

Mr. Bladen called attention to two resolutions included as "Additional Business" in the report of the Business Committee. After stating that there should be included in Resolution 1, in parenthesis, after "Evangelical and Reformed Church," the clause "true copies of which are to be incorporated in the minutes of the Uniting General Synod," he read the resolution in its completed form.

### Resolution 1

It is recommended that the Uniting General Synod record its having taken note of the resolutions adopted at both Omaha and Lancaster with regard to the present structure of the Congregational Christian Churches and the present structure of the Evangelical and Reformed Church (true copies of which are to be incorporated in the minutes of the Uniting General Synod); and that the Uniting General Synod register its conviction that, while adhering to the provisions of those resolutions, a deepening reality and effectiveness can be achieved in our common life by cooperative action on the part of the uniting fellowships and their counterpart agencies.

It was suggested that the two "structure resolutions" be read to the General Synod. Mr. Bladen accordingly read the resolution adopted by the 1956 General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church:

WHEREAS, the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, in accordance with their respective procedures, adopted a Basis of Union and Interpretations for the purpose of effecting a union of the two bodies; and

WHEREAS, it is planned to give effect to the said Basis of Union and Interpretations at a meeting to be held in 1957 and participated in by representatives of said bodies chosen as set forth in the Basis of Union; and

WHEREAS, it is provided in the said Basis of Union that at the first meeting of the representatives of the two groups, as set forth in the immediately preceding paragraph, an appropriate committee shall be appointed for the purpose of preparing a Constitution and By-Laws for the United Church of Christ, which Constitution and By-Laws are to be submitted and approved in the manner set forth in the said Basis of Union; and

WHEREAS, FURTHER, it is the desire of the uniting groups to provide an orderly manner of effecting the said union, the major factor therein being the adoption of a Constitution and By-Laws for the United Church of Christ, and such orderly manner of effecting the said union as aforesaid requires the continuance on the part of the uniting groups of their work, programs, etc., so as to enable them to serve their purposes to the utmost until a Constitution and By-Laws are effected; and

WHEREAS, FURTHER, the ultimate procedures and polity will be largely dependent upon the Constitution and By-Laws:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (1) That the present structure of the Congregational Christian Churches and the present structure of the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall be continued until such time as the Constitution and By-Laws of the proposed United Church of Christ shall have been duly submitted and approved as provided in the said Basis of Union; and
- (2) That the term "structure" as used herein shall be interpreted to include the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches, and all of their related boards, commissions, agencies and judicatories, together with their respective functions, procedures, operations, programs, work and activities.

This resolution shall not be construed in any sense as to interfere, restrict or restrain cooperative action of the merging groups.

Co-Secretary Buschmeyer read the resolution adopted by the 1956 General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches:

BE IT RESOLVED that the delegates of the General Council to the constituting meeting of the General Synod be requested to vote for the following procedures in the implementation of the Basis of Union with Interpretations:

1. That the present structure of the Congregational Christian Churches, and it is hoped the present structure of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, be continued in existence until such time as the Constitution of the proposed United Church of Christ has been duly submitted and approved, as provided in said Basis of Union with Interpretations; and
2. That the term "structure" as used herein shall be interpreted to include the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches and all their related commissions and judicatories which shall be so advised.

This resolution shall not be construed in any sense to interfere with, restrict or restrain action of the boards pursuant to the provisions of Article VIII of the Basis of Union.

Following the reading of the two "structure resolutions" it was 57 GS 42. VOTED: to adopt Resolution 1 of the Business Committee.

Mr. Bladen called the attention of the delegates to Article VIII, Section G, paragraph 12 of the Basis of Union and proposed that this paragraph concerning the allocations of the Pilgrim Memorial