

CONSEIL PROTESTANT
DU CONGO

MINUTES—MEETING 23

LEOPOLDVILLE, CONGO BELGE,

JULY 15-21, 1945.

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683. *MEETING.* The Conseil Protestant du Congo met at Léopoldville, Congo Belge, July 15-21, 1945.

684. *PRESENT.* The following were present:

American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society:

Rev. B. W. ARMSTONG, Councillor
Rev. ELMER HALL, Councillor

Africa Evangelistic Band:

Rev. H. WAKELIN COXILL, Proxy

Assemblies of God Mission:

Rev. H. WAKELIN COXILL, Proxy

Africa Inland Mission:

Rev. H. WAKELIN COXILL, Proxy

American Presbyterian Congo Mission:

Rev. JOHN MORRISON, Councillor
Rev. A. H. CLEVELAND, Councillor

Baptist Missionary Society:

Rev. W. D. REYNOLDS, Councillor
Rev. R. V. de C. THOMPSON, Councillor

Berean African Missionary Society:

Rev. H. WAKELIN COXILL, Proxy

British and Foreign Bible Society:

Rev. G. W. CARPENTER, Councillor

Cougo Balolo Mission:

Rev. A. IVIMEY, Substitute
Mrs. A. IVIMEY, Substitute

<i>Congo Evangelistic Mission.</i>	
Rev. JAMES SALTER,	Councillor
<i>Congo Inland Mission:</i>	
Rev. J. P. BARKMAN,	Councillor
Rev. H. H. MOSER,	Councillor
<i>Christian and Missionary Alliance:</i>	
Rev. J. E. NICHOLSON,	Councillor
Rev. C. I. BIRKEY,	Councillor
<i>Church Missionary Society:</i>	
Rev. J. OHRNEMAN,	Proxy
<i>Diciples of Christ Congo Mission:</i>	
Rev. F. L. ROWE	Councillor
<i>Friends Africa Gospel Mission:</i>	
Rev. J. OHRNEMAN,	Proxy
<i>Mission Baptiste Danoise:</i>	
Rev. J. OHRNEMAN,	Proxy
<i>Mission Baptiste Norvégienne:</i>	
Rev. H. WALDEMAR,	Substitute
<i>Mission Methodiste du Congo Central:</i>	
Rev. H. P. ANKER,	Councillor
Miss MARY FOREMAN,	Substitute
<i>Mission Evangélique de l'Ubangi:</i>	
Rev. R. ANDERSON,	Councillor
<i>Mission Methodiste du Sud Congo:</i>	
Rev. NEWELL BOOTH,	Councillor
<i>North Sankuru Mission:</i>	
Rev. H. WAKELIN COXILL,	Proxy
<i>Svenska Baptist Mission:</i>	
Rev. DAVID COLLDEN,	Councillor
<i>Svenska Missions Forbundet:</i>	
Rev. J. OHRNEMAN,	Councillor
Rev. M. LUNDGREN,	Councillor
Dr. ELON MATTSSON,	Alt-Councillor

Unevangelized Fields Mission:

Rev. A. IVIMEY,

Proxy

Unevangelized Tribes Mission:

Rev. ELVEN PETERS,
Dr. LABAN SMITH,

Councillor
Councillor

Conseil Protestant du Congo:

Rev. H. WAKELIN COXILL,
Mrs. H. WAKELIN COXILL,
Rev. G. W. CARPENTER,

General Secretary
Women's Committee
Educational Secretary



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Proper credentials were presented where necessary, and the General Secretary referred to correspondence regarding all representation by proxy.

685 Officers. The Rev. John Morrison presided as President of the Council. The Rev. F. L. Rowe was elected Minute Secretary.

686. Times of Meetings. It was agreed that morning sessions would be held from 8:30 to 11:45 with a short recess at 10:00 followed by devotions.

Afternoon meetings would be held from 2:30 to 5:00 and evening meetings 8:00 to 9:30.

687. Visitors. A cordial invitation to attend all or any of the sessions of the Council was extended to the following, whose presence and valuable help at the meetings was greatly appreciated: Dr. R. L. ARCHER, Executive Secretary of the Foreign Division of the American Methodist Church.

Miss Sallie Lou MacKINNON, Executive Secretary for Africa and Europe of the Woman's Division of Christian Service of the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church; Representative of the American Committee for the World Council of Churches and also of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America.

Rev. Virgil SLY, Executive Secretary of the United Christian Missionary Society (Disciples of Christ.)

Rev. Hugo LINDHOLM of the Mission Libre Suédoise.

688. Devotions. Various members of the Council conducted the daily devotional services.

On Sunday Evening, July 15, a special service in the B.M.S. Church was conducted by the Rev. James Salter and on Sunday morning, July 22, by Dr. G. W. Carpenter.

The meeting ended with an evening Communion Service conducted by Rev. J Morrison and a closing prayer by the General Secretary.

689. *Special Committee.* The Chairman appointed the following committees to serve during this session of the Council:

Nominating: REVS. ANKER, ARMSTRONG, THOMPSON.

Bookshop: REVS. WALDEMAR, SALTER, HALL, ANDERSON, CARPENTER.

Finance: REVS. ROWE, BOOTH, MORRISON.

Comity: REV. OHRNEMAN, IVIMEY, ANKER.

Central Press: REVS. THOMPSON, MOSER, NICHOLSON, MATTSSON, CLEVELAND.

Medical: DR. MATTSSON, and REVS. WALDEMAR, BARKMAN.

Education: REVS. CARPENTER, ANKER, PETERS, ANDERSON.

Regional Conference July 1946: REVS. BOOTH, CARPENTER, SALTER, COXILL.

690. *Elections.* The following officers were elected by the Council:

President 1945-46: DR. STANLEY SMITH, C.M.S.

Vice-Presidents: BISHOP N.S. BOOTH, M.M.S.C., DR. G. W. TUTTLE.

691. *Admission to Membership.* Following the presentation of applications and statements of the aims, views, history and other stipulated requirements, (see Constitution, Art. 13) it was voted to accept the following missions as participating members of the Congo Protestant Council.

MISSION LIBRE METHODISTE

WORLD-WIDE GRACE TESTIMONY

With this action these members were welcomed to membership in the Council. The Council anticipates helpful and happy associations with them in our common service of the Kingdom of God.

692. *General Secretary's Report.* The annual report of the General Secretary of the Council was accepted with appreciation of the many and varied services performed

by him and also by Mrs. Coxill during the year 1944 and the first half of 1945.

The Council requested that copies of this report be made available to all organizations on the C.P.C. Mailing list.

The report of Mr. Coxill's visit to England and Belgium and of his numerous consultations and engagements in both countries was an outstanding feature of the Council meeting and was received with intense interest by everyone present.

693. *Finance.* (a) Following the presentation by the General Secretary of the accounts of the Council for the year ended December 31, 1944, the report was received with appreciation and accepted as presented.

(b) *Budget.* The projected budgets for 1946 and 1947 were presented by the Finance Committee and approved by the Council.

(c) *Notification.* It was agreed that the Financial Statement presented by the Secretary, the Budgets approved by Council and minutes relating to C.P.C. finance be mimeographed and copies sent to all Member Missions of the Council.

694. *Missionary Relief War Fund.* The Council approve the manner in which this fund has been administered by the General Secretary during the past year.

The Council again registered its appreciation to Member Missions and all others who have rendered such splendid financial support to Congo Orphaned Missions. There is still a need for continued help to this fund which has contributed so greatly to the continuation of mission work by those missions which have been shut off from home support owing to the war.

695. *Congo Forces Fund.* A report on the Congo Forces Fund was presented by the General Secretary and approved the Council. It was decided not to close this fund before the next meeting of the Council.

696. *L'Evangile en Afrique.* The report of the Secretary on the publication of *L'Evangile en Afrique* was received following which an expression of appreciation was made by the Council.

Expression of thanks was made to the Faculty of Ecole de Pasteurs et d'Instituteurs, Kimpese, for their cooperation during the past year in editing the l'Evangile. The Council looks forward to the closer cooperation of E.P.I. in the future publication of the journal.

697. *Representation in Belgium.* A request, coming from the 1945 London Consultations through the International Missionary Council that the Rev. H. Wakelin Coxill be released from his present position as General Secretary of the Council to serve the Home Boards and the Congo Missions in Belgium was considered. It was decided that:

(a) The C. P. C. inform the International Missionary Council and the Foreign Missions Conference of North America and any other interested missionary organizations that while it has their proposals under consideration it cannot agree to the release of the Rev. H. Wakelin Coxill for the Brussels agency at this time.

(b) Seeing that the new proposal for a Brussels Agency has not been brought to the notice of different Congo Missions before this meeting of the Council it is decided that the matter be referred to the different Mission Conferences as soon as possible so that action can be taken at the meeting of the Council in February 1946.

(c) The Council wishes to express to the Home Boards its deep satisfaction on learning that steps are being taken by them for the reestablishment of the Bureau of Protestant Missions in Brussels.

698. *Secretariat - Furlough.* It was agreed that the General Secretary go on furlough in 1946 for a full year period following the Regional Conferences proposed by the International Missionary Council. It was agreed that Mrs. Coxill and the children may return to England at such a time as they may decide best.

699. *Secretariat Ad-Interim Secretary.* It was decided that the Ad interim General Secretary assume his duties following the 1946 Council meeting in February 1946. It is expected that he will serve the Council for a period ending one year from the departure of Mr. Coxill, following the Regional Conferences.

700. *Interim General Secretary.* The Council unanimously requests the Svenska Missions Forbundet to consider the possibility of releasing the Rev. J. Ohrneman to serve as C. P. C. Interim General Secretary during the absence from Congo of Rev. H. Wakelin Coxill in 1946, 1947 and most warmly invite Rev. Ohrneman to agree to serve the Council in this capacity.

It was agreed that in the event that Rev. J. Ohrneman is unable to serve the Council as Interim Secretary during the furlough period of Rev. H. W. Coxill the local committee of the C. P. C., consisting of Revs. Reynolds, Carpenter, Lundgren and Dr. Tuttle, be empowered to present, by mail, to the member missions of the C. P. C., for adoption, the name of the person chosen by them.

701. *Bookshop. La Librairie des Missions Evangeliques.* The Manager of the Bookshop, Rev. G. W. Carpenter, presented a report of the activities of the Bookshop for the year 1945. Included with the report was a financial statement for the period. The Council accepted this report and expressed its gratification of the continued service to Missions by the Bookshop and referred the financial matters to the special committee for consideration.

The thanks and appreciation of the Council were expressed to Dr. and Mrs. Carpenter for their splendid contribution which made possible the success of the past year.

702. *Report of the Educational Secretary.* The Rev. G. W. Carpenter presented a report of his activities as Educational Secretary during 1945.

The report was accepted with an expression of thanks.

It was agreed that this report be circulated to all Missions.

703. *Central Press Project.* The General Secretary and Dr. Carpenter presented a project for a Central Union Press, together with a report covering work done by the Local Committee of the C. P. C. and a report of consultations and committee meetings at which Mr. Coxill had brought forward the proposal in London. The project was most favourably and enthusiastically received, by the Council,

A Special Committee was appointed by the Chair to work with Dr. Carpenter in preparing concrete proposals which were later brought before the Council for consideration and approved. These proposals are embodied in the Articles of Agreement of "La Librairie Evangélique au Congo."

The following Provisional Board of Directors of "La Librairie Evangélique au Congo" was elected:

Reverends: Reynolds, Birkey, Peters, Anderson, Rowe, Ohrneman and Watkins. The Revs H. W. Coxill & G. W. Carpenter ex-officio.

The Provisional Board of Directors met and elected, Rev. H. Wakelin Coxill, Chairman; Rev. W. D. Reynolds, Secretary and Dr. G. W. Carpenter, Manager.

704. *Articles of Agreement of "La Librairie Evangélique au Congo."*

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT OF "LA LIBRAIRIE EVANGELIQUE AU CONGO"

ARTICLE 1. The Conseil Protestant du Congo and the other bodies signatory hereto unite in the establishment of a central agency for the production and distribution of Christian literature and related materials, to be known as "La Librairie Evangélique au Congo". This organization is mutually recognized as the official agency of the Conseil Protestant du Congo in the field of Christian literature.

ARTICLE 2. The Conseil Protestant du Congo offers as its capital contribution the proprietorship of La Librairie des Missions Evangéliques, which thus becomes an integral part of La Librairie Evangélique au Congo. The functions and services now provided by the Librairie des Missions will continue to be provided by the new organization. It is agreed that the valuation of La Librairie Evangélique is twenty thousand dollars (five thousand pounds) or twenty shares of capital in Librairie Evangélique au Congo.

ARTICLE 3. The several participating bodies agree to subscribe the number of shares of capital indicated in the following list after the name of each; each share being of the value of one thousand dollars or two-hundred-fifty pounds sterling, these sums together with the proprietorship

of La Librairie des Missions to constitute the initial capital of La Librairie Evangelique au Congo.

ARTICLE 4. Other missions and related agencies which have signified their acceptance of the articles of agreement and willingness to subscribe capital may be accepted as participating bodies by the shareholders at any annual meeting, on recommendation of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 5. The capital contributions of the participating bodies shall be given as permanent non-recoverable grants, but in the event that capital is offered in excess of the requirements of the organization the Board of Directors may refund to one or more of the participating bodies such portions of their grants as may be mutually agreed upon. Participating bodies may transfer all or part of their holding to other bodies by mutual agreement, but no such transfer shall become effective until formally approved by the shareholders at an annual meeting.

ARTICLE 6. The productive capacity of the Press beyond that required for materials of general interest shall be made available to the participating bodies as nearly as possible in proportion to their respective capital investments. Commercial printing will in principle not be undertaken. Printing may be undertaken for non-participating missions providing no interference with work required by participating bodies will result.

ARTICLE 7. The press will undertake to produce work for the participating bodies at the lowest costs consistent with full coverage of the necessary operating and overhead expenses; the administrative procedures in this respect to be determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 8. A meeting of the shareholders shall be held annually at the time of the annual meeting of the Conseil Protestant du Congo. All persons eligible to attend the Conseil Protestant du Congo shall also be eligible to attend the shareholders' meeting, and any participating bodies not members of the Conseil Protestant du Congo shall also be eligible to have representation at the meeting. Each member

mission of the Conseil Protestant du Congo, the General Secretary and the Manager of La Librairie Evangelique Au Congo shall be entitled to one vote; and each participating body shall exercise one additional vote for each share of capital or major fraction of a share held by that body. The votes of each body shall be cast collectively by the representatives thereof. Representation (directly or by proxy) of one half the participating missions and one-half the capital shares of La Librairie Evangelique au Congo (exclusive of C. P. C. shares) shall be necessary to a quorum.

ARTICLE 9. The shareholders' meeting shall elect the Board of Directors and fill vacancies therein, hear reports on the activity of the organization and take action thereon; and advise the Board of Directors on questions of policy.

ARTICLE 10. The Board of Directors shall consist of seven members of the participating bodies, elected by the shareholders' meeting for three years with due regard to rotation, plus the Manager and the General Secretary of the Conseil Protestant du Congo, each member having one vote. Other members of the staff shall have the privilege of the floor but no vote.

ARTICLE 11. An alternate shall be elected for each Director to serve in his absence or inability to serve. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE 12. The Board of Directors shall meet annually or more often as it may decide. The necessary-travel expense of its members in attending meetings shall be a charge on operating expense.

ARTICLE 13. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Manager and other members of the staff and shall have power to enter into suitable agreements with one or another mission body regarding such appointments. Unless otherwise especially provided, the organization assumes full financial responsibility for its staff members in respect to salary, allowances, furlough and medical provision and eventual retirement allowance.

ARTICLE 14. The Board of Directors shall provide, either directly or through suitable delegation of its powers, for the erection and maintenance of needed buildings, the acquisition, maintenance and disposal of equipment, the business and editorial policies of the organization, the acceptance of gifts, and all other matters of administration, in harmony with its aim and purpose and with due regard to the actions of the annual shareholders' meetings.

ARTICLE 15. The Manager shall be responsible to the Board of Directors for the conduct of the activities of the organization, in cooperation with the members of his staff and in accordance with the decisions and policies determined by the Board of Directors. He shall present reports and maintain accurate and complete business records subject to audit by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 16. The organization accepts the offer of the Baptist Missionary Society to make available a plot of land on which to erect its building and undertakes to enter into a lease with the Baptist Missionary Society on terms generally similar to those agreed upon in the case of the Union Mission House.

ARTICLE 17. The organization will seek to obtain personalité civile as a non-profit, missionary organization in its own right, but during the period of organization until personalité civile can be secured it will operate under the personalité civile of the Conseil Protestant du Congo with the proviso that no financial responsibility will rest upon the Conseil Protestant du Congo except its contribution of the proprietorship and net worth of La Librairie des Missions Evangeliques.

ARTICLE 18. The present agreement shall become effective upon ratification by the competent bodies of five or more missions or related organizations as participating members; provided that a total capital contribution of seventy-five hundred pounds or thirty thousand dollars be underwritten by them.

ARTICLE 19. In case dissolution of this organization should be found necessary, the Board of Directors shall

cause its assets to be liquidated, and the proceeds shall be divided equitably among the Conseil Protestant du Congo and other participating bodies in the proportion of their respective capital holdings. Agreement shall be reached with the Baptist Missionary Society regarding the valuation and disposal of buildings erected on Baptist Missionary Society land.

ARTICLE 20. A provisional Board of Directors shall be named by the Conseil Protestant du Congo at its present (1945) meeting, to act until the next meeting of the Council, when the situation can be reviewed.

ARTICLE 21. Suggested modifications or amendments of these articles of agreement may be put forward by any interested body. These will be considered by the Conseil Protestant du Congo (or the shareholders' meeting) in February 1946 or at the first such meeting following the receipt of the proposal. Any shareholders' meeting may amend these articles of agreement subject to ratification by at least two-thirds of the participating bodies.

Adopted by the Conseil Protestant du Congo, 20 July, 1945.

705. *Committee On Education.* The following report of the Committee on Education was accepted and approved.

With a view to fuller cooperation with the Colonial Government as well as with each other as Protestant Missions or Churches we recommend:

- 1) That in each Province of the Congo the missions included therein shall choose an educational worker from among their missions who shall be the educational adviser of that particular region or province.
- 2) That the educational leaders or advisers chosen by these provinces together with the Educational Secretary of the C.P.C. constitute a general educational committee for the C.P.C.

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- 3) That a temporary committee be named at this meeting of the council. This temporary committee will function until the various regional Educational conferences shall meet and choose permanent leaders or advisors.

Léopoldville - The Principal of E.P.I.

Stanleyville - Rev J.F. Carrington
(Rev. W.H. Ford, alternate)

Lusambo - Rev. F.J. Enns

Coquilhatville - Rev. F.L. Rowe

Elisabethville - Miss A.E. Lerbak

Costermansville - Miss A.L. Winfrey.

706. *Educational Secretary.* It was agreed to accept the following recommendations of the Committee on Education:

- (a) That a committee be appointed, to report at the next meeting of the Council, to study the position of the Educational Secretary along the following lines:

- 1) Provided that the Bookshop requires the full time services of Dr. G.W. Carpenter, the present Educational Secretary, and this is approved, to present nominations for a successor.

- 2) To suggest means of organization and coordination of the work of Provincial Advisers and the Educational Committee of the Council.

- 3) To consider the financial aspects of the work.

- (b) Furthermore, that pending final arrangements, the contributing societies be invited to continue their grants to build up a reserve and that Dr. Carpenter be authorized to use, from funds which may be in hand, any amount necessary to facilitate the organization of Provincial Committees.

- (c) In accordance with the above recommendations the following committee was named: Revs. Armstrong, Booth, Carpenter, Coxill, Ohrneman and Thompson.

707. *Standing Committee: Medical* (a) The Medical Committee Secretary, Dr. Elon Mattsson, presented a most interesting and complete report on the Medical activities of Protestant Missions in Congo. A feature of this report,

as in previous years, was the detailed statistical information prepared and presented by Dr. Mattsson.

This report was accepted with a hearty vote of thanks by those present.

(b) Denatality. Based upon the report of the Medical Secretary of the Council the following recommendations were accepted:

1) That the attention of all missionaries be drawn to the alarming question of the increasing denatality in various parts of the Belgian Congo. There are various known and suggested causes, one of these undoubtedly being venereal disease. It is therefore suggested that all missionaries should give their wholehearted support to the ordinances of the Government concerning the treatment and prevention of venereal disease.

2) That we facilitate as much as possible the forming and training of Christian natives as infirmiers, aide-infirmiers and aide-accoucheuses in view of the big need and the great opportunity now before us.

(c) Resignation of Dr. Mattsson. The Council expressed to Dr. Mattsson, on his resignation from the position of Medical Secretary of the Council, their hearty appreciation of all the work he has done for the Medical work of Protestant Mission in Congo, and its regret that he feels unable to serve the Council any longer as Medical Secretary.

(d) It was agreed that Dr. G.W. Tuttle be asked to serve as Secretary of the Medical Committee of the C.P.C. following the resignation of Dr. E. Mattsson.

708. *Standing Committee Women's Work.* The report of the activities of the Women's Committee during 1944 and until the time of this meeting, was presented by Mrs. H.W. Coxill, Secretary, and accepted as read. Appreciation of the work of this committee was expressed and the Council again urges that all Missions manifest increased interest in the work with and for Congo Women and girls.

709 *Mission Map Of Congo.* The Council received with deep gratitude the map of Congo Missions prepared by Rev. L.A. McMurray. It instructed the General Secretary to express to Mr. McMurray its fullest appreciation of the great amount of devoted labor which has gone into its making and of the report and suggestions accompanying it.

710 *Visit Of The Governor General.* His Excellency the Governor General of the Belgian Congo, Monsieur Pierre RYCKMANS, graciously consented to attend one of the sessions of the Council to which all Protestant missionaries then in Léopoldville were invited.

His Excellency was welcomed by the General Secretary and the Chairman of the Council.

The Governor General expressed his appreciation of the devoted and self-sacrificing work of Protestant missionaries in the Colony. He drew the attention of his hearers to some of the most urgent needs and problems facing Congo today showing how the closer co-operation of Christian Missions with the Government is necessary and advisable. Monsieur Ryckmans said that he knew he could count on the Protestant missions of Congo doing all that is within their power for the advancement and well-being of the peoples of the Colony. He hoped also that we would soon be officially notified of further Government interest in and support for our work.

The affection and admiration which the Protestant missionaries of Congo have for the Governor General, of the deep appreciation of the Council for the visit to the Meeting by His Excellency, and for the kind and wise words of his speech were expressed on behalf of all present by Bishop N.S. Booth.

711. *Regional Conference, 1946.* Following recommendations of the International Missionary Council, formulated at the London Consultations in March 1945, and presented to the Council by the General Secretary, it was decided:

1. That a Regional Conference be held in July 1946, to be known as the "West Central Africa Conference," serving Angola, Cameroun, Congo Belge and French Equatorial Africa.

2. *Place.* That Léopoldville be the seat of the conference. It is hoped that the Central Press building may be available for exhibition and conference rooms.

3. *Date.* That the conference be held from July 13-24, the first Sunday being for fellowship in worship for the delegates and the second for deputations to local churches and a mass meeting in the afternoon.

4. *Delegates.* That one missionary delegate be allowed for the first ten members of a mission or for a lesser number if the total does not reach ten; and that there be one additional delegate for each ten members or major fraction thereof. Only the missionaries actually on the field are to be counted in determining the number of delegates allowed.

The presidents and executive secretaries of the Christian Councils in the Region are to be delegates ex-officio.

That there be a maximum of two African delegates from the area served by each mission.

5. *Official Languages:* That French, Portuguese and English be the official languages of the Conference.

6. *Visitors:* That the International Missionary Council be requested to make the arrangements for visitors from the sending countries, with the suggestion that they include representative of the Boards, the Missionary Conference, the churches in Belgium, France, and Portugal, and from agencies and international bodies such as the World Council of Churches, The Christian Student Federation, the Bible Societies, the YMCA, etc; and that the committee invite the secretaries of all Christian Councils and Federations in Africa.

7. *Registration:* That there be a registration fee of 200 francs for European and 100 francs for African delegates.

8. *Committees:* That the committee appointed at this meeting of the CPC be the general committee on program and arrangement and that it be empowered to form other committees considered necessary, including:-

(1) Entertainment of Delegates and Visitors Committees:

One for African and one for European members of the Conference.

- (2) Music Committee. The suggestion is made that the Book Store secure and sell to the delegates some suitable Hymnal, such as those of the Student Federation.
- (3) Publicity Committee to arrange for suitable publicity locally and in the home lands both before and after the Conference.

9. *Chaplain of the Conference* That the committee appoint a chaplain who shall direct the arrangements for the Worship services and at the close of each day shall himself lead a period of worship summing up in worship the Theme of the day.

10. *Presentation of Themes*: That variety be secured in the presentation of the Themes of the conference by the use of symposia and panels as well as addresses. It is suggested that no address be more than 20 minutes in length with 10 minutes allowed for translation, simultaneously, into the official languages not used by the speaker. Outlines in full form should be provided for the translators.

11. *Themes of the Conference*: That there be a general theme for the whole conference.

That among themes for the sessions of the Conference there should be ones chosen in connection with the following topics:

- (a) Christian Witness in Urban and Mining Areas with attention to the inter-relationships with rural sections.
- (b) The Leadership of the African Church both ministerial and lay.
- (c) Christian Family Life with particular thought as to the place of the family as the essential unit of consideration in all our work.
- (d) Comprehensive Christian Community Living planning for adequate place for activities in regard to Health, the bettering of economic life, community planning and government, and mass education.
- (e) Personal Evangelism as the activity of every Christian.
- (f) The Centrality of Worship.
- (g) The Realization of the Complete Unity of the Church.

(h) The Essential Foundation in the Study of the Bible.

12. *General Committee on Programme and Arrangements.*

The Council appointed a Conference Committee with power to coopt others, which Committee met and organized itself as follows.

Organizing Secretary. Rev. H. Wakelin Coxill.

Business Manager: Dr. G. W. Carpenter.

Members: Bishop N. S. Booth, Rev. J. Ohrneman, Mrs A. Ivimey, Mrs. H. W. Coxill, Rev. W. D. Reynolds, Rev. M. Lundgren, Rev. Elmer Hall and the Rev. M. Hancock.

712. *Christian Conventions.* Recognizing the need of deepening the sense of fellowship in the Church of Christ in Congo the Council warmly recommends the holding of Mission, Inter-Mission, or Regional Conventions of native christians wherever possible.

713. *School For White Children.* It was agreed that a committee be formed by a representative of each of the missions present in this Council meeting, interested or likely to be, in a school for white children to serve the Central or Western Congo.

This Committee, with the Rev. Elmer Hall as Secretary, is requested to take steps to push the establishment of such a school for this area.

714. *Use Of Alcoholic Beverages.* The Council adopted the following recommendation:

The conference of the Svenska Missions Forbundet, held recently, proposes to the Congo Protestant Council that the General Secretary approach the Government requesting its intervention against the alarming increase in the use of intoxicating drinks of various kinds among the native population.

715. *Year Book.* It was agreed that when the General Secretary has completed the gathering of materials for the Protestant Year Book it be submitted to the Bookshop to arrange for its publication.

716. *Protestant Principles And Practices.* It was agreed that a brochure on "Protestant Principles and Practices" be prepared in French by the General Secretary for presentation to the 1946 meeting of the Council.

717. *Establishment Of New Missions In The Congo.* The attention having been drawn to the fact that there are certain missions seeking entrance to Congo to start mission work, the council reaffirms its position as stated in minute No. 354 of the 1935 meeting.

The Council requests the General Secretary to draw the attention of any interested person or persons to this Minute; which is as follows:

"The Council, having taken cognizance of the existance of forty-three distinct protestant missionary organizations in Congo Belge, with over two hundred stations distributed throughout the Colony, consider that there is no further call for the establishment of new missions in this area.

They consider that the cause of Evangelical missions would be much better served by the strengthening of existing organizations, both in personnel and in funds, and by the unification of related bodies so as to reduce administrative costs and improve efficiency of work, rather than by the establishment of additional agencies.

The members of the Council have had occasion to observe the heavy costs and unnecessary hardship involved in the coming of inexperienced missionaries without the guidance and backing of an established society. Such costs and hardships were inescapable in the early days of Congo Missions, but are largely avoidable today.

The task of the missions is so great and so urgent that any waste of resources in one direction curtails necessary work elsewhere. Moreover, every new organization is confronted with the necessity of securing civil rights in the Colony and of acquiring lands; and the Government, with reason, regards unfavourably the further multiplication of missionary organizations.

Therefore the Council strongly recommends to all interested parties that support be given to agencies already at work in the Congo, rather than directed to the creation of new ones."

718. *Propaganda.* It was decided that the General Secretary furnish the "Service de l'Information et de la Propagado" with vital and informative statistics from the compilations of statistics of Protestant Missions for 1944.

719. *Missionary Aviation Fellowship.* The Council, having heard through the General Secretary of a Missionary Aviation Fellowship being formed in London by young Christian airmen, requests the General Secretary to keep in touch with this Fellowship with a view to this organization being of service to the Protestant missions of Congo in the future.

720. *Vote Of Thanks To Dr. Henri Anet.* Having heard of the retirement of Dr. Henri Anet it was agreed that a letter be sent to Dr. and Madame Anet by the General Secretary expressing our deep appreciation of the many and devoted services to Congo Missions and missionaries rendered by them during the twenty years when Dr. Anet was Liasion representative in Belgium of Congo Protestant Missions.

721. *Vote Of Thanks To The Organizations Which Assisted The General Secretary On His Visits To England And Belgium.*

It was agreed that the General Secretary send letters of appreciation and thanks to those organizations and persons who assisted and aided him during his recent visit to England and Belgium for consultations.

722. *Letters Of Greetings To The Evangelical Churches In Belgium.*

It was agreed that a letter of greeting be addressed to the Belgian Evangelical Churches expressing our rejoicing in their liberation at the end of the war in Europe and the desire of our Congo Churches to cooperate with them more closely in the future in prayer and service.

723. *Greetings To Other Councils.* It was agreed that the General Secretary convey the greetings of the Congo Protestant Council to other Councils in Africa, England and the United States.

724. *Minutes.* It was agreed that the minutes of this present meeting should be printed.

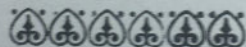
725. *Vote Of Thanks To The President.* The Council rose to express its thanks and appreciation to the Retiring President, Rev. John Morrison, for his valuable aid and guidance of this Council Meeting.

726 *Vote Of Thanks To The Baptist Missionary Society.*

A vote of thanks was extended to the Baptist Missionary Society and their staff for the use of the Church building for Council meetings and for the many courtesies and kindnesses shown to the Council during this meeting.

727. *Next Meeting.* It was decided that the next meeting of the Council shall be held in February 1946, at Léopoldville, at the call of the Secretary.

728. *Adjournment.* The 1945 meeting of the Council was adjourned by a hymn, followed by prayer.



President:

Rev. John Morrison,

Minute Secretary
Rev. F.L. Rowe,

General Secretary

Rev. H. Wakelin Coxill.

MEMBER MISSIONS
OF THE CONGO PROTESTANT COUNCIL, 1945

American Baptist Foreign Mission Society
Africa Evangelistic Band
Assemblies of God Mission
Africa Inland Mission
American Presbyterian Congo Mission
Association des Eglises Libres de Norvège
British & Foreign Bible Society
Berean African Missionary Society
Baptist Missionary Society
Congo Balolo Mission
Congo Evangelistic Mission
Congo Gospel Mission
Congo Inland Mission
Christian and Missionary Alliance
Church Missionary Society
Disciples of Christ Congo Mission
Friends' African Gospel Mission
Heart of Africa Mission
Methodist Episcopal Congo Mission
Mission Evangélique de l'Ubangi
Mission Baptiste Danoise
Mission Baptiste Norvégienne
Mission Libre Methodiste
Mission Methodiste du Sud Congo
North Sankuru Mission
Svenska Baptist Missionen
Svenska Missions-Forbundet
Société Belge de Missions Protestantes au Congo
Unevangelized Fields Mission
Unevangelized Tribes Mission
Union Pentecostale des Missionnaires de Grande Bretagne
et d'Irlande.
World-Wide Grace Testimony.