



Conseil Protestant du Congo

Minutes - Meeting 31

BLUKWA, CONGO BELGE

FEBRUARY 18-24, 1952

CONSEIL PROTESTANT DU CONGO
MINUTES — MEETING 31
BLUKWA, CONGO BELGE
February 18 - 24, 1952

995. Meeting

The Conseil Protestant du Congo met at Blukwa, Congo Belge, February 18 - 24, 1952.

996. Present

The Member Missions were represented as follows:

American Baptist Foreign Mission Society:

REV. B. W. ARMSTRONG *Councillor*
REV. R. G. METZGER *Councillor*

Assemblies of God Mission:

REV. H. L. GRIFFIN *Councillor*
REV. J. W. TUCKER *Alternate Councillor*

Africa Inland Mission:

REV. P. P. STOUGH *Councillor*
REV. G. C. VAN DUSEN *Councillor*

American Presbyterian Congo Mission:

DR. J. W. ALLEN *Councillor*
REV. J. MORRISON *Councillor*

Berean African Missionary Society:

REV. I. M. LINDQUIST *Councillor*

Baptist Missionary Society:

REV. L. J. TAYLOR *Councillor*
REV. R. V. THOMPSON *Councillor*

British and Foreign Bible Society:

DR. G. W. CARPENTER *Councillor*

Christian and Missionary Alliance:

REV. J. OHRNEMAN *Proxy*

Church Missionary Society: REV. H. P. EMMING	<i>Proxy</i>
Congo Balolo Mission: DR. E. R. WIDE	<i>Councillor</i>
Congo Evangelistic Mission: REV. J. OHRNEMAN	<i>Proxy</i>
Congo Inland Mission: REV. A. D. GRABER REV. V. J. SPRUNGER	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Councillor</i>
Disciples of Christ Congo Mission: REV. W. D. CARDWELL REV. R. A. TILLERY	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Councillor</i>
Friends' Africa Gospel Mission: REV. C. S. BROWN	<i>Councillor</i>
Heart of Africa Mission: REV. J. GRAINGER REV. H. ENGLISH	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Councillor</i>
Mission Baptiste Danoise: REV. H. P. EMMING	<i>Councillor</i>
Mission Baptiste Norvégienne: REV. J. OHRNEMAN	<i>Proxy</i>
Mission Evangélique de l'Ubangi: MRS. NAOMI J. SKOGLUND REV. H. R. WIDMAN	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Councillor</i>
Mission Méthodiste du Congo Central: MISS KATHRYN EYE REV. E. H. LOVELL	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Councillor</i>
Mission Méthodiste du Sud Congo: MISS CATHERINE PARHAM REV. L. H. ROBINSON	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Alternate Councillor</i>

Mission Libre Méthodiste: REV. R. COLLETT REV. H. SHINGLEDECKER	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Alternate Councillor</i>
North Sankuru Mission: REV. J. OHRNEMAN	<i>Proxy</i>
Société Belge des Missions Protestantes du Congo Belge: REV. E. DURAND	<i>Councillor</i>
Svenska Missions-Förbundet: REV. M. LUNDGREN	<i>Councillor</i>
Unevangelized Fields Mission: REV. G. KERRIGAN REV. C. BURK	<i>Councillor</i> <i>Councillor</i>
Unevangelized Tribes Missions: REV. P. P. STOUGH	<i>Proxy</i>
Worldwide Grace Testimony: REV. C. V. EGEMEIER	<i>Councillor</i>
Conseil Protestant du Congo: REV. J. OHRNEMAN DR. G. W. CARPENTER	<i>General Secretary</i> <i>Literature Committee</i>

997. Officers

Dr. J. W. Allen presided as President of the Council.
Dr. G. W. Carpenter was elected Recording Secretary.

998. Devotional Services

The opening session on the evening of February 18 was devoted to worship and prayer. Each morning session was opened with a devotional service.

999. Time of Meetings

The following hours of meeting were adopted:
Morning Sessions: 8:15 - 9:45, 10:00 - 11:40.
Afternoon Sessions: 2:10-5:30 with a break for tea.

Evening Sessions : 7:45 - 9:15.
Special group meeting:
LECO Shareholders' Meeting: Tuesday evening

1000. Agenda

The Agenda was adopted as presented by the General Secretary.

1001. Visitors

A special welcome was extended to the following representatives of the Boards of Member Missions: Miss Hazel M. Shank, Secretary of the Women's Board of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society; Mr. Herbert Driver, Associate Secretary of the Congo Inland Mission; Rev. John T. Watson, Assistant General Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

1002. Telegram to Governor General

The Council sent a telegram of respectful greetings to the Governor General.

1003. Committees

The following committees were appointed by the chair:

Evangelism and the Congo Church: Rev. R. G. Metzger, Rev. H. P. Emming, Rev. R. A. Tillery, Rev. G. C. Van Dusen, Rev. J. H. Robinson, Rev. J. W. Tucker, Rev. I. M. Lindquist, Rev. H. English, Rev. R. Collett, Rev. G. Kerrigan.

Educational: Rev. V. J. Sprunger, Rev. C. S. Brown, Rev. J. Grainger, Rev. H. R. Widman, Rev. C. Burk, Miss C. Parham, Rev. H. Shingledecker.

Medical: Dr. E. R. Wide, Miss K. Eye.

Jubilee Celebrations: Rev. J. Morrison, Rev. J. H. Robinson, Dr. G. W. Carpenter, Rev. W. D. Cardwell, Rev. J. Grainger, Rev. I. M. Lindquist, Rev. H. P. Emming.

Finance: Rev. R. V. Thompson, Rev. J. Morrison, Rev. W. D. Cardwell, Rev. M. Lundgren, Rev. H. L. Griffin, Rev. E. R. Lovell.

Nominations: Rev. P. P. Stough, Rev. A. D. Graber, Rev. L. J. Taylor, Rev. B. W. Armstrong, Dr. E. R. Wide.

1004. General Secretary's Report

The General Secretary's report was received with appreciation.

1005. Local Committee Minutes

The Minutes of the Local Committee, which held six meetings during the year, were received as read.

1006. New Secretariat

The General Secretary reported progress toward the realization of the projected new secretarial residence and office. It is hoped that actual construction can be started about four months after this Meeting. The Council approved the suggested change of the location of the buildings, placing the office in the center of the Avenue Joubert side of the property and the residence to the west of the office, leaving the upper corner of the plot for future use.

1007. Church of Christ in Congo

Acting on the report of the Committee on Evangelism and the Congo Church, the following resolutions were adopted:

1. *Regional Conferences:* That, realizing the great value of the Regional Conferences held at Blukwa, Bokada and Kimpese, we recommend that such conferences be organized in other parts of the Congo, especially looking forward to the year of Jubilee in 1953.

2. *Mining Camps and Company Concessions:* That, because there are still many mining camps and company concessions which are closed to Protestant educational and evangelistic work, the General Secretary be asked to

continue his representations to these companies and to the Government as well, pressing for a change of policy.

3. *Urban Centers:* That attention be again called to the growing importance of the urban centers and the urgency of greatly increased mission work in such strategic places. It was recommended that Congo Missions present this pressing problem to their Home Boards.

It was further suggested that: (a) qualified African workers be sent from the various missions having large constituencies in such centers to minister to the people from their own tribes, this to be arranged by agreement with the local mission in charge; and (b) that Christian centers for work among youth be established in connection with the Church.

4. *State Hospitals:* The General Secretary was asked to take up with the Government the question of equal opportunities for Catholics and Protestants for worship in State Hospitals, including the erection of chapels for evangelical Christians. The Missions are requested to furnish the General Secretary with pertinent information on local situations.

5. *European Population:* That we recommend that greater attention be given to the development of a ministry to the European population of Congo, including:

- a. Regular worship services.
- b. Distribution of literature.
- c. Personal contacts.

6. *Congo-wide Evangelism:* That, recognizing the great need for revival in Congo and the need of preparation prior to revival, realizing also that true revival is brought about through prayer and the working of the Holy Spirit, we call for concentrated prayer to this end.

7. *Communism:* That Congo missionaries take steps to inform themselves as to Communism and its aim and maintain a constant vigil against the beginning and spread

of any subversive movement among the Africans in the territory where they work.

8. *Modern Fetishes:* That the attention of the Missions be called to the existence and spreading of talismans, mascots, books on black magic, etc. which come from France, Belgium, England and the U.S.A.

9. *Alcoholic Beverages:* That the General Secretary express to the Government the deep concern of the Council regarding the increased sale of alcoholic beverages which result in destruction of individual and family morality, and in increased crime.

The Committee was requested to resume the practice of sending periodical circular letters to African Christian leaders in Congo.

1008. Protestant Chaplaincy

The report of the Chief Chaplain, Rev. H. Quenon was read by the General Secretary and received with much interest. The General Secretary was asked to convey to M. Quenon the congratulations of the Council on his appointment as Chief Chaplain, expressing its appreciation of his report and requesting that he convey the fraternal greetings of the Council to his colleagues in the Chaplaincy.

The General Secretary was asked to confer with M. Quenon regarding means of closer collaboration between the Chaplains and Protestant Missions near military posts and as to possible provision for more frequent visits by Chaplains to the various military posts in their respective areas.

1009. Education

The General Secretary gave a full report on the representations he had undertaken with the Government carrying out the decision made by the Council last year, that he present to the Governor General in writing the request that lay-official *Ecoles secondaires* and *Ecoles Profession-*

udies be established by the Government in the important centers in the Colony.

The counter-proposals made by the Government were read to the Council. These contained an offer of substantial new grants for "lay teaching personnel," who should be of Belgian or Luxembourg nationality.

On recommendation of the Committee on Education, the following resolutions were adopted:

1. That, since we find it impossible to obtain missionary school inspectors of Belgian nationality in the foreseeable future, the Government should be asked to provide for inspection of our Mission schools. The responsibility of reporting the annual statistics could, however, be retained by the Missions.

2. That the General Secretary be asked to approach the Government concerning a further adjustment period because, in spite of a serious effort to increase our teaching personnel, we have not yet sufficient qualified European or African staff for our schools.

3. That graduates of *Écoles de Mondenens* should be required to complete a two-year stage and graduates of *Cours d'Apprentissage Pédagogique* at least a one-year stage before being given their credentials.

4. That it be reaffirmed that all protestant mission schools, even though they are aided by the Government program of subsidies, are mission schools and should continue to be centres of evangelism.

It was noted with interest and satisfaction that some trained primary school teachers are returning to pastoral work. The bond between Church and school must be kept strong and it is urged that each mission should have regular times for evangelistic effort both on the mission station and also in the district schools.

5. That we rejoice because more educational men are now under appointment for our mission schools. We hope that this will release women, who are now working in the

boys' schools, for concentrated work with the girls. Until the young men coming out of our schools can carry on a real Christian girls' work, we cannot hope to see the spiritual condition of the Christian community in the high level that it should be. Therefore, the ratio between girls and boys enrolled in our schools should be more nearly equal, and we strongly recommend increased emphasis on girls' schools.

6. That hearty commendation be given Mrs. C. E. Boone and Mrs. P. J. Villingier on the arithmetic book in Kikongo which was printed this year. It is ably illustrated and so designed that it can be translated into any language and reproduced at a reasonable cost by the offset method. Three illustrated Christian education books in Swahili have been prepared by Mrs. Perkins of the W.M.S.C. and will be available to other language groups.

7. That the Boards-Scoutis Alliance be invited to consider the possibility of holding a work-conference for the planning and preparation of Christian educational materials, possibly in June or July 1955, this with the assistance of the World Sunday School Association.

8. After study of the Government's reply to the request for inauguration of *écoles latines officielles* it is felt that the requirement that lay teachers must be of Belgian nationality precludes the acceptance of the proposals. Should such a condition be waived, however, a further study of the proposals would be possible. But it is felt that even under such conditions it would not be possible to provide sufficient post-primary schools for the protestant community. The desire of the Council was reaffirmed that the Government should provide *écoles latines officielles*.

1000. Examination Berets

The General Secretary reported on correspondence

from the Government, regarding the establishment of *Jurys centraux* in all provinces opening the way for Congolese, who have attended other schools than the State recognized ones or acquired corresponding knowledge by private study, to sit for an examination with a view to obtaining official diplomas, including a diploma for monitor. Protestant mission educationalists will be invited to serve as members of these juries.

It is also the Government's intention to institute a Consultative Educational Board on which the Protestant Missions will be represented.

1011. Boarding Homes for Missionaries' Children

The General Secretary reported on the question of schools for missionaries' children, which has been before the Council periodically for several years. It appears that the Government lay schools for white children (*atékésés*), especially the one at Léopoldville, may be increasingly useful and may obviate the necessity of establishing further mission-operated schools of this type. Construction on the new C.P.C. land of a home (*internat*) for missionaries' children attending the lay school at Léopoldville may become desirable. No specific action was taken.

1012. Medical Work

The report of the Secretary of the Committee on Medical Work, Dr. G. W. Tuttle, was read by Dr. E. R. Wide and accepted by the Council. The following recommendations were adopted:

1. That the General Secretary in consultation with the Medical Secretary and the Legal Representative of the Member Mission, to whom the new agreement regarding the establishment of Leper Camps was sent, be requested to draw up a revised agreement. This agreement is to be reviewed at the next C.P.C. meeting.

2. That the General Secretary make representations to the Government requesting that the scale of rates of subsidies being granted to Protestant missions for European and African personnel (*agésés*) be increased and that the drugs and materials allowances be substantially augmented.

1013. Christian Literature

A verbal report was made by Dr. Carpenter.

1014. Bible Depots

Rev. John J. Watson, representing the British and Foreign Bible Society, reported on the problem of distribution in Congo from the standpoint of the Society and on consultations with the existing agencies in the Congo area. After discussion, the Council approved the following recommendations:

That the Council concur in the following arrangements, proposed by the British and Foreign Bible Society, in order to make Scriptures in Congo languages more readily available, facilitate their production, gauge requirements more accurately and conserve the resources of the Society. The Missions are to be informed of these arrangements and invited to conform to them:

1. That Scriptures will be supplied by the Society as far as possible through the following five recognized Bible depots in Congo and Ruanda-Urundi: L.H.C.O. at Léopoldville, The Congo Book Concern at Elisabethville, A.I.M. Bookshop and Press at Refsy, *Éditions Évangéliques* at Nyankunde, and the C.M.S. Bookshop in Ruanda-Urundi.

2. Each of the depots will be the agent for certain languages to be determined by mutual agreement, the Bible Society concurring, which will be made known to the missions concerned.

3. Any orders sent to the Society's headquarters, or to another agency, will be forwarded to the Depot which should handle it. This will enable the Depots to accumu-

late information as to the rate of sale of each publication, and to provide the Society with more reliable estimates of future requirements than are now available. It will also prevent duplication of orders for the same books, and reduce the holding of stocks at a plurality of depots.

4. In general, the Depots in the Congo area will endeavor to hold in stock the published editions of Scriptures used in their respective fields. However, in certain cases shipping considerations may make it preferable to have the stocks held in London to order of the Depot concerned. In any case, orders should be placed through the Depot on the field and not sent direct to the Society.

1015. Publications

1. *Congo Mission News*: The subscription price of the Congo Mission News was increased to 70 francs Belgian Congo, \$1.40, or 10s.0d.

2. *L'Evangile en Afrique*: The General Secretary reported that rising costs had compelled the establishment of higher subscription rates for *L'Evangile en Afrique*. The circulation is now nearly 6,000.

1016. Women's Work

The report of the Secretary of the Women's Committee, Mrs. J. Ohrneman, was read by Miss C. Parham and accepted by the Council.

On recommendation of the Committee on Women's Work the following resolutions were adopted:

1. That the women missionaries of the staff at Kimpe be asked to edit the *Congo Hearth*, Mrs Hall to be editor-in-chief.

2. That, because of the effective work being accomplished through the *Christian Home Movement* in other mission fields and because Mrs. Engwall of the A.B.F.M.S. has made a special study of the material relating to this movement, we express our desire that this material be

made available for general use in Congo. Those who are interested in this movement might indicate this fact to the C.P.C. Secretary of Women's Work.

3. That we hope that the work of organizing Women's Conferences will continue and enlarge during the coming year.

4. That, in order to share with all the missionaries of Congo the benefits of the experience of those who are working in various fields of activity among Congo women, we solicit the following articles for the Congo Mission News:

Girls' Work and Women's Conferences — Miss O. Love, A.I.M.

Women's Work in Urban Centers — Mrs. W. Fulbrook, B.M.S.

Women's Work in the District — Mrs. B. King, A.I.M.

Women's Work in Urban Centers — Mrs. Maurice Persons, M.M.S.C.

5. That, recognizing the distressing condition caused by the small percentage of girls enrolled in the schools, the Secretary of the Women's Committee be requested to correspond with the Legal Representative of each mission to compile a list of women missionaries who are giving full time to work with: (1) women, (2) girls, the findings to be published in the Congo Mission News together with the total number of women missionaries.

6. That we express our appreciation to the Government for having abrogated regulations which indirectly legalized prostitution in the urban centers.

1017. Occupation of Field

The General Secretary recalled to the attention of the Council Minute 354 (1935) and raised the question whether it still represented the mind of the Council in view of the urgent need for more adequate occupation of the rapidly growing urban centers in the Colony, or whether new

missions should be invited to enter Congo to specialize on urban work. In the discussion which followed it was pointed out that new missions would be at a grave disadvantage in providing African personnel for urban work, and that cities are not the best location for training institutions to meet future personnel needs. Existing missions would also need assurance as to the ability and willingness of new bodies to cooperate with them. Hence it would, in general, still be better to strengthen existing bodies rather than introduce new ones (as stated in the Minute referred to).

One of the most urgent aspects of the urban situation is the vast number of children for whom no adequate Protestant schools exist (and often no schools of any kind.) It is estimated that there are now in Léopoldville alone at least 32,000 children of school age for whom no schools are available.

No less urgent is the need of pastoral supervision of adults and young people who are not accustomed to city life and who fall prey to temptations and evil influences. It was suggested that, because city work is more difficult to organize than rural work, we should, if necessary, transfer missionaries from rural to urban fields, leaving more of the responsibility for the rural work in the hands of qualified African leaders.

1018. Brussels Bureau

A report of the activities of the Brussels Bureau was read. It was voted to send a message of greeting and appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. Coxill.

1019. Relation of the Protestant Council to the International Missionary Council.

Prolonged discussion of the proposal made by a Member Mission that the Congo Protestant Council sever its connection with the International Missionary Council led to the profound and unanimous conviction that any

severance of fellowship, either within the membership of the Council or between the Council and the other bodies which together constitute the I.M.C., would do irreparable harm to the cause of Christ in Congo. At the same time the *association* which exists between the I.M.C. and the World Council of Churches is a source of real embarrassment to certain member missions. Various proposals for the solution of this difficulty were explored and the whole matter was then referred to a special committee consisting of the President, the General Secretary, and Messrs. Stough, Morrison, Emming, Widman and Carpenter, for report at a later session.

The Committee reported that the most generally satisfactory solution would be the amendment of the Constitution of the C.P.C. to provide a status of *Consultative Mission* for bodies which were embarrassed by the external affiliations of the Council. The consultants representing these missions should have the privilege of the floor on all questions and the vote on all questions internal to the Congo area. A letter to the Missions explaining the proposal, and a set of the proposed amendments embodying it, were presented by the Committee and accepted by unanimous vote (see Minute 1020.)

1020. Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 20 of the Constitution, notice is hereby given that constitutional amendments will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting of the Council in 1953, for the purpose of carrying out the decision of the Council recorded in the preceding Minute, and to adapt the Constitution to present conditions in other respects.

The proposed amendments to the Constitution are as follows, subject to modification in detail before adoption:

ARTICLE 3: *Membership*

Delete "Membership"; substitute "Constituency".

Section 1. *Member Missions*. Line 5. Before word "member" add words "full corporate".

Lines 6-7. Delete "Legal Representative," Substitute "Councillor."

Section 2. (new) *Consultative Bodies*. Other Protestant Missions working in the above named area may be received by the Congo Protestant Council as consultative bodies.

Change numbering of following sections accordingly.

Section 3 (becomes) section 4.) *Personal or sustaining Members*. Line 4-5. Delete "not less than one pound sterling or five dollars." Substitute: "an amount to be determined by the Council."

ARTICLE 4: *Representation*

Section 2. (new) *Consultants*. Consultative Missions shall be entitled to representation by consultants on the same basis as that provided in Section 1 for Member Missions.

Change numbering of following sections accordingly.

ARTICLE 5: *Credentials*

Section 1. *Certificate of election*. Line 3. Delete "or" before "Associate Councillor" and add "or Consultant" at end of sentence.

ARTICLE 6: *Voting*

Section 2. (new) *Consultative Missions*. While recognized as having only consultative relationship with the Council, Consultative Missions shall have the privilege of the floor on all questions, but shall vote only on questions relating to the affairs of the Council within the Congo area. Not being corporate members of the Council, and therefore having no relationship to international bodies, Consultative Missions shall have no vote on questions relating to international organizations outside the Congo.

ARTICLE 13: *Admission to Membership*

Section 1. *Application*. Line 2. Add after "Council"

"or desiring to establish a consultative relationship thereto."

Section 3. *Admission*. Add at end of section: "or accepted as a Consultative Mission."

Section 4. (new) *Admission of Consultative Missions*. A Consultative Mission may become a Member Mission by making application to the Council at any regular meeting which by a majority vote may elect the applicant mission to full corporate membership.

Change numbering of following sections accordingly.

1021. Relationship of I.M.C. and W.C.C.

Communications from the General Secretary of the I.M.C. were read regarding a proposal to re-study the relationship between the I.M.C. and the W.C.C. After discussion the following resolution was adopted:

The council considers it undesirable for the I.M.C. and W.C.C. to enter into closer relationship than the existing "association." Such a step would gravely embarrass some of the missions related to the C.P.C., which recognize the value of the I.M.C. to this Council, but are not sympathetic to the W.C.C. The Council notes that no specific proposal is before the I.M.C. and considers that the fact that the I.M.C. is made up of Christian Councils, whereas the W.C.C. is composed of Churches, makes it impracticable to establish a closer relationship. The C.P.C. would most earnestly desire that the complete autonomy and independence of the I.M.C. should be preserved.

1022. International Missionary Council Committee Meeting

An enlarged Committee Meeting of the International Missionary Council will be held at Willingen, Germany, in July of 1952. The General Secretary was appointed delegate to represent the C.P.C. with Rev. W. D. Reynolds as alternate delegate.

1023. Congo Mission Yearbook

LECO was asked to address an inquiry to the Legal Representatives of the missions, to see how many copies of the Yearbook can be used, in order to judge whether an edition can be produced without substantial loss.

1024. 75th Anniversary

Dr. Carpenter reported on the brochure prepared for this Jubilee. The English edition is now being printed by LECO, an early publication being necessary to make it available as supplementary mission study material in Great Britain and North America. It was agreed that both the English and the French editions should be useful in making known the history and progress of the missionary undertaking in Congo.

The following resolutions were adopted on recommendation of the Committee on Jubilee Celebrations:

1. That a copy of the English edition of the Jubilee brochure be sent to each mission, that the missions consider the advisability of adapting and translating it into the vernacular so that it may be disseminated during the Jubilee year and may possibly be used later as a reader in the day schools.

2. That, regarding the Jubilee brochure, we recommend that a French edition be printed, and Dr. Carpenter was requested to ascertain from the Missions the number of copies desired.

3. That we suggest that three forms of celebrations be held, if possible, in June or July 1953:

- a. Regional Conferences.
- b. Celebrations in provincial capitals or in other large centers.
- c. Services on each mission station.

4. That missionaries from each area meet while at Blukwa and select provincial committees to implement the Jubilee program.

5. That we suggest that special Thanksgiving Offerings be taken, the object for which the offering is to be taken to be decided at the next C.P.C. meeting.

6. That we recommend that our General Secretary, in consultation with the Brussels Bureau and the I.M.C., arrange for Jubilee celebrations in the sending countries.

1025. African Mission Personnel

The General Secretary reported on negotiations now in progress to secure exemption from the official wage regulations for those personal and station employees of missions who may voluntarily wish to render services without full standard remuneration.

1026. Delinquent Children

The General Secretary presented documents emanating from the Government with respect to the problem of delinquent and unattached children in urban areas. While recognizing the gravity of the problem, the Council could not recommend to the missions that they receive such children. It was considered that the Government should assume primary responsibility in the matter.

1027. Mission Architect (Minute 985)

The M.M.C.C. councillors reported that the Mission had not been able to secure the services of an architect to carry out the plan proposed in 1951.

1028. File of Approved Plans

All Member Missions are requested to send copies of plans of subsidized buildings to the C.P.C. office, in order to build up a reference file of such plans. The General

Secretary is asked to make these plans available for loan or copying as may be found most practicable.

1029. Freedom of Conscience with Respect to Crop-planting

The General Secretary was requested to approach the Government to establish the principle that Africans be permitted to plant an alternative crop in cases where an imposed crop, such as tobacco, violates the conscience of the individual concerned.

1030. Use of Chapels on Board Ships

The General Secretary was asked to intervene with a view to securing the use of the chapels provided on board the new ships of the *Compagnie Maritime Belge* for holding Protestant worship services. It is reported that this privilege has heretofore been denied.

1031. Finance

The report of the Finance Committee with the projected budget for 1952 was read and adopted.

1032. Election of Officers

The following officers were elected for the coming year:

President: Rev. H. C. Hobgood.

Vice-Presidents: Rev. Karl Aldén,
Rev. E. H. Lovell.

Lingala Committee: Rev. A. R. D. Simpson, chairman; Dr. J. Carrington, Rev. D. Colldén, Miss May Clark, Rev. S.F. Westberg, Rev. F. C. Davey, Rev. L. J. Taylor.

Literature Secretary: Dr. G. W. Carpenter, with power to co-opt an alternate.

Secretary for Women's Work: Mrs. L. J. Taylor.

Secretary of Medical Committee: Dr. G. W. Tuttle.

Secretary of Educational Committee: Rev. E. H. Morrish.

Appointment of Interim Secretary: Rev. Hans Emming was appointed, subject to his being able to secure release from other duties in order to accept the position.

1033. Place and date of next Meeting

It was decided that the next Annual Meeting of the Council be held at Léopoldville during February 1953, the exact dates to be determined later.

1034. Vote of Thanks

The Council expressed its deep appreciation and warm admiration for the excellent and generous hospitality of the friends and co-workers at Blukwa and its prayers that God's richest blessing may continue to crown their labors. The lovely scenery, fine climate and abounding friendship all contributed to render this a memorable meeting of the C.P.C.

The Council expressed its gratitude to Miss Hazel Shank and to Rev. John T. Watson for their wise and timely counsel in many matters during the meetings. The Council asked them to convey its fraternal greetings in Christ to the Christian bodies in other lands which they may visit in the course of their labors.

The Council expressed its thanks to the Officers for their tireless and devoted labors and also to Rev. and Mrs. Ohrneman with prayers for a refreshing and fruitful furlough.

1035. Adjournment

The Council adjourned after a closing service of worship led by the General Secretary.

Dr. J. W. Allen,	<i>President</i>
Rev. J. Ohrneman,	<i>General Secretary</i>
Dr. G. W. Carpenter,	<i>Recording Secretary</i>