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city administration, but the affairs of the nation as a whole.

Our American tradition guarantees "no taxation without representation," and yet in 1977 the residents of the District of Columbia paid 1.4 billion dollars in federal taxes imposed by a Congress in which these residents have only one non-voting delegate in the House of Representatives, and no one in the Senate.

Furthermore, the 700,000 citizens of the District of Columbia do not share in the basic rights shared by the rest of us in shaping all of the affairs of the nation and its relationship with the family of nations.

We believe not only in the fundamental justice which this amendment will imply (if it is ratified by three-fourths of the state legislatures) but that it will mark a significant step along the path of strengthening the bonds of unity of us as one people.

If the amendment is approved by at least 38 states, it would provide:

1. Congressional representation for the District of Columbia equal to that of other citizens; i.e. two Senators and Representatives allocated by the population formula;
2. In presidential elections, the number of electors equal to that of a state of equal population; and
3. The right to ratify Constitutional amendments.

(It would in no way change the local government nor the ultimate control which Congress exercises over the District as provided in the U.S. Constitution.)

WHEREAS, there is a fundamental issue of justice at stake in the ratification of the Constitutional amendment granting full voting representation for the residents of the District of Columbia; and

WHEREAS, there is a high priority and concern for human rights within the United Church of Christ; and

WHEREAS, there is a significant concern and involvement in the struggle for "first-class citizenship" for the residents of the District of Columbia by members of local churches in the Potomac Association of the Central Atlantic Conference,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ supports the ratification of the Constitutional Amendment granting full voting representation to the residents of the District of Columbia; and

—urges each conference to actively support ratification efforts in their state(s), and requests the President of the United Church of Christ to inform the governors of the 50 states of this action and encourage their support.

14. RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO CONVERSION OF OLYMPIC VILLAGE INTO A FEDERAL PRISON

Mr. Fogal referred the delegates to Advance Materials, Section III, pages 22-23, and moved the adoption of the substitute Resolution in Opposition to Conversion of Olympic Village Into A Federal Prison. Mr. Fogal called on Ms. Lynn Cobden (NY) to speak to the resolution. Ms. Cobden described what will happen in the winter of 1980 to a small remote village in upstate New York when it becomes for two weeks a miniature world community as host to the World Olympics, after which the property is scheduled to become a

Federal prison isolated and without community services. Adoption of this Resolution will speak against a dehumanizing and brutalizing prison system and urge that Olympic Village remain a facility for young people. There was discussion, and it was

79-GS-72 VOTED: The Twelfth General Synod adopts the Resolution in Opposition to Conversion of Olympic Village Into a Federal Prison:

Resolution: Opposition to Conversion of Olympic Village into a Federal Prison

SUMMARY

A Resolution recording opposition to conversion of the Olympic Village into a Federal prison and support of STOP (Stop the Olympic Prison) efforts for a more socially meaningful alternative afteruse.

BACKGROUND

Brief description of background appears in the body of the statement following. Additional information contained in January, 1978 issue of REACHOUT, the publication of the Criminal Justice Team of the New York Conference, UCC. Prior church actions include:

1976 N.Y. Conference Resolution on Prison Moratorium

1977 Eleventh General Synod Resolution on a Moratorium on Construction of New Prisons and Jails

1978 N.Y. Conference Resolution Opposing the Olympic Prison

THEOLOGICAL RATIONALE

Amos 5:10-13, 24; Luke 4:16-19; Matthew 25:34-36

WHEREAS, the International Winter Olympics are scheduled to be held in Lake Placid, New York, from February 13 to February 24, 1980; and

WHEREAS, there was an agreement by the Federal Government to fund construction of a \$22 million housing complex (the Olympic Village now under construction) for the international Olympic athletes on the condition that its "secondary" use would be as a prison; and

WHEREAS, such a decision means that for two weeks mostly white, mainly affluent youth from around the world will reside in the facility while competing in the Olympiad, an event dedicated to international sports, international competition and international understanding, only to be replaced by hundreds of youth, mostly minority, mainly poor from the urban centers of the Northeast sentenced to "serve time" hundreds of miles from their home communities and far from any support social service systems; and

WHEREAS, the Olympic prison was planned in a closed process under the cover of fundhousing for athletes, precluding the normal Congressional scrutiny that questions the need for new prisons and where to locate them if felt justified; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of all federal prisoners are nonviolent, for which cheapest more humane and more effective alternatives to prison such as probation, finest community service, mediation and restitution are already available; and

WHEREAS, the Olympic prison location (in defiance of all modern correctional thinking and the Bureau of Prison's own standards) is 350 miles from the nearest major

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metropolitan center and in an area bereft of existing social service resources, employment training or re-entry possibilities; and

WHEREAS, athlete housing for a permanent Olympic training site, a youth hostel, a school, a job training center (among others) are all preferable alternative uses which would benefit the local community and benefit the users; and

WHEREAS, the mixing of an event deeply rooted in a heritage of sharing and achievement with a social policy rooted in a heritage of repression, brutality and failure is unconscionable:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ specifically and strongly opposes the use of the Olympic Village as a federal prison and joins with the other religious and secular groups in STOP (Stop The Olympic Prison) seeking a more humanitarian afteruse for the facility.

15. RESOLUTION ON RACISM IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Mr. Fogal referred the delegates to Advance Materials, Section V, page 8, and moved the adoption of the substitute resolution on Racism in the United Church of Christ. Mr. Fogal called on Mr. Dennis Schwab (IA) to speak to the resolution. Mr. Schwab said that adoption of the Overture will be a way in which the Pacific and Asian American Ministries can add their colorfulness to the United Church of Christ with the hope that it will truly be a rainbow in all aspects of life. There was discussion, and it was

79-GS-73 VOTED: the Twelfth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Racism in the United Church of Christ:

Resolution on Racism in The United Church of Christ

WHEREAS, the Pacific and Asian American Ministry celebrates four years as a recognized Special Interest Group in the structure of the United Church of Christ, and,

WHEREAS, the four years have been exciting, struggling, painful, spiritual and growing years, and

WHEREAS, Pacific Islander and Asian American churches have been looked upon in many respects as "mission" or "specialized ministries" by the United Church of Christ, whereby Pacific Islanders and Asian Americans are often not looked upon or often not taken seriously as active partners, and

WHEREAS, Pacific Islanders and Asian American people continue to be victims of racism in the life and in the structure through token representation and/or by neglecting the needs of Pacific Island and Asian American people and/or by fostering situations in which special interest groups are forced to compete with each other for recognition and limited funds, and

WHEREAS, Pacific Islander and Asian American churches, rich in their own cultural and ethnic heritages, in worshiping, celebrating, and serving have not been affirmed, and

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ is struggling to become a truly multi-cultural church in accordance with the mandate of the gospel,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges all Boards, Instrumentalities, Agencies, Conferences and Local Churches of the United Church of Christ to make deliberate efforts to:

examine their inferior/superior attitudes based upon ethnic and cultural differences, and resulting from our incomplete understanding and implementation of the gospel of Jesus Christ,

explore, experience, and express other ethnic and cultural forms of worship and theology,

implement representation that enables the structure to meet the needs, frustrations and aspirations of the people, thus ending token representation.

16. RESOLUTION ON CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS

Mr. Fogal referred the delegates to Advance Materials, Section IV, page 30, and moved the adoption of the substitute Resolution on Constitutional Conventions. Mr. Fogal called on Mr. Fred Kohler (PSE) to speak to the resolution. Mr. Kohler reminded the delegates that 192 years ago the United States held its only Constitutional Convention. It was clear in its responsibility and there was little confusion about its task. Now almost 200 years later the situation is exceedingly complex and there is great uncertainty whether a Constitutional Convention is the reasonable facility for bringing about governmental change.

There was discussion, and it was

79-GS-74 VOTED: the Twelfth General Synod adopts the Resolution on Constitutional Conventions:

Resolution on Constitutional Conventions

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ has consistently supported the preservation of the constitutional framework upon which this nation has been built, and

WHEREAS, we believe the basic freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution reflect God-given freedoms, and

WHEREAS, there is growing support for a new Constitutional Convention, to be called initially either for the purpose of amending the Constitution to require a balanced Federal budget or to prohibit the termination of pregnancies, and

WHEREAS, no Convention has been held since 1787 and no clear provisions for call, composition, powers and procedures for such a Convention are provided, and

WHEREAS, there is a great likelihood that a Convention, once convened, could suggest alterations in any sections of the present Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the convening of a Convention could therefore begin to jeopardize or compromise the protections presently granted to citizens by the Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the generally used method of amending the Constitution has proven an adequate and often impressive method to permit the Constitution to grow with changing social realities,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Twelfth General Synod of the United Church of Christ urges that states not request a new Constitutional Convention, and encourages Instrumentalities, Conferences, Associations and Local Churches to oppose efforts to convene such a Convention.