

**PART IX**  
**CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES**

**CHAPTERS**  
**CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES**

## CHAPTER I

### CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES

¶ 294. 1. Genesee (1860).—The Genesee conference shall embrace that portion of the state of New York lying west of the Genesee river, including Rochester, Mount Morris, Groveland, Belmont, Scio and Wellsville.

¶ 295. 2. Illinois (1860).—The Illinois conference shall embrace all that part of the state of Illinois north of a line beginning at Fort Madison, Iowa, running east to the Illinois river, thence down the river to a point due west of Fowler, Indiana, thence east to the state line.

¶ 296. 3. Susquehanna (1862).—The Susquehanna conference shall embrace the counties of Tioga, Sullivan and Bradford, in the state of Pennsylvania, all that part of the state of New York east of the Genesee conference, and north of a line beginning at Great Bend, in Pennsylvania, and running due north to the Albany and Susquehanna railroad, thence east along said railroad to Oneonta, and thence due east to the state of Massachusetts; but not including the villages situated immediately upon that portion of the said Albany and Susquehanna railroad. This conference shall also include Vermont and the province of Quebec.

¶ 297. 4. Michigan (1865).—The Michigan conference shall embrace that portion of the state of Michigan lying south of the base line.

¶ 298. 5. Kansas (1871).—The Kansas confer-



ence shall include all that portion of the state of Kansas lying east of a line running due north from the state of Oklahoma, along the west line of McPherson county, Kansas, to the southwest corner of Cloud county, Kansas; thence east to the southeast corner of the said Cloud county; thence due north to the Nebraska state line.

¶ 299. 6. Minnesota and Northern Iowa (1872). The Minnesota and Northern Iowa conference shall embrace that portion of the state of Minnesota south of a line running due west from Stillwater, Minnesota, to Lac-qui-parle lake and thence up the north and east bank of the Minnesota river, to the 46th parallel of latitude, and thence west across to the east line of Dakota, except Nobles, Rock, Pipestone, Murray, Lincoln, Lyon, Yellow Medicine and Lac-qui-parle counties in Minnesota, and shall include that portion of Iowa not included in the Iowa, West Iowa and South Dakota conferences.

¶ 300. 7. New York (1873).—The New York conference shall embrace all parts of the states of New York and Pennsylvania not included in the Genesee, Pittsburgh, Oil City and Susquehanna conferences, and the states of New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

¶ 301. 8. Iowa (1875).—The Iowa conference shall include that portion of the state of Iowa lying east and south of the following lines: Beginning at the southeast corner of Decatur county, thence north to Hamilton county, thence along the east line of Hamilton and Wright counties to the northeast corner of Wright county, thence east to Clayton on the Mississippi river. It shall also include the city of Des Moines according to its present incorporate limits (1898).



¶ 302. 9. Wisconsin (1875).—The Wisconsin conference shall include the state of Wisconsin.

¶ 303. 10. North Michigan (1876).—The North Michigan conference shall embrace that portion of the state of Michigan lying north of the base line from the southeast corner of Eaton county, and southwest corner of Ingham, thence north parallel with the meridian line to Lake Huron. It shall also include the Upper Peninsula and Drummond's Island.

¶ 304. 11. Ohio (1879).—The Ohio conference shall embrace the state of Ohio, except the towns included in the Pittsburgh and Oil City conferences.

¶ 305. 12. Central Illinois (1879).—The Central Illinois conference shall include that portion of the state of Illinois not included in the Illinois and Wabash conferences. It shall also include the city of St. Louis, Missouri.

¶ 306. 13. Texas (1881).—The Texas conference shall include that part of the state of Texas not included in the East Texas conference, and that part of New Mexico lying east of the 106th meridian.

¶ 307. 14. Missouri (1883).—The Missouri conference shall embrace all that portion of the state of Missouri lying north of a line beginning at Carondolet and running directly west through the state, via Warrensburg, to the west line of the state, except the city of St. Louis.

¶ 308. 15. West Kansas (1883).—The West Kansas conference shall include all parts of the state of Kansas not included in the Kansas conference.

¶ 309. 16. South Dakota (1883).—The South Dakota conference shall embrace the state of South Dakota except that portion of the state bounded by a line commencing at the southeast corner of Shannon county; thence north to the White river; thence east along to its junction with the Missouri river; thence

along the Missouri river to the south line of the state of South Dakota; thence west along state line to the southeast corner of Shannon county. It shall also include Lyon, Osceola, O'Brien and Sioux counties, in the state of Iowa, and Nobles, Rock, Pipestone, Murray, Lincoln, Lyon, Yellow Medicine and Lac-quiparle counties in Minnesota.

¶ 310. 17. Pittsburgh (1883).—The Pittsburgh conference shall include all that part of the state of Pennsylvania lying west of a line running across the state due north and south through the east boundary line of Potter county, not included in the Oil City conference. It shall also include all the towns from the Pennsylvania state line to Bridgeport on the west bank of the Ohio river in which the Pittsburgh conference now has organized societies, and the state of West Virginia.

¶ 311. 18. California (1883).—The California conference shall embrace all the state of California lying north of San Luis Obispo, Kern and Inyo counties.

¶ 312. 19. East Michigan (1884).—The East Michigan conference shall embrace all that part of Michigan lying north of the base line and east of a line beginning at the southwest corner of Ingham and southeast corner of Eaton counties, thence north running parallel with the meridian line to Lake Huron.

¶ 313. 20. Louisiana (1884).—The Louisiana conference shall include the states of Louisiana and Mississippi.

¶ 314. 21. Oregon (1885).—The Oregon conference shall include all that part of the state of Oregon not embraced in the Columbia River and Southern Oregon conferences.

¶ 315. 22. West Iowa (1885).—The West Iowa conference shall embrace all of the state of Iowa

lying west of the Iowa conference, and south of a line running west from the northeast corner of Wright county along the county lines to the Big Sioux river, also including the county of Dakota, in the state of Nebraska.

¶ 316. 23. Wabash (1885).—The Wabash conference shall include all that part of the state of Indiana lying south of a line beginning at the northwest corner of Benton county, thence east through Pleasant Mills, Adams county, to the Ohio state line, and that portion of the state of Illinois bounded by a line running west from Fowler, Indiana, to a point six miles west of the Chicago branch of the Illinois Central railroad, and thence running southwest, parallel with said railroad to the south line of Shelby county, and thence along the line of the Springfield branch of the Ohio and Mississippi railroad to Shawneetown.

¶ 317. 24. Colorado (1886).—The Colorado conference shall embrace the state of Colorado, the state of Utah, that part of Wyoming lying south of the 42nd meridian, and that part of New Mexico lying west of the 106th meridian.

¶ 318. 25. North Minnesota (1887).—The North Minnesota conference shall embrace all that part of the state of Minnesota not included in the Minnesota and Northern Iowa conference.

¶ 319. 26. Nebraska (1890).—The Nebraska conference shall be bounded by a line commencing at the southwest corner of Thayer county, Nebraska, thence north to the northwest corner of Platte county, thence west to the southeast corner of Wheeler county, thence north to the northeast corner of Wheeler county, thence west to the northwest corner of Grant county, thence north to the White river in South Dakota, thence east along the White river to its junction with the Missouri river, thence east to the southeast,



along the Missouri river, to its junction with Dakota county, thence along the county line to the northwest corner, thence to the southwest corner, thence east along southern boundary of said county to the Missouri river, thence along the Missouri river to the southeast corner of state of Nebraska, thence west along the southern boundary of the state of Nebraska to place of beginning.

¶ 320. 27. Southern California (1891).—The Southern California conference shall embrace all of the state of California not embraced in the California conference, together with the state of Arizona.

¶ 321. 28. Arkansas and Southern Missouri (1895).—The Arkansas and Southern Missouri conference shall embrace the state of Arkansas together with that part of Missouri not included in the Missouri conference.

¶ 322. 29. Columbia River (1896).—The Columbia River conference shall include that part of the state of Washington lying east of Grant, Douglas and Okanogan counties, and that part of Oregon east of Gilliam, Wheeler and Crook counties, and north of the boundaries of the Southern Oregon conference; it shall also include the state of Idaho and that part of the state of Montana lying west of the 110th meridian.

¶ 323. 30. Washington (1896).—The Washington conference shall be bounded by the Columbia river on the south, and on the east by the Columbia river to the intersection of the Columbia river with the southern boundary of Grant county, thence along the eastern boundary of Grant, Douglas and Okanogan counties to the northern boundary of the state, thence west to the crest of the Cascade Mountains, thence along the crest of the Cascade Mountains to and including Alaska, and on the west by the Pacific waters.

¶ 324. 31. Platte River (1896).—The Platte

River conference shall include all that part of the state of Nebraska not included in the Nebraska conference and that part of Wyoming lying north of the 42nd meridian.

¶ 325. 32. West Ontario (1896).—The West Ontario conference shall include all that part of the province of Ontario lying west of the following boundary line: The Niagara river, the west bounds of the counties of Peel and Simcoe, and the west bounds of the Muskoka, Parry Sound and Nipissing districts.

¶ 326. 33. East Ontario (1896).—The East Ontario conference shall include all that part of the province of Ontario not included in the West Ontario conference.

¶ 327. 34. Kentucky and Tennessee (1896).—The Kentucky and Tennessee conference shall include the states of Kentucky and Tennessee.

¶ 328. 35. North Dakota (1897).—The North Dakota conference shall include all of the state of North Dakota and that part of Montana lying east of the 110th meridian.

¶ 329. 36. Oil City (1899).—The Oil City conference shall include that part of the state of Pennsylvania lying west of a line beginning at the northeast corner of Potter county in said state and running due south to the south bounds of the state. This line, north and south, is also the east boundary line of the Pittsburgh conference. The southern boundary line of the Oil city conference shall be as follows: Beginning at the Ohio state line and running due east along the south bounds of Lawrence county to the west bounds of Clearfield county, thence south to the southwest corner of Clearfield county, thence east along the south bounds of Clearfield and Center counties to the eastern boundary line of the Oil City and Pittsburgh conferences above mentioned; also the



counties of Huntington, Mifflin, Juniata, Snyder, Union, Lycoming and Clinton; also that part of Blair county north of the line from east to west of Altoona, all in the state of Pennsylvania. It shall also include the towns of Conneaut and North Kingsville, in the state of Ohio.

¶ 330. 37. Oklahoma (1889).—The Oklahoma conference shall include all of Oklahoma and the Indian Territory.

¶ 331. 38. South Africa (1907).—The South Africa mission conference shall include the whole of Portuguese East Africa, Natal, Transvaal, Cape Colony and the Orange River Colony.

¶ 332. 39. Southern Oregon (1912).—The Southern Oregon conference shall include that part of the state of Oregon lying south of a line beginning at the Pacific Ocean at the northwest corner of Lane county and extending due east across the state.

¶ 333. 40. Georgia and Florida (1913).—The Georgia and Florida conference shall include the states of Georgia and Florida.

¶ 334. 41. Saskatchewan (1914).—The Saskatchewan conference shall include the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

¶ 335. 42. Alberta (1914).—The Alberta conference shall include the province of Alberta and all that portion of the province of British Columbia lying east of the crest of the Cascade Mountains.

¶ 336. 43. East Texas (1915).—The East Texas conference is bounded as follows: Beginning at the Texas and Pacific Railroad, at the boundary line of Texas and Louisiana, on the Shreveport branch, following the same to Big Sandy, thence to the St. Louis and Southwestern Railroad to Waco, thence to San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railroad to Cuero, thence the Southern Pacific to Port Lavaca, thence along the



Gulf of Mexico to Louisiana, thence up the Louisiana line to the point of beginning.

¶ 337. 44. North Indiana (reorganized 1922).—North Indiana conference shall embrace that part of Indiana north and east of a line running east along the line of the Toledo, Peoria and Warsaw railroad to the second principal meridian, thence due south to the south line of Boone county, thence due east to the Ohio state line. It shall include the whole of Union City.

¶ 338. 45. Japan (1923).—The Japan conference shall include all of the work in Japan which is carried on by the Free Methodist church.

¶ 339. Any question of boundaries that may arise shall be referred to the executive committee.

**PART X**  
**THE RITUAL**

## **CHAPTERS**

- I. BAPTISM**
- II. THE LORD'S SUPPER**
- III. THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY**
- IV. THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD**
- V. ORDINATION SERVICES**
- VI. FORM FOR DEDICATION OF  
CHURCHES**



## CHAPTER I

### BAPTISM

¶ 340. 1. Adult persons and the parents of each child to be baptized, shall have the choice of immersion, sprinkling, or pouring.

2. We will on no account whatever make a charge for administering baptism.

#### I. Of Infants

[The minister coming to the font, which is to be filled with pure water, shall use the following:]

¶ 341. Dearly beloved, forasmuch as our Savior, Christ, saith, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God;" and as the holy apostle St. Peter declares that, "The promise is unto you and to your children," therefore this child has been brought hither that he may be consecrated by this solemn ordinance to the service of his Creator, and that he may receive the sign and seal of the covenant of grace into which God is mercifully pleased to enter with all his children;

I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy he will grant unto this child, that he being made partaker of the divine nature may grow up into Christ our living head in all things, till he comes in the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the

stature of the fulness of Christ; and unto these parents the needed grace that they may properly discharge all the duties they owe to this child which God has given them

[Then shall the minister say:]

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, the aid of all who need, the helper of all who flee to thee for succor, the covenant-keeping God, we thank thee that thou hast made it our privilege to dedicate our children to thy service, that they may live to thy glory, and gain everlasting life. We call upon thee for this child that he may be delivered from the power of sin and Satan, and be sanctified by the power of the Holy Ghost, and enjoy the everlasting benediction of thy heavenly washing. We pray thee for these parents, that they may realize how great is the responsibility resting upon them touching the proper training of those entrusted to their care; we beseech thee to grant unto them the aid of thy Holy Spirit, that both by precept and example they may so lead this child in the narrow way of life, that both parent and child may come to the everlasting kingdom, which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord. Amen.

[Then shall the people stand up and the minister shall say:]

Hear the words of the gospel written by St. Mark, in the tenth chapter, commencing with the thirteenth verse:

They brought young children to Christ, that he should touch them. And his disciples rebuked those that brought them; but when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto

you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he cannot enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them and blessed them.

[Then shall the minister demand of the parents severally, as follows:]

Ques. Dost thou, in the presence of God, and of these witnesses, solemnly dedicate this child to the Lord, that he may live in his service all his days?

Ans. I do.

Ques. Dost thou, so far as thou canst, in his behalf, renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that, in the training of this child, thou wilt not follow nor be led by them; and so that, as far as in thee lies, thou wilt prevent him from following the same?

Ans. I do.

Ques. Dost thou believe in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

Ans. I do.

Ques. Wilt thou, out of the same, diligently teach this child the statutes and commandments of the Most High; and wilt thou train him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

Ans. I will.

[Then the minister shall take the child into his hands and say to the friends of the child:]

Name this child.

[And then, naming it after them, he shall sprinkle or pour water upon it, or, if desired, immerse it in water, saying:]

N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.



[Then he shall say, all kneeling:]

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

[Then shall the minister conclude with extemporary prayer.]

## II. Of Those of Riper Years

¶ 342. Dearly beloved, since all men are by nature sinners, and have nothing in themselves by which they can be delivered from the guilt and pollution of sin, and attain to that holiness without which no man can see the Lord, we invite you to join with us in fervent prayer for these persons, that they may have grace always to keep their covenant with God, and that they may continually enjoy the washing of regeneration, and the renewing of the Holy Ghost.

[Then shall the minister say:]

Almighty and immortal God, the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee for succor, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead; we call upon thee for these persons; that they, coming to thy holy baptism, may by this rite truthfully testify to that inner washing through faith in the precious blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and that they may enjoy the everlasting benediction of this heavenly washing and come to the eternal kingdom which thou hast promised by Christ our Lord.

[Then shall the people stand up, and the minister shall say:]

Hear the words of the Savior as recorded in the gospel written by St. Matthew, in the twenty-eighth

chapter, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and, lo! I am with you alway even unto the end of the world." Amen.

[Then the minister shall speak to the person to be baptized in this wise:]

Well beloved, who here present yourselves for holy baptism, you have heard how the congregation hath prayed that God would continue his loving favor toward you and bring you unto his eternal kingdom. And God, the covenant-keeping God, hath promised by his only begotten Son whom he yielded up for our redemption that he would grant these gracious favors. Wherefore you must promise upon your part in the presence of this congregation that you, renouncing the devil and all his works, will implicitly believe God's holy word and obediently keep his commandments.

[Then shall the minister demand of each of the persons to be baptized severally:]

Ques. Dost thou renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the carnal desires of the flesh. so that thou wilt not follow nor be led by them?

Ans. I renounce them all.

Ques. Dost thou believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth? and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord? and that he was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary? that he suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried? that he arose again on the third day? that he ascended into heaven, and

sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, and from thence shall come again, at the end of the world, to judge the quick and the dead?

And dost thou believe in the Holy Ghost, the communion of saints; the remission of sins; the resurrection of the body, and everlasting life after death?

Ans. All this I steadfastly believe.

Ques. Wilt thou be baptized in this faith?

Ans. This is my desire.

Ques. Wilt thou obediently keep God's will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of thy life?

Ans. I will endeavor so to do, God being my helper.

[Then shall the minister say:]

Almighty and everlasting God, author of life eternal, grant that the regenerating grace which thou hast so mercifully vouchsafed to these persons may not have been bestowed in vain. Grant also that they may enjoy that greater baptism of the Holy Ghost to the end that all carnal affections may be destroyed in them and that every Christian grace and virtue may freely live and grow in them. Amen. Almighty God, Father of all mankind, Eternal Son, Deliverer of thine Israel, Holy Spirit, Guide of thy people, grant that these persons may have constant victory over the world, the flesh and the devil, and that they may enjoy the fulness of thy grace and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children. We ask it through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

[Then shall the minister take by the right hand each person to be baptized, and placing him conveniently by the font, according to his discretion, shall ask the name and then sprinkle or pour water upon him (or if he shall desire it, shall immerse him in water), saying:]



N., I baptize thee in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

[Then s'all be said the Lord's Prayer, all kneeling, concluding with extemporary prayer and the benediction.]

## CHAPTER II

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

(The use of individual communion cups is recommended, wherever practicable.)

#### I. General Directions

¶ 343. 1. Let all our ministers exercise due care to see that no person known to be living an immoral life, or to be guilty of any disreputable practise be admitted to the Lord's table among us until he shall have given satisfactory evidence of repentance and amendment of life.

2. All persons properly included in the general invitation may be allowed to partake of the Lord's Supper among us.

#### II. Order for the Administration of the Lord's Supper

[The elder may say:]

¶ 344. Ye that do truly and earnestly repent of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking henceforth in his holy ways, draw near with faith, and take this holy sacrament to your comfort; and, meekly kneeling, make your humble confession to Almighty God.

[Then may this general confession be made:]

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowl-

edge and bewail the manifold sins and wickedness of our past lives, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our past misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, for thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

[Or in place of it the elder may say the Lord's Prayer, the people repeating it with him.]

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

[Then may the elder say:]

O Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy great mercy hast promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto thee; have mercy upon us; pardon and deliver us from our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

#### THE COLLECT

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are opened, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly



love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

[Then may the elder say:]

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, Almighty and everlasting God.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high. Amen.

[Then may the elder say:]

We do not presume to come to this thy table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy; grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may live and grow thereby, and that being washed through his most precious blood, we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

[Then may the elder say the prayer of consecration, as follows:]

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption, who made there by his oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy gospel command us to continue a perpetual memory of that his precious death until his coming again; hear us, O merciful

Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that we, receiving these, thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son, our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread;

[Here the elder may take the plate of bread into his hand.]

and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me. Likewise after supper he took the cup;

[Here he may take the cup in his hand.]

and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this

[And here he may lay his hand upon all the vessels which contain the wine.]

is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins; do this as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me. Amen.

[Then may the minister first receive the communion in both kinds himself, and then proceed to deliver the same to the other ministers in like manner (if any there be present), and after that to the people also, in order, into their hands. And when he delivers the bread he shall say:]

'The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was given for thee, preserve thy soul and body unto everlasting life. Take and eat this in remembrance that Christ died for thee, and feed on him in thy heart, by faith, with thanksgiving.

[And the minister that delivers the cup may say:]

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thy soul and body unto everlasting

life. Drink this in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

[If the consecrated bread or wine shall be all spent before all have communicated, the elder may consecrate more, by repeating the prayer of consecration.

When all have communed the minister shall return to the Lord's table and place upon it what remaineth of the consecrated elements, covering the same with a fair linen cloth.

Here the elder may offer extemporary prayer, concluding with this blessing:]

May the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.



## CHAPTER III

### THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY

¶ 345. [At the day and time appointed for the solemnizing of matrimony, the persons to be married standing together, the man on the right hand of the woman, the minister shall say:]

Dearly beloved, we are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony; which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that is between Christ and his Church; which holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with his presence, and first miracle that he wrought in Cana of Galilee, and is commended of St. Paul to be honorable among all men; and therefore is not by any to be taken in hand unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

Into which holy estate these two persons present come now to be joined. Therefore, if any can show any just cause why they may not lawfully be joined together, let him now speak, or else hereafter forever hold his peace.

[And also speaking unto the persons that are to be married, he may say:]

I require and charge you both (as you will answer at the dreadful day of judgment, when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed) that if either of you know any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it,

for be ye well assured, that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's word doth allow, are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.

[If no impediment be alleged, then shall the minister say unto the man:]

M., wilt thou have this woman to be thy wedded wife, to live together after God's ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love her, comfort her, honor, and keep her, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto her, so long as ye both shall live?

[Then the man shall answer:]

I will.

[Then the minister shall say unto the woman:]

N., wilt thou have this man to be thy wedded husband, to live together after God's ordinance, in the holy estate of matrimony? Wilt thou love, honor and keep him, in sickness and in health; and, forsaking all others, keep thee only unto him, so long as ye both shall live?

[Then the woman shall answer:]

I will.

[Then shall the minister join their right hands together, and say:]

Those whom God hath joined together let not man put asunder.

Forasmuch as M. and N. have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God, and this company, and thereto have pledged their faith each to the other, and have declared the same by joining hands; I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

[And the minister shall add this blessing:]

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully

with his favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace, that ye may so live together in this life, that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. Amen.

[Then let prayer be offered.]



## CHAPTER IV

### THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD

¶ 346. We will on no account make a charge for burying the dead.

[The minister, meeting the corpse, and going before it shall say:]

I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me, shall never die (John 11: 25, 26).

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God; whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another (Job 19: 25-27).

We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord (1 Tim. 6: 7; Job 1: 21).

[At the grave, while the corpse is being laid in the earth, the minister shall say:]

Man that is born of woman hath but a short time to live, and is full of misery. He cometh up and is cut down like a flower: he fleeth as it were a shadow and never continueth in one stay.

In the midst of life we are in death; of whom may we seek for succor but of thee, O Lord, who for our sins art justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord, God most holy, O Lord most mighty,

O holy and most merciful Savior, deliver us not into the bitter pains of eternal death.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not thy merciful ears to our prayers, but spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty, O holy and most merciful Savior, thou most worthy Judge eternal, suffer us not at our last hour for any pains of death to fall from thee.

[Then while the earth shall be cast upon the body, the minister shall say:]

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in his wise providence, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased brother, we therefore commit his body to the ground; earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in him shall be changed, and made like unto his own glorious body; according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself.

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write: from henceforth blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; even so, saith the Spirit, for they rest from their labors.

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

#### THE COLLECT

O merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the resurrection and the life: in whom

whosoever believeth shall live, though he die; and whosoever liveth and believeth in him shall not die eternally; we meekly beseech thee, O Father, to raise us from the death of sin unto the life of righteousness, that when we shall depart this life we may rest in him; and at the general resurrection, on the last day, may be found acceptable in thy sight, and receive that blessing which thy well-beloved Son shall then pronounce to all that love and fear thee, saying, Come ye blessed of my Father, receive the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this, we beseech thee, O merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.



## CHAPTER V

### ORDINATION SERVICES

#### I. Ordination of Elders

¶ 347. [When the time appointed for the ordination shall have come one of the elders shall present unto the president those who are to be ordained, saying:

I present unto you these persons (reading their names aloud) to be ordained elders. Then the president shall say unto the people:]

Brethren, these are they whom we purpose, God willing, this day to ordain elders. For after due examination, we find not to the contrary, but that they are lawfully called to this function and ministry, and that they are persons meet for the same. But if any of you know any impediment or crime in any of them, for which he ought not to be received into this holy ministry, come forth in the name of God, and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If no crime nor impediment be alleged, then shall be said the collect, epistle, and gospel, as follows:]

#### THE COLLECT

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who by the Holy Spirit hast appointed divers orders of ministers in thy church, mercifully behold these, thy servants, now called to the office of elder, and replenish them so with the truth of thy doctrine and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this office, to the glory of thy name and the edification of thy

church, through the mercies of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

THE EPISTLE—EPHESIANS 4:7-13

Unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

THE GOSPEL—ST. JOHN 10:7-16

Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door; by me, if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out and find pasture. The thief cometh not but for to steal and to kill, and to destroy; I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. But he that is a hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth; and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. The hireling fleeth,

because he is a hireling, and careth not for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice, and there shall be one fold and one shepherd.

[And that done, the president shall say unto them as follows:]

You have heard, brethren, in the lessons taken out of the gospel and the writings of the apostles, of what dignity, and of how great importance this office is whereunto ye are called.

We have good hope that you have all weighed and pondered these things with yourselves long before this time; and that you have clearly determined, by God's grace, to give yourselves wholly to this office, whereunto it hath pleased God to call you; so that as much as lieth in you, you will apply yourselves wholly to this one thing, and draw all your cares and studies this way, and that you will continually pray to God the Father by the mediation of our only Savior, Jesus Christ, for the heavenly assistance of the Holy Ghost; that by daily reading and weighing of the Scriptures, ye may wax riper and stronger in your ministry; and that ye may so endeavor yourselves from time to time to sanctify the lives of you and yours, and to fashion them after the rule and doctrine of Christ, that ye may be wholesome and godly examples and patterns for the people to follow.

And now that this present congregation of Christ, here assembled, may also understand your minds and wills in these things, and that this your promise, may the more move you to do your duties, ye shall answer plainly to these things which we, in the name of God



and his church, shall demand of you touching the same.

Do you think in your heart that you are truly called, according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, to the gospel ministry, and to perform the duties of an elder?

Ans. I think so.

President: Are you persuaded that the Holy Scriptures contain sufficiently all doctrines required of necessity for eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ? And are you determined out of the said Scriptures to instruct the people committed to your charge, and to teach nothing as required of necessity to salvation but that which you shall be persuaded may be concluded and proved by the Scriptures?

A. I am so persuaded, and have so determined by God's grace.

P. Will you then give your faithful diligence always so to minister the doctrines and sacraments and discipline of Christ, as the Lord hath commanded?

A. I will do so by the help of the Lord.

P. Will you be ready with all faithful diligence to banish and drive away all erroneous and strange doctrines contrary to God's word; and to use both public and private monitions and exhortations, as well to the sick as to the whole, within your charge, as need shall require, and occasion shall be given?

A. I will, the Lord being my helper.

P. Will you be diligent in prayers, and in reading the Holy Scriptures, and such studies as help to a knowledge of the same, laying aside the study of the world and the flesh?

A. I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

P. Will you be diligent to frame and fashion your-

self and your family according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make both yourself and them, as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples and patterns to the flock of Christ?

A. I shall apply myself thereto, the Lord being my helper.

P. Will you maintain and set forward as much as lieth in you, quietness, peace, and love, among all Christian people, and especially among those who are or may be committed to your charge?

A. I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

[That done, the president shall pray in this wise, and say:]

Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thine infinite love and goodness toward us hast given to us thine only and most dearly beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer, and the author of everlasting life; for these so great benefits of thy eternal goodness we render unto thee most hearty thanks; we praise and worship thee; and we humbly beseech thee that we may continue to show ourselves thankful unto thee, for these, and all other, thy benefits, and that we may daily increase and go forward in the knowledge and faith of thee and thy Son, by the Holy Spirit. So that thy holy name may be forever glorified, and thy blessed kingdom enlarged, through the same, thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee in the unity of the same Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

[When this prayer is done, those to be ordained should remain kneeling, and the president, and the elders present, shall lay their hands severally upon the head of each of them, and the president shall say:]

The Lord pour upon thee the Holy Ghost for the office and work of an elder in the Church of God now

committed unto thee by the imposition of our hands. And be thou a faithful dispenser of the word of God, and of his holy sacraments; in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

[They shall continue to kneel, and the president shall deliver to each one of them the Bible into his hands, and shall say:]

Take thou authority to preach the word of God and to administer the holy sacraments in the congregation.

[Then the president shall say:]

Most merciful Father, we beseech thee to send upon these thy servants thy heavenly blessings, that they may be clothed with righteousness and that thy word spoken by their mouths may have such success, that it may never be spoken in vain. Grant us also that we may have grace to hear and receive, what they shall deliver out of thy most holy word, or agreeably to the same, as the means of our salvation; and that in all our words and deeds we may seek thy glory and the increase of thy kingdom through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assist us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in thee, we may glorify thy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; and the blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.



## II. Ordination of Deacons

¶ 348. [When the time appointed for the ordination shall have come, one of the elders shall present unto the president those who are to be ordained, saying : "I present unto you these persons (reading their names aloud) to be ordained deacons." Then the president shall say to the people:]

Brethren, if any of you know any crime or impediment in any of these persons presented to be ordained deacon, for which he ought not to be admitted to that office, come forth in the name of God and show what the crime or impediment is.

[If no crime nor impediment be alleged, then shall be said the following collect and epistle:]

### THE COLLECT

Almighty God, who by thy divine providence hath appointed divers orders of ministers in thy Church, and who didst inspire thy apostles to choose into the order of deacons thy first martyr, St. Stephen, with others; mercifully behold these thy servants, now called to the like office and administrations; replenish them so with the truth of thy doctrine, and adorn them with innocency of life, that both by word and good example they may faithfully serve thee in this office, to the glory of thy name, and the edification of thy Church, through the merits of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and forever. Amen.

### THE EPISTLE—1 TIMOTHY 3: 8-13

Deacons in like manner must be grave, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. And let these also first be proved; then let them serve as deacons if they be blameless. Women in like manner must be grave, not slanderers, tem-

perate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For they that have served well as deacons gain to themselves a good standing, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

[Then shall the president examine each one of those who are to be ordained, in the presence of the people, after the manner following:]

President. Do you trust that you are inwardly moved by the Holy Ghost to take upon you the office of the ministry in the Church of Christ, to serve God for the promoting of his glory and the edification of his people?

Ans. I trust so.

P. Do you unfeignedly believe all the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

A. I do believe them.

P. Will you diligently read or expound the same unto the people whom you shall be appointed to serve?

A. I will.

P. It appertaineth to the office of a deacon to assist the elder in divine service. And especially when he ministereth the holy communion, and to help him in the distribution thereof, and to read and expound the Holy Scriptures; to instruct the youth, and in the absence of the elder to baptize. And, furthermore, it is his office to search for the sick, poor, and impotent, that they may be visited and relieved. Will you do this gladly and willingly?

A. I will do so by the help of God.

P. Will you apply all your diligence to frame and fashion your own lives (and the lives of your families) according to the doctrine of Christ; and to make (both) yourselves (and them) as much as in you lieth, wholesome examples of the flock of Christ?

A. I will do so, the Lord being my helper.

P. Will you reverently obey them to whom the charge and government over you is committed, following with glad mind and will their godly admonitions?

A. I will endeavor so to do, the Lord being my helper.

[The president, laying his hands severally upon the head of each one of them, shall say:]

Take thou authority to execute the office of a deacon in the church of God, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

[Then shall the president deliver to each one of them the Holy Bible, saying:]

Take thou authority to read the Holy Scriptures in the church of God, and to preach in the same.

[Then one of them, appointed by the president, shall read the gospel.]

Luke 12: 35-38. Let your loins be girded about and your lights burning, and ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord, when he will return from the wedding, that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately. Blessed are those servants whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching. Verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them. And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

[Then shall be said the collects following:]

Almighty God, Giver of all good things, who of thy great goodness hast vouchsafed to accept and take these thy servants into the office of deacon of



thy church; make them, we beseech thee, O Lord, to be modest, humble and constant in their ministration, and to have a ready will to observe all spiritual discipline; that they having always the testimony of a good conscience, and continuing ever stable and strong in thy Son, Christ Jesus, may so well behave themselves in this inferior office, that they may be found worthy to be called into the higher ministries in thy church, through the same, thy Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ; to whom be glory and honor, world without end. Amen.

Assist us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

## CHAPTER VI

### FORM FOR DEDICATION OF CHURCHES

¶ 349. [The congregation being assembled, let an appropriate hymn be sung. Afterward, let extemporary prayer be offered. Then shall the minister, or some one appointed, read:]

The first lesson, Psalm 84:

How amiable are thy tabernacles, O Lord of hosts! My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my King, and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they will be still praising thee. Selah. Blessed is the man whose strength is in thee; in whose heart are the ways of them. Who passing through the valley of Baca make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools. They go from strength to strength, every one of them in Zion appeareth before God. O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer: give ear, O God of Jacob. Selah. Behold, O God our shield, and look upon the face of thine anointed. For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

The second lesson, Hebrews 10: 19-26:

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; and having an high priest over the house of God; let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) and let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

[Then let an appropriate hymn be sung; after which the minister shall deliver a sermon suitable to the occasion. Contributions may then be received from the people.]

[Then let the trustees stand before the altar, and one of them, or some one in their behalf, say unto the minister:]

We present unto you this building, to be dedicated as a church for the service and worship of Almighty God.

[Then shall the minister request the congregation to stand, while he repeats the following declaration:]

### DECLARATION

Dearly beloved, it is meet and right, as we learn from the Holy Scriptures, that houses erected for the public worship of God should be specially set apart and dedicated to religious uses. For such a dedication we are now assembled. With gratitude, therefore, to Almighty God, who has signally blessed his servants in their holy enterprise of erecting this



church, we dedicate it to his service, for the reading of the Holy Scriptures, the preaching of the word of God, the administration of the holy sacraments, and for all other exercises of religious worship and service, according to the Discipline and usages of the Free Methodist church.

[Then let the dedicatory prayer be offered.]

**PART XI**  
**COURSES OF STUDY**

## **CHAPTERS**

- I. FOR TRAVELING PREACHERS**
- II. FOR LOCAL PREACHERS**
- III. FOR DEACONESSES**
- IV. COURSE OF READING FOR CLASS  
LEADERS**
- V. FOR MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA**
- VI. FOR MISSIONARIES IN INDIA**
- VII. BIBLE SCHOOL COURSE FOR NATIVES  
IN INDIA**
- VIII. FOR MISSIONARIES IN CHINA**
- IX. BOARD OF EXAMINERS**



# CHAPTER I

## COURSE OF STUDY FOR TRAVELING PREACHERS

### PRELIMINARY

- ¶ 350. 1. English Grammar  
2. Arithmetic  
3. Modern Geography  
4. Spelling  
5. Composition  
6. United States History (Candidates in Canada,  
Canadian History)  
7. Binney's Theological Compend  
8. Wesley's Plain Account of Christian Perfection  
9. Free Methodist Discipline

### FIRST YEAR

- ¶ 351. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 1, 2  
and 3  
2. Hogue's Homiletics and Pastoral Theology,  
Part I  
3. Hill's Foundations of Rhetoric, Part I  
4. Reed's Parliamentary Rules  
5. Present written sermon  
Books to be read:  
1. Hogue's History of the Free Methodist Church,  
Volume I  
2. Roberts' Fishers of Men  
3. Canright: The Sabbath Neither Popish nor  
Pagan

4. Hogue's The Class Meeting as a Means of Grace
5. Schaff's Person of Christ
6. Wesley's Sermons, Volume I, sermons 1 to 30 inclusive

## SECOND YEAR

¶ 352. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 4 and 5, and Part II

2. Hill's Foundation of Rhetoric, Part II
3. Homiletics and Pastoral Theology, Part II
4. Halleck's Psychology
5. Elson: Modern Times and the Living Past. To the period of the Reformation, page 316

6. Present written sermon

Books to be read:

1. Hogue's History of the Free Methodist Church, Volume II
2. Wood's Perfect Love
3. Blanchard: Modern Secret Societies
4. Fitchett's Wesley and His Century
5. Wesley's Sermons, Volume I, sermons 31 to 53 inclusive

## THIRD YEAR

¶ 353. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Parts III and IV

2. Smith's Old Testament History
3. Hopkins' Law of Love and Love as a Law
4. Elson: Modern Times and Living Past. From the period of the Reformation to the world war
5. Fisher's Church History, first half
6. Present written sermon

Books to be read:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism
2. Life of Redfield
3. Hogue's Hymns That Are Immortal
4. Lowery's Possibilities of Grace

## FOURTH YEAR

- ¶ 354. 1. Burrell's Why I Believe the Bible  
2. Smith's New Testament History  
3. Coleman's Social Ethics  
4. Jevon's Logic (primer edition)  
5. Fisher's Church History, second half  
6. Present written sermon

Books to be read:

1. D'Aubigne's History of the Reformation, or  
Linsay: Vol. I. Reformation in Germany. Vol. II.  
Reformation in the Lands Beyond Germany
2. Esenwein's How to Attract and Hold an Audience
3. The Indwelling Christ, by Baldwin
4. Hogue's The Holy Spirit, A Study



## **CHAPTER II**

### **COURSE OF STUDY FOR LOCAL PREACHERS**

#### **I. For Local Preachers Who are to be Examined by the Quarterly Conference**

##### **FIRST YEAR**

- ¶ 355. 1. Binney's Theological Compend  
2. Wesley's Plain Account of Christian Perfection  
3. Articles of Religion and General Rules of the Free Methodist Discipline

Books to be read:

1. Roberts' Fishers of Men
2. MacGeary's Outline History of the Free Methodist Church
3. Wesley's Sermons, Volume I, sermons 1 to 15 inclusive

##### **SECOND YEAR**

- ¶ 356. 1. Sims' Helps to Bible Study (revised edition)  
2. Hogue's Handbook of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology, Part I

Books to be read:

1. Wood's Perfect Love
2. Schaff's Person of Christ
3. Wesley's Sermons, Volume I, sermons 16 to 30 inclusive

The examination of local preachers and evangelists may be conducted orally.

## **II. For Local Preachers Who Wish to be Ordained Deacons**

- ¶ 357. 1. Field's Handbook of Theology, first half  
2. Smith's Old Testament History

Books to be read:

1. Hogue's History of the Free Methodist Church, Volume I
2. Burrell's Why I Believe the Bible
3. The Indwelling Christ, by Baldwin

## **III. For Local Deacons Who Wish to be Ordained Elders**

- ¶ 358. 1. Field's Handbook of Theology, second half  
2. Smith's New Testament History

Books to be read:

1. Hogue's History of the Free Methodist Church, Volume II
2. Blanchard: Modern Secret Societies.
3. Fitchett's Wesley and His Century

N. B.—The examination of local preachers who wish to be ordained shall be conducted by the annual conference. Let the examining committees and candidates to be examined be present at the seat of conference for examinations not later than the first day of the conference session. Candidates not present at such time forfeit their right to examination for that year. In conducting examinations, examiners shall report the standing of each candidate in each book according to a scale of ten, six being satisfactory.

## CHAPTER III

### COURSE OF STUDY FOR DEACONESSSES

#### FIRST YEAR

- ¶ 359. 1. Free Methodist Discipline  
2. Hurst's Outline of Bible History (Normal Edition)  
3. American Red Cross and Home Hygiene  
Books to be read:  
1. All About the Bible, by Collett  
2. Clara Leffingwell, a Missionary, by Sellew.  
3. Deaconess, Ancient and Modern, by Wheeler

#### SECOND YEAR

- ¶ 359a. 1. Binney's Theological Compend  
2. Wesley's Plain Account of Christian Perfection  
3. Roberts: Fishers of Men  
Books to be read:  
1. Arthur's Tongue of Fire  
2. The Heart of Asbury's Journal, by Tipple  
3. Hogue: Hymns That Are Immortal  
4. Thoburn: The Deaconess and Her Vocation

The examination of deaconesses shall be conducted by the annual conference board of examiners. and may be conducted orally. See paragraph 174 (11). A deaconess having completed the foregoing studies of the first and second years is eligible to be licensed by the annual conference, according to paragraph 174 (6).



## CHAPTER IV

### COURSE OF READING FOR CLASS LEADERS

¶ 360. The following course of reading for class leaders is recommended by the general conference in the belief that it will meet a general need throughout our work, and that the few inexpensive volumes therein named are of such a character as cannot fail to benefit all class leaders who will carefully read them, not only in the way of personal edification, but also in the way of increasing their efficiency in dealing with those under their care in this responsible office.

Discipline of the Free Methodist Church

Binney's Theological Compend

The Class Meeting as a Means of Grace (Hogue)

Life of William Bramwell (Thompson)

Life of J. W. Redfield (Terrill)

Christian Perfection (Wesley)

Perfect Love (Wood)

Fishers of Men (Roberts)

Hymns That Are Immortal (Hogue)

History of Methodism (Stevens, Abridged)

Daniel Quorm and His Religious Notions (Pearse)

The King's Son. A Memoir of Billy Bray

The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life

Outline History of the Free Methodist Church

In Christ (Pierson)

The Person of Christ (Schaff)

Blanchard: Modern Secret Societies

Lowery: Possibilities of Grace

## CHAPTER V

### COURSE OF STUDY FOR MISSIONARIES IN AFRICA\*

#### FIRST YEAR

- ¶ 361. 1. Grammar, in native language  
2. Translate St. John's Gospel from vernacular  
3. Composition work in native language  
4. Free Methodist Discipline  
5. Steele's Bible Study

Books to be read:

1. "Essential Kaffir." At Inhambane, "The Life of a South African Tribe"
2. Redemption of Africa, Volume I
3. "The Foreign Missionary," by Brown
4. Roberts' Fishers of Men

#### SECOND YEAR

- ¶ 362. 1. Papers in vernacular on "Paul's Missionary Journeys," and "Life of Joseph"
2. Translate from vernacular first fifteen chapters of Genesis and three of Paul's shorter epistles
  3. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 1, 2 and 3
  4. Wesley's Plain Account of Christian Perfection
  5. Hogue's Homiletics

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\* This course of study to apply to all missionaries in Africa who are candidates for ordination. Others to take the course of reading and to pass examination in the vernacular language.

Books to be read:

1. Redemption of Africa, Volume II
2. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume I
3. Theal's History, and Whitman's Geography of South Africa
4. G. Harry Agnew, a Pioneer Missionary

### THIRD YEAR

¶ 363. 1. Translate first fifty Psalms from vernacular

2. Translate into the vernacular a "First Reader"
3. Read in vernacular, "Journey to the King"
4. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 4 and 5, and Part II

5. Hopkins' Outline Study of Man

Books to be read:

1. Healing of the Nations
2. Hogue's History of the Free Methodist Church, Volume I
3. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume II

### FOURTH YEAR

¶ 364. 1. Translate into the vernacular a small book. "The Dairyman's Daughter," suggested or some other book as selected by board of examiners

2. Ralston's Divinity, Parts III and IV
3. Hurlbut's Biblical Geography
4. Fisher's Church History

Books to be read:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume III
2. Hogue's History of the Free Methodist Church, Volume II
3. New Acts of the Apostles
4. Pilgrim's Progress in vernacular



## CHAPTER VI

### COURSE OF STUDY FOR MISSIONARIES IN INDIA\*

#### FIRST YEAR

- ¶ 365. 1. Free Methodist Discipline  
2. Wesley's Plain Account of Christian Perfection  
3. New Testament Study in Missions  
4. All About the Bible, by Collett

Books to be read—in English:

1. Thoburn's Missionary Apprenticeship
2. Murdock's Indian Missionary Manual
3. Roberts' Fishers of Men
4. Geography of India, by Patterson

Books to be read—in Marathi:

1. The First Three Gospels
2. Genesis to Deuteronomy, inclusive
3. Christianity and Hinduism Compared, by Padmanji

#### SECOND YEAR

- ¶ 366. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 1, 2 and 3

2. Sims' Helps to Bible Study
3. First Half of History of India for High Schools and Colleges, published by the C. L. S. of Madras
4. MacGeary's Outline History of the Free Methodist Church

Books to be read—in English:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume I

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\* This course of study to apply to all missionaries in India who are candidates for ordination.

2. Modern Apostles in Missionary By-ways

3. Arsenal, Part I

Books to be read—in Marathi:

1. The Gospel of John, Acts of the Apostles, and Paul's Epistle to the Romans

2. Joshua to Esther

3. Arunodaya, by Padmanji

### THIRD YEAR

¶ 367. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 4 and 5, and Part II

2. History of India, last half

3. Hogue's Homiletics, Part I

Books to be read—in English:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume II

2. Wood's Perfect Love

3. Arsenal, Part II

4. Hinduism and Christianity Compared, by Rob-  
son

Books to be read—in Marathi:

1. I Corinthians to Hebrews

2. Job to Song of Solomon

### FOURTH YEAR

¶ 368. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Parts III and IV

2. Hurlbut's Biblical Geography

3. Hogue's Homiletics, Part II

Books to be read—in English:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume III

2. Roberts' Holiness Teachings

3. New Acts of the Apostles

4. Arsenal, Part III

Books to be read—in Marathi:

1. James to Revelation

2. Isaiah to Malachi

3. "Pan-Lakshat Kon Ghetto"

## CHAPTER VII

### BIBLE SCHOOL COURSE OF STUDY FOR NATIVES IN INDIA

#### I. Students for Three Years

##### FIRST YEAR

¶ 369. Study: Matthew, Genesis, Catechism.  
Read: Chandra Lila, Sundar Singh.

##### SECOND YEAR

¶ 370. Study: Exodus, Leviticus, Mark, Luke, Torrey I.

Read: Life of Colonel Weerasoorie, Story of Mary Jones and her Bible.

##### THIRD YEAR

¶ 371. Study: Whole Pentateuch, John, Acts, Torrey II.

Read: Life of John G. Paton, Barth's Bible Stories.

When the first three years' work has been satisfactorily done, students may be granted an exhorter's license and stationed as preachers, with an increase in pay of rupees 1 per month for passing with an average of 80% or over, or of annas 8 per month for passing with an average of 60% to 70%. The average is for the first three years' work, but the increase is not given until all subjects have been completed.

#### II. Exhorters, for Two Years

##### FIRST YEAR

¶ 372. Study: Joshua to Ruth, Harmony of Gospels, Discipline, pp. 3-37.

Read: Life of Pandita Ramabai, Manual of Christian Doctrines.



## SECOND YEAR

¶ 373. Study: Old Testament Kingdom Period, Romans, Discipline, pp. 55-111, Religion Weighed.

Read: Historical Evidence for the Truth of the Christian Scriptures, Pilgrim's Progress.

## III. Local Preachers, for Four Years

## FIRST YEAR

¶ 374. Study: Isaiah, General Epistles of Paul, Binney, pp. 1-42, Hinduism and Christianity Compared I, Church History I.

Read: Autobiography of Baba Padmanji, Prevailing Prayer.

## SECOND YEAR

¶ 375. Study: Period of Captivity, both history and prophecy, Hebrews, Binney, pp. 43-62, Church History II, Hinduism and Christianity Compared II.

Read: Life of Mohammed, Holiness, by Tracy.

## THIRD YEAR

¶ 376. Study: Remaining Prophets with a review of all the prophets, Pastoral Letters, Binney, pp. 63-106, Church History III.

Read: Edward's Holy Spirit, Part I, Life of Luther.

## FOURTH YEAR

¶ 377. Study: Poetical Books of Bible, Revelation, Binney, pp. 113-123, Discipline, Part 9 (Ritual), Church History IV.

Read: Edward's Holy Spirit, Part II, Life of Mackay of Uganda.

## CHAPTER VIII

### COURSE OF STUDY FOR MISSIONARIES IN CHINA\*

#### FIRST YEAR

For examination:

- ¶ 378. 1. Free Methodist Discipline  
2. Wesley's Plain Account  
3. New Testament Studies in Missions. Beach  
4. Steele's Bible Study

For reading in English:

1. Fishers of Men. Roberts  
2. The Class Meeting. Hogue  
3. Chinese Characteristics  
4. Jubilee Story of the China Inland Mission,  
pages 1 to 212

For reading in Chinese:

1. Matthew and John  
2. Old Testament History

To be memorized:

Lord's Prayer, John 3: 16, Acts 4: 12, Romans 1: 16, all in Chinese

#### — SECOND YEAR

For examination:

- ¶ 379. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 1, 2  
and 3  
2. Hogue's Homiletics, Part I  
3. Hurlbut's Biblical Geography

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\* This course of study to apply to all missionaries in China who are candidates for ordination.

For reading in English:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume I
2. Clara Leffingwell, Sellew
3. Jubilee Story of the China Inland Mission, pages 213 to the end
4. Three Religions of China. Soothill

For reading in Chinese:

1. Pilgrim's Progress
2. Acts to Hebrews

To be memorized:

Matthew 11: 28-30; 28: 20; John 14: 1-3; John 15: 4-5, all in Chinese

Conduct morning prayers or other service before examiner, giving eight to ten minutes' address in Chinese.

### THIRD YEAR

For examination:

- ¶ 380. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Part I, Books 4 and 5, and Part II
2. History of China. Hawkes-Pott, pages 1-108
  3. Hogue's Homiletics, Part II

For reading in English:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume II
2. Wood's Perfect Love
3. The Foreign Missionary. Brown
4. MacGeary's Outline History of the Free Methodist Church

For reading in Chinese:

1. Genesis. Exodus Ch. 1-20; Lev. Ch. 1-8; Judges to 1 Samuel; Psalms 1-41

To be memorized:

Psalm 1 in Chinese

Give a Gospel address or Scripture discourse in Chinese of not less than twenty minutes



## FOURTH YEAR

For examination:

- ¶ 381. 1. Ralston's Divinity, Parts III and IV  
2. History of China, Part II  
3. Fisher's Church History

For reading in English:

1. Stevens' History of Methodism, Volume III
2. New Acts of the Apostles
3. Lowery: Possibilities of Grace
4. Fisher's History of the Reformation

For reading in Chinese:

1. Psalms 42 to 150
2. Isaiah Ch. 36 to 66, Joel, Malachi
3. James to Jude. Wenli

Conduct a Chinese Sunday service

## CHAPTER IX

### CENTRAL BOARD OF CONFERENCE EXAMINERS

¶ 382. 1. There shall be a central board, consisting of five members, on the uniform examinations in the conference courses of study.

2. This board shall formulate rules and prepare questions for examinations, and during the interim of the general conference sessions shall have power to settle all questions concerning the same, which are not already settled by action of the general conference or rulings of the bishops.

3. The board shall answer all questions concerning the course of study, through its secretary, whose name and address shall be published in the combined minutes for that purpose.

4. This board shall also be authorized to make changes which become necessary in the courses of study.

5. The general conference of 1927 elected the following board: William Pearce, president; B. L. Olmstead, M. G. Smith, A. J. Damon, E. C. Lindley.





## **PART XII**

### **APPENDIX**

The matter contained in this appendix is deemed of sufficient importance to warrant its publication in this form. Some of it is taken from the general conference journals, and is therefore the action of the general conference, although not ordained as a part of the Discipline. Other matters are inserted because suggestive and convenient for reference, as postoffice addresses, administrative boards, forms of procedure, etc.

## **CHAPTERS**

- I. INCORPORATION**
- II. RESIDENCES, ADDRESSES, ETC.**
- III. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS**
- IV. CONSTRUCTIONS OF LAW BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**
- V. CONSTITUTION OF THE GENERAL WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY**
- VI. FORMS**

# CHAPTER I

## INCORPORATION

### INCORPORATION OF THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH

¶ 383. State of Illinois, office of the Secretary of State.

To all to whom these Presents Shall Come, Greeting:

Whereas, a Certificate, duly signed and acknowledged, has been filed in the Office of the Secretary of State, on the 2nd day of December, A. D. 1915, for the organization of the Board of Trustees of the Free Methodist Church of North America, under and in accordance with the provisions of "An Act Concerning Corporations," approved April 18, 1872, and in force July 1, 1872, and all acts amendatory thereof, a copy of which certificate is hereto attached.

Now, therefore, I, Lewis G. Stevenson, Secretary of State of the State of Illinois, by virtue of the powers and duties vested in me by law, do hereby certify that the said Board of Trustees of the Free Methodist Church of North America is a legally organized corporation under the laws of this state.

In testimony whereof, I hereto set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Illinois.

Done at the city of Springfield this 2nd day of December, A. D. 1915, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and fortieth.

LEWIS G. STEVENSON,  
Secretary of State.



STATE OF ILLINOIS)  
COUNTY OF COOK )<sup>SS.</sup>

To Lewis G. Stevenson, Secretary of State:

We, the undersigned, Burton R. Jones, Wilson T. Hogue, William Pearce, Walter A. Sellew, Mendal B. Miller and David S. Warner, citizens of the United States, propose to form a Corporation under an act of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, entitled, "An Act concerning Corporations," approved April 18, 1872, and all acts amendatory thereof, and that for the purposes of such organization we hereby state as follows, to-wit:

1. The name of such Corporation is **Board of Trustees of the Free Methodist Church of North America**. Said Board hereby created shall consist of six members in good and regular standing in the Free Methodist Church of North America, three of whom shall be elected by the General Conference at each quadrennial session and hold office till their successors have been regularly and duly elected.

2. The object for which it is formed is that said Board of Trustees, under their corporate name, shall have power to take and hold, by donation, gift, grant, devise, or otherwise, any property, real, personal or mixed, in any state in the United States, or any other country, in behoof of and for the benefit of the Free Methodist Church of North America, and the same to manage, grant, convey, lease, or otherwise dispose of, and to execute such trust or trusts as may be confided to said Corporation, the whole to be under the supervision of, and amenable to, the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America.

3. The management of the aforesaid Board of Trustees of the Free Methodist Church of North America shall be vested in a Board of six Trustees, who are to be elected by the General Conference of

the Free Methodist Church of North America, according to their Discipline.

4. The following persons are hereby selected as the Trustees to control and manage said Corporation for the first year of the corporate existence: Burton R. Jones, Wilson T. Hogue, William Pearce, Walter A. Sellew, Mendal B. Miller and David S. Warner.

5. The said Board shall also be deemed competent to receive and administer any special benevolent trust in behalf of the Church, not otherwise provided for by the incorporated benevolent societies now existing under and by the sanction of the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America.

6. The General Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America shall elect successors of the said Trustees hereinbefore named, at the quadrennial meetings of said Conference, provided, however, that all vacancies occurring more than eight months before the session of the General Conference shall be filled by the Executive Committee, the persons so appointed to hold office only up to the time of the General Conference, when their places shall be held as vacant, and shall be filled as aforesaid.

7. The Board shall have authority to enact by-laws not inconsistent with the designs and provisions of this charter, for the transaction and regulation of its business, and shall have authority to appoint the necessary officers for the transaction of all business that pertains to it or that may come before it.

8. The Board of Trustees herein provided for shall be amenable to the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America for the management of the trust reposed in them, and they shall make quadrennial reports to that body.

9. A failure to elect a Trustee or Trustees at any

time shall not work a dissolution of this Corporation.

10. The location is in the city of Chicago, County of Cook and State of Illinois, and the post office address is at No. 1132 Washington Boulevard in the said city of Chicago.

Signed: Burton R. Jones.  
Wilson T. Hogue.  
William Pearce.  
Walter A. Sellew.  
Mendal B. Miller.  
David S. Warner.

¶ 383½. The general conference of 1915 took action to authorize a new incorporation in Illinois, as our headquarters had been moved to Chicago, and they authorized the board of trustees of the general conference to incorporate. This was done and on December 2, 1915, a charter was granted by the state of Illinois incorporating as above under the title of "Board of Trustees of the Free Methodist Church of North America." This incorporation was approved by the general conference of 1919, and this new corporation was duly authorized to take over all the duties and exercise the prerogatives of the former corporation known as the "Free Methodist General Conference of North America," incorporated under the laws of the state of New York, April 30, 1873.

Form of bequest of money or other personal property: "I give and bequeath to the Board of Trustees of the Free Methodist Church of North America the sum of.....dollars, to be used and appropriated by that body to religious, charitable, missionary or educational purposes."

Real estate:

"I grant and devise (full description of the land)."



## CHAPTER II

### RESIDENCES, ADDRESSES, ETC.

#### ¶ 384. Bishops

Walter A. Sellew,  
68 Falconer Street, Jamestown, New York  
William Pearce, 2318 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Illinois  
William H. Clark, 412 William Street, Rome, New York  
David S. Warner, Glen Ellyn, Illinois

#### ¶ 385. Publishing Agent

William B. Rose,  
1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

#### ¶ 386. Editors

George W. Griffith, The Free Methodist,  
1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois  
Burton J. Vincent, Sunday-school Periodicals,  
1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois  
Joseph B. Lutz, The Sunday School Worker,  
1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

#### ¶ 387. Corresponding Secretaries

William B. Olmstead, General Missionary Board,  
1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois  
Joseph B. Lutz, General Sunday School Secretary,  
1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois  
L. Glenn Lewis, Educational Secretary,  
1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois  
Mendal B. Miller, Board of Conference Claimants, Board  
of Trustees, Executive Committee,  
1131 Elk Street, Franklin, Pennsylvania

#### ¶ 388. Treasurers

Newton W. Fink, General Missionary Board, Church  
Extension Society, Board of Conference Claimants,  
Bishops' Fund, Sunday-school Board, Board of Edu-  
cation, 1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois  
Lillian Camp Jensen, General Woman's Missionary So-  
ciety, 1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

#### ¶ 389. General Conference Evangelists

E. Ballenger	Shenandoah, Iowa
A. D. Zahniser,	Greenville, Illinois
B. W. Huckabee	Chicago, Illinois
A. L. Whitcomb	University Park, Iowa

## CHAPTER III

### ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS

#### ¶ 390. Board of Trustees of the Free Methodist Church of North America

Office: 1132 Washington Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

President, Walter A. Sellw

Secretary and Treasurer, Mendal B. Miller

1. Terms expire in 1927  
William Pearce      William H. Clark,      C. I. Tenney

2. Terms expire in 1931  
Walter A. Sellw,      Mendal B. Miller,      David S. Warner

#### ¶ 391. Executive Committee

President, Walter A. Sellw

Secretary, Mendal B. Miller

District	Name and Class	Conference
	Walter A. Sellw, Bishop.....	Oil City
	William Pearce, Bishop.....	Genesee
	William H. Clark, Bishop.....	Susquehanna
	David S. Warner, Bishop.....	Michigan
I.	Mendal B. Miller, Minister.....	Oil City
	G. A. Lees, Lay Member.....	West Ontario
II.	J. T. Logan, Minister.....	New York
	C. A. Lowell, Lay Member.....	Susquehanna
III.	Joseph A. Watson, Minister.....	North Indiana
	Harlow Hoyt, Lay Member.....	East Michigan
IV.	George W. Griffith, Minister.....	Central Illinois
	J. M. Daniels, Lay Member.....	Central Illinois
V.	B. J. Vincent, Minister.....	South Dakota
	G. J. Archer, Lay Member.....	West Kansas
VI.	W. N. Coffee, Minister.....	Oregon
	A. G. Ball, Lay Member.....	Southern California

The executive committee also constitutes the board of conference claimants and the church extension society.

## ¶ 392. Board of Education

David S. Warner  
 C. W. Bacon  
 E. A. Andrews  
 A. J. Damon  
 C. I. Tenney  
 W. B. Olmstead  
 H. S. Dye  
 R. A. Thompson  
 F. E. Pond  
 W. W. Vinson  
 L. G. Lewis, General Educational Secretary

## ¶ 393. General Missionary Board

President, William Pearce  
 Secretary, William B. Olmstead  
 Treasurer, Newton W. Fink

District	Name and Class	Conference
	Walter A. Sellew, Bishop.....	Oil City
	William Pearce, Bishop.....	Genesee
	William H. Clark, Bishop.....	Susquehanna
	David S. Warner, Bishop.....	Michigan
I.	J. M. Critchlow, Minister.....	Oil City
	Grant C. Woods, Lay Member.....	Genesee
II.	R. A. Zahniser, Minister.....	Pittsburgh
	W. F. Guffey, Lay Member.....	Ohio
III.	H. Montgomery, Minister.....	Michigan
	Peter White, Lay Member.....	North Michigan
IV.	C. E. Harroun, Minister.....	Texas
	A. C. Enderlin, Lay Member.....	Wabash
V.	A. L. Whitcomb, Minister.....	Iowa
	A. W. Gillingham, Lay Member.....	Wisconsin
VI.	W. W. Vinson, Minister.....	Southern California
	A. Verkuyl, Lay Member.....	California

Mary L. Coleman, President

Mrs. Carrie T. Burritt	Woman's Missionary Society
Emma L. Hogue	Woman's Missionary Society
Agnes Benn	Woman's Missionary Society

The general missionary board and the superintendents of The Gerry Homes, the Woodstock Homes and the Life Line Orphanage constitute the board of charities and benevolences.



**¶ 394. General Sunday School Board**

W. H. Clark, President  
G. W. Griffith, Recording Secretary  
J. B. Lutz, General Sunday-school Secretary  
B. J. Vincent  
E. A. Holtwick  
J. H. Whiteman  
L. E. Cook  
A. G. Ball  
J. R. H. Bell  
G. A. Lees  
Treasurer of the church funds, treasurer

**¶ 395. Central Board of Conference Examiners**

David S. Warner, President  
William B. Olmstead, Secretary  
John LaDue  
C. E. Harroun  
George W. Griffith

**¶ 396. Board of Aggressive Evangelism**

W. A. Sellew  
W. Pearce  
W. H. Clark  
D. S. Warner  
A. D. Zahniser  
B. W. Huckabee  
E. Ballenger  
A. L. Whitcomb

### ¶ 392. Board of Education

George W. Griffith, President

R. R. Blews

E. A. Andrews

A. J. Damon

B. H. Gaddis

W. N. Coffee

W. A. Harden

E. C. Lindley

C. A. Watson

L. G. Lewis, General Educational Secretary

N. W. Fink, Treasurer

### ¶ 393. General Missionary Board

President, William Pearce

Secretary, William B. Olmstead

Treasurer, Newton W. Fink

District	Name and Class	Conference
	Walter A. Sellew, Bishop.....	Oil City
	William Pearce, Bishop.....	Genesee
	George W. Griffith, Bishop.....	Central Illinois
	Arthur D. Zahniser, Bishop.....	Pittsburgh
I.	A. J. Hill, Minister.....	Oil City
	Grant C. Woods, Lay Member.....	Genesee
II.	R. A. Zahniser, Minister.....	Pittsburgh
	W. J. Barnes, Lay Member.....	New York
III.	A. J. Stevens, Minister.....	East Michigan
	Peter White, Lay Member.....	North Michigan
IV.	G. W. Saunders, Minister.....	Missouri
	A. C. Enderlin, Lay Member.....	Wabash
V.	W. A. Harden, Minister.....	South Dakota
	B. H. Gaddis, Lay Member.....	Illinois
VI.	J. S. MacGeary, Minister.....	California
	J. Whitehead, Lay Member.....	Washington

Mrs. Carrie T. Burritt, President

Mrs. Ella L. MacGeary	Woman's Missionary Society
Mrs. Mary L. Coleman	Woman's Missionary Society
Mrs. Alma Miller	Woman's Missionary Society

The general missionary board and the superintendents of The Gerry Homes, the Woodstock Homes and the Life Line Orphanage constitute the board of charities and benevolences.

### ¶ 394. General Sunday School Board

A. D. Zahniser, President	
J. H. Whiteman, General Sunday-school Secretary	
B. J. Vincent	C. H. Watson
E. A. Holtwick	A. L. DeMund
E. P. Boyd	G. A. Lees
M. D. Ormston	June B. Horning
Treasurer of the church funds, treasurer	

### ¶ 395. Central Board of Conference Examiners

William Pearce, President	
B. L. Olmstead	A. J. Damon
M. G. Smith	E. C. Lindley

### ¶ 396. Board of Aggressive Evangelism

W. A. Sellw	R. B. Campbell
W. Pearce	A. L. Whitcomb
G. W. Griffith	W. J. Barnes
A. D. Zahniser	A. C. Enderlin
E. Ballenger	B. H. Gaddis
C. V. Fairbairn	J. Whitehead

### ¶ 396a. Committee on Course of Study

J. S. MacGeary	E. A. Andrews
D. S. Warner	R. R. Blews
S. H. Porterfield	C. H. Watson
E. G. Burritt	

### ¶ 396b. Committee on General Finance and Administration

W. A. Sellw	J. M. Daniels
G. W. Griffith	C. A. Watson
M. B. Miller	

### ¶ 396c. Council on Young People's Work

William Pearce, President	
L. G. Lewis	J. H. Whiteman
B. H. Gaddis	Carrie T. Burritt
C. H. Watson	Emma L. Hogue





## CHAPTER IV

### CONSTRUCTIONS OF LAW BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

#### DECISIONS OF SUPERINTENDENTS

Approved by general conferences, and general conference  
resolutions having the force of law

#### From Journal of 1866

¶ 397. On Hop-Growing—Resolved, That in our opinion, the raising of hops for the general market is a violation of the rule of Discipline prohibiting “evil of every kind;” and also of the rule prohibiting the “doing of what we know is not for the glory of God.”

¶ 398. On Missions.—Resolved, That the general missionary board shall have charge of all missions outside of the recognized bounds of the annual conferences.

¶ 399. Disapproval of Conference Action.—Resolved, 1. That the action of the Susquehanna conference in passing a certain resolution on the use of tobacco, be disapproved; the said conference having transcended its powers in attempting to enact laws. (The resolution referred to was passed by the Susquehanna conference in 1886, and read as follows: “Resolved, That if any of the preachers of this conference are known to indulge in the use of tobacco, either by chewing or smoking, during the coming year, they shall, at the next session of the conference, be discontinued from the traveling connection.”)

2. That the action of the Susquehanna conference,

in receiving a preacher in full connection after but one year's trial, be disapproved.

¶ 400. Law Question: "Has an annual conference authority under the discipline to try a probationer upon charges of immoral conduct?"

Conference voted nay, 12 to 5.

### From Journal of 1870

¶ 401. On the Admission of Ministers.—It was decided by the president that as all the disciplinary questions may be acted on at any time during the session of an annual conference it is right to report ministers received into full connection as having a seat in the conference. On motion, conference sustained the decision.

¶ 402. On Conference Resolutions.—No annual conference shall pass resolutions or adopt reports interpreting Discipline, and then hold any minister or member to trial for violating such resolution or reports.

¶ 403. If complaints are made against a member, involving immorality or a violation of our rules, he is entitled to a speedy trial, unless said complaints are otherwise disposed of.

¶ 404. No secretary of any annual conference has a right to insert anything in the conference records other than actual conference business.

¶ 405. Resolved, That we disapprove of the practise of calling a quarterly conference together in any other way than that prescribed by the Discipline.

### From Journal of 1874

¶ 406. Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that the rule of our Discipline, forbidding the wearing of gold, applies to those who wear gold wedding rings.



## From Journal of 1878

¶ 407. In the case of a layman, who was refused admission as delegate to the New York conference; it being claimed that he was not a member of the church which elected him:

The president held that in the admission of a delegate to which objection is made, an annual conference may inquire,

1. If the society meeting was held and the election fairly conducted according to Discipline.
2. If the returns were correctly made.
3. If the person elected was eligible.

But the chair decided that each society has the right to determine who are its members; that an annual conference has no right to decide who are or who are not members of any particular society.

This decision was appealed from, and the conference voted not to sustain the chair—by 11 nays, 5 yeas.

This action was reported by the committee on conference records, of the general conference of 1878, as a violation of Discipline. The report was adopted, thus sustaining the decision of the president.

¶ 408. On Past Enactments, Resolutions, etc.—Resolved, That all enactments, decisions and resolutions of the various general conferences, that are inconsistent with our Discipline, as revised by this general conference, are hereby repealed.

¶ 409. On the Membership of Probationers in Annual Conferences.—The following questions were answered by B. T. Roberts at the Genesee conference, 1882:

1. Are preachers on probation in an annual conference still members of a society? Answer, No.
2. Should they be reported from the circuit as local preachers? Answer, No.

3. Should their licenses be renewed by the quarterly conference, as others? Answer, No.

**From Journal of 1882**

¶ 410. Women Eligible as Delegates.—B. T. Roberts decided at the New York conference that women are eligible to election as delegates to the annual conference. Approved.

¶ 411. The following questions were asked and answered:

1. If a preacher believes the Bible to be opposed to women taking a part in the governmental affairs of the church, and has not hitherto regarded the language of the Discipline as admitting of the election of women as delegates to the annual conference is he bound by the action of this conference to rule that the Discipline does now admit of it?

Answer—By President B. T. Roberts: It is my opinion that he is.

2. Would it be maladministration of Discipline to rule that it is not disciplinary to elect women as delegates?

Answer—In my opinion it would.

The general conference approved these answers as correct.

¶ 412. Absent Delegates.—Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference, that a delegate is not a member of an annual or a general conference until he is present, and has presented his credentials.

¶ 413. Preserving Original Minutes.—Resolved, That the secretaries of the several conferences be required to keep the original or so-called rough minutes, as approved by the conference, in a book to be preserved with the journal.

## From Journal of 1886

¶ 414. The following questions were asked and answered:

1. If a certificate of membership be given a member of one of our churches, and that member shall, at a subsequent time, present his certificate of membership to one of our churches in some other place, he having, since the reception of the certificate, been guilty of unchristian conduct, is the church to which the certificate shall be presented obliged to receive the certificate?

Answer—By President B. T. Roberts: It is.

2. When an annual conference organizes a circuit and appoints a preacher to it, but the preacher declines to travel it, and the chairman being unable to supply it with another preacher, may he unite the unsupplied circuit with an adjacent circuit without the consent of the official board of the unsupplied circuit?

Answer—By President B. T. Roberts: I think he could not.

3. When a preacher has been appointed to a circuit, has the chairman a right to appoint said preacher to the charge of another circuit while he retains charge of the first?

Answer—By President B. T. Roberts: No. He may add to the circuit, but cannot appoint a preacher to two circuits at the same time.

¶ 415. The following question was asked at the sixteenth session of the Kansas annual conference, and was answered by President B. T. Roberts; from whose decision an appeal was taken to the general conference of 1886, by which the decision of the president was unanimously sustained:

If a man in his sinful state be divorced from his wife, but not on scriptural grounds, and she be married to another man, after which the divorced man



becomes converted and joins the church, do the facts in the case as afore stated clear him in the eyes of the law, the eyes of God and the eyes of our Discipline, so that he has the right to marry again? The president decided that in the case stated, the legal divorce separates the man from his wife in the eyes of the law, and that the subsequent marriage of the woman separates the man from the woman in a scriptural sense; he is therefore entitled to a divorce on scriptural grounds; but as he cannot obtain it, he is in the sense of the scripture entitled to marry again.

¶ 416. Resolved, That the reports adopted by the annual conference should be kept on file and not recorded in the journal, except the financial reports, and such as may be recorded by order of the annual conference.

#### From Journal of 1890

¶ 417. Whereas, Conflicting decisions by the general superintendents in the intervals of the general conference are liable to make divisions, and tend to annoy and confuse the spirit of harmony among us, therefore,

Resolved, That when one of the general superintendents has rendered a decision on any point of law in any annual conference, in a case which grows out of the conference proceedings, said decision shall be the rule in the case until the decision is reversed by the general conference. See paragraph 439.

#### From Journal of 1894

¶ 418. An elder of the North Michigan conference, having withdrawn from the church, was given a letter by Superintendent Hart, stating that he had been an ordained elder in the North Michigan conference, and recommending him "to all Christian people." He

afterwards presented the letter to the same conference, and Superintendent Coleman decided that he could not be received on the letter—that he was out of the church. The committee on general superintendency recommended that the decision be approved. The recommendation was adopted by the conference.

¶ 419. Law Question.—“Can the appellate court go outside of the grounds of appeal as submitted to it by the appellant?”

Answer by the Chair.—“In the decision, I would say, It must confine itself to the grounds of the appeal in the case. It is entitled, however, to all that will throw light upon the appeal as presented.”

¶ 420. “Does the Discipline make final the decision of the committee on appeals without approval by the general conference when such committee renders its verdict while the general conference that appointed it is in session?”

Answer.—“The Discipline makes the decision of a committee on appeals final. There can be no appeal therefrom.”

¶ 421. At the close of the election of the general superintendents, E. P. Hart moved, That it is the sense of the conference that W. T. Hogue is entitled to his seat and office as general superintendent until the close of this session. Superintendent Coleman in the chair decided that it would be proper to place the newly-elected superintendent in the chair if the conference saw fit to do so. An appeal was taken from the decision, and the conference refused to sustain the chair. W. T. Hogue was thus authorized to act as superintendent until the final adjournment of the conference.

¶ 422. Resolution.—In response to a memorial from the Southern California conference in regard to the wearing of neckties, the conference adopted the following:

"It is the sense of the conference that this matter is one concerning which 'every man should be fully persuaded in his own mind,' and guided by his personal convictions."

### From Journal of 1898

¶ 423. The following question was asked at the Susquehanna conference of 1897, and was answered by President E. P. Hart, from whose decision an appeal was taken to the general conference of 1898:

"Is previous labor necessary before bringing charges against a preacher belonging to an annual conference?"

The president decided that no previous labor is necessary in case of charges at the annual conference, as that body has original jurisdiction over the preachers composing it.

The decision of the president was sustained by the general conference.

¶ 424. The following questions were asked at the Kansas conference of 1895, and were answered by the president, B. R. Jones. An appeal was taken from his decisions to the general conference of 1898:

1. "If a man obtains a divorce from his wife on other than scriptural grounds and afterward marries a woman who had obtained a divorce from her husband without scriptural reason, would the parties thus divorced and remarried be entitled to membership in the church?"

Answer—I think they would not.

2. "Is it a violation of Discipline for a minister to receive a person into the church who has obtained a divorce on other than scriptural grounds?"

Answer—In my opinion it is.

3. "Would the preacher receiving into the church persons thus divorced be liable to the charge of mal-administration?"



Answer—I think he would.

These decisions were approved by the general conference.

¶ 425. Resolved, That in no case shall the report of the committee on ministerial relations be expunged from the records of an annual conference without the consent of the minister whose case had been under consideration.

### From the Journal of 1907

¶ 426. Quarterly Conference Relation of Preacher Supplying in Conference Other Than His Own.—The committee on examining quarterly conference records presented the following appeal found on page 365 of the Chicago district records, Illinois conference, reading as follows:

A question was raised as to whether C. B. Ebey was a member of this quarterly conference. The district elder ruled that he was, by virtue of his being pastor at Melrose Park. An appeal was taken from this ruling by W. P. Ferries.

The president, Wilson T. Hogue, decided "that no preacher in the Free Methodist church can be a member of two quarterly conferences at the same time. As C. B. Ebey is a member of the Southern California conference, and, as such, has his quarterly conference relation fixed within that body, it follows that he cannot be a member of any quarterly conference of the Free Methodist church except his own." Decision sustained.

¶ 427. Surrender of Parchments.—At the forty-fourth session of the Genesee conference, an elder requested a certificate of withdrawal from the conference. The president, B. R. Jones, ruled "that he was entitled to a certificate of withdrawal only upon condition that he surrender his ordination parchments."

Approved by committee and adopted by the conference.

¶ 428. Only Annual Conference Empowered to Render a Superannuate Effective.—At the annual session of the Genesee conference held in Buffalo, N. Y., September 5-9, 1906, in the case of Rev. William Manning, the president, W. A. Sellew, in answer to a question raised, decided "that the appointment of a superannuated preacher to a circuit on a charge by the district elder, according to the Discipline, and with the consent and cooperation of the preacher, made him effective. He cannot be superannuated and effective at the same time. I decide that he has been effective during the past year, and cannot draw his superannuated allowance." Decision disapproved.

¶ 429. Ruling on a Question of Jurisdiction.—At the Oil City conference in 1906 the committee on claimants and claims submitted the following resolution in case of Mrs. H. D. W. Showers to the president for a decision:

Whereas, The application of Mrs. H. D. W. Showers, widow of the late Rev. A. C. Showers, has been presented to the committee on claimants and claims; and,

Whereas, At the time of his death Brother Showers was a member of the Pittsburgh conference, and the Oil City conference did not exist; therefore,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee that the said application does not legally come before this conference, and that we respectfully ask the chair to render a decision upon this point.

General Superintendent Walter A. Sellew ruled "that the application should not be presented to this conference, but to the Pittsburgh conference." Decision sustained.

¶ 430. As to Right of Preacher in Charge to Vote in Business Meetings of the Circuit.—At the session

of the West Iowa conference held in 1903 a question was raised as to whether a preacher in charge has a right to vote in the business meetings of his circuit. The president, E. P. Hart, ruled that "he has a right to vote in the official meetings, but not in the circuit or society meetings." Decision sustained.

¶ 431. Forfeiting Conference Relation by Withdrawal.—The Journal of the Texas Conference, page 236, shows that the name of M. M. Lowerys was called, and he was reported to have joined the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Since doing so, however, he had again united with the Free Methodist church, by letter.

The chair ruled that in uniting with another church he had forfeited his relation to this conference, and that it would be necessary for him to come up by regular process, if desirous of renewing his relation with the conference. Decision sustained.

¶ 432. An Elder Withdrawn from Church and Conference May Not Be Received Back into the Conference on His Ordination Parchments.—An elder in the Illinois conference, who had withdrawn from the church and conference and united with an organization not giving letters of dismissal, and who had since united with the Free Methodist church on probation and was recommended for restoration to his former conference relation on his ordination parchments, the question was asked of the chair, "Can he be legally received on the parchments aforesaid?"

The president, W. A. Sellew, rendered the following decision in the case: "If this elder had come to us with a regular certificate of his standing as a Christian minister from the church organization to which he has belonged since he left us, we would be warranted in receiving him into full membership in the conference, as he holds our ordination papers as an elder. Now, as he cannot obtain such a certificate,



because of the refusal of this organization to give such certificates, and not because of any fault or failure of conduct on his part, I decide he may be received into full membership in the conference on his ordination papers, and by vote of this conference adopting the resolution now before the conference." Decision disapproved.

¶ 433. On Use of Instrumental Music in Sunday-schools.—At the session of the New York conference of 1903 the question was asked of the president, B. R. Jones: "Is it a violation of the Discipline of the Free Methodist church to use instrumental music in the Sunday-schools of the church?" The president decided that it is. Decision sustained.

¶ 434. Transfer of Membership by Missionaries to Africa.—The committee on missions recommends the following: "That we require all missionaries now on the African field, or who may go to that field in the future, to transfer their church membership to some society on that field." Adopted.

¶ 435. On Reading Reports in Annual Conference:

Resolved, That in the presentation of the reports from the circuits at the annual conferences only the items classified under the headings "Numerical," "Statistical" and "Church Property," need be read, unless other items are ordered read by the conference. Resolution adopted.

¶ 436. On referring cases to the committee on ministerial relations it was resolved as follows: "It is the sense of this general conference that the character of ministers shall not be referred to the committee on ministerial relations, except in case of reported unsoundness in doctrine or irregularities of life; and that in all instances where the case is noticed in the permanent records, such records shall

show the nature of the offense, and the final disposition of the case."

¶ 437. Regarding the Excusing of Preachers from Passing in the Courses of Study in Full.—The following resolution originated in committee on superintendency, and was adopted by the conference:

"Whereas, We find numerous instances recorded in various conference journals where persons have been received on trial into the traveling connection without having passed examination in the preliminary course of study, and admitted to full membership and elected to deacon's orders without having passed examination in the second year's course of study, and in some instances of persons elected to elder's orders who have not completed the fourth year's course of study; and,

"Whereas, The practise referred to is a plain violation of the Discipline, paragraphs 150, 151, 155, 156; therefore,

"Resolved, First, that this committee recommend the general conference to express its disapproval of such action on the part of the conferences involved, and call upon them to discontinue such action in the future. Second, that the honored bishops be, and that they hereby are, instructed to inform all conferences where such action may be proposed in the future that the contemplated action is illegal."

¶ 438.—Right of an Elder Presiding in Conference by Appointment of a Bishop to Transfer a Preacher.—A question regarding this matter arose, and on motion it was decided "that an elder acting as president of an annual conference by appointment of a bishop, has authority to transfer a preacher into that conference while so acting."

¶ 439. On Decisions of Bishops:

Resolved, That whenever a bishop shall decide upon a point of law in an annual conference, which does

not grow out of the conference proceedings, he shall immediately report the same to the other bishops, and secure their approval or disapproval in writing. His decision shall not be binding upon the other bishops unless they are notified that at least two of them have approved it in writing. The resolution was adopted. See paragraph 417.

¶ 440. On Inserting Certain Items in an Appendix to the Discipline.—The following was adopted:

“Resolved, That the editor, or editors, of the Discipline be instructed to place as an Appendix to the Discipline the following items: Names and addresses of all of the general conference officers, the general conference districts, the executive committee, the general missionary board, the board of conference claimants, the board of education, the board of church extension, construction of law by the general conference, and the constitution of the woman's foreign missionary society.”

¶ 441. On Woman's Auxiliary Missionary Board.—The general woman's foreign missionary society petitioned the general conference to give consideration to the following:

“Resolved, First, that it is the sense of this body that there should be a woman's auxiliary missionary board; second, that the executive board of the woman's foreign missionary society should be such auxiliary board, before whom women candidates for the foreign field shall pass first examination.”

This was referred to the committee on missions, which reported as follows: “Your committee recommends that we grant the foregoing request, and that this auxiliary board shall consist of the three women members of the general conference missionary board and such others of the general officers of the woman's foreign missionary society as may be present at their annual meeting.” The recommendation was adopted.



## From the Journal of 1911

¶ 442. At the session of the New York conference, September 14, 1910, Bishop W. A. Sellew made the following ruling:

"The committee on credentials asked the chair to rule on the following question:

"If a majority of a society vote to move to a new locality, and a minority part does not wish to remove to that locality, which is the original society, the one removing to the new locality or the part remaining in the original place?

"The chair ruled that the majority part, moving to the new location, constituted the original society."

Decision approved.

¶ 443. At the Ohio conference of 1908, the following ruling was rendered by Bishop B. R. Jones:

"A lady evangelist having been recommended by the Toledo district quarterly conference as being eligible to a seat in the annual conference, her case was considered; but she being only a supply on the circuit of which her husband was preacher in charge, the president of the conference decided that she was not entitled to a seat in the conference."

Decision approved.

¶ 444. At the Central Illinois conference, Bishop Sellew presiding, a communication was received from an elder stating: "I have returned to my old conference, i. e., the Wisconsin. The Greenville district sent me a certificate of good standing about a year ago. Upon that certificate I have been received and given work by the Wisconsin conference."

The secretary of the Greenville district stated that the above certificate was issued before the last annual conference.

The president of the conference ruled that the

above certificate expired at the time of the last session of the conference and is null and void.

Decision approved.

¶ 445. At the forty-ninth annual session of the Genesee conference held at Ransomville, New York, September 9-13, 1908, Bishop Walter A. Sellew rendered the following decision:

Genesee Conference, a Decision of Law by Bishop W. A. Sellew.—The committee on claimants and claims reported through the president that the question had arisen as to how many years should be counted as "active service," according to the Discipline, in the case of a claimant in the conference. The president was asked whether the six years that he served the Orphanage and Home at Gerry, New York, as manager, and the four years that he served the same institution as financial agent, ten years in all, should be counted as years of "active service" in estimating such claim.

The president, W. A. Sellew, decided that they were not to be counted, for the reason that they were years in which he served the said institution by a business contract made and entered into each year in advance of the annual sitting of the Genesee conference. That the Genesee annual conference had nothing to do with that contract, either in making of it or in fixing the nature of service required, or in fixing the compensation; neither did the conference in any way examine into or inquire about that service, as to whether it was satisfactory or not. The whole matter was a business proposition entered into by a conference preacher and a corporation.

The fact that the name of the claimant appears in the appointments of said conference as occupying such a position only shows that the conference permitted him to retain his standing in the conference after the contract was made, but such permission

does not constitute sufficient authority for counting those years so spent as years of "active service," according to Discipline.

Decision disapproved.

¶ 446. Regarding the President of an Annual Conference Acting on the Committee on Ministerial Relations:

Whereas, It has occurred in some instances that an annual conference has elected its presiding officer to act on the committee on ministerial relations; and,

Whereas, The findings of such a committee may call for the appointment of a trial court, at which the president must preside; therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that the election of a bishop on the committee on ministerial relations in an annual conference is exceedingly irregular, and for the bishop to act in such capacity is highly improper.

Adopted.

¶ 447. The following question was asked F. D. Brooke while presiding at the Elgin district quarterly conference in 1907:

"Is a person appointed by an annual conference as a supply on a circuit the preacher in charge of that circuit?"

Answer. "He may be. Page 37, paragraph 87, of our book of Discipline, 1903, reads: 'A preacher may be appointed to a circuit without having charge of the same; in such cases the administration of the circuit shall devolve upon the district elder and the official board.' But there may be preachers who are members of other conferences, and who are fully fitted to administer circuits to which they may be appointed as supplies. It is my opinion, therefore, that a preacher appointed by an annual conference to a circuit, as supply, is preacher in charge of that circuit, unless the annual conference appointing him



shall specify in making such appointment that the administration of the circuit shall be fixed as provided for in the paragraph referred to.

“Freeborn D. Brooke, District Elder,  
“Elgin district, Illinois conference.”

“From the above opinion W. C. Willing appealed,  
“George H. Behner, Secretary.”

The president of the Illinois annual conference rendered the following decision:

“I approve of the above decision.

“Walter A. Sellew.

“September 13, 1907.”

Decision approved.

¶ 448. At the Kansas conference, August 27, 1909, an appeal from the Iola district was taken up. Upon the records of the quarterly conference of the Iola district the following appears under question 5, pages 115 and 116:

The name of Brother ——— was called and it was reported that he had been working with the Salvation Army, there being no Free Methodist society where he lived (Parsons, Kansas); also that he had joined the Salvation Army, and that at present he wished his church relation to remain in the Free Methodist church.

When he retired the district elder ruled that his joining the Salvation Army severed his connection with the Free Methodist church, and accordingly decided that his case need not go on record.

The brother appealed from said decision to the annual conference to be held at Solomon, Kansas, August 25, 1909.

The bishop (W. A. Sellew), upon hearing the appeal, made the following decision:

(1) “The president of the Kansas annual conference hereby decides that the Salvation Army is a regular church organization and that a member of our

church who joins the Salvation Army severs his connection with the Free Methodist church. The decision of the district elder is therefore approved."

Decision approved.

(2) "But as the brother joined the Army under a misapprehension, and now expresses a desire to remain a member of the Free Methodist church, he should be given a reasonable time in which to sever his connection with the Army. If he does so he may retain his membership in the Free Methodist church."

Decision disapproved.

### From Journal of 1915

¶ 449. Oil City conference. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew. On page 370 of the journal is the following: "June B. Horning, having been recommended by the quarterly conference as a suitable person to be received on trial in the annual conference, was, on motion, received."

The bishop ruled that this action would deprive her of her seat in the conference held under ¶172 (4) of the Discipline.

Decision approved.

¶ 450. South Dakota conference. Ruling of B. R. Jones. Session of 1913. Journal, page 270.

"Winnie Ashcraft's name was called and her character passed. She had a standing of 85 in Bible doctrine. On motion, she was discontinued from probation, Bishop Jones having decided that those women whose home duties interfered with their being free to take any appointment were not eligible for reception on trial in the traveling connection.

Decision sustained.

¶ 451. Oil City conference. Ruling of Bishop Wilson T. Hogue. Page 318 of Journal. The secretary read a letter from T. C. Goodrich, a former member

of the conference, requesting a certificate of standing, and Bishop Hogue ruled that he not being a member of the church his request could not be granted.

Ruling sustained.

¶ 452. Southern Oregon conference. Ruling of Bishop W. T. Hogue. Records of 1912, p. 20.

"The following communication from Bishop W. T. Hogue, in reply to a communication from the secretary of the conference in regard to the resignation of District Elder B. F. Smalley and the appointment of W. E. Goode as elder, was accepted as the decision of the conference:

"'Replying to yours of March 28th would say: Brother Smalley did not indicate to me that the last quarterly conference had been held or I should have made no appointment, inasmuch as any appointment I might make would require the ratification of that body. As it is, the conference on assembling will have to elect some one to sit on the stationing committee in Brother Smalley's place.'"

Decision sustained.

¶ 453. Susquehanna conference. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellw. Conference Journal, pages 156, 157.

"H. L. Crockett, attorney for the church, notified Rev. W. B. Roupe that the charges upon which he had been suspended by the committee would be presented to the annual conference at its next session. Rev. W. B. Roupe then notified H. L. Crockett as follows:

"'I hereby withdraw from the Free Methodist church and the Susquehanna conference.'

"H. L. Crockett then states he received a letter from W. B. Roupe, a few weeks later stating, 'Since I have become able to make this defense I would request that you destroy the letter of withdrawal and



go on with the trial, unless the charges are withdrawn, in which case also destroy the letter.'

"The president of the conference stated to the conference that it was their prerogative to decide whether they would accept the withdrawal of W. B. Roupe from the church and conference, as mentioned above, or would permit him to withdraw it as requested in the second communication and permit the trial to go on.

"Pending the consideration of this case, the question was raised, Were these communications from W. B. Roupe to be considered as officially received by the conference, since they were addressed to H. L. Crockett, attorney for the church in the case, and not addressed to the secretary or some official of the conference? The president decided that they were officially received by the conference.

On motion the conference decided to accept his withdrawal from the church and conference under charges, as stated in his first communication.

O. B. Russell who had been requested by W. B. Roupe to act as his attorney, took an appeal to the general conference from the ruling of the president and the action of the conference."

Decision sustained.

¶ 454. New York conference. Ruling of Bishop William Pearce. Page 153 of the Journal.

"Upon a question submitted to the chair for decision, i. e.: Whether A. G. Miller is eligible to a reelection to the Wilkes-Barre district, having served same as such together with the Windsor district, for two years successively, and then independently of said Windsor district for two successive years more, making four consecutive years of travel as district elder over both districts. Chair decided that the Discipline was 'incontrovertibly plain' on this point, and

hence A. G. Miller was not eligible to a reelection to the Wilkes-Barre district."

Ruling approved.

¶ 455. New York conference. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew. Conference Journal, page 221.

Following a motion for the renewal of deaconess' license of persons who were also evangelists the president called attention to paragraph 154, and stated that in his opinion persons who held an evangelist's license were not entitled to deaconess' license, but because some had been granted by his predecessors he would permit the motion to pass, enter his protest and refer the matter to the forthcoming general conference.

Opinion expressed by the bishop approved.

¶ 456. New York conference. Ruling by Bishop W. A. Sellew. Pages 203, 204 of Journal.

"If an annual circuit meeting has met and elected a delegate to the annual conference, can one of the points on the circuit be set aside to form a new circuit and a delegate be elected to represent said circuit? In which case what is the standing of the delegate first elected?"

1. The district elder may divide the circuit, according to the Discipline, par. 140, even after the annual circuit meeting has been held and a delegate has been elected.

2. If the circuit is so divided, the delegate first elected represents the other part of the original circuit.

Decision sustained.

¶ 457. Wabash conference. Ruling of Bishop B. R. Jones. In conference of 1914 the following question was asked the president:

"Is it illegal for a quarterly conference held at the close of the conference year to fix time or place for a camp meeting to be held the coming year?"

Answer: "Ordinarily such action would not be considered strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Discipline, but conditions sometimes arise which justify such action."

Decision approved.

¶ 458. North Indiana conference. Ruling by Bishop B. R. Jones. Records of 1912, page 113. "The legality of the election of Bert Mellott, a lay delegate of the newly-organized circuit, West Side, South Bend, was called in question. The chair ruled that, as Monroe Williams' name appeared upon both credentials and as E. J. Bean was still a member of South Bend class, that the two named circuits are only one; therefore, B. Mellott's election as delegate was illegal. B. Mellott retired."

Decision approved.

¶ 459. On Placing Name of Conference on Back of Journal: Resolved, That this general conference urge all the annual conferences to place the name of the conference on the back of the journal for the convenience of general conference examiners.

#### From Journal of 1919

¶ 460. At a session of the Louisiana conference the following question was asked Bishop W. A. Sel-  
lew:

"If a person having been recommended by the district quarterly conference of which he is a member for admission on trial, and the same person is recommended by the same district quarterly conference for local deacon's orders, could such a person at the same session of the annual conference be received on trial and ordained local deacon?"

The president ruled as follows: "In my opinion, he cannot, because as soon as he is received on trial he ceases to be a local preacher."

Decision approved.



¶ 461. Decision by Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Central Illinois conference:

"The facts agreed upon in the case are as follows: In 1915, at its annual session, the Kentucky and Tennessee conference granted to W. R. Garrison a certificate of his good standing with a view to his being transferred to the Central Illinois conference. At the annual session of the Central Illinois conference, held at Cowden, Illinois, September 13-16, 1916, this certificate was presented to the conference and W. R. Garrison was duly received into the conference after having been transferred by Bishop W. T. Hogue.

"It appears, however, that the Kentucky and Tennessee conference held its annual session for 1916 on the same week as Central Illinois, and that the Kentucky and Tennessee conference was in session at the same time that this certificate was received by the Central Illinois conference.

"This fact made this certificate null and void, and W. R. Garrison was actually a member of the Kentucky and Tennessee conference at the time he was received by the Central Illinois conference.

"I, therefore, decide that the transfer made by Bishop Hogue and his reception by the Central Illinois conference were both illegal, and that W. R. Garrison is not a member of this conference but of the Kentucky and Tennessee."

Decision disapproved.

¶ 462. Decision of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Oregon conference. The case was substantially as follows. The amount assessed for conference claimants at the time of its session in 1915 was 45 cents a member. During the ensuing conference year the executive committee increased the apportionment to 50 cents. At the next session of the conference in 1916 the question was raised as to whether the conference would be expected to pay 45 cents or 50

cents a member for the year just closing. The president rendered the following decision:

"In my opinion only 45 cents can be assessed against the conference this year."

Decision sustained.

¶ 463. Decision of Bishop W. A. Sellew, at the North Michigan conference in 1915: A recommendation for evangelist's license was brought before the quarterly conference at the first session of the year, having been made by a society meeting prior to the last session of the annual conference. There was a question raised as to the legality of granting the license. The district elder ruled that it was legal. The case was appealed to the annual conference to be answered by the bishop.

The president decided that in his opinion it was legal, as it was acted upon by the first session of the quarterly conference after the recommendation was made by the society.

Decision approved.

¶ 464. Decision by Bishop W. Pearce: A district elder said, "My decision in case of a preacher going into a new place to hold meetings and to raise up a Free Methodist society is that he should not use an instrument (or instruments) of music. That it would not be disciplinary to do so, and would result in diversion and failure."

The bishop ruled, "It would not be advisable."

Decision approved.

¶ 465. Decision of Bishop W. T. Hogue made at the Colorado conference in 1916.

The question of granting a quarterly conference evangelist's license to Mrs. Rose Cooper was rejected by the Pueblo district quarterly conference on the grounds taken by the district elder that she was not present and had not brought up her course of studies.

The president ruled that under the circumstances, and inasmuch as Mrs. Rose Cooper was an efficient missionary among us, the license could have been granted.

Decision approved.

¶ 466. Decision of Bishop W. A. Sellew on the validity of an evangelist's license.

A sister with an annual conference evangelist's license verbally withdrew from the church. The official board finally at a second (not verbal but written) announcement of withdrawal, accepted it. Afterward she requested to be again received into the church and accordingly her request was granted in harmony with paragraph 78 of the Discipline. Does this action include reinstatement as an annual conference licensed evangelist?"

The president decided that the restoration of her membership by the official board did not apply to her evangelist's license which could only be granted by the quarterly conference.

Decision approved.

¶ 467. Decision of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Southern California conference. Records of 1917.

At the third sitting, Edward K. Inaba, lay delegate from the Port Los Angeles work, handed in his credential and took a seat in the conference.

At the fourth sitting, Edward K. Inaba, having been recommended by the Los Angeles district quarterly conference as a suitable person to be received on trial and the committee on the preliminary course of study having reported that he had passed a satisfactory examination, on motion, he was received on trial.

At the fifth sitting, the president ruled that since Edward K. Inaba had been received on trial, in harmony with the Discipline, his relation as lay delegate



has automatically ceased. His name was therefore stricken from the roll.

Ruling disapproved.

¶ 468. Report of Committee on Judiciary.

"If a conference minister fails to use his certificate of good standing and general acceptability, given with a view to transfer, when does the life of said certificate cease?

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee that the life of such certificate ceases at the calling of the roll at the first sitting of the ensuing session of the annual conference giving it.

"Also, that such a certificate given by a quarterly conference expires at the calling of the roll at the first sitting of the ensuing session of the annual conference within whose bounds the quarterly conference is located."

Report adopted.

¶ 469. Report of Committee on Judiciary:

"If a minister shall present a certificate of good standing and general acceptability to an annual conference, and be transferred to said conference by the presiding bishop, such transfer having been made after the conference granting said certificate had convened in its next annual session following the session in which the certificate was given; where does such preacher hold his membership?

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this committee that the transfer was legal, and the membership of said preacher is in the conference to which the transfer has been made."

Report adopted.

¶ 470. The following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that forcing a workman to join the union or leave his job constitutes coercion."

## From Journal of 1923

¶471. Decision of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Kansas conference. The following was taken from the records of the Wichita district quarterly conference:

"On a complaint from the Wichita charge in regard to the division of the circuit, and since there seems to be a discrepancy between the constitution of the Mission of Redeeming Love and paragraph 160, section 11, of the Discipline on that point, we the quarterly conference of the Wichita district, appeal to the bishop of the conference for a decision on this action."

The bishop's ruling follows: "I decide, 1. That it was a violation of the Discipline for the district elder to divide the Wichita circuit without the consent of the preacher in charge and the official board. The Discipline, paragraph 160, section 11, must take precedence over the constitution of the Mission of Redeeming Love, even though the latter may have been approved by action of the general conference. 2. That the society formed as the Mission Society is still a regular society and cannot be dissolved except as provided for in the Discipline."

The decisions of the bishop were approved.

¶472. Ruling of Bishop W. H. Clark in the New York conference.

After reading in open conference paragraphs 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29 of the Digest of Free Methodist Law, and after a statement that in the church record of the society he was about to leave, a preacher had made the notation opposite the name of his wife, "transferred to another circuit," but had not given a church letter, the following questions of law were asked of the president of the conference:

Question 1. As no church letter was given, does



not the membership of said person remain in said circuit, notwithstanding said notation?

Question 2. Is not said person amenable to said circuit for her conduct, notwithstanding said notation?

The bishop's answer to both questions was, "Yes."  
Decisions approved.

¶ 473. Ruling by Bishop D. S. Warner in the New York conference.

The following question was submitted to the president for decision: Can a quarterly conference legally adjourn at its second sitting to meet in its third sitting in another place, several miles distant, and after an interval of nearly three weeks?

The decision was, "Yes."

Decision approved.

¶ 473½. Decision of Bishop D. S. Warner in the Illinois conference.

An appeal taken by W. J. Bone, from the decision of District Elder F. D. Brooke, of the Chicago district, as to the eligibility of Sadie Hill to a seat in the annual conference.

The district elder ruled that she was not eligible to a seat in the annual conference while on trial in that body. The bishop sustained the ruling of the district elder.

Decision of the bishop approved.

¶ 474. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Southern Oregon conference.

Question 1. If a pastor appointed to a circuit declines to occupy the parsonage, has he the right to rent the parsonage to other parties without the consent of the official board?

Answer: "I think not."

Question 2. If a preacher appointed to a circuit declines to occupy the parsonage, has the official



board the right to rent the parsonage without the consent of the preacher in charge?

Answer: "I think they have."

Question 3. If the official board rents the parsonage to other parties, has the preacher in charge the right to demand, and is the official board under obligation to pay, said rent to the preacher in charge?

Answer: "I think he is entitled to the rent."

All three decisions approved.

¶ 475. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Louisiana conference.

The following question of law was submitted to the chair by J. M. Manchester: "Is it a violation of our rule on dress, according to our book of Discipline, for persons who are members of the Free Methodist church to wear feathers and artificial flowers on their hats?"

Answer: "In my opinion, it is."

Decision approved.

¶ 476. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the East Texas conference.

The president's decision in the case of L. V. Maund: 1. The last annual conference imposed a penalty upon him, resulting from a bill of charges, of suspension from the ministry and from the church for two years. In my opinion the conference went beyond its authority in doing so, as suspension of a minister can only be for one conference year. I decide that he has served out the time of suspension and is now entitled to a seat in the conference.

2. As his case has now been referred to a committee on ministerial relations by the conference, I decide that the committee cannot consider anything contained in the bill of charges upon which he was suspended at the last conference.

Both decisions approved.

¶ 477. Ruling by Bishop D. S. Warner in the Southern Oregon conference.

The following questions were asked and answered by the president, from whose decision an appeal was taken to the answer on question 1.

Question 1. In forming a new society does paragraph 77 of the Discipline provide for receiving into the church as full members persons who have had no previous connection with any church or religious society nor have served on six months' probation?

Answer: It is my understanding that paragraph 77 provides for receiving members in such manner in organizing a new society.

Question 2. Would it be a violation of paragraph 75 of the Discipline to receive members into the church in full connection who have not been on probation or connected with any church or religious society or organization?

Answer: Yes.

Question 3. Would a preacher receiving members in such a manner be deemed guilty of maladministration of the Discipline?

Answer: Yes.

All three decisions sustained.

¶ 478. Ruling of Bishop D. S. Warner in the Southern California conference.

It was stated that the Bethel society had voted their intention to transfer in a body to the Ontario society at a future date, if permitted to sell their church property and take it with them as a part of a church building fund in Ontario, and requested permission of the conference to do so. It was moved and seconded, that the request be granted. It was moved and seconded, as a substitute, that \$300.00 of the proceeds be appropriated to the Chino society. After some discussion the previous question was moved and seconded. Pending this a point of order

was raised on the substitute. The president made the following ruling:

"Inasmuch as there is not at this time a bona fide sale of the property, and it appears there will be no sale of the property unless the proceeds of said sale may be taken to assist in building a church in Ontario, therefore the substitute motion is out of order."

An appeal was taken from the ruling of the chair.

Decision approved.

¶ 479. Ruling of Bishop W. Pearce in the Ohio conference.

A resolution was introduced recommending that those districts of the conference which are served by one elder, where there is no district elder's home, take steps to secure additional elders' homes at suitable locations, and until this is done recommending that rent be raised for elders' homes separate from elders' salaries.

The chair ruled that it is not in the province of the annual conference to recommend that a district or districts which do not have a district elder's home should provide the same or in lieu thereof pay the rent for a district elder's home.

Decision sustained.

¶ 480. Whereas, A member who is accused of unchristian conduct is suspended from all offices pending the outcome of the trial; be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of this general conference that conviction of unchristian conduct would continue the suspension from said offices.

¶ 481. Resolved, That it is the sense of this general conference that it is the inalienable right of any annual conference, district quarterly conference, church society, or individual member of the Free Methodist church, to submit protests, petitions or memorials to the general conference and to have them fully heard by the general conference.



**From Journal of 1927**

¶ 482. At the session of the Minnesota and Northern Iowa conference, presided over by B. J. Vincent by appointment of Bishop W. H. Clark, September 13-19, 1925, the president was asked whether it was legal or disciplinary in reporting members to conference to omit the names of those members whose conference claims are difficult to collect or who have seemingly lost interest in the church.

The president ruled as follows: "The pastor is bound by the Discipline to include in the number of members which he reports to conference all the people whose names are retained on the membership records on the circuit."

Decision approved.

¶ 483. The following question was asked the president of the Chicago district quarterly conference: Has a pastor the right to refuse a certificate of membership, properly made out and signed, on the ground that the bearer lives nearer the church giving him the letter than the church to which he wishes his membership transferred?

The district elder, F. D. Brooke, ruled that the church had no right to refuse her own paper and that the pastor should receive the certificate of membership.

An appeal was taken to the president of the next session of the annual conference. Bishop W. H. Clark decided, "I sustain the ruling."

Decision approved.

¶ 484. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the West Kansas conference. Question: Is it a violation of the Free Methodist Discipline for our members to join the Ku Klux Klan? Answer: In my opinion

membership in the Klan is a bar to membership in the Free Methodist church.

Ruling approved.

¶ 485. At the session of the North Michigan conference of 1923 the following question was asked Bishop W. A. Sellew: "Can the quarterly conference at its last session for the conference year fix the time and place of holding the first session for the ensuing year?"

Bishop Sellew answered as follows: "In my opinion it has authority to fix either the time or place or both."

Decision approved.

¶ 486. The secretary of the Southern California conference asked the president, Walter A. Sellew, the following question: How shall I list Lillian Pool Burnett in the conference minutes, she having been located according to paragraph 120 of the Discipline?

The president rendered the following decision: "When a woman who is a member of an annual conference and is an ordained deacon, marries a preacher who is a member of an annual conference and is located under paragraph 120 of the Discipline, such a woman should be listed as an ordained local preacher."

Decision approved.

¶ 487. The president of the Pasadena district quarterly conference decided that a local preacher's license could not be granted subsequent to the session of the quarterly conference on condition that the applicant appear before the district elder and give satisfactory answers to the disciplinary questions.

An appeal was taken from this decision to the annual conference.

Bishop D. S. Warner confirmed the ruling of the president of the Pasadena district quarterly conference.

Decision approved.

¶ 488. At the Oil City conference the question was asked: If an annual conference evangelist in the interim of conferences make engagements for meetings beyond the ensuing conference, can it be legally said that he has broken the Discipline?

The president, Bishop Sellew, decided as follows: "It is my opinion that a preacher who has been appointed to the evangelistic relation by his annual conference is authorized to make evangelistic appointments beyond the date of the next annual conference to which he belongs, but such appointments must be conditioned upon the conference granting him an evangelistic relation for the following year. If for any reason his conference should not grant him that relation and should appoint him to a charge, he would be under obligation to cancel his evangelistic engagements and take the work assigned him by his conference."

Decision approved.

¶ 489. At the session of the West Kansas conference held August 6, 1924, the following question was asked the president, Bishop D. S. Warner:

"Is it contrary to the law or spirit of our Discipline to retain or to receive members into the Free Methodist church who pay their dues in any secret society for the purpose of keeping up their life insurance?"

The president's answer was, "I think that it is."

Decision disapproved.

The following resolution was passed:

¶ 490. Resolved, That it is distinctly understood



that no person can retain membership in a secret society and in the Free Methodist church at the same time.

¶ 491. The Oregon conference has recorded on page 347 a decision by Bishop W. A. Sellew upon the action of The Dalles society, which action is as follows:

"At a joint meeting of the society and the official board of The Dalles Free Methodist church, it was voted to discontinue their services indefinitely and to grant The Dalles Mission the use of the church building so long as it shall seem advisable. This action was unanimous.

"On motion a board was created to be known as The Dalles Mission Board, this board to consist of the members of the official board of The Dalles Free Methodist church, the pastor to be chairman of the board and superintendent of The Dalles Mission. The use of the organ in the mission services was ordered by the board."

The bishop made the following decision: "In view of the above facts, I decide that the society at The Dalles has no disciplinary right to take such action, and that the Free Methodist society at The Dalles remains intact in spite of such action. The fact that they have sent a delegate here to this conference confirms this statement. I also decide that the use of the organ by them in this church has been a violation of the Discipline. I decide that their meetings are Free Methodist meetings."

Decision approved.

¶ 492. In the records of the Oregon conference, page 344, the following decision is found: "When the name of a certain elder was called, objection was made to passing his character on the ground

that he had cooperated in placing an instrument of music in the Central Church in Portland, of which he was pastor, and using the same in public worship, and a motion was made and seconded that his case be referred to the committee on ministerial relations."

Bishop W. A. Sellew decided that the offense named was not of a character that could be referred to such a committee, and gave paragraph 436 of the Discipline as the basis of his decision.

Decision approved.

¶ 493. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Kansas conference.

A question having arisen as to the legality of a probationer in the church sitting as a delegate in the annual conference, the president ruled that it was illegal for a member on probation in the church to serve as delegate to conference.

Ruling approved.

¶ 494. Ruling by Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Susquehanna conference.

Question: Is a district elder eligible to serve on the conference evangelistic board, under paragraph 119 of the Discipline? Answer: He is eligible.

Ruling approved.

¶ 495. Decision by Bishop W. H. Clark in the Susquehanna conference.

Question: Can a local preacher's license be revoked by the quarterly conference that issued it when in their judgment the local preacher has violated the conditions mentioned in said license? Answer: They can revoke it.

Decision approved.

¶ 496. Ruling by Bishop D. S. Warner in the Oil City conference:

The president ruled that a quarterly conference

recommendation for the renewal of an annual conference deaconess license is necessary for the renewal of such license by the annual conference.

Decision approved.

¶ 497. Ruling of Bishop W. A. Sellew in the Louisiana conference.

The committee reported that they found that two women had been licensed as local preachers and questioned whether or not this was regular. At this juncture a member of the conference submitted the following question: "Is it in harmony with our book of Discipline to license a woman as a local preacher?" The chair rendered the following decision: "I know nothing in the Discipline that forbids it."

Decision approved.

¶ 498. Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that this decision allows women to be licensed as exhorters and local preachers.

¶ 499. Resolved, That the years a woman spends as an evangelist shall not be counted on the years required necessary for her ordination as local deacon.

¶ 500. Decision by Bishop W. H. Clark in the Michigan conference. Question: If a preacher withdraws from the conference under censure, or is expelled, can a preacher or society receive him on probation or otherwise? Answer: It is a violation of rule 8, paragraph 182, of the Discipline, and any preacher doing so is guilty of maladministration.

Decision approved.

¶ 501. In the Iowa conference an appeal to the chair for a decision concerning conference claims was answered by F. L. Baker, the president ap-



pointed by Bishop W. H. Clark, to the effect that the conference claims were not a personal assessment.

Decision approved.

¶ 502. At the session of the Susquehanna conference held September 12-17, 1925, the question was raised as to the legality of holding a quarterly conference outside the bounds of the district.

Bishop D. S. Warner ruled that it was irregular and undisciplinary.

Decision approved.

¶ 503. In a meeting of an official board with the district elder presiding, the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, There has complaint been made to this board that from time to time certain derogatory statements have been made against the pastor by a member of this board; be it therefore,

Resolved, That we, the members of this board, do hereby instruct and direct our secretary to communicate with the said member and request him to be present at a meeting of the board in the church, to answer such complaints against him and to state his reasons for such remarks, he having been requested to do so at a meeting of this board held previously, and having failed or refused to do so.

The following record was made of a further action of the above named official board: "A communication was received from the said member and was read before the board. It was moved and carried that the secretary be instructed to write a letter to him expressing the regrets of the board in session that he has taken the attitude that he has toward the board and church and that this board requests him to refrain from taking part in public worship until such time as he meets with their request."

The quarterly conference of the district took action requesting the president of the conference at its coming session to render a decision on the authority of the official board to take the before-mentioned actions.

Bishop W. A. Sellew rendered the following decisions in the case:

"It is my opinion:

"1. That the action taken by the official board, in the first instance, was a proper action, and that the presiding officer was justified in allowing the board to pass such action." Decision approved.

"2. That the said official board had no right or authority to take the action it did in this case at the later meeting and that the presiding officer of the official board was guilty of maladministration of Discipline in allowing the board to pass such action."

Decision approved.

¶ 503½. Resolved, That the proper officers of the various church boards and of the publishing house be requested hereafter to make a full, detailed statement of the assets and liabilities and net worth, showing their financial standing, and it is ordered that the same be published in the Annual Minutes.

## CHAPTER V

### ¶ 504. THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY

1. A Young People's Society may be organized on any circuit after action favoring it has been taken by the official board, but in harmony with the plan adopted by the general conference, and published with the constitution of the Y. P. M. S.

2. Until such action has been taken the local Y. P. M. S., if there be one, is to continue in every way as in the past.

3. After such action has been taken on a circuit any Y. P. M. S. existing there shall continue undisturbed as follows:

a. It remains a distinct society.

b. It retains its name.

c. It continues auxiliary to the W. M. S.

d. Its offerings and dues to continue to go through the same channels and for the same purposes as in the past.

4. It shall be modified in the following particulars:

a. It is to confine its activities to those usually understood as missionary.

b. It is to hold only one public service each month, the time for this to be determined in conjunction with the executive committee of the local young people's society.

c. It shall constitute the agency of the local Y. P. S. for the promotion of missionary instruction and inspiration.



5. The constitution of the young people's society shall make the following fundamental provisions:

a. Provide that its missionary activities shall be in charge of the local Y. P. M. S.

b. No person shall be an officer unless he or she is a member of the Free Methodist church.

c. Conditions of membership shall be, "Any young person of good moral character fourteen years of age or over who desires to unite for instruction, worship and service under the direction of the Free Methodist church."

d. Its superintendent shall be elected by the official board.

e. Its officers, together with its superintendent, shall constitute the Y. P. S. executive committee, of which the pastor shall be ex-officio a member.

6. A council, known as the "Council on Young People's Work" of the Free Methodist church of North America, shall be created, which shall not only coordinate the interests among the several boards in regard to young people's activities, but also shall constitute the central board for promoting and directing the young people's societies of the church.

a. This council shall be composed of seven persons: a bishop, and two persons elected by ballot from each of the following boards—Sunday-school board, educational board and the W. M. S.

7. The general Sunday-school secretary shall give not to exceed one-third of his attention as the general young people's worker of the church under the direction of the Council on Young People's Work, his salary to be paid from funds of the general Sunday-school board.

a. Any expenses incurred by the general council shall be paid from funds of the general Sunday-school board.

8. The council on young people's work shall pre-

pare a constitution and by-laws for the young people's society in harmony with the foregoing provisions in which shall be incorporated a statement of this plan and presented to the executive committee for its final approval.

9. The provisions of this chapter do not become operative until they have the approval of the executive committee of the Free Methodist church.

10. The members of the Council on Young People's Work are: Bishop W. Pearce; L. G. Lewis, B. H. Gaddis, elected by the board of education; C. H. Watson, J. H. Whiteman, by the general Sunday-school board; Carrie T. Burritt, Emma L. Hogue, elected by the woman's missionary society.

## CHAPTER VI

### § 505. THE GENERAL WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

#### Constitution

##### ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as the General Society of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Free Methodist Church of North America, auxiliary to the General Missionary Board of the Free Methodist church.

##### ARTICLE II

The object of this organization shall be to secure systematic contributions for home and foreign missions, to disseminate missionary intelligence and to encourage missionary effort in the Free Methodist church.

##### ARTICLE III

1. The general society shall be composed of the general officers, its representatives on the general missionary board, and one delegate from each conference, and an additional delegate from each conference having over seven hundred active members.

2. The president of this society shall be an ex-officio member of the general missionary board.

3. The delegates are to be elected by their respective conference societies at their annual session, immediately preceding the session of this society.



4. No person shall be elected as delegate to this society who is not a member of the Free Methodist church, and an active member of the woman's missionary society.

5. No person shall be eligible to election as a delegate to this society who is a delegate or reserve delegate to the general conference of the Free Methodist church.

#### ARTICLE IV

The meetings of this society shall be held quadrennially at the time and place of the general conference of the church, when a report of its operations, conditions and prospects shall be presented. An election by ballot of general officers and representatives on the general missionary board shall be held at that time.

#### ARTICLE V

1. The officers of this society shall be a president, two vice-presidents, corresponding secretary, recording secretary, treasurer, home missions secretary, editor of Missionary Tidings, and superintendent of young people's societies, and superintendent of junior societies.

2. A nominating committee may be chosen to submit nominations to the society.

#### ARTICLE VI

No person shall be eligible to office in this society who is not a member of the Free Methodist church, and an active member of the woman's missionary society.

#### ARTICLE VII

The general officers together with the representatives on the general missionary board shall constitute a general executive committee who shall administer the affairs of the organization and have full

power to transact business in the intervals of the quadrennial meetings. Five of these officers shall constitute a quorum.

#### ARTICLE VIII

The general executive committee shall meet annually at the time and place of the meeting of the general missionary board.

#### ARTICLE IX

The executive committee shall elect (a) A mission study secretary, whose duty it shall be to promote mission study; (b) a superintendent of foreign boxes, who shall have general charge of that work; (c) a literature agent, who shall supervise the work of that department; all of whom shall report annually to the executive committee.

#### ARTICLE X

There shall be an advisory board of three members, elected by this society.

#### ARTICLE XI

No methods of raising money or of conducting meetings shall be adopted by this society which are not in harmony with the Discipline of the Free Methodist church.

#### ARTICLE XII

Five per cent of the funds of this society shall be reserved as a contingent fund and deposited in a savings bank.

#### ARTICLE XIII

1. A home missions meeting shall be held quarterly in each local society, and an offering taken which shall be forwarded through the regular chan-

nels to the general treasurer of the woman's missionary society.

2. The total amount raised annually in each society for home missions should average at least one dollar for each member. All such money, sent to the treasurer, shall be kept as a separate fund.

3. Any local woman's missionary society desiring to do other home missionary work, may do so by using money raised for that purpose, such work to be reported to the home missions secretary as home benevolences.

4. Home missions week shall be observed in accordance with the plan of the General Home Missions Council.

5. Thank offering boxes shall be used for raising home mission funds, which shall be in addition to the one dollar a member, and shall be reported as a separate fund. The thank offering boxes shall be opened twice each year, during home mission week and during the month of May.

#### ARTICLE XIV

This constitution may be altered or amended at any quadrennial meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.



## CHAPTER VI

### ¶ 506. FORMS

#### APPLICATION FOR PERMISSION TO SELL OR MORTGAGE CHURCH PROPERTY OF THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Name of Circuit.....  
.....  
..... District  
..... Conference

#### Questions to Be Answered

1. Has the society given authority to the trustees to sell or mortgage the property?.....

2. What are the reasons for selling or mortgaging? .....

3. What disposition of the proceeds of the sale or mortgage is intended?.....

4. Is the title a warranty deed?..... If not, what is the character of the title?.....

5. Is the property deeded "to the society in its corporate name," or to individual trustees? (See paragraph 237.) .....

6. Does the deed contain the following trust clause: "In trust for the use and benefit of the membership of the Free Methodist Church of North America, etc."? See paragraph 238.....

7. Is there a reverting clause in the title?.....

8. Give the names of the trustees and their addresses .....

.....  
 .....  
 .....

9. Give description of the property to be sold or mortgaged. Number of lots or acres of ground; character of buildings, frame, stone or brick; size; condition, good or bad.....

.....  
 .....  
 .....

10. Give legal description of property to be sold or mortgaged .....

11. Estimated value .....

12. What amount is expected to be realized by the sale or mortgage?.....

13. What provisions have been made for suitable accommodations for the Sunday-school?

\*14. I approve of the sale, mortgage as proposed.

.....Preacher in Charge  
 Address .....

..... District Elder  
 Address .....

..... Sec. of Official Board  
 Address .....

.....

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\* Cross off "sale" or "mortgage" as the case may require.

CONSENT TO SALE OF CHURCH PROPERTY

The Trustees of the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America, incorporated in the state of Illinois, being the legal representative body of the Free Methodist Church (denomination), for a valuable consideration received from ....., the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby release all right, title, interest, or claim that they may have in or to the property described below by reason of any trust clause that may be in the deed of said property.

Description:

.....  
 .....

They also hereby give their consent to the trustees' selling said property and giving proper deed for same.

In witness whereof the said corporation has caused this instrument to be signed by the secretary of its executive committee, and sealed with its corporate seal this.....day of....., 19....

.....  
 .....  
 .....

State of.....

ss.

County of.....

On the.....day of....., in the year one thousand nine hundred and....., before me personally came....., to me known, who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he is the secretary of the Trustees of the General Conference of the Free Methodist Church of North America, the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that he knew the corporate seal of



said corporation; that the seal affixed to said instrument was such corporate seal; that it was so affixed by order of the trustees of said corporation, and that he signed his name thereto by like order.

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#### RECOMMENDATION FOR EXHORTER'S LICENSE

**This certifies** that ..... is hereby recommended by the Free Methodist Society at ....., of which he is a member, as a suitable person to receive **Exhorter's License** in the **Free Methodist Church**.

Done at a Society Meeting held at ....., on the ..... day of ....., 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

---

#### EXHORTER'S LICENSE

**This certifies** that ..... is authorized to officiate as an **Exhorter** in the **Free Methodist Church** for one year, provided his spirit and practise are such as become the Gospel of Christ, and his teachings correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

Done by order of the Official Board of the ..... Circuit, ..... Conference.

Done at ....., this ..... day of ....., 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

---

#### RENEWAL OF AN EXHORTER'S LICENSE

The license of ..... as an **Exhorter** in the **Free Methodist Church** is hereby renewed for one year, subject to the requirements of the Discipline.

Signed by order of the Official Board of .....

charge, of the ..... District, of the .....  
Annual Conference, this ..... day of .....  
19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE TO PREACH

We, the members of the Official Board of .....  
charge, ..... District, hereby recommend  
..... as a suitable person to be licensed as a  
**Local Preacher** in the **Free Methodist Church**.

Done at an Official Board meeting held at .....  
this ..... day of ....., 19...., and by order  
and on behalf of said Official Board.

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

#### LOCAL PREACHER'S LICENSE

**This certifies** that ..... is authorized to officiate  
as a **Local Preacher** in the **Free Methodist Church**  
for one year, provided his spirit and practise are such  
as become the Gospel of Christ, and his teachings cor-  
respond with the established doctrines of the Holy  
Scriptures as held by said Church.

By order of the Quarterly Conference of the .....  
District, ..... Conference.

Done at ....., this ..... day of .....,  
19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

#### RENEWAL OF LOCAL PREACHER'S LICENSE

**This certifies** that the license of ..... as a  
**Local Preacher** in the **Free Methodist Church** is

hereby renewed for one year, subject to the requirements of the Discipline.

Done by order of the Quarterly Conference of  
..... District, ..... Annual Conference, in  
session at ....., this ..... day of .....,  
19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR ORDERS

**This certifies** that ..... is hereby recommended by the Quarterly Conference of ..... District to the ..... Annual Conference as a proper person to be ordained ..... according to the provisions of the Discipline, he having served for four consecutive years as a local preacher (or deacon).

Done by order of the Quarterly Conference of  
..... District, this ..... day of .....,  
19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR ADMISSION TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**This certifies** that ....., a local preacher, and member of the Quarterly Conference of ..... District, is hereby recommended as a suitable person to be admitted on probation in the traveling connection of the **Free Methodist Church**.

Done by order of the Quarterly Conference of  
..... District, ..... Annual Conference, in  
session at ....., this ..... day of .....,  
19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*



# ANNUAL CONFERENCE CERTIFICATE—ADMISSION ON TRIAL

**This is to certify** that Rev. ...., the bearer, a regularly licensed local preacher, has this day been received into the ..... Annual Conference of the **Free Methodist Church** as a traveling preacher on trial, and he is hereby authorized to act in that capacity according to the Discipline of said Church, provided his spirit and practise are such as become the Gospel of Christ, and his teachings correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said Church.

Done at its annual session, held at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

# ANNUAL CONFERENCE CERTIFICATE—ADMISSION ON TRIAL

**This is to certify** that ....., the bearer, a regularly licensed evangelist, has this day been received into the ..... Annual Conference of the **Free Methodist Church** as a traveling preacher on trial, and .... is hereby authorized to act in that capacity according to the Discipline of said church, provided .... spirit and practise are such as become the Gospel of Christ, and .... teachings correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

Done at its annual session, held at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

## CERTIFICATE OF STANDING

This certifies that....., an ordained....., is in good standing and of general acceptability in the.....Conference of the **Free Methodist Church**, and is granted this certificate with a view of being transferred to the.....Conference.

Done by the said.....Conference at..... the.....day of....., 19...

.....President.

.....Secretary.

[The following must be filled out by one of the General Superintendents before it is received.]

I hereby transfer.....to the.....Conference. When....shall have been received by vote of said.....Conference, .....relation to the .....Conference shall cease.

.....Bishop.

A certificate granted by an annual or quarterly conference expires at the following session of the annual conference.

## CERTIFICATE OF LOCATION

**This certifies** that....., an Elder (or Deacon) in good standing in the.....Annual Conference of the **Free Methodist Church**, is given this Certificate of Location at.....own request (or having been left without appointment by vote of said Annual Conference two years in succession).

Done in annual session at....., this..... day of....., 19..

.....President.

.....Secretary.

## QUARTERLY CONFERENCE EVANGELIST'S LICENSE

**This certifies** that ..... is authorized to officiate as an **Evangelist** in the **Free Methodist Church** for one year, provided h... spirit and practise are such as become the Gospel of Christ, and h... teachings correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

By order of the Quarterly Conference of the ..... District, ..... Conference.

Done at ....., this ..... day of ....., 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE EVANGELIST'S LICENSE

**This certifies** that ..... is authorized to officiate as an **Evangelist** in the **Free Methodist Church** of North America, so long as h... spirit and practise are such as become the Gospel of Christ, and h... teachings correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said church.

By order of the ..... Annual Conference of the Free Methodist Church.

Done at ....., this ..... day of ....., 19 ...

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

## LAY DELEGATE'S CREDENTIALS

**This certifies** that ..... was duly elected as a **Lay Delegate** to represent the ..... Circuit at



the session of the ..... Annual Conference to be held at ....., commencing on the ..... day of ....., 19....; and that ..... was duly elected as **Reserve Lay Delegate** for the same.

Done at the Annual Circuit Meeting held at ....., on the ..... day of ....., 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR THE RESTORATION OF PARCHMENTS

*To the President and members of the.....  
Annual Conference, to be held at.....  
commencing on the.....day of....., 19....*

We, the members of the (Quarterly or Annual) Conference, hereby recommend the restoration of the parchments of ....., he having been received as a local preacher on the ..... Circuit (or admitted on trial in the said ..... Annual Conference).

Done in the regular session at ....., this day of ..... 19...., and signed by order and in behalf of the said ..... Conference.

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

[NOTE.--The foregoing recommendation should be presented to the conference having the custody of the forfeited parchments, or to which the candidate belonged when the parchments were forfeited.]

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE DEACONESS' LICENSE

This certifies that....., of ....., is hereby duly authorized to officiate as a **Deaconess** in the **Free Methodist Church of North America**. This license is good for one year from date hereof.

By order of the ..... Annual Conference of the Free Methodist Church.

Done at ..... this .... day of ....., 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

## PERMANENT DEACONESS' LICENSE

This certifies ....., of ....., having held an annual conference Deaconess' License for two years, and having served the required time in practical deaconess' work, and having passed a satisfactory examination in the required course of study, is granted this **Permanent License**, and is hereby authorized to officiate as a **Deaconess** in the Free Methodist Church of North America, so long as her spirit and practise are such as become the Gospel of Christ.

By order of the.....  
Annual Conference, of the Free Methodist Church.

Done at ..... this ..... of ..... 19....

.....*President.*

.....*Secretary.*

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