THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION
1212 Commonwealth Building, Philadelphia, Penna.

Committee

Rev. Charles J. Woodbridge, Chairman

Gordon H. Clark, Ph.D., Secretary

Rev. Paul Woolley, Treasurer

Rev. Samuel J. Allen
Carson, North Dakota

Rev. J. Oliver Buswell, Jr., D.D.
Wheaton, Ill.

C. W. Clelland
Grove City, Pa.

Edward B. Cooper
Bridgeton, N. J.

Rev. Calvin K. Cummings

Rev. E. C. De Velde
Cincinnati, Ohio

John Welsh Dulles


Rev. Clifford S. Smith
Bridgeton, N. J.

Bert W. Tennant
W. Pittston, Pa.

Rev. Edwin H. Rian
General Secretary

All funds for the extension of the Church are to be sent to the above address.
MINUTES OF THE
FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

A meeting was called to order in the auditorium of the New Century Club at 124 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on June 11th, 1936, at 2:35 P.M. by the Rev. H. McAllister Griffiths, D.D.

The assemblage was led in prayer by Dr. Griffiths.

Dr. Griffiths read the following statement:

I. In order to continue what we believe to be the true spiritual succession of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., which we hold to have been abandoned by the present organization of that body, and to make clear to all the world that we have no connection with the organization bearing that name, we, a company of ministers and ruling elders, having been removed from that organization in contravention (as we believe) of its constitution, or having severed our connection with that organization, or hereby solemnly declaring that we do sever our connection with it, or coming as ministers or ruling elders from other ecclesiastical bodies holding the Reformed Faith, do hereby associate ourselves together with all Christian people who do and will adhere to us, in a body to be known and styled as the Presbyterian Church of America.

II. We, a company of ministers and ruling elders, do hereby in our own name, in the name of those who have adhered to us, and by the warrant and authority of the Lord Jesus Christ constitute ourselves a General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America.
III. We do solemnly declare (1) that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice, (2) that the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms contain the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, and (3) that we subscribe to and maintain the principles of Presbyterian church government as being founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God.

All persons, before they shall be ordained or received as ministers or ruling elders or deacons, shall subscribe to the foregoing statement.

Dr. Griffiths indicated that Sections I and II of the above were to be considered as enabling acts.

The meeting was thrown open for discussion.

In the course of the discussion on Section I the presiding officer indicated that it was his ruling that those who should indicate their adherence to the Presbyterian Church of America by participating in the constitution of that Church were thereby severing whatever connection they might have with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America and that they should send notice thereof to the proper authorities within a reasonable time.

Those who wished to affiliate themselves as constituting the Presbyterian Church of America on the basis of Section I were requested to stand and while they stood the Presbyterian Church of America was declared constituted by the presiding officer.

The names of those who stood are:

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Those ministers and ruling elders who wished to constitute
themselves as the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America on the basis of Section II were requested to stand and the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America was declared constituted by the presiding officer.

The names of the ministers and ruling elders are:

Ministers: Same as above.

Ruling Elders: Same as above.

Section III was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly thus constituted.

The presiding officer stated that the Assembly was prepared to hear nominations for the office of moderator. Dr. Gordon H. Clark nominated the Rev. J. Gresham Machen, D.D., Litt.D. The nomination was seconded.

The nominations were closed.

The presiding officer was requested to cast the ballot of the Assembly for Dr. Machen as moderator.

The Rev. Paul Woolley was nominated as clerk of assembly.

The Rev. Paul Woolley was elected clerk of assembly.

It was determined that those ministers and ruling elders who signified their intention of joining the Presbyterian Church of America might at this time be enrolled as associate members.

The following were enrolled as associate members:


The voting members of the Assembly were requested to sit in the center of the hall with the associate members behind them.

It was determined that we hereby authorize and require the convening of a General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America in the autumn of 1936. The following persons shall be accounted accredited commissioners to that General Assembly:

1. Every minister in the Presbyterian Church of America.
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2. One elder from every particular church in that communion, such particular churches to be formed in a manner to be prescribed by this Assembly.

That General Assembly shall have power to adopt the constitution of the Presbyterian Church of America.

It was moved that we authorize the appointment of the following three committees:

1. A committee which shall present for adoption to the General Assembly meeting in the autumn of 1936 the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as the confession of the faith of this church. The committee shall take as the basis of its consideration the particular form of the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms which appears in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., 1934 edition. The committee shall have power to recommend the elimination, from that form of these Standards, of the changes made in the year of our Lord 1903, but it shall not have power to recommend any other changes. The committee shall also have power to recommend what relation this church shall bear to the Declaratory Statement of 1903.

This committee shall also prepare for submission to the next General Assembly a Form of Government, Book of Discipline, and Directory for the Worship of God.

2. A committee on Church Organization and Roll. This committee shall serve only during the sessions of the present General Assembly. It shall have power to enroll as members of this General Assembly ministers and elders who conform to the requirements above set forth. It shall also have power to recommend to this General Assembly the erection of presbyteries.

3. A committee on Home Missions and Church Extension. This committee shall have power to appoint a secretary and establish an office to receive and disburse contributions for the support of home missionaries or pastors whose congregations require aid. It shall further have power, after the adjournment of the present General Assembly and until the next General Assembly, to act
as a Commission of the General Assembly to receive ministers and to erect presbyteries. It shall have general power to engage in the presentation of the cause of the Presbyterian Church of America and to take such measures as may be necessary for the prosecution of its work before the next General Assembly.

It was determined to consider this motion by sections seriatim.

The preamble and Section 1 were adopted.

It was determined that the moderator nominate the members of this committee, that further nominations from the floor be allowed and that the election of the committee be made by the Assembly.

Section 2 was adopted.

It was determined that this committee be constituted in the same manner as that provided for the committee constituted under Section 1.

It was moved that Section 3 be adopted.

It was moved that the section be amended by the omission of the words "to receive ministers and".

The main motion and the amendment were laid on the table to be made the first order of the day at the meeting of the Assembly on the following day.

The moderator was named a member of all committees ex officio.

The moderator nominated as members of the committee on the Constitution of the Church Messrs. Griffiths, Stonehouse and Thompson.

The nominations were closed.

The clerk was requested to cast the ballot of the Assembly for Messrs. Griffiths, Thompson and Stonehouse.

The moderator nominated for the committee on Church Organization and Roll Messrs. John P. Clelland, Griffiths and Woolley.

Mr. Rian was nominated from the floor.

The nominations were closed, and the clerk was instructed to declare the election to this committee of Messrs. Clelland, Griffiths, Woolley and Rian.
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A letter from the minister and senior warden of the Church of the Atonement (Reformed Episcopal), Germantown, Pennsylvania, expressing the sympathy of that church with the aims of the Presbyterian Constitutional Covenant Union and offering the auditorium of that church for the meetings of the Covenant Union was read.

It was determined that the letter, the contents thereof and all matters concerning it be referred to a committee consisting of the moderator and Mr. Rian.

After prayer by the moderator the Assembly adjourned at 5:55 P. M.

The Assembly was called to order at 10:30 A. M., June 12th, in the New Century Club by the moderator.

Devotional exercises were led by the Rev. Robert Strong of Willow Grove, Pennsylvania.

The moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

The roll of the Assembly was read and is as follows:


The Rev. Albert B. Dodd, D.D., was received as an associate member from the Shankiang Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in China.

It was determined that the morning session recess at twelve o'clock and that early in the afternoon session greetings be heard from delegates sent to the convention of the Presbyterian Constitutional Covenant Union.

The moderator read a letter from the Rev. John J. De Waard reporting the founding of the Calvary Presbyterian Church of Cedar Grove, Wisconsin.

A letter of greeting from the Rev. Robert K. Rudolph was read.

A report was presented by the committee on Place of Meeting, recommending that the meetings of the Assembly be held in the places previously scheduled and that an expression of appreciation of the offer of the Church of the Atonement be made to the officers of that church.

This report was adopted.

An interim report of the committee on Church Organization and Roll was ordered heard.

The committee reported as follows:

Your committee recommends that the moderator be instructed to appoint a committee of three to examine candidates for licensure and ordination. They shall examine them in all subjects which may be required except theology. The examination in theology shall be conducted by the General Assembly. The examining committee shall be guided in its work by Sections XIV and XV of the Form of Government of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. so far as may be deemed necessary.

The report was received and the Assembly proceeded to the order of the day.

A substitute amendment was proposed that the words "to receive ministers and" be omitted and that for them be substituted the words "to enroll as charter members ministers received
by the presbyteries to be erected, in accordance with the terms of the enabling act.

The time for recess having arrived, it was determined that Dr. Griffiths be given as much time to speak as he desires.

It was determined to extend the time and to vote upon the main subject before the house at 12:20 P.M.

The matter under discussion was laid on the table until after the period at the beginning of the afternoon session set for the order of the day.

After prayer by the moderator, the Assembly recessed, at 12:25 P.M.

The Assembly was called to order at 2:30 P.M.

Devotional exercises were led by the Rev. E. C. De Velde.

The Assembly was constituted with prayer.

Delegates from the former chapters of the Presbyterian Constitutional Covenant Union in Cincinnati, West Pittston, Collingswood and Grove City brought greetings to the Assembly and spoke of the development of their work.

The Rev. David Freeman secured unanimous consent for the presentation of a resolution.

It was determined that the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America, having had brought before it questions concerning the status of certain persons under its jurisdiction, and being cognizant of the facts in these cases, does authoritatively declare and adjudicate as follows:

1. The final judgments of the 148th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. in Judicial Cases 1-5 before that body, were, in our judgment, contrary to the Bible, to the Protestant genius of the Reformed Churches, and in violation of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. These judgments amounted to a substitution of the word of man for the Word of God. Since any action of any judicatory which is contrary to the Word of God cannot be held to be the lawful act of a church which acknowledges the Bible as
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its primary standard, we believe the action in these cases to have been void ab initio, and to have been merely a pretended adjudication.

2. Concerning those ministers, parties in the cases cited above, who are now under the jurisdiction of the Presbyterian Church of America, this General Assembly hereby formally declares them to be ministers of the Gospel in this church in good and regular standing with all the rights, privileges and duties pertaining to lawfully ordained ministers.

3. Since certain ministers now under our jurisdiction did, on June 8, 1936, withdraw from the body claiming and bearing the title of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., and did send notice thereof to the presbyteries of that body in which they had until then been members, be it declared and adjudged by this General Assembly:

(a) That it is the inalienable right of any minister, elder, deacon, or layman to withdraw from any body claiming to be a branch of the visible church of Christ, such withdrawal to be immediately effective, if in the judgment of the person concerned there are sufficient reasons for such action. To deny this right is to affirm that a member of an essentially voluntary religious body may be held in it against his will, which would, we believe, be a denial of the first principles of civil and religious liberty.

(b) That any so-called infliction of ecclesiastical censure made by any body upon persons who have before the alleged infliction of such censure severed their connection with the organization in question is only a pretended infliction, null and void entirely.

(c) That any further action on the part of any of the judicatories claiming the name and rights of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. against any minister, elder, deacon, or member of this church will be deemed an unwarranted, presumptuous, and unlawful interference by one religious body in the internal affairs of another. Ministers, elders, deacons, and members of the
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Presbyterian Church of America are under the sole and exclusive ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the judicatories of this church. Ecclesiastical actions concerning them by the courts of any other religious body are hereby declared null and void.

4. All censures inflicted by courts of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. upon any of the defendants in Judicial Cases 1-5 mentioned above who are now connected with this church, are by the action of this Assembly, as the supreme judicatory of this church, terminated, lifted, and declared at an end.

5. The provisions of this action are hereby declared to extend to all parties concerned who shall become ministers or members of the Presbyterian Church of America, thus submitting to its jurisdiction, before the next General Assembly.

Common consent was secured for permission to add to the end of the substitute amendment under discussion the words "such reception being subject to the veto of the next General Assembly".

The previous question was required.

The substitute amendment was adopted.

It was determined that the appointment of a committee on Home Missions and Church Extension be authorized. This committee shall have power to appoint a secretary and establish an office, to receive and disburse contributions for the support of home missionaries or pastors whose congregations require aid. It shall further have power, after the adjournment of the present General Assembly and until the next General Assembly, to act as a Commission of the General Assembly to enroll as charter members ministers received by the presbyteries to be erected, in accordance with the terms of the enabling act, such reception being subject to the veto of the next General Assembly, and to erect presbyteries. It shall have general power to engage in the presentation of the cause of the Presbyterian Church of America and to take such measures as may be necessary for the prosecution of its work before the next General Assembly.

It was determined that the committee consist of eleven mem-
bers in addition to the moderator *ex officio*, that it be nominated by the moderator and that the committee have power to fill vacancies.


The resolution adopted concerning the size of this committee was reconsidered.

It was determined that the number of members of the Home Missions and Church Extension committee be thirteen in addition to the moderator *ex officio*, that they be nominated by the moderator and that the committee have power to fill vacancies.

Ruling elders Edward B. Cooper and John Welsh Dulles were nominated from the floor for membership on this committee.

The nominations were closed.

The clerk was instructed to cast a ballot for the thirteen nominees named in addition to the moderator.

A ruling by the moderator was requested on the method of admission to the church in future of those ministers who are now associate members. The moderator ruled that they should be admitted in the regular way.

It was determined that the time of adjournment be set for 4:30 P. M.

The interim report of the committee on Church Organization and Roll previously presented was adopted.

The moderator appointed as members of the committee on Examination of Candidates Rev. A. A. MacRae, Ph.D., chairman, Rev. L. W. Sloat and Rev. George W. Marston.

It was determined that a committee on Christian Education be nominated by the moderator, subject to additional nominations from the floor, to consider recommendations relating to the field of Christian education and to report to the next General Assembly.

The privilege of the floor was granted for two minutes to Mr. Frank R. Neff, Jr.
After prayer by the moderator the Assembly adjourned at 4:24 P. M.

The Assembly was called to order at 10:35 A. M., June 13th, in the New Century Club by the moderator.

Devotional exercises were led by the Rev. Bruce F. Hunt.

The Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The Rev. Thomas H. Mitchell was added to the roll of associate members.

The committee on Church Organization and Roll reported, recommending that:

1. The presbytery of Philadelphia be erected to include the counties of Bucks, Berks, Philadelphia, Montgomery, Delaware, Chester, Lancaster and York in the state of Pennsylvania and the whole of the state of Delaware, and that the Rev. H. McAllister Griffiths, D.D., be named temporary convener of this presbytery;

2. The presbytery of New York and New England be erected to include the states of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine, and that the Rev. L. Craig Long be named temporary convener of this presbytery;

3. The erection of other presbyteries be committed to the committee on Home Missions and Church Extension.

The report was amended by the inclusion in the presbytery of Philadelphia of the counties of Dauphin and Luzerne in the state of Pennsylvania.

The report was received and its recommendations adopted.

A telegram of greeting from the Rev. Robert Westly Peach, Presiding Bishop of the Reformed Episcopal Church was read.

A telegram of greeting from the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church of North America, meeting at Grand Rapids, Michigan, was read. The telegram extended an invitation to the Assembly to send a fraternal delegate to the meetings of the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church.
The Rev. Cornelius Van Til, Ph.D., was appointed as fraternal delegate to the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church.

The committee on Home Missions and Church Extension reported as follows: This committee recommends to the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America that elders, deacons, and laymen who unite with particular churches of The Presbyterian Church of America before the next General Assembly be enrolled as charter members of the Presbyterian Church of America.

The report with its recommendation was adopted.

The moderator nominated for the committee on Christian Education Rev. N. B. Stonehouse, Th.D., Calvin K. Cummings, Rev. John P. Clelland, Rev. Robert L. Atwell, R. Laird Harris, Gordon H. Clark, Ph.D.

The nominations were closed.

The clerk was instructed to cast a ballot for the nominees.

The committee on the Constitution of the Church made the following recommendations:

In order to maintain the peace, unity and purity of the Presbyterian Church of America, the General Assembly directs such presbyteries as shall be erected to observe the following rules governing the licensure and ordination of candidates for the ministry, and the reception of ministers, pending the adoption of a constitution by this church:

I. That all applicants shall be required to give specific assent to the doctrinal and governmental provisions of the Adopting Act, which requires acknowledgment of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice, of the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures, and of the principles of Presbyterian church government as being founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God.

II. That all applicants shall satisfy presbyteries as to their character and piety, and their motive for seeking admission into the ministry of this church.
III. A. If the presbytery be satisfied with the trials of a candidate for licensure, it shall then proceed to license him in the following manner: The moderator shall propose to him the following questions, viz:

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

2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?

3. Do you subscribe to and promise to maintain the principles of Presbyterian church government as being founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God?

4. Do you promise to study the peace, unity and purity of the church?

5. Do you promise to submit yourself, in the Lord, to the government of this presbytery, or of any other presbytery in the bounds of which you may be called?

B. At the time appointed for ordination, the moderator of the presbytery, or a member of the presbytery previously appointed for that duty, shall propose the following questions to the candidate:

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

2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?

3. Do you subscribe to and promise to maintain the principles of Presbyterian church government as being founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God?

4. Do you promise subjection to your brethren in the Lord?

5. Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to seek the office of the holy ministry from
love of God, and a sincere desire to promote his glory in the gospel of his Son?

6. Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in maintaining the truths of the gospel, and the purity and peace of the church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise unto you on that account?

7. Do you engage to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all private and personal duties, which become you as a Christian and a minister of the gospel; as well as in all relative duties, and the public duties of your office; endeavoring to adorn the profession of the gospel by your conversation; and walking with exemplary piety before the flock over which God shall make you overseer?

IV. Because it is highly reproachful to religion and dangerous to the church to trust the holy ministry to weak and ignorant men, the presbytery shall require a candidate for licensure to show evidence of having received a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. He shall also give evidence of having successfully pursued two years of study in a theological seminary or shall offer an educational equivalent, judged satisfactory by the presbytery. He shall be examined in the Bible in the vernacular, theology, ecclesiastical history, New Testament Greek and Hebrew.

The report was received and the recommendations adopted.

The committee on the examination of candidates recommended that Carl A. Ahlfeldt, Robert K. Churchill, Bruce A. Coie, Calvin K. Cummings, A. Culver Gordon and R. Laird Harris be received by this Assembly at the stage of progress toward ordination which they had attained in the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., the first five named being received as candidates under care, the last named as a licentiate, that the examinations given to them by the committee be sustained and that the Assembly proceed to examine them in theology.

The report was received and the recommendations adopted.

The Rev. John P. Clelland was appointed to conduct the opening portion of the examination in theology.
Messrs. Ahlfeldt, Churchill, Coie, Cummings, Gordon and Harris were examined in theology by the Assembly. They were requested to declare whether they affirm that men have been, are and always will be saved by grace alone through the blood of Christ. All of the candidates affirmed the statement.

The examinations in theology were sustained and each candidate was granted one minute to state why he desired to enter the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of America.

It was determined to dispense with trial sermons, to license the candidates for licensure and to arrange for the ordination of all of the six candidates on the evening of June 14th, the Rev. J. Gresham Machen, D.D., to preach the sermon and the Rev. Allan A. MacRae, Ph.D., to charge the candidates.

The constitutional questions were answered in the affirmative by Messrs. Ahlfeldt, Churchill, Coie, Cummings and Gordon, and they were declared licensed to preach the gospel.

It was determined that this General Assembly desires cordially to thank the Spruce Street Baptist Church for its generosity in offering the use of its edifice for a public meeting on the evening of June 12th. The General Assembly was happy to accept the offer, and hold the meeting in the Spruce Street Baptist Church. The Assembly rejoices in this fellowship with another visible branch of the Church of Christ.

It was determined that this General Assembly desires cordially to thank the Vestry of the Church of the Atonement (Reformed Episcopal) for the generous offer, made by the Vestry, of the use of the edifice of that church for our meetings. In these days of apostasy, when there are so many adversaries, the General Assembly rejoices in the sympathy and fellowship thus expressed. Acceptance of the offer was made impossible only because of engagements previously made.

The clerk was ordered to send copies of the two foregoing resolutions to the churches named.

The following action was taken:

The first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America hereby enacts and declares that:

1. All particular churches now connected with the Presby-
terian Church of America, and all particular churches which shall hereafter exist under its jurisdiction shall be entitled to hold, own and enjoy their own local properties, without any right of reversion to the Presbyterian Church of America whatsoever, save as is hereinafter provided.

2. The property of any particular church shall revert to the Presbyterian Church of America only if, as and when the said particular church should become extinct. Dissolution of a particular church by any judicatory, or any other form of ecclesiastical action shall not be deemed as making a particular church extinct within the meaning of this act.

3. This act shall not be construed as limiting or abrogating the right of the judicatories of this church to exercise all constitutional and proper authority over the particular churches as spiritual bodies.

4. This act shall be deemed to possess, upon its adoption by this Assembly, full constitutional force and effect.

It was determined that we, the members of the first General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America, express our thanks to the Rev. Henry W. Coray, missionary of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions, for the stand he took in leaving his church in West Pittston in obedience to the call of God to go to China, and our appreciation of what the Rev. Mr. Coray’s stand has meant and means to the testimony of the newly established church.

It was provided that one copy of the above resolution be sent to the Rev. and Mrs. Henry W. Coray and one copy to his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. E. A. Coray.

It was determined that a committee of three be appointed by the moderator to initiate and conduct upon behalf of this Assembly correspondence with other churches throughout the world holding the Reformed system.

It was determined that the charter ministerial membership rolls of the Presbyterian Church of America be kept open until and including the sessions of the next General Assembly.

It was determined that this Assembly declare that in set-
ting up local congregations the presbyteries shall observe that a minimum number of ten communicant members, associating themselves together, shall be required for the existence of a congregation.

The moderator was asked to appoint a committee on Foreign Missions to be composed of six members with the moderator as an *ex officio* member, making seven in all, which committee shall take under its consideration the foreign missions interests of the Presbyterian Church of America and make suggestions to local congregations as to their foreign missions giving and to the next Assembly as to a permanent foreign missions program.

It was moved that the moderator appoint a committee of five to prepare for the incorporation of a board of foreign missions and for the incorporation of a board of home missions and church extension.

The matter was ordered referred to the committee on Home Missions and Church Extension.

It was determined that while we have felt compelled strongly to protest against the gross disloyalty to Christ of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., we sincerely believe that these protests have been made in great sorrow rather than in a spirit of bitterness.

A petition from the pastor and certain elders and members of the Knox Presbyterian Church, Unaffiliated, of Philadelphia, was read and referred to the presbytery of Philadelphia.

The committee on the Constitution of the Church reported recommending that pending the adoption of a constitution, the General Assembly direct that the following questions be asked as requirements for ordination of elders anddeacons.

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, the only infallible rule of faith and practice?
2. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures?
3. Do you subscribe to and promise to maintain the principles of Presbyterian church-government as being founded upon and agreeable to the Word of God?
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4. Do you accept the office of ruling elder (or deacon, as the case may be) in this congregation, and promise faithfully to perform all the duties thereof?

5. Do you promise to study the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

The Rev. H. McAllister Griffiths, D.D., was requested to prepare on behalf of the Assembly and to dispatch replies to the telegrams from the Rev. Robert Westly Peach and from the Synod of the Christian Reformed Church of North America.

The clerk was directed to prepare the minutes of the Assembly for approval by the Assembly at its discretion before the dissolution of the Assembly.

The meeting of the next General Assembly of the church was appointed for November 12 to 15, 1936.

An invitation to hold the next meeting of the General Assembly in the Calvin Presbyterian Church of New Haven, Connecticut, was presented.

It was determined to express to the Calvin Church the thanks of the Assembly for this invitation, and to hold the meetings of the next General Assembly in Philadelphia.

It was determined that when the Assembly adjourns it adjourns until 7:00 P. M., June 14th, to hear the reading of the minutes of the Assembly, and that the minutes of the Sunday evening meeting be read before the dissolution of the Assembly.

After prayer by the moderator the Assembly adjourned at 2:40 P. M. until 7:00 P. M. June 14th.

The Assembly was called to order at 7:00 P. M., June 14th, in the New Century Club by the moderator.

The Assembly was constituted with prayer.

The minutes of the previous sessions were read and approved.

The name of the Rev. Albert B. Dodd, D.D., was added to the roll of the Assembly.

On recommendation of the presbytery of Philadelphia it
was determined to proceed this evening to the ordination of Licentiate Frank L. Fiol.

The minutes of this session were read and approved.

The Assembly recessed with prayer by the moderator at 7:38 P. M.

The Assembly was called to order by the moderator at 8 P. M. in the New Century Club.

The moderator was assisted in the conduct of the service by the Rev. Cornelius Van Til, Ph.D., the Rev. John B. Thwing, Th.D., the Rev. R. B. Kuiper and the Rev. Edwin H. Rian.

The sermon was preached by the moderator on the text, Acts 20:28, "The church of God which he hath purchased with his own blood."

After answering the prescribed questions in the affirmative Licentiates Carl A. Ahlfeldt, Robert K. Churchill, Bruce A. Coie, Calvin K. Cummings, Frank L. Fiol, A. Culver Gordon and R. Laird Harris were ordained to the gospel ministry. The ordination prayer was offered by the Rev. H. McAllister Griffiths, D.D.

The names of the Rev. Carl A. Ahlfeldt, the Rev. Robert K. Churchill, the Rev. Bruce A. Coie, the Rev. Calvin K. Cummings, the Rev. Frank L. Fiol, the Rev. A. Culver Gordon and the Rev. R. Laird Harris were ordered inscribed on the roll of the Assembly.

The charge to the newly-ordained ministers was delivered by the Rev. Allan A. MacRae, Ph.D.

The minutes of this session of the Assembly were read and approved.

The Assembly was dissolved and another Assembly ordered to convene at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on Thursday, November 12, 1936.

The moderator closed the sessions with the benediction at 9:45 P. M.

Paul Woolley,
Clerk of Assembly.
ROLL OF MINISTERS

June 15, 1936

DEAN W. ADAIR
Canaan, Maine

CARL AHLFELDT
2335 E. Garfield Dr., Indianapolis, Ind.

SAMUEL J. ALLEN
Carson, N. D.

PHILIP DU B. ARCULARIUS
912 Getty Avenue, Duryea, Pa.

ROBERT L. ATWELL
Harrisville, Pa.

J. OLIVER BUSWELL, JR., D.D.
Wheaton College, Wheaton, Ill.

ROBERT K. CHURCHILL
603 North Grant Ave., Tacoma, Wash.

JOHN P. CLELLAND
210 W. 27th Street, Wilmington, Del.

BRUCE COE
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