

11. Executive Council Proposals Relative to the Crisis in the Nation

The chairman of the Executive Council, Mrs. Kahlenberg, read the proposals that were ready for distribution at this time and moved the adoption of item No. 1.

There was discussion concerning the fact that the delegates had not received the complete document and the proceedings of the session were delayed.

It was then moved and seconded that the General Synod recess until all of the documents for the report of the subcommittee on the Executive Council could be ready and in the hands of the delegates.

The motion was lost.

The time for a scheduled Order of the Day having arrived, the Moderator declared a suspension of debate.

12. Commission on Open Membership and Equal Opportunity

The Rev. James H. Lightbourne, Jr., chairman, submitted the report as found on pages 113-114 of *Advance Reports*. He stated that in the report the Commission had attempted to give an indication of how it came to be, what it had attempted to accomplish in the biennium, and what it could anticipate doing in the next biennium if the recommendation which would come from the Executive Council is approved to extend the life of this Commission.

Mr. Lightbourne called particular attention to the fact that the concerns of this Commission are vital concerns for the life of our fellowship for we are talking not only about open membership but equal opportunity—equal opportunity in the United Church of Christ for all kinds of positions and for all ministers of the United Church of Christ to be considered by local church pastoral committees seeking ministers without consideration of race.

Mr. Walter Stieg of Connecticut moved the acceptance of this report.

It was

69-GS-21 VOTED: To accept the report of the Commission on Open Membership and Equal Opportunity.

The General Synod recessed until 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 27, 1969

The session was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Moderator Daniels, who introduced the Rev. Albert van den Heuvel, Director of the Department of Communication of the World Council of Churches, Geneva, Switzerland. Mr. van den Heuvel spoke briefly about the relationship between the Roman Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches following the visit of Pope Paul VI to the International Labor Office in Geneva last week, and his contact with members of the World Council of Churches. He described it as a moving and significant experience, for it was the first time a Pope had taken part in a very un-Roman ecumenical process.

Moderator Daniels announced that the matters carried over from the afternoon session would be dealt with later when delegates had been furnished all the pertinent papers.