

TUESDAY EVENING

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Synod authorizes the transfer of this program to the Pension Boards, effective July 1, 1969, pursuant to actions leading to such transfer on the part of the Ministers' Group Health Insurance Committee and the Council for Church and Ministry, and the acceptance of the program by the Pension Boards.

69-GS-112 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the resolution on the Ministers' Group Health Insurance Program.

(12) Clergy-Laity Relationships

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Synod enthusiastically endorses President Herbster's concern for strengthening the church, and therefore encourages every Conference, in concert with Associations and congregations, through appropriate committees and commissions to establish and support continuing programs of leadership skill development in order to foster more effective team relationships among its laity and clergy.

69-GS-113 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the resolution on Clergy-Laity Relationships.

(13) Collegiality

WHEREAS the crisis of the times is seriously reflected in the life of our churches and ministers, causing problems of identity and issues of conflict, and

WHEREAS autonomy of the local congregations limits the development of the associational relationship and support of ministers,

BE IT RESOLVED that the General Synod instruct the Council for Church and Ministry to find ways through the Conferences and Associations to develop and strengthen the associational and collegiality relationship and support systems of ministers and churches for the advancement of total ministry of both the churches and ministers in their area.

69-GS-114 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the resolution on Collegiality.

(14) Student Aid

WHEREAS the Council of Church and Ministry budget, which represents less than 5% of the national budget for this year, has already been taxed beyond the normal strain of carrying on its program as commissioned by the General Synod with limited funds, and

WHEREAS already over 30% of its budget has been designated solely for Student Aid, while the balance has been spread over the remaining eight divisions of the Council's program, while each division of the Council continues to feel the strain of carrying on faithfully a significant program with reduced funds, and

WHEREAS by serious and painful analysis the question has been raised whether such priority of Council of Church and Ministry funds should be given to Student Aid, if it must be done at the expense of other responsibilities that the Council has to carry on and which could not be further reduced without destroying its effective programming, and

WHEREAS the number of students preparing for ministry and the cost of theological education continues to increase,

BE IT RESOLVED that General Synod approves a national plan to establish an endowment fund for Student Aid, soliciting individual and organizational sup-

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port, these funds to be handled through the United Church Foundation with special priority claim of the personnel and program of that foundation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that General Synod recognizes the Council for Church and Ministry, and its Committee on Student Care, as the responsible body to administer this program of Student Aid.

The Rev. L. Meid Becker moved and with a second it was

69-GS-115 VOTED: The General Synod refers the resolution on Student Aid to the Stewardship Council and the Executive Council for implementation and action.

(15) Crisis in the Nation

A resolution on "Crisis in the Nation" introduced by the Report Committee on the Council for Church and Ministry on Saturday morning had been deferred by the General Synod until the report on the Board for Homeland Ministries should be received. A resolution on this topic, revised in the light of the report on the Board for Homeland Ministries, was now presented.

WHEREAS 70% of the United States population lives within the urban structure and growth statistics indicate that this is an increasing trend; and

WHEREAS the United Church of Christ has adopted a positive stance in facing the challenge of effectively ministering to the underprivileged, deprived, disadvantaged and often disenfranchised members of those cities; and

WHEREAS the Council for Church and Ministry has recently appointed the Rev. James H. Hargett in response to its instruction at the Sixth General Synod to open new lines of communication with the black community;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Seventh General Synod of the United Church of Christ instruct and empower the Council on Church and Ministry to explore and promote with the Board for Homeland Ministries and the Committee for Racial Justice such new ministries as will effectively shed the light of reconciliation, hope and positive achievement in our urban culture.

The resolution having been moved and seconded, it was

69-GS-116 VOTED: The General Synod adopts the foregoing resolution.

5. Further Action on the Report of the Temporary Commission on Theological Education

The report of the Temporary Commission on Theological Education was introduced to the General Synod on Saturday afternoon but the available time had permitted the adoption of only six of the nine actions recommended by the Temporary Commission. The Rev. Edward W. Brueseke, the Commission's Chairman, announced a revision of the dollar allocation in the first of the three remaining recommendations so that they read:

1. The General Synod directs the Budget Committee to allocate to the Executive Council the sum of no less than \$350,000 in 1970 and \$400,000 in 1971 for the support of theological education projects and institutions and the administrative costs of the Committee not covered by the President's office. Approximately \$300,000 will be needed to fulfill the dollar support agreement made with certain seminaries in 1961. Most of the remaining funds will be immediately available for the support of other United Church of Christ related schools and projects.