

MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 28

terian Church that the principle of separation of Church and State guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution be upheld, realizing that the public school system is indispensable to American democracy and that any diversion of financial support could seriously jeopardize the validity of the concept of public education in the U.S.A.

Be it further resolved that the General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges its member churches to support legislation which upholds this principle.

Mr. John C. Shinn, chairman of the Christian Social Action, advised the General Synod that it would be wise to refer this resolution to the Council for Christian Social Action and to the Board for Homeland Ministries. The Rev. David G. Colwell, Washington-North Idaho Conference, moved, and with a second, it was

71-GS-55 VOTED: The General Synod refers the resolution on Church and State to the Council for Christian Social Action and to the appropriate agency in the Board for Homeland Ministries.

7. Further response and action: Racial Justice

Moderator Pfeiffer recognized Donald W. Ogletree, M.D., chairman of the Exploration Unit on the Racial Justice priority, to present Objective 6 of Goal 5 under that priority. This item as finally adopted is printed in the record of Monday morning.

There was extended debate and when the adopting vote had been taken at 11:20 P.M., Dr. Ogletree remarked that, in his judgment, the delegates were much too tired to do good work and that for the sake of clarity the General Synod should be in recess and allow everyone to get some sleep.

His observation was greeted with much applause and, after brief announcements, the Moderator declared the General Synod in recess until the next morning.

TUESDAY MORNING, JUNE 29

Moderator Pfeiffer called the Eighth General Synod to order at 8:35 A.M. on Tuesday, June 29, 1971.

The opening worship was led by the Chaplain, the Rev. Reuben A. Sheares II. He spoke of the importance of both acting and speaking, of deeds and words. He concluded with a prayer, the final sentences of which were, "Lord, help us to redeem all the words we have used and uttered and shared, and make us ever conscious of that word—the Word in which we were born and out of which we must live in the interest of a whole earth and a whole people under one God. God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power." The text of his address is in the Appendix.

The Moderator expressed appreciation for the inspirational and challenging messages which the Chaplain had delivered and the General Synod gave Mr. Sheares a standing ovation.

Mr. Pfeiffer acknowledged with the thanks of the General Synod the contributions of the guest organists from the Grand Rapids churches who had played for the morning services each day.

1. Resolution concerning General Synod worship

The Rev. Garry A. Scheuer, Jr., Missouri Conference, offered a resolution which was duly seconded and it was

71-GS-56 VOTED: The Eighth General Synod adopts the following resolution:

In the light of the tremendous power to come to us through the worship leadership of the Eighth General Synod Chaplain, the Rev. Reuben A. Sheares II,

In the light of the critical and controversial nature of the work and the material we must deal with because of the call of the Living Christ in our time,

In the light of the availability of God's Spirit to unite us, lead us and empower us,

Be it resolved that the worship in the General Synod in the future will be placed within the context of the Order of the Day in prime time so that the light of God's word may illuminate the whole proceeding.

2. Advice by the Parliamentarian

The Moderator recognized Dr. James Earl Danieley, one of the Parliamentarians. Since this was the beginning of the final day of the Eighth General Synod and since a great deal of business had yet to be transacted to which, he was sure, everyone wanted to give careful consideration, Dr. Danieley asked the delegates to exercise self-discipline. He respectfully urged that

1. Each speaker be strictly limited according to the Standing Rules.
2. Speakers be heard only on the subject before the house, and that the discussion remain germane to that subject.
3. When there are no speakers in opposition to a matter, we forego hearing a series of speakers in favor.
4. No motion to close debate is required when there is no one desiring to speak.
5. If there is a question about procedure, it will be helpful to consult one of the Parliamentarians privately, thus avoiding taking the General Synod's time.
6. The Steering Committee of the Business Committee will arrange to bring all remaining business before the General Synod; questions should be directed to the Rev. Fred Register, its chairman.
7. Visitors can help by staying off the floor and by remaining quiet during voice voting.
8. There is time to complete the business but there is no time to waste; with the co-operation of the delegates, the Moderator can handle the business fairly and efficiently.

The Moderator then recognized the Rev. Fred P. Register who outlined the business for the day on behalf of the Business Committee's Steering Committee.

3. Action on the Report of the Committee on Theological Education

Mr. Pfeiffer recognized the Rev. A. Knighton Stanley, chairman of the Committee on Theological Education, for the purpose of presenting that Committee's report to the General Synod in accordance with the instruction given it by the Seventh General Synod in VOTE 69-GS-45. Mr. Stanley called attention to the report as it appeared in *Advance Reports*, Index 17, indicating some minor revisions in that text's description of the Committee's initial task. He then requested that the Moderator recognize the Rev. Frederick R. Trost, Illinois Conference, a member of the Committee, to move adoption of the report. Mr. Trost was recognized; he moved adoption, which was seconded, and it was

71-GS-57 VOTED: The Eighth General Synod adopts the report of the Committee on Theological Education.

The complete report is in the Appendix.