Missions to raise some \$75,000 for Indian and Mexican migrant work over and above its recommended quota of \$17.50.

Denominational Home Missions is a worthy and fast growing enterprise, with an unlimited future. Hopefully, the day will come that it rivals in scope of activity and manpower our present constantly expanding Foreign Missions Program. In order to keep the denominational Home Missions quota down to reasonable size, resort will inevitably be had to increased "above quota" funds. In time, to achieve its financial needs, the Home Missions Board will have to distribute literature, films, etc. This is bound to lead to intra-denominational competition to obtain the Lord's dollar, and that of the keenest type. Already some consistories have switched financial support from Foreign Missions to Home Missions. Increased propaganda activity by one cause will be met by additional propaganda from another. Resentments are bound to arise. The dignity of all causes will suffer to the hurt of some and in the final analysis, to the benefit of none.

In order to face this very evident possibility at the outset, your Standing Advisory Budget Committee comes to Synod with the request that Synod appoint a committee from its midst to study the feasibility and advisability to make appeal to our people for "above quota" needs under one fund, such as *"The United Missions Fund of the Christian Reformed Church."* Literature attractively illustrating the activities and needs of Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and the Back-to-God Hour could be distributed. A denominationally sponsored film could embody all these causes. Speakers for all three, though emphasizing their own activities, could issue their appeal in the name of the United Missions Fund. Proceeds would be deposited in one bank account, to be distributed according to actual need by successive Synods on recommendation of a specially appointed Synodical Committee, in consultation with representatives of the Boards in question.

Specially designated funds would go to particular causes named but undesignated amounts could be allocated to balance the actual needs of all three participating mission causes.

Such a system, it seems to us, would be a most dignified, very proper, and assuredly also a most excellent way to obtain needed moneys, some of which today find their way to causes entirely unrelated to our denominational endeavors.

It would also make possible a unified approach to our people, which would eliminate the constant anxiety by the Boards in question for the collection of needed "above quota" finances, for which they now hold themselves solely responsible. That this is not just an imaginary thing

can be seen from the huge \$400,000 "above quota" needed by Foreign Missions in 1961.

Finally, granted the right approach, a unified denominational appeal, supervised by able men, should yield sums measurably larger than obtained by "going it alone." Our people are most willing and there are, as yet, many untapped resources.

The above does not pretend to be an exhaustive summary of organizational possibilities and methods, but is merely suggestive in content and outline. Many questions present themselves to which the proposed Study Committee should address itself.

Accordingly, we earnestly recommend to Synod of 1960 the serious study of the proposal contained herein.

Respectfully submitted,

The Standing Advisory Budget Committee

Wm. H. Boer, Chairman

Frank J. Dieleman, Secretary

George Kamp

George Wieland

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 42-C

(Article 154)

## APPEAL OF REV. DE ROOY

In submitting to Synod, in collaboration with the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration, a revised set of rules for the Ministers' Pension and Relief Fund, your Standing Advisory Budget Committee wishes to inform Synod that the current one-year grace period for admission to membership in the Ministers' Pension Fund (and the revision of that rule as now proposed) is approved by us for purposes of administration only. We do not believe that the one-year rule (or its revision) should govern this Synod, or future Synods in judging appeals from ministers for admission to the Ministers' Pension Fund.

There is before the Synod the request of the Rev. De Rooy to be allowed membership in the Ministers' Pension Fund.

In 1940 Synod passed a rule that all those desiring the benefits of the Ministers' Pension Fund must within one year from the beginning of their ministry begin payments to the fund. Presumably this rule was passed to facilitate the administration of the fund. On basis of this rule, no minister can become a member of the fund once the year of grace has expired.

Regarding the desirability of membership in the Ministers' Pension Fund, there is no doubt whatever that the benefits of this fund paid for 75% by the constituency, cannot be duplicated elsewhere on basis of the 25% paid by the ministers. Nothing even remotely approaching its benefits is known to our committee. Yet some ministers have been of the opinion that they could do better elsewhere only to find out to their sorrow that this is not the case. Others, initially, have felt no need of this fund, or, for financial reasons, postponed membership, only to regret their action later on. Again, others have pleaded ignorance of the rules, though administrative notifications during the first year leave them without even a semblance of excuse. On basis of the "one-year" rule, these men, having passed the grace period, cannot partake of the benefits of the fund. Their only recourse now is an appeal to Synod, an appeal which can offer only one possible excuse: "We have made a mistake, please take us in."

What attitude should this Synod, or any future Synod, manifest in regard to such appeals? Should Synod take its stand on the one-year rule, thereby condemning to a very bleak financial future a minister who frankly confesses to having made a mistake? Or, should Synod give the widest, most merciful interpretation to the words of Article 13:

"and the Church which they have served shall provide honorably for them in their need (likewise for the orphans and widows of the ministers), out of a common fund of the churches, according to the general ecclesiastical ordinances in this matter?"

Your committee has faced this question frankly and, we believe, fairly. Though we believe the one-year rule to be advisable as a directive to the

administrators of the fund, and one from which they cannot depart, we are of the opinion that this rule does not do full justice to the spirit of the Church Order, as above quoted. Though necessary for administrative purposes, we do not believe that Synod should take the rule as its sole guide, but that there should be a wideness of understanding and mercy in Synod's judgment.

For it may be argued that an insurance company is always willing to insure a man, provided his health permits and he is able to meet the cost. Health being no consideration in the Ministers' Pension Fund, meeting the cost is really all that counts. Therefore we hold that if a minister offers to pay up his arrearage at 6% interest, moral considerations dictate that his mistake be forgiven, that his appeal to Synod be sustained, and that thereby he be relieved of a great anxiety which, if not removed, could progressively seriously impair his effectiveness as a minister of Jesus Christ.

Accordingly we invoke the spirit of the Church Order and the mercy of the Master in urging Synod to recognize no exclusions from this fund for the mere lack of having exercised an option, always provided no despite is done to the financial welfare of the fund. To do otherwise is to make a fetish of a synodical rule and condemn a minister to perhaps a lifetime of anxiety because of an error in financial judgment.

We recommend that the appeal of the Rev. De Rooy be sustained and that he be admitted to membership in the Ministers' Pension Fund upon payment of arrearage at 6% interest.

*Grounds:*

1. The mistake of not having exercised membership option in the allotted time should not permanently bar a minister from such membership (provided payment of arrearage is made at 6% interest).
2. Health being no factor, no damage whatsoever has been done to the financial welfare of the fund upon payment of arrearage at interest.
3. The spirit of the Church Order and the mercy of the Master demand it.

Respectfully submitted,

The Standing Advisory Budget Committee

Wm. H. Boer, Chairman

Frank J. Dieleman, Secretary

George Kamp

George Wieland

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 42-D

(Article 154)

## ACCOUNTING SYSTEM OF BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

Synod of 1959 instructed the Standing Advisory Budget Committee to study the request of the Board of Foreign Missions to change its accounting system so that all receipts and disbursements be administered from a single fund. (*Acts of Synod*, 1959, VIII, Foreign Missions, Pages 56 - B4)

*Recommendations adopted, to be forwarded to Synod:*

1. That permission be granted to adjust our accounting system so that all receipts and disbursements be administered from a single fund.

*Grounds:*

a. This will provide opportunity for the board to use extra funds which may accumulate in one fund to offset the deficit in another.

b. This will simplify the presentation of finances to board and Synod, and thereby remove the current confusion. This has been repeatedly requested by the last several Synods.

c. Capital expenditures will be more tightly controlled by budgeting.

d. This is urgently recommended by our auditors.

2. That solicitation of special gifts be continued in these categories:

a. Miscellaneous - undesignated.

b. Designated for a field.

c. Specified for item or project.

d. Legacies.

*Grounds:*

1) By means of continued and more intensive promotion the increased special gifts will contribute to reduced quotas.

2) Donors to specific causes will not feel that gifts are "dissipated" or "lost" in the general fund.

3) Various fields will receive the moneys intended for them.

4) In this way the board can call attention to various specific needs as they arise.

3. That solicitation of greater support from the churches through increased participation, including not only salaries, but travel expense and equipment grants as well be encouraged.

*Grounds:*

a. This will contribute to reduced quotas. In 1958 the amount received from supporting churches was the equivalent of approximately \$5 per family.

b. This will permit the securing of additional funds from churches who can more easily afford to contribute over and above quotas.

c. With broader participation, interest in missions will be stimulated on the congregational level.

4. That support by quotas be continued. The entire Church should be responsible for and continue to underwrite the denominational mission program.

The Standing Advisory Budget Committee concurs wholeheartedly with the recommendations of the Board of Foreign Missions in regard to the changes proposed and adopts as its own recommendation to Synod of 1960 the recommendation of the Board of Foreign Missions as attached to and made part of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

The Standing Advisory Budget Committee



**SUPPLEMENT NO. 42-E**

(Article 154)

**THE BACK-TO-GOD HOUR****ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

Your Standing Synodical Advisory Budget Committee recommends to your body the adoption of the following recommendations made by the firm of Certified Public Accountants, Wynn M. Wagner & Co., in their covering letter accompanying the audit report for the year ended December 31, 1959.

**Concerning internal control**

1. The receipts that are issued to contributors should be prenumbered at the time that they are printed. These prenumbered receipts should then be issued for every item of cash received and in the order that the items are listed on the remittance sheets.
2. The remittance sheets should bear both signatures of the individuals counting and listing the cash receipts.
3. The mail should be picked up from the post office each morning by two individuals.

Respectfully submitted,

The Standing Advisory Budget Committee

Frank J. Dieleman, Secretary

SUPPLEMENT NO. 43  
(Articles 101, 172)BELGIC CONFESSION REVISION  
(*Majority Report*)

## ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Synod of 1958 appointed the study committee of the undersigned to the task of studying the two reports concerning the redactional modifications of the Belgic Confession (Majority Report, see *Acts*, 1957, pp. 146-150; Minority Report, see *Acts*, 1957, pp. 150-152), and gave the committee the mandate "to come to the next (1959) Synod with definite recommendations."

## HISTORY OF THE CASE

We wish to begin this report by reviewing the main facts in the history of the alleged inaccuracies and proposed alterations.

In 1952 the Calvin Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids presented an overture to Synod asking Synod "to study the weight and relevancy" of certain objections raised by a member of the church against specified expressions in the Belgic Confession. The Synod of 1952 appointed a committee to do what the overture requested. This committee reported to the Synod of 1954, recommending five changes in the reading of the Confession. Both a Majority and a Minority report appeared. The Minority report differed from the Majority in only one recommendation. The Synod of 1954, however, did not go into any detailed discussion of these reports, but rather decided to confer in the matter of the proposed changes with the sister churches which attribute binding authority to the Belgic Confession and to continue the study committee to carry out the decision of Synod (*Acts*, 1954, Art. 163, p. 103). In 1955 no report appeared from the study committee. In 1956 Synod adopted the recommendation "That the Committee for Revision of the Belgic Confession distribute their reports of 1954 to the consistories for study as soon as possible" (*Acts*, 1956, p. 92). In 1957 Synod adopted the recommendation to "adopt no changes in the confession without prior consultation with other Reformed Churches holding the same confession" (*Acts*, 1957, Art. 160, p. 96). The Synod of 1957 also appointed a new study committee and gave to it the following task.

a. "To consider whether such modifications in the Belgic Confession as have been proposed in the majority and minority report of 1957 should be made.

b. "To invite our sister churches to appoint similar committees to respond to any redactional modifications which our committee should deem commendable.

c. "To report to Synod the redactional modifications (if any) which it in common consent with its corresponding committees deems advisable" (*Acts*, 1957, p. 96).

The new study committee, appointed in 1957, reported to the Synod of 1958. It had not fulfilled its mandate, and made the plea that the mandate placed it in an embarrassing position. It did not feel that it could correspond with the sister churches and ask them to appoint study committees to consider certain proposed modifications until Synod declare, first of all, whether any changes are necessary, and, if so, secondly, what these changes should be. The report of the new study committee stated that Synod, in its caution not to adopt any changes in the reading of the creed, refrained even from declaring what changes were feasible or necessary. Not one church body, consistory, classis, or Synod, had made any such declaration. The committee felt that Synod had a task to perform before the committee could carry out its mandate of corresponding with other churches.

The committee appointed by the Synod of 1957 recommended to the Synod of 1958 the following:

1. "That Synod, on the basis of the objections brought by the elder of the Calvin Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids to the Synod of 1952 and the reports brought by the study committee to the Synod of 1954 (This report has already been distributed to our consistories) take action and declare whether or not any alterations are feasible and necessary. It is necessary for Synod to take this first step before conferring with sister churches.

2. "Because *final* formulation should not be adopted without consultation with sister churches holding the same confession, Synod, in the event that it declare a need for a change, confer with sister churches in this matter. This might more properly be done by the stated clerk."

The Synod of 1958 declared that some alterations in the Belgic Confession may be feasible and necessary, and committed the whole matter to a (third) study committee (*Acts*, 1958, p. 31).

#### MANDATE

The Synod of 1958 decided to commit both Majority and Minority Reports to a study committee to come to the next (1959) Synod with definite recommendations. Your committee understands its mandate to mean that it should deal only with the suggested revisions. Its task is therefore not to revise the Confession, nor even to consider any other suggested alterations than those contained in the two reports of 1954.

#### APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM

The entire matter of the redactional modifications came before Synod in the form of objections against specific passages of the Confession. There are three possible approaches to the problem. 1. That we submit the Confession to a thorough revision in order to make it up to date. Your committee does not follow this approach because it is not warranted by the mandate of Synod. 2. That we re-edit and revise the Confession only in so far as this is necessitated by the misunderstandings which the text of the Confession has caused. Such re-editing and revision will be limited only to the passages against which valid objections have been

raised: 3. That we retain the confession as it is and present a reasoned statement why no alterations should be made in the text of the creed.

Your committee believes that the second approach is correct. Synod has already declared that some changes may be feasible and necessary. The need of making some changes is substantiated by the fact that the present text may give occasion to misunderstanding and may even say in some instances what we do not want it to say. By common consent, the confession should speak meaningfully to our times, both to those within and to those without the church.

#### SUGGESTED ALTERATIONS

In regard to the various disputed points your committee recommends:

1. That Article IV, paragraph 2, read as follows: "The books of the Old Testament are Genesis, Exodus, etc." and "Those of the New Testament are Matthew, Mark, Luke, etc."

##### *Ground:*

a. This alteration does not in any way change the teaching of the Confession. It is only an editorial modification.

b. This alteration will remove the objections against the Confession that Paul may not have been the author of Hebrews, and that the book of Lamentations is omitted.

2. That I John 5:7 be omitted from Article IX as a proof text to prove the existence of the Trinity.

##### *Ground:*

It is inadvisable to seek to substantiate the important doctrine of the Trinity by a highly disputable text. It must be remembered that Article IV states that "nothing may be alleged" against the canonical books. By appealing to this text as a proof for the existence of the Trinity, the Confession implies that nothing can be alleged against this text. What is true of the whole must also be true of all of the parts.

3. That Article XV be altered so that the word *regeneration* be substituted for the word *baptism*.

##### *Grounds:*

The intention of the confession is to teach that regeneration does not altogether abolish or wholly eradicate original sin. The use of the word *baptism* must be understood as an instance of sacramental language. While the use of sacramental language is not always undesirable, it is not warranted to use it when it gives rise to serious misunderstanding. The message of the confession should be unmistakably clear.

4. That Article XXXV remain unchanged.

##### *Grounds:*

a. The proposed reading of the Minority Report is unacceptable.

It proceeds on the assumption that the teaching of the Confession is not the teaching of the church today. It proposes a reading that fails to

give adequate expression of the fulness and the reality of Christ's presence in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. This proposed reading of the Minority Report does not do justice to the teaching of John 6.

b. The proposed reading of the Majority Report is not an appreciable improvement over the present text of the confession. It does not meet the objection of the protestant. Virtually the same objections that are brought against "proper and natural body" can be brought against "own body."

c. There is no evidence that the present reading of the Confession has given difficulty to more than one person.

5. That Article XXXVI be altered so that the last paragraph read: "Wherefore we reject seditious people and in general all those who reject the higher powers and magistrates . . ."

*Grounds:*

a. The English word *detest* can hardly be called the equivalent of the French *detestons*. This French word can more properly be translated *reject*. The Dutch translation of 1562 has *verwerpen*, not *verfoeien*.

b. The word *Anabaptists* does not appear in the original version of 1561.

c. It is ethically wrong to incriminate a whole group of people with an error with which they are perhaps only incidentally associated.

In regard to the method of procedure, your committee suggests:

1. That Synod provisionally accept the recommended changes listed above.

2. That our Stated Clerk be instructed to inform our sister churches of our action and ask them to correspond with our church, informing us of their reactions. This is in general the procedure which the Gereformeerde Kerken followed in the proposed change in Article XXXVI.

3. That Synod bring this whole matter to the attention of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod in 1963.

4. That Synod declare that this constitutes its answer to the overture of the Calvin Christian Reformed Church of Grand Rapids, 1952.

Respectfully submitted,

Tenis C. Van Kooten, Chairman

Paul G. Schrotenboer, Secretary

**BELGIC CONFESSION REVISION**

*(Minority Report)*

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Unfortunately I find myself in rather basic disagreement with the position taken in the Majority Report. Therefore I submit to you this Minority Report as an alternative to the recommendations offered in the Majority Report.

## INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

It should be understood that the Majority and Minority present jointly the sections of the Majority Report entitled "History of the Case," "Mandate," and the analysis contained under the heading "Approach to the Problem." Our differences arise, however, out of the conclusions drawn from this analysis. Whereas the Majority takes the *second* approach mentioned, the Minority follows the *third* approach, namely that whenever a historical-textual approach to the Confession offers satisfactory answers to objections raised, the Confession should not be subjected to redactional modifications. Materially, our real differences reveal themselves in connection with the section entitled "Suggested Alterations." Naturally the Minority is pleased to endorse Recommendation 4 of the Majority Report, though upon somewhat different grounds.

Your present Study Committee was given the mandate to present to you *definite* recommendations. With a certain reluctance, therefore, I submit this separate report, since this once again throws the question back into a somewhat *indefinite* status. It is motivated, however, by the conviction that the Majority Report does not serve our best interests as a confessional church, and will not be favorably received by our sister churches who with us ascribe binding authority to this Confession.

## RECOMMENDATION

Therefore I recommend that Synod do not accede to the suggested alterations. This recommendation is prompted by the following considerations:

First, the demand for incidental corrections in the Confession suggests a too literalistic approach to the Confession. It presupposes that at present we can no longer endorse this Confession wholeheartedly. This presupposition, I submit, is contrary to fact, and this approach contrary to the real genius of the Confession.

Secondly, by common consent, the proposed modification of disputed passages means at best a patch-work approach to the Confession. It fails to touch the heart of the real question, namely: How shall we approach the Confession to gain a proper understanding of it? Of necessity it is peripheral and occasionalistic, and offers no real promise of resolving in a lasting way the many problems of interpretation existent in the Confession. Each new objection raised becomes the occasion for possible new patch-work. This approach, if carried out consistently, could in time make of the Belgic Confession a barely recognizable polyglot of emendations.

Thirdly, he who criticises the Confession must be prepared to assume the burden of proof. The Majority Report, I submit, falls short in discharging this weighty obligation. Accordingly its suggested alterations lack sufficient grounds for adoption.

Fourthly, by common consent, the Confession is intended to speak meaningfully to its readers. In my judgment, the Confession still approaches this high criterion, though admittedly 400 years does make a difference. But even if it should be failing today in this respect, the

suggested alterations of the Majority Report offer no sound corrective for this deficiency.

Fifthly, and most importantly, I submit that a historical-textual approach to the Confession will provide satisfactory answers to the objections raised. By keeping the Belgic Confession in its proper historical context and by applying to it sound exegetical methods the difficulties indicated in the Majority Report can be greatly alleviated, if not entirely removed, and at any rate satisfactorily explained.

#### CONCLUDING REMARKS

If at some time it should become generally felt that the Belgic Confession in its present form no longer speaks meaningfully to our times, and if dissatisfaction with it in redactional matters should become widespread, and if the need for clarification should become clearly evident, then perhaps a total revision should be considered. In my judgment the time for this is not yet ripe.

Returning in conclusion to the three possible approaches to the problem, I have sought to indicate that the FIRST is premature, that the SECOND (that of the Majority Report) is too objectionable in view of a much better way, and therefore that the THIRD offers the greatest promise of a satisfactory solution.

Hence my recommendation to retain the Belgic Confession in its present form.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon J. Spykman

## SUPPLEMENT NO. 44

(Articles 12, 13, 45, 63, 116, 158, 172)

REPORT OF THE SYNODICAL COMMITTEE  
AND OF THE STATED CLERK*To the Synod of 1960*

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

*A. Report of the Synodical Committee*

1. Due to the departure of Rev. John Piersma and his alternate, Rev. B. Den Herder, to other fields of labor, Classis Alberta North requested approval of the appointment of Rev. H. Van Dyken to serve as the member of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary. Your committee approved the request, and notified Rev. Van Dyken of his appointment.

2. Classis Alberta South requested that Rev. A. Kuyvenhoven be appointed to serve as alternate delegate member of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary, especially in view of the fact that the primus delegate member of the Board would not be able to attend the Spring meeting. Your committee concurred in this appointment.

3. Your committee also was requested to approve the appointment of Rev. P. Hoekstra as the primus delegate of the Board of Foreign Missions, and Rev. H. Bouma as the alternate delegate.

4. In response to the request of the stated clerk of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church to appoint a fraternal delegate to attend the General Assembly of said church scheduled to meet July 13 at Manhattan Beach, California, Rev. Peter Van Tuinen was appointed and by letter expressed his willingness to serve as the fraternal delegate.

5. Rev. Maas Vander Bilt, appointed to serve as the fraternal delegate to the General Assembly of the Korean Presbyterian Church, was unable to attend because of furlough arrangements. Also due to severe ecclesiastical strife among the Korean Presbyterian brethren it was impossible for us to assign one of our missionaries in Japan to serve in this capacity. General Assembly meetings were called on very short notice in February, and the next one is scheduled to meet in September. However, Rev. Bruinooge expects to be engaged in soldier retreat work in Korea in the near future and will also be requested to attend the General Assembly meeting and furnish firsthand information as to the ecclesiastical situation and provide firsthand information as to the relief work.

6. The secretary of our committee was invited as a guest of the Dutch government through its Commissioner for Emigration to meet in the Netherlands with a number of government officials, our own American embassy officials in behalf of our Voluntary Agency, the Christian Resettlement Service Committee. Details of this work are given in the Agenda report No. 24. In connection with this visit I was requested also to bring official greetings as the fraternal delegate to the



Synod of the Gereformeerde Kerken assembled in the city of Utrecht. The first meetings of this Synod began in June and final adjournment came in April of 1960. It is needless to say that we in this country would not be able to conduct Synod meetings in this leisurely fashion extending over a span of 10 months with frequent periods of recess to await the product of an advisory committee. The highlight of this Synod touched especially upon the renewed attempt at merger between the Gereformeerde Kerken and the Liberated Churches. To promote such a merger the fourth point of the Utrecht Conclusions as reformulated by the Synod of 1946 was cancelled and declared to be no longer binding. It should be borne in mind, however, that the Synod did not say that the decision of 1946 was unscriptural and for that reason was declared no longer binding. Only time will be able to tell what the net effect will be of this far-reaching decision. The Synod was also deeply concerned with our methodology of Home Missions work and evangelization, and to the best of my ability I furnished them with facts and figures.

I am deeply grateful for the honor to have been the guest of the Synod of our sister church and I was deeply touched by their Dutch hospitality and synodical "gezelligheid." To render this service was without cost to our church, and the Dutch government assumed the cost of my transportation.

7. Requests came to our committee soon after the terrible typhoon disaster which struck Korea and Japan to assist in the work of mercy for the stricken victims, and your committee lost no time in setting the wheels in motion to solicit funds for this worthy cause of mercy. The Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference undertook its assignment with much fervor and our people responded in a wonderful way to the appeals made in both *The Banner* and *De Wachter*. We wish to thank the editors of both papers for their wonderful help in this great project of Christian mercy. A complete report appears in the Agenda report No. 15.

8. The President of our Seminary drafted a letter of appeal and requested the endorsement of our committee to solicit funds from all the diaconates of our churches in behalf of the Rip family. A few details may not be amiss at this point. Mr. Rip was a Middler Seminarian, father of a large family, and became the victim of the dread disease of cancer. The request of the President of the Seminary was if it would be possible to set up some kind of a trust fund for this family to be administered by either the Sherman street consistory or the consistory of Oak Harbor, Washington in a manner similar to the per annum allowance granted by the Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration. Your committee, though deeply touched by the situation, could not approve of the proposal to provide relief for the Rip family, but suggested that the matter be adjudicated on the local level of consistory and classis.

The consistory of the Sherman Street Christian Reformed church presented an overture to Classis Grand Rapids East, but the Classis did not endorse the overture, "to establish a special fund to supply the late Student J. Rip's family with as much support as the Ministers' Pension Fund would supply had the brother been ordained." Classis Grand

Rapids East, however, did permit the Sherman street consistory to request Synod to be permitted to ask all the diaconates of our churches for contributions to an aid fund for the family," cf. Art. 26, Minutes of Classis Grand Rapids East, May, 1960. Also the Oak Harbor consistory endorsed the petition of the Sherman street consistory, and both communications appear before this Synod. Synod will have to determine whether the plan proposed by the Synodical Committee or the one proposed by the Sherman street and Oak Harbor consistories is the policy to pursue (See Communications Nos. 5 and 6).

9. The two-year terms of the members of the committee expire at this time.

Humbly submitted,

Rev. G. Hoeksema

Rev. J. K. Van Baalen

Rev. J. C. Verbrugge

Dr. R. J. Danhof, Sec'y

#### *B. The Report of the Stated Clerk*

1. This Synod will have the pleasure to welcome Dr. H. Mulder, pastor of the Gereformeerde Kerk of Delft, as the fraternal delegate of the "Gereformeerde Kerken" of the Netherlands. His wife will also be our guest.

Prof. Dr. John Murray will be present as the fraternal delegate of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church.

2. All standing and study committees and their personnel were duly informed of their appointments soon after the Synod of 1959 adjourned.

3. Protestants filing appeals to the Synod of 1959 were properly notified of the decisions taken.

4. The Synod of 1959 elected Rev. John A. De Kruyter as the Executive Secretary of Home Missions, but after due deliberations he notified me by letter of his inability to accept the proffered appointment. A letter of call was then submitted to the alternate chosen by the Synod of 1959, Rev. Arnold Brink, but he also stated in a letter that he did not feel free to leave the pastorate of the Burton Heights Christian Reformed Church.

5. The Synod of 1959 tendered an appointment to Dr. D. L. Van Halsema to serve as the Minister of Evangelism, and in a letter dated July 20, 1959, he stated that he had accepted the appointment to this newly-established post in our denomination.

6. Mr. C. Van Malsen also indicated his willingness to continue his services as treasurer for the Board of Home Missions to which the Synod of 1959 had elected him.

7. By means of much correspondence with the Secretary of State and also the American Consulate in Toronto the status of American ministers serving churches in Canada was clarified. This entire matter appeared to have been based on a misunderstanding created by the announcement

appearing in our church papers that one of our ministers could not entertain a call to one of our vacant Canadian churches and at the same time preserve his American citizenship.

8. The Synod of 1959 requested me to inform the Hon. Mr. Neil McElroy, Secretary of Defense, of our decision in regard to Sunday training in the U.S. Armed Forces. The substance of the letter to be sent to Mr. McElroy appears on pages 41, 42, of the Acts of 1959. Since Classis Kalamazoo re-submits the same overture once again to this Synod (cf. Overture No. 8, Agenda, p. 226) I deem it incumbent to read the entire letter of reply given by the Department of Defense.

9. A letter from Candidate Mr. John Dykstra requesting advice as to the necessary steps he should take to annul his candidacy for the gospel ministry as required by our Church Order I referred with an accompanying letter to Classis Rocky Mountain. Said Classis now presents this matter to you in a communication, No. 3.

10. Mr. George L. Ford, Executive Director of the National Association of Evangelicals, kindly requests this Synod to grant him the privilege to send Dr. Herbert S. Mekeel, President of the NAE, to briefly address this assembly. In connection with this request we call your attention to Agenda Report No. 35, Ecumenicity and Inter-church Correspondence, recommending that Synod accede to this request for the reasons stated on page 220 of the Agenda. It is incumbent for Synod to take action at an early date so that Dr. Mekeel can be properly notified of your decision.

11. I sent a letter of greetings to the General Synod of the New Zealand Reformed Churches which met for a number of days in March of 1959. The letter of greeting was voiced by our own loaned New Zealand minister, Rev. Richard J. Venema.

12. A number of requests have come from consistories who take exception to the repeated requests for financial assistance from the Boechout School met de Bijbel in Belgium. Requests for clarification were given to these inquiries and also to the treasurer of the Boechout School. The fact of the matter is that one Synod decided to support this institution for one year, and that at the expiration of one year the school would no longer be entitled to a place on the accredited list of recommended causes for financial support.

13. A number of items have come to this Synod requesting your consideration which are in violation of the Rules for Synodical Procedure adopted by the Synod of 1959. The officers of Synod will be requested to pass on these matters before submitting them to Synod.

14. The Church World Service in a special letter and also by means of a lengthy telegram requests the assistance of our Synod in the work of mercy in the disaster area of Chile.

15. Also a special request for financial assistance has come from Calvin College of the Korean Presbyterian Church located in Pusan, to aid in the amount of \$300 per month.

16. The term of the stated clerk expires at the end of August, 1960.

Humbly submitted,

R. J. Danhof, Stated Clerk

## OVERTURES

### No. 1 — Organization of New Classis

Classis Kalamazoo concurring with the suggestion of Classis Grand Rapids East for the organization of a new classis to be composed of the churches of Eastern Michigan and Ohio, petitions Synod for the organization of such a classis and requests the transfer of the churches of Cleveland-Eastside; Cleveland-Westside; Columbus; Maple Heights; Willard, Ohio, and Jackson, Michigan, to such a classis. With such a transfer these churches are in agreement.

#### *Grounds:*

1. Geographically these churches form a natural area with Detroit as its center.
2. Most of the churches face similar problems generally being located in non-Christian communities.
3. Presently many of these churches already coöperate in such projects as youth activity.
4. The number of churches in Classes Grand Rapids East and Kalamazoo warrants such a re-alignment.

Classis Kalamazoo,  
Rev. Edward Joling, S. C.

### No. 2 — Administration of Baptism and Art. 56, C.O.

Classis Chatham overtures Synod to declare that the administration of baptism on one Sunday in the month is in conflict with the spirit and the letter of Article 56 of the Church Order and to urge the churches which have introduced this practice to abandon it, and to request the classes by means of their church visitors to see to it that the churches also in this respect live according to the rule of the Church Order which they have adopted with common consent.

#### *Grounds:*

1. It is clear that the expression in Article 56 of the Church Order: "as soon as the administration thereof is feasible," warns against unnecessary delay by the parents as well as by the consistories. In every "public assembly when the Word of God is preached" the opportunity should be given to administer the sacrament of baptism to the children of the covenant.
2. It is a well-known fact that there are consistories which encourage the administration of baptism on a stated Sunday of the month.

Classis Chatham,  
Rev. S. Cooper, S. C.

### No. 3 — Proposed Improvement in Synodical Procedure

Classis Chatham overtures Synod to make the following changes in synodical procedure regarding the advisory committees serving during the sessions of Synod. Classis submits its proposal in two parts: I. The Problem, and II. The Recommendations to Synod.

### I. The Problem

Every year the work of Synod increases because of the growth of the churches. The material presented to Synod 1959 consisted of 48 reports, 60 overtures, and 6 protests, amounting to 449 printed pages.

The delegates of Synod usually receive the agenda which contains most of the material about six weeks before Synod. They are obligated to study it as much as possible. However, it is impossible to make a thorough study of all the problems facing Synod under the present circumstances. In its first session Synod customarily appoints advisory committees "for the purpose of facilitating the work of Synod" (Acts 1900, art. 5, p. 6). The delegates appointed to these committees have the task to study thoroughly all matters assigned to them. They have to scrutinize all the reports of study committees and boards or to consider overtures and protests. They must examine recommendations of study committees or boards in the light of Scripture, the Confessions, the Church Order, and previous synodical decisions. Moreover, they are obligated to make a report of their work and to present it with their own recommendations to Synod. All this is necessary in order to serve Synod with good and responsible advice. It is clear that the advisory committees are very important agencies for the work of Synod. And their work becomes more important as the number of delegates to Synod increases. A Synod comprised of 120 delegates, meeting for two weeks, cannot discuss thoroughly the problems on the floor and needs the wise and well-grounded counsel of its advisory committees. They are the channels through which the Synod acts in its own responsibility. Study committees may never take the place of the advisory committees. Study committees appointed by a previous Synod can only study a certain matter and serve a following Synod with their studies. However, the Synod which has to decide on a particular matter, needs, besides such studies, the advice of its own responsible agencies, i.e. the advisory committees. These committees may be served by the work of the study committees, but they have their own responsibility within the framework of Synod. The better the preparatory work of the advisory committee, the better Synod can do its work.

The time allotted to these committees during the sessions of Synod is very short. The members individually and jointly can consider and discuss the matters assigned to them only for several hours. And, as stated above, they are not able to study the entire agenda in a thorough way before Synod meets. The result is that the work of these committees cannot be as it ought to be. Here are only two examples from the Synod of 1959:

(a) The revised Home Missions Order was presented to Synod and accepted without any discussion, despite the fact that the advisory committee for home mission matters did not serve Synod with the kind of advice which gave evidences of a careful examination of the revision.

(b) The revised Form for the Lord's Supper, drafted by a study committee, was presented to Synod and sent to the churches for use in the worship services for four years, despite the fact that the advisory committee appointed to serve Synod with advice did not show any evidence of having studied this revised form. This also explains one of the grounds for this synodical decision: "that this is the wise procedure being employed by our sister church in the Netherlands" (Acts 1959, art. 177), which is simply contrary to fact. The Synod of our sister church gave the draft of the study committee to an advisory committee, which then *studied* the draft for *several weeks*, and then presented its *report* and recommendations to Synod. And then after a *discussion* on the floor of Synod, and after *many changes* were made, the Synod finally came to a tentative approval of the revised form and sent it to the churches for provisional use. How very different from what our Synod did!

The fact that our advisory committees sometimes must work so hastily and superficially is very harmful to Synod, and puts the Synod in constant danger of making immature decisions.

The question now arises whether there could be found a better method for the advisory committees, to give them more time for relaxed concentration and to ensure mature advice. Our churches cannot apply the procedure followed by our sister church in the Netherlands. There the Synod meets first for a single day, on which the work is divided among the appointed advisory committees. After this first day Synod is adjourned for many weeks. In this period the advisory committees meet in order to discuss the matters assigned to them. The reports they prepare are sent to all the delegates of Synod. When the Synod comes together again the reports and recommendations of the advisory committees are discussed on the floor. And the entire report of the advisory committee also appears in the *Acts*, in addition to the decision that Synod makes. This procedure cannot be applied in our churches because of the distance and expense involved.

Classis Chatham considered another method which could be applied very easily in our churches, without increasing synodical expense to a large extent. Our suggested method follows:

The synodical committee, comprised of three members and the stated clerk (ex officio), could meet at the earliest time after the delegates to Synod are appointed by the various classes and after the material for the agenda has been sent in. It could then make a provisional classification of the material and it could divide it tentatively among the various delegates to Synod. These delegates, besides making a general survey and study of all the matters of the agenda, would have to consider in particular the material assigned to them by the synodical committee. The authority of Synod to appoint its own advisory committees may not be curtailed whatsoever. For that reason the classification of the synodical matters and their assignment to the delegates are tentative. At its first meeting Synod appoints the advisory committees with their chairmen and reporters by means of the program committee, which shall take into account the provisional work of the synodical committee. Synod through its program committee has the liberty to make changes if this is profitable.

In this way the members of the advisory committees can be better orientated regarding matters assigned to them for advice and their work can be more profitable for Synod.

## II. Recommendations:

1. Synod authorize the synodical committee to make a provisional classification of the synodical material and to divide it tentatively among the appointed delegates as soon as their names and the material for the Agenda is known.

2. The delegates, in addition to a general study of the entire agenda, are obligated to consider thoroughly the matters assigned to them by the synodical committee with a view to a possible appointment to an advisory committee which will serve Synod with advice regarding those matters.

3. Synod itself shall appoint the advisory committees with chairman and reporters by means of the Program Committee, which shall take into account the provisional division of the synodical material and the tentative appointments made by the synodical committee.

4. This new procedure regarding the appointment of advisory committees, serving during the session of Synod, shall be applied for at least two years. Then the Synod shall decide whether such procedure is for the profit of the work of Synod and for the profit of the churches.

Classis Chatham,  
Rev. S. Cooper, S. C.

### No. 4 — Proposed Change in Section III, A, Synodical Procedure

1. No change.
2. When matters on the floor come within the sphere of the theological discipline in which the professors are serving the church, they shall have the same privilege of the floor as regular members of Synod, subject to accepted rules. On important questions the chair, or any member of Synod, may request their advice.
3. The professors may present their advice as a body, either in writing, or by one of their number acting as a spokesman, when in their opinion a matter before Synod is the concern of the whole faculty.
4. No change.
5. The emeriti professors as well as the active professors shall have their advisory functions at Synod; however, the privilege of the floor shall be limited to the field of theology in which they last served the church.

#### *Grounds:*

1. The advisory members perform their greatest service to the church as members of advisory committees. This valuable service will not be impaired by the revision.
2. During debate Synod will still profit by the advice of the professor (In some disciplines - professors) who is considered by the church as the authority in his field.
3. The revision is now possible because of the specialized functions of our professors.
4. The revision is necessary because of the larger number of professors now serving as advisory members.
  - a. It will avoid the suspicion that the seminary faculty as a whole has too much influence at Synod.
  - b. It will eliminate the charge that the advisory members have the privilege of the floor to the disadvantage of the regular members.
  - c. It will encourage the elder delegates to speak who often are reluctant to do so because of the number of ministers and professors who have and use the privilege of the floor.

Classis Chicago North,  
Rev. Gerben Zylstra, S. C.

### No. 5 — Reconsider 1959 Decision re Synodical Advisors

Classis Holland overtures Synod to reconsider its action in 1959 regarding the overture of Classis Alberta South with respect to emeriti professors as synodical advisors (see pages 10, 511, Acts of 1959).

#### *Grounds:*

1. The overture did not intend to eliminate from Synod the wisdom of the emeritated professors which had been gained by years of experience. These men will still be available for advisory service in a limited capacity.
2. We believe the danger mentioned by Classis Alberta South in its grounds is substantiated since the number of advisors has nearly doubled (6 to 11) in only five years and the number of emeriti advisors will similarly increase in the future.

Classis Holland,  
Rev. J. Beebe, S. C.

### No. 6 — Particular Synods

Classis Holland overtures Synod *not* to institute Particular Synods.

*Ground:*

The objections presented in Overtures Nos. 11, 22, 26, 44 and 54 in the Acts of the Synod of 1959, cf. Acts 1959, pages 520, 521, 536, 537, 539, 540, 550, 553, 554. The decision of Synod to refer the plan for Particular Synods to the churches for study failed to answer the objections presented in these overtures. Synod should once again confront the objections to Particular Synods lest these Synods be instituted without considering the objections which have been raised against them.

Classis Holland,

Rev. J. Beebe, S. C.

### No. 7 — Approve Transfer to New Classis

Classis Chicago South, upon request of the Parkview Heights Christian Reformed Church, Cincinnati, Ohio, overtures Synod that said congregation be transferred to the new classis which shall consist of churches in Michigan and Ohio.

Classis Chicago South,

Rev. Peter Huisman, S. C.

### No. 8 — Sunday Training of Armed Forces

Classis Kalamazoo re-submits its overture of 1959 which states "Classis Kalamazoo overtures Synod to voice its disapproval of the U.S. Armed Forces policy that compels its Reserve Personnel to participate in multiple-drill periods on Sunday, irrespective of the conscientious objections that some of our personnel have to do such training on the Lord's Day.

*Grounds:*

1. Such training is a desecration of the Lord's Day.
2. Such training is unnecessary in peace time.
3. Some are being penalized by reduction in rank" (Acts of Synod 1959, Overture No. 43, p. 550)

*Ground for re-submitting overture:*

It is evident that the decision and action of the Synod of 1959 in registering denominational protest against the unnecessary use of the Sabbath for regular training of the National Guard and Reserve Personnel has not yet resulted in remedial action at the unit level.

Classis Kalamazoo,

Rev. H. L. De Weerd, S. C.

### No. 9 — Study Committee for Synodical Procedure

Classis Grand Rapids East overtures Synod to appoint a study committee to re-evaluate our present rules for synodical procedure regarding the place and function of the professors of Calvin Seminary as synodical advisors.



*Grounds:*

1. The increased number of theological professors and emeriti professors.
2. The increasing role of the professors in the deliberations of Synod.

Classis Grand Rapids East,

Rev. M. H. Faber, S. C.

**No. 10 — Doctrinal Statement in Utrecht Conclusions**

Classis Hamilton overture Synod to declare the following:

"The Synod of the Christian Reformed Church,

"*considering* that the explanatory doctrinal statement of 1908, regarding the covenant of grace and regeneration, was adopted in view of differences of opinion within our church (cf. Acts, 1908, Art. 58, I, b), which differences have now ceased to be a pressing concern among us;

"*considering* further that this statement, although its effects have been salutary and unifying in many respects, has also been an obstacle in the way toward a closer union between fellow believers of Reformed persuasion;

"*considering* next that said statement was originally intended to be no more than an explanatory statement of what was already contained in the Three Forms of Unity, to which forms all our office-bearers are expected to pledge wholehearted adherence; and

"*considering* finally that our sister churches in the Netherlands, from whom the formulation of this statement is derived, have recently declared that henceforth, as far as the rule of faith regarding the covenant and baptism is concerned, they wish to abide by that which the Three Forms of Unity themselves say about these things,

"*Declares* that it no longer considers the above mentioned statement to be in force in the Christian Reformed Church and that the rule of faith concerning the covenant and baptism is adequately set forth in the Three Forms of Unity."

Classis Hamilton,

Rev. A. H. Venema, S. C.

**No. 11 — Formation of New Classis**

Classis Grand Rapids East overtures Synod to authorize the formation of a new Classis as listed below:

<i>Name of Congregation</i>	<i>Number of Families</i>
Ann Arbor .....	63
Dearborn .....	74
Detroit .....	167
Flint .....	32
Imlay City .....	99
Lansing .....	91
Saginaw .....	23
Cleveland-Eastside .....	51
Cleveland-Westside .....	86
Columbus .....	19
Jackson .....	17
Maple Heights .....	29
Willard .....	80
Cincinnati (Parkview Heights) .....	29
Total .....	860

Classis Grand Rapids East may report that its own member churches of the proposed new classis favor the formation of the new classis. Parkview Heights favors transfer to the new classis, and Classis Chicago South overtures Synod to approve of this transfer. (cf. Overture No. 7)

Classis Kalamazoo reported that its member churches of the proposed new classis approve and overture Synod to approve. (cf. Overture No. 1)

*Grounds:*

Classis Grand Rapids East concurs with the proposed overture of Classis Kalamazoo on the grounds adduced. (cf. Overture No. 1)

Classis Grand Rapids East,  
Rev. M. H. Faber, S. C.

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**No. 12 — New Classis Representation on Executive Committee  
of the Board of Home Missions**

If Synod approves of the request for the organization of a new classis, (cf. Overture No. 11) Classis Grand Rapids East overtures Synod that the new classis be represented on the executive committee of the Board of Home Missions.

*Grounds:*

1. There is a great potential for home missions activity in the confines of the new classis. It will be beneficial both to it and to the executive committee to have a representative of it on the board.

2. The geographical proximity of this new classis to Grand Rapids is such as to warrant its being represented on the executive committee. (Note: the Chicago Classes are represented.)

3. This will give wider representation to the executive committee.

Classis Grand Rapids East,  
Rev. M. H. Faber, S. C.

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**No. 13 — Canadian Immigration Committee**

Classis Alberta North overtures Synod to reduce the membership of the Immigration Committee for Canada from ten to five, and to urge upon this committee to lower the expenses of the central office and of the committee meetings. A denominational quota of about 10% would suffice to meet the reduced budget.

Classis Alberta North,  
Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

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**No. 14 — Regional Synods**

Classis Alberta North overtures Synod that individual Regional Synods ought to be larger than in the plan presented by the study committee to the Synod of 1959. The plan suggested is based on *four* rather than *eight* Regional Synods. It is of vital interest that the Canadian classes meet as a single Regional Synod for the time being.

Classis Alberta North,  
Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

### No. 15 — Committee on Education

Classis Alberta North overtures Synod to advise the Study Committee on Education that classis feels that the present committees are able to take care of all the facets of this problem.

Classis Alberta North,  
Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

### No. 16 — Belgic Confession Revision

Classis Alberta North overtures Synod to adopt the recommendation of the minority report, particularly in view of the material under "Recommendations," Acts of Synod, 1959, page 184. With respect to the "suggested alterations" of the majority report (Acts of Synod, 1959, page 181) Synod adopt the following:

- a. no objections to alteration-1.
- b. does not see the necessity of alteration-2.
- c. opposes alteration-3, with two grounds.
- d. no objection to alteration-4.
- e. objects to alteration-5, to delete the word "Anabaptists" because art. 36 does not incriminate Anabaptist as such, but the *seditionness* of the Anabaptist of that time when the Belgic Confession was composed. As far as we know, this historical reference as such has never been successfully questioned.
- f. no objection to the change suggested in proposed alteration 5 of the word "detest" into "reject," thus bringing its translation in line with the French "de-testons" and the Dutch "verwerpen."

Classis Alberta North,  
Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

### No. 17 — Examination of Candidates

Classis Alberta North overtures Synod to adopt the following changes in the report on the Examination of Candidates, pages 88-92, Acts of Synod, 1959:

— change B. 3 to read: "Synod instruct the Board of Trustees to establish a more personal contact, and the faculty a more intimate relationship with the students."

— change 6, a (2) to read: "a consistorial recommendation and a standard report on physical and mental health."

— change 6, a (5) to read: "Aspirants not recommended may appeal to Synod, except when such is based on failure to meet approved academic standards."

— change 6, b (3) line 2, to read: "In case of post-graduate students the evaluation will be the same as that furnished for the board for regular students, and aspirants should provide a faculty recommendation from the school at which they studied."

— in 6, b (6) omit: "The synodical examiners of three neighboring classes shall be present and give advice."

and change to read: "In case of rejection, the aspirant may appeal directly to Synod."

— add 6, d as follows: "Moving of the household effects of the candidate is not to be recommended until after his classical examination."

— change 6, c (3) observation a) to read: "In the examination in Church History the emphasis should be upon Christian Reformed Church History, etc."

Classis Alberta North,  
Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

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#### No. 18 — Decision of 1957 re Particular Synods

Classis Toronto respectfully reminds Synod that the decision of the Synod of 1957 in regard to Particular Synods ought to be carried out.

*Grounds:*

a. Particular Synods have a legitimate place in the Reformed system of church government.

b. Particular Synods will, by a clear definition of their powers and task, promote the desired decentralization of church life, namely, in regard to Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Needy Churches, by which much ecclesiastical work will be brought nearer to the church members.

c. Particular Synods offer the opportunity to arrive at an independent solution to common problems in a given area.

Classis Toronto,  
Rev. H. Hollander, S. C.

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#### No. 19 — Dutch Translation of Trial Lord's Supper Form

Classis Toronto endorses the request of the consistory of the Clarkston Christian Reformed Church that the revision of the form for communion also be made available for use in the Dutch language.

*Grounds:*

a. Although since 1954 this has not been repeatedly mentioned in the mandate of the "Liturgical Form Revision Committee," the Synod of 1954 has expressly charged the committee appointed then to prepare such a revision of the form for the Lord's Supper also in a Dutch translation.

b. Such a trial-copy of a Dutch translation has not yet been offered to the churches, but there surely is a need for it, namely in the Canadian churches.

c. In order to prevent arbitrariness or confusion, (here and there the forms of the Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland, Leeuwarden, 1955, are already being used), it is certainly desirable that the Canadian churches act together in this matter.

Classis Toronto,  
Rev. H. Hollander, S. C.

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#### No. 20 — Request to Set Aside Utrecht Conclusions

Classis Eastern Ontario overtures Synod to set aside the Conclusions of Utrecht of 1905, accepted by the Christian Reformed Church in 1908.

*Grounds:*

1. Although these conclusions may in the past have had great beneficial results in the Christian Reformed Church, they are no longer timely declarations which the church needs to maintain the peace, purity and unity of the church.

2. Because of many misinterpretations, they appear to have become obstacles toward achieving a truly Reformed ecumenicity. Especially in Canada do these conclusions seriously impair the discussion of our church with Reformed brethren of other denominations.

3. The pattern of Reformed church life in Canada closely parallels that of the Netherlands, and there our sister church has seen fit to set these conclusions aside.

Classis Eastern Ontario,  
Rev. A. Rumph, S. C.

**No. 21 — Decision of 1957 re Particular Synods**

Classis Eastern Ontario overtures Synod to implement the decision of the Synod of 1957 to initiate Particular Synods and to return to the principal main lines of the report of 1957.

*Grounds:*

1. Particular Synods have a legitimate place in the Reformed system of church-government (cf. Art. 47 C.O.).

2. Particular Synods, by a clear definition of their authority and task will promote, especially as far as Foreign Missions, Home Missions and Needy Churches are concerned, decentralization of our denominational life, so that much work of the church is brought closer to our people.

3. Particular Synods offer the possibility of an independent solution of common problems in a given district.

Classis Eastern Ontario,  
Rev. A. Rumph, S. C.

**No. 22 — Transfer to Another Classis**

Classis Minnesota South has given the consistories of Brandon, Kenora, Winnipeg and Transcona in Central Canada permission to transfer to Classis Minnesota North and hereby requests Synod's approval of this action. The grounds for this action were as follows:

- a. Geographically the churches are in the area of Classis Minnesota North.
- b. Closer proximity to the churches of Minnesota North, both in the States and Canada will work more advantageously as to classical appointments, etc.
- c. The original plan submitted for the division of Classis Minnesota South placed these churches with Classis Minnesota North. The practical reason which moved classis to place these churches with Classis Minnesota South has virtually disappeared.

This transfer to take place December 31, 1960.

Sincerely,  
Edgar O. Holkeboer, S. C.

## No. 23 — Quota Support of Society Controlled Colleges

Classis Minnesota South overtures Synod:

1. To declare that quota support of higher institutions of learning controlled by a society, and approved by Synod, is permissible.

*Grounds:*

a. Due to the particularly vital relationship of education in the higher level to the church.

b. To provide an equitable basis for coöperative support of higher education throughout the denomination.

2. To establish a denominational education fund supported by a denominational quota, providing a per student (Christian Reformed student) annual support in colleges, predominantly controlled by the Christian Reformed constituency and approved by the Synod.

*Grounds:*

a. This will bring about greater unity in our higher educational program.

b. This will ensure continued support from all our areas in carrying out our academic program.

c. This will provide a sound basis for the attainment and continuance of high academic standards in all our educational institutions.

3. That Synod be overtured to form a standing committee, composed of the special Advisory and Assisting Budget Committee and two representatives from each college concerned — these representatives to be chosen by their respective Executive Boards — to advise Synod on the problems of eligibility for help from the denominational fund, equitable proportionment of the fund, amount of quota required, and also to advise Synod concerning current financial problems needing evaluation and requiring adjustment in policy.

Humbly submitted,

Edgar O. Holkeboer, S. C.

## No. 24 — Regional Synods

Classis Sioux Center submits the report of its committee on this matter to Synod as representing its views on the issue of Regional Synods and requests Synod to proceed in the direction suggested.

*Honorable Brethren:*

The mandate of your committee is "to address itself to the matter of Regional Synods and to keep the churches informed." Minutes Sept. 29, 1959, Art. 25. This in turn was born out of the synodical decision, Art. 72, p. 92, Acts, 1959, that the committee's plan for Particular Synods be presented to the consistories for study for one year.

We submit the following report.

### I

#### A. Historical Background

It is a matter of record that our synods have struggled with this problem for several years. Committees, composed of some of the ablest men in our church, have studied the problem and recommended to move in the direction of Regional

Synods. It is significant that these study committees have never been divided in their recommendations and never once submitted a minority negative opinion. The urgency of the problem has been accentuated by several historical developments of recent day: the meteoric growth of our churches in Canada, the organization of many new classes in the United States. To this must be added that there is considerable dissatisfaction with our recent synods, both as to method of working and accomplishments. Our synods are becoming unwieldy, too large to be a truly deliberate assembly. The examination of the candidates in particular has developed a growing dissatisfaction, if not apprehension. If our synods are too large now, there is certainly no indication in the foreseeable future that the membership will diminish. They will only become larger.

### *B. The Central Issue*

Why, it may be asked, does this problem persist in spite of repeated rejections by synod? Several reasons may be adduced. Our classis feels that many problems of a regional nature are now handled by synod; problems which the synod cannot adequately and intelligently handle. A labor problem in California is of little importance to a farmer in the midwest. A creamery operating on Sunday in Iowa is of no concern to men who toil in the silk mills in New Jersey. The staggering problems with which our Canadian churches are confronted cannot, or certainly should not be decided by a body composed of about 75 per cent of delegates from another country. Nor can there be effective coöperation between adjoining classis because the ecclesiastical standing or authority of such a combination of classes has been questioned by some. However, this type of ecclesiastical organization is indispensable to implement the work of the church in specific areas, e.g. education, missions, etc.

### *C. Present Status*

Our Synod has been loathe to accept any plan thus far submitted, due to the fact, we believe, that from the outset we have tried to do too much. The big problem we face is that the very body necessary to resolve the details does not now exist, i.e. the Regional Synod itself. It seems that it would be best to set up the machinery and then these ecclesiastical bodies could develop in harmony with the circumstances providentially thrust upon them. We are convinced that no acceptable plan can be submitted at this time. To expect this is to lack historical sense and is unrealistic.

### *D. Conclusion*

In view of the above, Classis Sioux Center reaffirms its basic conviction that we must move in the direction of Regional Synods.

## **II. The Present Plan**

On the present plan we make the following observations:

- a. As stated above, we cannot expect a plan at present that will be satisfactory to all. To spend endless hours debating the details is irrelevant, futile and frustrating. We express agreement with its basic tenets. Much of it is feasible and equitable.
- b. We consider it best for the present not to disturb the boards and the denominational organization very seriously. Perhaps for a couple of years, in the period of transition, we should operate under a dual system.
- c. That the Regional Synods be free to meet whatever matters in evangelization and missions, education, works of charity and benevolence, or whatever other matters are providentially thrust upon them.

d. This will make a beginning in reducing the agenda of Synod by treating overtures from consistories and classes in the Regional Synods first.

e. It is possible that for the present this will entail increased costs to carry on the work of the denomination. However, if we consider this the progress of "growing pains" of a lively and energetic church, it would be a pity to have this growth stunted on a matter of dollars and cents.

Classis Sioux Center,  
Rev. M. Doornbos, S. C.

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## No. 25 — Financial Relationship Between Calvin College and Dordt College

Concerning the Financial Relationship between Calvin College and Dordt College, Classis Sioux Center overtures the following recommendations to the Synod of 1960:

A. Classis Sioux Center overtures Synod of 1960 to declare that quota support of higher institutions of learning controlled by a society, and approved by Synod, is permissible.

### *Grounds:*

1. Due to the particularly vital relationship of education on the higher level to the church.

2. To provide an equitable basis for coöperative support of higher education throughout the denomination.

B. Classis Sioux Center overtures the Synod of 1960 to establish a denominational education fund supported by a denominational quota, providing a per student (Christian Reformed student) annual support in colleges, predominantly controlled by the Christian Reformed constituency and approved by the synod.

### *Grounds:*

1. This will bring about great unity in our higher educational program.

2. This will insure continued support from all our areas in carrying out our academic program.

3. This will provide a sound basis for attainment and continuance of high academic standards in all our educational institutions.

C. Classis Sioux Center overtures the Synod of 1960 to form a standing committee, composed of the Special Advisory and Assisting Budget Committee and two representatives from each college concerned — these representatives to be chosen by their respective executive boards — to advise Synod on the problems of eligibility for help from the denominational fund, equitable proportionment of the fund, amount of quota required, and also to advise Synod concerning current financial problems needing evaluation and requiring adjustment in policy.

\* \* \*

Classis Sioux Center adopted this report and decided to send it on to the Synod of 1960 as a background to the Recommendations overtured to Synod on the Financial Relationship between Dordt and Calvin College.

This past summer the Central Board of Dordt College appointed a special committee to study the problem of the financial relationship of Dordt College to Calvin College. This report is the fruit of that committee's work.



## WHY SUCH A STUDY?

Why did the Central Board ask for such a study? Several reasons are reflected in this request. These men are deeply concerned about the future stability of Dordt College. They realize how important Dordt is for our educational program and the realization of our kingdom responsibilities. It is simply impossible to think of facing the future without a strong college in our area — without Dordt College. This concern lies at the bottom of the request for this special study.

Furthermore, the Central Board is convinced that the educational program at Dordt College must be expanded according to plan. Additional courses must be offered with the necessary man power to carry them out. With this in mind our facilities have been gradually expanded. In preparing for future development, the board, with the advice of the standing Finance Committee, is compelled to take a realistic look at the financial problem. Are we on a sound financial basis? Is our present program geared to take care of our future growth? The answer is, no! It lacks the stability of a guaranteed income which is essential to the well-being of an institution of higher learning.

Why does the Central Board turn to this issue of the financial relationship of Dordt College to Calvin College in searching for a solution to its financial difficulty? Because this is the crux of the problem. The people of our area believe that it is unjust, if not impossible, to shoulder the financial burden of a local college and still carry an equal load, with those not having this additional responsibility, in the support of Calvin College. As of now, our people have not chosen to diminish their aid to Calvin College. They do feel the unfairness of paying the full share. They have attempted to reach an equitable adjustment, but without success. In the meantime, because of the high rate of quota, \$12 per family, for Calvin College, Dordt College has been forced to settle for \$4 per family from Classes Sioux Center and Orange City, while being granted support only through periodic offerings from Classes Minnesota North, Minnesota South and North Central Iowa. From these latter three classes there has come only an average of \$2 per family through offerings. To put it differently, Calvin College receives \$72,000 each year from these five classes and Dordt College receives approximately \$18,000 from them. Calvin College receives \$54,000 a year more than Dordt College from the families directly responsible for the operation of Dordt College. (We assume that \$12 per family goes for the operational expense of Calvin College. The quota for Calvin College and Seminary is \$15 per family.)

It is true that, while the Synod refused to allow a quota readjustment, it did place Dordt College on the list of recommended causes. But what revenue does this bring? At most, about \$15,000 annually from the entire denomination, excluding the 6,000 families comprising the five classes supporting Dordt College. This amounts to 35 cents a family from 45,000 families. When one stops to reflect upon this he cannot help but see the injustice. For example, while our five classes send \$72,000 annually to Calvin College, the 20,000 families in Michigan are sending but 35 cents per family, or a total of a mere \$7,000 to Dordt. Yet the Michigan people, who get more of the direct benefits of Calvin, pay no more proportionately to the running expenses of Calvin than do the people of our five classes.

What complicates the problem in more than one way is the age old issue of church control versus society control of higher education. The Synod of the Christian Reformed Church has officially adopted the position that it is more correct in principle to have a college arise out of private initiative. (Cf. *Acts of Synod*, 1957, p. 46, f. 1.). But Calvin College, due to exceptional circumstances, continues to remain a church controlled college. Our purpose in referring to this now is to indicate what this has meant for our situation. On the basis of Synod's position, the people of our area opposed the control of Dordt College by the church. Our

local college is, consequently, society owned and controlled. But because we are a society operated institution, many of our consistories and classes have refused to pay quota to Dordt College. This is considered to be unprincipled. Hence, they allow only offerings for Dordt College. Calvin College, being church controlled, may and does receive quota support, even though, according to synodically encouraged principle, it is less correct to be under church ownership than under society control. Therefore, Dordt College must pay the price of being financially insecure, while being more correct in principle as a society owned college; Calvin College, although being less correct, may enjoy financial security. This is passing strange, indeed.

### TOWARD A SOLUTION

How are we to disentangle ourselves from this state of affairs? Is it more in harmony with principle to give quota support to Calvin College, simply because it is ecclesiastically owned, though ideally it should be society controlled, than to give quota support to Dordt College, simply because it is not ecclesiastically owned, though fulfilling the demand of principle in being society controlled? One thing is certain, neither Calvin College nor Dordt College can remain strong without a guaranteed income from the churches. Let there be no mistake about it, Calvin College continues to remain under the control of the church largely to secure the benefit of ecclesiastical support. We read:

Financial stability is necessary for Calvin's academic development. Faculty morale and the academic efficiency of both staff and student body require such stability. Before the church may surrender her ownership of Calvin College to an association the church must be reasonably assured of the financial stability and sufficiency of the organization responsible for Calvin's support and of the financial arrangements which will be put into operation. (*Acts of Synod*, 1957, p. 47, Art. 99, 5.)

To escape the dilemma some have urged that Dordt College become ecclesiastically owned and supported. Certainly the grounds given to justify the continuation of Calvin College under church control are just as applicable to Dordt College. We present these grounds to you. Synod declared:

That the church possesses the derived, though not inherent, right to exercise ownership and control of a college. This derived right is based upon the following concerns, each of which is scripturally oriented:

1. The responsibility of the church for the spiritual nurture of its youth.
2. The grave responsibility of the church to the Kingdom of God.
3. The close association of church and education in the area of normative truth, which is especially a matter of importance in the relation of the college to the church.
4. The demands upon the modern church to assert its distinctive positions in a world of factionalism, sectarianism, and denominationalism. (*Acts of Synod*, 1957, p. 46.)

To justify placing Dordt under ecclesiastical control it would be necessary to prove that present circumstances required this. Synod found it necessary to prove this also. It did so especially when it declared, immediately after establishing the right of the church to exercise ownership and control of a college, the following:

That Synod declare that it does not interpret the above statements to be a contradiction of the following synodical decisions:

1. *Acts of Synod*, 1908, Art. 37, that 'it is in principle more correct that a college should arise out of private initiative.'
2. *Acts of Synod*, 1926, Art. 31, which declared concerning the separation of the college from the church that 'the school would thereby, follow a more correct course.' (*Acts of Synod*, 1957, p. 46.)

How did Synod argue this? Here one finds something extremely interesting and significant. Realizing the difficulty it was in when taking the position that "concerning the separation of the college from the church the school would thereby follow a more correct course," Synod was under necessity to explain itself. Why not agree with the overtures requesting such separation? Here follows Synod's answer:

Synod decides that under the present circumstances the church shall continue to own and operate Calvin College.

*Grounds:*

1. Before the church may cease to own and operate Calvin College appreciation of, and devotion to, a Christian liberal arts college training should be sufficiently articulate among our people to insure the future of Calvin College under some other arrangement.

2. Before the church may cease to own and operate Calvin College a society or association that could successfully maintain broad, vital, and active interest in the cause of Calvin College should be organized and sufficiently established to merit the confidence of the church.

3. Before the church may cease to own and operate Calvin College the church must be sure that such arrangements have been made as to insure effective supervision over the religious character of the instruction given and over the spiritual tone of the college, in accordance with the church's responsibility for the spiritual nurture of the youth. (Cf. Art. 86)

4. The history of many other church-related colleges in America is a witness to the need of exercising very great care in severing the unique connection between Calvin College and our denomination.

5. Financial stability is necessary for Calvin's academic development. Faculty morale and the academic efficiency of both staff and student body require such stability. Before the church may surrender her ownership of Calvin College to an association the church must be reasonably assured of the financial stability and sufficiently of the organization responsible for Calvin's support and of the financial arrangements which will be put into operation.

(*Acts of Synod, 1957, p. 49, Art. 99*)

What is extremely puzzling is the decision that Synod took next. It appeared as though Synod was in dead earnest in striving to justify the continuation of Calvin College under ecclesiastical control, in spite of its declaration that it is more correct in principle that the college be placed under the control of an association. However, what did Synod do with the following motion?

Synod considers the motion to appoint a committee to investigate the possibility of organizing a society which will own and control Calvin College under the following guarantees:

1. Complete fidelity to the infallible Word of God and doctrinal soundness as expressed in our Forms of Unity.

2. When and where reasonable assurances are evident of financial responsibility and stability.

3. When adequate provisions can be made to assure broad, vital continuous and active interest in society membership as a whole. (*Acts of Synod, 1957, pp. 49-50*)

When placed before this proposition, Synod flatly rejected it. There was no real intention of Synod to live up to the "more correct course" and be "in principle more correct."

In reviewing these decisions of Synod we do not mean to suggest that Calvin College be separated from the church. We do hope, however, that our people will notice that Synod does show a great deal of flexibility in operating with certain

principles. There is continued resistance, on some issues, against all attempts to place Synod in a position consistent with its own pronouncements. Then, again, as we shall point out later, Synod can be unjustifiably rigid. It all depends upon the party concerned.

Our chief purpose in referring to these decisions of Synod is to help us answer those who recommend that Dordt College become ecclesiastically owned and controlled. Outside of the one notable exception, we are not ready to admit that circumstances call for church control of Dordt College. The society which now operates the college is strong and competent. We also appreciate the many virtues of society ownership. While the principle is correct, the effectiveness is also abundantly evident. The one notable exception, of course, is the financial. This is an extremely significant item. It is very well possible that, unless we can whip the problem in some other way, the ecclesiastical ownership of Dordt College will become necessary to insure financial stability.

### OVERCOMING A BASIC OBSTACLE

We are confident that it is not necessary to solve the financial problem of Dordt College by resorting to ecclesiastical control. If we can find justification for the support of a society controlled college through ecclesiastical quota, we have overcome the basic obstacle. Why cannot our people allow quota support to Dordt College by way of exception? If it is permissible, by way of exception, to have ecclesiastical ownership of a college, due to the particularly vital relationship of higher education to the church, why cannot quotas be granted to a society owned college on the same ground? Classis Sioux Center has operated upon this principle for five years. Without their quota it is hard to say what would have happened to Dordt College.

The Synod of 1957 virtually took this position. It is illuminating to study the decisions of recent synods on the question of quota rebate for Dordt College, a society owned school. The Synod of 1956 appointed a Long Range Study Committee whose task was, among other problems related to the future of Calvin College to look at Calvin's future also in the light of the Junior College movement. What did this committee recommend? (cf. Acts 1957, page 469)

"That Synod declare that any church which pays its full quotas to Calvin College is entitled to a 20% rebate on the Calvin quotas, provided:

- (1) Such church pays a sum equivalent to the 20% rebate to the Junior College in its vicinity.
- (2) There be no real occasion for Synod to question whether said Junior College is truly a liberal arts college rather than a terminal "community college."
- (3) There be no real occasion for Synod to question the academic soundness of said Junior College.

"That Synod declare that the Michigan classes be responsible for making up the deficit which is created by rebates to the areas concerned."

Notice that the propriety of giving quotas to a society owned college, originated by the Christian Reformed constituency, was never questioned.

What did the Synod of 1957 do with this recommendation? The answer is found on page 66, Art. VIII, *Acts of Synod, 1957*:

#### B. Recommendations:

"1. Synod declare that the areas directly concerned be responsible for the initiation, establishment, and financial security of the junior college.

2. Synod refer the matters concerning equitable financial adjustment between areas operating a junior college and Calvin College to the Standing

Advisory Budget Committee for study and for recommendation to the Synod of 1958, and that the decisions of the Synod of 1958 in this matter be made retroactive to January 1, 1958."

Here again Synod did not question the propriety of giving quotas support to Dordt College. It even gave us every hope for a just and equitable arrangement. What a disappointment was to await us!

The Synod of 1958 received the following recommendation from the Special Advisory Budget Committee:

*B. Recommendations:*

"1. Synod accept the recommendation of the Standing Advisory Budget Committee that 24% of the operating expense quota for Calvin College and Seminary, which 24% is now \$3, be diverted from the Calvin College and Seminary quota to Dordt College for the families in Classes Sioux Center, Orange City, North Central Iowa, Minnesota North and Minnesota South, retroactive to January, 1958, provided:

a. The participation in this arrangement is optional with each church in these classes.

b. That the full quota is paid to Dordt Junior College as well as Calvin College and Seminary.

c. That cumulatively for each calendar year, by quarter of the year, the full 76% of the quota be paid to Calvin College and Seminary before the 24% is paid to Dordt Junior College.

d. That Synod approve a 40 cent increase in the Calvin College and Seminary quota to cover the amount of this diversion to Dordt Junior College.

*Grounds:*

(1) Recommendation complies with mandate of 1957 Synod.

(2) The diversion from the operating receipts of Calvin College and Seminary, ordinarily received through quotas of \$3 per family from the families of the five classes amounting to \$17,600, must be replaced to meet operating expenses at Calvin College and Seminary. *Adopted.*

2. Dordt Junior College is removed from the list of Educational Causes recommended for financial support. —*Adopted.*

3. Synod adopt a resolution warning against further diversion of synodical quotas for projects of a local or regional character.

*Ground:*

Such diversion may seriously undermine financial security of denominational enterprises. —*Tabled indefinitely.*

Note: The matters pertaining to Dordt Junior College were reconsidered upon request at a later session of Synod. Final Synod decision in this matter appears in Article 143 X. (*Acts of Synod, 1958, p. 43, Art. 84, VI, B.*)

This Synod accepted these recommendations on a Tuesday and then on the following Saturday took this action:

"X. Dordt Junior College Quota

Synod reconsiders the matter to divert a portion of the quotas for Calvin College and Seminary to Dordt College, together with the related decisions. (See Article 84, VI, for previous decisions). —*Adopted.*

*New recommendations:*

1. With respect to Recommendation No. 1, Synod do not accede to the Dordt College request. (See Article 84, VI B, 1)

*Grounds:*

1. The proposed action would undermine the system of quotas for Calvin and other ecclesiastical causes.

2. The proposed action would amount to an indirect quota for a non-eclesiastical institution. —*Adopted.*

3. With respect to Recommendation No. 2, Synod place Dordt College on the list of Causes Recommended for Financial Support, Educational Group. (See Article 84, VI, B, 2) —*Adopted*

4. Synod set the quota for Calvin College and Seminary at \$14 (See Art. 84, VI, B, 1, d, and Art. 135, III, B, 6) —*Adopted.* (*Acts of Synod, 1958, p. 85, X.*)

While society control is "more correct," society control can expect little sympathy, certainly little help, in solving its financial problems.

But is this final decision of the Synod of 1958 reasonable? We are convinced that it is not, as are also Classis Sioux Center, the Synod of 1957 and the committees which have served synods in advisory capacity. There is no reasonable justification for denying quota support to an institution of higher learning such as Dordt College.

### TWO POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Assuming quota support of Dordt College to be permissible and advantageous, how can we reach an equitable arrangement between Calvin College and Dordt College? Two possibilities present themselves as feasible. There could be created a denominational education fund supported by quota from which the colleges concerned would draw a per student annual income. Or, as a last resort, the classes directly responsible for the support of Dordt College could send 50 per cent of the present \$12 quota to Calvin College and 50 per cent to Dordt College. (Dordt will need that amount.) Let us examine these possibilities more closely.

### THE BETTER WAY

Naturally, one must exercise caution when initiating changes of re-adjustments in financial policies. We must all hold tenaciously to the basic fact that our colleges must receive substantial financial subsidy and that this should be in the form of a guaranteed source through quota support. The Christian Reformed Church has demonstrated well enough the need for this. Upon this issue our entire program of higher education stands or falls. Calvin College is painfully and justifiably aware of this. So are our synods. But Dordt College is no less painfully and justifiably aware of this. Now in solving our mutual problem, we ought never to place all of us in jeopardy by encouraging, on the part of our constituency, any type of indifference to, or neglect of, the financial needs of our institutions of higher learning, by policy changes inaugurated.

Bearing this in mind, it might be more advantageous for all concerned to establish a denominational education fund supported by quota. Each institution of higher learning, approved by Synod, would draw from this fund on a per student basis (limited to Christian Reformed students). The amount per student would be determined each year by a committee composed of the Synodical Finance Committee and two representatives from each college involved. This committee would not only be able to work out an equitable arrangement but also meet current financial problems needing evaluation and requiring adjustment in policy. Such a plan would bind our entire educational program together. It would assure financial support from all our areas. It would create a high level of good-will and provide the basis for coöperative effort in realizing future goals in education, eliminating much of the discontent and abusive criticism that has plagued us in the past.

### AN ALL IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE

Perhaps some will contend that it is the church's duty and obligation to protect its own college. After all, what would happen if several small colleges were es-

tablished with the end result that we were without a single respectable academic institution? Hence, so they conclude, the church is fully justified in keeping Calvin College strong, even at the expense of other colleges. This argument, we believe, flies directly into the face of the principle of kingdom development. Is it possible to establish the argument that Dordt College is a kingdom luxury, not an indispensable unit? In the first place, who is to decide this? Not the synod. In harmony with its own pronouncement that colleges should arise from private initiative, those who have the basic right to determine the need for a college, and who are best qualified to judge, are the people whose needs this college is to fulfil. We are convinced that, apart from the judgment of those who initiated and established Dordt College, there are many objective arguments supporting the need, not only for Dordt College, but for other colleges among the constituents of our denomination as well. One reference will suffice to illustrate. The Reformed Church of America has three four-year colleges—Hope College, Michigan; Central College, Iowa, and Northwestern College, Iowa. Is the enrollment at Hope College so large that the establishment of others in the Reformed Church is mandatory? Not at all! In fact Hope College has, in the 1959–1960 school year, fewer students than Calvin College. Hope College's enrollment stands at 1,384; Calvin College at 2,015. Significantly, over half of the Calvin enrollment comes from the state of Michigan. When we take into consideration the added fact that the Christian Reformed Church fosters the Christian School movement, with all its prospects for college and its demand for teachers, then the picture becomes quite plain. Nor should we forget that God promises to fulfil our needs in the measure that we by faith go forth to meet them. God forbid that the church should block the road of kingdom development! The kingdom must remain free to develop according to its own laws.

We sincerely hope that this report will open the eyes of our consistories and classes to the financial problems confronting Dordt College and the possible road to the solution of them. If we follow the path that is opened for us by the natural process of kingdom development there is bound to be room and success for all. This is the principle our fathers lived by and taught us. There is no better way to achieve God's glory.

Classis Sioux Center,  
Milton R. Doornbos, S. C.

#### No. 26 — Request for Offerings for TCNN

Classis Sioux Center overtures the Synod of 1960 not to accede to the recommendations of the Board of Foreign Missions "that we heed the request of Nigerian General Conference to establish a special fund" for TCNN.

##### *Grounds:*

1. This recommendation is not in accord with the decisions of 1959, in which Synod decided to limit its participation to the loaning of a teacher only.
2. Since the decision of the Synod of 1959 no circumstance has arisen to warrant any change.

Classis Sioux Center,  
Milton R. Doornbos, S. C.

#### No. 27 — Nomination of Rev. John Stek to Chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary

Classis Sioux Center overtures the Synod of 1960 to add the name of Rev. John Stek to the nomination for the chair of Old Testament in our seminary.

*Grounds:*

1. He has been recommended by the Seminary Faculty for this nomination.
2. His background in our church and acquaintance with the life and problems of our church recommend him strongly.
3. He was on nomination for this position in 1958. We know of no change in circumstances since that time which recommends or lends support to his being absent from the nomination.

Classis Sioux Center,  
Milton R. Doornbos, S. C.

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**No. 28 — Special Gift Fund for TCNN**

Classis British Columbia overtures Synod that it insists that its decision of 1959 re the TCNN (Theological College of Northern Nigeria) be carried out. The reason for this decision is as follows:

From the report of the Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions we were informed that it was decided at its board meeting held in February "to establish a gift fund for the TCNN in accordance with the provisions that were made by the Synod of 1958 in response to the request of the Benue Church and which other missions and churches are looking to us to fulfil."

*Grounds:*

1. This decision is contrary to Synod's decision of 1959.
2. Such a decision does not manifest proper respect for synodical decisions.

Classis British Columbia,  
Jacob Hoogland, S. C.

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**No. 29 — Nomination for Old Testament Chair in Seminary**

Classis British Columbia overtures Synod not to accept the nomination of one name for the chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary but to ask the Board of Trustees to prepare and to present a nomination of more names than one.

*Grounds:*

1. The Board of Trustees does not give sufficient reasons that a one name nomination is necessary. (Cf. Procedure in making seminary appointments, 9. Acts of Synod, 1958, Page 373, Supplement No. 35-A.)
2. Besides the nominee of the Board of Trustees, who is not a member of the Christian Reformed Church, there are also capable candidates who are members of our church.
3. In view of the foregoing it will be wise to present to Synod such a nomination that a choice can be made from more than one candidate.

Classis British Columbia,  
Jacob Hoogland, S. C.

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**No. 30 — Nomination of Professor D. Kerr**

Classis Minnesota North requests the Synod of 1960 to reject the nomination of Prof. David Kerr for the chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary.



*Ground:*

The nomination has by-passed all our own men. This should be done only when we are certain that we have no qualified men of our own, and when the nominee outside of our church is of exceptional ability and brilliance. Classis Minnesota North has no evidence that such is the case.

Classis further requests Synod to instruct the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary to reconsider seriously, among others, Rev. John H. Stek of Raymond, Minnesota.

*Ground:*

Rev. Stek was one of those nominated by the faculty.

Classis Minnesota North,  
Esler L. Shuart, S. C.

**No. 31 — Special Gift Fund for TCNN**

Classis Orange City overtures Synod not to accede to the recommendation of the Board of Foreign Missions that a special gift fund be established for the financial support of TCNN.

*Grounds:*

1. This recommendation is in conflict with the decision of the Synod of 1959 in which Synod decided to participate in TCNN only to the extent of loaning Dr. Boer as teacher in Reformed Theology in the TCNN.

2. The decision of the Synod of 1958 does not serve as a ground for the present request since it was only a temporary arrangement, as is evident from Synod's careful wording of its decision: "Synod permit special gifts to be solicited for the native church which desires to participate in TCNN, and that it be understood that *this does not further commit the Christian Reformed Church to the TCNN at this time . . .*" Acts of 1958, p. 60.

Classis Orange City,  
T. L. Brouwer, S. C.

**No. 32 — Ministerial Status of Rev. J. E. Brink**

At the March assembly of Classis Minnesota North the following action was taken regarding the ministerial status of the Rev. John E. Brink of Everson, Washington.

"Classis decided that unless Rev. John E. Brink in one way or another is re-activated in his office of the ministry by entering upon some regular or approved service in the Christian Reformed Church by March Classis 1961 his ministerial status will be terminated.

*"Grounds:*

"1. He has been without a fixed charge since March 1957.

"2. He declined a call tendered to him in May 1958.

"3. He has entered upon a secular vocation."

A motion carried that "Classis inform Synod of its action re the ministerial status of the Rev. John E. Brink."

Classis Minnesota North,  
Esler L. Shuart, S. C.

### No. 33 — Postpone Regional Synods

Classis Rocky Mountain overtures Synod of 1960 to postpone indefinitely any decision to initiate Regional Synods.

#### Grounds:

1. The grounds given by the Synod of 1957 for the establishment of Particular Synods *have not* established either the feasibility or the desirability of such Particular Synods. And those are still the only grounds given.

In support of the above we present the following:

a. Ground a, "They have a legitimate place in the Reformed System of Church government and are provided for in Article 47 of the Church Order" — is merely a true statement which says nothing about the feasibility or desirability of Particular Synods in our denomination in the twentieth century.

b. Ground b, "In the light of the present strength and number of our Classes and anticipated growth, the institution of Particular Synods is warranted" — is merely an opinion which has by no means been proven. "Present strength, number of our Classes, and anticipated growth" may just as well be used as a ground to prove that Particular Synods are not warranted.

c. Ground c, "The institution of Particular Synods may greatly benefit our churches" — is an "argumentum ad ignorantium." On the basis of previous study and overtures by our churches, it has been argued that, on the contrary, Particular Synods may greatly hamper the work of our churches. e.g. *Acts of Synod, 1959, Overtures 11, 22, 44, 54.*

2. In relation to the two dangers pointed out by Overture No. 7 in the *Acts of Synod, 1959* (in the light of which the study committee was instructed to proceed), viz. "the danger on the one hand of gradually undermining the over-all duty of the Christian Reformed Church by assigning too great authority to such bodies, and the danger on the other hand of organizing such bodies which, having little if any real jurisdictional authority, will serve no useful purpose in our denominational structure," we present the following:

a. If our consistories and classes act in accord with their obligations and mandate on the basis of our Church Order, the danger of overcentralization is greatly reduced. This is manifested more and more in our evangelistic outreach during the past decade. Our classes and consistories have not only become increasingly aware of their responsibilities, but are manifestly meeting the challenge of Evangelism and Home Missions according to the regulation of our Church Order, Article 30. Home Missions on a synodical level is carried out only where it is impossible for individual consistories or classes to implement the work, and then only in the light of consistorial and classical recommendation and assistance.

b. Regional (Particular) Synods will endanger a unified denominational program by further separating the assemblies. In the light of present-day national and world conditions it is imperative that synodical bodies have real jurisdictional authority in order that our Church may present a unified program for an effective impact.

3. The migrating population of our country often results in far greater demand and expenditure for Home Missions in areas where our churches are small and sparsely located. Regional Synods would not solve this problem, and might curtail rather than promote progress in relation to this challenge, by placing on those regions least able to meet the challenge in terms of available personnel and financial ability.

4. The *plan* for the establishment of Particular Synods drawn up by the representative Synodical Committee (*Acts of Synod, 1959, pp. 128-135*) does not offer

any advantages over our present organizational structure; nor does it offer any solution to problems connected with our "strength, number of Classes, and anticipated growth" which cannot be effectively resolved under our present assemblies; namely, consistories, classes, synod.

Classis Rocky Mountain,  
J. Zwaanstra, S. C.

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### **No. 34 — Transfer of Congregations to Another Classis**

Classis Minnesota North overtures Synod to approve of the transfer of the four congregations of Classis Minnesota South, viz., Kenora, Brandon, Transcona, and Winnipeg, to Classis Minnesota North. Classis Minnesota South concurs in this requested transfer (See Overture No. 22). If Synod approves the transfer will take place December 31, 1960.

Classis Minnesota North,  
E. L. Shuart, S. C.

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### **No. 35 — Quota Adjustment for Dordt College**

Classis Orange City respectfully requests Synod to give consideration to the report of the special committee appointed by the Executive Board of Dordt College to study the problem of the financial relationship of Dordt College to Calvin College presented to Synod by Classis Sioux Center. Classis Orange City also concurs in the overtures presented by Classis Sioux Center anent this matter (see Overture No. 25).

Classis Orange City,  
T. L. Brouwer, S. C.

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### **No. 36 — Reconsideration of 1958 Decision re Quota for Dordt College**

The Bunde consistory wishes to present the following overture. This overture was presented to the spring session of Classis Minnesota North but was not adopted and the Bunde consistory informed the classis that it would send the overture on to Synod.

The consistory of the Bunde Christian Reformed Church overtures Synod:

1. To appoint a committee to review its former decisions, re quotas of Calvin College to Dordt College;
2. To study and present to the Synod of 1961 a plan whereby more proportionate financial support can be given from our quotas to institutions of learning on the college level provided these institutions are largely supported by the membership of our denominations.

#### *Grounds:*

1. There is an ever increasing interest on the part of our church membership in establishing local colleges.
2. The responsibility of supporting both Calvin College and a local college places an extra heavy burden upon communities where such colleges are being established.
3. The need of solving this problem before it becomes acute and disrupts the future planning and well-being of Calvin College.

4. The appeal of the Central Board of Dordt College as the result of a study made by a special study committee appointed to consider more equitable distribution of our quotas to Calvin College, Dordt College, or any other colleges which may eventually be established through the efforts of our denominational membership.

Raymond H. Haan, President  
Henry Knapper, Clerk

Done in Consistory, March 7, 1960.

### No. 37 — Decisions of 1958 and 1959 re TCNN

Classis Pacific overtures Synod to address itself to the differences prevalent in the Board of Foreign Missions arising from diverse interpretations of synodical decisions and present practices relative to the TCNN.

Classis Pacific,  
B. T. Haan, S. C.

### No. 38 — Decision of 1959 re TCNN

The consistory of the First Christian Reformed Church of Seattle overtures the Synod of 1960 that it insist that the decisions of the Synod of 1959 regarding the TCNN be carried out by the Board and Mission.

#### *Grounds:*

I. There is evidence that the Nigerian General Conference is opposing rather than executing these decisions and the Board of Foreign Missions is acquiescing to its action.

It will be recalled that the 1959 Synod decided:

"1. The Christian Reformed Church *participate in TCNN only to the extent of loaning Dr. H. Boer as teacher of Reformed Theology in the TCNN.*"

It declared that "in view of its total commitment to the Reformed faith it cannot see its way clear to be co-responsible for the college which may represent many different doctrines."

"5. Synod instruct the Christian Reformed Board of Missions and the Nigerian General Conference to maintain and develop the Reformed Pastors' Training Program in Nigeria with a view to hopefully establishing a Reformed Theological Seminary."

"Ground: The Vernacular Pastor's Training School is serving a good purpose." *Acts*, 1959, pp. 46, 47.

In spite of these decisions:

1. The Nigerian General Conference continues to have a member representing it on the Board of TCNN. (NGC 2977)

2. The Conference officially expressed its "disappointment at the action of Synod with respect to the extent of its participation in TCNN." It expressed the belief that previous encouragements "do not permit us to limit our participation to teaching only." It felt "morally bound to support it" financially, and requested the Board to set up a special gift fund for contributions to the TCNN's capital expense. (NGC 3035) The Board, after extensive debate, by a 15-to-14 vote agreed to this request.

3. The Conference, when it finally notified the national church of the Synod's decision, regarding TCNN, accompanied that notification with the above mentioned statements of its objections to the decision and its continuing backing of TCNN. This action would tend to nullify any influence the Synod's decision might have upon the national church. (NGC 3036)

4. The Conference requested subsidy for 60% of the costs of the students in pastor training. This includes, in fact, applies particularly to students at the TCNN whose costs are considerably higher than those of students in programs on the field. (NBC 3029) To this the Board agreed.

5. The Conference Executive Committee decided to loan money to the Tiv church to pay its debt for the training of TCNN students at Gindiri "pending Home Board approval of the proposed subsidy." (NGC 3101) This action the Board approved.

6. The Conference decided to establish a pre-seminary course at Lupwe, but not, it is evident, "with a view to hopefully establishing a Reformed Theological Seminary," for, according to the statement of its principal in the Dec. 4, 1959 Banner (page 6) this course is to "prepare for the Certificate Course at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria." (TCNN)

From all this it is clearly evident that the conference is continuing in its course of participation in the unorthodox TCNN, in disregard of Synod's decisions to the contrary.

II. The Church Order states: "Mission Work — The missionary work of the church is regulated by the General Synod in the Mission Order" (Article 51).

The Mission Order in Article 1 recognizes as basic the "principle that Synod shall as far as possible, control all our mission work which demands denominational coöperation."

A missionary in accepting a call to the mission field agrees that his "labors are to be under the direction of Synod."

III. If synodical decisions are to have any significance, subsequent synods must insist that they be carried out.

Consistory of the First Christian Reformed Church of Seattle,

J. Hamstra, Clerk

## No. 39 — Sister Church Relationship with Liberated Churches in the Netherlands

Classis Alberta South of the Christian Reformed Church respectfully overtures the Synod of 1960 to charge its Committee on Ecumenicity and Interchurch Correspondence to work toward establishing a sisterly relationship with the Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland (Vrijgemaakt).

### Grounds:

1. In 1949 our Synod decided "that for the present Synod takes a watchful and waiting attitude toward the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands onderhoudende Artikel 31 K.O." (See Acts 1949 page 66). After eleven years of watching and waiting our church ought to determine its position.

2. The Gereformeerde Kerken (Vrijgemaakt) and the Christian Reformed Church have the same doctrinal standards and Reformed heritage.

3. The indecision of our Church regarding our relationship to the Gereformeerde Kerken (Vrijgemaakt) is an obstacle in the way to conversation with the Canadian Reformed Churches.

The Canadian Reformed Churches interpret our decisions of 1949 as partial to the Gereformeerde Kerken (Synodaal).

Classis Alberta South,  
G. W. VanDen Berg, S. C.

### No. 40 — Reconsideration of Decision re Emeriti Professors as Synodical Advisors

Classis Alberta South overtures Synod to reconsider the action of the Synod of 1959 re *Emeriti Professors as Synod Advisors*, which overture and decision is as follows: Emeriti Professors as Synod Advisors.

"Classis Alberta South overtures Synod to amend the rules for Synodical Procedure, Section III, A, 5, to read:

"The emeriti professors may be present at Synod in a limited advisory capacity, their advice being given upon the request of the chairman or of Synod. They shall not function as advisors on advisory committees except by request.

"Ground:

"The increase in the number of seminary professors from 6 to 11 in the last five years, which will ultimately lead to a similar increase in emeriti professors, has greatly increased the number of men who have a permanent voice at Synod. This increases the danger of one group of office-bearers in the church having an undue measure of influence in the major assembly of the church. Should the number of delegates to Synod be reduced through the introduction of Particular Synods, this would be even more apparent. To so limit the advisory task of the emeriti professors will essentially reduce the size of the body having a permanent, deliberative voice at Synod, and will also decrease the number of those who have a deliberative voice at Synod but are not delegated to it."

*Decision:* Synod abide by the present Rules for Synodical Procedure, Section III, A, 5, and not accede to the request made in Overture No. 4. (Overture No. 4 appears on page 511, Acts of 1959.)

*Grounds:*

1. The danger mentioned by Classis Alberta South is not substantiated.
2. It is to the advantage of Synod to use the wisdom of the emerited professors, which has been gained by years of experience. (Acts of Synod 1959, Art. 31, page 10.)

*Grounds for Reconsideration:*

1. It is the conviction of classis that the grounds given by Synod are not valid.
  - a. Ground 1 misses the point, for classis here stated a fact, the fact that the seminary professors have a permanent voice at Synod and therefore have an unwarranted and unproportional amount of influence, which fact needs no further substantiation, which fact lies in the realm of Church governmental principle. Synod neglected to take note of a fact and a principle and therefore has not seen the danger.
  - b. Ground 2 is also not valid for
    - (1) Classis did not ask that the emeriti professors be eliminated, but asked that the most satisfactory way of making use of their wisdom be left open.
    - (2) The present rule is not in harmony with the general and basic principle that Synod is a delegated body of office-bearers from the churches. Emeriti professors are not delegated nor are they active office-bearers.

(3) In warning about a danger, classis is concerned to eliminate as much as possible, those factors which tend to burden the deliberative processes of Synod as a delegated body of office-bearers.

Classis Alberta South,  
G. W. Van Den Berg, S. C.

#### No. 41 — Proposed Calvin College Tuition Adjustments

We are, in our area, keenly cognizant of the perennial protestation and fact that there is a certain inequality between the costs of resident students at Calvin and those of outlying areas. We therefore overture Synod:

1. That the quotas of our Michigan churches be raised by \$5.00 per family for our Michigan church families.
2. That the tuition for resident students (non-boarding) be increased by \$200 per school year.

##### *Grounds:*

1. There is little question but that some adjustment of quotas would be more equitable, and that such adjustment may not be downward.
2. It is simple fact that residential students of our school have a marked advantage cost-wise, over those who must board.
3. This would be an immense help to calm the troubled waters in our outlying areas which with some justification contend that "Michigan people have all the advantages."
4. This would increase the income of Calvin about \$200,000 per year by our Michigan people.
5. This would help our people in remote areas to understand that education is not cheap.
6. It is a matter of arithmetic that in such an arrangement, or one similar, our boarding students over 1,000 miles away would still pay \$150 more for education at Calvin than our resident students, and that those nearest Grand Rapids — boarding students — would pay \$500 more for education at our school.

Consistory of Sanborn, Iowa,  
Clifford Vanden Ark, President  
Henry Buteyn, Clerk

Done in Consistory, March 7, 1960.

#### No. 42 — Theological College of Northern Nigeria

Classis Hudson overtures Synod to place the Theological College of Northern Nigeria on the list of accredited causes.

Classis Hudson,  
J. P. Smith, S. C.

### No. 43 — Financial Relationship Between Calvin College and Society Controlled Colleges

Concerning the financial relationship between Calvin College and Society Controlled Colleges, Classis North Central Iowa overtures the following recommendations to the Synod of 1960:

A. Classis North Central Iowa overtures Synod of 1960 to declare that quota support of higher institutions of learning controlled by a society, and approved by Synod, is permissible.

#### *Grounds:*

1. Due to the particularly vital relationship of education on the higher level to the church.

2. To provide an equitable basis for co-operative support throughout the denomination.

3. This will be a great boon to the society controlled college. Synods have repeatedly expressed the conviction (Acts 1908, Art. 37; Acts 1926, Art. 31; Acts 1957, p. 46, f. 1.) that society control is, scripturally, the more correct way to conduct a college. Then surely, every attempt on the part of our members to move in the direction of carrying out Scriptural principle ought to receive full and unhesitating support from Synod.

B. Classis North Central Iowa overtures the Synod of 1960 to establish a denominational education fund supported by denominational quota, providing a per student (Christian Reformed Student) annual support in colleges, predominantly controlled by the Christian Reformed constituency and approved by the Synod.

#### *Grounds:*

1. This will bring about great unity in our higher educational program.

2. This will ensure continued support from all our areas in carrying out our academic program.

3. This will provide a sound basis for attainment and continuance of high academic standards in all our educational institutions.

C. In order to implement the above, Classis North Central Iowa overtures the Synod of 1960 to form a standing committee, composed of the special advisory and assisting budget committee and two representatives from each college concerned, these representatives to be chosen by the respective executive boards, to advise Synod on the problems of eligibility for help from the denominational fund, equitable proportionment of the fund, amount of the quota required, and also to advise Synod concerning current financial problems needing evaluation and requiring adjustment in policy.

D. Thus Classis North Central Iowa concurs with Classis Sioux Center, see Overture No. 25 (cf. Overtures 35, 36).

Classis North Central Iowa,  
K. Tebben, S. C.

### No. 44 — Single Nomination to Fill O. T. Chair in the Seminary

Classis North Central Iowa expresses its disappointment with the action of the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary in submitting only one name in filling the anticipated vacancy of the chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary.



*Grounds:*

1. Presenting only one name places undue limits on Synod in making an appointment, which may be detrimental in meeting the immediate educational needs of the Seminary.

2. We concur with the Seminary Faculty that, at the present time, more than one qualified nominee is available.

3. The Board of Trustees has not, as yet, given sufficient reasons for presenting only one name.

Classis North Central Iowa,  
K. Tebben, S. C.

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**No. 45 — Nomination for O. T. Chair Calvin Seminary**

Classis Eastern Ontario overtures Synod to reject the nomination of one name for the chair of Old Testament Theology at Calvin Seminary.

*Grounds:*

1. No evidence is given by the Board of Trustees that a single nomination is necessary.

2. Qualified men belonging to our own Christian Reformed Church were bypassed.

3. One of these qualified men, Rev. J. H. Stek, was on nomination for the position of professor in Old Testament Theology only two years ago.

Classis Eastern Ontario,  
A. Rumph, S. C.

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**No. 46 — Canadian Immigration Quota**

Classis Eastern Ontario overtures Synod to establish a per family quota of 25¢ for the Immigration Committee for Canada.

*Grounds:*

1. The classical and local participation in placement-work and after-care for Dutch immigrants places a heavy financial burden on immigrant-churches.

2. Donations from diaconates in the United States are far below the expectations.

Classis Eastern Ontario,  
A. Rumph, S. C.

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**No. 47 — Revised Church Order**

Classis Eastern Ontario overtures Synod to eliminate in Art. 11 and Art. 26 of the proposed Church Order the words, "when circumstances permit."

*Ground:*

The proposed changed reading is more in harmony with the unconditional commission given in Scripture.

Classis Eastern Ontario,  
A. Rumph, S. C.

**No. 48 — Special Gift Fund for TCNN**

Classis Eastern Ontario overtures Synod to disapprove the decision of the Board of Foreign Missions with respect to a Special Gift Fund for the Theological College of Northern Nigeria.

*Grounds:*

This decision is in conflict with the clear decision of Synod of 1959, that "the Christian Reformed Church participates in TCNN only to the extent of loaning Dr. H. Boer as teacher of Reformed Theology in the TCNN" (Acts, 1959, p. 46, art. 110).

Classis Eastern Ontario,

A. Rumph, S. C.

**No. 49 — Proposal of the Committee of Education**

Classis Eastern Ontario overtures Synod not to adopt the proposed plan for a Department of Religious Education with a full-time Secretary of Education.

*Grounds:*

1. A permanent committee leads us in the direction of centralization, which is not the cure of the problem.

2. We feel that improvement must be sought in a return to the study of the confessions, in a call to all office-bearers and youth leaders to study with new zeal our Reformed heritage, in finding ways and means to improve the teaching and study of our Reformed Confessions in Calvin College and Seminary, and finally, in improving and publishing material which is written, not in the first place by a permanent committee, but by talented and gifted office-bearers in our Church.

Classis Eastern Ontario,

A. Rumph, S. C.

**No. 50 — Nomination for O. T. Chair in Seminary**

Classis Hamilton overtures Synod not to accept the nomination of one name submitted by the Board of Trustees for the chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary.

*Grounds:*

1. The churches and classes have had no opportunity to consider the reasons for said action according to the "Procedure in Making Appointments" (cf. Acts, 1958, Art. 53, p. 18).

2. The nomination bypasses all candidates of our own denomination and those of our sister-churches.

Classis Hamilton,

A. H. Venema, S. C.

**No. 51 — Yearbook Information**

Classis Hamilton requests Synod that the names and addresses of the secretaries of the diaconates of the churches appear in the Yearbook.

Classis Hamilton,

A. H. Venema, S. C.

### No. 52 — Special Gift Fund for the TCNN

Classis Hamilton overtures Synod to refuse the establishment of a special gift fund for the financial support of the TCNN as recommended by the Board of Foreign Missions and to abide by the decision of the 1959 Synod: "The Christian Reformed Church participates in TCNN *only to the extent of loaning* Dr. H. Boer as teacher of Reformed Theology in the TCNN."

*Grounds:*

1. No reasons have been presented by the Board of Foreign Missions to rescind the decision of the Synod of 1959.

2. The appeal of the Board of Foreign Missions to a decision of the Synod of 1958 is incorrect, since this was merely a temporary arrangement pending a final decision on participation in TCNN (cf. Acts, 1958, Art. 113, C, 3, page 60).

Classis Hamilton,  
A. H. Venema, S. C.

### No. 53 — Nomination for O. T. Seminary Chair

Classis Chatham overtures Synod to consider members of our own church first of all for nomination to the Old Testament chair.

*Grounds:*

1. We should not look to men outside our church to teach our future ministers when we have qualified men within our church.

2. Other things being equal, we may expect our own men to stimulate love for our own church in the hearts of our future ministers, which is at least as essential as sound theological training.

Classis Chatham,  
S. Cooper, S. C.

### No. 54 — Solicitation of Special Gifts for TCNN

Classis Chatham overtures Synod to approve the action of the Board of Foreign Missions, and to allow the solicitation of such funds.

*Grounds:*

1. The Synod of 1959 did not express itself explicitly on the issue of the solicitation of funds. It did not rescind the decision of the Synod of 1958 dealing with this question.

2. The Synod of 1959 authorized funds for a part of the amount which was asked and which was promised. Furthermore, Synod declared that it wanted to be helpful.

3. We have a moral obligation to fulfill what was promised. Our sister church is looking to us to fulfill our promise.

*Elucidations:*

The Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions had before it at its meeting in February 1960, a request from the Nigerian General Conference "to establish a special gift fund in accordance with the provisions that were made by the Synod of 1958 in response to the request of the Benue Church" for the initial building needs of TCNN, adding that "other missions and churches are looking to us to

fulfill" what was promised in 1958. After due consideration of this request, the Board decided to approve this request.

The question which the Board faced was whether the decision of the Synod of 1959 nullified the decision of 1958. On this question there was a difference of opinion and judgment. In 1958 Synod decided to "permit special gifts to be solicited for the native church which desires to participate in TCNN, and that it be understood that this does not further commit the CRC to the TCNN at this time inasmuch as the support is given to the native church and the responsibility for expansion of TCNN at this time is the responsibility of the native church."

*Grounds:*

- a) The Benue Church has requested such help.
- b) The CRC has on other occasions allowed the solicitation of gifts, without thereby committing itself to actual participation in the particular causes concerned. Acts 1958, Art. 113.

In 1959 Synod decided that: "The CRC participate in TCNN only to the extent of loaning Dr. H. Boer as teacher of Reformed Theology in TCNN." "Synod instruct the CR Board of Foreign Missions and the Nigerian General Conference to maintain and develop the Reformed Pastors' Training program in Nigeria with a view to hopefully establishing a Reformed Theological Seminary. *Ground:* The Vernacular Pastors' Training School is serving a good purpose" (Acts, 1959, Art. 110, 1; Art. 115, 5).

It is necessary to observe in the first place that the Synod of 1959 did not express itself explicitly on the matter of solicitation of funds. This led the delegates of one classis which had protested the action of 1958 to say to Synod that they were dissatisfied with Synod for failing to deal with the substance of their protest (Acts, 1959, Art. 193, II). This fact in itself is significant.

In the second place the decision of 1958, when approving the solicitation of gifts declared that it was to be understood that "this did not further commit the CRC of TCNN at this time inasmuch as the support is given to the Native church," whose responsibility it is to develop TCNN. This decision was taken upon the background of the fact that Synod decided "to continue Dr. Harry Boer as a teacher in TCNN" (Acts, 1958, p. 59). The Synod of 1959 decided to do no more than loan Dr. Boer. If then in 1958, after deciding to continue Dr. Boer as teacher, the soliciting of funds for TCNN *did not further commit* the CRC to TCNN, it is reasonable to conclude that the soliciting of funds does not now further commit the CRC. Such gifts represent a *gift* to a *weak sister church*.

There is, however, more in the decision of 1959 which points in this direction. The Synod of 1959 decided that "The CRC make funds available to pay... for... housing" for Dr. Boer (Art. 110, 2). That kind of capital expense comes out of special gifts, and is understood to be a part of the full amount asked by the Benue Church for the initial cost of TCNN. In a recent letter to his mission friends, Rev. E. Smith wrote, "The CRC is asked for \$14,000 towards the buildings. Of this amount the Synod has promised \$5,180 for Dr. Boer's home" (Letter Jan. 23, 1960). The Synod of 1959 has therefore authorized at least the solicitation of those funds.

Furthermore, the Synod of 1959 stated that while "it cannot see its way clear to be co-responsible for the college," said, "However, it would like to be helpful, especially because the Tiv and Benue Churches are interested in the College" (Acts, Art. 110, 4). It would seem that this desire to be helpful means more than just loaning Dr. Boer.

Classis Chatham,  
S. Cooper, S. C.

### No. 55 — Denominational Fund for Ministers' Moving Expenses

Classis British Columbia overtures Synod to adopt a Denominational Fund out of which the moving expenses of ministers who have accepted a call be paid.

*Grounds:*

1. This would provide equitable distribution among the churches of the moving expenses of ministers who have accepted a call. The frequency of moving and the amount of expenses involved are not solely within the control of a local church but are determined by factors relating to denominational life.

2. This would prevent churches from hesitating to call a minister who was deemed suitable where acceptance would entail too high moving expenses.

Classis British Columbia,  
J. Hoogland, S. C.

### No. 56 — Apartheid Policy in South Africa

Classis Kalamazoo overtures Synod to appoint a committee to consider the advisability of sending a communication to our sister church in South Africa regarding its stand on the Apartheid policy.

*Ground:* The concern in our churches regarding this matter warrants a study of it by a committee.

P.S. We trust that Synod will see fit to take up this belated overture in view of the recent tensions.

Classis Kalamazoo,  
H. L. De Weerd, S. C.

### No. 57 — Particular Synods

Classis Wisconsin overtures Synod of 1960 not to institute Particular Synods.

*Grounds:*

1. The grounds given by the Synod of 1957 for instituting such Particular Synods have not established either the need, the feasibility nor the desirability of such Particular Synods. They merely declare that, "they have a legitimate place in the Reformed system of church government," that such "institution is warranted," and adds "that the institution of Particular Synods may greatly benefit our churches" — a highly hypothetical statement.

2. The warnings re the dangers of Particular Synods indicated in Overture No. 7 in the Acts of Synod of 1959 and further elucidated in Overture No. 33 of the Agenda of 1960 are indeed pertinent and weighty and should lead us to desist from further action in this direction.

Please note the following considerations:

a. To add another regional body cannot but promote sectionalism, more committees, clerks, and a road block to those members having protests or appeals: first to consistory, then to classis, then to Particular Synod, then to General Synod — and with what result? Probable loss of the protestants.

b. To assign more work to ministers and to obtain elders for service to another body will become a burden to many who are now active. To entrust such work only on the basis of availability instead of ability is not in the interest of the church.

c. Efficiency demands a streamlining of church practice. The classis is the proper body to handle much of the work not sent on to Synod. See Classis Wisconsin's Overture No. 8 to the Synod of 1959.

d. The number of delegates to the General Synod can well be reduced to one minister and one elder from each classis. This action would result in an efficient representative and deliberative body, and surely with considerable economy.

Classis Wisconsin,

Rev. Martin G. Zylstra, S. C.

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### No. 58 — Inter-Church Correspondence

The consistory of the First Christian Reformed Church of Toronto respectfully overtures the Synod of 1960 to pave the way for closer contact or union with the Canadian Reformed Churches by taking the following measures:

1. Working toward establishing a sisterly relationship with the "Gereformeerde kerken in Nederland (Vrijgemaakt)," by approaching these churches on the subject of taking up mutual correspondence.

*Grounds:*

a. Both denominations have the same doctrinal standards.

b. The Christian Reformed Church maintains correspondence with the "Christelijke Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland," which however reject the doctrinal statement of 1905 (1908) in the same way as the Liberated Churches in the Netherlands do.

c. The Christian Reformed Church maintains correspondence with the Reformed Church in America, in spite of some well-known objections against doctrinal opinions.

d. Churches whose usages differ from ours merely in non-essentials shall not be rejected (Church Order, Art. 85).

2. Putting aside as being no longer in force in the Christian Reformed Church the doctrinal statement of 1908 regarding the covenant of grace and regeneration.

*Grounds:*

a. This doctrinal statement was never meant to be a new form of unity, but only a temporarily necessary statement.

b. The doctrine of the covenant of grace and regeneration is sufficiently expressed in the Form of Unity and in the Form of Baptism, which are the same in both denominations.

c. With the intention to establish good relations with and to come to reunion with the Liberated Churches the Reformed Churches of the Netherlands recently declared to put aside the aforesaid doctrinal statement.

d. We should be mindful of the difference between extra- and intra-confessional differences, according to the words of Calvin: "All the heads of true doctrine are not in the same position. Some are so necessary to be known, that all must hold them to be fixed and undoubted as the proper essentials of doctrine. Others, again, which are the subject of controversy among churches, do not destroy the unity of faith" (Inst. IV, I, 12).

Consistory of Toronto I,

Dr. L. Praamsma, President

F. Masselink, Clerk

**No. 59 — Reformed Theological Seminary in Nigeria**

Classis Toronto overtures Synod of 1960 to instruct the Board of Foreign Missions to proceed without delay in establishing the Reformed Theological Seminary in Nigeria.

*Ground:*

The difficulties which are evident in several overtures in the Agenda for this Synod (See Overtures Nos. 26, 28, 31, 37, 38) are caused by the delay in the establishment of this Reformed Seminary.

Classis Toronto,

Rev. H. Hollander, S. C.

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**No. 60 — Nomination of Dr. Kerr**

Classis Toronto requests Synod to reject the single nomination of Rev. Kerr for the Chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary.

*Grounds:*

1. Insufficient reasons are given by the Board of Trustees for a one-name nomination (See Acts, 1958, page 373).

2. This single nomination ignores or bypasses possible nominees out of our church or sister churches.

Classis Toronto,

Rev. H. Hollander, S. C.

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**No. 61 — Publication Committee and Church Papers**

Classis Alberta South overtures Synod to define clearly the relationship between the Publication Committee of Synod and the editors of our church papers. Classis is concerned that the general responsibility for the editorials in The Banner and De Wachter rests with the Editorial Committee of the Publication Committee, especially in matters which obviously are or will be controversial, rather than being the sole responsibility of the editor of each paper.

Classis Alberta South,

Rev. G. W. Van Den Berg, S. C.

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**No. 62 — Quota for Canadian Immigration**

Classis Alberta South overtures Synod to give serious consideration to reestablishing the Canadian Immigration Committee on a sound denominational basis which will realistically face the need of maintaining a vital committee and central office, and a staff of part-time field men for important areas. We make this request with full knowledge of the fact that in response to several overtures, the Synod of 1959 discontinued the quota support for Canadian immigration. We do so in the light of the fact that within a few months of Synod's decision, each classis as far as we know in Canada endorsed the whole concept of immigration work by adopting quotas on the classical level of from 75c to \$1 per family, viewed as an absolute minimum to keep the work going. We are convinced of the importance of the work for the whole church, and of the need to carry on this service of benevolence to brethren in the faith. We therefore urge that:

1. A substantial quota, equal at least to that requested by the committee itself, be set for Canadian Immigration.

2. That the committee be recommended to the diaconates of the churches for further support to carry on the work of the fieldmen in providing for the urgent need of immigrants as new arrivals and in the period of initial integration.

3. That the organization of the committee be continued on a one-member per classis basis in order to be representative of and to keep contact with the churches of each classis.

4. That the committee be asked to consider moving the central office or secretariat from Trenton, Ontario, to Ottawa.

Classis Alberta South,

Rev. G. W. Van Den Berg, S. C.

### No. 63 — Apartheid Racial Policies

As is well known, the issues and the policies connoted by the term "apartheid" have resulted in both world-wide attention being given to, and criticism of those churches which embrace Calvinism as their theological position. Classis Grand Rapids South respectfully requests Synod to take cognizance of and to study this matter in the light of its stand on race relations, giving particular regard as to what position and action it should take with reference to "Die Gereformeerde Kerk in Zuid-Afrika," with which it maintains a sister-relationship.

#### *Grounds:*

1. There is unrest among the laity of our denomination regarding this matter.
2. The circumstances of the present may well affect adversely the future mission efforts of the Reformed Churches throughout the entire continent of Africa in particular, and other parts of the world in general.

Classis Grand Rapids South,

Rev. D. Wisse, S. C.

### No. 64 — Particular Synods

Classis Grand Rapids South overtures Synod not to institute Particular Synods.

#### *Grounds:*

1. It is true according to Art. 47 of the Church Order that Particular Synods may have a legitimate place in the Reformed system of Church Polity, but it has never been proved that they have a necessary place, and are actually required by the Church Order under all circumstances. Permission for a thing is quite different from being essential and necessary.

2. Particular Synods foster sectionalism which must be studiously and diligently avoided. Already now our study committee proposes that our Canadian churches have their Particular Synods. This new set-up of Particular Synods will accentuate rather than moderate these different mentalities, attitudes and approaches of our people to the various problems of church life.

3. Boardism which ought to be curbed more and more, will be greatly increased. Since General Synod will meet then biannually, these Boards will be compelled to make more weighty decisions in the interim when General Synod does not meet.



4. Since our congregations are scattered throughout the whole of U.S. and Canada, it covers a territory somewhat similar to that of the greater part of Europe. This necessitates a large amount of travel, and this proposed change will prove both expensive in finance and man-hours. Take the case, e.g. of the suggestion that Detroit, Michigan, and Whitinsville, Massachusetts, and Florida compose one Particular Synod.

5. The experiences of other denominations in our own land, as well as individuals, both here and on the continent have not been too happy a one with Particular Synods.

6. Though in Art. 47, Particular Synods are permissible and even suggested, that does not make them necessarily necessary or profitable for the church. The study committee of Synod envisions additional full-time administrative jobs in all eight areas suggested, entailing more expense, more machinery, and is not able to point to the benefits that will accrue from all these changes.

Classis Grand Rapids South,  
Rev. D. Wisse, S. C.

### No. 65 — Particular Synods

Classis Grandville reaffirms its former overture sent to the Synod of 1958 opposing Particular Synods (cf. Acts of Synod, 1958, page 438, No. 32 on Particular Synods as to our reasons for this position).

Seven reasons are stated in the above-mentioned overture as to our opposition to Particular Synods, namely,

1. We question their necessity in our system.
2. We believe they foster sectionalism.
3. We believe they would foster boardism.
4. We believe they would lessen supervision in the examination of candidates.
5. We believe they will incur more expenses.
6. We believe the experiences of other denominations has not been too happy a one with Particular Synods.
7. We question whether they would be profitable for the church.

Classis Grandville,  
Rev. S. A. Werkema, S. C.

### No. 66 — Revised Church Order

In the matter of the Revised Church Order, Articles 1 to 27 as it is proposed to the Synod of 1960, Classis Holland appreciates the tentative Church Order revision, Articles 1 to 27, and overtures Synod that topics should be placed above each article in order that the subject matter may be seen at a glance.

Classis Holland,  
Rev. J. Beebe, S. C.

### No. 67 — Conclusions of Utrecht

Classis Alberta North urges Synod to adopt the proposal of Overtures Nos. 10 and 20, and to declare that, "*The Conclusions of Utrecht (1905) as adopted in*

1908, no longer have the status of official doctrinal deliverance, binding upon our churches." To the grounds submitted with these overtures, we would add:

1. These statements were greatly influenced by the disputes which were actual and vital in those days, and therefore bear the inadequacy of definite historical reference.

2. Many faithful members of the Christian Reformed Church in Canada, who, while they lived in the Netherlands, did not belong to the membership of our sister church, "De Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland," would greatly rejoice if such a decision could be made.

3. As to the present situation of the church, our faith with regard to the Covenant of Grace and Holy Baptism has been sufficiently formulated in the Three Forms of Unity.

4. The Canadian situation stresses the need for a truly Reformed ecumenicity.

Classis Alberta North,

Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

#### No. 68 — Nomination of Old Testament Chair Calvin Seminary

Classis Alberta North overtures Synod to reject the single nomination of Prof. Kerr for the chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary, and to include the names of Rev. John Stek and Dr. John Zinkand in the nomination.

##### Grounds:

1. The nomination of Prof. Kerr has bypassed all our own men. This should be done only when we are certain that we have no qualified men of our own, and when the nominee from outside our church is of exceptional ability, against whom no doubt can arise as to his commitment to our Creeds and accepted kingdom activities (e.g. Christian Schools).

2. Rev. Stek and Dr. Zinkand are candidates of ability, recommended by the Seminary Faculty for nomination.

Classis Alberta North,

Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

#### No. 69 — Recommended Changes in Revised Church Order

Classis Grand Rapids West overtures Synod to make the following changes in the first 27 articles of the proposed Church Order:

1. *Article 4* — The second line to read, "In special circumstances the consistory may submit less than twice the number of one name for each vacancy, giving reasons for their departure from the rule."

##### Ground:

There are cases in which a congregation will not have enough qualified men to present a double number, but will have more than the number to be elected.

2. *Article 11* — Add a section "c" as follows: "c. The minister, with the elders, shall lead the congregation into proper activities in reaching and visiting unbelievers to win them for Christ, especially those in her own community."

3. *Article 26* — Add a section "c" as follows: "c. They shall, with the minister(s), lead the congregation into proper activities in reaching and visiting unbelievers to win them for Christ, especially those in her own community."

Classis Grand Rapids West,  
Rev. J. A. Visser, S. C.

## No. 70 — Rules for Synodical Procedure

Classis Chicago South overtures Synod of 1960 to delete Section III, A, 5, from the Rules for Synodical Procedure: "The emeriti professors as well as the active professors shall have their advisory functions at Synods."

### *Grounds:*

1. The granting of advisory functions to emeriti professors is in conflict with the spirit of Art. 84 of the Church Order: "No church shall in any way lord it over other churches, no minister over other ministers, no elder or deacon over other elders or deacons."
2. No emeritus minister by virtue of his office is granted a voice in the deliberation of Synod.
3. The enlarged seminary faculty can adequately provide Synod with advice.

Classis Chicago South,  
Rev. P. Huisman, S. C.

## No. 71 — Theological Training School in Nigeria

Classis Alberta North overtures Synod to instruct its Board of Foreign Missions and the Nigerian General Conference to work in complete accordance with the decisions of the Synod of 1959, regarding TCNN.

### *Grounds:*

I. Actions of the Nigerian General Conference have been in the direction of opposing rather than executing these decisions; and the Board of Foreign Missions is acquiescing in these actions of the Conference.

A. Concerning these matters the Synod of 1959 decided, "1. that the Christian Reformed Church participate in TCNN *only to the extent of loaning Dr. H. Boer as teacher of Reformed Theology in the TCNN.*" It also declared that "in view of its total commitment to the Reformed faith, it can not see its way clear to be co-responsible for the college which may represent many different doctrines." Acts, 1959, pp. 46, 47. "5. That Synod instruct the Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions and the Nigerian General Conference to maintain and develop the Reformed Pastors' Training Program in Nigeria with a view to hopefully establishing a Reformed Theological Seminary. *Ground: The Vernacular Pastors' Training School is serving a good purpose.*" Acts, 1959, pp. 46, 47.

B. Subsequent to these decisions we note the following:

1. The Nigerian General Conference continues to have a member representing it on the board of the TCNN (NGC, Minute, 2977).
2. The NGC officially expressed its dissatisfaction with the decision of the 1959 Synod, to limit participation to teaching only, and requested the board to set up a special gift fund for contributions to TCNN capital expense (NGC, Minute, 3035).

At its annual meeting in February 1960 the board, after extensive debate, agreed to this request by a 15 to 14 vote.

3. The NGC, when it finally notified the national church of the 1959 Synod's decision regarding TCNN, accompanied that notification with a statement of its own disagreement with that decision (NGC, Minute, 3036).

4. The NGC also requested subsidy for 60% of the expenses of the students of the national church who are taking pastoral training. This includes, *in fact*, *applies particularly to students at TCNN*, where costs are considerably higher than they are in the programs on our own field (NGC, Minute, 3029). To this request the board also agreed.

5. The NGC decided to loan money to the Tiv church to repay its past expenses for this training of TCNN students at Gindiri (NGC, Minute, 3101). The board approved this action of the NGC.

6. The NGC decided to establish a pre-seminary course at Lupwe. It is evident, however, that the decision was not made "with a view to hopefully establishing a Reformed Theological Seminary," for, according to the article, "Pre-Theological Training in Nigeria," in *The Banner* of December 4, 1959, page 6, the purpose of said pre-seminary course is to "prepare for the Certificate Course at the Theological College of Northern Nigeria" (that is, TCNN).

Evidently the Nigerian General Conference is pursuing a course of participation in the TCNN that disregards in part the limitations and stipulations set forth by the Synod of 1959 and is being supported in this action by the board.

II. The Church Order states: "Mission Work — The missionary work of the Church is regulated by the General Synod in the Mission Order" (Art. 51). The Mission Order, Art. 1, recognizes as basic the "principle that Synod shall, as far as possible, control all our mission work which demands denominational co-operation." A missionary, in accepting a call to a mission field agrees that his "labors are to be under the direction of Synod."

III. These synodical decisions lose their significance when they are not fully executed and their limitations observed.

Classis Alberta North,  
Rev. G. Nonnekes, S. C.

## No. 72 — Postpone Indefinitely Regional Synods

Classis Grand Rapids East overtures the Synod of 1960 to postpone indefinitely the matter of initiating Regional Synods.

### Grounds:

1. The grounds given by the Synod of 1957 for the establishment of Particular Synods have not established the need or advantage of such Synods.

2. The plan for the establishment of Regional Synods (cf. Agenda, 1960, pages 195-203) does not offer any advantage over our present organizational structure.

Classis Grand Rapids East,  
Rev. M. H. Faber, S. C.

## No. 73 — Examination of Candidates

Classis Muskegon overtures Synod to continue its examination of aspiring candidates for the Christian Reformed ministry.

*Grounds:*

1. This work is of foremost importance for the well being and future of our churches and urgently requires the attention of our highest and most representative assembly;

2. Problems, such as the infallibility matter of last year (1959), which arise in connection with admission to candidacy can be most representedly and promptly dealt with only by Synod. This is for the well being and peace of our churches.

Classis Muskegon,

Rev. H. Leestma, S. C.

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**No. 74 — Apartheid Policy**

The racial unrest in South Africa is a matter of deep concern to the consistory of Neland Avenue Christian Reformed Church. Several consistorial discussions have taken place because of our ecumenical relationship with Die Gefedereerde Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerke van Suid Afrika, and because of our more intimate relationship with our sister church, Die Gereformeerde Kerke van Suid Afrika. While our relationship with the above churches does not mean that the Christian Reformed Church condones the policy of apartheid, still the question haunts us as to the effect of such relationships upon our foreign and domestic mission programs among the colored races.

We therefore ask that Synod evaluate and determine the future of our above-mentioned relationships with the two Reformed denominations of South Africa. Synod should ascertain whether such continued relationships jeopardize our missionary efforts among the colored races.

*Grounds:*

1. Certain missionaries have expressed deep concern because of the attitude of the Nigerian government toward the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa. The DRCM missionaries were warned that following the independence of Nigeria all South Africans who have been in the country less than 15 years would probably have to leave.

2. Neland Avenue Church, along with the First Grand Rapids Church, is actively carrying on domestic mission work among the colored races through the instrument of the Buckley Chapel. Many have confessed their Lord and Savior and are now members of those two churches. Our program is too precious to be jeopardized by any suggestion that our relationships with South African churches means that we are associated with apartheid.

3. Our denomination carries on work in Harlem, in Japan, in Taiwan, and in many other places. Because of the mass emotion prevalent in the race issue, any charge among the colored races that associates our denomination with apartheid, because of our present ties with the South African Reformed churches, would cause irreparable damage to such missionary efforts.

Neland Avenue Consistory,

Signed,

John Schuring, President

Gerald S. Zylstra, Clerk

**No. 75 — Withdrawal of Professor David Kerr**

Classis Hackensack decided to send the following communication to Synod relative to Prof. David Kerr's withdrawal from the nomination for the Chair of Old Testament at Calvin Seminary:

Classis Hackensack, convened in its May 2 session, took note of the information conveyed to it by its curator regarding Prof. David Kerr's withdrawal from the nomination for the Chair of Old Testament, and deeply regrets the circumstances which accompany this withdrawal. On the basis of the information gained from the curator, the classis hereby requests Synod to express confidence in the Board of Trustees and commends its careful and responsible action in this matter.

Classis Hackensack,  
John E. Meeter, S. C.

**No. 76 — Synodical Decisions of 1908 and 1924**

We herewith submit the following overture to the Synod for consideration:

We, as consistory of Toronto II, request the 1960 Synod to set aside the 1908 decisions in regard to "presumptive regeneration" and those of 1924 anent "common grace." We do so for the following reasons:

1. These doctrinal decisions in question are interpretations of our creeds to the which at least three Reformed church-bodies (Free Christian Reformed Church in Canada, Canadian Reformed Church and Orthodox Protestant Reformed Church) either have objections or at least (to date) misgivings. Our love for Reformed unity with these groups who seriously adhere to the Reformed faith should prompt us to be willing to forego these interpretations so that we may foster our unity with them.

2. The setting aside of these decisions will demonstrate our earnestness in wishing to be one with them. Discussions for unity with these above-mentioned groups, official by major or minor assemblies, or more informally, have always heretofore been stagnated or stalemated by our holding to 1908 or 1924, or both, depending upon each group. Whether we succeed in becoming one with any or all of these groups organically is not now the question, but whether we have done all within our power to become one with them as our Master enjoins is the problem before us. When we have set aside these creedal interpretations, our discussions with these bodies for Reformed ecumenicity is more likely to have a measure of success.

3. It is seemingly fact that we the Christian Reformed Church are the only Reformed Church member of Dutch origin of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod who has such decisions binding upon its ministers and members above the three forms of unity.

With brotherly greetings,  
Yours in Christ,  
Klaas Knoops, Clerk

## PRINTED APPEALS

### No. 1 — Decision of 1959 re Art. V of Belgic Confession

Classis Alberta South protests to the Synod of 1960 the action of the Synod of 1959 in making a doctrinal decision in the interpretation of Article V of the Belgic Confession, which decision is binding on the churches (Acts of Synod 1959, Art. 139, 7b (2), page 68), without first having consulted the churches and requests that this doctrinal deliverance be committed for study to the study committee appointed in 1959.

#### *Grounds:*

a. This decision violates the principle expressed in Article 30 of the Church Order.

b. The interpretation of Article V of the Belgic Confession should be one of the main subjects of study both for the churches and for the synodical study committee with respect to the present discussions concerning Infallibility and Inspiration. (Acts of Synod Art. 139, 7 b (3) page 69; Art. 201, B, 13, page 122.)

c. Synod had declared that the conviction of the church on such a crucial point of doctrine should not be decided hastily; (Acts of Synod, Art. 139-7b (3) ground (a) page 69). At the same time Synod gave an interpretation of the creed in which a highly controversial issue being debated not only in the faculty of the seminary, but also in the bosom of the church, was decided by an immediate and binding pronouncement.

Classis Alberta South,  
G. W. Van Den Berg, S. C.

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### No. 2 — Decision of Classis Orange City re Quota for Society Controlled Colleges

The consistory of the Sanborn Christian Reformed Church regrets to find it necessary to appeal to Synod of 1960 the decisions of Classis Orange City regarding quotas for non-ecclesiastical institutions. The Synod is requested to approve the following four points adopted by Classis Orange City. The consistory of Sanborn believe this should not be done on the grounds adduced in point II.

I. "1. That classis express approval of the policy of granting quota support to Dordt College in view of the particularly vital relationship of higher education to the church as stated by Synod of 1957, Acts of Synod, 1957 pages 46-49, even though Dordt is society controlled.

#### *"Grounds:*

"a. This would open the way for approving a denominational education fund supported by quota, intended, in part, for the support of Dordt College.

"b. This would open the way for local additional support by quota if the need arose and if the consistories found it agreeable."

"2. That Synod be overtured to declare that quota support of higher institutions of learning controlled by a society, and approved by Synod, is permissible.

"a. Due to the particularly vital relationship of education on the higher level to the church.

"b. To provide an equitable basis for co-operative support of higher education throughout the denomination."

"3. That Synod be overtured to establish a denominational education fund supported by denominational quota, providing a per student (Christian Reformed student) annual support in colleges, predominantly controlled by the Christian Reformed constituency and approved by Synod.

*"Grounds:*

"a. This will bring about greater unity in our higher educational program.

"b. This will insure continued support from all our areas in carrying out our academic program.

"c. This will provide a sound basis for the attainment and continuance of high academic standards in all our educational institutions."

"4. That Synod be overtured to form a standing committee, composed of the Synodical Advisory Budget Committee and two representatives from each college concerned — these representatives to be chosen by their respective Executive Boards — to advise Synod on the problems of eligibility for help from the denominational fund, equitable proportionment of the fund, amount of quota required, and also to advise Synod concerning current financial problems needing evaluation and requiring adjustment in policy."

II. The consistory of Sanborn believe Classis Orange City to be in error on these grounds:

1. Dordt College is not an ecclesiastical school. The church has no voice whatever in its administration, teaching, or development. To support such an institution by ecclesiastical quota is contrary to the Church Order and to God's Word.

a. Article 30 of the Church Order states that only ecclesiastical matters are to be transacted at ecclesiastical assemblies. Since Dordt College is not ecclesiastical in any sense, it is the inexorable deduction that it cannot be supported by ecclesiastical quota.

b. God's Word in I Corinthians 14:40 insists that "all things be done decently and in order." While the context has reference to prophesying, it is important to notice that the apostle Paul commands that "*all things* be done decently and in order." That is to say there are not some things in the church which may be done without decency and order. On what premise can it possibly be alleged that the church is doing all things decently and in order if the church stoops to obligate itself financially to any institution in which it has no ecclesiastical voice? We believe ourselves to be correct to deny categorically the existence of such a premise. We appeal to Synod to acknowledge this.

2. It is avidly averred by the proponents of this overture that a quota is not a "debt," a "tax." This is acclaimed at our classical sessions. It is also true in a real sense. No ecclesiastical body presses suit in a court of law to collect its quotas. However, when the averment intends to say that ecclesiastical quotas are not solemn obligations upon the churches, those who so aver are in error, and those who tend to imply that quotas are not obligatory render a disservice to our church and its total membership.

The churches are bound by the decision of major assemblies. Such decisions among us are conceived of as "settled and binding," (Art. 31, Church Order). They ought to remain so. We cannot think of a more unconstitutional act than when the church "settles and binds" upon the churches to support any institution over which the church has no control. To do so even by way of exception is to open the door to others no less deserving; it is to abandon our rules; it is to bring into question our good judgment.

3. Confer Acts of Synod 1959, Art. 123, I - D, 1, page 58.



May our gracious Lord and Savior give His Spirit of wisdom to Synod in this matter, and all its deliberations and decisions.

Humbly submitted,  
The Sanborn Consistory,  
Clifford Vanden Ark, President  
Henry Buteyn, Clerk

Done in consistory March 9, 1960.

Classis has been notified of this appeal March 2, 1960.

### No. 3 — Appeal Decision of Board of Foreign Missions re Special Gift Fund for TCNN

We, the undersigned, members of the Board of Foreign Missions, register our protest against, and objection to the decision of the board taken at its February meeting, "that we heed the request of the NGC 'to establish a special gift fund, in accordance with the provisions that were made by the Synod of 1958 in response to the request of the Benue church and which other missions and churches are looking for us to fulfil' (NGC 3035)."

This action was motivated by minute 3035 of Nigerian General Conference which read as follows: "At the same time conference reluctantly expresses disappointment at the action of Synod with respect to the extent of its participation in TCNN. We have from the beginning believed that in the Nigerian situation, the TCNN offered us the best opportunity to give leadership in theological education. We still believe so. We also believe that the encouragements we have repeatedly received from the board and from previous synods do not permit us to limit our participation to teaching only. We feel that until it becomes evident that the training received by prospective pastors proves to be inadequate, we are morally bound to support it also with the modest financial support that is asked of us. For this reason we request the board to establish a special gift fund in accordance with the provisions that were made by the Synod of 1958 in response to the request of the Benue church and which other missions and churches are looking for us to fulfill."

Since Synod will be called upon to approve the action of the board, we call the attention of Synod to the following facts concerning this request.

#### A. *It Arises Out of Dissatisfaction with Synodical Decisions.*

In presenting this request, NGC expresses disappointment in and disagreement with the decisions of the Synod of 1959 re TCNN: "... conference reluctantly expresses disappointment in the action of Synod with respect to the extent of its participation in TCNN. We have from the beginning believed that in the Nigerian situation, the TCNN offered us the best opportunity to give leadership in theological education. We still believe so."

From this statement it is clear that NGC itself is aware that its request is not in accord with synodical decisions concerning this matter.

#### B. *It is Based on Faulty Presuppositions.*

1. In presenting this request, NGC states that they have been encouraged by Synod and the board to participate in TCNN to a greater extent than the loaning of a teacher. However, this assumption can be disproven by taking note of the following:

a. In 1954 the Executive Committee of the board decided to recommend that Dr. H. R. Boer be loaned to the British Branch of the SUM (ECM 7887).

b. In 1955 the board decided to ask Synod to place Dr. Boer as *teacher* in Gindiri, and the Synod of 1955 acceded to their request. (BM 8049, Acts 1955, p. 29)

c. In 1956 NGC expressed their hearty endorsement of "the principle of co-operation with other evangelical mission bodies of Northern Nigeria in a united theological training school." (NGC 1723) In response to this Dr. Boer drew up a tentative draft for united theological education. The Executive Committee of the board warned Dr. Boer that he make no commitments which would bind NGC or our board (ECM 8879).

d. In 1957 the board, while it encouraged Dr. Boer to continue his teaching as planned, also made the following decisions: (BM 9110).

1) that the program "become more obviously a native church program."

2) and withheld action on a motion which would have committed us "*to assist the native church* in our mission area to carry the proportionate share of the plan."

e. Again in 1957, Synod *only* endorsed the recommendation of the board that Dr. Boer be encouraged *to teach* in the United Theological Seminary, "as originally approved two years ago." (Acts, 1957, p. 55)

f. In 1958, after consideration of a majority and minority report, the board "decided to recommend that Synod participate in the program for United Theological Education in Northern Nigeria." (BM 9637) In response to this recommendation Synod decided to appoint a study committee to come with clearcut recommendations to the Synod of 1959, and:

1) decided "to continue Dr. Boer as *teacher* in the TCNN, under the terms of the 1955 and 1957 decisions of Synod." (Acts, p. 59)

2) decided to "Permit special gifts to be solicited *for the native church* which desires to participate in TCNN, and that it is understood that this *does not further commit the Christian Reformed Church to the TCNN at this time.*" (Acts, p. 60)

g. In 1959 Synod decided to "participate in TCNN only to the extent of loaning Dr. Boer as teacher of Reformed Theology in the TCNN." (Acts, p. 46)

Therefore, we submit that Synod and the board have not always encouraged participation in TCNN, and where they have done so, it has been limited to the position of Dr. Boer as teacher in TCNN.

2. NGC contends that "we are morally bound to support it (TCNN) also with the modest financial support that is asked of us."

a. The argument is based on NGC's position that we have, by virtue of synodical and board decisions, encouraged participation in TCNN to a greater extent than the loaning of a teacher.

b. However, it has been demonstrated that NGC's position is not historically warranted. Therefore, the contention, based on this position, is also unwarranted.

C. *It is not in Accord with the Synodical Decision of 1958 and 1959.*

1. Synods of 1958 and 1959.

a. Synod did authorize the collection of funds in 1958.

b. However, certain things must be considered.

1) It was but a temporary arrangement due to the fact that we had not yet defined our relationship to TCNN.

2) Because Synod feared the implications of this decision, it stated that this did not commit the Christian Reformed Church to TCNN.

3) Because of this decision classical protests were presented to the Synod of 1959. The Synod of 1959 stated that its position of limited participation was a satisfactory answer to these protests. (Acts, art. 115, pt. 6)

c. Therefore, we submit that the decision of 1958, in regard to special gifts cannot be used as a basis for the present collection of funds for TCNN.

2. Synod of 1959.

Synod clearly and definitely stated that "The Christian Reformed Church participate in TCNN only to the extent of loaning Dr. H. Boer as teacher of Reformed Theology in the TCNN." (Acts, art. 110, 1.)

In the light of these facts we urge Synod not to approve the action of the board, and to re-emphasize Synod's stand on our relationship to TCNN.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Peter Vander Weide  
Rev. J. B. Hulst  
Rev. F. Einfeld  
Rev. J. H. De Haan  
Rev. C. Huissen

Rev. G. H. Vande Riet  
Rev. Peter De Jong  
Dr. Peter Y. De Jong  
Rev. C. J. Toeset

#### No. 4 — Appeal Decisions of NGC and Board of Foreign Missions re Student Subsidy

The undersigned, members of the Board of Foreign Missions protest to the Synod of 1960 against the decision of the Nigerian General Conference and the Board of Foreign Missions:

1. "In view of the churches' demonstrated inability to pay the costs of religious leadership training programs,—to give up to 60% of the cost of each student in training for religious leadership." (NGC 3029; Board Minute 793.)

2. To approve the loan of money to the Tiv church "so that they can pay their (tuition) debt for pastors' training at Gindiri pending Home Board approval of the proposed subsidy." (NGC 3101; Board Minute 794.)

##### *Grounds:*

1. The proposed subsidy applies particularly to the students at TCNN, whose costs are higher than the costs of students in pastor training programs on the field. In the previous vernacular training programs on our field student costs have been met locally without such a subsidy. Only since the advent of the TCNN are we met by this request for help. Regardless of how large a part the costs of sending men off the field to TCNN take in this need for help, we are being asked to help pay the expenses of sending them there. The approval of this subsidy is therefore evidently in conflict with the 1959 Synod's decision "to participate in TCNN only to the extent of loaning" a teacher. Paying student costs at an institution is a considerable step beyond merely loaning a teacher to it.

2. The proposed subsidy is in conflict with the indigenous principles upon which the work in this field has been organized. When the church was smaller and weaker it assumed the costs of helping students in pastor training as its responsibility. Now as it grows larger and stronger, such responsibility ought not to be taken over by the mission. If we subsidize the living expenses of students in theological training we can hardly expect them later to live on a salary which the national church can afford to pay. By such subsidy we undermine the principle of self-support in the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Peter De Jong  
Rev. C. Huissen

Rev. G. H. Vande Riet  
Dr. Peter Y. De Jong

### No. 5 — Decision of 1959 re Art. V, Belgic Confession

Classis Chatham, agreeing with the spirit of the appeal of Classis Alberta South found in the printed agenda (cf. Printed Agenda, Appeal No. 1, page 250), protests to the Synod of 1960 the action of the 1959 Synod in making the definitive declaration, "that it is inconsonant with the Creeds to declare or suggest that there is an area of Scripture in which it is allowable to posit the possibility of actual historical inaccuracies" *to be the binding interpretation of Art. V of the Belgic Confession*, "believing without doubt all things contained therein" (Acts, 1959, Art. 139, 7, b, (2), page 68).

#### *Grounds:*

1. This action is contrary to the principle expressed in Art. 30 of the Church Order, which safeguards the rights of the minor assemblies. This principle was violated by the Synod of 1959 when it made a definitive declaration on a matter of doctrine without first having consulted the minor assemblies. The Revised Church Order of our sister churches in the Netherlands expresses this principle with great clarity in Art. 59, point 2: "The General Synod shall not take any definite decisions regarding these matters (such as doctrine, etc.), without having given to the minor assemblies the opportunity to express their feelings. Furthermore, such a decision shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast." (We translate.)

2. This action seems contrary to the desire expressed by the same Synod that "the conviction of the church on such a crucial point of doctrine should not be decided hastily." Cf. Acts, 1959, Art. 139, C, 7, b, (3), (a), page 69.

3. This action appears to be in conflict with the mandate given by the same Synod to the Committee to Study Matters of Infallibility and Inspiration. Although Synod has made the definitive declaration mentioned above, it was still deemed necessary for the Study Committee to examine the relationship between this fixed conception of infallibility and the scriptural and creedal grounds on which it rests (Acts, 1959, Art. 155, IV, B, 3, a, page 73).

Classis Chatham humbly requests Synod, in the light of this appeal, to pronounce that the declaration in question be understood, not as definitive and binding at this time, but open for further consideration and study by the minor assemblies as well as by the Study Committee.

Classis Chatham,  
Rev. S. Cooper, S. C.

### No. 6 — Overture No. 48 of 1959 Synod

Classis Chicago South protests the action of the Synod of 1959 when an overture (Acts, 1959, Overture No. 48, page 73) was disposed of on the grounds that "it overtures Synod not to do what Synod has not yet decided to do."

#### *Grounds:*

1. Classis is of the opinion that this action summarily dismissed the overture without going into the merits of the overture.

2. Classis has the right to urge Synod not to take certain action just as well as it has the right to urge approval of specific issues before Synod.

3. Synod of 1959 did accept an overture formulated in a manner similar to that of overture No. 48, submitted by Classis Chicago South. Cf. Overture No. 38, page 548.

4. Previous synods have accepted overtures phrased similarly. Cf. Acts, 1957, Overture No. 42, page 37.

Classis Chicago South  
Rev. P. Huisman, S. C.

#### No. 7 — Appeal Decision of Classis Alberta North re Overture No. 14

The consistory of the First Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton, Alberta, protests to the Synod of 1960 the decision taken by Classis Alberta North to overture Synod to have an all-Canadian Regional Synod (Overture No. 14, Agenda, 1960, page 228).

The consistory overtures Classis Alberta North at its April 27, 1960, meeting to delete from Overture No. 14, "It is of vital interest that Canadian classes meet as a single Regional Synod for the time being," on the following grounds:

1. Canadian Regional Synods would tend to foster sectionalism in the denomination, which must be avoided. It will accentuate rather than moderate these different mentalities, attitudes and approaches of the people in our denomination, to the various problems of church life.

2. An all-Canadian Regional Synod would increase considerably the cost of operation, in comparison with other Regional Synods.

3. The national problems of the church are not significantly numerous to warrant an all-Canadian Regional Synod.

4. The term "Regional Synod" implies a regional geographical area. An all-Canadian Regional Synod does not fall under this definition as applied to the Christian Reformed denomination.

This overture was defeated by a close vote at Classis Alberta North.

Done in Consistory,

May 16, 1960.

Consistory of First Edmonton,

Rev. G. H. Vande Riet, Pres.

Mr. J. Winkelaar, Clerk

## COMMUNICATIONS

### No. 1 — Celebration of Anniversaries

The Faculty of Calvin Seminary respectfully suggests that Synod make provision for the suitable celebration of the anniversaries of the publication of the Belgic Confession (1961) and the Heidelberg Catechism (1963).

Fraternally,  
Henry Stob  
Secretary of the Faculty

### No. 2 — Article C.O. 9, and Admittance of Rev. Finlay A. McCormick

Classis Eastern Ontario calls the attention of Synod to the fact that said classis conducted an examination of Rev. Finlay A. McCormick on May 11, 1960, according to Art. 9 of the Church Order. At this meeting the synodical examiners of Classes Chatham, Hamilton, and Toronto were present. The advice of the synodical examiners was against admitting Rev. Finlay A. McCormick to the ministry of the Christian Reformed Church.

Classis Eastern Ontario requests Synod to adjudicate this matter by hearing Rev. McCormick in person.

#### *Grounds:*

1. There is a difference of opinion between classis and the synodical examiners (cf. Acts, 1912, Art. 72).
2. Classis is of the opinion as revealed by written ballot of 30 for and 9 against, with 1 abstention, that Rev. McCormick is worthy of being declared eligible to receive a call in our churches.

Classis Eastern Ontario,  
Rev. A. Rumph, S. C.

### No. 3 — Status of Candidate Mr. John N. Dykstra

#### ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Classis Rocky Mountain in session March 1 and 2, decided to send the following information to the Synod of 1960:

Regretfully Classis Rocky Mountain feels constrained to call the attention of Synod to the following with respect to Candidate John N. Dykstra, who accepted the call to serve the Luctor Christian Reformed Church.

1. Candidate Dykstra was examined by classis on September 15-16, 1959, in the presence of the synodical examiners of Classes Pella, Orange City, and Sioux Center. Classis, after hearing the advice of the three synodical examiners, did not see fit to recommend him for ordination.
2. Classis, with the advice of the three synodical examiners, recommended that the Luctor church employ Mr. Dykstra as stated supply until the next meeting of

classis, at which time he might submit to a re-examination providing Luctor's consistory should request this.

3. At the meeting of classis March 1-2, 1960, the Luctor consistory informed classis as follows: "On the above date (Feb. 1, 1960) the consistory of Luctor under the supervision of our counsellor, Rev. H. Baak, met together. After careful and prayerful consideration the consistory voted unanimously by ballot not to recommend Candidate John N. Dykstra for re-examination by classis." Classis concurred in this.

4. Carbon copies of a letter, addressed to the Stated Clerk of Synod, dated Feb. 16, 1960, and to the stated clerk of classis, sent by Mr. Dykstra in which he requests the annulment of his candidacy was read. Also a letter from Dr. Danhof verifying receipt of this letter is read at classis. The letters are received as information.

In the light of the above Classis Rocky Mountain declares that the call extended by the Luctor Christian Reformed Church and its acceptance by Candidate Mr. John N. Dykstra is annulled.

Classis further adopted a resolution to inform Mr. Dykstra of the action of classis and expressing our eagerness and willingness to help him at any time he may request it in so far as we are able.

Yours in the Lord,

Classis Rocky Mountain,  
Rev. John Zwaanstra, S. C.

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#### No. 4 — Seminary Chair of Old Testament

Classis Grandville in session on May 19, 1960, decided to urge the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary not to present names for the Chair of Old Testament Theology at this time so as to give the Church ample opportunity to consider possible candidates.

The undersigned was instructed to send a copy of this decision to the Board of Trustees and also to Synod.

Classis Grandville,  
Rev. S. A. Werkema, S. C.

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#### No. 5 — Request for Benevolent Support

##### ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

The Consistory of the Sherman Street Christian Reformed Church, with the knowledge, advice, and consent of Classis Grand Rapids East, desires to bring to the attention of Synod an exceptional case of need for benevolent support. This involves the family of the late Mr. J. Rip.

Mr. Jacob Rip was a student at Calvin Seminary. During his Middler Year he was taken ill, and exploratory surgery revealed an advanced case of cancer. The brother died soon after, without having been able to return to his home and family. He leaves a widow with six children ranging from 17 to 4 years in age. The two oldest are girls of high school age. The third is a son who is retarded and suffers from glaucoma since birth, a condition that will require surgery and further medical care. The fourth child is a girl, and the two youngest are boys.

Mr. Rip sacrificed all his financial resources in supporting his family while attending Calvin College and Seminary. He was eagerly looking forward to serving God as a minister of the gospel in the Christian Reformed denomination, and served the congregation of Purewater, South Dakota, last summer with joy in a Seminary Field Work assignment. Before coming to Calvin Mr. Rip had worked out the financial details to the point where he would have been able to finish his work at Calvin Seminary without aid from classis. However, his illness intervened, and hospital expenses and the costs connected with his funeral and the moving of the family back to the original home in Oak Harbor, Washington, not only consumed all the resources, but would have plunged the family into impossible debt had not the need been met by benevolent gifts from fellow-students, friends, and a few of the local churches.

The equity built up in the home purchased in Grand Rapids and the sum left by life insurance will all have to be invested in securing a house for the family in Oak Harbor. Since the brother was not covered by Social Security, the widow faces the tremendous task of seeking to support her family. State aid in such cases is given under restrictions which make it inadequate and impossible to augment the income by further earnings.

Since Mr. Rip had invested his life's earnings in preparing himself for the gospel ministry, leaving his family without means after his death, the consistory of the Sherman Street Christian Reformed Church hereby petitions Synod for permission to contact, through its diaconate, all the churches of our denomination for a benevolent gift to establish a special fund which would provide this family with support equal to that it would have received from the Christian Reformed Ministers' Pension and Relief Fund had Mr. Rip been ordained and enrolled in this plan. The consistory suggests that one free-will gift from each congregation, averaging 50c per family for the denomination, would be adequate for this purpose. We would further propose, should Synod approve, that this fund be administered by the Oak Harbor Christian Reformed Diaconate according to the rules of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Fund. The money obtained through these gifts should be invested in interest-bearing bonds in such a way that the interest and part of the principal be used each year for this support. The aid for this family would automatically cease when the funds collected in this way are exhausted. It is suggested furthermore that if any funds remain after the family no longer needs such aid, this money be paid into the treasury of the Ministers' Pension and Relief Fund, designated for the purpose of relief of beneficiaries of this fund when needed.

Brethren, this is an exceptional situation beyond the ability of the diaconates involved to handle, and we feel exceptional measures ought to be employed by our denomination to help this family in its distress. The danger of setting a precedent in this matter is minimal, and if similar cases do occur in the future, it is our considered opinion that the church ought to give the needed assistance. We pray that she may do so in this instance.

Done in Consistory,  
May 23, 1960.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

The Consistory of the Sherman St.  
Christian Reformed Church,

Rev. John A. Mulder, President

Mr. John Olthoff, Clerk



## No. 6—Request for Benevolent Support

DEAR BRETHREN:

The consistory of the Oak Harbor Christian Reformed Church has been informed of the overture concerning the Jacob Rip family from Classis Grand Rapids East of the Sherman Street Christian Reformed Church.

The consistory has expressed its willingness to cooperate in the plan of setting up a trust fund for the family as indicated in the overture. The analysis of the family situation that has been given is correct. The Oak Harbor diaconate is already burdened and is able to do little toward the support of the family. The consistory concurs in the judgment that this is a case in which denominational participation of the kind suggested in the overture is warranted. Mr. Rip was a person who had committed himself and all his financial resources to the service of the church. In the providence of God he was taken away so that his family was left with no means of financial support. Certainly the church has an obligation to such a family.

We trust that Synod will respond favorably to this overture so that the hand of Christian mercy may be extended in the willing and generous spirit in which Christ has shown mercy to us.

Done in Consistory,

May 19, 1960

Humbly submitted,

Rev. Jacob Hekman, Pres.

Mr. Jacob B. Riepma, Clerk

## No. 7—Reaction to Recommendation of Korean Material Study Committee

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

Apologizing for the lateness of this letter (May 28, 1960), the undersigned missionaries in Japan wish to make a comment about one aspect of the Korean Material Relief Study Committee report coming before Synod (see Agenda Report No. 11, pages 68-73).

Each of us, having at one time or another surveyed our Relief program in the Pusan area, feel that the recommendation to "send a full-time worker to supervise and administer the relief work in Korea" is unrealistic for our denomination (cf. Agenda, p. 71, 2, d). We call attention to the following facts:

1. The area in which administrative help would most be needed, i.e. the consolidation of orphanages, accounts for only \$10,000 to \$15,000 annual outlay. To keep a full-time man in Korea for relief purposes *only* would require almost an equal amount per year when all the expenses for salary, shipping, housing, medical, furlough, and transportation are averaged in.

2. The Spiritual Relief program has been well administered by the Korean Church Committee and even if this program were put under the Material Relief Committee's jurisdiction it would involve only the writing of checks. Synod's past decisions have set the terminal date of this program.

3. The orphanages which we help are not church-owned properties. These orphanages get monetary help from such organizations as the Christian Children's Fund of Richmond, Virginia, and World Vision. For our denomination to take the initiative in trying to consolidate these loosely organized orphanages would be to run a risk of having to subsidize more rather than less.

4. Most of the orphanages came into being at the time of the conflict in 1950. The refugee children are getting older and it is quite possible that the need for permanent orphanages is not a reality.

5. One area of confusion in the administration of "relief in kind" exists because the responsibility of the missionaries over against the Korean Church Committee has not been defined. It is possible that placing most of the responsibility on the shoulders of the Korean Church Committee would eliminate this confusion. There is not a little danger that an outsider from our denomination would become a "figurehead" since the services of the Korean Church Committee are indispensable.

Humbly submitted,

Rev. Richard Sytsma

Rev. Henry Bruinooge

Rev. Edw. A. Van Baak

Rev. Leonard Sweetman

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## No. 8—Ministerial Status of Rev. C. L. Van Zee

### ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

At a special session of Classis Minnesota North held at Willmar, Minnesota, Christian Reformed Church on Wednesday, June 1, 1960, the following action was taken:

In response to the request of the consistory of the Hancock Christian Reformed Church the pastoral relationship of their pastor, Rev. Cornie L. Van Zee, was dissolved with the concurring advice of the synodical deputies from Classis Sioux Center (Rev. C. Huissen), Classis Orange City (Rev. C. Vander Ark), and Classis Minnesota South (Rev. G. S. Kok).

The effective date for separation is June 19, 1960.

Classis Minnesota North would inform Synod that the following action was also taken. "A motion is made, seconded and carried that classis inform Synod that Classis Minnesota North could not follow the advice of the synodical deputies in point 2 of their advice in view of the fact that there is no authority in the Church Order to do so at this time." Art. 27, Minutes of June 1, 1960, p. 139.

"A motion is made, supported and carried that the Rev. C. L. Van Zee be declared ineligible for a call until such time as Synod has acted in view of the difference between the synodical deputies and the classis." Article 28, Minutes of June 1, 1960, p. 140.

The complete file on the case above referred to will be available at Synod from our delegates.

Classis Minnesota North,

Rev. E. L. Shuart, S. C.

## No. 9 — Proposal of Seminary Faculty re Examination of Candidates

To the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church  
meeting June 8, 1960 at Grand Rapids, Michigan

DEAR BRETHREN:

The Synod of 1959 received a study committee report entitled: *Examination of Candidates* (See Acts, 1959, pp. 143-154). After some initial action by Synod the report was recommitted to the study committee, with the instruction that it should confer with the Seminary Faculty and the Board of Trustees of Calvin College and Seminary, and report to the Synod of 1960.

The president and secretary of the study committee met with the Seminary Faculty and the Faculty received ample opportunity to express itself on the matter at issue. At a later date the Board of Trustees informed the Faculty of its reactions to the proposals of the study committee. Having considered the information and opinions derived from the above sources, the Faculty now presents its advice to Synod.

1. The Board of Trustees takes the position that if Synod should assign the task of examining applicants for candidacy for the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church to the Board, *all* applicants should be interviewed by the Board, and not only those regarding whom the Board might entertain some doubts because of special circumstances. *The Faculty endorses this position of the Board.*

2. The Board of Trustees takes the position that if Synod should assign the task of examining applicants for candidacy for the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church to the Board, not only those seminary graduates who have just completed their senior year at Calvin Seminary, but also those who have taken post-graduate work at other schools or who have taken part of their undergraduate work at other schools should be expected to apply for candidacy to the Board of Trustees. *The Faculty endorses this position of the Board.*

3. In addition to the above endorsements the Faculty submits the following advice to Synod, as a substitute for the plan proposed by the Study Committee:

That Synod constitute all classical delegates to the Board of Trustees a special *Synodical Committee on Candidacy*. This committee should meet for two or three days, as need requires, immediately after the May meeting of the Board of Trustees for the sole purpose of examining and interviewing applicants for candidacy in our churches and declaring them eligible for a call.

### *Grounds:*

a. The Seminary Faculty feels that the examination of applicants for candidacy is such a weighty matter that it should not be appended to the already heavy agenda of the Board. Rather this should become the express task of a special *Synodical Committee on Candidacy*.

b. All the men who would constitute this committee on candidacy would be in Grand Rapids in connection with the May Board meetings and thus no extra travelling expenses would be incurred.

c. All the men who would constitute this committee on candidacy would generally be theologically trained men in the active ministry and every classis in the denomination would be represented.

If the Faculty's suggestion embodied in No. 3 above should be adopted, the suggestions of Board and Faculty embodied in No. 1 and 2 above should be applied to the work of the Committee on Candidacy. For the rest, the committee may be

governed by the regulations outlined in the report of the Synodical study committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Seminary Faculty  
Henry Stob, Secretary

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**No. 10 — Report of Christian Reformed Contact Committee to Confer with Protestant Reformed — De Wolf Group Contact Committee**

To the Synod of 1960  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

**ESTEEMED BRETHREN:**

Your committee did not anticipate meetings between the 1959 and 1960 Synods because the 1959 Synod had addressed a communication to the 1959 Protestant Reformed Synod, and we are now awaiting the reply of the Protestant Reformed Synod, which will doubtless be forthcoming during the sessions of our present Synod. Meanwhile the Protestant Reformed committee asked us to meet with them because the action of the Gereformeerde Kerken in the Netherlands respecting the Conclusions of Utrecht suggested to the Protestant Reformed committee the idea of a *new approach*. A number of meetings were held, both separately and jointly, which reached beyond March 15 and hence we now present a brief résumé of our discussions which may prove to be of help when — as we anticipate — the communication from the 1960 Protestant Reformed Synod will be placed in the hands of our own Synod of 1960.

\* \* \* \*

Your committee canvassed the notion that Synod on occasion may be compelled to make emergency decisions which serve a definite purpose in a given historic moment. Such emergency decisions are dated and may in time become inactive because they have served their purpose and are no longer needed. The result could be that such decisions are in effect — set aside. Reflecting however on the synodical decisions of 1924 respecting the Three Points led us to the view that an outright and official setting aside of them would amount to a repudiation of a former series of doctrinal pronouncements. This led us to the conclusion that the setting aside of the Three Points is unacceptable in view of:

- a. The serious situation in 1924 which called these Three Points into being;
- b. The salutary effect of these Three Points for the rest and peace of the Church;
- c. The fact that such setting aside of the Three Points would run counter to and virtually nullify the large measure of agreement which had been achieved by the combined committees of the Christian Reformed and the Protestant Reformed churches — see *Acts*, 1959, especially.

The Result of our Discussions with the Protestant Reformed Brethren, pp. 423-4.

Because the Protestant Reformed committee strongly stressed the idea that union should be effected only on the basis of the Word of God and the Three Forms of Unity, the question next arose respecting the meaning of Article 31 of our *Church Order*. Your committee requested Prof. Martin Monsma to prepare a

statement dealing with the relative authority of synodical doctrinal pronouncements as compared to that of the Creeds. The substance of the statement follows:

a. We must agree on the Word of God and the Three Forms of Unity — and nothing more.

b. The Three Points of 1924 are an *official interpretation* of our Creed, — but not on that account on a par with the Three Forms of Unity because they, i.e. the official interpretation and synodical pronouncements generally, are not included in the Formula of Subscription, cf. *Acts of Synod*, 1926 for proof.

c. Must we demand full agreement on these official interpretations and elucidations? NO! because not included in the Formula of Subscription, cf. *Acts of Synod*, 1926.

d. Have such synodical declarations and decisions no binding force? Yes, for though they do not require signature they do require acquiescence and “conformeren.”

e. Therefore in re the Protestant Reformed Churches on the Three Points: *zich conformeren* is required, i.e. they must agree not to agitate versus official interpretation while none should be barred or molested who might have certain misgivings or divergent views as long as they refrain from open and persistent propaganda for their views.

f. Such people (cf. “e” above), retain the right through regular *Church Order* channels to institute revision.

By this time it has become evident that:

a. The Protestant Reformed committee has come to see that the Three Points of 1924 are not in conflict with the Word of God and the Three Forms of Unity.

b. At the same time they persist in the request that the Three Points of 1924 should be set aside.

c. We must remember that the authoritative position of the Protestant Reformed Churches will be expressed in their official synodical letter which we expect will appear during the sessions of this Synod.

Your Christian Reformed  
Contact Committee,

Rev. Henry Baker, President

Rev. John Weidenaar, Secretary

P.S. Your committee — at least some of the members thereof — will hold themselves in readiness if our services may be helpful to the Advisory Committee Synod will appoint on this matter.

## No. 11 — Reply of Protestant Reformed Churches of America

June 11, 1960

Synod of the Christian Reformed Church  
Met in Grand Rapids, Michigan  
c/o Dr. R. J. Danhof, Stated Clerk

ESTEEMED BRETHREN:

It is with sincere appreciation that we acknowledge your response to our letter of 1957 which requested an exploratory contact and communication. We are

grateful for your recognition and confidence in us as well as your spirit of Christian charity and statement "to do all that is possible to effect a reunion."

In your decision of 1959 (*Acts*, page 23) you expressed that you addressed your communication to us "in the interest of fraternal understanding" and "in order to pave the way for further considerations regarding an eventual unification." In your letter we note further that it is your desire to "explore whether a mutually acceptable basis could be established on which we could unite."

We do not wish to re-open the case and history of 1924 for we realize that differences exist, and will continue to exist, in both your communion and ours regarding the judgment of history and the matter of common grace. We, therefore, do not desire to maintain the Three Points, or any new formulation or interpretation, as necessary for a church to stipulate and insist upon for unification of churches.

May we urge you, therefore, to consider the Three Points of Common Grace as without any further binding force? We ask this not only for the sake of our church reunion. There are several other considerations:

1. The term "common grace" is not used in the Bible or the Confessions.
2. The term, or points under the term, should not be established or denied by ecclesiastical decisions that go beyond our creeds.
3. The forcing of selection of terms for theological thinking by ecclesiastical decision is to be avoided.
4. The Gereformeerde Kerken referred to "common grace" without establishing terminology; realizing the preferences for other terms and distinctions already within the Reformed circles.
5. The Conclusions of Utrecht, however undesirable they may be for today, have shown the way of pacification in the experience of controversy by allowing for both sides of dispute. We refer, for example, to their construction to allow and not "molest" those who held the supra construction.

Thus we urge that we be joined together and rededicate ourselves to the historic and sufficient basis for unity in the Reformed faith: Scripture and the Three Forms of Unity. We believe this to be the mutually acceptable basis upon which we can proceed to organic reunion. In this way we may expect, under God's blessing, that Christian love and tolerance will be exercised on both sides, also in discussion of various current problems in which we need the counsel and support of one another.

We would also assure you that we too desire to maintain both God's sovereignty and man's responsibility. We can and do wholeheartedly subscribe to the Conclusions of the Canons of Dordt repudiating the contention of those who claim that in the doctrine of predestination it is taught "that God, by a mere arbitrary act of His will, without the least respect or view of any sin, has predestinated the greatest part of the world to eternal damnation; and, has created them for this very purpose; and that in the same manner in which election is the fountain and cause of faith and good works; reprobation is the cause of unbelief and impiety . . . ."

We appreciate the efforts that you have so far made toward better understanding and relationship with us. We no longer wish to be responsible for the charge of Arminianism and Pelagianism in the adoption of the Three Points which we have made against you as Christian Reformed Church in the past.

Although we do not charge that the Three Points are Arminian and Pelagian we continue to regret that they were formulated in 1924 and that Classis Grand

Rapids East and West of the Christian Reformed Church took the action they did subsequent to 1924. It is not our purpose to raise again the issues of 1924 and succeeding years for the purpose of self-justification. Rather our purpose is to seek to make unification possible in an honest way; thereby assuring further efforts toward unity of believers in Jesus Christ.

In that effort it is ever the calling of the church to lead Christ's flock with pastoral love, being careful in bringing charges and applying penalties. This care, we believe, was not always exercised in the oft-times bitter struggle during the years of our mutual controversy. On our part we humbly confess that there should have been a proper appeal to the Synod of 1926 and that we should not have proselytized during such an appeal in your communion as "Protesting Christian Reformed Churches." On the other hand, for the sake of Christian charity and freedom of conviction allowable under the Word of God, we cannot concede to any implication or charge of heresy and schism against us, unless through persuasion and conviction from the Confessions or the Word of God.

If, however, we are to unite on the basis of the Word of God and the Three Forms of Unity we must not seek to cover over our points of difference but the various factions must understand that within the framework of the Confessions there is room for differences of opinion and the expression of such differences. We should not so narrow the walls of the church that every usage of the term common grace would be automatically branded as heresy, neither that the denial of common grace would preclude from membership. There must be freedom within the boundaries of the Three Forms.

Assuring you of our desire and pledge to serve the gospel of Jesus Christ and the unity of the church, we submit this for your consideration and await your reply.

Yours in Christ's service,

Synod of the Protestant Reformed Churches

s/Rev. James Howerzyl, Stated Clerk

P.S. We would inform you that Synod has appointed a committee that will be available to confer with a committee of the Christian Reformed Church if further conferences should be desired by the Christian Reformed Church.

**I. DENOMINATIONAL CAUSES****A. Denominational Quotas adopted by Synod**

	PER FAMILY FOR 1961
1. Back to God Radio Hour.....	\$ 7.75
2. Calvin College and Seminary.....	15.00
3. Canadian Immigration.....	.20
4. Fund for Needy Churches.....	5.25
5. Home Missions	
a. Evangelism and Church Extension.....	\$16.87
b. Jewish Missions (Paterson and Chicago).....	.33
	17.20
6. Indian and Foreign Missions.....	17.25
7. Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration.....	6.50
8. Reformed Ecumenical Synod Fund.....	.20
9. Synodical Expense Fund.....	1.25
	<hr/>
Total	\$70.60

**B. Denominational Causes for One or More Offerings**

1. Back to God Radio Program (See Art. 148 indicating purpose)
2. Centennial Seminary Building Thankoffering
3. Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions (For above quota needs for Argentina, Cuba, Formosa, Korea, and Indonesia)
4. Korean Material Relief administered by Grand Rapids Deacons' Conference
5. Korean Spiritual Relief
6. Soldiers' Fund sponsored by Home Missions Board
7. Sponsorship of Foreign Students preparing for the gospel ministry and enrolled at Calvin College or Calvin Seminary
8. Synodical Tract Committee (also known as Back to God Tract)

**C. Denominational Causes Recommended for Support**

1. Christian Reformed Resettlement Service Committee
2. Canadian Relief Fund (Canadian churches only)
3. Christian Seamen's and Immigrants' Home

**D. Denominational Related Youth Causes**

1. Young Calvinist Federation of North America
2. Young Calvinist Servicemen's Fund
3. Calvinist Cadet Corps

**II. CAUSES RECOMMENDED FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT****A. Benevolent Causes**

1. Bethany Christian Home
2. Bethesda Hospital (formerly Bethesda Sanatorium)
3. Christian School Employees' Relief Fund
4. Elim Christian Training School
5. Goffle Hill Christian Sanatorium
6. Pine Rest Christian Association (Includes also Children's Retreat)

**B. Educational Causes**

1. Dordt College
2. National Union of Christian Schools (General Fund)
3. National Union of Christian Schools (Educational Fund)
4. Reformed Bible Institute
5. Sokei Christian School in Japan (Not to exceed \$10,000 to be sent to and administered by the Board of Foreign Missions)
6. Trinity College
7. Westminster Seminary

**C. Evangelistic Causes**

1. Faith, Prayer and Tract League

**D. Miscellaneous Causes**

1. American Bible Society (U.S. churches only)
2. Canadian Bible Society (formerly British and Foreign Bible Society) (Canadian churches only)
3. Lord's Day Alliance in U.S. (U.S. churches only)
4. Lord's Day Alliance in Canada (Canadian churches only)
5. World Home Bible League
6. The Gideons (For Bible distribution only)
7. American Calvinistic Fellowship (formerly Calvinistic Action)
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## SUGGESTIONS FOR PREPARING YOUR WILL

Competent legal advice is essential in order that your intention may be accomplished with accuracy. Your attorney will assist you in effecting savings against taxes and other costs. He will want to know the proper designations and titles of the proper beneficiaries of your estate.

For the information of you and your attorney in drawing wills the following are given as suitable forms for bequests to various causes:

I give, devise and bequeath the sum of.....Dollars (\$) (or a certain percentage of the estate) (or a certain described property) to (and here follows the full official name of the local church, denominational board, or institution) to be applied to the uses and (or to be held in trust and the income to be used) for the..... purposes of said (local church, denominational board, or institution).

— or —

All the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, or whatsoever kind, or wherever located, I give, devise and bequeath to (here follows the full official name of the local church, denominational board, incorporated committee, or institution).

Correct legal titles of various causes:

### Names of Denominational Agencies

1. Christian Reformed Board of Foreign Missions
2. Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions
3. Calvin College and Seminary of the Christian Reformed Church
4. Church Help Committee, Incorporated, of the Christian Reformed Church
5. Christian Reformed Seamen's and Immigrants' Home
6. Christian Reformed Canadian Relief Fund
7. Back to God Tract Committee of the Christian Reformed Church
8. Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration of the Christian Reformed Church
9. The Back to God Hour of the Christian Reformed Church, Inc.
10. Immigration Committee for Canada of the Christian Reformed Church
11. Christian Reformed Committee for Sponsorship of Foreign Theological and Pre-Theological Students
12. Christian Reformed Resettlement Service Committee
13. Christian Reformed Church Committee on Education
14. The Publication Committee of the Christian Reformed Church, Inc. (also known in business transactions as Christian Reformed Publishing House)
15. The Chaplain Committee of the Christian Reformed Church



# LIST OF QUOTAS, OFFERINGS, ACCREDITED CAUSES, ETC.

A. Quotas		Per Family for 1957
1.	Back to God Hour .....	\$ 6.75
2.	Calvin College and Seminary .....	14.00
3.	Canadian Immigration Fund .....	1.35
4.	Church Help Fund, Inc. ....	4.00
5.	Centennial Commemoration .....	1.25
6.	Home Missions .....	17.40
	a. Church Extension in U.S. ....	\$11.00
	b. Church Extension in Canada .....	1.00
	c. Fund for Needy Churches .....	4.50
	d. Paterson Hebrew Mission .....	.35
	e. Chicago Jewish Missions .....	.55

**\$17.40**

(Church Extension in U.S. and Canada has been designated by Synod of 1956 as the Fund for Evangelism and Church Extension)

7.	Indian and Foreign Missions (includes South America and Ceylon) .....	12.00
8.	Ministers' Pension and Relief Administration .....	4.50
9.	Synodical Expense Fund .....	.75

## B. For One or More Offerings \$62.00

1. Back to God Television Program
2. Christian Seamen's & Immigrants' Home
3. Korean Reformed Spiritual Relief
4. Dordt (Mid-West Junior) College
5. Relief Fund for Unordained Mission Workers
6. Soldiers' Fund
7. Sponsorship of Foreign Students

## C. Accredited Causes Worthy of Financial Support

1. Bethany Christian Home
2. Bethesda Sanatorium
3. British and Foreign Bible Society (Canadian churches only)
4. Calvinist Cadet Corps
5. Christian Labor Association in U.S. (For U.S. churches only)
6. Christian Labor Association in Canada (For Canadian churches only)
7. Christian Sanatorium at Goffle Hill
8. Elim Christian Training School
9. Faith, Prayer and Tract League
10. Lord's Day Alliance in U.S. (For U.S. churches only)
11. Lord's Day Alliance in Canada (For Canadian churches only)
12. National Christian Association
13. National Union of Christian Schools
  - A. General Fund
  - B. Christian School Educational Foundation
14. Pine Rest Christian Association and Children's Retreat
15. Reformed Bible Institute
16. Synodical Tract Committee
17. Westminster Seminary
18. World Home Bible League
19. Young Calvinist Servicemen's Fund

## D. Accredited Causes Worthy of Moral Support

1. American Bible Society (For U.S. churches only)
2. The Gideons (Bible Distribution only)
3. Young Calvinist Federation of N.A.

## E. Accredited Causes Recommended to Diaconates for Support

1. Calvinist Resettlement Service (Only if requested)
2. Canadian Relief Fund
3. Christian School Employees Emergency Relief Fund
4. Korean Material Relief