

**THE OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE
CHRISTIAN CHURCH AND THE CHRISTIAN
PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION, HELD AT
PIQUA, OHIO, OCTOBER 22-29, 1929**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649269136

The Official proceedings of the General Convention of the Christian Church and the Christian Publishing Association, held at Piqua, Ohio, October 22-29, 1929 by Warren H. Denison

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WARREN H. DENISON

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REV. RAYMOND G. CLARK, M. A., B. D., Minister
First Christian Church, Piqua, Ohio



First Christian Church, Piqua, Ohio
GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
October 22-29, 1929

The Official Proceedings

of the

General Convention *of the* Christian Church

and the

Christian Publishing Association

Held at

Piqua, Ohio, October 22-29, 1929



The reports contained herein are in final form as adopted by the General Convention and The Christian Publishing Association, after all amendments and revisions have been made.

WARREN H. DENISON, Secretary.

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Constitution of The General Convention of the Christian Church

ARTICLE I. NAME.

This organization shall be called The General Convention of the Christian Church.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE.

The object of this Convention shall be to maintain and promote the charitable, religious, missionary, educational, and publishing enterprises of the Christian Church, and to exercise such power as has been granted to it by the laws under which it has been incorporated and by its charter.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP.

The membership of this Convention shall be as follows:

Section 1. The members of the General Board shall be members of the General Convention during their term of office.

Section 2. Each local conference, except those of the Southern Christian Convention, which is itself so entitled, may be represented by its president, and by one minister and one layman for each seven hundred members or major fraction thereof, provided that no conference shall be deprived of representation by one minister and one layman in addition to its president.

Section 3. Presidents of state associations or conferences and of regional conventions, auxiliary to the Convention or co-operating with it, shall be members of the Convention.

Section 4. The Afro-Christian Convention may be represented by its president, secretary, and three elected delegates.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS.

Section 1. The officers of this Convention shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, and the members of the boards provided for in Article V. The same person may be elected secretary and treasurer.

Section 2. The officers shall assume the duties of their respective offices at the close of the session at which they are elected and serve for a term of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified, provided that salaried officers shall assume the duties of their respective offices on the first day of January following their election.

ARTICLE V. BOARDS.

The Convention shall include the following boards: Missions, Christian Education, Publications, Evangelism and Life Service, and Finance.

ARTICLE VI. DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Section 1. President. It shall be the duty of the president to preside at the meetings of the General Convention, of the General Board, and of the Executive Committee; to authenticate by his signature all official papers of the Convention; to call meetings of the Executive Committee when in his judgment such meetings are necessary or when requested to do so by three members of the Committee; to issue the official calls for meetings of the General Convention and of the General Board; to represent the Church at interdenominational gatherings; and to perform such other duties as may be required of him.

Section 2. Vice-president. The vice-president shall preside in the absence of the president. In case of a vacancy in the office of president, the vice-president shall become president for the unexpired term.

Section 3. Secretary. The secretary shall keep a full and accurate record of the proceedings of the General Convention, of the General Board, and of the Executive Committee. He shall be the statistician of the Church and the editor of The Christian Annual and of such other publications as may be assigned to him. He shall promote the interests of the churches, conferences, and conventions in every way. He shall perform such other duties as may be required of him.

Section 4. Treasurer. The treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Convention and of its boards and departments not otherwise provided for. Permanent and other available funds shall be invested in interest bearing securities under the direction of the Board of Finance. The treasurer's records shall indicate clearly and definitely the various funds to which monies belong. All undesignated funds shall be paid out under the direction of the General Board.

ARTICLE VII. BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Section 1. The Board of Missions shall include the department of Home Missions and Church Extension and the department of Foreign Missions. The Board shall elect a president, a recording secretary, and other necessary officers; shall have charge of the invested mission funds including real estate; and shall have the general oversight of the mission program of the Convention.

Section 2. The department of Home Missions and Church Extension shall be composed of six members, one of whom shall be the executive secretary and be known as the Secretary of Home Missions. The department shall elect a president, a recording secretary, and other necessary officers, and shall have the general management of the home mission and church extension program of the Convention.

Section 3. The department of Foreign Missions shall be composed of six members, one of whom shall be the executive secretary and be known as the Secretary of Foreign Missions. The department shall elect a president, a recording secretary, and other necessary officers, and shall have the general management of the foreign mission program of the Convention.

ARTICLE VIII. BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

Section 1. The Board of Christian Education shall be composed of twelve members, one of whom shall be the executive secretary and shall be known as the Secretary of Christian Education. The Board shall elect a president, recording secretary, and other necessary officers, shall have charge of all the Convention interests connected with Christian education, shall survey, outline, promote, and direct a full program of Christian education and training for Christian life and service reaching from our homes through our churches, communities, schools, and colleges, and shall fraternally co-operate with similar departments in other denominations, and with organizations having similar objectives.

Section 2. The equities of the General Convention in the institutions of learning of the Christian Church, not otherwise provided for, shall be vested in the Board of Christian Education, and said Board shall at all times take such steps as shall be necessary to safeguard such equities.

ARTICLE IX. BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS.

The Board of Publications shall be composed of nine members, one of whom shall be the executive secretary and shall be known as the Secretary of Publications. The Board shall elect a president, a recording secretary, and other necessary officers. The personnel of the Board of Publications and of the Board of Trustees of The Christian Publishing Association shall be the same. The Board shall have the general management of the publishing interests of the Convention.

ARTICLE X. BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LIFE SERVICE.

The Board of Evangelism and Life Service shall be composed of six members, one of whom shall be the executive secretary and be known as the Secretary of Evangelism and Life Service. The Board shall elect a president, a recording secretary, and other necessary officers, and shall have the general management of the program of evangelism and enlistment for Christian service.

ARTICLE XI. BOARD OF FINANCE.

The Board of Finance shall be composed of seven members, one of whom shall be the executive secretary and be known as the Secretary of Finance. The Board shall elect a president, a recording secretary, and other necessary officers, and shall have the general management of the financial program of the Convention.

ARTICLE XII. GENERAL BOARD.

Section 1. The General Board shall be composed of the officers of the General Convention, the editor or editors of The Herald of Gospel Liberty, the editors, managers, and administrative or field secretaries elected or approved by the General Board, the presidents of the Institutions of Learning endorsed by the Convention or recognized as co-operating with it, and the president of the Woman's Mission Board.

Section 2. The General Board, when in session, shall perform ad interim the duties of the General Convention; nominate to the Board of Trustees of The Christian Publishing Association the editor or editors of The Herald of Gospel Liberty; elect the editor or editors of The Christian Missionary; fill vacancies in the office of the Convention not otherwise provided for; receive and review at the annual meeting the programs and reports of the various boards and departments, including their budgets, with power to direct any board or department to readjust its program and budget wherever necessary to fit into the whole scheme of the Church's activities; nominate the necessary number of trustees of DeFiance College as provided by its charter; and transact such other business as may properly be done by such a board.

Section 3. The president, vice-president, and secretary of the General Convention shall be the president, vice-president, and secretary respectively of the General Board.

Section 4. The General Board shall meet at the call of the president not later than thirty days after the close of the quadrennial session of the General Convention and annually thereafter on the third Thursday of October. When necessary, the time of the annual meeting may be changed by the Executive Committee.

Section 5. The General Board may adopt such regulations and by-laws for its government as may be necessary, such regulations and by-laws being in conformity with the Constitution and By-laws of the General Convention.

ARTICLE XIII. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall be composed of the president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, of the General Convention, and the secretaries of Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Christian Education, Publications, Evangelism and Life Service, and Finance.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall constitute the Board of Trustees of the General Convention and shall control and conduct the corporate powers, business, and property of the General Convention.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall be the executive agency of the General Board and shall have such powers and duties as may be assigned to it by the General Board or the General Convention. The Executive Committee shall perform ad interim the duties of the General Convention when the General Board is not in session.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall meet on call of the president or of any three members. The president and the secretary of the General Board shall be the president and secretary respectively of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XIV. FRANKLINTON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE.

The Convention shall elect seven persons who shall constitute the Board of Control of Franklinton Christian College. Said Board of Control shall exercise the function of trustees of said College and shall be responsible for the efficient management of the institution.

ARTICLE XV. MEETINGS.

The regular sessions of the General Convention shall be held quadrennially in the month of October, counting from the session of 1922. Special sessions may be held at the call of the General Board.

ARTICLE XVI. AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended at any session of the Convention by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, provided that a notice of the proposed amendment shall have been published in The Herald of Gospel Liberty sixty days prior to the meeting of the Convention; or without notice by a three-fourths vote of the members present and voting.

ARTICLE XVII

(On recommendation of the Committee on Organization, Article XVII was by unanimous vote added to the above Constitution at Piqua, Ohio, October 28, 1929, as follows):

That the Constitution of The General Convention of the Christian Church be, and the same is, hereby amended by the addition of Article XVII, which Article XVII shall consist of the Plan of Union of the Congregational and Christian Churches as adopted by The General Convention of the Christian Church on Friday, October 25, 1929, the different sections of said plan to constitute sections of Article XVII, and to be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals instead of Roman numerals as used in said Plan of Union, so that said Article XVII shall read as follows, to-wit: (See Plan of Union on pages 24-28.)

And, be it further resolved, that all parts and sections of the Constitution and By-Laws of The General Convention of the Christian Church in conflict with said Article XVII are hereby repealed, or modified, to conform to the provisions of said Article XVII, whichever the exigencies of the situation shall require.

By-Laws of The General Convention of the Christian Church

BY-LAW I. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS.

1. There shall be a nominating committee of fifteen members, appointed by the president of the General Convention, subject to the approval of the Convention. The nominating committee shall nominate one person for each office to be filled by the Convention, provided that the Woman's Mission Board shall have the privilege of nominating one member of the department of Home Missions and Church Extension and one member of the department of Foreign Missions in lieu of the nominations of said members by the nominating committee. It shall be the duty of the Woman's Mission Board to certify its nominations to the Secretary of the Convention before the time set for the election of officers.

2. Additional nominations may be made by members of the Convention for all offices to be filled by the Convention.

3. All officers not otherwise provided for shall be elected by the Convention by ballot, provided that the election may be viva voce vote when there is only one nomination for an office. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for an election.

4. In the election of the members of the various boards and departments, the Convention shall designate the members who are to serve as executive secretaries of their respective boards and departments. Executive secretaries may or may not be salaried officers of their respective boards or departments. In case a board or department shall elect a member of the Board of Missions, Christian Education, Publications, or Evangelism and Life Service as an administrative or field secretary, thereby creating a vacancy, the vacancy shall be filled by the General Board.

BY-LAW II. NOMINATION OF EDITORS.

1. The Board of Missions shall nominate the editor or editors of The Christian Missionary.

2. The Board of Christian Education and the Board of Publications shall jointly nominate to the Board of Trustees of The Christian Publishing Association the editors of the educational publications, subject to the approval of the General Board.

BY-LAW III. INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING.

The following institution of learning are endorsed by the Convention or recognized as co-operating with it, namely:

Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio.
 Union Christian College, North Carolina.
 Elon College, Merom, Indiana.
 Palmer College, North Carolina.
 Palmer Institute-Starkey Seminary, Lakemont, New York.
 Bethlehem College, Wadley, Alabama.
 Franklinton Christian College, Franklinton, North Carolina.
 Kirton Hall, Toronto, Canada.

BY-LAW IV. BONDS OF OFFICERS.

All officers of the Convention and of the boards and departments who handle money shall give bonds in such sums as the Board of Finance shall require. The Board of Finance shall be responsible for the execution of this requirement.

BY-LAW V. FISCAL YEAR.

The fiscal year of the Convention shall begin with the first of October.

BY-LAW VI. CHURCH YEAR.

The various interests of the Convention shall receive special emphasis according to the following calendar:

- a. During January, the General Convention and Christian Union.
- b. During February and March, Foreign Missions.
- c. During April, Evangelism.
- d. During May and June, Home Missions and Church Extension.
- e. During July, August, September, and October, Christian Education.
- f. During November and December, Stewardship and Social Service.

BY-LAW VII. BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

The presidents of Defiance College, Elon College, Palmer College, and Bethlehem College shall be ex officio members of the Board of Christian Education.

BY-LAW VIII. BOARD OF FINANCE.

The president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer of the General Convention shall be ex officio members of the Board of Finance. The other members of this Board shall be elected by the General Board at its first meeting after the quadrennial session of the Convention.

BY-LAW IX. BUREAU OF STEWARDSHIP AND PROMOTION.

The General Board shall elect three persons who shall constitute the Bureau of Stewardship and Promotion.

BY-LAW X. BUREAU OF SOCIAL SERVICE.

The General Board shall elect three persons who shall constitute the Bureau of Social Service.

BY-LAW XI. STATISTICIAN.

The Secretary of the Convention shall be the statistician of the Church and shall keep a complete record of the membership of the entire Church by conventions and conferences. These records shall be revised annually and all reports of committees and commissions made to or in the name of the General Convention, including statistics, shall be read and approved by the statistician before being printed or made public in any way.

BY-LAW XII. ANNUAL AND QUADRENNIAL REPORTS.

The president, secretary, and treasurer of the Convention, and all boards, departments, bureaus, and permanent committees shall make to the General Board annual reports of their activities during the previous year and their programs and budgets for the ensuing year. These reports shall be sufficiently detailed and complete to give the General Board adequate information concerning the activities and programs of the entire Church.

These officers, boards, departments, bureaus, and permanent committees shall report quadrennially to the General Convention.

BY-LAW XIII. RULES OF ORDER.

The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, latest revised edition, shall govern the Convention, its boards and departments, in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the constitution, by-laws, and special rules of order of the Convention.

BY-LAW XIV. INELIGIBILITY.

No person shall be eligible to serve on any two of the following boards, namely: Missions,

Christian Education, Publications, and Evangelism and Life Service.

BY-LAW XV. AMENDMENTS.

These by-laws may be amended at any session of the General Convention by the vote of

two-thirds of the members present and voting.

BY-LAW XVI. BUREAU OF MINISTERIAL SUPPLY.
The General Board shall elect three persons who shall constitute the Bureau of Ministerial Supply.

The General Convention of the Christian Church Officers, Boards, Bureaus, Commissions and Committees

OFFICERS

President, Rev. F. G. Coffin, D. D., Columbus, Ohio.
Vice-President, Rev. D. B. Atkinson, D. D., Albany, Mo.
Secretary, Rev. Warren H. Denison, D. D., Dayton, Ohio.
Treasurer, Mr. J. L. Reck, Covington, Ohio.
Secretary of Home Missions, Rev. A. W. Sparks, Dayton, Ohio.
Secretary of Foreign Missions, Rev. W. P. Minton, D. D., Dayton, Ohio.
Secretary of Christian Education, Pres. W. A. Harper, Elon College, N. C.
Secretary of Publications, Mr. H. E. Sims, Piqua, Ohio.
Secretary of Evangelism and Life Service, Rev. McD. Howsare, D. D., Dayton, Ohio.
Secretary of Finance, Rev. Warren H. Denison, D. D., Dayton, Ohio.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
The above officers constitute the Executive committee.

THE GENERAL BOARD OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The Board of Missions.
The Board of Christian Education.
The Board of Publications.
The Board of Evangelism and Life Service.
The Board of Finance.
The Editor of The Herald of Gospel Liberty.
The Editors, managers, administrative or field secretaries elected or approved by the General Board.
Presidents of the institutions of learning endorsed by the Convention or recognized as co-operating with it.
President of the Woman's Mission Board.
The Board has fifty-two members.

BOARD OF MISSIONS

1. Department of Home Missions and Church Extension:
Rev. A. W. Sparks, Dayton, Ohio, Executive Secretary.
Rev. H. M. Hainer, New Bedford, Mass.
Rev. C. G. Nelson, Oronoque, Kans.
Rev. H. H. Short, Hagerstown, Ind.
* Rev. A. W. Hirby, Trotwood, Ohio.
Mrs. Athella M. Howsare, Dayton, Ohio.
2. Department of Foreign Missions:
Rev. W. P. Minton, D. D., Dayton, Ohio, Executive Secretary.
Rev. E. A. Watkins, D. D., Lebanon, Ind.
Rev. W. P. Fletcher, D. D., Oshawa, Ont.
Mr. Roy Rensberger, Goshen, Ind.
Rev. J. O. Atkinson, D. D., Elon College, N. C.
Mrs. Alice V. Morrill, Defiance, Ohio.

* Deceased.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Pres. W. A. Harper, Elon College, N. C., Executive Secretary.
Pres. A. G. Caris, Defiance, Ohio.
Rev. D. B. Atkinson, D. D., Albany, Mo.
Pres. S. L. Beougher, Wadley, Ala.
Rev. W. G. Sargent, D. D., Providence, R. I.
Rev. H. A. Smith, D. D., Versailles, O.
Rev. A. B. Kendall, D. D., Hilton, N. Y.
Rev. Roy C. Helfenstain, D. D., Dover, Del.
Rev. Edwin B. Flory, Dayton, Ohio.
Rev. H. Shelton Smith, New Haven, Conn.
Rev. Raymond G. Clark, Piqua, Ohio.
Miss Helen R. Stearns, Dayton, Ohio.

BOARD OF PUBLICATIONS

Mr. H. E. Sims, Piqua, Ohio, Executive Secretary.
Rev. W. J. Young, Muncie, Ind.
Hon. O. W. Whitelock, Huntington, Ind.
Rev. J. N. Dales, D. D., Lakemont, N. Y.
Rev. W. W. Staley, D. D., Suffolk, Va.
Mr. U. G. Brownell, New Bedford, Mass.
Rev. A. E. Kemp, D. D., Urbana, Ill.
Rev. C. E. Huff, Salina, Kans.
Mr. J. O. Winters, Springfield, Ohio.

BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND LIFE SERVICE

Rev. McD. Howsare, D. D., Dayton, Ohio, Executive Secretary.
Rev. Clarence Defur, D. D., Madrid, Iowa.
Rev. J. H. Lightbourne, D. D., Troy, Ohio.
Rev. W. H. Hainer, D. D., Irvington, N. J.
Mr. Netum Rathbun, Dayton, Ohio.
Rev. O. S. Thomas, D. D., Covington, O.

BOARD OF FINANCE

Rev. Warren H. Denison, D. D., Dayton, Ohio, Executive Secretary.
Rev. F. G. Coffin, D. D., Columbus, Ohio.
Rev. D. B. Atkinson, D. D., Albany, Mo.
Mr. J. L. Reck, Covington, Ohio.
Rev. J. E. Smith, D. D., Norfolk, Va.
Mr. A. F. Foor, Everett, Pa.
Mr. Perry G. Yantis, Troy, Ohio

BOARD OF CONTROL OF FRANKLIN- TON CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Rev. J. O. Atkinson, D. D., Chairman, Elon College, N. C.
Rev. W. G. Sargent, D. D., Providence, R. I.
Rev. A. W. Sparks, Dayton, Ohio.
Mr. John V. Sees, Huntington, Indiana.
Rev. Omer S. Thomas, D. D., Covington, Ohio.
Rev. J. A. Henderson, Franklinton, N. C.
Mrs. Sadie K. Swartzel, R. R. 13, Dayton, Ohio.