

Zion's Advocate

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost."—1 Nephi 1: 387.

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Minutes of the General Ministers' Conference of the Church of Christ

~ 1938 ~

Wednesday, April 6

The morning prayer service at 9:30 a.m. was in charge of Bro. James E. Yates and Bro. L. A. Gould. It was an occasion marked by the sweet, peaceful influence of the divine Spirit.

At 11 a.m. Bro. B. C. Flint was the speaker, assisted by Bro. A. M. Smith.

Business Session.

2 p.m.

The first business session convened with Bro. R. M. Maloney in the chair. Hymn No. 179 was sung. Prayer by Bro. J. E. Bozarth, followed by Hymn No. 12.

Bro. Overcast moved that the Quorum of Twelve preside over this conference, provide for services, and make appointments.

Bro. McClain seconded the motion.

Carried

Moved and seconded that Bro. Gould, the Church Secretary, take charge of the secretary's work, with power to choose assistant. Carried.

Bro. Gould chose Bro. C. L. Wheaton to assist.

Bro. A. M. Smith and the conference secretaries were nominated as a press committee.

Moved and seconded that these three comprise the press Committee. Carried.

Bro. Walter Deleski and Bro. R. G. Newby were nominated as ushers.

Moved and seconded that these two be the ushers for the conference. Carried.

Moved and seconded that Sr. Metta Anderson be appointed chorister, with the right to select her assistants. Carried.

A motion was made and seconded that the choice of pianist be left to the chorister, followed by a substitute that the local pianist, Sr. Margaret Long be selected with the right to choose her assistants. The substitute prevailed.

Bro. Maloney then read from the 18th chapter of St. Matthew, and made a short opening address.

Ministerial report was read from John J. Jenkins.

Moved and seconded that it be received and kept in the usual manner as a matter of record. Carried.

The announcements contained in the tentative program were then read.

Ministerial reports read as follows: Apostle James E. Yates, Elder Lewis E. Welch, Elder B. A. Winegar, Apostle C. L. Wheaton.

Moved and seconded that these reports be accessible to the editor of the Advocate that whatever items there may be in them that are of general interest might be used for the edification of the whole conference. Carried.

The following relating to the resignation of Bro. H. E. Moler from the Quorum of Twelve, was read: **TO THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**, and to the Church:

This will announce the resignation of our Brother H. E. Moler from the Quorum of the Apostles. He has served in the Quorum of Twelve with honor and sincere devotion of time and talent in the performance of arduous and at times strenuous duty, since the year 1926.

When in giving his adieu to the Quorum of Twelve in our morning session here on March 28, our Brother Moler gave each member his hand and said: "God bless you." It was a tense moment in the heart of every member present.

The Quorum also extends a "God bless you" to our brother, Elder H. E. Moler; and we are sure that the service he has rendered as a member of this council through the years, has been acceptable to our Lord, and profitable to the souls of many people, both in the Church, and to others also.

THE QUORUM OF TWELVE

Leon A. Gould,

Secretary.

Independence, Mo. March 29, 1938.

Moved and seconded that the resignation of the brother be approved. Carried.

Resolutions on Church government and Rules of Representation proposed by Brn. Smith, Anderson, and McClain, as published in the Advocate, were read.

Bro. A. M. Smith moved its adoption. Seconded by Bro. Wm. Anderson.

Bro. J. E. Yates moved a substitute as follows: **Bill to Amend Present Referendum Rules**

1. Amend paragraph one of our present rules by adding a second clause to make the paragraph read: The legislative power of the Church of Christ shall be vested in the local churches, as at present. Local churches shall elect Delegates to our annual conferences.

2. Amend paragraph two to read: Each local church shall meet the second week in June, to consider all matters recommended to them from the General Conference of the ministry and delegates.

3. Amend paragraph three to read: The acts of the General Conference of the Ministry and Delegates shall be reported to the local churches in the May issue of Zion's Advocate in supplement form, and so arranged as to provide ballots on all measures submitted from the conferences.

4. Amend paragraph four to read: Local churches may initiate legislation by drafting measures to be presented to the General Conference. If so requested by local churches, said measures must be presented to the conference in their original form; otherwise the apostles may attach emendation.

5. Amend paragraph five to read: Matters for the General Conference should be mailed to the secretary of the Council of Twelve so as to arrive by March 20th, if possible.

6. Amend paragraph six to read: The Apostles shall meet at their discretion prior to the General Conference, and shall provide a tentative program for the conference.

7. Amend paragraph seven to read: This conference shall not be legislative. It shall be composed of all the ministry in attendance, and the delegates elected from the local churches. The acts of said conferences shall be recommendations to the whole church for the approval or disapproval by referendum vote.

8. In lieu of paragraph eight place the following: The delegates shall be elected by the local churches. They shall be entitled to one vote for every six members, or fraction of that number. The full vote of the local may be cast by one or more delegates, as may be ordered by the local.

9. In lieu of paragraph nine place the following: All members of the church in good standing shall have the right to introduce measures in the General Conference, and have the rights of the floor. But only the ministry and delegates may vote in said conference.

10. In lieu of paragraph ten place the following: An apostle shall not be selected as a delegate at any time, except it shall be to represent churches in foreign lands.

11. In lieu of paragraph eleven place the following: Churches in foreign lands may select delegates from among the ministry or membership at their discretion, and instruct them pertaining to the voting, whether persons so chosen as delegates can be present at the local church meeting when selected or not.

12. In lieu of paragraph 12 place the following:

No minister or delegate shall represent more than one local church.

13. In lieu of paragraph 13 place the following: When local churches instruct their delegates, a copy of such instructions must be sent or placed in the hands of the General Church secretary before the General Conference vote is taken.

14. Amend paragraph eight to read: All measures of church business adopted, or submitted from the General Conference, shall be put to a referendum vote except; those measures filling vacancies in standing committees where no choice is offered; routine matters connected with the immediate work of the conference, and mere votes of sentiment.

15. Amend paragraph nine of present rules to read: Any measure defeated in the General Conference shall go to referendum vote when twelve members of the church who were present when action was taken, shall sign said minority measure.

16. Amend paragraph eleven to read: Scattered members should obtain ballots from the General Office, and send their vote either to their local church, or to the General Church Recorder in care of the General Office Manager.

17. Amend paragraph twelve of present rules to read: The final counting of the votes of the referendum shall not take place until after midnight of July 31st. No vote received after that date shall be counted or considered.

18. Paragraphs ten to twenty-one inclusive, of our present rules of church government, which have been approved by the church, shall stand as they are until altered or amended by a two-thirds majority vote necessary to change said rules.

19. Said paragraphs ten to twenty-one shall, for the benefit of all voters, be published with this amended bill and shall follow on the ballot consecutively hereinafter.

Seconded by L. A. Gould.

Moved and seconded to limit the speeches to ten minutes. Lost.

Discussion continued till near time of adjournment.

A subsidiary motion was offered: That this substitute be duplicated and placed in the hands of the conference. Carried.

Bro. A. M. Smith yielded the floor for adjournment.

Hymn No. 99 was sung. Benediction by Bro. Bozarth.

Preaching at 8: p.m. by Bro. L. A. Gould, assisted by Bro. J. E. Yates.

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Thursday, April 7.

The morning prayer service was in charge of Bro. J. T. Ford, assisted by Bro. J. E. Bozarth, the Spirit's presence bringing words of comfort and promise.

At the eleven o'clock preaching service, Bro. R. G. Newby, of Spokane, Washington, was the speaker, assisted by Bro. C. L. Wheaton.

Business Session.
2 p.m.

Bro. R. M. Maloney in the chair, assisted by Bro. J. E. Bozarth. Hymn No. 195 was sung. Prayer by Bro. J. E. Bozarth. Song No. 145 was then sung.

Minutes of yesterday's session read and approved.

Ministerial reports were received from Apostle B. C. Flint, Apostle Leon A. Gould, and Elder David Jenkins.

Moved and seconded that these reports be approved and placed with the others at the disposal of the Editor. Carried.

The matter before the conference at time of adjournment of the previous session, i.e., a resolution on church government and rules of representation, and a substitute therefor, was then taken up.

Bro. A. M. Smith, who had the floor at time of adjournment the day before, was recognized by the chairman, and spoke to the subject.

Bro. C. L. Wheaton spoke to the question until interrupted by Bro. Anderson who raised the point of order that the brother in reviewing his proposed amendment before it had been moved was bringing in new matter that had no reference to the matter that is before us.

The chair ruled in favor of the point of order.

Bro. Wheaton appealed from the decision of the chair.

The decision of the chair was sustained by a vote of 9 for and none against.

It was moved that the entire matter including the amendment sought to be introduced by Bro. Wheaton be submitted to a committee of five, to formulate that which would be for the best interests of the body. Seconded.

The previous question was called, and the motion to appoint the committee carried.

Brn. James E. Yates, Arthur M. Smith, C. L. Wheaton, J. E. Bozarth, R. G. Newby, and Wm. Postma were nominated, and the vote was as follows:

Bro. Yates 15, Bro. Smith 15, Bro. Wheaton 16, Bro. Bozarth 16, Bro. Newby 10, Bro. Postma 8.

The five receiving the highest votes were declared elected.

A recommendation concerning the sending of Bro. Evans to Germany was read as follows:

To the Misisters' Conference, Greeting:

It is recommended by the Quorum of Twelve that Elder James Evans be sent to Germany, to take care of the baptisms and the ordinations that might be required there, under the direction and supervision of the Missionary in Charge of the field, and that the General Bishopric cooperate with him in raising the funds by subscription, or otherwise, to send this brother over to Germany.

Leon A. Gould,
Secretary Quorum of Twelve.

Independence, Mo. April 5, 1938.

Moved and seconded that since this matter devolves upon the Twelve and Missionary in Charge, that it be referred to the Twelve, the Missionary in Charge, and the Bishopric.

Moved as a substitute that we approve the recommendation of the Quorum in regard to this matter. Seconded. Carried.

Moved and seconded to adjourn. Carried.

Benediction by Bro. J. E. Bozarth.

Preaching at 8 p.m. by Bro. C. L. Wheaton, assisted by Bro. R. M. Maloney.

Friday, April 8, 1938.

Bro. Wm. Anderson took temporary charge of the morning prayer service at 9:30, until others delayed by a raging winter storm arrived, after which the meeting was in charge of Bro. R. G. Newby and Bro. B. C. Flint. Notwithstanding the stormy condition of the elements outside, the few assembled in the upper room enjoyed a splendid spirit of peace.

Preaching at 11 a. m. by Bro. Postma, assisted by Bro. Newby.

Business Session.
2 p. m.

Bro. J. E. Bozarth in the chair, Bro. Wm. F. Anderson associated.

Hymn No. 199 was sung. Prayer by Bro. Wm. Anderson. No. 158 was sung.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

A report was read from Elder R. R. Robertson, and received in the customary way.

A report and recommendation from the Quorum of Twelve, read, as follows:

To the Ministers' Conference, Greetings:

In the course of an investigation in the matter of a complaint from the Minneapolis Local, concerning the matter of the Auditor's report not being included in the referendum bills as published, Bro. L. A. Gould on behalf of the Referendum Committee made explanation of the part the Committee played in compiling and inserting Bill No. 20, absolving the Editor from a portion of the responsibility that might otherwise be unjustly charged against her, acknowledging errors which now appear, but which were made in good faith by the Committee, and apologizing therefor.

It was moved and seconded that the statement made by Bro. Gould be accepted by the Quorum as an explanation and apology from the Referendum Committee, and be so reported to the Minneapolis Local and Ministers' Conference. Carried.

Leon A. Gould,
Secretary Quorum of Twelve.

Independence, Mo. March 31, 1938.

Moved and seconded to approve the report of the Secretary.

Moved and Seconded as a substitute, that we approve of the recommendations of the Quorum of Twelve relative to this matter, and that the Secretary should so advise the local Church at Minneapolis. Carried.

Recommendation was read from the Quorum of Twelve relative to ordination to the office of Seventy, as follows:

To the Ministers' Conference, Greeting:

Under the leadings of that which we recognize as the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation, the name of Elder R. G. Newby was approved by the Quorum for ordination to the office of Seventy, and is hereby recommended for the approval of the Ministers' Conference.

Leon A. Gould,
Secretary Quorum of Twelve.

Moved and seconded that the recommendation be approved, and that provision be made for the ordination, Carried.

Appointments of members of the Quorum of Twelve, as Missionaries in Charge, read as follows: To the Ministers' Conference, Greeting:

I herewith submit the appointments as made by the Quorum of Twelve, of Missionaries in charge of the following fields.

Apostle C. L. Wheaton in charge of Kansas, Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming.

Apostle J. E. Bozarth in charge of Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, and the Southeastern States.

Apostle B. C. Flint in charge of the European Mission; and also to have the active oversight of Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois.

Apostles J. E. Yates and R. M. Maloney in joint charge of the Southwestern States comprising Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Nevada.

Apostle L. A. Gould in charge of Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, and Idaho.

Apostle T. J. Jordan in charge of Western Canada and Alaska.

Apostle A. M. Smith in charge of Michigan, Eastern Canada, and the Eastern States, outside of Illinois.

Apostle Wm. F. Anderson in charge of California, Oregon, and Washington.

Apostle T. E. Barton, Missionary at Large as circumstances permit.

Respectfully submitted,

Leon A. Gould,
Secretary Quorum of Twelve.

Independence, Mo. April 4, 1938.

Moved and seconded that we approve of the appointments as made. Carried.

The matter pertaining to illegal baptisms, etc., at Denver, Colo., was read, as follows:

To the Ministers' Conference, Greeting:

We report the following action taken by the Quorum of Twelve:

To Whom It May Concern:

A few of our members of the Church of Christ have received illegal baptism at Denver, Colorado, giving heed to the council of former brethren in the Church, T. B. Nerren and E. E. Long, et al, and some have affiliated themselves with church activities there which are out of harmony with the church.

Therefore, we, the Church of Christ (Temple Lot),

declare that from the date of those unauthentic baptisms, we can not and will not in any manner be compromised by their action, nor by their subsequent official ministrations.

The Church of Christ, by its official acts and ministry, kindly invites all such misled persons, who have thus withdrawn from the church, to renounce their unauthentic baptisms which are assumed to be for "the cleansing of their garments," and that they renounce any membership affiliations with those whose ministry can not be recognized while they continue to act without the authority of the Church of Christ.

Those who will renounce their errors and turn from them, are entreated to do so, that they may take their places in the fellowship of the Church. The Church will welcome such gladly, and they themselves will thereby be made to rejoice in the Lord and in the fellowship of His people.

We still pray for those who depart from the Gospel of Christ, and will be helpful to them if we can.

By action of the Quorum of Twelve, this day and date, March 31, 1938, Independence, Missouri.

Leon A. Gould, Secretary.

Moved and seconded that this be approved by the Conference and the church.

Moved to amend by striking out the last three words, "and the church." Seconded.

Moved by Bro. R. B. Trowbridge as further amendment: That it is the sense of this body that their manner of returning be by baptism only. Seconded by Bro. R. M. Maloney.

Previous question was moved and carried.

The latter amendment was put to vote first, and lost.

The former amendment was then put to vote and carried.

Motion as amended was adopted.

A report from the Referendum Committee was read:

To the Conference Assembled; Greetings:

Since the beginning of our work two years ago, we the referendum Committee, have made no report. We have made no effort to obtain the general opinion as regards our work. The vote taken stands in evidence for itself. It has been our desire to have as perfect and flawless referendum as was in our power to conduct.

Our efforts have been subject to criticism, which we do not regret, and in the light of that criticism and our studied service, we wish to offer recommendation for modification of the rules affecting our work. Such modification, we believe, will work toward a better referendum, more satisfactory results, and the better common weal. We pray your thoughtful, careful attention to the following:

(1) We recommend that the publishing and dis- we do not regret, and in the light of that criticism and our studied service, we wish to offer recommendation for modification, of the rules affecting our work referendum vote be solely in the hands of the referendum committee and the General Church Record-

er--this vote not to be divulged until after July 31 following General Conference.

(2) It is recommended also that there be restrictions placed on bills offered for referendum, as follows:

(a) That the number of bills relating to any given matter be reduced either by (1) elimination or (2) grouping by the Conference prior to their presentation to the Referendum Committee.

(b) That all matter in preambles, etc., offering reasons, or any other supporting matter be eliminated by Conference from bills for referendum before presentation to the Referendum Committee.

(c) That all matter not offering choice be eliminated from the referendum. (Sentiment votes, committee votes where no choice is offered, etc.)

(d) That all defeated measures offered with signers for referendum must be presented to the Referendum Committee by the Conference after it has found that all conditions concerning the presentation thereof are fulfilled and in proper order, and in accord with Article (b) of this recommendation.

(e) That the Conference shall decide what constitutes "a defeated measure."

These recommendations if adopted will, we feel, place all decision in the hands of the Conference where it belongs, and facilitate the better dispatch and integrity of our Referendum.

Signed,

Leon A. Gould,
J. R. McClain,
Thomas S. Maley.

Referendum Committee.

March 5, 1938

Moved and seconded to receive the report, and that the recommendations contained therein be referred to the same committee that was to take up the other amendments to our present rules of representation and referendum. Carried.

Resolution was read from Elder Archie F. Bell, as follows:

Inasmuch as the *Zions' Advocate* is considered our greatest missionary, therefore be it resolved that the Editor of *Zions' Advocate* be chosen from among those holding the Melchisedec Priesthood, and preferably having had missionary experience.

Moved and seconded to adopt.

The present Editor made a short statement concerning her work the past four years, and withdrew from the assembly, stating that she did not wish to embarrass the discussion.

Moved and Seconded as a substitute, that this matter be held in abeyance until time for the nomination of the Editor.

Previous question was moved and carried.

Substitute put to vote, and chair announced that it carried.

A division was called for, and the vote stood 7 for and 7 against.

Chair decided in favor of the substitute.

It was announced that Bro. A. M. Smith had been selected assistant choister.

Doxology sung. Benediction by Bro. Wm. Anderson.

Preaching at 8. p.m. by Bro. James E. Yates.

Saturday, April 9, 1938.

The morning prayer service at 9:30 a.m. was in charge of Bro. A. O. Frisbey, and Bro. Wm. Postma. A time of spiritual refreshing.

Preaching at 11 o'clock a.m. by Bro. J. T. Ford, assisted by Bro. A. O. Frisbey.

Business Session

2 p.m.

Bro. Wm. Anderson in charge, assisted by Bro. J. E. Yates.

Song No. 111. Prayer by Bro. Yates. Song No. 158.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Ministerial report was read from Apostle A. M. Smith, and received in the usual order.

A communication was received from Sr. De Groot, and spread upon the minutes.

Resolution pertaining to a Church Library was read, as follows:

To the Conference, Greetings:

Inasmuch as there are now quite a number of books which belong to the Church, and as there are indications that more are to be given to the Church therefore be it:

Resolved that this Church establish a Library and that one be appointed to have the care and control of the same.

Signed,

A. M. Smith
C. L. Wheaton
B. C. Flint

April 7, 1938.

Moved and seconded to adopt.

It was moved to amend so that instead of reading "one to have the care and control," etc., it would read "a board of three custodians be appointed to have the care and control of the same."

The amendment carried, and the motion as amended carried.

Moved and seconded that in the selection of this board the same rule shall apply to them as to other standing committees. Carried.

Nominations for those to act on the Board were entertained, and the following were nominated: A.M. Smith, Louise Sheldon, Margaret Wheaton, R. B. Trowbridge.

The vote was 12, 15, 10, and 7 respectively, making the board, if approved by the peoples' Conference, the following, to serve in order named: Margaret Wheaton 1 year, A. M. Smith 2 years, and Louise Sheldon 3 years.

A motion was presented by Bro. Yates, and seconded by R. G. Newby, providing that the field appointments should be so arranged in the ballots that they could be voted upon separately. Lost.

Report from the Committee to consider all proposed amendments on Rules of Representation was read, as follows:

To the Conference Assembled,
Church of Christ,
Independence, Missouri,
Greeting:

With a sincere desire to promulgate the welfare and greatest good to the Church of Christ; and realizing that our present system of Church Government has many defects and has proven very unsatisfactory to many of the saints; and in the hope of saving to the church that which is good and desirable in our present system; and eliminating that which has proven unsatisfactory, we hereby submit for your consideration the following:

Resolved: The next conference of the Church of Christ shall be held April 6, 1939, and shall be known as the General Conference of the Church of Christ; and shall have power to transact all business pertaining to the Church of Christ; that it shall be governed by the following rules and regulations:

1. The Conference of the Church of Christ shall consist of those holding the priesthood in said church, and delegates who have been properly selected and chosen by the local churches of the Church of Christ.

2. All those holding the priesthood shall have the full rights of the conference floor, and their right of ex officio vote.

3. The delegates shall be selected by the local churches; may be selected from the priesthood, or from the membership in good standing. The delegate shall be entitled to one vote for every six members or fraction thereof. The full vote of the local may be cast by one or more delegates, as may be ordered by the local.

4. All members in good standing shall have the right to introduce measures for the consideration of the conference, make motions or discuss any question before the house, but shall not have the right to vote.

5. Any one holding the priesthood may be selected as a delegate by the local to which he belongs, or by any local church within the field of his labors, but by doing so he shall forfeit his right to the ex officio vote.

6. Apostles shall not be selected as delegates at any time except it shall be to represent local churches in foreign lands.

7. Churches in foreign lands may select delegates from among the ministry or membership, either from among those of their own land or from among those in this land, and shall have power to instruct such delegates upon all questions or measures of which they may have pre-conference knowledge.

8. No minister or delegate shall represent more than one local church.

9. Every local church shall have the right to instruct its delegates upon all measures known to them before conference convenes. A copy of such instructions must be sent to the general church secretary

previous to the opening of the conference.

10. Should the delegate be absent at the time the vote is cast, the general church secretary shall cast the vote for such local in harmony with the instructions from the secretary of that local.

11. Every local church shall have the right to send to the conference any bill or proposed measure for the consideration of conference, if sent by a majority of the votes of the local from which it shall come. Such measures shall be presented to the conference without change or modification, except the local shall give to the conference the right to change or modify.

12. The conference shall have the full authority to transact all business necessary for the operation of the general church; appoint all committees; fill all vacancies in office or committees; appoint the editor of the Advocate; general office manager; and care for all routine work necessary to the operation of the general church.

13. Any measure that may change or modify the beliefs or the organic structure of the church, such as the changing of the Articles of Faith; rules governing the method of representation; and the filling of vacancies in the Council of Twelve Apostles, shall be submitted to the church by referendum for their vote.

14. Any measure may be sent to the referendum by a two-thirds vote of the conference.

15. **Minority Rights:** Any measure defeated on the conference floor may be resubmitted to the conference as a minority measure upon a petition signed by the mover and the seconder and ten signers in good standing who have been in attendance at the conference during the consideration of the bill. The bill shall then be stated to the conference exactly as it was when defeated. The conference shall decide as to the legality of the minority measure. The bill itself shall not be debatable, but shall be put to vote at once as follows: The Bill shall be read; the results of the former vote shall be stated by the secretary and the vote cast. If one-fourth of the votes cast are in favor of sending out the bill, it shall then be sent as a minority measure from the conference.

RULES TO GOVERN ALL MEASURES SUBMITTED FOR REFERENDUM.

16. The local churches shall be expected to meet not later than the second week in June to consider any measure which may be submitted to them from the general conference of the church requiring a referendum vote.

17. No argument shall be permitted to appear on the ballot sheets nor as part of the supplement sent out for use in voting, but arguments may be permitted in the body of the Advocate, in both the May and June issues thereof, subject to the discretion of the Editor and Board of Publication.

18. The term of office of all committees and quorums created by referendum vote shall be from the date of the counting of the ballots, or from August 1st to July 31st of each year, unless otherwise provided for.

19. All ballots shall remain sealed until the Referendum Committee appointed to tabulate them and give the official returns thereof to the church shall meet to discharge their duties, as herein provided, and at that time said ballots shall be opened and tabulated in the presence of a majority of said committee.

It shall be considered as a breach of trust for the results or partial results of such referendum to be given out until the committee has prepared its official report.

20. The minutes of the conference shall be printed in the form of a supplement to the Advocate. All bills to be voted upon shall be printed on the last pages thereof in such way as to make it possible to use such sheets as ballot sheets by the scattered members without destroying the printed matter that contains the minutes of the conference. The name and address of all those voting as scattered members shall be written on the ballot by the voter. All votes shall be either "Yes" or "No."

21. (Sample Ballot)

REFERENDUM NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS AND LOCAL CHURCHES OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Note: Your vote on the following bills must be plainly marked, and signed with your name and address as indicated, and returned to the General Office Manager of the Church of Christ, Box 472, Independence, Missouri, bearing Post Office mark not later than June 15, 19..... Said Ballots shall be placed in sealed envelopes by you, and marked on the face thereof, "Referendum Votes," No other matters shall be enclosed with your ballot, except the tabulated report of votes prepared by the secretaries of local churches. If you do not understand the measure to be voted upon, don't guess, DON'T VOTE EITHER WAY.

Committee to Compile Votes: GENERAL OFFICE MANAGER EDITOR OF ZION'S ADVOCATE COMMITTEEMAN.

BALLOT

(Referendum Bills shall be prepared as follows) Bill Number One.

Title of Bill

(Matters to be voted upon shall here be stated exactly as approved by the conference, or as they were defeated by the conference, when sent out as majority or minority measures.)

To the committee appointed to tabulate the referendum votes, I hereby certify that my vote has been voluntarily cast according to my own personal convictions in the matters.

Most respectfully,

Name Street City State

21. Returns From Local Churches. Where local churches vote in a group, the secre-

tary of the meeting shall collect these individual ballots, tabulate the same on blanks provided for that purpose in duplicate, and send one copy thereof to the General Office Manager, and file the duplicate copy with the clerk of the local church.

The following shall be the form used by secretaries of local churches in this connection:

(Sample Return Blank.)

Date.....19.....

To the Committee on Referendum Vote Compilation for the Church of Christ.

Greeting:

This is to certify that, at a meeting of the Local Church of Christ, held at,..... on the day, of....., 19....., the following vote was cast on the Referendum Bills submitted by the General Conference of April.....to....., 19....., to wit:

Bill Number one () Yes. () No. Bill Number Two () Yes. () No.

(Spaces should be here provided for additional bill tallies.)

Total numbers of members present and voting at this meeting (), as per the ballots attached. Number of members present ().

Most respectfully,

Name Street City State

Secretary.

22. These rules may be amended or annulled by proper notice in the Advocate prior to the convening of the General Conference, and the vote of two-thirds of the referendum vote by which they were approved.

Your Committee, Clarence L. Wheaton J. E. Bozarth A. M. Smith

Moved and seconded to adopt the report.

Moved and seconded to adopt the minority report.

Minority report was read as follows:

To the Conference:

Whereas: The two major measures now before the conference, proposing to amend present rules on church government, represent two separate systems that are far apart in method and form;

And Whereas: The Third measure by Bro. Wheaton, and the Fourth group of amendments as submitted by our Referendum Committee, all contain their good points, Therefore we your Committee Recommend:

1st. That the Bill proposed by Bro. A. M. Smith and others, and the Bill proposed by James E. Yates and others, shall be finally worded to include such of these other amendments, and as the sponsors of each of the two said Bills may desire.

2nd. That the two measures shall be designated: Bills A, and B, on Church Government.

3rd. That they shall be printed in parallel columns on the Ballot, in order that the whole Church may vote its choice between the two.

James E. Yates
R. G. Newby.

Bro. Yates spoke to the question.

Point of order was raised that he was speaking to the whole question and there was only one bill before us.

Chair ruled the point was well taken, and ruled that there was only one major proposition before us at the present time.

The decision of the chair was appealed from, and on being put to vote the rulling of the chair was denied by a vote of 5 for and 6 against.

Moved and seconded as a substitute to the whole matter:

That we defer further consideration of this matter until Monday afternoon, at which time we request the minority members of the committee to submit their bill of recommendations as to how our conference should be conducted, for our consideration, and that both bills be mimeographed.

Moved and seconded that all new business shall be on the table by four o'clock Monday afternoon. Carried.

The doxology was sung. Benediction by Bro. Yates.

At 8 p.m. Bro. R. M. Maloney was the speaker, assisted by Bro. B. C. Flint.

Sunday, April 10, 1938.

Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. in charge of the local officers. There was a fine representation in all classes, and a splendid spirit prevailed.

Preaching at 11 a. m. by Bro. J. E. Bozarth, assisted by Bro. A. M. Smith.

At 2:30 p.m. the Conference sacrament meeting was held, in charge of Brn. J. E. Yates and L. A. Gould. A large assembly, and a goodly spirit present.

Preaching at 8 p.m. by Bro. Wm. Anderson, assisted by Bro. J. E. Bozarth.

Monday, April 11, 1938.

Prayer Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in charge of Bro. R. B. Trowbridge and Bro. R. M. Maloney. It was an experience meeting, in which some very interesting experiences were related.

Preaching at 11 a.m. by Bro. J. R. McClain, assisted by Bro. W. R. Smith

Business Session
2 p.m.

Bro. J. E. Yates in the chair. Bro. A. M. Smith associated. Song No. 184 was sung. Prayer by Bro. Yates, followed by song No. 129.

Minutes read, corrected, and approved.

A verbal report was received from Elder S. J. Madden.

A report was also read from Apostle R. M. Maloney.

These reports were received and made a part of the record.

The Church Auditor's report was read as follows:
Auditor's Report.

April 9, 1938.

Church of Christ
Temple Lot,
Independence, Mo.
Apostle Leon A. Gould, General Secretary,
Gentlemen:

In connection with my duties as Auditor of the Church of Christ, I have made an audit of the books and records of the Church for the year ended March 15th, 1938.

I hand you, herewith, a report of my findings for the period under review:

General Scope of Audit.

The books and financial records have been in the care of Mr. J. R. McClain, who also acts as office Manager. All funds of the Church are received and disbursed thru this office. The accounting system now in use reflects only cash receipts and expenditures, and no attempt has ever been made to segregate the Assets and Liabilities of the Church into a general set of books. It has been the custom in the past to base the annual audit report upon the receipts and disbursements during the year. I have prepared this report accordingly.

I have examined and audited such records as are available, and in some instances have had to accept verbal explanations. From such examination, I am satisfied that this report is substantially correct. I have called to Mr. McClain's attention several small differences which he has agreed to correct on the books; they should then agree in substance to this report.

....Cash Receipts During the Year.

Tithing	\$ 2,462.41
Offering, Oblation and Missionary	61.30
Advocate Subscriptions	261.12
Tracts	44.36
Consecration	920.14
Loans Returned	342.06
Temple Fund	233.66

Total Receipts - \$ 4,325.05

Cash Expenditures During the Year.

Cost of printing and mailing Advocate	\$ 496.74
Cost of Tracts	43.15
Allowances to Missionaries' families	1,726.18
Elders' Expense	364.66
General Office Expense	164.73
General Church Expense	115.44
Aid and Loans to Members and Local Church	568.06
Linotype purchased	880.50
Temple expenditures	15.82

Total expenditures - \$ 4,375.28

Cash Balance at End of Year

	General Fund	Temple Fund	Total
Balance per report dated March 15, 1937	553.91	205.38	759.29
Receipts during the year	4,091.39	233.66	4,325.05
	4,645.30	439.04	5,084.34

Expenditures during the year	4,359.46	15.82	4,375.28
Cash Balance End of Year	\$ 285.84	\$ 423.22	\$ 709.06

Statement of Resources.

March 15, 1938.

Cash on Deposite - First National Bank, Independence, Mo.	\$	773.59
Undeposited funds		135.47
	\$	909.06
Loans due from members and Local Church		204.00
Total Resources	\$	1,113.06
Deduct:-		
Personal Funds erroneously deposited in Church's account		200.00
Net Resources	\$	913.06

Cash on Deposite - First National Bank

I have examined and accounted for all checks cleared thru this account during the year. The deposits to this account do not correspond in detail with collections as they were made, as it has been the practice of the Office Manager to make deposits of irregular amounts periodically. The total receipts and collections amounted to \$4,325.05, and the total amounts deposited was \$4,460.66; of the latter amount, \$341.94 was carried over from the year ended March 15, 1937.

Undeposited Funds

This amount is arrived at as follows:

Cash resources as per Auditor's report dated March 15, 1937,	\$	759.29
Less cash on deposit,		417.35
Undeposited Funds March 15, 1937	\$	341.94
Total receipts for the year ended March 15, 1938		4,325.05
		4,666.99
Total amounts deposited		4,460.66
Less personal funds included therein		200.00
		4,260.66
Petty Cash expenditures		270.86
		4,531.52
Undeposited funds March 15, 1938	\$	135.47

I have test checked the undeposited funds on hand March 15, 1938 and find they are satisfactorily accounted for.

Recommendation and Conclusion

It has been called to my attention that the Church does not, at present, carry any insurance on its buildings and properties. In my opinion this is an item which should receive immediate attention.

There are some notes payable to the church which are in the custody of the Office Manager. I have not included these items in the Resources, as considerable doubt was expressed as to their collectibility.

The bookkeeping system now employed there is, in my opinion, entirely inadequate to reflect the information which is considered essential to the intelligent analysis of the financial affairs of an institution. Your Auditor suggests that a modern accounting system be installed and that all matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the Church be reflected thereon. In order to make the system operative, it would be necessary to place the books in charge of some party who is familiar with the mechanics of accounting.

I have spent considerable time and effort in an attempt to present an intelligent and impartial report. I have sought advice when I was in need of it, and I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to Mr. McClain and others who advised and assisted me with the report.

Very sincerely yours,

signed
R. W. Wheaton
Auditor

It was moved and seconded to approve the Auditor's report.

Moved and seconded to amend by adding, And that we also approve of his recommendations.

Moved as a substitute that mimeograph copies of this report be prepared for the information of the Conference before the final vote is taken. Seconded.

Moved to amend the substitute to make it read: That we make this matter the special order for tomorrow afternoon, and in the meantime mimeograph copies be made to place in the hands of the conference. Seconded.

The amendment and the motion as amended prevailed.

This disposed of all matters on the table except the matter concerning Rules of Representation, which was the special order for the afternoon.

Bro. Wheaton asked for a ruling of the chair as to the status of the matter before the house at the time of adopting the motion to defer until today.

Chair ruled that when the body adopted the substitute for the whole matter it practically cleared the slate, and when the report from the minority members should be read the whole matter would be before the body for disposal as they might wish to do.

Bro. Wheaton appealed from the decision of the chair.

When put to vote the ruling of the chair was denied by a vote of 5 for and 7 against.

Moved and seconded to take up the regular order of business.

It was moved and seconded to adopt the minority report.

The minority report was then read, as follows:

Independence, Mo. April 11, -38.

AMENDMENT TO RULES ON CHURCH GOVERNMENT

Our present rules on Church Government shall be amended to state, and to be improved as follows:

1st. **Therefore this shall ye observe, and make it your law to do your business by the Voice of the People.** —Book of Mosiah 13:36.

2nd. Local Churches shall elect Delegates to the Ministers', or General Conference. --one Delegate to every Six members, or fraction of that number. Any members of the Church, men or women may be chosen as delegates.

3rd. The liberties of the people shall be further preserved by sending all measures enacted in the Conference, to all the people for their approval and final decision, except matters incidental, pertaining to the Conference, votes of mere sentiment, and similar items.

4th. The publishing, distribution, and compiling of Referendum Bills shall be under control of the Referendum Committee. The counting of the Referendum votes shall be in the hands of this Committee and the General Recorder, - - the vote not to be divulged until after July 31, following the General Conference.

5th. The Ballots shall be printed in such a form as to provide for both the individual vote, as well as the collective tabulation of votes upon the same Ballot sheet, if possible. Also that the name and address of each voter shall accompany all votes.

6th. If these amendments shall be approved by the people, and if further amendments shall be deemed necessary, they may be decided best and in detail, when the ministry and delegates meet in our next General Conference.

7th. If any former rule be in conflict with this entire enactment, said rule shall be hereby repealed.

The matter before the assembly (by action of the body in overruling the decision of the chair), as shown by the minutes of the previous meeting, consisted of

First. A motion to adopt the report of the committee.

Second. A motion to adopt the minority report, as a substitute.

Third. An amendment to the minority report.

After being discussed at length, the previous question was moved on the substitute and its amendment. Seconded, and carried.

The amendment was voted on and lost.

The substitute was also lost, which left the motion to adopt the majority committee report before the house.

Bro. Wheaton arose to a question of privilege and stated that because of that which had come to him as he believed, from a divine source, he would have to remain silent and not vote either way on the question.

After further discussion, it was moved and seconded to defer action for one year.

Chair announced the time of adjournment had arrived. No. 136 was sung. Benediction by Bro. Yates. Preaching at 8 p.m. by Bro. A. M. Smith, assisted by Bro. J. E. Bozarth.

Tuesday, April 12, 1938.

Prayer Meeting at 9:30 a.m. was in charge of Bro. R. G. Newby, assisted by Bro. J. T. Ford.

Preaching at 11 o'clock a.m., by Bro. R. B. Trowbridge, assisted by Bro. A. O. Frisbey.

Business session.

2 p.m.

Bro. J. E. Yates in the chair, assisted by Bro. A. M. Smith. Song No. 34 was sung. Prayer by Bro. Smith. Three verses of No. 92 was sung.

Minutes of the previous session read and approved.

Ministerial reports were read from Bishop J. T. Ford and Elder E. M. Orton, and were received in the usual manner.

The matter pending at the time of adjournment yesterday afternoon was taken up.

Bro. Yates asked Bro. Smith to take the chair during the discussion of this motion.

The discussion of the matter took on rather a broad scope, and Bro. Wheaton raised a point of order, stating that the matter now before us was the question of deferring action for one year, and that does not allow discussion on the original bill.

The chair ruled: The only thing you can do is to analyze it in giving your reasons why you are **not** in favor of deferring, or are in favor of deferring.

Discussion proceeded for some time, and Bro. Wheaton renewed his point of order.

Chair ruled the speaker was still in order.

Bro. Wheaton appealed from the decision of the chair.

On being put to vote the chair was sustained, 13 for and 1 against.

The previous question was moved, and seconded, and lost by a vote of 5 for and 9 against.

Discussion then continued at some length, and on being put to vote the motion to defer for one year was lost by a vote of 6 for and 9 against.

Moved and seconded that speeches from now on be limited to ten minutes.

Previous question called, and the motion to limit prevailed by a vote of 9 for and 7 against.

Vote on the original bill (the report from the committee on rules of government, etc.,) carried, 8 for and 6 against.

Bro. Yates announced to the conference that the minority bill would be presented to the church in the legal manner.

Question was asked as to which one of the documents from the minority members of the committee would be presented as the minority bill.

Bro. Yates answered, "both."

The matter of the Auditor's report was taken up. A point of order was raised, that we could not consider the auditor's report until we had the report he audited in the hands of the body.

Chair ruled that the auditor's report was before the body, as to a decision as to what would be done with it.

The decision of the chair was appealed from.

On being put to vote the decision of the chair was sustained by a vote of 5 to 3.

Moved and seconded to defer action on the Auditor's report until we have the Bishop's report in our hands. Carried.

A motion to have a business session tomorrow at 10 o'clock, also tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, was lost.

Vacancies in standing committees, etc., was taken up as follows:

Board of Publication: Bro. J. R. McClain and Sr. Metta Anderson were nominated.

By motion nominations closed. Moved that these two be the new members on the Board. Seconded. Carried.

Plans Committee: Moved and seconded that we dispense with the Plans Committee for the time being.

Moved as a substitute that we elect Bro. J. E. Yates to succeed himself on the Plans committee, Seconded. Carried.

Personal Complaints Board: Moved that J. E. Bozarth and Sr. L. P. Sheldon succeed themselves. Seconded. Carried.

Referendum Committee: Moved that Bro. Gould be elected to succeed himself. Seconded. Carried.

Editor for Zion's Advocate: Moved that Sr. Sheldon be elected to succeed herself as Editor of the Advocate. Seconded. Carried.

Conference Enactment Committee: Moved Sr. Angela Wheaton be chosen to succeed herself as committee on Conference Enactments. Seconded. Carried.

Business Manager: It was moved to defer action till we have considered the Bishop's report. Seconded. Carried.

Church Secretary: Moved that Bro. Leon A. Gould be elected to succeed himself as the Secretary of the General Church. Seconded. Carried.

Church Auditor: Moved to defer until further reports are considered.

Secretary of Transportation: Moved that Bro. Clarence Wheaton, succeed himself as Secretary of Transportation. Seconded. Carried.

Business manager of the Advocate: Moved that the Business Manager, Bro. Alva Wheaton, be continued. Seconded. Carried.

Adjourned to 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Doxology was sung. Benediction by Bro. A. M. Smith.

Preaching at 8 p.m. by Bro. B. C. Flint, assisted by Bro. A. M. Smith.

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Wednesday, April 13, 1938.

Prayer Meeting at 9:30 a. m. in charge of Bro. Wm. Postma.

Preaching at 11 a. m. by Bro. W. R. Smith, assisted by Bro. R. G. Newby. Prayer by Bro. S. J. Madden.

Business Session.

2 p.m.

Bro. A. M. Smith in the chair, assisted by Bro. B. C. Flint. Song No. 69. Prayer by Bro. Flint. Song No. 95.

Minutes read and corrected to show the vote on the committee's report on Rules of Representation, etc., which carried by a vote of 8 for and six against. Approved as corrected.

Reports were read and received as follows:

RECORDERS REPORT

April 12, 1938

To the Conference Assembled
Church of Christ (Temple Lot)
Independence, Mo.
Greetings:

I herewith submit the following report:

Gain by baptism	60
Gain by transfer	19
	<hr/>
Total gain	79
Loss by death	11
Loss by withdrawal	2
	<hr/>
Total loss	13
Net gain	66
Enrollment April 1937	2007
Net gain	66
	<hr/>
Enrollment April 1938	2073

Respectfully submitted,
Nicholas F. Denham

Independence, Mo., April 12, 1938.

To the Ministers' Conference; Church of Christ,
Greeting:

We wish to report as a committee appointed to incorporate the Temporal Law provisions, that progress is being made to that end; but that our work is not completed sufficiently to report, therefore believe the committee should be continued.

Respectfully submitted,
Clarence L. Wheaton
Leon A. Gould
Of the Committee.

Bishops Financial Report

Independence, Mo., April 1938.

To the Ministers' Conference, Greetings:

Dear Brethren: - - -We herewith present our financial report for, From Mar. 15th, 1937 to March 15th, 1938.

Cash Receipts During the Year

Tithing	\$ 2461.41
Offerings, Oblations and Missionary	58.30
Advocate Subscriptions	258.62
Tracts	41.61
Consecration	892.14
Loans returned	362.06
Temple Fund	243.66
Total Receipts	4,317.80
	<hr/>

Plus petty cash check 25.00
\$ 4 342.80

Cash Disbursements During the Year

Cost of printing and mailing Advocate	\$ 515.74
Cost of Tracts	42.15
Family Allowances	1712.18
Elders expense	400.16
General Office Expense	181.67
General Church Expense	992.80
Aid and loans	573.06
Temple Expenditures	16.23

Total Expenditures	\$ 4,433.99
Total Receipts all sources	4,342.80
Balance from last report	759.29

Total Expenditures for year	\$ 5,102.09
	4,433.99

Bank Balance Mar. 15th, 1938	Book Balance 669.10	803.59
Less out checks		30.00

Personal funds on deposit	773.59	200.00
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Cash Balance in bank	573.59
Cash not deposited	95.51

669.10

Respectfully, J. R. McClain, office manager.

Bishop's report was considered in connection with the Auditor's report.

Moved and seconded that these reports be referred back.

Previous question was called, and the motion to refer the Bishop's and the Auditor's report back carried by a vote of 8 for and 4 against.

Moved that we take no action on the Auditor's recommendation, but that we renew our former action of last Conference relative to the matter of book keeping. Seconded.

Moved as a substitute that we concur in the recommendation of the Auditor that an adequate system of book keeping should be put in the office, and that a book keeper competent to take care of these books should be employed, and that said books shall be installed in harmony with the action taken in last year's referendum. Seconded.

Substitute lost by a vote of 5 to 9.

Original motion carried by a vote of 9 to 5.

Moved that it is the sense of this body that it will not be necessary to refer this matter to the referendum.

Chair ruled the motion out of order.

The decision of the chair was appealed from, and sustained by a vote of 7 to 3.

Moved that all reference to this matter be deleted from the record. Seconded.

Moved and seconded to lay the motion to delete on the table indefinitely. Carried 10 for and 4 against.

Moved that we sustain Bro. McClain in the office

as Business Manager. Seconded.

Previous question ordered, and the motion to sustain carried.

Moved and seconded that we receive the recorder's report, and reelect him to succeed himself in his office.

Previous question ordered, and the motion prevailed.

Moved and seconded that when this conference adjourns it does so to meet on the 6th of April, 1939, at Independence, Mo. Carried.

Report of the committee on incorporation on Temporal Plans was taken up.

Moved and seconded that this report be approved and the committee continued. Carried.

Moved and seconded that we express to him our appreciation for his work, and that the present Auditor shall be elected to succeed himself, and if he does not see fit to accept, that the Quorum of Twelve shall be authorized to make provision for an auditor. Carried.

Moved and seconded to reconsider the action referring to the reports of the Bishop and the Auditor back to them. Carried.

Motion was made to adopt the Auditor's report. Seconded.

Previous question was ordered, and motion to adopt prevailed.

Moved and seconded that we proceed to fill vacancies on the Conference Court. Carried.

Bro. John Overcast, and Bro. Alex. Warner were nominated.

Moved that nominations close, and that these two be declared elected to fill the vacancies on this court. Seconded. Carried.

Moved to adjourn until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning. Seconded. Carried.

The doxology was sung. Benediction by Bro. Flint.

Preaching at 8 p.m. by Bro. Wm. Anderson, assisted by Bro. R. G. Newby.

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Thursday, April 14

Business Session.

10 a.m.

Bro. B. C. Flint in the chair; Bro. C. L. Wheaton associated. A song was sung. Prayer by Bro. Wheaton. Song No. 112. Minutes read, corrected, and approved.

A report was read from the General Sunday School Superintendent, as follows:

April 13, 1938.

To the Conference,
Church of Christ.
Greetings;-

As superintendent of the Church of Christ Sunday Schools I beg to make this report.

Through the past year we have endeavored to create interest in the Sunday School work wherever we have been able to find opportunity to do so. We have found in some parts a growing condition while

in others this division of the work of the Church is not in a very thrifty condition. We feel that this is largely due to the lack of proper material to use in the classes.

Last year you authorized the printing of a book for the secretaries use in our schools. The need of this is becoming more and more felt among our schools. Especially is this true when any effort is made to obtain a report from the schools. At present it is almost impossible to obtain reports from the schools. Our General Secretary reports practically no reports obtained this year from any of the schools. This is partly accounted for in the fact that the report blank, a copy of which was to be printed in the *Advocate*, was omitted from the paper and some of the schools waited to receive this blank before making out their report, therefore it has not as yet been received.

The secretaries' record ordered printed last year was to overcome this defect. The copy of this record was furnished the printer early in the year, but was lost. Later it was found and a certain amount of work has been done, but up to date it is not printed but we are hoping to obtain this from the printer soon now and advertize it in the *Advocate*.

There has been some work done along the line of Quarterlies. There is in our hands at the present time subject matter for Quarterlies. It has been a question in my mind as to just how far we might be authorized to go along this line, as we scarcely feel capable of determining just what material shall be used in so important a matter as Quarterlies which may determine the future beliefs of this church.

We therefore recommend that a committee of three shall be appointed to edit and compile such matter as may be received, and as soon as enough shall have been accumulated, Quarterlies shall be prepared.

Some new schools have been reported, while one or two have ceased to exist. One closed down for the winter, but will open again as soon as weather permits.

Respectfully,
Arthur M. Smith.

Moved that the report be approved and that the recommendations be acted on. Seconded. Carried.

Moved to approve the recommendations contained in the General Superintendent's report providing for a committee of three to receive, compile, and edit such material as may be available for Sunday School Quarterlies. Seconded. Carried.

Resolution: Moved that a subscription shall be solicited through the Sunday Schools of the Church for the purpose of paying for the publication of Quarterlies, the same to be sent to the General Office and marked upon the record of the Bishop as Sunday School funds, to be used for no other purpose than that for which it is sent in; and that in the disposal of these Quarterlies all funds received from the Sale of these Quarterlies shall also be entered in this Sunday School fund. Seconded. Carried.

Moved and seconded that the committee on Quarterlies be increased to five. Carried. Those nominated

were Sisters Louise Sheldon, Vida E. Yates, Laura Richards, Alice E. Gould, and Angela Wheaton. Moved that these five act as our committee. Seconded, and Carried.

Moved and seconded that this committee be hereafter recognized as a board of publication of Sunday School Quarterlies and literature.

Moved and seconded to lay on the table. Carried

Moved that Arthur Smith be continued as Superintendent of the Sunday School Association. Seconded. Carried.

Moved that Rolland Sprague be elected to succeed himself as Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School Association. Seconded. Carried.

Moved that Bro. Wayne Richardson be elected to succeed himself as Secretary of the General Sunday School Association. Seconded.

Moved and seconded as a substitute that we allow this appointment to be made by nomination rather than by motion. Carried.

Wayne Richardson, Margaret Wheaton, and A. A. Yates were nominated.

An incidental motion was made and seconded, that in the matter of this Sunday School work, the members of the Sunday School be allowed to vote. Carried.

Vote then called on nominees, and was as follows: Wayne Richardson 6, Margaret Wheaton 5, A. A. Yates 1.

Bro. Richardson was declared the choice.

The following resolution was moved by Bro. J. E. Yates:

Concerning our adjournment: In view of the pathetic fact that many of our ministry of the Church who should participate in the business of the Conferences are unable to do so because of their daily labors where employed, when business sessions are all held during the working hours of the day; therefore be it,

Resolved, that the adjournment of this Conference shall be to the hour of 8 p.m. of April 6, 1939.

Seconded by Joseph E. Yates.

Moved and seconded to lay on the table. Carried.

Moved to adjourn according to previous resolution. Seconded. Carried. Song No. 216 was sung. Benediction by Bro. L. A. Gould.

Signed
Leon A. Gould,
General Church Secretary

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The Conference Dining Service

The Quorum of Twelve and the Bishopric concur in expressing their appreciation to Bro. and Sr. Chas. Derry, Sr. Ethel Holcomb, Sr. Maggie Skinner, and Sr. Margaret Wheaton for the efficient manner in which they cared for the dining department during the Conference. Dinner and supper were served daily during the entire session at 25c per plate. Visiting ministers were fed at no cost to them.

Bro. Walter Deleski was also given a vote of thanks for his willing service in the capacity of janitor of

the building during the conference session, and also for assistance rendered in the kitchen.

Very sincerely,
Leon A. Gould
Secretary.



The above is a picture of the interesting family of Brother and Sister Johanness Denniger of Germany, who transferred to the Church of Christ last month (April). These people became interested in the Church of Christ and wrote to Bro. McClain for more information. Bro. McClain was answering a letter to Apostle B. C. Flint at the same time he answered Bro. Denniger, and as we all do sometimes, he put one man's letter in the envelope addressed to the other man, and vice versa, so that Bro. Denniger got Bro. Flint's letter and Bro. Flint got Bro. Denniger's but it all turned out well. A correspondence was begun between the German brother and the missionary in Wales that culminated in the transfer of Bro. Denniger and his family.

Now, a friend of this family is requesting baptism into the Church of Christ and Bro. Flint, who is in charge of the British and European mission, with the bishops, will arrange for carrying out the recommendation of the Twelve that provision be made to take care of this and other similar requests.

WEDDING BELLS

Gunter--Wheaton

We take pleasure in announcing the recent marriage of Miss Mildred Gunter of Sagle, Idaho, to Brother Leroy Wheaton, eldest son of Apostle and Sister Clarence L. Wheaton. The marriage took place at Sagle, Idaho, in the Reorganized Church

chapel Easter Sunday, April 17, 1938. The ceremony was performed by the bride's father, Elder Vernon L. Gunter, who is the pastor of the Reorganized branch there. Neither Apostle Wheaton or his wife were able to be at the wedding as they were in Independence, Missouri, at the time. The church was beautifully decorated and a large gathering of relatives and friends filled the chapel to overflow capacity. The young couple will leave Idaho for Missouri about the middle of May and will locate in the vicinity of Independence. We bespeak for them a warm welcome here, and wish them every happiness in the new experience of life upon which they have entered.

McClain--Willis

The church on the Temple Lot was the scene of a pretty wedding Friday evening, April 29th, when Maurine, a daughter of our pastor, J. R. McClain, was married to Bro. Robert Willis, of the Reorganized Church.

Sister Angela Wheaton sang beautifully, "Ah Sweet Mystery of Life," after which a little girl carefully lighted two groups of candles back of the floral arch. Our young sister Margaret Long played the march as the wedding party came slowly up the aisles, the bride leaning upon her father's arm. At the altar the bride and groom were met by Elder J. E. Bozarth, who performed the ceremony.

There was a large attendance of relatives and friends, and all were invited to a reception that was given at the home of Bro. and Sr. McClain immediately after the ceremony.

The young couple will make their home in Independence for the present, and the Advocate sincerely wishes them happiness to the end of the way.

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THE NEW CHURCH SEAL

For several years the Quorum of Twelve have been considering the necessity of devising an official church seal to use in connection with official documents.

This year, a committee, consisting of Apostles A. M. Smith and C. L. Wheaton, was appointed to select a suitable design for such use. After careful consideration of the matter, this committee presented the design which appears with this article to the Twelve for their approval. It was unanimously approved, and ordered prepared for the use of the church secretary.

Hereafter, Appointments and official certificates and documents of the church will carry this seal as a means of identification from other so-called Churches of Christ, which have sprung up in recent years.

The custody of the seal will be in the hands of the secretary of the Council of Twelve, who is at present the secretary of the General Church as well.



EDITORIAL

Another conference, the ministers' part of it, has come and gone, and the membership will be anxiously waiting to know the news. We can not tell you that any especially forward looking move was taken. The minutes will read as other conference minutes have read year after year, and some may experience disappointment that in these momentous times, when signs all about us warn us of the close of the Gentile dispensation, that nothing more than usual was done. But we must not think that God is limited to conferences; that he can not speak or move only at those times.

We have a right to be looking to see the "Salvation of the Lord" dawning on the horizon, because according to the signs of the times it is due, and there is a great work ahead for the children of God. A good deal is being said in different quarters about the redemption of Zion, but we rarely hear anything about the great missionary work that has to be done in taking the fullness of the gospel to the Jews, for prophecy says that when Gentile times are fulfilled, the gospel must go to the Jews. We did not, of course, hear all the sermons that were preached at the two conferences this spring, but of those we did hear, while there were some splendid sermons, not one treated upon this particular subject, notwithstanding that the peculiar mission of the Restoration, as set forth by the angel who visited the boy seer of Palmyra, was to gather out Israel, beginning with Israel whose identity has been lost by mixture among the peoples composing the Gentile nations, and afterwards going to Israel who has preserved their identity -- the Jews.

But, some one may observe, what is the use; the heart of the Jew can not be reached until the gospel is taken to him in power, and that is exactly right. That is where our concern should come in. We should be earnestly thinking about the steps we have to take to get ready to do that work. Please understand that when we use the pronoun, "we," we refer to God's true children everywhere, be they found wherever they may; if they have accepted the advanced light of the Restoration, and their hearts are consecrated to the high purpose of carrying out the objectives of the Restoration, they are the "we" to whom we refer.

Going back to our thought that we should be thinking about the steps that we have to take, that God requires of us: "Cultivate christian character; be humble and prayerful," some one may answer. That is all true, but it is not all. There is a specific thing we have to do--while the other must not be left undone--a specific thing we have to do in order to receive the endowment that will enable the ministry to go to Israel in power. WE MUST BUILD THE TEMPLE. We must prepare this place, as God has commanded us, that his Son may come and set his church in order and, to use the Lord's own words, "that I may pour out my spirit upon all flesh." (D. & C. 92:1)

After the gospel has been preached to the Gentiles "and then behold and lo, they shall turn unto the

Jews; and then cometh the day when the arm of the Lord shall be revealed in power in convincing the nations, the heathen nations, the house of Joseph, of the gospel of their salvation." The Lamanites, as well as the Jews, are referred to in the promise, for they, too, are of the house of Israel, descended from Joseph through his son Manasseh. Had we space, the Book of Mormon is replete with prophecy along this same line.

Think how vast this work is going to be. Different authorities tell us that the population of Mexico, Central and South America is over eighty per cent Lamanite and Lamanite admixture, or Indian, as is the popular term. They speak Spanish and different Indian dialects. Brother Floyd, who was born and reared in Palestine, says a speaker can get no audience there unless he speaks Hebrew. And yet we are drifting along, all of "we," in the Church of Christ and everywhere else, and saying nothing about all this to our young men who should be encouraged, those who have a desire to "cast in his sickle and reap" when the time comes, to be preparing themselves for service in foreign lands by studying the languages that will be needed most. We are well aware that God has provided to help his servants who will be chosen to go to the different nations, but we also learn from sacred history that God chooses those who have done what they could to prepare themselves. Sometimes they have done so unconsciously. Their lives have been cast in places and under circumstances to give them just the training that they needed for the work the Lord called them to do, as in the case of Moses and Paul, for instance. We may be sure that when we have done all we can there is plenty of room left for the Lord.

"For it shall come to pass in that day that every man shall hear the fullness of the gospel in his own tongue, and in his own language, through those who are ordained unto this power, by the administration of the Comforter, shed forth upon them" -- for what? "FOR THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST." The ministers who go to the Jews and the Lamanites will be able to bear personal witness that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. (See Sec. 87: 3,4, D. & C.)

That a place might be made ready where Christ might come and meet his people and instruct his ministry, God commanded that a house should be built "wherewith I design to prepare mine apostles." etc. (Sec. 92:1) Note that word, **wherewith**. That ought to be a sufficient answer for those who think we do not have to have a temple in order to receive the endowment. The Lord places so much importance upon this house that you will find in the same reference he calls it the "great commandment in all things." How effective would the ministry of the early disciples have been if they had not received that endowment on the Day of Pentecost at Jerusalem? The whole history of the world would have been changed. How thankful we can be that those were humble, obedient men, did not say, "I don't see why we should have to 'tarry at Jerusalem; why can

Continued to Page 84

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THE WORD OF THE SPIRIT

Given in one of the morning prayer meetings at the late general Ministers' Conference.

Hearken, O My people to the words of your Lord: Thus saith your Lord and Master, by the voice of My Spirit. In Mine own way I speak unto you today. I am He who gave My life for the salvation of souls. Yea, today My call is to My people, that they may see and learn and know that the highest requirements which I your Lord and Master require of you, is personal righteousness in My sight, saith the Lord. Verily, yea, today, I stand at the door and knock. If any man will hear My voice, yea, even today, I will come in and sup with him, and he with Me, and through that spiritual sustenance, ye My people shall be able to accomplish My work; and I say to you today that it can not be achieved in any other manner. Thus saith the Lord.

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EDITORIAL

Continued from page 83

not that endowment be given us wherever we are?" The Restoration work today is hung up until we receive power like they had of old, and God has just as specifically designated the exact place as he did back there, and because so much depends upon it, he calls the commandment to prepare a house the "great commandment in all things." It spells the difference between having the "love of the Father" with us, or being left to "walk in darkness." (92:3)

We can not take some easy way that the temple in Kirtland will do for the purpose. We have been reminded that persons have received manifestations to that effect. Yes, we know it, but we remember the rule is, "To the law and to the testimony." The record says the Lord designs to do the things we have read in a house that shall be built in the place for the New Jerusalem, which is in the state of Missouri, and not in Ohio. (Sec. 83:1, 2.)

Some will tell us that the endowment we talk about has been given; that it was given in Kirtland, but no such results as we have cited ever followed whatever experiences were had in the temple there. They are still future, and are promised only when the temple is builded on Mount Zion on the spot "dedicated by

the hand of Joseph Smith Jr. and others." (Sec. 83:1)

Let us not think we have to wait until conference. In reality that is not the place to make our preparation. We but register there the degree of spiritual progress we have made before coming. The place to make our preparation is in our own homes, at our work seven days a week. If we feel stirred, if we feel anxious to be stepping up, let us resolve to make the year before us the best by loving one another, cleansing our minds and hearts of evil surmising, thinking of constructive things instead of things to make needless controversy and divert attention from the main things; doing more reading and study of God's word and spending more time in prayer. The times demand it of us if we would qualify, and surely God will not, he can not, wait on us much longer. If we do not rise to the needs of the hour we will have to give place to others who will, and this applies from the top to the bottom, and from the bottom to the very top.

We were made to feel at conference that God was mercifully mindful of us. We felt moments of lightness and cheer and hope, of peace and gladness and encouragement. The good Spirit came near in the prayer meetings, and we were blessed in some of the preaching service. There were some splendid sermons and the last Sunday morning--whether others felt as we did or not we can not say, but for ourself we must testify that our soul was bathed in that sweet influence that comes from above. The sermon transcended the man who preached it. The closing prayer-- the brother who offered it does not make such prayers on all occasions. The music was so sweet, and carried the same influence. The whole service was harmoniously tuned each part to the other, and we could discern the Master influence that was active, though unseen to natural eyes. After the service we chose to retire to ourselves that we might not be drawn into light conversation after the blessed experiences of that hour.

So, dear readers, our message to you is that God lives, and that the time is ripe for his work to go forward. In scriptural parlance, let us "gird up our loins," fix our eye upon the "mark of our high calling," "cast aside every weight," and let it be "Onward Christian soldier." Great things are ahead of us. Let us respond to the call and God will do his part.

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Wyandotte, Michigan, March 22, 1938.
Dear Advocate: The saints in Wyandotte enjoyed a visit recently from our Brother Arthur Smith and our Michigan missionary, Brother Welsh. The saints were all very cordial to the brethren when they opened their homes to them. The first Sunday every one brought their supper to the church, and the following Sunday they had an all day series of meetings. Through the week Bro. Smith and Bro. Welsh show-slides in the various homes. The sacrament service was inspirational. Two were called to the priesthood: Ivan Inch, to the office of priest, and Albert Fields to the office of deacon. The following Wednesday night they were ordained. Our pastor, Bro. Amos Surbrook, needed help in the ministry very much, and we were all encouraged to do more and better things. Come again soon, Bro. Smith and Bro. Welsh.

The Wyandotte saints.