

MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 30

thirds ratification votes of the Conferences have been reported to the Secretary of the Church by that time."

2. In paragraph 5.11 add at the end of the sentence the phrase "and which will lead church members to share this expression of the cost and joy of discipleship."

3. In paragraph 5.2 the sixth line following the Executive Council add the phrase, "which shall evaluate the agency's programs and services."

4. In paragraph 5.4 add at the end of the sentence "and shall periodically evaluate the agency's program and services."

5. Change the word "Center" wherever it appears to "Office," and that the Tenth General Synod adopts the actions recommended to the General Synod by the Executive Council, part V, section B, 1-5, to be substituted for paragraphs 5.5 and 5.6 of the Center for Social Action recommendations. The motion was seconded.

The Assistant Moderator recognized Theodore W. Boltz (CT) who moved to amend the motion by the deletion of the wording in paragraph 5.11 and substitute a new paragraph: "To assist the members of the United Church of Christ to recognize how Christian theology and social ethics bear on our contemporary society and to offer channels for the United Church of Christ to express Christian witness for justice in love to the problems of the world. The motion was seconded and there was discussion. Upon being put to a vote and a call for a standing division of the house, the Assistant Moderator declared the motion was lost.

There was continued discussion and it was

75-GS-49 VOTED: The General Synod adopts as amended the proposal of the Center for Social Action establishing the Office for Church in Society:

OFFICE FOR CHURCH IN SOCIETY

The Tenth General Synod, subject to approval of two-thirds of the Conferences, establishes the Office for Church in Society, effective July 1, 1976, if the necessary two-thirds ratification votes of the Conferences have been reported to the Secretary of the Church, to assume the leadership function for social action concerns in the United Church of Christ, to provide resources to national, Conference and local churches and to strengthen the co-ordination of social action activities within the denomination.

The Office for Church in Society will seek:

To organize the resources of the United Church of Christ in Christian theology and social ethics for use in reflecting on contemporary society and to communicate theological imperatives concerning justice which will lead the church to intervene in the problems of the world, and which will lead church members to share this expression of the cost and joy of discipleship.

To facilitate coordination of social action programs among the national agencies and Conferences and assist the Executive Council in its coordination function.

To maintain on behalf of the United Church of Christ an office in Washington, D.C., which will represent, and facilitate coordination of, the programs of the denomination and its several agencies in the area of public policy formation and implementation.

To provide staff and consultative resources in response to Conferences and local church program initiatives.

To analyze national and international issues, to recommend responses which may be made by national

agencies and Conferences, and, when appropriate, to take initiatives.

To identify, analyze and forecast emerging social issues which should demand the attention of the denomination.

To maintain linkages with other denominations, organizations and agencies on issues of common concern.

To seek, in addition to the payment schedule, alternative sources of funding for implementing the above goals and to assist in coordinating the disbursement of these funds.

The Office for Church in Society shall replace the Council for Christian Social Action in the Constitution and Bylaws of the United Church of Christ. A Directorate shall be responsible for the agency's operation and will be accountable to the General Synod and its Executive Council which shall evaluate the agency's programs and services. It shall consist of eighteen (18) persons, twelve (12) elected by the General Synod, and six (6) shall be elected by the Executive Council from nominations submitted by national agencies of the United Church of Christ.

The Office for Church in Society shall have a budget of its own and be funded through the national payment schedule.

The Office for Church in Society shall have a staff elected by the Directorate and responsible to it. The staff shall provide leadership and resources for developing and implementing social action at all levels of the denomination and shall periodically evaluate the agency's programs and services.

The Office for Church in Society shall come into being on July 1, 1976, if the necessary two-thirds ratification votes of the Conferences have been reported to the Secretary of the Church by that time; and the members of the Directorate will assume office on that date (or any other date declared by the Executive Council in fulfillment of its responsibility under Paragraph 68 of the Constitution), their terms of office to expire as though they had begun with the close of this regular meeting of the Tenth General Synod.

Lacking ratification by July 1, 1976, the Executive Council shall declare the Office for Church in Society to be in being on such later date prior to the Eleventh General Synod as ratification may make possible or, lacking such ratification, shall make such proposals to the Eleventh General Synod as may seem appropriate.

The present Center for Social Action and its Directorate shall continue in office until the Office for Church in Society has come into being and, at that time, the Center for Social Action shall cease to exist and those who were then its Directorate shall be discharged with thanks.

The Tenth General Synod will elect to terms of 2, 4, or 6 years those persons whose election is vested in the General Synod.

The Executive Council's Committee on Structural Planning, in collaboration with the directorates of the Center for Social Action and of the Office for Church in Society and other involved agencies, shall develop during the biennium 1976-77 further recommendations to the Executive Council for facilitating the coordination of social action programs among the national agencies and Conferences, for assisting the Executive Council in its coordinating function, and for eliminating the proliferation of agencies whose principal goals are social education and action.

The Assistant Moderator recognized Kenneth P. Stewart, chairperson of the Center for Social Action, for a point of personal privilege. Mr. Stewart acknowledged with appreciation the action of the General Synod in creating the Office for Church in Society and recognized the leadership of Larold K. Schulz.

4. REPORT ON CHRISTIAN LIFE STYLE AND ECOLOGY

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized Dr. Washburn. On behalf of the business committee Dr. Washburn referred the delegates to Advance Materials, Section II, pp. 152-161, and moved the adoption of the report of the Task Force on Christian Life Style and Ecology. Mr. Vander Ploeg was recognized and moved to amend the report. The amendment would include the following statement and changes:

"a. The Tenth General Synod receives with appreciation the report of the Task Force on Christian Life Style and Ecology. It affirms the revised structural recommendations in Section III of the report and urges the to-be-established committee and all other United Church of Christ units to give serious attention to the revised perspectives and program recommendations in Sections I and II of the report of the Task Force on Christian Life Style and Ecology."

"b. The Tenth General Synod affirms the following:

1. The to-be-established committee is urged to develop an expanded biblical, theological and ethical base for the involvement of the United Church of Christ in ecological and Christian life style issues.

2. The committee is expected to be established by the Fall of 1975 and to make its first report to the March, 1976, meeting of the Executive Council. The committee shall make a full report to the Eleventh General Synod in 1977.

3. The to-be-established committee should give high priority to the ways local churches can address Christian life style and ecological issues."

"c. The Tenth General Synod has concern in the area of Christian life style and ecology for the violation of the Christian stewardship of resources by the agencies of the United Church of Christ. The General Synod urges these agencies to use fewer and less expensive materials and more modest accommodations and meals at meetings of the General Synod and other meetings of the United Church of Christ."

"d. In Section I, the paragraph on Food on p. 154 of the report is to be deleted and the following paragraph substituted: 'The eating and drinking habits in the United States and other industrialized nations have led to the consumption of enormous amounts of grain. Roughly 15% of all the grain utilized in the United States is consumed directly; the rest is fed to animals, used in alcoholic beverages, and in other ways. If massive global famines are to be averted, it is imperative that people eat lower on the food chain and rediscover the virtues of fasting. Fasting or eating less meat has symbolic value, but there is no guarantee that the grain made available will find its way to hungry stomachs. In order to feed the hungry, sacrificial giving and political changes are needed.'

"e. In section I in the paragraph on Energy on p. 155, the phrase at the end of the sentence is to be deleted: 'alternatives to nuclear power should be developed' and the following phrase substituted: 'And because the flaws in the nuclear energy technology are compounded by the moral issues (the right of our generation to risk compromising the

earth as a home for present and future generations), alternatives such as solar and other natural energy sources should be developed.'

"f. In section I in the paragraph on LAND USE on p. 155, delete the phrase in the first sentence, "Given the impending food shortages" and substitute the phrase "It is imperative that arable lands be preserved and urban space be used to enhance the well being of people." In the same paragraph delete the first two words of the second sentence "that is."

"g. In section II, part 9, p. 156, add the words "and laity" to the sentence so that it will read: "United Church of Christ clergy and laity should be trained to help facilitate the dissemination of educational resources and the involvement of local churches."

"h. In section III, part 6, page 156, after the "Executive Council at the end of the sentence, add the phrase "and report at each General Synod."

"i. In section III, part 1, p. 156, the first sentence shall read "the General Synod recommends the establishment of a Committee on Christian Life Style and Ecology by the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries" and change all other occurrences of the phrase 'Task Force' to the word 'Committee' throughout the report." The motion was seconded and there was discussion.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized Carol Barnes (IA) who moved to amend the motion by deleting the paragraph "The Tenth General Synod has concern in the area of Christian life style and ecology for the violation of the Christian stewardship of resources by the agencies of the United Church of Christ. The General Synod urges these agencies to use fewer and less expensive materials and more modest accommodations and meals at meetings of the General Synod and other meetings of the United Church of Christ," and substituting the following: "The Tenth General Synod affirms the need for churches to be life style examples for the world in the area of ecology, and recommends that the United Church of Christ at all levels strive to set that example in the life of our church as a clear witness to the world." The motion was seconded. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was lost.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized Dean Barth (IL) who moved to amend the motion by striking the proposed amendment to the paragraph on FOOD, p. 154 of the report of the Task Force on Life Style and Ecology except the sentence: "In order to feed the hungry, sacrificial giving and political change are needed." The motion was seconded. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was lost.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized Doris Wilkinson (IA) who moved to amend the motion by adding to the last sentence in section II, paragraph 4, p. 155, the words "Conservation and research departments of leading agricultural universities, etc." and in section II, paragraph 7, p. 155 after the word "industry" at the end of the first sentence the words "and agriculture." The motion was seconded. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was adopted.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized David McDonald (CAC) who moved to amend the motion to delete the proposed amendment to section I, the paragraph on ENERGY, p. 155, and retain the original language of the paragraph. The motion was seconded. Upon being put to a vote, the motion was lost.

Assistant Moderator Elicker recognized David Neild (MA) and accepted a friendly amendment to a section of the