

Missions from which they came as their spiritual homes, demands that these missions maintain a certain interest in the soldiers and their families. It is realized that when the Belgian Protestant chaplains arrive and have been installed they should and will take over work which is now being done in the camps by the Missions. In the meantime the latter are happy to carry on until the shift is made.

*The meeting was adjourned with prayer*

Rev. H. D. BROWN	Rev. VERNON A. ANDERSON
RECORDING SECRETARY.	GENERAL SECRETARY A. I.
	OF THE CONGO PROTESTANT
	COUNCIL.

## CONSEIL PROTESTANT DU CONGO

MINUTES — MEETING 26  
LÉOPOLDVILLE, CONGO BELGE,  
FEB. 23 - MAR. 1, 1947

795 Meeting. The Conseil Protestant du Congo met at Leopoldville, Congo Belge, February 23-March 1, 1947.

796. *Present.* The following were present:

*American Baptist Foreign Mission Society :*

Rev. B. W. ARMSTRONG	Councillor
Rev. ELMER HALL	Alternate Councillor

*Africa Evangelistic Band :*

Rev. VERNON A. ANDERSON	Proxy
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*American Presbyterian Congo Mission :*

Rev. J. M. MORRISON	Councillor
Rev. GLEN MURRAY	Alternate Councillor

*Armée du Salut :*

BRIGADIER R. SOUTHALL	Alternate Councillor
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*Berean African Missionary Society :*

Rev. VERNON A ANDERSON	Proxy
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<i>British and Foreign Bible Society :</i>	
Rev. GEORGE W. CARPENTER	Councillor
<i>Baptist Missionary Society</i>	
Rev. W. D. REYNOLDS	Councillor
<i>Congo Evangelistic Mission :</i>	
Rev. VERNON A. ANDERSON	Proxy
<i>Congo Gospel Mission :</i>	
Rev. VERNON A. ANDERSON	Proxy
<i>Congo Inland Mission :</i>	
Rev. VERNON J. SPRUNGER	Alternate Councillor
<i>Christian and Missionary Alliance :</i>	
Rev. MALVIN KNUDSON	Councillor
Rev. N. L. TYLER	Councillor
<i>Church Missionary Society :</i>	
Dr. A. C. STANLEY SMITH	Councillor
<i>Disciples of Christ Congo Mission :</i>	
Mrs. P. D. SNIPES	Councillor
<i>Friends Africa Gospel Mission :</i>	
Rev. CLAYTON BROWN	Councillor
<i>Mission Méthodiste du Congo Central :</i>	
Miss ANNIE L. WINFREY	Councillor
Bishop NEWELL S. BOOTH	Substitute
<i>Mission Méthodiste du Sud Congo :</i>	
Rev. T. L. BRINTON	Alternate Councillor

<i>Swedish Baptist Missions :</i>	
Rev. A. ANDERSON	Substitute
<i>Swedish Missions-Förbundet :</i>	
Rev. G. JERNBERG	Councillor
<i>Uncongregated Tribes Mission</i>	
Rev. G. KERRIGAN	Alternate Councillor
Mrs. G. KERRIGAN	Substitute
<i>Uncongregated Tribes Missions</i>	
Rev. VERNON J. SPRUNGER	Proxy
<i>Council Protestant du Congo :</i>	
Rev. VERNON A. ANDERSON	General Secretary a. i.
Mrs. VERNON A. ANDERSON	Women's Committee
Rev. G. W. CARPENTER	Evangelical Secretary

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

797. *Officers.* Dr. A. C. Stanley Smith presided as President of the Council. The Rev. N. L. Tyler was elected Minute Secretary.

798. *Times of meetings.* It was agreed that morning sessions be from 8:30 to 12, the last thirty minutes being given to devotions.

Afternoon meetings were set at 2:15 to 4:30 and night meetings from 8 to 9:30.

799. *Visitors.* The President extended a hearty welcome to the Protestant chaplains and expressed our thankfulness for their appointment. The Protestant chaplains, Messrs Verlaine and Michotte, now in Léopoldville were invited to attend the sessions of the Council as visitors.

800. *Devotions.* Daily devotional services were held, being conducted by various members of the Council. Thursday evening was set aside for reporting manifestations of the moving of God's Spirit among His people in various sections of Congo. The Council closed with a communion service Friday evening.

801. *Committees.* The President appointed the following committees to serve during this sessions of the Council.

*Nominating:* Rev. W. D. Reynolds, Rev. Elmer Hall, Miss A. L. Winfrey.

*Finance:* Rev. J. M. Morrison, Bishop N. S. Booth, Rev. G. Jernberg, Dr. A. C. Stanley Smith.

*Comity:* Rev. B. W. Armstrong, Rev. M. Knudson, Rev. G. Kerrigan, Rev. V. J. Sprunger.

802. *General Secretary's report.* The annual report of the General Secretary of the Council was accepted with deep appreciation of the extensive services rendered.

803. *Local committee minutes.* It was agreed to confirm the action of the Local Committee inviting Dr. and Mrs. Vernon A. Anderson to extend their period of service in the General Secretariat until the return of the Öhrnemans, and that we express our deep appreciation to the A. P. C. M. for its ready generosity in continuing the loan of the service of Dr. and Mrs. Anderson and maintaining the previous financial arrangements.

804. *Ex-officio members of committees.* It was agreed that the President and General Secretary be ex-officio members of all committees of the C. P. C. for this year and that the Constitution be amended to read: "The President and General Secretary shall be ex-officio members of all Committees of the C. P. C."

805. *Minutes of the July meeting of the C. P. C.* It was agreed that the Minutes of the C. P. C. Meeting of July 19-25, 1946 and Minutes of the Meeting of the Local C. P. C. Committee be incorporated in the Minutes of the present Meeting in printed form.

806. *Alternate representative to I. M. C. Meeting.* Rev. J. M. Morrison was elected as the alternate representative of the C. P. C. to the I. M. C. meeting to be held in Toronto in July 1947.

807. *Finance.* (a) Following the representation by the General Secretary of the account for the year



ended December 31, 1946, the report was received with appreciation and accepted as presented.

(b) Budget. The projected budgets for 1947 and 1948 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 the Council and minutes relating to C. P. C. finance be mimeographed and copies sent to all Member Missions of the Council.

(d) The General Secretary is authorized to accept the invitation extended to him by the Alliance of the Ruanda-Urundi to attend their Conference of missionaries to be held in June 1947. The expenses of this trip are to be met from the Travel Fund.

(e) Mrs. P. D. Snipes was asked to audit the accounts of the C. P. C. if time permitted before her departure.

898. *Medical committee.* The Chairman of the Medical Committee, Dr. G. W. Tuttle, gave an interesting oral report and recommended that Protestant Missions continue to collaborate with the Government in medical work along present lines and that they hold themselves in readiness to adjust their work to fit in with the new programme of the State when it is announced.

809. *Missionary aviation fellowship.* It was agreed that we express our interest in the project of the Missionary Aviation Fellowship and request the General Secretary to keep in touch with the organization and take up with any missions interested questions relative to the project.

810. *Libre examen.* Dr. Carpenter gave an oral report and recommended that *Religious Liberty: An Inquiry* by Searle Bates be used as a basis for study. The Council voted that the Committee be continued.

811. *Faith and order committee.* The Committee appointed last July presented its report which was received. It was agreed that this document (Statement of Beliefs and Practices), together with the revised Introduction be sent to all missions for study. Suggestions and revisions are to be sent to the next Meeting of the C. P. C.

812. *Y. M. C. A.* It was agreed that we express our continuing interest in the proposals of the World Committee of the Y. M. C. A. for exploration of the possibilities for work in the Congo; that we await with interest the results of the present survey of Africa by the Secretary of the World Committee, Dr. George Haynes, and that Messrs. Vernon A. Anderson and Newell S. Booth be a committee to suggest an itinerary to Dr. Haynes.

813. *Women's department of the C. P. C.* It was voted that there be increased stress on Women's Work in

the C. P. C. and that this be effected by the means indicated herewith. It was agreed that:

1. Missions be urged to elect more women councillors.
2. The Women's Committee, consisting of the women councillors with the wife of the General Secretary as Chairman, meet at the time of the C. P. C. Meeting.
3. The Local Committee organized last July, composed of a Chairman, a Programme Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary (wife of the C. P. C. Secretary) and African representatives, be approved as a Sub-Committee to assist in planning and carrying out greater work among women and girls. It is also recommended that similar local committees be formed in other centers.
4. That the Women's Committee be authorized to affiliate with the United Council of Church Women.

814. *Dr. Laubach's visit.* It was agreed that we request the Missions inviting Dr. Laubach to visit their areas to name at once their representatives to work with the C. P. C. officers in preparing for this visit.

815. *Brochure of historical sketches.* The General Secretary was requested to ask the missions to indicate how many copies of the Historical Sketches they would need if they were printed.

816. *Congo hearth.* It was decided that the C. P. C. cannot accept responsibility for the production of the Congo Hearth in local dialects, but commends to

missions using Kikongo and other languages the desirability of preparing editions locally.

817. *C. P. C. educational work.* The brochure of the new government educational Programme was interpreted by Mr. Edgar Morrish to the Council. A Committee, consisting of Messrs. Morrish, Carpenter, Booth and Anderson, was appointed to approach the Chef du Service d'Enseignement for the purpose of clarifying certain statements found in the brochure.

(a) It was voted that Mr. Morrish be asked to prepare a résumé in English of the essential points of the government Programme which has been received and studied at this Meeting and that this résumé be sent to all Protestant missions in the Congo.

(b) The question of Mr. Morrish's appointment as Educational Secretary was discussed. Mr. Morrish indicated his own willingness to accept this appointment provided that it was clear that substantially all missions desired it and would give it their support. Mr. Reynolds indicated the willingness of the B. M. S. to release Mr. Morrish for this work provided that the demand for his appointment is adequately supported and that he himself sees therein the best opportunity for the fulfilment of his missionary vocation.

A motion was passed that:

1. The Chairman, the General Secretary and Bishop Booth be a committee to draft a communication to all missions and boards, explaining the reasons for going forward at this time with the appointment of the Edu-



educational Secretary and asking for their reaction to these proposals and an indication of their ability to help in financing them.

2. We elect Mr. Morrish as the Secretary of the C. P. C. Standing Committee on Education.
3. If favorable response is received from the missions and conditions warrant it, we ask Mr. Morrish to give part time from July 1, or as soon as possible, until the next Annual Meeting of the Council to guide us through the initiation of cooperation with the Government in educational work and that the General Secretary be asked to consult with the B. M. S. as to the modalities of the arrangement. The financial provision for this is already under-written.
4. We express our deep appreciation to the B. M. S. for its expressed willingness to release Mr. Morrish for this work and that we do formally request the B. M. S. to release him for the part time service if it is to be undertaken.

818. *Palm nut contest.* Some of the cooperating missions of the C. P. C. have taken part in the palm nut gathering contest which the Government has sponsored, the missions having considered this a patriotic duty and privilege. In all cases the palm nuts were sold at market price and no further reward (monetary) is sought. Our Protestant school children

wish to make this offering to the Congo war effort and to world relief. The prize of Frs. 10,000.00 is hereby returned with the hope that it may be used in some sphere where there is at present unrelieved human need.

819. *Kitawala and kibangist movements.* After a discussion of the Kitawala and Kibangist movements, it was felt that the best thing that can be done to combat these movements at present is for all missions concerned to study the problem prayerfully with a view to taking action, if found desirable, after the return of Mr. Öhrneman from furlough.

820. *Labour syndicates.* It was moved that the Chairman appoint a continuing committee to study the Trade Union Movement in the Colony. The members of this Committee are: Lt. Colonel H. L. Becquet, Rev. E. Bartlett, and the C. P. C. General Secretary.

821. *Delegate to W. S. S. A. conference.* The General Secretary was asked, after canvassing the missions for possible candidates who will be in Britain at the time of the Meeting, to name a delegate to the World Sunday School Association to be held in Britain in 1947.

822. *Comity (a) Kintshua.* It is the studied opinion of the C. P. C. that the Congo Gospel Mission should assume responsibility for Kintshua Station and supervision of evangelistic work in the adjoining territory.

To this end the C. P. C. approves the sale of Kintshua to the C. G. M., trusting that the efforts being made by Rev. Eicher of the U. T. M. to complete this transaction will be successful.

We again urge the Home Board of the Norwegian Congo Mission to approve this sale. If it is the desire of the N. C. M. to continue mission work in the Congo Belge they should seek another field, preferably with one of the Norwegian missions now working in the colony.

(b) *Belgian Chaplains for the Congo Force Publique.* We thank God that three Belgian Protestant chaplains have arrived to take up work among Protestant soldiers in the Belgian Congo.

We heartily welcome these chaplains and their families into the fellowship and service of the evangelical missions of the Congo. We pledge to them our cooperation in making known to them the names of Protestant church members who go to camps under their care. We invite their close cooperation with the Protestant missions in their territories and assure them of our daily prayers on behalf of themselves and their work.

We invite them to use the facilities and services of the C. P. C. We look forward to the time when the Protestant chaplaincy will become an organic part of the C. P. C.

823. *Bruxelles Bureau.* The Draft Agreement prepared at the July 1946 Meeting of the Council in regard to the establishing of the BUREAU DES MISSIONS

PROTESTANTES DU CONGO BELGE was submitted to the participating missions of the C. P. C. for consideration as was directed. (MINUTE 775)

An amendment to insert the words "of common concern" before the words "affecting policy" in Paragraph 3, Article (a), was proposed. It was agreed that the C. P. C. recommend to the other organizations participating in the BRUXELLES BUREAU that this insertion be made.

824. *Greetings.* The Secretary reported having received a letter from Dr. Tucker inviting him to the Meeting of the Aliança and sending fraternal greetings to our Council. These were received with warm appreciation and the General Secretary was asked to convey to the Aliança greetings in return.

A letter was received from Mr. Coxill expressing his prayerful interest in our Meeting. The General Secretary was asked to write to him, warmly reciprocating and thanking him for his message.

A letter of greeting was read from Mr. Öhrneman telling of his hope of visiting Home Boards in Belgium, England and America. The General Secretary was asked to convey to him our affection and the assurance of our prayers that his visits may prove fruitful and of great help in the future as he takes up his post as General Secretary.

825 *Regional church Bodies and African representation.* After full discussion of the question of providing for African representation in relation to the C. P. C., it was agreed that inquiry be made during the current



year as to the progress now being made in different parts of the Colony in the formation of regional or mission-wide church bodies and as to the powers and functions of those bodies, with a view to the formulation at the 1948 Council Meeting of a plan for the development of a central representative body, either within or closely related to the C. P. C.

826. *Election of officers.* The following officers were elected by the Council:

President, 1947-48: Rev. Malvin Knudson, C. & M. A.  
Vice-Presidents: Rev. A. D. Graber, C. I. M., Mrs. P. D. Snipes, D. C. C. M.

827. *Minutes.* It was agreed that the Minutes of this present Meeting should be printed.

828. *Vote of thanks to the President.* It was agreed that the Council give a rising vote of thanks and appreciation to the retiring President, Dr. Stanley Smith, for the high spiritual level to which he lifted us and for the able manner in which he presided.

829. *Vote of thanks to the B. M. S.* It was agreed that a rising vote of thanks be extended to the Baptist Missionary Society for the use of its church building and for the many courtesies and kindnesses its staff has shown us during this session of the Council.

830. *Next regular meeting.* It was agreed that the next regular meeting be held at Léopoldville February 21-February 28, 1948.

831. *Adjournment.* The 1947 Meeting of the Council was adjourned with prayer.

*President:*

Dr. A. C. STANLEY SMITH

*Minute Secretary*

Rev. N. L. TYLER

*General Secretary*

Rev. VERNON A. ANDERSON