



# Congo Protestant Council

## Minutes - Meeting 32

LEOPOLDVILLE, BELGIAN CONGO

FEBRUARY 8 - 15, 1953



Church of Christ in Congo. Are they separate entities as in some societies or are mission and Church one body as in other societies? If there is a desire for African participation in the C.P.C., cooperating societies, who hold this view, should begin by including Africans on their local executive committees or councils.

#### 1064. Protestant Chaplaincy

The report of the Chief Chaplain was accepted with thanks for the fine work that he and his colleagues are doing.

#### 1065. Maps

The General Secretary was asked to find out how many mission maps of the Congo might be needed and to explore the possibility of having an up-to-date one printed.

#### 1066. Education

After a preliminary discussion of the recommendations of the Willingen Conference with regard to higher education in Congo, the education committee together with Bishop Booth and Dr. Anderson was asked to draw up a draft project to be presented to the missions for study.

The following suggestions came from the above committee:

1. It is necessary to develop existing institutions and to broaden their bases. Through these institutions it would be possible to reach higher education of pre-university standard.

2. It is urged that immediate steps be taken to strengthen and increase the number of *écoles moyennes* and *écoles secondaires spéciales* and that plans be made for the establishing of *écoles secondaires générales*.



3. It is necessary for the secretary of education to be kept in touch with the development of plans in all areas in order to facilitate the coordination of work and eventual interchange of students.

The report of this committee on education was accepted and it was decided to circulate it to all missions in Congo and to the Mission Boards. Mr. Morrish was appointed chairman of a standing committee on higher education and asked to prepare material for distribution and to carry forward a detailed study of the project. The committee is to consist of two members from each of the following areas: Lower River, Upper River, Congo-Kasai and Ruanda Urundi.

The Council instructed the General Secretary to urge the Government to give immediate and favorable consideration to its request made in 1950 and reiterated in 1951 and 1952 that official lay secondary schools and professional schools be established.

In order to facilitate the organization and supervision of our schools by the appointment of missionary inspectors, the Council requests the Government to delete the words *de nationalité Belge* from the sentence *un missionnaire inspecteur de nationalité Belge est attaché à chacune des circonscriptions*, which figures in the *Dispositions Générales* under the heading *Missionnaires Inspecteurs*.

Considering that the scale of subsidies for *personnel enseignant agréé* working full time under the *convention scolaire* is totally inadequate in comparison with salaries in similar categories of Government education, the Council requests the Government to consider increasing the subsidies and so bring them more in line with those granted to lay educational workers.

It was suggested that it be made very clear to candidates for teacher training (E.A.P.) that they are commit-



ting themselves to teaching service when they enter these classes. It is also advisable that their relatives be consulted. Some have suggested that a year of service be requested after the 5th year before entrance in E.A.P.

#### **1067. AMIPRO and similar organisations**

Communications were read from Amipro and other former students' organisations, asking for the support of the Council. It was felt that such organisations should unite and make one society, and that membership in such an organisation should be kept for Church members only. It was agreed that the Local Committee should be empowered to study the statutes of Amipro and after any necessary revision that they should be presented to the Government for acceptance through the C.P.C. Such information should then be circulated to the missions.

#### **1068. Charms and Fetishes**

The Council again gave consideration to the matter of charms and fetishes being ordered by mail from Europe and the United States by Africans. The General Secretary was asked to discuss the matter with the American Consul General in respect to the United States. It was also suggested that the attention of all missionaries be drawn to this danger.

#### **1069. Inter-station Radio Communication**

It was suggested that those interested or concerned should communicate with one another so that times for transmission can be arranged in order to prevent interference since the metre bands allotted for amateur transmissions are limited.

#### **1070. The Fritz Hoyois choir**

The Council heard with interest of the proposed visit of this choir to Congo in May. Missionaries are asked