

TUESDAY EVENING

4. The General Synod encourages the Division of Church Extension to continue to assist churches that are in the midst of changing communities, both metropolitan and non-metropolitan, to find more effective structures and more relevant ministries.

Adopted by common consent.

5. Because of the persistence of poverty and discrimination against minority, racial, and cultural groups, General Synod urges the churches and the Conferences to provide additional resources through *Our Christian World Mission* so that the work of the Division of Church Extension may be undergirded in a more substantial manner.

Adopted by common consent.

69-GS-109 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the foregoing recommendations on Church Extension.

3. Introduction of Mrs. Helen Mountain

Mrs. George E. Kahlenberg, Chairman of the Executive Council, introduced one of the delegates from South Dakota, Mrs. Helen Mountain. Mrs. Mountain a Sioux Indian American, is a member of Messiah Church, at Little Eagle, South Dakota. Messiah Church is an all-Indian Church and is a part of the parish served by the Rev. Raymond Woodruff and Angus Long Elk. Mrs. Mountain has belonged to Messiah Church for 54 years. She has served as Ladies Aid President and has played the organ for church services for 39 years. She is also financial secretary of the church. Mrs. Mountain attended Santee Normal Training School, a project of the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches at Santee, Nebraska.

The mission to the Sioux Indians in the Dakotas was begun in the mid-1800's by missionaries of the American Missionary Association and is continued by that body and the Board for Homeland Ministries. The South Dakota Conference administers the mission and co-operates in the support of the work on the Standing Rock Reservation where Mrs. Mountain lives.

Mrs. Kahlenberg then read the following message: "The Seventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ meeting in Boston, Mass., June 25-July 2, 1969, sends greetings and salutations to Messiah United Church of Christ, Little Eagle, South Dakota and recognizes with joy the participation of Mrs. Helen Mountain in the procedures of the Synod."

4. Further Action on Report on Council for Church and Ministry

Consideration of the report of the Report Committee on the Council for Church and Ministry was continued from Saturday morning. Mrs. Chester Weed, Chairman of the Report Committee, presented the items.

(9) Welfare of Youth Facing Service in Armed Forces

In the Saturday morning session debate on an amendment to a resolution on this topic had been suspended. That amendment, and several others offered during debate at this time, prevailed. The final vote was on the resolution as amended, as follows:

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WHEREAS the General Synod continues its concerns for the interests and welfare of our young men who face Selective Service registration and perform service in the Armed Forces of the United States,

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Synod urges that churches maintain counseling services designed to aid our young people prior to registration to understand their rights and obligations, including the right of conscientious objection and the moral right for reasons of conscience either to enter military service or to resist a war and military service and that our churches provide them with spiritual and financial support as appropriate both before, during and after they enter the Armed Forces or alternative service, or legal proceedings related to their actions.

69-GS-110 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the foregoing resolution on the Welfare of Youth Facing Service in the Armed Forces.

(10) Ministerial Salary Support

WHEREAS the Council for Church and Ministry and the Pension Boards note the constructive response of many UCC Conferences to the 1965 General Synod resolution presented by the Council for more adequate ministerial support, and

WHEREAS definite progress has been made through the development of many Conference-wide salary studies, establishment of salary standards, and guidance given to local church officers by Conference executives and Association committees, and

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ is now engaged with 24 other denominations in a research study of ministers' salaries, to be summarized in a booklet, "A Fair Salary for Your Minister," which will be mailed to our churches, and

WHEREAS it is generally understood through the United Church of Christ that adequate support for the ordained parish minister involves not only his cash salary but also provision for housing and utilities, for travel expenses, for annuity payments, for group health insurance, for group life and long-term disability protection, and some provision for regular study leaves in addition to the usual vacation period of one month, and

WHEREAS the need is recognized that ministerial salaries be more commensurate with other professions;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that General Synod call upon our Conferences and Associations to increase their efforts to upgrade the support of ordained clergy, and urge an annual review of the minister's total compensation by a representative small committee of the congregation.

69-GS-111 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the foregoing resolution on Ministerial Salary Support.

(11) Ministers' Group Health Insurance Program

WHEREAS the General Synod, having in 1961 originally authorized the Council for Church and Ministry to undertake a program of ministers' group health insurance for ministers and their families, notes with approval the growth of this program to a million-dollar-a-year policy of protection for ministers and their families all across the United Church of Christ, commends the Council for Church and Ministry in its stewardship of the program through the national plan direction of Harold H. Wilke,