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## INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESBYTERIES

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Presbyteries are required to appoint Corresponding Members to the following Committees: African Missions, Church Extension and Aid, Church and Nation, and "Leader."

## FORM OF BEQUEST TO THE CHURCH

*I bequeath the sum of* *Pounds Sterling*  
*free of Legacy Duty to the Presbyterian Church of South  
Africa, to be paid for the purposes of the said Church to  
the General Treasurer for the time being thereof, whose  
Receipt shall be a good discharge for the same.*

# PROCEEDINGS

## OF THE

### FIFTY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1953

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#### FIRST SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Wednesday, 16th September, 1953, at 3 p.m., the Ministers and Elders as Commissioners of the General Assembly appointed to meet this day, convened.

Public Worship was conducted by the Moderator, Rt. Rev. P. B. Hawkridge, Ph.D., who preached from the text "I am the root and off-spring of David, and the bright and morning star" (Rev. 22, 16). Thereafter the Moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

#### Roll of Commissioners

The Business Convener reported that the certificate forms of Commissioners were in order, and that the Roll of Assembly was as printed in the Papers, with the substitution of the names of Mr. H. Weir for that of Mr. H. E. Matthews under the King William's Town Presbytery, the addition of the name of Rev. J. L. Currie to the Natal Presbytery, the addition of the name of Mr. Moses Motingoe under the Orange River African Presbytery, and the substitution of the name of Mr. D. D. Cameron for Mr. R. Dalgleish under the Transvaal Presbytery.

The Clerk was called on to read the Roll.

The Roll was read, and as accounted, was sustained, apologies being noted.

#### CAPE TOWN PRESBYTERY:

- Rev. H. M. Agnew, M.A., F.S.A., Scot., 27 Glengariff Road, Three Anchor Bay.
- Rev. P. B. Hawkridge, Ph.D., 9 Belvedere Avenue, Oranjezicht, Cape Town.
- Rev. S. P. Lediga, L.Th., Presbyterian Manse, P.O. Langa.
- Rev. J. B. Mirrilees, M.A., B.D., Liddesdale, Pinelands, Cape.
- Rev. G. E. A. Pons, 13 Crassula Avenue, Devil's Peak, Cape Town.
- Rev. D. S. Robertson, M.A., B.D., The Manse, Stellenbosch.
- Rev. C. C. Stunden, 191 Voortrekker Road, Maitland.
- Rev. J. W. Summersgill, B.Th., The Manse, Central Square, Pinelands.
- Rev. J. Paterson Whyte, M.A., P.O. Box 823, Cape Town.
- \*Dr. H. M. G. Agnew, 27 Glengariff Road, Three Anchor Bay.
- Mr. J. Baker, Easedale, Northwalk, Pinelands.
- Rev. W. J. Dower, 5 Woodside Road, Tamboers Kloof, Cape Town.
- Mr. L. L. W. Hardwick, Vredenburg Circus, Rosebank, Cape Town.
- Mr. J. G. H. McKenzie, B.A., 8 Nassau Avenue, Pinelands.
- Mr. R. M. Thomson, 4 Stellenbosch Mansions, Stellenbosch.

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\*Not present at any Session of Assembly.

## KING WILLIAM'S TOWN PRESBYTERY:

- Rev. D. J. Darlow, B.A., The Manse, Alice.  
 Rev. J. E. Elder, M.A., The Manse, Brownlee Street, Stutterheim.  
 \*Rev. J. J. R. Jolobe, B.A., The Bible School, P.O. Lovedale.  
 Rev. A. McRobert, M.A., 20 St. James' Road, East London.  
 \*Rev. J. Rodger, B.D., Iona House, Fort Hare, Alice.  
 Mr. J. R. Allison, 12 Wellington Street, King William's Town.  
 Mr. A. L. Haiden, 5 Lancaster Road, Vincent, East London.  
 Mr. H. Weir, Children's Home, Queenstown.  
 Mr. F. W. Nelson, Tarkastad.  
 Mr. V. Oliphant, 33E Evaton Location, Tarkastad.  
 Mr. R. J. W. Paxton, B.Sc., P.O. Box 59, Queenstown.

## NATAL PRESBYTERY:

- Rev. F. O. Bennett, M.A., The Manse, Harding Street, Newcastle.  
 Rev. D. Couper, The Manse, Ladysmith, Natal.  
 Rev. J. L. Currie, B.A., Howick.  
 Rev. J. Dalziel, B.A., 525 Musgrave Road, Durban.  
 Rev. L. L. Dawson, B.A., Presbyterian Manse, Dundee.  
 Rev. E. S. Eadie, E.D., The Manse, Hope Street, Kokstad.  
 Rev. K. Edgar, M.A., 8 Douglas Road, Redhill, Durban.  
 Rev. D. McRae, B.Sc., 188 Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg.  
 Rev. D. Phillips, 30 Doble Road, Fynnlands, Durban.  
 Mr. H. Auld, Gray Street, Dundee.  
 \*Mr. E. Beardmore, Q.C., 55 Alexandra Road, Pietermaritzburg.  
 Mr. P. Fowlie, Richmond, Natal.  
 Mr. A. Michie, 6 Woodlands Road, Glenwood, Durban.  
 \*Mr. J. L. Murray, Sagana Flats, Marine Drive, Brighton Beach, Durban.  
 Mr. W. I. MacGregor, P.O. Amatikulu, Natal.  
 \*Mr. G. Nel, c/o 166 Landrost Street, Vryheid.  
 \*Mr. S. M. Qumba, 45 Sydney Road, Durban.  
 \*Mr. C. A. Woods, 117 Vause Road, Durban.

## ORANGE RIVER PRESBYTERY:

- Rev. W. G. McAlester, 50 Zastron Street, Bloemfontein.  
 Rev. E. S. Pons, M.A., P.O. Box 189, P.O. Eerstemyn, O.F.S.  
 Rev. G. M. Smith, 38 Milner Street, Kimberley.  
 Mr. T. G. Dey, 44 Lear Street, St. Helena, P.O. Eerstemyn.  
 Mr. J. Traill, 31 Symonds Street, Kroonstad.

## ORANGE RIVER (AFRICAN) PRESBYTERY:

- Rev. E. C. Lediga, B.A., P.O. Box 18, Bothaville.  
 Rev. A. R. S. Poho, P.O. Box 105, Heilbron.  
 Rev. C. A. Tshongwe, P.O. Box 20, Reitz.  
 Mr. D. Hatla, 164 Location, Bethlehem.  
 Mr. B. T. Ketse, Bantu United School, Frankfort.  
 Mr. Moses Motingoe, Kroonstad.

## PORT ELIZABETH PRESBYTERY:

- Rev. T. L. Clarke, 53 Heugh Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth.  
 Rev. G. B. Molefe, M.A., 100 Jolobe Street, New Brighton, Port Elizabeth.  
 Rev. H. H. Munro, M.A., 1 Alfred Terrace, Port Elizabeth.  
 Rev. J. McDowall, M.A., 22 Lawrence Street, Grahamstown.  
 \*Mr. A. A. Binning, Humewood Mansions, Port Elizabeth.  
 \*Mr. J. Mpongoshe, c/o Newell High School, New Brighton, Port Elizabeth.  
 Dr. J. Smeath Thomas, 1 Ross Street, Grahamstown.

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\*Not present at any Session of Assembly.

## RHODESIA PRESBYTERY:

- \*Rev. J. Kennedy Grant, D.D., P.O. Box 50, Salisbury.
- Rev. C. J. Hawton, 22 Chase Avenue, Umtali.
- Rev. E. H. Thomas, P.O. Box 53, Gwelo.
- Rev. J. Manod Williams, 54 Main Street, Bulawayo.
- Mr. R. Bain, c/o Lawson & Piggott, Main Street, Umtali.
- \*Mr. J. Cowan, 15 Grey Street, Bulawayo.
- Mr. J. Cowie, B.A., B.Sc., 69 Baines Avenue, Salisbury.
- Mr. T. Kanyowa, P.O. Box 50, Salisbury.

## TRANSVAAL PRESBYTERY:

- Rev. J. Anderson, 58 von Brandis Street, Krugersdorp.
- Rev. J. Nicol Binnie, B.A., 142 Highland Road, Kensington, Johannesburg.
- Rev. T. Copeland, M.A., 21 Third Avenue, Lambton, Germiston.
- Rev. W. Croll, 27 Smuts Avenue, Witbank.
- Rev. M. A. Hartslief, 51 Leeuwoort Street, Boksburg.
- Rev. Emlyn Jones, 33 Lurgan Road, Park View, Johannesburg.
- Rev. A. G. Leask, B.A., 82 Hastings Avenue, Brakpan.
- Rev. S. A. Lehari, 444 Proes Street, Pretoria.
- Rev. R. H. R. Liddell, M.C., M.A., 138 Tenth Avenue, Highlands North, Johannesburg.
- Rev. I. McDonald, M.A., 75 Royal Oak Street, Kensington, Johannesburg.
- Rev. E. Thethiwe, 205 Orlando, Johannesburg.
- Mr. D. K. Adams, "Taynuilt", Murray Street, Waverley, Johannesburg.
- Mr. C. J. Catto, 73 Bodenstein Street, Krugersdorp.
- Mr. D. D. Cameron, 37 Barclay Road, Dunnottar, Transvaal.
- Mr. E. L. Marais, 91 St. Fillans Avenue, Mayfair, Johannesburg.
- Mr. B. A. Maphutsi, 699 Top Location, Vereeniging.
- Mr. M. M. Mangena, 34 Eighth Street, Location, Benoni.
- \*Mr. W. S. McAdam, P.O. Box 1604, Pretoria.
- Mr. I. S. C. McDonald, 75 Royal Oak Street, Kensington, Johannesburg.
- Dr. A. Smith, P.O. State Mines, Brakpan.
- Mr. C. E. Tiley, 16a Kinross Street, Germiston.

## VISITING DELEGATES

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MISSION COUNCIL:

- Rev. R. M. Fraser, M.A., Gooldville Mission Station, Sibasa.
- \*Rev. D. W. M. Matheson, M.A., Gordon Memorial Mission, Pomeroy, Natal.

## BANTU PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH:

- Rev. R. M. Fraser, M.A., P/B 172 P.O. Sibasa, via Louis Trichardt.
- Rev. B. Molaba, 73 Tenth Avenue, Alexandra Township, Johannesburg.
- Elder Dick Kona, C Compound, Durban Deep, Roodepoort.

## CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA:

- Rev. Stephen Axford, 59 Muller Street, Yeoville, Johannesburg.
- Rev. W. Marks Rendall, 41 Princess Street, Mayfair, Johannesburg.
- Rev. D. A. Ntanzi, 1493 Motso Motso Street, Pimville, Johannesburg.

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\*Not present at any Session of Assembly.

### Installation of Moderator

The Moderator then asked Revs. P. G. Gordon and A. McRobert, ex-Moderators, to summon Rev. H. M. Agnew, M.A., F.S.A., Moderator Designate, who was received by the Assembly upstanding.

The Moderator in a brief address and by prayer inducted Rev. H. M. Agnew as Moderator, placed on his finger the Moderator's ring, and requested him to sign the Assembly Bible.

Mr. Agnew, taking the chair, thanked the Assembly for the honour conferred upon him.

### Loyal Addresses

The Moderator then called upon Rev. E. S. Pons to read the Loyal Addresses. The address to Her Majesty was read, the Assembly upstanding, and was adopted. Mr. Pons then read the address to His Excellency the Governor General of the Union of South Africa, which was adopted.

To The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.  
May it please Your Majesty,

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, met in General Assembly at Springs, humbly beg to assure Your Majesty of the devoted and affectionate loyalty which we and all the members of our Church entertain towards Your Majesty's Person and Throne.

The General Assembly rejoices that the Coronation of Your Majesty was marked by so profound a demonstration of the strength of the family spirit throughout the Commonwealth, and that the wonders of modern science made it possible for Your Majesty's subjects throughout the world to share so fully in the service of Consecration at Westminster Abbey, and thus show how securely Your Majesty reigns in their love and loyalty.

We would express our deep gratitude for the personal devotion of Your Majesty to the interests of religion and social well-being throughout the Commonwealth, and would pray that the influence of Your Majesty may promote piety and the spirit of unselfish service among all Your Majesty's people.

The General Assembly will continue to pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest on Your Majesty, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Charles, Princess Anne and on all the members of the Royal House.

May it please Your Majesty,

We are, Your Majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, convened in General Assembly.

Signed in the name of the General Assembly.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

To His Excellency, Dr. E. G. Jansen,  
Governor General of the Union of South Africa.  
May it please Your Excellency,

We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa convened in General Assembly at Springs, desire to express to Your Excellency our loyalty and esteem.

We are grateful that in this age which is so characterised by religious indifference, materialism and tense human relations we have in Your Excellency and Mrs. Jansen leaders of Christian conviction who seek the guidance of Almighty God and who give to the people an example of Christian faith and service.

We would express our high appreciation for Your Excellency's active concern for the welfare of all sections of our South African community and for the support and encouragement given to every just cause and to all who labour for the extension of the Kingdom of God.

We desire to assure Your Excellency of our continued prayers for God's blessing upon all those who undertake the responsibilities of government in the Union of South Africa, that through their endeavours the cause of righteousness and justice may be upheld and the bonds of understanding and goodwill may be strengthened.

We pray that Your Excellency and Mrs. Jansen may be granted wisdom and strength from above in all the duties and responsibilities of your high office.

May it please Your Excellency.

We are the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa in General Assembly convened.

Signed in the name of the General Assembly,

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator*.

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk*.

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

### Changes in the Ministry

On resumption the Moderator called for the report on the Changes in the Ministry. The Convener of the Business Committee moved, and it was seconded and agreed, that the list of the Changes in the Ministry be tabled, a copy to be posted in the vestibule of the Church.

#### CAPE TOWN PRESBYTERY

Rev. E. G. Mitchell, having accepted a call from George, was released from the pastoral charge of Somerset West on 30th September, 1952.

Rev. Robert Whyte, M.A., *Emeritus*, died on 4th November, 1952.

Rev. J. M. Gossip, having resigned from his charge at St. Andrew's-St. Paul's, East London, commenced a period of supply at Somerset West as from 15th November, 1952.

Rev. G. E. A. Pons, Minister without charge, having accepted a call from Woodstock, was inducted to the pastoral charge of this congregation on 17th December, 1952.

On 1st May, 1953, the Rev. J. S. Lister, M.A., resigned his charge of the congregation at Wellington, and retired from the active work for the Ministry.

The Rev. J. B. Mirrilees, M.A., B.D., of Rothesay, Scotland, having accepted a call to Mowbray, was inducted to the pastoral charge of this congregation on 15th May, 1953.

Rev. A. H. McGill, having been released from Adelaide-Somerset East, was inducted to the pastoral charge of Wellington on 29th July, 1953.

#### KING WILLIAM'S TOWN PRESBYTERY

The Rev. J. M. Gossip, B.D., resigned his charge of the St. Andrew's-St. Paul's congregations, and was released as from mid-November, 1952.

On the 31st December, 1952, the Rev. D. W. Semple, M.A., completed his period of supply at St. Andrew's, Umtata, and on the 1st January, 1953, commenced a period of supply at St. Andrew's-St. Paul's, East London.

On the 14th January, 1953, the Rev. J. Keith Craig, released from his charge of St. Columba's, Pretoria, was inducted to the pastoral charge of St. Andrew's, King William's Town.

On the 1st April, 1953, the Rev. D. J. Darlow, B.A., was inducted to the pastoral charge of the congregations of Alice-Fort Beaufort.

The Rev. B. Stumbles, B.A., having accepted a call from St. Andrew's, Kroonstad, was released from his charge of Tarkastad-Wheatlands congregations as from 31st May, 1953.

The Rev. A. Gardiner resigned his charge of St. Columba's, Queenstown, prior to his return to Ireland, and his resignation was accepted as from 31st May, 1953.

#### NATAL PRESBYTERY

Rev. L. L. Dawson, Assistant Minister at Pietermaritzburg, received a call to Dundee, and was inducted to the pastoral charge of this congregation on 1st December, 1952.

The Rev. F. O. Bennett, M.A., having received a call to Newcastle-Dannhauser, was inducted to the pastoral charge of these congregations on 27th June, 1953.

#### ORANGE RIVER PRESBYTERY

Rev. W. G. McAlester, formerly of St. Luke's, Vereeniging, was inducted to the pastoral charge of St. John's, Bloemfontein, on 10th September, 1952.

Rev. B. Stumbles, B.A., formerly of Tarkastad, was inducted to the pastoral charge of St. Andrew's, Kroonstad, on 17th June, 1953.

#### PORT ELIZABETH PRESBYTERY

On 15th October, 1952, the Rev. E. G. Mitchell, B.Sc., M.Ph., released from his charge at Somerset West, was inducted to the pastoral charge of George.

On 18th June, 1953, the Rev. A. H. McGill, having accepted a call from Wellington, was released from the pastoral charges of Adelaide and Somerset East as from that date.

On 30th June, 1953, the Rev. S. Workman, B.A., B.D., Minister *Emeritus*, resigned his position as Stated Supply at Glenthorn and Stanley.

On 28th July, 1953, the Rev. W. D. Campbell, B.A., having accepted a call from Vereeniging, was released from his charge at St. Columba's, Port Elizabeth, as from 6th September, 1953.

#### RHODESIA PRESBYTERY

Rev. T. Aikman, M.A., appointed as Assistant Minister at Salisbury on 20th September, 1951, resigned on 6th May, 1953, to return to Scotland.

Rev. J. Manod Williams, having accepted a call from Bulawayo, was released from his appointment as Superintendent of Ntabasinduna Mission on 6th November, 1952, and inducted to the pastoral charge of Bulawayo on 26th November, 1952.

The Rev. R. B. Donaldson, Licentiate of the Church of Scotland, was appointed Assistant Minister at Salisbury on 26th August, 1953.

#### TRANSVAAL PRESBYTERY

Rev. J. Keith Craig, having accepted a call from St. Andrew's, King William's Town, was released from his charge at St. Columba's, Pretoria, on 28th December, 1952.

Rev. R. J. Jones, having accepted a call from Roodepoort-Florida-Maraisburg, was released from his charge at Mayfair on 28th December, and inducted to the pastoral charge of Roodepoort-Florida-Maraisburg on 30th December, 1952.

On 17th February, 1953, the Transvaal Presbytery licensed Mr. James Nicol Binnie as a Preacher of the Gospel and a probationer for the Ministry.

On 17th February, 1953, the Transvaal Presbytery licensed Mr. Salthiel Amos Lehari as a Preacher of the Gospel and a probationer for the Ministry.

On 17th February, 1953, the Transvaal Presbytery licensed Mr. Stephen Shepstone Mfusi as a Preacher of the Gospel and a probationer for the Ministry.

On 25th April, 1953, Mr. S. S. Mfusi, Licentiate, was ordained and inducted to the pastoral charge of the Far North Mission.

On 25th April, 1953, Mr. S. A. Lehari, Licentiate, was ordained and inducted to the pastoral charge of Pretoria Mission.

On 5th May, Mr. J. Nicol Binnie, B.A., Licentiate, was ordained and inducted to the pastoral charge of St. James, Malvern.

The Rev. W. D. Campbell, B.A., released from St. Columba's, Port Elizabeth, was inducted to the pastoral charge of St. Luke's, Vereeniging on 10th September, 1953.

### **Title Deeds and Deeds of Lease**

The Moderator called for the report on Title Deeds. The Convener of the Business Committee moved, and it was seconded and agreed, that the list of Title Deeds and Deeds of Lease in safe keeping at the Church Offices, be tabled, a copy to be posted in the vestibule of the Church.

### **Title Deeds held in Church Office**

Alice Church; Bellville; Bethlehem; Cambridge; Children's Home, Queenstown; De Aar; Dannhauser; East London (St. Andrew's, Cove Rock and St. Paul's); Fort Beaufort Church; Fynnlund; George Manse and Cemetery; Glenthorn; Goodwood; Half Rations Ranch and Vimy Ridge; Howick; Kentani; Koffiefontein; Ladysmith; Maitland; Mission Superintendent's House, Johannesburg; Meikle Street, Johannesburg; Mount Frere; Noupoort; Parkside Coloured Church, East London; Paterson Memorial and Salisbury Park, Port Elizabeth; Somerset West; Tarkastad; Umzinto; Volksrust; Welkom Manse; Westonaria; Wynberg (Church and Manse); Wark Memorial Hall, Kensington, Cape Town.

### **Deeds of Lease**

Dorrington (African), Fort Beaufort; Langa, Newcastle.

### **Report of Business Committee**

The Convener of the Business Committee moved:

- (a) That the Standing Orders as printed on pages 142—144 of the Papers be adopted. Agreed.

#### *Associate Members*

- (b) That the Assembly associates with itself any Ministers of the Church, or any members of Church Sessions, who, not being Commissioners to Assembly, might be present at any session of the Assembly. Agreed.
- (c) That the delegates from the Church of Scotland Mission Council and the Bantu Presbyterian Church be associated with the Assembly. Agreed.

*Business Committee.*—Membership reported as follows: Rev. D. McRae (Convener), Revs. D. S. Robertson, J. Dalziel, E. S. Pons, E. C. Lediga, T. L. Clarke, J. Manod Williams, T. Copeland, Messrs. E. Beardmore, R. C. Dowie, A. J. Haiden, A. Michie and D. K. Adams. Agreed.



*Selection Committee.*—Membership reported as follows: Rev. A. McRobert (Convener), Revs. W. Avery, Dr. H. Booth Coventry, D. Phillips, W. G. McAlester, A. R. S. Poho, Dr. J. Kennedy Grant, Ian McDonald, Messrs. J. R. Allison, L. Hardwick, R. J. W. Paxton, J. Murray, J. Smeath-Thomas and A. Smith. Agreed.

*Overtures Committee.*—None of the members appointed by previous Assembly being a Commissioner to this Assembly, the Convener of the Business Committee moved that the following be the Overtures Committee: Rev. A. G. Leask (Convener), Revs. Dr. P. B. Hawkrigde, S. P. Lediga, H. H. Munro, Messrs. J. Cowie, W. S. McAdam and R. M. Thomson. Agreed.

*Records Committee.*—The Convener of the Business Committee moved that the following be the Records Committee: Rev. L. L. Dawson (Convener), Revs. C. C. Stunden, C. J. Hawton, Messrs. F. W. Nelson, C. E. Tiley and J. Traill. Agreed.

### Agenda

The Convener of the Business Committee moved that the Assembly adopts the agenda as set out in the draft distributed to Commissioners. Agreed.

### AGENDA

#### *Hours of Adjournment*

Morning Session: 12.45 p.m.

Afternoon Session: 5.45 p.m.

Evening Session: 10.00 p.m.

(Tea intervals at 10.45 a.m. and 3.45 p.m., except Opening Session at 4.30 p.m. and Closing Session at 10.15 a.m.)

#### *Wednesday, 16th September, 1953.*

3.00 p.m.: Public Worship; Constitution of Assembly; Report on Commissions; Roll Call; Induction of Moderator; Loyal Addresses.

4.45 p.m.: Reports: Changes in the Ministry, Title Deeds, Business Committee; Announcements: Local Arrangements; Notices of Motion; Benediction.

7.45 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Thanks to Retiring Moderator and Reply; Moderator's Address; Announcements: Moderator's Chaplain, Elders for Communion, Preachers for Assembly Sunday; Benediction.

#### *Thursday, 17th September, 1953*

9.00 a.m.: Holy Communion.

10.00 a.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Reports: Life and Work, Public Worship and Aids to Devotion, Chaplains, Deaconess; Call for Records of Presbyteries and Assembly Committees; Announcements; Benediction.

2.15 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Reports: Assembly Remit on Defiance of Unjust Laws Campaign, Executive Commission, Nomination Committee, General Secretary's, Hostel.

4.30 p.m.: Adjournment to enable Committees to meet; Announcements; Benediction.

7.45 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Report: Church Extension and Aid; Announcements; Benediction.

#### *Friday, 18th September, 1953*

9.00 a.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Report: African Missions; Announcements; Benediction.

2.15 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Reports: Education for the Ministry, Consultative Committee on Admissions, Statistics.

3.30 p.m.: Visit of local Clergy; Announcements; Benediction.

*Saturday, 19th September, 1953*

9.00 a.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Election of Moderator Designate; Time and Place of next Assembly; Report: Selection Committee (Interim).

10.30 a.m.: Visit of General President of the Women's Association; Report: Children's Home; Announcements; Benediction.

*Monday, 21st September, 1953*

9.00 a.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Reports: Youth Department, Presbyterian "Leader", Book Room and Publications; Announcements; Benediction.

2.15 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Reports: Finance, Special Committee on Beneficiary Funds; Announcements; Benediction.

7.45 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Reports: Church and Nation, Ecumenical Relations; Announcements; Benediction.

*Tuesday, 22nd September, 1953.*

9.00 a.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Report: Overtures Committee; Announcements; Benediction.

2.15 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Notices of Motion; Reports: Selection Committee (Final), Records Committee; Moderator's Tour; General Secretary's Tour; Announcements; Benediction.

7.45 p.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Remaining Business; Announcements; Benediction.

*Wednesday, 23rd September, 1953*

9.00 a.m.: Constitution of Assembly; Votes of Thanks; Moderator's Closing Address.

10.30 a.m.: Minutes of Closing Session; In Memoriam Minutes; Holy Communion; Psalm 122, verses 6—9; Adjournment of Assembly; Benediction.

**Assembly Reports and Proposed Deliverances**

In accordance with Standing Order 5, the Convener reported that the Business Committee had reviewed the proposed Deliverances attached to the reports of Assembly Committees before the printing of the Papers, with the exception of the Finance and Statistic Committees. The Convener moved—

"That the reports of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund and the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund be incorporated in the report of the Finance Committee." Agreed.

"That the proposed Deliverance attached to the report of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund be dealt with as follows: Clause 1 to be deleted, Clauses 2 and 3 to become Clauses 7 and 8 of the proposed Deliverance of the Finance Committee." Agreed.

"That the proposed Deliverance attached to the report of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund be dealt with as follows: Clause 1 to be deleted, Clause 2 to become Clause 9 of the proposed Deliverance of the Finance Committee." Agreed.

### **Presentation of Reports**

The Business Convener moved that in the absence of the Conveners of the following Committees, the reports of those Committees be presented to Assembly by the person named as follows: Deaconess Committee by Mr. L. L. Hardwick. Statistics Committee by Rev. E. S. Pons. Leader Committee by Rev. A. McRobert. Ecumenical Committee by Rev. T. Copeland. Finance Committee by Rev. J. Paterson Whyte. Agreed.

### **Special Addresses to Assembly**

The Business Convener moved—

“That a representative from each of the three delegations, viz., Church of Scotland Mission Council, Bantu Presbyterian Church and the Congregational Union of South Africa be invited to address the Assembly at a convenient time.” Agreed.

“That a representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society be invited to address the Assembly during the discussion on the report of the Ecumenical Committee.” Agreed.

### **Communications**

The Business Convener moved that the Communications on pages 97/8 of the Papers be noted with appreciation and printed with the Proceedings of this Assembly. Agreed.

### **Press Correspondent**

The Business Convener moved that the Rev. Manfred Hartslief be appointed Press Correspondent. Agreed.

### **Applications, Overtures and Petitions**

The Business Convener moved that the Applications, Overtures and Petitions appearing in the Papers be referred to the Overtures Committee. Agreed.

### **Complaint against Transvaal Presbytery**

The Business Convener moved that the complaint by the African Missions Committee against the Transvaal Presbytery be heard at the conclusion of the consideration of the proposed Deliverance of the African Missions Committee.

On being put to the vote, the motion was lost.

### **Mr. Calvin Cook**

The Moderator cordially welcomed Mr. Calvin Cook, a student for the Ministry, who was present at Assembly, and congratulated him on securing his Doctorate at Princeton University.

### **Local Arrangements**

The Rev. L. B. Thornton made a number of announcements in connection with local arrangements.

### **Notices of Motion**

The Rev. J. E. Elder handed in a Notice of Motion anent Pacificism.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet in the same place at 7.45 p.m. this evening, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 18th September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*  
J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

## SECOND SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Wednesday, 16th September, 1953, at 7.45 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, the Rev. J. B. Mirrilees conducting devotional exercises.

### Thanks to Retiring Moderator

Rev. Gavin Smith expressed the thanks of the Presbytery of the Orange River (European) to the retiring Moderator, Right Rev. P. B. Hawkridge, for his visit to that Presbytery. Rev. A. R. S. Poho followed Mr. Smith, speaking on behalf of the Orange River (African) Presbytery, and Rev. M. Hartslief expressed the appreciation of the Presbytery of the Transvaal.

Dr. Hawkridge replied expressing his pleasure at having been able to see the work of the Church in those Presbyteries.

### Moderator's Address

Thereafter the Moderator delivered his opening address, his subject being "The Call of Christ and our part in the Redemption of the World."

### Moderator's Chaplain

The Convener of the Business Committee reported that Rev. S. P. Lediga had been appointed Moderator's Chaplain.

### Elders for Communion Service

The Convener of the Business Committee reported that the following Elders had been appointed to assist in the dispensation of the Sacrament on the following day:

Messrs. L. L. Hardwick, A. L. Haiden, R. J. W. Paxton, D. K. Adams, J. Cowie, D. Hatla, T. Kanyowa and Dr. Smeath Thomas.

### Preachers for Assembly Sunday

The Convener of the Business Committee intimated that Services on Assembly Sunday would be conducted by the following:

11 a.m. Rev. M. A. Hartslief.

7.30 p.m. Rev. J. Manrod Williams, B.A., B.D.

3 p.m. Service for Africans at Payneville Location.

Preacher: Rev. S. P. Lediga, L.Th.

The Assembly adjourned to meet in the same place to-morrow at 9 a.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

## THIRD SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Thursday, 17th September, 1953, the Assembly met at 9 a.m. for the observance of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The Moderator officiated and Rev. R. H. R. Liddell delivered a Communion Address.

At the close of the Communion Service the Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

### Notices of Motion

Rev. D. S. Robertson handed in Notices of Motion anent Clauses in the African Missions Report.

### Life and Work

The Moderator called for the report of the Life and Work Committee, which was presented by Rev. R. H. R. Liddell, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

Rev. J. B. Mirrilees moved as an amendment, seconded by Rev. G. Smith that the words "for the deepening of spiritual life" be substituted for the words "evangelical campaign." On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost. After discussion it was agreed that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted with the alteration of the word "January" to "March".

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 4 be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. H. H. Munro, seconded by Dr. Smeath Thomas that the words "to which the offerings at meetings held by the Missioner should be sent" be deleted. On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

The Moderator then put Clause 4 to the Assembly and it was adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 5 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 6 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted with the alteration of the word "instructs", the word "commends" being substituted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 7 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 8 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

Rev. A. MacRobert moved as an amendment, seconded by Rev. D. Couper, that the word "commends" replace the word "directs". On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

A further amendment was moved by Rev. A. G. Leask, seconded by Rev. H. H. Munro, that after the word "Church" the words "or the return railway fare" be inserted. On being put to the vote the amendment was carried.

Rev. L. L. Dawson moved that after "(a) For Ministers" add "and Students for the Ministry" and delete paragraph (b). On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

The Convener accepted a suggestion that the word "minimum" be inserted before the word "scale", and also that Probationers be included with Ministers. Thereupon the Moderator put Clause 8 as amended to the Assembly and it was adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 9 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 10 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 11 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 12 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that further discussion on Clause 12 be deferred to a later Session.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 13 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 14 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 15 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet in the same place this afternoon at 2.15 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 18th September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

#### FOURTH SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Thursday, 17th September, 1953, at 2.15 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, Rev. S. Lehari conducting devotional exercises.

#### Notices of Motion

Notices of Motion were handed in by the Rev. D. McRae anent payment of the railway fares of the Executive Officers of the Women's Association, and In Memoriam Minutes.

The Convener of the Business Committee moved that as the Moderator had been asked to address the Women's Association at 4 p.m., the chair be taken then by the retiring Moderator. Agreed.

#### Remit

The Moderator called for the Remit on the Defiance of Unjust Laws Campaign. The Clerk of Assembly spoke to this, and it was moved, seconded and agreed that the Remit be accepted and the Clerk thanked for his diligence.

#### Executive Commission

The Moderator called for the Report of the Executive Commission, which was presented by the Clerk of Assembly, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Assembly receives the Report.

#### Nomination Committee

The Moderator called for the Report of the Nominations Committee of the Executive Commission, which was presented by the Clerk of Assembly, who intimated that the Rev. A. McRobert, M.A., of St. George's Church, East London, had been nominated as Moderator Designate.

#### General Secretary's Report

The Moderator called for the Report of the General Secretary, which was presented by Mr. Paterson Whyte who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Report be received. The Moderator thanked Mr. Whyte for his work.

#### Hostel Report

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee of the Hostel at King William's Town, which was presented by Mr. J. R. Allison who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clauses 1 and 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Allison for his presentation of the report.

#### Life and Work

Thereafter the Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of the Life and Work Committee.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 12 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted. On being put to the vote this Clause of the proposed Deliverance was lost and was deleted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 16 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

Rev. H. H. Munro moved, Rev. D. McRae seconded, that the word "commends" be inserted in the place of the word "directs".

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, and the Clause as amended was adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 17 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted. On being put to the vote this Clause of the proposed Deliverance was lost and was deleted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 18 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

On resumption, the Convener of the Life and Work Committee sought the permission of Assembly to alter the words "Revised Version" to "Revised Versions" in Clause 18. Permission "being granted, the Clause was put to the Assembly, and was adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 19 be adopted. On being put to the vote this Clause of the proposed Deliverance was lost and was deleted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 20 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 21 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Moderator thanked the Convener for his presentation of the Report.

### **Deaconess Report**

The Moderator called for the Report of the Deaconess Committee, which was presented by Mr. L. Hardwick, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1, 2 and 3 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Hardwick for his presentation of the Report.

### **Intimations**

The Business Convener made a number of intimations.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet in the same place this evening at 7.45 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 18th September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

### **FIFTH SESSION**

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Thursday, 17th September, 1953, at 7.45 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. L. L. Dawson conducting devotional exercises.

### **Church Extension and Aid**

The Moderator called for the Report of the Church Extension and Aid Committee, which was presented by the Rev. H. H. Munro, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clauses 3 and 4 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 5 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 6 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 7 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 8 be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. Ian McDonald, seconded by Rev. T. L. Clarke, that Clause 8 of the proposed Deliverance be deleted.

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, became the substantive motion, and was adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 9 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 10 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 11 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 13 be adopted with the alteration of the word "accruing" to "reverting".

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 14 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Munro for his presentation of the Report.

### **Local Arrangements**

The Convener of the Business Committee made a number of intimations in connection with local arrangements.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet in the same place to-morrow at 9 a.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 18th September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator*.

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk*.

## **SIXTH SESSION**

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Friday, 18th September, 1953, at 9 a.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. D. J. Darlow conducting devotional exercises.

### **Rev. Emlyn Jones**

The Convener of the Business Committee moved, and it was seconded, that the name of the Rev. Emlyn Jones be added to the list of Commissioners, this having been inadvertently omitted. Agreed.

The Convener of the Business Committee further moved, and it was seconded, that a Petition from the Orange River European Presbytery anent an itinerant Minister, which had arrived too late for insertion in the Papers of Assembly, be received, and that it be considered and reported on by the Overture Committee. Agreed.

### **Visiting Delegates**

*Rev. R. M. Fraser.*—The Moderator welcomed Rev. R. M. Fraser, a representative of the Church of Scotland Mission Council. Mr. Fraser addressed the Assembly, and conveyed greetings from the Council.

### **African Missions**

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee on African Missions, which was presented by Rev. D. S. Robertson, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted. In speaking to Clause 1 of the Deliverance, Rev. D. J. Darlow paid tribute to the devoted work of the late Mr. Wm. Fleming.



It was agreed that the report of the Natal Presbytery, sent too late for printing in the Assembly Papers, be incorporated in the Report.

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

The Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of the African Missions Committee.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. H. H. Munro, seconded by Rev. J. McDowell, that the sum of £100 each to Iona House and the Lovedale Bible School, respectively, be paid out of the Budget Allocation for External Objects, such amounts being paid out in full as has been the practice in the case of payments to external objects.

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, and it was agreed that Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance as thus amended be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 4 of the proposed Deliverance be deferred.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 5 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 6 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved by the Convener of the Business Committee that the Assembly grants permission for the formal complaint made by the African Missions Committee to be withdrawn, and the matter dealt with in terms of Clause 7 of the proposed Deliverance.

This was duly scconded and agreed to.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 7 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. A. G. Leask, seconded by Rev. Ian McDonald, that the Assembly condones the licensing of Mr. S. A. Lehari and instructs Presbyteries that no African Student is to be taken on trials for licence until the African Missions Committee has issued a certificate to the Presbytery that the student has completed his studies to the satisfaction of the African Missions Committee.

The Convener of the African Missions Committee agreed to have this Clause substituted for Clause 7 of the proposed Deliverance, and it was agreed that his amendment be adopted as Clause 7 of the Deliverance.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that discussion on Clause 8 of the proposed Deliverance be deferred.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 9 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet again in the same place this afternoon at 2.15 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 22nd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

### SEVENTH SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michaels Church, on Friday, 18th September, 1953, at 2.15 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. E. Thethiwe conducting devotional exercises.

### Notices of Motion

Rev. E. S. Eadie handed in a Notice of Motion anent the Youth Department, and Rev. L. L. Dawson handed in a Notice of Motion anent a new Standing Committee of General Assembly.

### Minutes

The Minutes of Sessions one to six having been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed, alterations being noted.

### African Missions

In reply to a question as to when the discussion on the African Missions Report would be resumed, it was moved, seconded and agreed that the matter be referred to the Business Committee.

### Bantu Presbyterian Church

*Rev. R. B. Molaba.* The Moderator welcomed Rev. R. B. Molaba of the Bantu Presbyterian Church. Mr. Molaba addressed the Assembly conveying the greetings of the Bantu Presbyterian Church.

### Education for the Ministry

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee on Education for the Ministry, which was presented by Rev. J. McDowall, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

Rev. Ian McDonald drew attention to the generosity of the Niven Trust, and it was agreed that the Business Committee draw up a resolution of thanks which would include all Funds from which monies are received, this to be considered when the Finance Committee Report is considered.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the proposed Deliverance as a whole be adopted.

The Moderator thanked the Convener for his presentation of the Report.

### Consultative Committee

The Moderator called for the Report of the Consultative Committee, which was presented by Rev. J. Paterson Whyte, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Report be received, and the action of the Committee confirmed.

The Moderator thanked the Convener for his presentation of the Report.

### Statistics

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee on Statistics, which was presented by Rev. E. S. Pons, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Report be received.

Rev. H. H. Munro moved that the following be added to the Deliverance: "And draws attention of congregations that in the return of 'Basic Annual Stipend' no amount paid as Cost-of-Living Allowance or other allowance be included."

This was duly seconded and was agreed to.

The Moderator thanked the Rev. E. S. Pons for his presentation of the Report.

### Notice of Motion

*In Memoriam Minutes.*—Notice of Motion having been given, the Convener of the Business Committee moved that "The Assembly directs that In Memoriam Minutes to be submitted to the General Assembly shall be approximately one hundred words."

This was duly seconded and agreed to.

### Visit of Local Clergy

At this point a deputation of local clergy was received by the Assembly upstanding. Greetings were conveyed by the deputation, and the Moderator and Rev. J. Dalziel suitably replied.

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

### Visiting Delegates

*Revs. S. Axford and M. Rendall.*—The Moderator welcomed Revs. S. Axford and M. Rendall of the Congregational Union of South Africa, who conveyed greetings to the Assembly from the Congregational Union.

### Chaplains' Report

The Moderator called for the report of the Committee on Chaplains, which was presented by Rev. E. S. Eadie, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the proposed Deliverance as a whole be adopted, with the addition of the words "until September, 1954" added at the end of Clause 2 of the Deliverance.

It was further moved by Rev. E. S. Eadie, seconded by Rev. Ian McDonald, that the Assembly requests the Principal Chaplain (Free Churches) to furnish its Chaplains' Committee with annual statistics of Presbyterians serving with the U.D.F. This was agreed to and was adopted as Clause 4 of the Deliverance.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Eadie for his presentation of the Report.

### African Missions

The Assembly resumed discussion on the African Missions Report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 9 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 8 be adopted, the Con- vener accepting the deletion of the words "not in fully sanctioned charges."

Rev. H. H. Munro moved as an amendment that the words £15 per month be changed to £20 per month, that the word "municipal" be deleted and the word "Government" inserted, and that the words "plus £4 per annum for each child under the age of 16 years" be deleted. This was seconded by Rev. E. S. Eadie. On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost.

Rev. A. G. Leask moved as an addendum, seconded by Mr. I. S. C. McDonald, that the words "for this year" be added to the Clause. Agreed.

Clause 8 of the proposed Deliverance with this addendum was adopted.

### Leave of Absence

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. J. R. Allison as from Saturday morning.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet in the same place to-morrow morning at 9 a.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 22nd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

## EIGHTH SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Saturday, 19th September, 1953, at 9 a.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. J. Dalziel conducting devotional exercises.

### Election of Moderator Designate

The Moderator called for nominations for the office of Moderator Designate. Rev. D. McRae reported that the unanimous nomination of the Nomination Committee was Rev. A. McRobert for the office of Moderator Designate, and he moved that Rev. A. McRobert of St. George's Church, East London, be Moderator Designate. This was seconded by the Rev. D. S. Robertson.

Rev. M. A. Hartsliel moved, the Rev. I. McDonald seconded, that Rev. A. G. Leask be Moderator Designate.

On being put to the vote by ballot, the Moderator declared Rev. A. McRobert, Moderator Designate.

### Time and Place of Next Assembly

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the next Assembly meet on Wednesday, 15th September, 1954, at 3 p.m.

Rev. J. Dalziel, on behalf of the Presbytery of Natal, extended an invitation to the Assembly to meet at Durban in September, 1954.

The invitation was accepted with acclamation, the Moderator expressing the thanks of the Assembly.

### Selection Committee

*Interim Report.*—The Moderator called for the Interim Report of the Selection Committee, which was presented by Rev. A. McRobert, who submitted the names of proposed Conveners.

It was agreed that Rev. D. S. Robertson remain as Convener of the African Missions Committee for a further year.

### Women's Association

At this point the Assembly received the President and Executive of the Women's Association. The President, at the request of the Moderator, addressed the Assembly and handed to the Moderator a cheque for the sum of £100 for the General Funds of the Church. The Moderator gratefully accepted this and expressed the appreciation of the Assembly.

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

### African Missions

The Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of African Missions.

Notice of Motion having been given, Rev. D. S. Robertson moved that the Assembly receive the Budget as revised in the light of the increased contributions asked for by the Finance Committee. This was seconded by Mr. D. K. Adams.

Rev. D. McRae moved, seconded by Mr. H. Weir, that Clause 4 of the proposed Deliverance remain as printed in the Papers.

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, and Clause 4 of the proposed Deliverance was adopted.

### Children's Home

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee on the Children's Home, which was presented by Mr. R. J. W. Paxton, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Assembly go into Committee.

Coming out of Committee, the Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of the Children's Home.

### Leave of Absence

Leave of absence was granted to Rev. J. Manod Williams, Messrs. J. G. H. MacKenzie, J. Traill and A. Bain.

### Notices of Motion

It was agreed that the Assembly grant permission to Rev. T. Copeland to submit a Notice of Motion anent the Presbyterian Alliance, and to Rev. H. H. Munro to submit a Notice of Motion anent the holding of a convenership for more than three years.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet again on Monday, 21st September, 1953, at 9 a.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 23rd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*  
J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

## NINTH SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Monday, 21st September, 1953, at 9 a.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. S. P. Lediga conducting devotional exercises.

### Greetings

The Convener of the Business Committee read to the Assembly a number of greetings from churches and individuals.

Revs. R. Ashenhurst, J. Sorrie, G. B. Molefe; Congregations of Bellville; St. Andrew's, Cape Town; St. George's, East London; Stutterheim and District; Heilbron; Rev. Molebatsi and congregation; South African National Sunday School Association; National Union Against Misuse Alcohol; Women's Associations of Kroonstal; St. Andrew's, Beaconsfield; St. Andrew's, King William's Town; Sydney Road; St. Andrew's and Evening Group, Cape Town; Mrs. Molebatsi and Branch; Durban United Branches; Junior and Senior Girls' Auxiliary, J.B.'s and W.A., Greyville.

### Youth Department

The Moderator called for the Report of the Youth Department, which was presented by the Rev. J. Dalziel, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

Notice of Motion having been given, it was moved as an amendment by Rev. E. S. Eadie, seconded by Rev. E. S. Pons,

"That the Assembly rescinds all previous resolutions with regard to the use of Lesson Helps in the Presbyterian Church of South Africa and now instructs all Sessions to see that the Lesson Guides provided by our own Youth Department are in use in every Sunday School in our Church, and that all other Lesson Guides are discarded.

"The Assembly instructs the Convener of the Youth Department to produce and publish the Sunday School Lesson Helps for use throughout the year in the Presbyterian Church of South Africa."

On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost.

Clause 3 as set forth in the proposed Deliverance was adopted. It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 4 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 5 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 6 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

Rev. H. H. Munro moved as an amendment that the reference of the Assembly on gambling be referred to the Church and Nation Committee, and that Clause 6 of the proposed Deliverance be deleted. This was duly seconded.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried, became the substantive motion, and was adopted as the Deliverance of Assembly.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 7 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 8 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that the following be Clause 9 of the Deliverance:

"That the second Sunday in May be observed as Youth Sunday in all churches."

The Convener accepted the suggestion that Youth Sunday be observed on the third Sunday in October.

It was therefore agreed that the following be Clause 9 of the Deliverance: "The Assembly agrees that the third Sunday of October be recognised as Assembly Youth Sunday."

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

On resumption the Moderator thanked the Convener of the Youth Department for his presentation of the Report.

#### **"Leader"**

The Moderator called for the Report of the "Leader" Committee, which was presented by Rev. A. McRobert, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the proposed Deliverance as a whole be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. McRobert for his presentation of the Report.

#### **Book Room and Publications**

The Moderator called for the Report of the Book Room and Publications Committee, which was presented by Rev. C. C. Stunden, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the proposed Deliverance as a whole be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Stunden for his presentation of the Report.

#### **African Missions**

The Assembly resumed discussion of the African Missions Report.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 10 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 11 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted, with the deletion of the words "on Education for the Ministry."

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 12 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

### Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion having been given, Rev. D. S. Robertson moved, and it was seconded that "The Assembly re-appoint the Assessors to the Presbyteries of the Orange River (African and European) and enjoins the congregations of both Presbyteries to consider the implications of a full and unconditional union and report to next Assembly through the African Missions Committee."

Mr. Robertson accepted the deletion of the words "through the African Missions Committee" and the resolution was adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Robertson for his presentation of the African Missions Report.

### Leave of Absence

Leave of absence was granted to Revs. D. J. Darlow and W. Croll.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet this afternoon at 2.15 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 23rd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

### TENTH SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Monday 21st September, 1953, at 2.15 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. G. E. A. Pons conducting devotional exercises.

### Finance Report

The Moderator called for the Report of the Finance Committee, which was presented by Rev. J. Paterson Whyte. Mr. Whyte requested the Assembly to grant permission to Mr. G. D. Wilson to speak to the Report. Agreed.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

In presenting Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance Rev. J. Paterson Whyte moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Assembly approves the Committee's proposed Budget for 1953/54 as set out in the Report with the following alterations: Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, £700; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, £700; Grants to external objects, £500. Agreed.

Rev. D. S. Robertson moved as an amendment, Rev. E. S. Eadie seconded, that the Children's Home allocation be reduced by £500 and that the African Missions Committee amount be increased by a corresponding amount.

On the suggestion of Dr. Smeath Thomas, it was agreed that the amendment be taken in two parts.

On being put to the vote, the first part of the amendment was lost, and on being put to the vote, the second part of the amendment was lost, the amount of £3,000 remaining in the Budget for the Children's Home, as printed in the Papers.

It was further moved as an amendment by Dr. Smeath Thomas, and duly seconded, that the Budget allocation of £3,000 for the Children's Home, be diminished by any contributions made by The Friends of the Home Fund.

Rev. J. Paterson Whyte accepted this amendment.

Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance with the alterations originally proposed, viz., Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, £700; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, £700; External Objects, £500, was adopted.

A further amendment was moved by Rev. H. H. Munro, seconded by Rev. D. S. Robertson, that the sum of £500 as allocated in the Budget for Expenses re Missioner be deleted.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was lost, the sum of £500 as Expenses re Missioner remaining as printed in the Papers.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 4 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

Rev. H. H. Munro moved as an amendment, seconded by Rev. R. H. R. Liddell, that Clause 4 (b) of the proposed Deliverance be deleted.

On the suggestion of Dr. Smeath Thomas that it be an instruction of the Finance Committee that its Minutes be sent to the Clerks of Presbyteries for the information of Presbyteries, the mover of the amendment and the seconder accepted this.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried and became Clause 4 (b) of the proposed Deliverance as follows:

"The Assembly instructs the Finance Committee that its Minutes be sent to the Clerks of Presbyteries for the information of Presbyteries."

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 5 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted with the addition of the words "and the Church of Scotland" after the words "Presbyterian Church in Ireland."

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Assembly expresses its appreciation of the generous donations made by the Robert Niven Trust to various Church Funds.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 6 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. H. H. Munro, seconded by Dr. Smeath Thomas, that the General Assembly appoints an *ad hoc* committee to act in conjunction with the Children's Home Committee, to consider the administration of the Children's Home, and to report to the Moderator and Clerk of Assembly before 1st March, 1954.

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, became Clause 6 of the Deliverance, and was adopted.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet this evening at 7.45 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confiremd 23rd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator*.

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk*.

### ELEVENTH SESSION

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Monday, 21st September, at 7.45 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, the Rev. C. C. Stunden conducting devotional exercises.

#### Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion anent the Budget was handed in by Rev. D. S. Robertson. It was moved, seconded and agreed that this Notice of Motion be not accepted.

#### Church and Nation

The Moderator called for the Report of the Church and Nation Committee, which was presented by Rev. M. A. Hartslief, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.



It was moved and seconded that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

Having given Notice of Motion, Rev. J. E. Elder moved, and it was duly seconded, that

“The Assembly instructs members of the Church that they prayerfully consider the implications of Pacifism in the light not only of the historic pronouncements of our Church but of the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, not neglecting careful study of the writings of eminent pacifist theologians. And, further, the Assembly having regard to the importance of Pacifism, directs the Church and Nation Committee to continue its researches in connection with this subject and report to next Assembly.”

On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

Rev. J. B. Mirrilees moved as a further amendment, and it was seconded, that

“The Assembly instructs members of the Church that they prayerfully consider the implications of Pacifism in the light of the historic pronouncements of the Church, and while recognising the sincerity of the supporters of Pacifism, declares that the New Testament permits of the interpretation that the Christian may take part in military activities.”

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, became the substantive motion, and was adopted as Clause 2 of the Deliverance.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 4 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Hartsliel for his presentation of the Report.

#### **Ecumenical Relations**

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee on Ecumenical Relations, which was presented by Rev. T. Copeland, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the proposed Deliverance as a whole be adopted with the addition of the following clause:

“The Assembly makes a grant of £50 to the Students’ Christian Association (English-speaking Section).”

Notice of Motion having been given, Rev. T. Copeland moved that

“The Assembly do appoint Mr. Robert Orr as its representative at the Seventeenth General Council of the Alliance of Reformed Churches to be held in New Jersey, U.S.A. on 27th July, 1954, and also at the General Assembly of the World Council of Churches to be held at Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A. on 15th August, 1954, and that the Assembly do make a grant of money to Mr. Robert Orr for this purpose.”

This was seconded by Rev. J. E. Elder.

It was moved by Mr. H. H. Munro as an amendment, and duly seconded, that Mr. Robert Orr be not appointed.

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, became the substantive motion, and was adopted.

#### **British and Foreign Bible Society**

*Rev. T. Hawthorn.*—At this point, the Moderator called upon Rev. T. Hawthorn, a representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society, to address the Assembly.

#### **Children’s Home**

The Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of the Children’s Home Committee.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clauses 2 to 5 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Moderator thanked the Convener for his presentation of the Report.

### **Finance Committee**

The Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of the Finance Committee.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clauses 2 and 3 of the proposed Deliverance of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and Clause 2 of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund be adopted.

### **Notice of Motion**

Notice of Motion having been given, Rev. D. McRae moved that

"The sum of Fifty Pounds (£50) be paid to the Women's Association towards their expenses, and Fifteen Pounds (£15) towards the cost of their printing, and that the railway fares of the five Executive Officers, at first class concession rates be paid, if they so desire."

This was duly seconded and agreed to.

It was moved, duly seconded, and agreed that the Assembly resolves that the Accountant be requested to be present when the accounts are discussed in order to answer questions thereon.

Rev. H. H. Munro moved that the Business Committee shall in future not make alterations to proposed Deliverances by Committees. The Assembly agreed to pass from the subject.

Rev. L. L. Dawson, having given Notice of Motion, moved that a new Standing Committee of General Assembly, called the Regulations Committee, be set up. The Assembly agreed to pass from the subject.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 a.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confiremd 23rd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

## **TWELTH SESSION**

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Tuesday, 22nd September, 1953, at 9 a.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. J. Nicol Binnie conducting devotional exercises.

### **Notices of Motion**

The Assembly agreed to accept the following Notices of Motion handed in by Rev. H. H. Munro.

1. Assembly instructs that all Sundays appointed for special observances shall be located in the months of July to November inclusive.
2. Assembly commends to all Ministers a fuller use of the Christian Year.

### **Leave of Absence**

Leave of absence as from the evening of 22nd September, 1953, was granted to Revs. Hawkridge, Robertson, Dower, Munro, Clark Liddell and McDowall. Leave of absence was granted to Rev. J. E. Elder as from the morning of Wednesday, 23rd September.

## Overtures and Applications

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee on Overtures, which was presented by Rev. A. G. Leask, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

*Rev. D. W. Semple.*—It was moved, seconded and agreed that the application of Rev. D. W. Semple for leave to retire be granted.

*Rev. D. Couper.*—It was moved, seconded and agreed that the application of Rev. D. Couper for leave to retire be granted.

*Rev. J. W. Summersgill.*—It was moved, seconded and agreed that the application of Rev. J. W. Summersgill for leave to retire be granted.

*Ministers Emeriti.*—Rev. P. B. Hawkrige moved, and it was seconded and agreed, that the title *Minister Emeritus* be continued, and that paragraph 383 of the Book of Order be revised.

*Rev. A. G. Leask* moved, seconded by *Rev. J. Dalziel*, that *Revs. D. Couper* and *J. W. Summersgill* be *Ministers Emeriti* with a seat in the Presbytery within whose bounds they may reside. Agreed.

*Overture on Situation in S.A.*—It was moved by *Rev. A. G. Leask*, seconded by *Dr. Hawkrige*, that the crave of the Overture of the Natal Presbytery anent "the Mind of Christ in the present situation in South Africa," be not granted.

*Revs. L. L. Dawson* and *E. S. Eadie* spoke to the Overture.

On being put to the vote the crave of the Overture was not granted.

*Overture re Liaison Committee.*—*Rev. A. G. Leask* moved, seconded by *Rev. R. H. R. Liddell*, that the crave of the Overture be not granted. *Rev. D. McRae* spoke to the Overture.

On being put to the vote the crave of the Overture was not granted.

*Overture re Deliverance of Life and Work Committee, 1952.*—*Rev. A. G. Leask* moved, seconded by *Rev. R. H. R. Liddell*, that the crave of the Overture be no granted. *Rev. D. Couper* spoke to the Overture.

On being put to the vote the crave of the Overture was not granted.

*Overture re Elders as Moderators administering the Sacraments.*—*Rev. A. G. Leask* moved, seconded by *Rev. R. H. R. Liddell*, that the crave of the Overture be not granted. *Rev. D. McRae* spoke to the Overture.

On being put to the vote the crave of the Overture was not granted.

*Overture re Baptismal and Marriage Registers.*—*Rev. A. G. Leask* moved, and it was seconded and agreed that the crave of the Overture be granted.

## Petitions

*Welkom Presbyterian Church.*—It was moved, seconded and agreed that the crave of the petition be granted.

*Seat in Presbytery*—*Rev. A. G. Rooks.*—It was moved and seconded that the crave of the petition be granted. On being put to the vote the crave of the petition was granted.

*Seat in Presbytery.*—*Itinerant Minister, O.F.S.*—It was moved, seconded and agreed that an *Itinerant Minister* in the *Orange River Presbytery (European)* if appointed, may have a seat in the *Presbytery of the Orange River*.

The Moderator thanked *Mr. Leask* for his presentation of the Report.

### **Public Worship and Aids to Devotion**

The Moderator called for the Report of the Committee on Public Worship and Aids to Devotion, which was presented by Rev. Thomas Copeland, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

### **Minutes**

On resumption, the Minutes of the Sixth and Seventh Sessions of Assembly, which had been circulated, were taken as read and were confirmed, alterations being duly noted.

### **Mr. Ian Hay**

Rev. John McDowall introduced to the Assembly Mr. Ian Hay, a student for the Ministry. The Moderator cordially welcomed Mr. Hay on this his first visit to a General Assembly.

### **Public Worship and Aids to Devotion**

It was agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 2 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. R. H. R. Liddell, seconded by Rev. D. J. Darlow, that the Assembly authorises the Committee on Public Worship to proceed with the preparation of an Ordinal for use in the courts of the Church.

The Convener accepted the following addendum:

“and that the Committee be instructed to revise and reprint the Service Book of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa prepared by Dr. E. Macmillan.”

On being put to the vote the amendment with the addendum was carried, became the substantive motion, and was adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. D. McRae, and it was seconded, that the word “instructs” be altered to “recommends.” On the suggestion of Rev. J. B. Mirrilees, the mover of the amendment accepted the word “desirable” in the place of “practicable.”

On being put to the vote the amendment was lost, and Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance was adopted.

### **Notices of Motion**

Notice of Motion having been given, Rev. H. H. Munro moved, seconded by Rev. J. McDowall, that Assembly instructs that all Sundays appointed for special observances shall be located in the months of July to November inclusive. On the suggestion of Rev. J. B. Mirrilees, Rev. H. H. Munro accepted the following additional words “except where such observances do not conflict with observance of the Christian Year.”

On being put to the vote it was agreed that the resolution be adopted.

Notice of Motion having been given, Rev. H. H. Munro moved that Assembly commends to all Ministers a fuller use of the Christian Year.

On being put to the vote it was agreed that the resolution be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. Copeland for his presentation of the Report.

#### **Beneficiary Funds**

The Moderator called for the Report of the Special Committee on Beneficiary Funds which was presented by Rev. D. McRae, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 1 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved and seconded that Clause 2 (a) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Mr. R. J. W. Paxton, and it was seconded, that an assessment of 1 per cent be made on the ordinary income of congregations.

On being put to the vote the amendment was carried, became the substantive motion, and was adopted, Clause 2 (a) now reading: "In Rule 3 (d) for 5/- per cent read one per cent."

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (b) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet again this afternoon at 2.15 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 23rd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

### **THIRTEENTH SESSION**

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Tuesday, 22nd September, 1953, at 2.15 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. J. W. Summersgill conducting devotional exercises.

#### **Notice of Motion**

Rev. H. H. Munro intimated that he wished to withdraw his Notice of Motion anent convenership of Assembly Committees. Agreed.

#### **Selection Committee**

*Final Report.*—The Moderator called for the Final Report of the Selection Committee, which was presented by Rev. A. McRobert, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Report be received.

It was further moved, seconded and agreed that any Convener who has served for more than three years be re-appointed for a further year.

#### **Records Committee**

The Moderator called for the Report on Records, which was presented by Rev. L. L. Dawson, who addressed the Assembly thereanent.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Assembly receives the Report, and that the Records of the Church be attested.

#### **Moderator's Tour**

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the Moderator tour the Presbyteries of Natal and King William's Town during his term of office.

#### **General Secretary's Tour**

It was moved, seconded and agreed that the General Secretary tour the Presbytery of Rhodesia.

**Beneficiary Funds**

The Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of the Special Committee on Beneficiary Funds.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (c) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (d) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, and seconded that Clause 2 (e) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. H. H. Munro, seconded by Rev. D. Philips, that subscription be on the basis of a flat rate, and that each subscriber shall contribute at the rate of £14 p.a. to the Fund.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was carried, became the substantive motion, and was adopted, Rule 11 thus reading:

“Each subscriber shall contribute an amount of £14 p.a. to the Fund.”

In view of the preceding resolution Clause 2 (f) of the proposed Deliverance was withdrawn.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (g) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted, the question of deducting subscriptions at source, being referred to the Committee.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (h) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (i) and (j) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (k) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (l) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (m) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (n) of the proposed Deliverance read as follows:

“African congregations shall pay an assessment rate of  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the ordinary income of the congregation.”

It was moved and seconded that Clause 2 (o) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved as an amendment by Rev. H. H. Munro, and it was seconded, that it be made an option for the members of the Order of Ordained Evangelists to join the Fund, and that if the option is taken up, the rate be the same as for Ministers.

On being put to the vote the amendment was lost.

The hour of adjournment as agreed upon, having arrived, the Assembly adjourned to meet this evening at 7.45 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 23rd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*

J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

**FOURTEENTH SESSION**

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church, on Tuesday, 22nd September, 1953, at 7.45 p.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, Rev. A. R. S. Poho conducting devotional exercises.

**Beneficiary Funds**

The Assembly resumed discussion on the Report of the Special Committee on Beneficiary Funds.

It was agreed that Clause 2 (o) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 2 (p) of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 3 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted, the word "ordained" being deleted before the word "evangelist" in section (j).

It was moved, seconded and agreed that Clause 4 of the proposed Deliverance be adopted.

The Moderator thanked Mr. McRae for his presentation of the Report, and also Mr. G. D. Wilson for his assistance in preparing the Report.

#### **Elders for Closing Communion**

The Convener of the Business Committee announced that the following Elders would assist at Communion at the closing service: Messrs. L. Mitchell, A. Michie, B. A. Maohutsi, C. E. Tiley, W. I. McGregor and T. G. Dey.

The Assembly adjourned to meet the following day at 9 a.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

Confirmed 23rd September, 1953.

H. M. AGNEW, *Moderator.*  
J. PATERSON WHYTE, *Clerk.*

### **FIFTEENTH SESSION**

At Springs, and within St. Michael's Church on Wednesday, 23rd September, 1953, at 9 a.m., the General Assembly resumed, and was constituted, the Moderator conducting devotional exercises.

#### **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Eighth to the Twelfth Sessions, which had been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

#### **Votes of Thanks**

Rev. D. McRae moved the following unopposed motions which were received with acclamation:—

The Assembly thanks:

- (a) The Moderator for his diligence, dignity and courtesy in conducting the business of the court; the General Secretary for his diligence and care in keeping the Minutes; the Business Convener for his guidance of the business of the Assembly; Messrs. Gibson, Hyslop and Winearls for auditing the Church Accounts.
- (b) All those who have shared the burden of responsibility in connection with the entertainment of the Commissioners, especially the Presbytery of the Transvaal for issuing the invitation; the Minister, Office-bearers and members of St. Michael's for their hospitality, and those who made arrangements for transport.
- (c) His Worship, the Mayor, and Town Councillors for the Civic Luncheon at the Country Club.
- (d) The Session and Board of Management of St. Michael's Church, Springs.
- (f) The Moderator's Chaplain, Rev. S. P. Lediga.
- (e) The Organist, Mrs. Grabe, and her deputy, Mrs. Hornby.
- (g) The Press Representative, Rev. M. A. Hartslief.
- (h) Mr. G. D. Wilson for his able representation of the Finance Committee.
- (i) Miss Cooke for her valuable assistance to the Commissioners.

#### **Moderator's Closing Address**

Thereafter the Moderator delivered his closing address.

The Assembly adjourned for fifteen minutes.

#### **Minutes**

On resumption, the Minutes of the thirteenth and fourteenth Sessions, which had been circulated, were taken as read and confirmed, alterations being noted.

The Minutes of the present Session were read and directed to be confirmed.

### IN MEMORIAM MINUTES

The Assembly heard the In Memoriam Minutes, which were read by Rev. W. G. McAlester, the Assembly standing in thanksgiving and remembrance at the close of the reading, and resolved:

The Assembly acknowledges with deep thanksgiving the services rendered by faithful members and office-bearers, who having borne witness through the Church, have now entered into the Higher Service of God's Eternal Kingdom. The Assembly also assured all members and congregations to whom bereavement had come, of its deep sympathy, and commends all such to the abiding comfort of the Master's Presence.

#### **Rev. Robert Barr, M.A.**

On the 10th September, 1953, the Rev. Robert Barr died suddenly while on holiday in England. Born in Scotland 59 years ago, he studied for the Ministry after serving in the First World War. Coming to South Africa in 1928, he was Minister of Mowbray Church till 1947, exercising a strong and successful evangelical ministry. Under him the congregation started several missions among the Coloured people which still continue.

He was honoured by the Church by being elected Moderator of the General Assembly in 1941. In 1947 Mr. Barr left for Knox Presbyterian Church in Toronto, but the influence both of his preaching and his writings continued long after his departure.

We remember with great gratitude his labours for the Church in South Africa.

#### **Elder Robert Allan Ballantyne**

On the evening of the 5th February, 1953, Allan Ballantyne suddenly collapsed and died after speaking in Parliament. His death is a grievous loss to us in Salisbury. Born and reared in Alice, where he won distinction in Civic and Church affairs, he came to Rhodesia in 1928 and started a business as a draper. He entered public life as a Member of Parliament for Highlands and won the regard of all parties for his sterling character and honest worth.

He was an Elder in Salisbury Church and was Hon. Treasurer for over twenty years. He attended the General Assembly a number of times. His interest in the young made him leader of our Youth Bible Class for many years.

A most lovable man, a delightful friend, and stout-hearted Christian, we shall long remember him, with gratitude to God, for his life and witness among us.

#### **Elder Alexander Anderson Balsillie**

Alexander Anderson Balsillie passed suddenly to his rest on 4th August, 1953, while on a holiday in Durban. There are not many people of whom it can be said that they serve all the people all the time, but Mr. Balsillie came very near to that ideal. He came to South Africa from Scotland in 1903, and after spending a few years at Port St. Johns, arrived in Cape Town in 1924. Here he took up Church and social work with a zeal that would be hard to equal. He was Chairman of many committees, any one of which would provide an ordinary man with labour enough. He was a Provincial Councillor, a past Chief of the Caledonian Society, and last year



he was appointed Convener of the Assembly's Finance Committee and became General Treasurer. He had been a Town Councillor for several years and was Deputy Mayor at the time of his passing. His interest in the Africans was intense and amongst other benefits he was instrumental in establishing the Municipal Crèche at Langa.

He also devoted much of his time to hospital work. The Cancer Research Clinic will stand as a monument to his memory.

A great deal more could be written of his endeavours for the benefit of his fellow-men and his work for the Church where he laboured first as a member, then as Chairman of the Board of Management of the Mowbray Presbyterian Church for 11 years and as an Elder since August, 1952. He will be remembered for his cheerfulness which was always uppermost; and even in his more serious moments that happy smile of his was not far away

#### **Elder Robert Oliver Bentley**

Robert Oliver Bentley was called home with almost tragic suddenness on 1st September, 1953. He was at Church only two days before, giving a welcome to those attending the service, and assisting in the taking up of the offertory. He joined Mowbray Presbyterian Church when he and his family were transferred to Cape Town from Pretoria in February, 1942. He was a most faithful member and he considered it a duty and a privilege to be conscientious in any work assigned to him. Although he undertook the duties of an Elder rather late in life, he nevertheless entered into them with a zest which was admired by his fellow Elders. He was gladly welcomed into households when he delivered the Communion Cards. Regular in his attendance at meetings, he contributed wisely in the discussion and undertook any special duty with willingness and cheerfulness. He did not seek publicity. What he did was done quietly in a most unassuming manner in love and service for his Lord and Master. He will be greatly missed by his fellow Elders.

#### **Elder William John Blore**

The death occurred in Cape Town on Monday, 19th January, of Mr. William John Blore at the age of 46. Mr. Blore served for several years as a faithful Elder at St. Andrew's, Pretoria. Coming to Durban in 1948 he joined the Frere Road Church, and there he became truly an Elder beloved. He served as Session Clerk and as Presbytery Elder for some time. Mr. and Mrs. Blore were largely responsible for the organisation and maintenance of the Sunday School in the Wentworth Government Village.

A man of gentle and lovable disposition he nevertheless held fixed views—a man sure of Whom he believed. We give thanks for every remembrance of this Christ-like man.

#### **Elder William Mailer Featherstone**

It is with deep regret that we record the sudden and unexpected passing to Higher Service on the 18th May, 1952, of William Mailer Featherstone. A highly and well-loved member of Berea Session, Durban. He was ordained to the Eldership in St. James', Johannesburg, and on being transferred to Durban over six years ago, he at once associated himself with the Berea Church and was soon after called to serve the congregation

as a member of Session. He honoured his office in all things and the quiet simple sincerity of his faith invested his personality with a winsomeness that was apparent to all who knew him. He was a faithful shepherd to the flock of his district, and he loved to visit them as they loved to welcome him.

We give humble and hearty thanks to Almighty God for the influence of a dedicated life, and for the service he so gladly rendered to the cause of Jesus Christ in his home, in our Church and in the world.

#### **Elder William Fleming**

William Fleming, a faithful Elder of the Church, died on the 11th September, 1953. When Mr. Fleming retired from work in the Standard Bank, he gave all his time and energy to Missionary work. He went overseas for a course in Biblical study and then took charge of the Mission at N'Thabasinduna. Here he did most valuable work for over four years. He then accepted the post of Bursar at Fort Hare. He was interested in all College affairs and took his turn in conducting services. He was careful to gain personal knowledge of the students.

We honour him for his ardent and efficient and devoted service to Our Lord and Master.

#### **Elder David Hogg**

On the 7th July, 1953, David Hogg, having served his generation, fell asleep. One of the oldest members of St. Mark's, Yeoville, he loved the Church and gave of his best in her service, as Sunday School worker, member of the Choir and Board of Management, and for thirty years as ruling Elder. He was exemplary in his attendance at public worship and faithfully discharged his duties as an Elder. For some years he represented St. Marks on the Transvaal Presbytery, where his work is still remembered with grateful appreciation. He leaves behind him a rich heritage of faithfulness, of duty well done, and of quiet, steadfast witness for the Master.

#### **Elder David Nicol Keay**

David Nicoll Keay was a foundation member and office-bearer of the Ellensdale Preaching Station and of the parent Church in Newcastle. He became an Elder in 1907 and was ever faithful in attendance, loyal in service and steadfast in faith.

#### **Elder Robert William McLeod**

Mr. Robert McLeod had a very long association with St. Andrew's Church, Durban. He came to this country as a young man over fifty years ago and for practically all that length of time was a faithful and devoted member of our Church. He took office as manager in 1922 and was ordained as Elder in 1947. He was a member of the Property Committee for many years and had acted as its Chairman up until a year ago. He put his whole heart and soul into the work of our congregation. He will be much missed by all the members of St. Andrew's, but especially by those with whom he was associated in the Session and Board.

#### **Elder Andrew William Murray**

St. Andrew's congregation and Session, Pretoria, have sustained a great loss in the passing of Andrew William Murray, our senior Elder, who passed to his rest on the 19th August, 1953.

Andrew Murray joined St. Andrew's, Pretoria, by certificate from Cape Town, in January, 1902, and at the time of his death he was our senior male member of the congregation. He was made a member of the Board of Management in 1908, and ordained an Elder in 1913. As long as he was able he gave most loyal service to our congregation and to the cause of Christ. He never lost his deep love of St. Andrew's and to the last he kept a keen interest in her plans and witness.

With Andrew Murray we would rejoice in a faithful servant coming home to be forever with God in the Nearer Presence of His Love.

#### **Elder William Paterson**

The Session of the Berea Church, Durban, records with deep regret the passing from its fellowship on the 10th January, 1953, of William Paterson, after a long and progressive disability, bravely borne.

Born in Coatbridge, Scotland, he emigrated to this country fifty years ago as an employee of the Natal Government Railways. On his appointment to the Durban area he associated himself with the congregation of Berea which, for twenty-five years, he served faithfully and well. He was ordained to the Eldership in 1938, and in all things, by his walk and conversation, he upheld the dignity of that honoured office. We give thanks to Almighty God for our rich memories of a brother who served his Lord in simplicity, sincerity, and love, called now to take the place he has so worthily earned among the great cloud of witnesses.

#### **Elder James Rodger**

It is with very deep regret that the death of Mr. James Rodger is recorded.

He will be remembered for his devotion and faithfulness not only to the congregation of which he was a member, but in the work of the Church as a whole.

For many years he was Convener of the General Assembly's Statistics Committee, and this work he carried out with meticulous care. Apart, however, from this particular task, he had the interests and the welfare of the Church as a whole very much at heart, and during meetings of General Assembly, he contributed frequently in debate.

He was a lover of Church music, and on more than one occasion played the organ at Devotional Services prior to Sessions of the Assembly.

In latter years he was an Elder in Mowbray Presbyterian Church, Cape, carrying out his duties quietly and conscientiously. One notable piece of work which he completed was a detailed Communicants' Roll of all members of Mowbray Church since the inception of the congregation.

His fine tradition of service is being carried on by his family, all of whom are showing a like devotion and deep interest in the affairs of the Church.

#### **Elder William Stewart**

Mr. William Stewart, Session Clerk of St. George's, Johannesburg, passed to his rest on the 13th June, 1953, at the age of 75 years. He came to South Africa in 1902. He brought to this land high ideals of education. At Aliwal North, and later

at Johannesburg, he made a reputation for himself in his chosen profession. He was a pioneer in the movement for Holiday Camps for schoolchildren.

Mr. Stewart was also a man of a strong and deep faith and he served a series of congregations in the Eldership. For many years he was Session Clerk of St. George's, and no Minister ever had a stronger or more faithful friend. No church ever had an Elder who exemplified more faithfully what a good Elder should be. In Presbytery and General Assembly he played a strong part in upholding his conception of the Glory of the Church. As Superintendent of Education in the Mission Schools of the Transvaal he had a deep sympathy for the frustrations and difficulties of the African people. He brought to this work a true sense of dedication. He was also a member of the Order of Lay Preachers. He will be missed in St. George's and in the Councils of the Church.

### **Rev. Robert Whyte, B.D.**

With the passing of the Rev. Robert Whyte a valued personal contact with St. Andrew's Church, Cape Town, has been broken. Although retired from the active pastoral ministry for several years, he continued to the last to give a distinguished witness through the medium of his pen, and in his quiet, unobtrusive witness, of the faith that was in him. The staff of the nursing home remarked on the quality of his witness, as he experienced weakness, without complaining, and, overcoming his own discomfort, enquired concerning the welfare of others. I found in him an understanding friend, who gave willingly of the richness of his mind and experience when consulted. His scholarship, the background of which revealed an outstanding course of academic achievement, never obtruded, yet it was recognised without any self-advertisement, a quality to be found only in a true scholar, ever seeking, and sympathetic towards lesser minds. Christ lives to-day in our hearts. He lived His gospel, and did not depend on elaborate creeds and ceremonials, and the Christian Church has maintained its witness through centuries; therefore the followers of Christ have witnessed in their lives to the truths which Christ revealed.

The Rev. Robert Whyte dedicated himself to the ministry of Christ and interpreted His message by his life. He was honest and natural in his witness, never descending to anything which could be interpreted as *meretricious and cheap*. He loved quiet ways, striving to do full justice to his duties. Sensitive in spirit, he was often hurt, and perhaps exasperated by lesser minds, but never allowed himself to be moved to a wailing self-pity. He was always willing as a loyal minister of his Church to fulfil any service for its good government, but was never ambitious for the limelight or honours.

We pay tribute to the memory of one who stressed in his ministry the note of hope, and whose contact in his pastoral work brought to the needy one the very sympathy and uplifting of the Master. His prayers with the sick, his understanding of the aged, his willingness to serve in the spirit of the Master, his confident message of an eternal hope to the sorrowing. All those ministries, which never appear in statistics, endeared him to many and brought Christ near. An unusual tribute was paid to his memory in a leader in the *Cape Times*, which only emphasised the truth that his life was dedicated to God in Christ.

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