

IV, SATURDAY AFTERNOON

67-GS-29 VOTED: That the General Synod adopt Resolution 5 of the Report of the Committee on the Executive Council re: members of the armed forces, with the addition of the words "and women" at the appropriate places.

67-GS-30 VOTED: That the General Synod adopt Resolution 6 of the Report of the Committee on the Executive Council re: expressions of concern by armed forces personnel overseas for civilian populations.

(Resolution 7 was adopted at the morning session of General Synod)

Resolution 8 on the appointment of a Commission on Theological Education was presented. After lengthy discussion, it was

67-GS-31 VOTED: That Resolution 8 of the Report of the Committee on the Executive Council re: appointment of a Commission on Theological Education be referred back to the committee for further study.

It was announced that the Report Committee on the Executive Council would conduct an open hearing on the resolution referring to the appointment of a Commission on Theological Education at 10 p. m. Saturday evening.

(Resolution 9 re: 1970-1971 emphasis was adopted at the morning session of General Synod.)

67-GS-32 VOTED: That the General Synod adopt Resolution 10 of the Report of the Committee on the Executive Council re: overture from Illinois Conference on Fund Raising, with the addition of the words "Stewardship Council and the" in the second paragraph so that it would read, "Whereas a continuing evaluation of the effectiveness of stewardship methods and materials used for the mission of the United Church of Christ is a responsibility of the Stewardship Council and the Executive Council;"

67-GS-33 VOTED: That Resolution 11 re: the Illinois Conference overture on resolutions purporting to represent the position of the Church be referred back to the Executive Council for further study and a report to this General Synod.

It was the opinion of the General Synod that no action was necessary on Resolution 12 of the Report of the Committee on the Executive Council since self-study was a continuing concern of the Executive Council.

7. Report on the President, Secretary, and Year Book as Finally Adopted

The Rev. Benjamin R. Andrews, Jr., chairman of the Report Committee on the President, Secretary, and Year Book, submitted the report as a whole. The report as finally adopted follows:

President

1. The General Synod heartily supports Dr. Ben M. Herbster's call to a renewed obedience to Christ in the life of our time in affirming the value of persons in the church and in society, and in seeking the things which make for peace; and commends him for lifting up before us the accents which should claim the attention of our church today.

2. The General Synod is deeply appreciative of President Herbster's sensitivity to the revolutionary changes taking place in our world and to

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the need for the church to find new ways to express its faith in word and deed as it seeks at the same time to be faithful and keep the fellowship; and calls upon the churches to reexamine the Biblical roots of Christian faith and help secular man discover the contemporary relevance of the Gospel.

3. General Synod adopts the following resolution:

Whereas the Mission in the 70's (Advance Report, vote 67 3 EC 56) indicates that the life and work of the United Church of Christ increasingly is done through ecumenical missions;

Whereas the relationship with the churches in the Consultation on Church Union has greatly increased the involvement of the United Church of Christ in ecumenical studies and consultation;

Whereas the new opportunity to relate in many ways with the Roman Catholic Church in fellowship and mission is an important new dimension in our Christian witness in the world, involving the United Church of Christ in new relationships;

Whereas the proposed union into one body of the International Council of Congregational Christian Churches with the World Alliance of Reformed Churches to form the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (Presbyterian and Congregational) is before this Synod for action;

Whereas in many broadly humanitarian considerations, the ecumenical dimension of mission in modern life involves the United Church of Christ increasingly with Jews and secular humanists and other religious groups, as well as with Christians,

Whereas this increasing amount of ecumenical involvement increases the workload of the President of the Church,

Be it resolved that General Synod strongly recommends that there be secured as soon as possible an additional assistant for the President of the Church and that his main responsibility will be to assist the President in ecumenical relationships, and be it strongly recommended that the Budget Committee be asked to rate this recommendation as a high mission priority.

The Secretary

1. The General Synod recognizes with great appreciation the work of the Rev. Fred S. Buschmeyer who has served as Secretary of the United Church of Christ since its inception and who will retire October 1, 1967. In the development of the Church he has shared the creative spirit of its founding and the formation of its effective life and character. He has brought to his work a carefulness and integrity in recording the acts of the Church in the General Synod and in gathering the data for the Year Book from the churches and ministers which will be an inspiration to all who follow in his office. He has brought as well rich talents and broad experience and a burning concern to his leadership of increasing the effective witness of the Church in our time.

The Year Book

1. The General Synod recognizes with appreciation the leadership of the Rev. Fred S. Buschmeyer, Secretary of the Church, in introducing data processing methods into the preparation of the 1967 Year Book, thus meeting in large measure the intent of the recommendation of the Fifth General Synod "that a committee be appointed to study in cooperation with Secre-

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tary Buschmeyer the content, organization and format of the Year Book, and the methods of statistical reporting; and that this special study committee report to the Sixth General Synod." Substantial savings and increased efficiency have already been realized in producing the Year Book and the door is open to further improvements.

2. The General Synod recommends that the Secretary of the Church and the staff of the department of Church and Ministry, as suggested in the Secretary's report, now begin the process of studying how to gather the right kind of data about ourselves as a Church, so that we can get a quick and accurate profile of our various features and characteristics through what is printed in the Year Book.

3. Because the introduction of data processing methods demands more accurate reporting of statistics, if the greatest efficiency is to be realized, the General Synod urges that churches and conferences exercise great care in reporting membership and financial figures.

8. Action on the Report on the President, Secretary, and Year Book

67-GS-34 VOTED: To include the words "and other religious groups" in the fifth paragraph of item three in the section on the President, so that it would read, "Whereas in many broadly humanitarian considerations, the ecumenical dimension of mission in modern life involves the United Church of Christ increasingly with Jews and secular humanists and other religious groups, as well as with Christians"

67-GS-35 VOTED: That the General Synod adopt the section relating to the President and the section relating to the Year Book of the Report of the Committee.

67-GS-36 VOTED: That the General Synod adopts the section relating to the Secretary with a rising vote of thanks and appreciation to Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer.

9. Resolution Calling for a Mediation Committee

Dr. David E. Howell, Ohio Conference, submitted the following resolution: I move that the President of the United Church of Christ be instructed and empowered to establish a committee on mediation to hear and make recommendations on any appeal by any employee of any agency, council or instrumentality of the United Church of Christ who feels that he has been treated unfairly by any agency, council or instrumentality of the United Church of Christ.

67-GS-37 VOTED: That the resolution for the establishment of a committee on mediation be referred to the Business Committee. (See X, II).

10. Greetings from Dr. James E. Wagner and Mrs. Fred Hoskins

President Herbster relayed a message from the Rev. Dr. James E. Wagner in which Dr. Wagner sent his greetings and his regrets that he could not be present and his assurance that he was remembering the delegates and the leaders of the General Synod in his prayers.

Pres. Herbster read the following letter from Mrs. Fred Hoskins: "As the Synod meetings approach I want to wish you deep joy in the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the founding of the United Church. In all the