Minutes of the
Second General Assembly
of the
Presbyterian Church of America
Meeting in
November 12-14
1936

Published by
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA
Minutes of the
Second General Assembly
of the
Presbyterian Church of America
Minutes of the
SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

The devotional service preceding the Second General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America was opened by the Moderator of the previous Assembly, the Rev. J. Gresham Machen, D.D., Litt.D., at 10.05 A.M., November 12th, 1936, in the Manufacturers' and Bankers' Club, Broad and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

The service began with the singing of the Doxology. The Invocation was delivered by Dr. Machen. The Assembly joined in the hymn: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past." The Rev. J. Edward Blair, D.D., read the Scripture lesson from II Corinthians V. The Rev. Albert B. Dodd, D.D., led in prayer. After certain announcements the Assembly united in the hymn: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is."

The Sermon was delivered by Dr. Machen, who took for his text II Corinthians V: 14-15. Dr. Machen led in prayer, and the Assembly united in singing the hymn: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross."

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered by Dr. Machen, assisted by the Rev. J. Burton Thwing, Th.D., and the Rev. William T. Strong.

The Assembly joined in singing the hymn: "O Bless the Lord, My Soul." The Benediction was pronounced by Dr. Machen and the service closed at 11.45 A.M.

Thursday Afternoon

The Assembly was called to order at 2.00 P.M. by Dr. Machen, and constituted with prayer.

The Rev. Paul Woolley, Clerk of the previous Assembly, read the Roll of the Assembly, which was as follows:

**PRESBYTERY OF CALIFORNIA**

*Ministers*—Milo F. Jamison, Martin L. Thomas.

**PRESBYTERY OF CHICAGO**


*Elder*—Peter Stam, Jr.

**PRESBYTERY OF THE DAKOTAS**

*Minister*—Samuel J. Allen.

**PRESBYTERY OF IOWA**

*Ministers*—Peter F. Wall, Verne V. Wortman.
Minutes of the Second General Assembly

PRESBYTERY OF NEW JERSEY


PRESBYTERY OF NEW YORK AND NEW ENGLAND

Ministers—C. Dana Chrisman, L. Craig Long, John C. Rankin, John H. Skilton, Leslie W. Sloat, Robert L. Vining.

Elders—Harry B. Hubbard, Lewis H. Jacobs.

PRESBYTERY OF THE NORTHWEST

Minister—J. Edward Blair.

PRESBYTERY OF OHIO


Elder—Harry A. Worcester.

PRESBYTERY OF PHILADELPHIA


PRESBYTERY OF WISCONSIN

Minister—John J. DeWaard.

Mr. T. D. Morrison, Mr. F. G. Hall, and Mr. David Bovard were enrolled as Elder Commissioners.

The program of the Assembly, printed by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension was adopted as the Docket of the Assembly.

The printed form of the last Assembly’s Minutes was approved.

The Rev. Peter F. Wall and the Rev. Leslie W. Sloat were nominated for Clerk of the Assembly. The nominations were closed. It was moved and carried that voting be by ballot. Ministers Clifford S. Smith and Leonard Pitcher were appointed tellers.
The result of the Ballot was Mr. Sloat 40, Mr. Wall 31. Mr. Sloat was declared elected.

The Rev. J. Oliver Buswell and the Rev. J. Burton Thwing were nominated for Moderator. It was moved and carried that nominations be closed and that voting be by ballot. Ministers Samuel J. Allen and R. Laird Harris, and Elders Bernard and Hodge were appointed tellers.

The result of the voting was Dr. Buswell 65, Dr. Thwing 9. Dr. Buswell was declared elected.

The Rev. Cornelius Van Til and the Rev. Carl McIntire were appointed a committee to escort Dr. Buswell to the platform. Dr. Buswell was welcomed by Dr. Machen. The Assembly joined in singing "Blest Be the Tie." Dr. Buswell responded briefly to the greeting of the Assembly and Dr. Machen.

The following letters of greeting to the Assembly were read and ordered recorded on the Minutes:

**SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA,**

**1212 COMMONWEALTH BUILDING, PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

It is a source of gratification to me that the Second General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America will be held in Philadelphia next month.

The full resources of my Administration are at your command to make your session pleasant and agreeable, to expedite your business, and to insure your members the full enjoyment of the many attractions Philadelphia affords.

Cordially,

S. DAVIS WILSON, Mayor of Philadelphia.

The Westminster Presbyterian Church, Independent, of Sydney, Nova Scotia, sends Christian Greetings to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America, now in session in the city of Philadelphia, Pa.

Inasmuch as we have heard of your separation from the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., on account of its grave departure, in its official courts and in many of its agencies, from the doctrinal Standards of the Westminster Confession of Faith: And of your noble stand to continue and maintain the Doctrinal and Spiritual succession of the Church of our Fathers: And of the devotion of those ministers who for conscience sake and the Word of God have suffered ostracism from the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.: And of those office bearers and people who have left Church buildings and equipment that they might build a more enduring monument, even a generation of men and women on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ the Righteous:

We therefore rejoice in such Christian heroism and assure you of our interest and prayers that the God of all grace may take what now seems to the eyes of men a cloud only the size of a man's hand and with it deluge the whole land with rivers of Spiritual refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

(Signed) MURDOCH N. MACLENNAN, Secretary of the Church.

(The following letter was sent through Dr. Machen and conveyed to the Assembly by him.)

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

During the 23rd session of the Eastern Ministerial Union Inc., of Penna., held September 24th, at Campbellsstown, Penna., we the members of this Union extend our hearty best wishes and prayers to you and also the Presbyterian Church of America.

We thank God for your courage in these days of Apostasy, that you are with
those who are "earnestly contending for the faith which was once delivered unto
the saints."

Our prayers will be that God may richly bless His faithful ambassadors in
all your churches, who have come out from among those who denied the Blood of
Christ. With sincere greetings, we remain,

Eastern Ministerial Union, Inc.,
CHAS. M. FAHL, Secretary.

(From the Irish Evangelical Church, through Rev. Paul Woolley.)

The Council of the Irish Evangelical Church sends greetings to the General
Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America.

We are your brothers, and companions in tribulation, and in the kingdom and
patience of Jesus Christ; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of
God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of
Christ greater riches than the treasures of an apostate church, spiritually called
Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Though we have not the word "Presbyterian" in the name of our denomina-
tion, all our ordained office bearers are required to sign, once a year, without
equivocation, a declaration of their belief in the doctrines of the Larger and Shorter
Catechisms of the Westminster Divines.

Previous to June, 1927, we were nearly all members of the Presbyterian Church
in Ireland, maintaining the truth of the Bible against unbelievers, euphemistically
called Modernists. In June, 1927, the General Assembly of that Church having voted
by an overwhelming majority (707-82) in favour of Modernism, we felt that we
ought not to remain longer under its authority.

A number of persons who were with us in protesting against Modernism while
we were in the Presbyterian Church, did not come out with us. They said they
would continue to fight for the truth inside the Church. But their testimony has
dwindled away till it is now negligible. So, we fear, will it be with those who were
with you, and remain behind, in the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

We congratulate you on your close association with Westminster Theological
Seminary and the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions. These are
great assets. We are far behind you in both respects, having no theological college,
and no mission work that we can call our own. We have, however, very happy rela-
tions with the Free Church of Scotland, and send our students to the Free Church
College, Edinburgh, where they get sound teaching: and we give some financial sup-
port to missions that are true to God's Word.

No doubt we are, in the eyes of the world, a feeble folk. But we have this
treasure, the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ,
in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

Brethren, Pray for us.

And may the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts
and minds through Christ Jesus.

Dr. Van Til spoke of his cordial reception by the Synod of the Chris-
tian Reformed Church, to which he had been appointed fraternal delegate
by the last Assembly.

The Clerk was instructed to send appropriate replies in response to
the greetings received.

The order of the day was called for.

The report of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Exten-
sion was presented by the Chairman, the Rev. Charles J. Woodbridge,
and is recorded in the appropriate place below.
Mr. Woodbridge presented the Rev. Paul Woolley, Treasurer of the Committee, who read the financial report, which is recorded below.

Mr. Woodbridge then presented two Missionaries, working under the direction of the Committee: The Rev. Peter F. Wall, of the State of Iowa, and the Rev. Carl Ahlfeldt, of Indianapolis. They spoke briefly of their work.

Mr. Woodbridge then presented the Rev. Edwin H. Rian, General Secretary of the Committee, who spoke of the great needs and great opportunities of the work.

Mr. Woodbridge then presented six recommendations from the Committee, recorded below as they were finally adopted by the Assembly.

It was moved that the report be accepted and that the recommendations be considered seriatim.

The Committee was authorized to make the following change, at its own request,—that the second sentence under the heading "Registration of the Committee," read, following the words "duly registered,"—"under the provisions of the Fictitious Names Act at the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to promote the work of the Presbyterian Church of America."

It was moved and carried that the question be divided, and that the Assembly vote first on accepting the report, and second on considering the Recommendations.

The following amendment to the report was moved and seconded, that the Assembly appoint a Committee to investigate the matter of the overhead expense of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, and to report to a later session of the Assembly.

The following amendment to this amendment was moved and seconded: that the Committee to be elected bend every effort to make the overhead expense as small an item as possible. It was moved and carried that both the amendment to the amendment and the amendment be laid on the table.

It was moved and carried that the report be received.

REPORT OF THE
COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION
OF
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

The Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension has endeavored to the best of its ability, to carry out the instructions of the First General Assembly.

At the first meeting on June 12, 1936, the Committee elected the Rev. Charles J. Woodbridge, Chairman; Gordon H. Clark, Ph.D., Secretary; and the Rev. Paul Woolley, Treasurer. The Rev. Edwin H. Rian was appointed General Secretary to serve on a part time basis, beginning with June 15, 1936. Mr. Rian accepted this position and then resigned as a member of the Committee.

Office space was rented at 1212 Commonwealth Building, Philadelphia, Pa.; a stenographer employed, and the work of the Committee carried forward.

Printing of the Minutes

One of the first actions of the Committee was to order the printing of 1,000
copies of the Minutes of the First General Assembly, and to have these copies distributed to all ministers in the Church and to all other persons who might request them.

Registration of the Committee

The Committee deemed it wise to register under the Fictitious Names Act of Pennsylvania. Accordingly this was done on August 5, 1936, so that the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension of the Presbyterian Church of America is duly registered under the provisions of the Fictitious Names Act at the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to promote the work of the Presbyterian Church of America. This enables the Committee to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

Erection of Presbyteries

In accordance with the powers granted to it by the First General Assembly, the Committee has erected the following Presbyteries, in addition to the Presbytery of New York and New England, and the Presbytery of Philadelphia, which were established at the First General Assembly:

1. The Presbytery of California, to include the State of California.
2. The Presbytery of Chicago, to include the State of Illinois.
3. The Presbytery of the Dakotas, to include the States of North and South Dakota.
4. The Presbytery of Iowa, to include the State of Iowa.
5. The Presbytery of New Jersey, to include the State of New Jersey.
6. The Presbytery of the Northwest, to include the States of Washington and Oregon.
7. The Presbytery of Ohio, to include the States of Ohio and Indiana.
8. The Presbytery of Wisconsin, to include the State of Wisconsin and the upper Peninsula of Michigan.

These presbyteries have been convened and moderators and stated clerks elected. They are functioning as regular courts of the Church.

Missionaries under the Committee

It was determined that all the Missionaries who labor under the auspices of the Committee shall receive salaries under the following arrangements:

1. Single men shall receive $50 to $100 per month.
2. Married men shall receive $100 to $200 per month.
3. In each case the salary shall be determined according to the need and location of the Missionary.

The following men have been appointed as missionaries and are now serving under the auspices of this Committee:

Rev. Carl Ahlfeldt, Missionary in Indianapolis, Ind.
Rev. Edward B. Cooper, Missionary in Pittsgrove, N. J.
Rev. A. Franklin Faucette, Cleveland, Ohio.
Rev. E. E. Matteson, Missionary in North Dakota.
Rev. J. L. Shaw, Missionary in Kentucky.
Rev. Leslie W. Sloat, Missionary in District of Columbia.
Rev. Robert L. Vining, Missionary in Rochester, N. Y.
Rev. Peter F. Wall, Missionary in Iowa.

Aid Receiving Ministers

In addition to the above full salaried missionaries, the following men have been granted aid according to their needs, and according to the Committee's ability to give such aid:
Rev. C. A. Balcom, Missionary in North Dakota.
Rev. John Davies, Work Among Indians in Wisconsin.
Rev. David Freeman, Philadelphia, Penna.
Rev. Donald Graham, Westfield, N. J.
Rev. George W. Heaton, Bancroft, South Dakota.
Rev. Walter J. Magee, Hamill, South Dakota.
Rev. Leonard S. Pitcher, Wildwood, N. J.
Mr. Stanley I. Ray, Norristown, Pa.
Rev. E. Lynne Wade, Los Angeles, Calif.
Rev. V. V. Wortman, Le Claire, Iowa.

Ministers and Churches

Beginning with 34 ministers just five months ago, the number has now grown to 108, and more are being added each week. These ministers reside in 23 states and five foreign countries—China, Ethiopia, Japan, Korea, Peru.

There are regularly constituted congregations situated in 16 states. In addition, there are many groups which are in the process of being organized into congregations.

Contributions to Committee

It has been encouraging to the Committee to receive funds from practically every group and congregation of the Presbyterian Church of America. Such sacrificial giving and missionary spirit augur well for the future of this Church.

In addition, individuals in many parts of this country have sent in contributions for the work of the Committee. The Treasurer's report gives the total amount of these gifts.

The budget for the work of the Committee is over $2,000 per month.

At the present time the needs are very pressing. Unless hundreds of dollars are received this month the work will have to be greatly curtailed and some men who are living on extremely small stipends will be without food and shelter. But we are convinced that the work must not only be maintained but greatly increased. The Committee calls upon the General Assembly to consider this need and opportunity and to pray that the Lord will put it upon the hearts of many to give generously.

The Civil Suit

On August 13, 1936, the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., acting through certain officers of its General Assembly, certain individual members, and the trustees of its General Assembly, filed a suit in equity in the Court of Common Pleas No. 5 in Philadelphia, against the officers and members of the Presbyterian Church of America, for the purpose of obtaining an immediate injunction restraining the Presbyterian Church of America from the use of that name now and forever.

Acting under the general power granted to this Committee by the First General Assembly, namely, "it shall have 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," the Committee asked the well known Philadelphia law firm of Saul, Ewing, Remick and Saul, to act as legal counsel for the defendants, and employed the Rev. H. McAllister Griffiths, D.D., to act as Ecclesiastical Counsel, for three months, beginning October 1, 1936.

The case is now pending before the Court of Common Pleas No. 5 in the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

General Policy

It has been the general policy of this Committee as far as possible to localize
in the Presbyteries and the individual congregations, responsibility for the extension of the Church, in accordance with true Presbyterian practice.

This Committee has labored with the co-operation and support of the Presbyteries where the missionaries have been stationed.

Vote of Thanks
The Committee desires to thank the ministers and members of the Presbyterian Church of America for their fine support and confidence.

FINANCIAL REPORT
COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS AND CHURCH EXTENSION
June 12, 1936 to October 31, 1936

Receipts
Contributions ........................................ $7,656.43
Contributions received as intermediary, see contra 106.14

Disbursements
Missionary Salaries and aid ........................ $4,130.00
Salaries of General Secretary and clerical help .. 1,177.50
Promotion Expenses
  Traveling expenses of Missionaries et al ........ $496.56
  Printing, &c. ..................................... 185.24
  Rental of hall for Assembly .................... 165.00
  .................................................. 846.80
Retainer fee, legal counsel .......................... 100.00
Salary to the Ecclesiastical Counsel in connection
  with the law suit against the members of the
  Committee et al .................................. 300.00
Office Rent .......................................... 175.00
Telephone and Telegraph ............................. 63.50
Printing, Stationery, and general office expense 319.44
Office Equipment ................................... 186.50
Cost of Registration under the Fictitious Names
  Act .............................................. 8.50
Payments of contributions received as inter-
  mediary, see contra .............................. 106.14
  .................................................. 7,413.38

Balance October 31, 1936 ............................ $349.19
On deposit with Provident Trust Company
  of Philadelphia ................................ $324.19
Petty cash fund .................................... 25.00

$349.19

The General Assembly proceeded to consider the recommendations. Recommendation No. 1 was read and adopted, as follows:
"That the General Assembly appoint a Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension to consist of 21 members, at least eleven of whom shall be ministers of the Gospel."

Recommendation No. 2 was read and the following substitute recommendation, as an amendment, adopted in its place:

"That, the Moderator appoint a Nominating Committee to present the names of 12 ministers and 9 elders for the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension to the Assembly, that the voting be by ballot, that the membership of the Committee be divided into three classes: the 4 ministers and 3 elders receiving the highest vote to be in the class of 1939; the 4 ministers and 3 elders receiving the next highest vote, to be in the class of 1938, and the 4 ministers and 3 elders receiving the third highest vote to be in the class of 1937."

It was moved and seconded that the Nominating Committee be composed of 5 representatives from five different Presbyteries. The motion was amended and the amendment adopted, that the Committee be composed of 7 members of this General Assembly.

It was moved and carried that the rest of these Recommendations be made the first order of the day Friday morning:

- It was moved and carried that the Assembly adjourn.
- The minutes were read, corrected, and approved.
- The Moderator called on Dr. Machen to lead in the closing prayer.

The Assembly adjourned to Friday morning, at 9 A. M.

Thursday Evening

A public meeting and rally was held Thursday evening at 8.00 P. M. in the Manufacturers’ and Bankers’ Club. The speakers for the meeting were the Rev. Everett C. De Velde of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the Rev. J. J. DeWaard of Cedar Grove, Wisconsin.

During the course of this meeting the Moderator announced the Committee to make nominations for the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, as follows:


Friday Morning

The General Assembly reconvened Friday morning, at 9.10 A. M., and was opened with a devotional service conducted by the Rev. Robert L. Atwell.

The Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

It was decided to dispense with the re-reading of the Minutes of Thursday.

The Assembly was informed of the serious illness of the Rev. Arthur F. Perkins, of Merrill, Wisconsin. Dr. Sterling led the Assembly
in prayer for Mr. Perkins, and the Clerk was instructed to send a letter of sympathy to Mrs. Perkins.

The Rev. V. V. Wortman of the Presbytery of Iowa, and Elder H. A. Worcester of Trinity Church, Cincinnati, were seated by the Assembly.

The Assembly proceeded to consider the remaining recommendations of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension.

Recommendation No. 3 was presented, and laid on the table pending the report of the Nominating Committee, inasmuch as it included suggestions regarding the membership of the Committee.

Recommendation No. 4, dealing with the structure of the Committee, was likewise read and laid on the table, having been taken care of in Amended Recommendation No. 2.

Recommendation No. 5 was read and adopted as follows:

"That the Committee be given power to receive and disburse contributions for the support of home missions and pastors who require aid. Further, that the Committee be given 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."

Recommendation No. 6 was read, amended by the addition of the final clause included below, and adopted as follows:

"That the Committee be given power to erect such presbyteries as may be necessary after the adjournment of this General Assembly and until the convening of the next General Assembly, and further, that this Committee be empowered to readjust names and boundaries of existing presbyteries in co-operation with those presbyteries."

The order of the day was suspended to permit the introduction of the following resolution, which was adopted:

"In order to avoid interlocking committees, it is the desire of this General Assembly that no man be allowed to serve at the same time on more than one standing committee, board, or agency, except where an emergency exists."

Elder William B. Hitchener, of Faith Presbyterian Church, Pittsgrove, N. J., was seated by the Assembly.

The report of the Committee on the Constitution was called for.

It was moved and carried that Murray Forst Thompson, Esq., a member of the Committee but not of the Assembly, should be granted the privilege of the floor during the discussion of the Report of the Committee.

The Rev. E. C. Comfort of Bowling Green, Ky., of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S., and the Rev. Alexander A. Murray of Sydney, Nova Scotia, of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, were received as corresponding members of the Assembly.

The Report of the Committee on the Constitution was presented by the Rev. N. B. Stonehouse, Chairman, and was received by the Assembly.
The Committee on the Constitution desires to make the following report of its work and recommendations:

I. The Charge to the Committee was as follows:

A. It "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 considerations 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 the 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."

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

II. With respect to IA the Committee reports that it has carefully considered the changes made in the doctrinal Standards of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. in 1903, and that it is unanimous in recommending to the General Assembly the adoption of the Confession of Faith and Catechisms in the form which they possessed before these changes were made, with the following two exceptions:

A. We recommend the retention of the change which was made in Chapter XXII, Section 3, by the omission of the sentence: "Yet it is a sin to refuse an oath touching anything that is good and just, being imposed by lawful authority."

B. We recommend the retention of the change made in Chapter XXV, Section 6, in so far as it involved the elimination of the words: "but is that antichrist, that man of sin, and son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the church against Christ, and all that is called God." If this recommendation is adopted, section 6 will read as follows: "There is no other head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ; nor can the Pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof." In connection with this recommendation it may be well to point out that questions of copyright seem to make it advisable not to use certain material added in recent years.

III. The recommendation under II involves the adoption of the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms without the following changes which were made by the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. in 1903:

A. Chapters XXXIV and XXXV of the Confession of Faith with their Preamble.

B. The Declaratory Statement of 1903.

C. The Revision of Chapter XVI, Section 7. In the unrevised form the section reads: "Works done by unregenerate men, although, for the matter of them, they may be things which God commands, and of good use both to themselves and others; yet, because they proceed not from a heart purified by faith; nor are done in a right manner, according to the Word; nor to a right end, the Glory of God; they are therefore sinful, and cannot please God, or make a man meet to receive grace from
Minutes of the Second General Assembly

God. And yet their neglect of them is more sinful, and displeasing to God."

In recommending the elimination of the sections which are enumerated in the preceding paragraph, the Committee desires to state that it does so on the ground that these changes seriously impair the testimony of the doctrinal standards of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. to the system of doctrine which is taught in Holy Scripture.

IV. With respect to IB the Committee reports that it has been unable to complete the task which was assigned to it. It has not been able to prepare a Directory of Worship. It is not prepared to recommend for adoption a Book of Discipline, although it has prepared a preliminary draft of a considerable portion of a Book of Discipline. If the Committee should be continued it would be able to complete its work, and present a Book of Discipline and a Directory for Worship a reasonable time before the next General Assembly.

The Committee does, however, recommend the adoption of the Form of Government which is submitted herewith. Since the draft was printed, in response to suggestions made to the Committee, four changes have been made in the proposed form of Government:

1. In Chapter X, Section 1 (p. 9), the substitution of the words “consisting, as it does, of” for the words “being divided into.”
2. In Chapter XI, Section 2 (p. 12), adding the clause “and two or more elders from every collegiate church in proportion to the number of its pastors.” This addition will bring this section into harmony with Chapter X, Section 3.
3. In Chapter XVIII (p. 31, line 8), adding the following after the words “The parties appointed”; “and that the parties appointed will speedily place themselves and their work under the jurisdiction of any Presbytery within whose bounds they may be laboring.”
4. The revision of Chapter XXIII, Section 3, to read as follows: “The Board of Trustees of a particular church shall ordinarily consist of the acting ruling elders and deacons in that church, but other communicant members of the church may be elected as Trustees if it seem desirable, provided, however, that the number of such members shall be less than half the total membership of the Board; its duties shall be confined to the discharge of the business described in Section 1 of this chapter.”

In making this recommendation the Committee desires to call attention to the fact that the proposed Form of Government is to a large extent the Form of Government which has been in use in the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. for over a hundred years. The most substantial changes have been in the interest of eliminating provisions for synods, and other matters which obviously cannot be included in our Form of Government. Some of the principles set forth in the new draft have been revised and restated in view of questions of copyright. Some sections have been altered in the interest of lucidity. The revision has been a very conservative one on the whole, and material changes have been dictated by the desire to present a Form of Government that is true to the fundamental principles of Presbyterian Church Government.

A motion to approve the recommendation of the Committee with respect to I-A was amended to read that we consider these recommendations by paragraphs. The amended motion was carried.

The Moderator ruled that the substance of paragraph II was properly before the Assembly.

A motion to hear overtures from the Presbyteries relating to this paragraph was carried.
Overture No. 1 from the Presbytery of California was read, noted, and filed. It is as follows:

The Presbytery of California respectfully overtures the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America, meeting in Philadelphia, in November, 1936, as to the Revision of 1903.

We desire to go on record before our brethren as warmly approving the tenor of the discussion of the Revision of 1903, as given in The Presbyterian Guardian for September 26, 1936, pages 247-251.

We too see clearly the Arminian and Anti-Reformed character of that Revision. To us it represents not a compromise with a body of Christians known as the Cumberland Presbyterians, but a compromise with the infallible and inerrant Word of God, and the sacred truths of its doctrines committed to us.

We have all confidence in the direction of God's Spirit in the coming Assembly, and we are strongly convinced that it will be His pleasure to lead our people to the careful exclusion of the theological error and Scriptural unfaithfulness mirrored in the Revision of 1903.

Overture No. 2 from the Presbytery of New Jersey was read, as follows:

"We, the Presbytery of New Jersey, respectfully overture the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America, that, in the consideration of the Constitution and the report of the Committee on the Constitution, there be no undue haste in this matter, and further, that there be kept in mind the fact that the Presbyterian Church of America is the true Spiritual succession of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

"We would suggest that at this time the adoption of the doctrinal standards be postponed until the next meeting of the General Assembly, and that there be given full opportunity throughout the Presbyteries for consideration on the part of all the ministers and members of the Church of the report of the Committee on the Constitution."

A motion to approve overture No. 2 was lost.

It was moved and carried that the Assembly recess for 15 minutes to permit the taking of the Assembly picture.

It was moved that the recess be extended until 2.00 P. M. The motion was carried, and the Assembly recessed.

Friday Afternoon

The Assembly reconvened at 2.00 P. M., and was opened with the singing of a hymn and with prayer by the Moderator.

The Rev. Joseph C. Holbrook of Westwood, N. J., a minister of the Reformed Church in America; the Rev. James E. Moore of Baltimore, Md., of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S.; and the Rev. Dr. Jacob T. Hoogstra of Engelwood, N. J., of the Christian Reformed Church, were received as corresponding members.

The Rev. Dr. R. W. Chestnut, Assistant Stated Clerk of the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of America, was received as a corresponding member, and brought the greetings of that Church to the Assembly.
A request from the Rev. J. Mulder Kooyers of Oxford, Wisconsin, that his name be erased from the roll of the Church, was granted.

The Assembly resumed consideration of the report of the Committee on the Constitution.

The Moderator ruled that paragraphs II and III were inseparable, and were both properly before the Assembly.

It was moved and carried that overtures on the general subject of the Millennial question be read.

Overture No. 3 from the Presbytery of California, was read as follows:

The Presbytery of California respectfully overtures the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America meeting in Philadelphia in November, 1936, as to eschatological freedom.

Despite the fact that our Presbytery is nearly unanimously premillennial in its personnel, it would be farthest from our desire that the Presbyterian Church of America close its doors against all who disbelieve in the premillennial return of our Lord. To do so, we are convinced, would displease Christ. We recognize that brethren who are post-millennialists or a-millennialists may, and many of them do, equally love our Lord's appearing.

We regret the occasion necessitating that editorial, namely: "Premillennialism," in the Christian Beacon of October 1, 1936, but nonetheless, we are in perfect agreement with the sentiments contained therein. With all our souls we are averse to any hyper-dispensationalism which would proclaim salvation as possible in any age apart from God's redemptive work wrought out on Calvary. We think it, therefore, decidedly unfair to confuse the issue and make every pre-millennialist to be a hyper-dispensationalist.

Such strength of language as has lately been hurled against pre-millennialists by some who have been thought to speak in the name of the Presbyterian Church of America, is proving hurtful here. Thoroughly evangelical pre-millennialists are singling out such sentences as proof texts to show the anti-premillenarian disposition of the Presbyterian Church of America.

Therefore we earnestly and prayerfully appeal to you (and to all other Presbyteries, if God wills it, to join us in our plea) that definite, emphatic, and unambiguous eschatological liberty be written into the Constitution of our Beloved Church.


The following letter from the Presbytery of California, treated as Overture No. 4 was read:

The late November 14th issue of The Presbyterian Guardian makes it quite clear that we have pierced to the heart some brethren we love very dearly. Therefore, the knowledge of their grief grieves us. With Paul we would say, "For if I make you sorry, who is he then that maketh me glad, but the same which is made sorry by me? And I wrote this same unto you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow from them of whom I ought to rejoice: having all confidence in you all, that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you." (II Corinthians II:2-4).

We are praising God that our interpretation was a misinterpretation of Professor Kuiper's words as they appeared in the Guardian. Also, we are praying most earnestly that God may order recent discussion pertaining to Pre-, Post-, and
A-millennialism (among those who are equally supernaturalists, and true to the Reformed Faith) in such a way as shall be clearly seen to have been for His glory and the well-being of our Church.

It is only fair to Rev. Carl McIntire and the Christian Beacon to say that our misinterpretation was entirely independent of his editorial, “Pre-millennialism,” appearing in that paper. That editorial was cited merely because its words accurately set forth our own independently-arrived-at understanding of Professor Kuiper’s words. It seems to us that there were a sufficient number of persons throughout the nation who arrived at an identical interpretation with Rev. McIntire’s (and that prior to the time of his editorial) that it would appear either that Professor Kuiper was certainly less explicit and clear in his phraseology than he might have been, or else, that a host of persons must be charged with mental vacuity. We are all fallible men, despite being saved by grace. We “misinterpreters” are glad to make such confession in every such case as this. And it is our hope that every man in our Church is so adorned with Christ’s own beauty of humility as makes him constantly aware of his capacity for mistakes in word and deed.

God bless you each and all. Though absent in person, we are with you continually before the Throne of Grace for each moment of the General Assembly. Our Lord be glorified and rejoiced in and through each of us.

Overture No. 5 from the Presbytery of New Jersey was read as follows:

We respectfully overture the General Assembly to adopt a declaration setting forth in clear and unambiguous language that there is and should be absolute liberty and no discrimination between man and local churches because of the particular views which they may hold concerning the personal return of our Lord, whether this be premillennial, a-millennial, or post-millennial.

Overtures Nos. 3, 4, and 5 were received and filed.

The following amendment was moved and seconded, that a Declarationary Statement be appended to the Confession of Faith, reading the Presbyterian Church of America does not officially interpret any part of the Westminster Confession of Faith or Catechisms as being opposed to the premillennial view.

The Moderator ruled that this amendment was in order. Appeal was taken from the ruling. The Assembly sustained the ruling.

The Moderator requested Dr. N. B. Stonehouse to take the Chair.

The following amendment to the amendment, in the form of a substitute, was moved and seconded: That we do not adopt the 1934 form of the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, and that we recommend the report of the Committee to the Presbyteries, who shall report back to the next General Assembly.

The Moderator ruled that the amendment to the amendment was in order. Appeal was taken from the ruling, and the Assembly sustained the ruling.

It was moved and carried that the amendment to the amendment be laid on the table.

Dr. Buswell resumed the Moderator’s Chair.

The following amendment to the amendment, in the form of a substitute, was moved and seconded: That the Assembly adopt the West-
minster Confession of Faith and Catechisms as they existed before the year 1903, as the doctrinal standards of our Church, and that we refer to the Presbyteries such amendments as might be offered by the Committee on the Constitution, and such other amendments as might be offered from the floor and adopted by this Assembly, these amendments to become a part of the Constitution of the Church if they are approved by two-thirds of the Presbyteries, and by two-thirds of the next Assembly.

It was moved and carried that the amendment to the amendment be laid on the table.

The previous question (that the Assembly proceed to vote on the amendment regarding a declaratory statement) was moved and carried.

The amendment was lost.

The previous question (that the Assembly proceed to vote on the recommendations of the Committee with respect to the doctrinal standards of the Church) was moved and carried.

Elder Charles A. Freytag, of the Covenant Church of Orange, N. J., was seated as a commissioner.

The Assembly determined that the vote on this part of the report of the Committee should be by roll-call.

The vote was as follows: In favor of adopting the report of the Committee regarding the Confession of Faith and Catechisms, Ministers: Adair, Agnew, Allen, Atwell, Clelland, Coie, E. Cooper, T. Cooper, Cummings, DeRuiter, DeVelde, DeWaard, Dodd, Dunn, Dyrness, Faucette, Freeman, Gordon, Graham, Hamilton, Holmes, Jongewaard, Long, Machen, Marsden, Marston, Mitchell, Rankin, Rian, Shaw, Skilton, Sloat, Smith, Sterling, Stonehouse, R. Strong, W. Strong, Thwing, Tucker, Van Til, Vining, Voorhees, Woodbridge, Woolley, Young, and Elders: Bernard, Bovard, Paw, Freytag, Hubbard, Jacobs, McNeal, Morrison, Roberts, Worcester, Frazer, Ferguson; total 57. Against adopting the report of the Committee regarding the Confession of Faith and Catechisms: Ministers: Arcularius, Buffler, Buswell, Harris, Jamison, MacRae, McIntire, Pitcher, Simpson, Thomas, Toms, Vaughn, Wall, Welbon, Wortman, and Elders: Cooper, Hall, Hodge, MacCorkell, Stam; total 20.

The report of the Committee regarding the doctrinal standards of the Church was declared to have been adopted.

The following resolution was moved and seconded:

I. The Question whether our Lord's bodily return is held to precede the "thou- sand years" referred to in Revelation XX is, in our opinion, despite its importance, not to be regarded as a test whether a man does or does not adhere to the system of doctrine contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms. A man may, we think, answer this question in the affirmative or answer it in the negative and still, if his convictions otherwise are satisfactory, be ordained and received as a minister or elder or deacon of the Presbyterian Church of America.

II. A congregation that desires as its pastor a man who holds the view of our Lord's return described above should not be prevented from having such a pastor,
neither should a congregation that desires as its pastor a man who rejects this view be prevented from having him, provided in each case the pastor has subscribed \textit{ex animo} to the system of doctrine contained in the Confession of Faith and Catechisms.

III. It should, however, in our judgment, be regarded as improper for congregations to erect into a position of Constitutional fixity (by inclusion in their charters or otherwise) any doctrinal requirements or standards other than those of the Church at large.

The following amendment to this resolution, in the form of a substitute for Sections I and II, was moved and seconded:

I. The eschatological views of the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, to wit:

"On the third day he arose from the dead with the same body in which he suffered: with which also He ascended into heaven, and there sitteth at the right hand of his Father, making intercession, and shall return to judge men and angels at the end of the world." (C VIII.4 last sentence).

"At the last day, such as are found alive shall not die, but be changed; and all the dead shall be raised up with the self-same bodies, and none other, although with different qualities, which shall be united again to their souls forever." "The bodies of the unjust shall, by the power of Christ be raised to dishonor; the bodies of the just, by His Spirit, unto honor, and be made conformable to his own glorious body" (C. XXXII. 2, 3).

God hath appointed a day wherein he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ, to whom all power and judgment is given of the Father. In which day, not only the apostate angels shall be judged; but likewise all persons that have lived upon earth, shall appear before the tribunal of Christ, to give an account of their thoughts, words and deeds; and to receive according to what they have done in the body, whether good or evil." "The end of God's appointing this day is for the manifestation of the glory of his mercy, in the eternal salvation of the elect; and of his justice, in the damnation of the reprobate, who are wicked and disobedient. For then shall the righteous go into everlasting life, and receive that fullness of joy and refreshing which shall come from the presence of the Lord: but the wicked, who know not God, and obey not the Gospel of Jesus Christ, shall be cast into eternal torments, and be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power." "As Christ would have us to be certainly persuaded that there shall be a day of judgment, both to deter all men from sin, and for the greater consolation of the godly in their adversity; so will he have that day unknown to men, that they may shake off all carnal security, and be always watchful because they know not at what hour the Lord will come; and may be ever prepared to say—Come, Lord Jesus, Come quickly, Amen." (C. XXXIII. 1, 2, and 3.)

"We are to believe that, at the last day, there shall be a general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust: When they that are then found alive shall in a moment be changed: and the self-same bodies of the dead which are laid in the grave, being then again united to their souls forever, shall be raised up by the power of Christ, and by virtue of his resurrection as their head, shall be raised in power, spiritual, and incorruptible, and made like to his glorious body, and the bodies of the wicked shall be raised up in dishonor by him as an offended judge." (L. 87.)

"Immediately after the resurrection shall follow the general and final judgment of angels and men: The day and hour whereof no man knoweth, that all may watch and pray, and be ever ready for the coming of the Lord." (L. 88.)

"At the day of judgment, the wicked shall be set on Christ's left hand, and upon clear evidence and full conviction of their own consciences, shall have the fearful but just sentence of condemnation pronounced against them; and thereupon shall be cast out from the favourable presence of God, and the glorious fellowship with
Christ, his saints, and all his holy angels, into hell, to be punished with unspeakable torments both of body and soul, with the devil and his angels forever." (L. 89.)

"At the day of judgment, the righteous, being caught up to Christ in the clouds, shall be set on his right hand and there openly acknowledged and acquitted: and shall join with him in the judgment of reprobate angels and men: and shall be received into heaven, where they shall be fully and forever freed from all sin and misery: filled with inconceivable joys, made perfectly holy and happy both in body and soul, in the company in innumerable saints and angels; but especially in the immediate vision and fruition of God the Father, or our Lord Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit, to all eternity. And this is the perfect and full communion, which the members of the invisible Church shall enjoy with Christ in glory, at the resurrection and day of judgment." (L. 90.)

II. And while the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms do not teach that our Lord's bodily return shall precede a so-called period of a "thousand years" on this earth, nevertheless, this Assembly will regard as within the area of permitted liberty, all those who hold to such a view provided this view does not incorporate within it other positions conflicting with the system of doctrine taught in the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms.

The motion was made and carried that this amendment be laid on the table. The following persons asked to have their names recorded as protesting against this action: Ministers: Clelland, Van Til, Graham, MacRae, Freeman, Adair, Shaw, Skilton, Rankin, Long, Pitcher, DeRuiter, Stonehouse, Machen, Harris, Simpson.

The Rev. Milo Jamison filed notice of a protest against the action of the Assembly relative to the amendment to add a declaratory statement to the Confession.

It was moved and carried that the amendment to the resolution be taken from the table.

It was moved that the Assembly adjourn. The Moderator ruled the motion in order. Exception was taken to the ruling. The Assembly sustained the ruling. (Note: At the opening of the following session, the Moderator acknowledged that he erred in making this ruling, and asked that his recognition of error be recorded in the minutes.)

The motion to adjourn was carried.

The Assembly adjourned with prayer by the Moderator, to reconvene Saturday morning at 9.00 A. M.

**Friday Evening**

A public meeting and rally was held on Friday evening at 7.45 P. M., in the meeting room of the Assembly. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. John P. Clelland, of Wilmington, Del., and the Rev. Samuel J. Allen, of Carson, N. D.
Minutes of the Second General Assembly

Saturday Morning

The Assembly reconvened Saturday morning at 9.00 A. M., and was opened with a devotional service led by the Rev. Clifford S. Smith.

The Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

The minutes of the previous day were read, corrected, and approved.

It was moved and carried that the minutes be kept open, in order that those who voted against adopting the report of the Committee regarding the doctrinal standards, might record themselves as approving the standards actually adopted by the Assembly. The following persons so recorded their names: Ministers: Buswell, Toms, Thomas, Pitcher, Wall, Simpson, Vaughn, Arcularius, Ahlfeldt, and Elders: Morrison, Hall, Cooper, and Hodge.

It was moved and carried that the minutes be kept open till the end of the Assembly in order that those not present when the roll-call vote on adopting the report of the Committee regarding the doctrinal standards was taken, might record their opinion in that question. The Rev. J. E. Blair was recorded as favoring the adoption of the report.

The Assembly decided to proceed at the point where discussion ended Friday afternoon.

Elders T. C. Harvey of the Eastlake Church, Wilmington, and S. Warren Windle of the Kirkwood Church, Kirkwood, Pa., were seated by the Assembly, in place of elders from those Churches present on Friday.

The Moderator requested the Rev. John P. Clelland to take the Chair.

The movers of both the resolution and the amendment to the resolution now before the house stated that they would withdraw their proposals provided the Assembly would forego the adoption of any resolution at all in the matter.

It was moved and carried that both the resolution and the amendment be laid on the table.

The Assembly proceeded to hear the report of the Committee appointed to nominate members for the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension. The Rev. J. J. DeWaard, Chairman, presented the report, naming the first twelve ministers and nine elders listed below. The additional names were then nominated from the floor:


A Motion that the Assembly express its hearty approval of the work
Minutes of the Second General Assembly

done by the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension was tabled.

The Moderator appointed the following as tellers: Ministers: Marston, Dunn, Thomas, Stonehouse.

It was moved and carried that the previous question be put (the election of the Committee). The Assembly proceeded to vote.

It was moved and carried that the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions be heard.

The following protest was presented and filed:

“We should like respectfully to protest the action of the Second General Assembly taken on the afternoon of November 13, 1936, when that Assembly adopted the report of the Committee on the Constitution, thus adopting a confession of the faith of our Church without, as we believe, adequate debate on certain sections of that report, namely, II.A, referring to the Confession of Faith Chapter XXII, section 3; and II.B, referring to the Confession of Faith Chapter XXV, section 6. There was, it is true, prolonged discussion of amendments offered to that Committee’s report, but opportunity was not allowed for any discussion of II.A and II.B of the report. Rather, immediately after the amendments to that report touching entirely other matters were defeated, discussion of these sections and the remainder of the report was silenced during the late hours of the afternoon session, by a motion for the previous question. Such action the undersigned wish respectfully to protest. Signed, Ministers: R. Laird Harris, Dean W. Adair, J. F. Minor Simpson, and Elder T. L. Hodge.”

The report of the Committee on Foreign Missions was presented by the Chairman, the Rev. F. S. Dymness.

It was moved and carried that the report be received and filed, and that the recommendations be adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

Before His ascension our Blessed Lord came to His disciples and spake unto them, saying, “All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.”

This great commission is the divine charter of the Christian missionary enterprise. It is eminently fitting that the Presbyterian Church of America, at the outset of her life and testimony, solemnly recall the words of the Commission and lift her eyes to the world fields which are white unto harvest.

In view of this commission and the fields which are already white to the harvest, and further in view of the great privilege and grave responsibility which is ours as a Biblical and therefore a truly missionary Church, your committee suggests that the missionary interest, zeal, and activity of the local Churches of our denomination be stirred and stimulated. We would suggest means of doing this by the formation of missionary societies, by prayerfully arranged missionary education programs, by the frequent use of missionary speakers, by the arrangement of regional missionary conferences. We further suggest that one of the evening services held in connection with the next General Assembly be devoted to a missionary rally.

Further in view of the existence of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions, your committee would suggest that nothing be done by this Assembly relative to the establishment of an official Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church of America, but that instead a committee on foreign mis-
sions, of five members, be appointed to report to the next General Assembly and to make at that time any recommendations it might deem advisable.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America recognizes the right and freedom of every individual church member and every local church to support with its gifts any particular orthodox missionary enterprise, but at the same time it takes a special pleasure in commending the program and work of the Independent Board for Presbyterian Foreign Missions to the Church at large, and in suggesting that this work receive the sympathetic co-operation of local churches and church members, in so far as that may be possible.

It was moved and carried that a committee of five members be elected to report to the next Assembly in the matter of foreign missions.

The following persons were nominated: Ministers: Dyrness, Woodbridge, Marston, Rankin, Pitcher, McIntire, W. T. Strong, Sloat, and Elders: J. S. Wurtz, T. L. Hodge, and Harry Frazer.

The nominations were closed and it was decided to postpone balloting until the report of the tellers regarding the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension was presented.

It was moved and carried that the report of the Committee on Christian Education be heard.

The report was presented by the Rev. John P. Clelland, Secretary of the Committee.

It was moved and carried that the report be received and filed, and that the recommendations be considered seriatim. The recommendations were adopted, Nos. 1 and 4 being slightly amended by the Assembly. The entire report with recommendations as adopted follows:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In presenting its report, the Committee on Christian Education wishes to express its conviction that the triumph of unbelief in the old organization was due in no small measure to the prostitution of existing educational agencies through compromise with unbelief, on the one hand, and to the lack of a full-orbed and consistent system of Christian Education on the other. Consequently, if the Presbyterian Church of America is to be a truly reformed Church, activities in the sphere of education, however humble, cannot be initiated too soon. Certain truly evangelical and Reformed publications and projects which are already available can be utilized, but it will be necessary also to take steps toward the development of a comprehensive program of Christian Education. With the prayer that God may guide the Presbyterian Church of America as it enters upon this great task, the following recommendations are presented:

1. That the General Assembly urge sessions to supervise carefully the materials used in the Sunday School in view of the fact that so much literature designed for the Sunday School is tainted with unbelief or is defective in its presentation of the doctrinal position of our church. Favorable attention is called to the materials published by the Instructor Publishing Company of Zeeland, Michigan.

2. That the General Assembly urge pastors and sessions to advise with young people's societies in their particular churches in the interest of securing the attendance of the young people upon the regular services of the Church; the adoption of a positive program of study of the scriptures and of the doctrines of the Church, and of Christian fellowship and testimony; and the avoidance of all modernistic or other compromising alliances.

3. That the General Assembly call the attention of the churches to the need
of caring for the training of Sunday School teachers and other Christian workers in a knowledge of the Bible and the doctrines of the Church. Individual churches or, where it is practicable for a number of churches to co-operate in such an endeavour, groups of churches may establish a Bible School (or schools) on a distinctively Reformed basis, to accomplish these purposes.

4. That the General Assembly urge that in the worship of the Church, hymns and hymnals be selected which are in harmony with the teachings of Scripture and of the Reformed Faith. While not recommending every hymn found in THE HYMNAL as published in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1895 and revised in 1911, it recommends this hymnal as the best available to meet the needs of the Church until such time as it may be feasible to publish our own hymnal. Attention is called to a Christian Song book which is true to the Reformed Faith and is suitable for family worship and popular meetings, THE NEW CHRISTIAN HYMNAL, published by Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, Michigan.

5. That the General Assembly recommend to pastors and congregations to support Westminster Theological Seminary with their prayers and generous financial gifts.

6. That the General Assembly recommend to pastors and members of the Church the formation of Christian School societies, which shall have as their purpose the establishment of Christian daily Schools.

It was moved and carried that the present Committee on Christian Education be continued pending a further election.

It was moved and carried that the report of the Committee on Correspondence with other Churches, appointed at the last Assembly, be heard. The Assembly was informed that there was no report from this committee.

It was moved and carried that the remainder of the report of the Committee on the Constitution be made the order of the day at the reconvening of the afternoon session.

It was moved and carried that the Assembly adjourn until 2.00 P. M.

The Moderator requested the Rev. Leslie W. Sloat to offer the closing prayer, after which the Assembly adjourned.

Saturday Afternoon

The afternoon session opened at 2.00 P. M., with a hymn. The Moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

The report of the tellers on the vote for members of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension was received. A triple tie for two places in the minister class of 1937 was resolved by an additional ballot vote, and the committee as elected is as follows: Class of 1939, Ministers: Buswell, Woodbridge, Smith, Machen, and Elders: G. H. Clark, P. Stam, C. W. Holbrook; Class of 1938, Ministers: Woolley, DeVelde, Blair, Vaughn, and Elders: Worcester, Frazer, Cooper; Class of 1937, Ministers: Sterling, Allen, Bordeaux, and Skilton, and Elders: Dulles, Tennant, Perkins.

The Assembly proceeded to vote for members of the Committee on Foreign Missions.
A communication relating to the Utah Gospel Mission was presented. It was referred to the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Clerk was instructed to acknowledge receipt of it.

The order of the day suspended to permit the introduction of the following resolution:

"Whereas the Presbyterian Guardian is in the same office with the Presbyterian Church of America, at 1212 Commonwealth Building, Philadelphia, Pa., and
"Whereas the Presbyterian Guardian is strongly amillennial in its position, and
"Whereas the close connection of the Presbyterian Guardian and the office of this church is giving the false impression that the Presbyterian Guardian is the official and accredited representative of the Presbyterian Church of America; "Therefore be it

Resolved, That the General Assembly instruct its Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension to arrange for an office altogether apart from the office of the Presbyterian Guardian."

The resolution was amended by the deleting of the word "strongly" in paragraph two, and then laid on the table.

The Assembly proceeded to the consideration of paragraph IV of the report of the Committee on the Constitution.

It was moved and seconded that the proposed FORM OF GOVERNMENT be adopted, with the changes recommended by the Committee.

Overture No. 6 from the Presbytery of California was read, noted and filed, as follows:

"Mindful of the property losses which are now being suffered by many Presbyterian Congregations because of their fidelity to the Word of God and loyalty to the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ and their courageous departure from the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. to enter upon a field of ministry, either as Independent Churches or members of the Presbyterian Church of America, it therefore seems wise to the Presbytery of California of the Presbyterian Church of America to urge upon the General Assembly, meeting in Philadelphia in November of this year, the prayerful consideration of the question as to how the property of the individual church can be safeguarded in such a manner that its control remain permanently in the hands of those members of the congregation who adhere and are loyal to 'the faith once delivered to the saints' and the doctrinal standards of our Church."

The order of the day was suspended to permit the reception of the report of the tellers on the vote for members of the Committee on Foreign Missions. The report showed the following five persons receiving the highest vote, and they were declared elected to the Committee: Ministers: Dyrness 36, Marston 31, W. T. Strong 33, McIntire 28, and Elder Wurts 28.

The Assembly approved an amendment to the motion to adopt the proposed FORM OF GOVERNMENT, deleting from Chapter XIV, section 5, the words: "except that the examination in the languages of Scripture may be waived upon the presentation of a transcript showing that creditable work has been done in these subjects."

The Moderator requested the Rev. Peter F. Wall to take the Chair. The Moderator resumed the Chair.

The Moderator announced that he had appointed the Rev. Charles
J. Woodbridge as convener of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension, and the Rev. F. S. Dyrness as convener of the Committee on Foreign Missions.

The motion to adopt the proposed FORM OF GOVERNMENT was amended to read, "that the proposed FORM OF GOVERNMENT be provisionally adopted by the Assembly with the changes recommended by the Committee, to be binding until the next General Assembly, provided that existing organizations need not be readjusted during that period to conform with it, and with the exception that the printed form of Chapter XXIII, section 3, be substituted for the recommendation of the Committee at that point." The motion thus amended was adopted by the Assembly.

It was moved and seconded that the Committee on the Constitution be continued, to carry on the further work committed to it by the first Assembly. The motion was amended by the following additions, that the Committee provide copies of the recommended changes in the printed FORM OF GOVERNMENT for all ministers and elders, and that such copies of the present form as are available be distributed to those ministers and elders who have not already received a copy at least one month before the next Assembly, and further, that the Committee be empowered to fill its own vacancies. The amended motion was carried.

The following motion was carried: That it is our understanding that the third General Assembly will have power to adopt finally a FORM OF GOVERNMENT, BOOK OF DISCIPLINE, and DIRECTORY FOR WORSHIP.

It was decided that the present Moderator and Clerk should be the committee of the Assembly to prepare the docket for the next Assembly, and that the Clerk should act as treasurer to receive contributions toward meeting the expenses of the next Assembly.

The same committee was authorized to print and distribute the minutes of this Assembly, if funds sufficient for the purpose are received before January 1, 1937.

The following protest was presented and filed:

"We respectfully protest against the action of the General Assembly in refusing to include in the doctrinal standard which it adopted the following declaratory statement to be appended as a part of the Confession of Faith: 'The Presbyterian Church of America does not officially interpret any part of its Confession of Faith or Catechisms as opposed to the Premillennial view.' In support of this protest we present as our reasons the following:

1. Because it is our deep conviction that the Premillennial view is clearly taught in the Word of God which is the supreme standard of our Church.

2. Because, though the Premillennial view is in no wise incompatible with the system of doctrine taught in the Westminster Standards, there are many who consider the wording of these Standards to be opposed to the Premillennial view, thus raising in acute form the question of the right of Premillennialists to be received on equal terms with those holding other views.

3. Because the declaration presented did not make the slightest change in the
Standards of the Church, but merely assured Premillennialists that the Church does not officially interpret the Standards as being opposed to the Premillennial view.

4. Because nothing short of some such Constitutional safeguard could reasonably set at rest the wide-spread and well-founded fears which are abroad that Premillennialists are not welcome in the Presbyterian Church of America.

5. Because we believe that the Presbyterian Church of America can never adequately fill its proper place in the work of God's Kingdom if it permits its standards to be so interpreted that it refuses to receive on equal terms those who hold that viewpoint which has been so signally blessed of God as a tremendous incentive to Missionary enterprise, holy living, and personal evangelism." Signed, Milo F. Jamison.

The Rev. J. E. Blair made request to the Assembly that the establishment of an educational institution of true Christian character on the West Coast be a matter of prayer and consideration on the part of the Presbyterian Church of America.

It was moved and carried that, when the Assembly adjourn, it adjourn to meet in Philadelphia, Pa., on Tuesday afternoon, June 1st, 1937, at 2.00 P.M., to continue through Friday morning, and afternoon if necessary.

The floor was opened for nominations to the Committee on Christian Education.

The following persons were nominated: Ministers: Atwell, Clelland, Cummings, Harris, Stonehouse, Van Til, and Elder G. H. Clark. The nominations were closed and it was moved and carried that the Clerk cast a white ballot for the entire group. The Clerk reported that the ballot was cast.

It was moved and carried that the resolution expressing the hearty approval by the Assembly of the Work of the Committee on Home Missions and Church Extension be taken from the table. The Resolution was adopted by the Assembly.

Mrs. Albert L. Berry, of Tryon, N. C., speaker at the Friday afternoon meeting for women arranged in connection with the meetings of this Assembly, was welcomed to the platform, and brought a brief and encouraging report of the meeting which had been held.

The Assembly extended a hearty vote of thanks to those who arranged for the present Assembly.

The Moderator and Clerk were empowered to make arrangements for the proper disposal of the records of the Assembly.

It was moved and carried that the Minutes of the Assembly be presented at this time for final approval, and that the Clerk be empowered to add a note regarding the meeting to be held on Sunday evening.

The Minutes for Saturday were read, corrected, and approved.

The Minutes for the entire Assembly were approved.

The Assembly moved to adjourn.

The Moderator made the following declaration:

"By virtue of the authority delegated to me, by the Church, let this General Assembly be dissolved, and I do hereby dissolve it, and require
another General Assembly, chosen in the same manner, to meet in Phila-
delphia, Pa., on the first day of June, 1937."

The Moderator called on the Rev. Carl McIntire to offer the closing
prayer.

The Moderator pronounced on those present the Apostolic Benedic-
tion.

**Sunday Evening**

On Sunday evening at 7.45 a public service of worship was held in
the meeting place of the Assembly. The service was conducted by the
Moderator of the Assembly, the Rev. J. Oliver Buswell, Jr., D.D. The
sermon was on the text II Corinthians V. 20, "Now then, we are ambas-
sadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you
in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be
sin for us, who knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness
of God in him."

*Leslie W. Sloat,*
*Clerk of Assembly.*
Minutes of the Second General Assembly

INDEX

Christian Education, Committee on
   Report of, with recommendations, 23
   New Committee elected, 27

Clerk of Assembly elected, 4, 5

Constitution, Committee on
   Full report of, 12-14
   Doctrinal Standards, Discussion of, 14-22
   Doctrinal Standards, vote on, 18
   Form of Government, Discussion of, 25, 26
   Committee continued, 26

Correspondence with other Churches, Committee on, 24

Docket, Adoption of, 4

Foreign Missions, Committee on,
   Report of, 22, 23
   New Committee elected, 25

Greetings to Assembly, 5-6

Home Missions and Church Extensions, Committee on
   Report of, 7-11
   Financial Report of, 10
   Recommendations of, 10-12
   Approval of, 27
   New Committee elected, 24

Kooyers, Rev. J. M., name erased, 16

Lord's Supper, Observance of, 3

Minutes, Approval of, 27

Moderator, Election of, 5

Next Assembly
   Date and Meeting place, 27
   Committee on Docket of, 26

Overtures
   On Revision of 1903, 15
   On Postponing adoption of Doctrinal Standards, 15
   On Premillennialism, 16-17
   On Safeguarding property, 25

Premillennialism, proposed declaratory statement on, 19, 20

Protests
   Against adoption of doctrinal standards, 22
   Against rejection of Declaratory Statement, 26, 27

Resolutions
   On Premillennialism, 18, 19
   On Interlocking Committees, 12
   On Guardian and Committee on Home Missions, 25

Roll of Assembly, 3, 4

Utah Gospel Mission, 25

Women's Meeting, Report of, 27
LIST OF MINISTERS

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

CALIFORNIA
- Donald K. Blackie, 460 Margaret Ave., Los Angeles
- Wm. Harllee Bordeaux, 4123½ Normal Ave., Hollywood, Cal.
- Lewis H. Jamison, 751 Olive Avenue, Long Beach, Cal.
- Milo F. Jamison, 943 N. Fairfax Ave., Hollywood
- C. S. Kim, 1545 W. 35th Place, Los Angeles
- Edward Hill Osborn, 320 G. Mission Rd., Glendale
- S. H. Sutherland, 572 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles
- Martin L. Thomas, D.D., 4245 Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles
- E. Lynne Wade, 900 Elder Court, Los Angeles, Cal.

CONNECTICUT
- L. Craig Long, Box 1000, New Haven

DELWARE
- John P. Clelland, 210 W. 27th St., Wilmington
- Robert H. Graham, Middletown
- Henry G. Welbon, 303 W. Main St., Newark

FOREIGN
- E. W. Andrews, Haichow, Kianfu, China
- Henry W. Coray, 22 Post St., Harbin, Manchoukuo
- Arthur J. Dieffenbacher, Kanhsien, Ki., China
- Frank L. Fiol, 37 Cantonment Rd., Lucknow, U. P. India, c/o Miss L. Lee
- Floyd E. Hamilton, Pyengyang, Korea
- A. D. Hitchcock, Jr., c/o Erwin Laurialt, Iquitos, South America (Apt. 156)
- Bruce F. Hunt, c/o Rev. Henry Coray, 22 Post St., Harbin, Manchoukuo
- R. Heber McIlwaine, 22 Post St., Harbin, Manchoukuo
- James Rohrbaugh, Box 105, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

ILLINOIS
- Wm. J. Agnew, Box 128, Deerfield
- Benjamin M. Brown, 2142 N. Clark St., Chicago
- J. Oliver Buswell, Jr., D.D., Wheaton College, Wheaton
- Albert B. Dodd, D.D., 819 Stoddard Ave., Wheaton
- Fred Geisenheiner, 1038 N. Hamlin, Chicago
- Frank H. Heydenburk, 432 S. Peoria St., Chicago
- Charles G. Sterling, 212 E. Seminary Ave., Wheaton
- Robert J. Vaughn, 4937 Lincoln Ave., Chicago
- O. W. Winkfield, 421 E. 64th St., Chicago

INDIANA
- Carl Ahlfeldt, 537 E. 33rd St., Indianapolis

IOWA
- Peter F. Wall, Des Moines
- Verne V. Wortman, Le Claire
Minutes of the Second General Assembly

KENTUCKY
J. L. Shaw, 1029 O'Fallon Ave., Bellevue

MAINE
- Dean W. Adair, 371 Congress St., Portland
- John H. Skilton, 371 Congress St., Portland

MARYLAND
J. F. Minor Simpson, Frederick
- Leslie W. Sloat, Kensington

MASSACHUSETTS
- Wm. P. Greene, 1626 Columbia Rd., South Boston

NEBRASKA
James B. Brown, Aurora

NEW JERSEY
M. Nelson Buffler, 2000 S. Park Ave., Haddon Heights
- Edward B. Cooper, Bridgeton
- Thomas Cooper, Bridgeton
- Bruce Coie, Columbus
- Leslie A. Dunn, Columbus
- Lawrence B. Gilmore, 33 Maple Ave., Morristown
- Frank Hamilton, 6701 Atlantic Ave., Ventnor
- Carl McIntire, 857 Maple Ave., Collingswood
- Leonard S. Pitcher, 2406 Rio Grand Ave., Wildwood
- Clifford S. Smith, 107 W. Commerce St., Bridgeton
- William T. Strong, 1212 Eldredge Ave., W. Collingswood
- J. U. Selwyn Toms, Wenonah
- A. R. Davison, Vineland

NEW MEXICO
Charles L. Campbell, Shiprock

NEW YORK
Charles Dana Chrisman, P. O. Box 516, Nanuet
Alford Kelley, L'Amoreaux Home, Ballston Spa
- Robert L. Vining, Maplecrest
- Charles Edgar Wideman, Woodhaven
John C. Rankin, Worcester

NORTH DAKOTA
- Samuel J. Allen, Carson
  A. C. Balcom, Wilton
  E. E. Matteson, Wilton

OHIO
- Everett C. DeVelde, 246 Dorchester St., Cincinnati
  A. Franklin Faucette, Cleveland, 16908 Delaware Ave.
  Thomas H. Mitchell, 808 Delaware Ave., Youngstown

OKLAHOMA
M. A. Pearson, Westville
Minutes of the Second General Assembly

OREGON
- J. Edward Blair, Albany
- Glenn R. Coie, 28 Saginaw Ave., Bend

PennsYLVANIA
- Philip duB. Arcularius, 912 Getty Ave., Duryea
- Robert L. Atwell, Harrisville
- C. K. Cummings, 517 S. 42nd St., Phila.
- Franklin S. Dyrness, R. F. D. No. 1, Quarryville
- Peter DeRuiter, Nottingham
- W. K. Fleck, Delta
- David Freeman, 429 Wellesley Rd., Phila.
- R. Laird Harris, 1528 Pine St., Phila., Pa.
- Robert Moody Holmes, Rochester
- Lawrence Jongawaard, Roslyn, Pa.
- Allen A. MacRae, Ph.D., 1528 Pine St., Phila.
- C. L. McCoy, R. D. No. 6, Washington
- Robert S. Marsden, Middletown
- George W. Marston, Kirkwood
- Edwin H. Rian, 7053 McCallum St., Phila.
- N. B. Stonehouse, 554 W. Ellet St., Phila.
- Robert Strong, Willow Grove
- John Burton Thwing, Th.D., 2216 E. Cumberland St., Phila.
- Kelly G. Tucker, 807 Noble St., Norristown
- Cornelius Van Til, 5 East Park Road, Llanerch
- Reginald Voorhees, West Pittston
- Charles J. Woodbridge, 427 Carpenter Lane, Phila.
- Paul Woolley, 447 Hansberry St., Phila.
- Edward J. Young, 1528 Pine St., Phila.

souTH CARoLINA
- Charles C. Sterrett, D.D., Columbia Bible College, Columbia

souTH DAKoTA
- George Heaton, Bancroft
- Walter J. Magee, R. F. D. No. 1, Hamill
- David K. Myers, Thunder Hawk

WASHINGTON
- Robert K. Churchill, 603 N. Grant Ave., Tacoma

wisCONSIN
- John J. DeWaard, Cedar Grove
- Arthur F. Perkins, Merrill
- J. Mellema, Oconomowoc
- Oscar Holkeboer, Oostburg
- W. H. Kielhorn, Oxford
- John Davies, Gresham

1 Died December 13, 1936.
2 Died December 29, 1936.
3 Died January 1, 1937.
COMMITTEES OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Christian Education
Rev. R. L. Atwell, Rev. J. P. Clelland, Rev. C. K. Cummings, Rev. R. L. Harris, Rev. N. B. Stonehouse, Th.D., Rev. C. Van Til, Ph.D., Elder G. H. Clark, Ph.D.

Constitution

Foreign Missions

Home Missions and Church Extension
Rev. Charles J. Woodbridge, Chairman
Rev. Paul Woolley, Secretary-Treasurer

Rev. Samuel J. Allen
Rev. J. Edward Blair
Rev. W. Harllee Bordeaux
Rev. J. Oliver Buswell, Jr., D.D.
Gordon H. Clark, Ph.D.
Edward B. Cooper
Rev. Everett C. DeVelde
John W. Dulles
Harry Frazer
C. W. Holbrook

Donald M. Perkins
Rev. John H. Skilton
Rev. Clifford S. Smith
Peter Stam, Jr.
Rev. Charles G. Sterling
Bert W. Tennant
Rev. Robert J. Vaughn
H. A. Worcester