

the Army Educational Services; the Rev. A. W. Blaxall and Dr. Alexander Kerr to consult with Captain H. J. Rousseau with respect to this matter.

604. YOUTH MOVEMENTS. The Secretary was instructed to consult with the Rev. D. Anderson of Zeerust, Transvaal, respecting the Con-
vener-ship of the Youth Movements Section. Resolved that efforts
be made to bring the following Societies into full co-operation
with this Section :
 The Student Christian Association, European Section.
 " " " " Bantu "
 " South African National Sunday School Association.
605. AFRICAN PRESS. The Revs. E. E. Mahabane and H. G. Mpitso were re-
quested to ensure that adequate reports of the Conference and its
proceedings shall be made in the vernacular press.
606. OFFICE EXPENSES. It was resolved that, in view of the great in-
crease in the volume of office work, the sum of £25. per month be
available for office expenses as required.
607. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. Resolved that the Executive meet in
Johannesburg in October of this year, the actual date to be left in
the hands of the President and the Secretary.

After the BENEDICTION the meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Chairman.

Secretary.

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THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Executive of the Christian Council held at Darragh Hall, Johannesburg, on the 12th October, 1942, at 9.30 a.m. -

DEVOTIONS WERE conducted by the Rev. A. J. Haile, M.A.

608. CONSTITUTION of MEETING.

Present: Revs. A. A. Wellington (President), A. J. Haile and F. Stakes (Vice-Presidents), Dr. J. Dexter Taylor (Hon. Treasurer), J. B. Webb, E. E. Mahabane, D. P. Anderson, P. E. Goldie, Dr. N. Macvicar; Revs. J. Reyneke, A. Cardross Grant, H. P. Junod, Miss M. Janisch, and Mr. F. B. Allen, M.P. (co-opted members); Revs. J. F. Hallendorff, E. G. Mitchell, Dr. J. Bruce Gardiner, W. Eveleigh, and R. Mkwazi (substitutes); with Rev. E. W. Grant, Hon. Secretary.

Apologies were noted from Revs. S. K. Swensson, Vernon E. Miller, Dr. R. H. W. Shepherd, Dr. A. J. Coan, Dr. Alexander Kerr, Dr. A. W. Wilkie.

New members were welcomed by the President.

609. MINUTES. The Minutes of the previous meeting, as circulated, were confirmed.

610. ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(a) "Christian Reconstruction." It was noted with gratification that the first issue of one thousand copies of this Report of the Fort Hare Conference had been completely sold out. Resolved that permission be sought from the Paper Controller to print a second edition of five hundred copies. The Rev. W. Eveleigh stated that the Conference Report had reached many countries through Geneva.

(b) Youth Movements Section. Noted with pleasure, that the Rev. D. P. Anderson, M.A. had agreed to become Convener of the Section on Youth Movements.

611. SECRETARY'S REPORT (attached) was presented.

(i) Institute of Race Relations. It was resolved that Senator the Hon. J. D. R. Jones be asked to become a member of the Executive of the Christian Council under the rule which allows for a number of co-opted members, and that the Hon. Secretary of the Council (Rev. E. W. Grant) be appointed to represent the Council on the Executive of the Institute; in accordance with the suggestion respecting reciprocal representation as between the two bodies.

(ii) Christian Council Branches. Discussion took place with respect to the desire expressed in several of the larger centres that such "branches" should be formed. It was felt that the formation of active groups of interested people should be encouraged. As the present Constitution made no provision for branches of the Council, it was agreed that the matter be further considered at a later stage in connection with proposed changes in the Constitution.

(iii) National Christian Council of China. Resolved that the Secretary seek to make contact with the N.C.C. of China, and that news from that field be inserted in the next issue of the "Christian Council Quarterly."

The Secretary's Report was adopted.

612. CONFERENCE CONTINUATION COMMITTEE. The Report of the Committee was received and adopted. It was seen to be necessary to keep in close touch with Regional Representatives, in order that the aims of the Council might be furthered in various centres.

613. POLITICAL EMERGENCY COMMITTEE. A report from the Convener, Advocate Douglas Buchanan, K.C., was presented. It was noted with gratification that action by the Committee had been effective in putting a stop to a gambling racket in Cape Town; and that an interview with the Prime Minister had been arranged to take place in the New Year. In the light of experience gained, it was resolved as follows :-

(a) That the term "Political" be dropped from the name of the Committee, as being liable to create misunderstanding among sections of the South African public; and that the Committee be known as the "Christian Council Emergency Committee":

(b) That those associated with the work of the Committee who are actively engaged in political work be connected with the Committee in an advisory capacity.

(c) That the names of the President and Secretary be added to the Committee, together with those of Professor J.F. Brock and Mr. A.J. Filmer.

(d) That the President and Secretary join the deputation to interview the Prime Minister in January.

(e) That the scope of the Committee's work be widened to permit of matters relating to social welfare being considered.

614. CHRISTIAN COUNCIL QUARTERLY. The first printed issue of the "Quarterly" was presented. It was stated that one thousand copies had been printed. The "Quarterly" would embody the Information Service so strongly desired as a result of the Fort Hare Conference. On the advice of the Rev. J. Reyneke it was agreed that an Afrikaans edition would not serve any useful purpose at this present time. Resolved to make it clear that Church magazines and the African vernacular press in particular should be at liberty to make use of any of the material published in this form.

Noted with approval that the "Quarterly" would appear (approximately) in January, April, July, and October of each year, for the present. The question of vernacular reports of the Council's activities was referred for sympathetic consideration to the Continuation Committee.

615. SOCIAL & ECONOMIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE. The action of the President and Secretary in arranging for the Rev. A.W. Blaxall to represent the Council at the recent Social Security Congress in Durban was warmly approved, and, Mr. Blaxall was thanked for his services in this connection.

Mr. Blaxall reported on the Congress, and asked that Dr. J.H. Reedman be requested to attend the present discussion.

Dr. J.H. Reedman, after being welcomed by the President, placed before the Executive in a valuable address his views respecting the report of the Social Security Congress. He stressed the following points:-

(a) It was imperative that a Security Code for South Africa should apply to all sections of the community. The exclusion of non-Europeans would be a fatal weakness.

(b) The Code as approved by the Congress confused social insurance with social welfare.

(c) The Code must not merely guarantee an income; it must assure security of employment. Insurance was not sufficient. The State must create conditions in which continuity of employment is possible for the largest number of people.

Dr. Neil Macvicar, in an analysis of certain proposals in the Report of the Congress, effectively exposed the differential treatment on grounds of colour and race which was a weakness of the Code.

Resolved:

1. That a Social & Economic Research Committee, centred in Johannesburg, be appointed, to consist of the following:- Rev. H.P. Junod (Chairman), Dr. J.H. Reedman, Dr. F.W. Fox, Mrs. Henderson; the Committee to have power to co-opt two other members, the following being suggested:- Miss Mackenzie (Child Welfare), Mr. David Murray, Mrs. Rheinallt Jones, Miss Dorothy Maud.

2. That Dr. Neil Macvicar represent the Council at a meeting convened by the Mayor of Johannesburg to consider matters connected with the movement to establish a Social Security Code.

616. STUDY GROUPS. The Executive noted with interest that the demand for study group material was maintained. It was agreed that the Council prepare such material for 1943, and that every effort be made to extend the study group movement throughout the country.

Among suggestions made were the following:-

(a) "The "Christian Council Quarterly" should be used as widely as possible to convey information,

(b) A series of addresses presented in a form suitable for Study group

work, by the Rev.C.Edgar Wilkinson on the subject "Christianity & Communism," would be welcomed by many groups.

(c) All pamphlets of this nature, if issued, should bear the name of the author, who would be responsible for the views expressed therein.

(d) A series of pamphlets of a purely informative nature should be issued dealing with the great matters of faith and service with which the Council is concerned.

(e) The need felt by African people for guidance respecting the Christian attitude to Communism, National Socialism, Fascism, etc. should be borne in mind.

(f) Information should be made available respecting the publications of the Student Christian Movement Press and others dealing with such matters as "The Christian Church and World Order", "Social Justice and Economic Restriction", etc.

(g) Alternative schemes of study should be made available in order to give power of choice to Study Groups.

Resolved: That the discussion be noted, and the Continuation Committee be asked to make definite proposals to the Executive at its next meeting.

617. CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL. The results of the work of the two sections of the Committee were presented by the Rev.A.Cardross Grant, and the recommendations examined. Certain amendments were made and it was resolved:

That a draft of the suggested amendments be presented to the Executive at its January meeting for recommendation to the next meeting of the Council.

In connection with this it was noted that the Northern Grand Temple of the Independent Order of True Templars, and the Society of Friends, are now added to the list of affiliated bodies.

618. TREASURER'S REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENT. The Treasurer's Report (attached) was received. It was resolved that in view of the rapidly growing work of the Council, an effort must be made to increase its financial resources.

Resolved:

(a) That the Northern Committee appoint a small Finance Committee to plan and carry out a scheme for building up a list of subscribers to Council Funds;

(b) That the proposed appeal on behalf of Orphaned Missions be included in the scheme.

(c) That the Committee seek the co-operation of interested people in other centres, e.g. the Archbishop of Cape Town and Mr.A.J.Filmer in Cape Town.

(d) That the sum of £25. per month be forwarded to the Secretary for Office expenses, the Secretary to open an account.

(e) That the amount standing to the credit of the Christian Reconstruction Funds be transferred to the general account.

The Treasurer's Report and Statement were adopted, and Dr.Dexter Taylow was heartily thanked for his services.

619. COUNCIL MEETING in 1943. Consideration of this matter was postponed until the January meeting of the Executive.

620. GOODWILL SUNDAY. A letter concerning Goodwill Sunday, from the Secretary of the Society of Jews & Christians, was read. The Executive, whilst in complete agreement with the aims of the movement, felt unable to undertake any direct responsibility for the organisation. A Committee consisting of Revs. Dr.J.Bruce Gardiner, A.Cardross Grant, and Dr.Dexter Taylor, was appointed to consider the question and decide what action could be taken. The Secretary was instructed to reply in these terms to the letter which had been received.

621. REPORTS OF SECTIONAL CONVENERS.

(i) Evangelism. Dr.Dexter Taylor reported the issue of a circular relating to World-wide Communion Sunday, together with a questionnaire.

(ii) Education. Reports were received as follows:-

(a) From Dr.Alexander Kerr, relating to the proposed

Divinity School to be connected with a University; and to the need for introducing definite Christian instruction into the curricula of Secondary Schools, teacher training courses and degree courses.

(b) From Rev.P.E.Goldie on the aims and activities of the Christian Education Movement.

The value of these Reports was fully recognised by the Executive.

(iii). Medical Work. Dr.Macvicar reported on the work of the National Health Services Commission. It was noted with approval that Dr.Macvicar would prepare for presentation to the Commission, in consultation with the President and Secretary, a document presenting the case for Mission Hospitals.

Dr.Macvicar presented a valuable memorandum on the Registration of Mission Hospitals as Nursing Homes, setting forth various difficulties which had been created by such registration. It was resolved that the memorandum be forwarded by the writer to the Native Trust through the Secretary for Native Affairs, as representing the views of the Christian Council.

The Executive conveyed its sincere thanks to Dr.Macvicar for his valuable work in this connection.

(iv) Social Work. see under Minute No.615.

(v) Literature. The report of the Convener, Rev.Dr.R.H.W.Shepherd, was presented. It was noted with gratification that action was being taken to provide literature and libraries for camps of the Native Military Corps in the Union; and that efforts would now be concentrated on the provision of literature for Native Troops in Egypt.

A letter from the "Books for Troops Committee" was read, indicating that a more representative organisation was contemplated, and that the new Association would be glad to have the co-operation of the Christian Council. It was resolved that Dr.Shepherd, or his nominee, should represent the Council at a meeting of the Association on 5th November, in Johannesburg.

(vi) Youth Movements. Rev.D.P.Anderson, the newly appointed Convener, outlined his plans, and suggested :

(a) That his publication for young people, "New Leadership", be adopted by the Christian Council as its organ for Youth.

(b) That the Council assist in financing the publication.

(c) That the edition be increased to one thousand.

The Executive resolved accordingly, and voted the sum of £5. per quarterly issue for the present. The Secretary was asked to obtain for "New Leadership" an article from an African contributor.

622. THANKS. The President thanked all who had made the meeting of the Executive so successful. It was resolved that thanks be conveyed to the Diocesan authorities for the use of Darragh Hall.

After PRAYER :

The meeting adjourned at 6.45 p.m.

Chairman.

Hon. Secretary.

93 29 JAN 1943 M

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Executive of the Christian Council held at the Metropolitan Hall, Cape Town, on the 11th and 12th January, 1943, at 9.30 a.m. each day.

MONDAY, 11th January.

Devotions were conducted by the Rev. W.N.H. Tarrant, M.A.

623. CONSTITUTION OF MEETING.

Present:- Revs. A.A. Wellington (President), Dr. J. Dexter Taylor, Dr. A. Wilkie, Dr. J.R. Coan, E.E. Mahabane, and Dr. R.H.W. Shepherd, Mrs. L.S. Creed; His Grace the Archbishop of Cape Town, Revs. W. Eveleigh, J. Reyneke, H.P. Junod, and the Rt. Rev. Bishop Lavis (co-opted members.); Revs. W.N.H. Tarrant, B.H.M. Brown, E. Lynn Cragg, and S. Webster, Mr. J.D. Rheinallt Jones (proxies); Rev. E.W. Grant (Hon. Secretary).

Apologies were noted from Rev. A.J. Haile (Vice-President), Revs. J.B. Webb, K.H. Swensson, Vernon E. Miller, P.E. Goldie, A.W. Blaxall, D.P. Anderson; Dr. A. Kerr, and Dr. Neil Macvicar.

624. MINUTES. The Minutes of the previous meeting as circulated were confirmed after minor amendment.

625. ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

(a) "Christian Reconstruction". Reported that a second edition of 500 had been printed, and that more than 1300 copies had now been disposed of. Noted with gratification.

(b) National Christian Council of China. Reported that the Secretary had written to the International Missionary Council to secure the present address of the Secretary of the N.C.C. of China.

(c) Institute of Race Relations. Reported that the Constitution of the Institute did not at present permit of reciprocal representation. The Secretary of the Christian Council had however, been elected to the Council of the Institute in another capacity, and it was hoped to have the help of Mr. Rheinallt Jones on this Executive. Noted with gratification.

(d) Goodwill Sunday. Minutes of the Sub-Committee were reported and received with pleasure. Resolved that the Sub-Committee communicate with the Goodwill Sunday Council expressing the Executive's approval of the proposals made, and its desire to further the cause which the Goodwill Council has at heart; also that a suitable note be inserted in the next issue of the "Christian Council Quarterly".

626. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Secretary's Report, dealing largely with correspondence, was received and adopted.

(a) I.M.C. Resolved that a cablegram of greetings be sent to the new Secretary in America of the I.M.C., the Rev. Dr. J.W. Decker.

The Executive noted with pleasure the desire expressed by the I.M.C. in a letter from Dr. Wijnshuis, to assist in the production of vernacular literature.

(b) Secretary's travelling. After discussion on the urgent need of visitation of important centres by the Secretary, it was unanimously resolved to request the President and Secretary of the Council to interview the Minister of Railways and Harbours and to ask that, if possible, special consideration should be given to the Secretary in connection with his necessary railway journeys.

(c) Interned Missionaries. Reported that the Secretary is in touch with several interned German missionaries in the Andalusia Internment Camp. The missionaries had a library and a study group, and books had been supplied. Resolved that further help be given and that if possible a complete set of the Reports of the Tambaram Conference be donated to the library.

627. CONTINUATION COMMITTEE.

Reported that few formal meetings of the Committee had been held but that there had been frequent consultation. Recommendations would be forthcoming with respect to Study Group material etc.

628. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE.

The Secretary reported correspondence with the Convener, Advocate Douglas Buchanan, respecting Minute No.613 of the October meeting of the Executive.

Advocate Buchanan explained his view of what the Committee could accomplish in the way of definite action.

It was agreed:

(a) That the Committee consult whenever possible with the President and Secretary before action is taken.

(b) That the Executive has complete confidence in the Committee so far as urgent action in matters affecting legislation is concerned.

(c) That the Conveners of Sections be requested to advise the Emergency Committee with respect to any legislative action which may be thought desirable.

629. DEPUTATION TO PRIME MINISTER.

Reported that members of the Emergency Committee, together with the President and Secretary of the Council, would wait upon the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister, Field-Marshal J.C. Smuts, on the 13th January, to place before him the principles of the findings of the Fort Hare Conference, and to press for several urgent reforms. Noted with satisfaction.

630. SOCIAL and ECONOMIC RESEARCH COMMITTEE.

The Minutes of the Committee's first meeting were presented by the Secretary who intimated that a Statement of Principles drawn up by the Committee, and an article on "Social Security" by Dr. J.H. Reedman, would appear in the January issue of the "Christian Council Quarterly". Noted with gratification.

631. STUDY GROUP ORGANISATION FOR 1943.

Several MSS. were laid before the Executive for consideration. After full discussion, the matter was referred, with power to act, to the Continuation Committee, with the following suggestions:

1. That study group questions be prepared on books etc. already available.
2. That the Lovedale Press and others be asked to consider the publication of suitable material.
3. That material be published by the Council itself.
4. That a series of pamphlets be prepared, summing up the recommendations of recent South African Conferences.

Resolved: That if possible priority be given to suggestion 1.

632. "CHRISTIAN COUNCIL QUARTERLY".

The Secretary intimated the character of the material in hand for the January issue of the "Quarterly", and stated that the issue was being held over to admit of some report of the Executive meeting and of the deputation to the Prime Minister.

Reported that the sum of £50. per year for two years had been donated by the United Society for Christian Literature to help in the publication of the "Quarterly". The Secretary was instructed to convey to the Society the warm thanks of the Executive.

633. REPORTS OF SECTIONAL CONVENERS.

(a) Evangelism. The report of the Convener (Rev. Dr. J. Dexter Taylor) dealt with world-wide Communion Sunday, Bible circulation, Church Unity, Books of Devotion, and World Missions.

Italian Prisoners of War. Rev. H.F. Junod reported that such prisoners were now being cared for by their own Chaplains.

Bibles in the several vernaculars. Resolved to request the British & Foreign Bible Society to authorise the printing of South African vernacular Bibles within the Union, and to ask that in the undertaking of such work, preference be given to Mission presses.

(b) Women's Work. The report of the Convener (Mrs. L.S. Creed) dealt with Temperance, Health, Instruction respecting Marriage, and the activities of the Cape Town Women's Committee.

Temperance. The Emergency Committee was asked to watch the matters raised in the report, with a view to taking any necessary action.

Affiliation of the Council with other organisations. Resolved that the general principle involved be discussed at a later stage (see Minute No.634).

Literature respecting the Christian Idea of Marriage. Resolved that enquiries be made respecting such literature as is now available, and that the matter be considered by the Executive at its next meeting.

(c) Education. In the absence of the Convener (Dr.Alexander Kerr) the Secretary reported that the Christian Council had been represented at an informal meeting called by the Master of Rhodes University College, Grahamstown, to consider plans for the endowment of a Chair of Theology at Rhodes College, intended to provide a joint scheme of theological training of which four of the Churches had declared themselves in favour; as well as to introduce divinity subjects into the University Arts Course. The Executive confirmed the appointment of the Rev.M.Carrick and the Secretary to this Committee, which would prepare a scheme for consideration by the co-operating Churches.

Financing of Education. Resolved: The Executive expresses itself in favour of the principle of free compulsory education for all races in South Africa, and of the financing of such education out of general revenue on a per caput basis and along such lines as shall permit of the progressive achievement of this end. The Executive regards these steps as of the utmost urgency and importance, and resolves to share in any representations made to the Government with the purpose of bringing them about.

Work among University students. Resolved: That the Council do all in its power to bring to the notice of the Churches the vital importance of Christian work among University students.

(d) Medical Work. In the absence of the Convener, (Dr.Neil Macvicar) the Secretary outlined the steps that had been taken to prepare evidence on Medical Missions for presentation to the National Health Services Commission. In view of the character of some of the evidence already received by the Commission, the matter had become one of the utmost importance. It was recommended that a draft memorandum, prepared by Drs.Macvicar and Aitken together with Mr. and Mrs. Rheinallt Jones, be considered by the Executive, referred for consideration to churches and missions throughout the country, re-drafted in the light of suggestions thus forthcoming, and submitted in final form to the Commission in the Transvaal at a date to be fixed probably in May.

The Executive resolved that this procedure be followed.

Mr.Rheinallt Jones then presented and explained the draft memorandum.

The Executive received and warmly approved the memorandum for submission to the various churches and missions as the suggested basis of the Council's evidence before the National Health Services Commission. It was resolved that both affiliated and non-affiliated churches and missions be consulted, and asked to give to the Council a mandate to speak on their behalf in this matter.

The following were suggested as members of a deputation to meet the Commission: The President and the Secretary of the Council, Drs.Macvicar, Aitken, Bennett, Drew, Cooper and Rosset, with power to co-opt.

(e) Social Work. It was noted that report had been received under Minute No.630; and that the Social and Economic Research Committee virtually replaced the Social Work Section.

The Meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 12th January. The meeting resumed at 9.30 a.m.

(f) Literature. The Convener (Rev.Dr.R.H.W.Shepherd) reported that most of the grant of £240. from the Department of Native Affairs had been expended in the provision of libraries for African troops in camps within the Union; and that the receipt of considerable consignments of Christian literature sent to African troops in the Middle East had been acknowledged by the Principal Chaplain.

Resolved:

1. That as soon as the position respecting African prisoners

of war in Italy can be ascertained from the High Commissioner (in the case of Protectorate troops) and from the Department of Native Affairs (in the case of Union troops) an attempt be made to supply such prisoners with vernacular literature; that funds for such a purpose be sought from the High Commissioner and the Department of Native Affairs.

2. To ask the "Books for Troops Committee" (Johannesburg) and the S.A. Red Cross to assist financially in the work of this Council in supplying books for African troops in the Middle East.

3. To report to the Secretary for Native Affairs on the establishment of libraries in the camps for African troops in the Union, and to seek for further financial aid to extend this work.

4. To continue to appeal to the public for funds for the supply of vernacular Christian literature to the troops in the Middle East.

g. Youth Movements. The report forwarded by the Convener (Rev. D.P. Anderson) dealt with the development in the circulation of the magazine "New Leadership"; and with contacts with the Secretary of the Young People's Department of the Methodist Church, the South African National Sunday School Association, and the British Council of Churches. The report was received with gratification.

Resolved: That in order to render the scope of the work of this section fully inter-racial, the following be asked to co-operate with the present Convener as Joint Conveners:

For African work: Mr. J. Nhlapo, B.A. of Wilberforce Institute, Transvaal.

For Coloured work: A nominee of the Continuation Committee chosen after consultation with missionaries and others engaged in Coloured work.

It was understood that such appointments would carry with them a seat on the Executive. The suggestion was noted that similar appointments be made in the case of other sections.

624. LOCAL GROUPS - AFFILIATION WITH COUNCIL.

Reported that a "branch" of the Council had been formed in one centre; and that it was probable that other bodies of people desirous of serving the purposes of the Council would, as its work developed, seek some form of affiliation with the parent body.

Resolved: to indicate in such cases that the Executive warmly welcomes these evidences of a desire to extend the Council's influence and activities. The Executive considers that the term "auxiliary" is preferable to the term "branch". It regards such bodies as autonomous, though they derive help and inspiration from the central body. They should not act in the name of the Council without previous consultation. The Constitution of the Council does not permit of more than this at present. Meanwhile the Executive rejoices in the evident desire to co-operate which is indicated in the formation of such auxiliaries, which it will encourage by all the means in its power, including visits when possible by the Secretary of the Council.

636. TREASURER'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The report and statement (attached) presented by the Hon. Treasurer (Rev. Dr. J. Dexter Taylor) were received and adopted with gratitude to Dr. Taylor.

Resolved:

(a) That authority to open a Post Office Savings Bank account be given to the Treasurer; the President and Secretary to issue any necessary documents in connection therewith.

(b) That the persons at present authorised to sign cheques be also authorised to sign withdrawal notices etc. in connection with the Savings Bank account.

(c) That the appointment of a Finance Committee in Johannesburg as outlined by the Treasurer be confirmed.

(d) That a financial appeal be issued in the form of the draft appeal as now amended and approved by the Executive.

(e) That the budget for 1943, amounting to £975. be approved, subject to minor amendment by the Finance Committee; and that such

budget be embodied in the appeal.

The Secretary presented an account of office expenditure, revealing a credit balance of £40.4.0.

Resolved: That a typewriter be purchased immediately for office use, and that other necessary equipment be obtained during the year as funds shall become available.

637. COUNCIL AND EXECUTIVE MEETINGS, 1943.

Resolved:

(1) That both the Executive and the Council shall meet in the Transvaal in May at such time and place as shall be determined by the officers when the date of the meeting with the National Health Services Commission shall have been decided.

(2) That the Arrangements Committee for the two meetings shall consist of the following : Revs. Dr. J. Dexter Taylor, A. Cardross Grant, A. W. Blaxall, F. Stakes, Dr. J. Bruce Gardiner, P. E. Goldie, E. E. Mahabane, and Dr. J. Coan.

(3) That Pretoria be considered as a possible venue.

(4) That the Council meeting be of a business character, possibly with a public meeting.

638. THANKS.

The Executive expressed its sincere thanks to :

(a) The authorities of the Summer School and Conference for tea arrangements.

(b) The Trustees of the Metropolitan Hall.

(c) The Rev. W. Eveleigh for the use of his office.

AFTER PRAYER:

The Meeting adjourned.

Chairman.

Honorary Secretary.

15 SEP 1943

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Meeting of Executive.

A Meeting of the Executive will be held at Johannesburg, in the Upper Wesley Hall, Kruis Street, (off Von Brandis Square), on Tuesday 5th October, 1943, at 9.30 a.m. Early intimation should be made if a member is unable to attend, in order that a proxy may be appointed.

Lunch will be served in the Lower Hall at a nominal charge.

A G E N D A.

1. CONSTITUTION OF MEETING.

Apologies.

Co-opted members.

Visitors.

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of meeting held 7th May, 1943.

3. DEATH OF DR. WILLIAM PATON.

4. ARISING FROM MINUTES

Min.641 d. Correspondence with B. & F.B.S. noted in report of Literature Section.

Min.641 f. The Secretary had a satisfactory interview with the Hon. Secretary of the Books for Troops Committee, and complete understanding was reached. Arranged that this Council should undertake the supplying of vernacular literature to non-European troops, and that the Books for Troops Committee would contribute to the Council's funds for that purpose. See report of Literature Section.

Min.644(a). Andalusia Internment Camp. Arrangements were made by the Secretary to visit the Internment Camp during the course of a journey in that part of the country, and early application for a permit was made. Delays ensued on the part of the Government Department concerned, and despite urgent appeals the permit, a limited one, did not arrive in time for the visit to be paid. The permit can be renewed if a further opportunity offers to visit the Camp.

Min.644(b). Liaison Committee. The suggestion of this Council has been considered by the Executive of the Federal Council of the Dutch Reformed Church, and has been referred by that body to the Federal Council itself. The Council will meet in March next year. The letter from the Secretary foreshadows sympathetic consideration of the proposal.

Min.644(c). Joint Theological Training at Fort Hare. A statement descriptive of the scheme in operation has been circulated to all affiliated Churches and Missions.

Min.644(d). International Round Table Conference. Report has been received of the holding of the Conference at Princeton, U.S.A., in July. It was not possible for any African representatives to be present.

5. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

6. REPORTS OF SECTIONAL CONVENER.

- (a) Evangelism.
- (b) Education.
- (c) Medical Work.
- (d) Women's Work.
- (e) Literature.
- (f) Social & Economic Research & Welfare.
- (g) Youth Movements.

7. CONFERENCE ON EVANGELISM, 1944.

- (a) Programme.
- (b) Date.
- (c) Place.
- (d) Committee.
- (e) "Christian South Africa" Movement.

8. AFRICAN REGIONAL COUNCILS, AND "AFRICA CONFERENCE."

Correspondence with I.M.C., Institute of Race Relations, and others.

9. EMERGENCY COMMITTEES.

- (a) Cape Town.
- (b) Johannesburg.

10. APPROACH TO PRIME MINISTER.

11. REQUESTS FOR AFFILIATION:

- (a) Bantu Methodist Church.
- (b) Pilgrim Holiness Church.

12. RELATIONS OF PROVINCIAL MISSIONARY COUNCILS AND CONFERENCES WITH THIS COUNCIL.

Transvaal Missionary Association.
Transkeian Missionary Conference.
Ciskei Missionary Council.
Natal Missionary Conference.

13. FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

- (a) Treasurer.
- (b) Office Account.

14. NEXT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE.

- (a) Date.
- (b) Place.
- (c) Proposal that Executive meet twice yearly.

15. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS.

Edward W Grant

Hon. Secretary.

LOVEDALE, C.P.
11th September, 1943.

THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

We have pleasure in announcing the following new publication in the Christian Council Study Series :

No.5. A Plea for Investigation of the Principles of Religious Education. By Sister Frances Mary, C.R. Price 6d.

Order from The Hon. Secretary, Christian Council, Lovedale, C.P.,
or The Lovedale Press.

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THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA.

LOVEDALE, C.P.
8th September, 1943.

Circular to Authorities of affiliated Churches and Missions
and members of Executive and Council.

Dear Sir/Madam,

The attached Minute of the Union Department of Native Affairs has been circulated by the Secretary for Native Affairs to all officers of his Department.

The Secretary for Native Affairs states that he will welcome the views of the Churches and Missions in regard to this matter.

In view of the fact that new legislation is proposed, the matter is one of very great importance.

We shall be glad to be advised, as soon as possible, of the views of yourself and of your Church or Mission, in order that we may convey to the Secretary for Native Affairs information concerning the feeling of the Churches with respect to this matter.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Secretary,
Christian Council of S.A.

This Minute is circulated by THE
CHRISTIAN COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA
by permission of the Secretary of
the Department of Native Affairs of
the Union of South Africa.

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Department of Native Affairs,
P.O. Box 384,
PRETORIA.

No.13/366

12th July, 1943.

IDENTICAL MINUTE.

Laws relating to Native Marriages and
Customary Unions.

The diversity which exists in the marriage laws applying to Natives in various Provinces and in what are regarded as the essentials of customary unions, is causing difficulties for the Natives and is being abused in certain respects. For example, Native men and women in urban areas frequently find it advantageous or convenient under the stress of urban conditions to co-habit temporarily and to represent to the authorities that their unions are native customary ones. These loose unions are having a most disintegrating and demoralizing effect on Native family life, particularly in urban areas.

The Department accordingly feels that the time has come to improve the position by legislation consolidating the law in regard to Christian and civil marriages and to customary unions.

Before setting out the principles to be embodied in the legislation, it is desirable to give a brief summary of the present position in order that officers may be in a position to explain to Natives the desirability for a change.

In the Cape Province and Orange Free State, Natives are subject to the ordinary marriage laws applicable to Europeans. This, the Department is well aware, is to the liking of most Natives, who desire nothing better than to be treated exactly like Europeans. But the ordinary marriage laws undoubtedly have weaknesses which cannot be regarded otherwise than as severe drawbacks when applied to Natives. One such drawback is the opportunity it provides to young people to evade the authority of their parents by having banns of marriage published in a Church or in a town where they know it will never come to the notice of their elders. Parents so deceived and particularly the parents of the girl complain bitterly that the law permits the younger generation to flout their authority.

In the second place it is undoubtedly true that many Native couples enter into Christian marriages without any understanding of their import and consequences. It is most desirable that these should be explained to them.

In the Province of Natal a Native exempted from the operation of Native law is treated as if he were a European, but the bulk of the Native population must comply with the special provisions of Law No.46 of 1887 before they can enter into Christian marriages. In the Transvaal, similarly, special provisions in regard to Native marriages are in operation. These are contained in Law No.3 of 1897. Both these laws contain a number of objectionable features and there has been a considerable amount of agitation for their repeal or amendment. Owing to the urgency of the matter, some amendments to the Natal law were in fact incorporated in the Native Administration (Amendment) Act, No.21 of 1943, but even so the position is far from satisfactory.

It is very desirable indeed that the marriage laws for Natives should be uniform throughout the Union and that the new law should avoid the evils in the existing laws alluded to above. The Department, therefore, feels that the time has arrived for it to proceed with the bill which was prepared before the war, and which had to be dropped, owing to the seriousness of the international situation, after some consultation with the Natives had taken place.

The following are briefly the main lines which the legislation will follow :-

1. The parties to a proposed marriage (i.e. not a customary union) will be required to appear before the Native Commissioner of their district to obtain a licence for their marriage. If they reside in different districts special arrangements will be made for each to appear before the Native Commissioner of his or her district.
2. The man, if he is a minor, must be accompanied by his father or guardian and the woman must always be so accompanied, except where she has been married previously.
3. The Native Commissioner will issue a marriage licence if he is satisfied that there is no valid objection to their marriage, that the bride voluntarily consents to the marriage, that parents or guardians, who are legally entitled to do so, have given their consent to the marriage and that after explanation the parties understand clearly the import and legal consequences of the marriage contract.
4. If a parent or guardian whose consent to a marriage is required is dead, or legally incapable of giving consent or if his whereabouts are unknown the Native Commissioner may, after enquiry, give such consent. Also if the parent or guardian is unreasonable in withholding his consent the Native Commissioner may overrule him. From the decision of the Native Commissioner an appeal will lie to the Chief Native Commissioner.
5. A fee of 2/6 will be payable in respect of a marriage licence.
6. Once a marriage licence has been issued, the parties will be at liberty to get married before a civil marriage officer or a minister of religion just as if they were Europeans. They may, if they like, in addition have the banns published in Church but this will not be essential.
7. Customary unions entered into after the commencement of the Act will only be legal and valid if registered in terms of the Act within three months after the ceremony. Registration will also be enforceable by criminal penalty.
8. To obviate any disputes and misunderstanding the ceremony will have to be attended by an official witness whose duty it will be to ensure that both the man and the woman consent to the union, that where necessary the parents or guardians have given their consent to the union, that all parties concerned are satisfied with the arrangements made for the payment of lobola and have agreed to the number to be paid, and that the woman knows the status she will occupy in the kraal, and that all the essentials of a customary union have been complied with.
9. When the parties appear before the Native Commissioner to register their union they will be accompanied by the official witness who will be in a position to confirm the information supplied.

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