

**MANUAL**  
*OF THE*  
**CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE**

---

**HISTORY**  
**CONSTITUTION**  
**GOVERNMENT**  
**RITUAL**

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1960



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*Editing Committee*

JOHN RILEY

S. T. LUDWIG

LESLIE PARROTT

ROY E. SWIM

W. T. PURKISER

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## FOREWORD

The 1960 *Manual* is both a historic document and a handbook for ready reference in all matters pertaining to the church's life and service. It contains a brief history of our church, a summary of doctrine, standards of practical ethics, the outlines of our basic church polity, and detailed procedures of church government.

For those called Nazarenes, the Bible is the Word of God and the supreme authority and source for all spiritual truth. The doctrines of our church are based upon the Bible, and have been brought to us out of the experience of the historic Christian Church. We believe in all the cardinal doctrines of the evangelical Church, but we also carry a sense of mission to present and conserve the doctrine of heart holiness as an experience to be received and as a life to be lived. The church is committed to an evangelistic outreach that will make her witness vital in every generation and to all nations.

The ethical standards of our church are well expressed in the General and Special Rules. They should be followed carefully and conscientiously as guides and helps to holy living. Those who violate the conscience of the church do so at their own peril and to the hurt of the witness and fellowship of the church.

Historically, our church government reveals synthesis and balance between local congregations and connectionalism. We believe in responsible leadership by duly elected superin-

tendents, on the district and general levels. In practice, our government is representative. There is a balance of ministers and laymen in the General Assembly and in the membership of the General Board. No major change has been made in the principles of church government by the new legislation enacted at the 1960 General Assembly.

Actually, the General Assembly, which meets every four years, is the one lawmaking body of the church. This *Manual* contains the amendments and additions authorized by the 1960 session of this body. A suitable index of these revisions is prepared for the reader's convenience and is located on page 335.

A careful study of this book and adherence to its regulations will make for co-operative and effective service throughout our church. We commend it to our people everywhere. It represents the best in our church's experience and will prove beneficial to all who would be workers together with God through the Church of the Nazarene.

#### BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS

HARDY C. POWERS

G. B. WILLIAMSON

SAMUEL YOUNG

D. I. VANDERPOOL

HUGH C. BENNER

V. H. LEWIS

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**PART I**  
**HISTORICAL STATEMENT**



## HISTORICAL STATEMENT

I. Near the close of the nineteenth century, a movement for the spread and conservation of scriptural holiness in organized church form developed almost simultaneously in various parts of the United States. This movement was similar to the Wesleyan revival of the previous century. The manifestation everywhere of a spontaneous drawing in the unity of the Spirit towards closer affiliation of those of like precious faith culminated finally in the organization of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

The great impulse of this movement has been the emphasis placed by the Scriptures upon the fact that, in the atonement, Jesus Christ has made provision, not only to save men from their sins, but also to perfect them in love.

II. On May 12, 1886, a number of the brethren in Providence, Rhode Island, interested in promoting the Wesleyan doctrine and experience of entire sanctification, organized and held weekly religious services, first in private homes, but after a few months in a rented store on Oxford Street. On January 16, 1887, a Sunday school was organized with ninety-five members. On July 21, 1887, the People's Evangelical Church was organized with fifty-one members, Rev. F. A. Hillery acting as pastor. On November 25, 1888, the Mission Church,

Lynn, Massachusetts, was organized with Rev. C. Howard Davis as pastor. On March 13 and 14, 1890, representatives from these churches and other evangelical holiness organizations in southern New England assembled at Rock, Massachusetts, and organized the Central Evangelical Holiness Association. Rev. W. C. Ryder, pastor of the Independent Congregational Church of that place, was elected president. Within the following year the Mission Church, Malden, Massachusetts, the Emmanuel Mission Church, North Attleboro, Massachusetts, and the Bethany Mission Church, Keene, New Hampshire, were organized.

In January, 1894, William Howard Hoople, a businessman in New York City, founded a mission in Brooklyn, which, in the following May, was organized as an independent church with a membership of thirty-two, and was called the Utica Avenue Pentecostal Tabernacle. After a church edifice was erected, Mr. Hoople was called to the pastorate. The following February, in an abandoned church building, the Bedford Avenue Pentecostal Church was organized, and a little later, the Emmanuel Pentecostal Tabernacle. In December, 1895, delegates from these three churches adopted a constitution, summary of doctrines, and bylaws, and formed the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America. This association was duly incorporated. Associated with Rev. William Howard Hoople in this work were Rev. H. B. Hosley, Rev. John

Norberry, Rev. Charles BeVier, and Rev. H. F. Reynolds.

On November 12, 1896, a joint committee from these two associations met in the city of Brooklyn, New York, to formulate some plan of union. For the benefit of their counsel and co-operation, several brethren prominent in the work were invited to act with the joint committee. Among this number were Rev. C. Howard Davis, Rev. G. W. Wilson, Rev. John Norberry, Rev. H. F. Reynolds, Rev. H. B. Hosley, and Rev. Charles H. BeVier. This meeting resulted in the union of the two bodies. It was agreed that the work should be continued under the name of the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America.

III. In October, 1895, a number of persons, under the leadership of Rev. Phineas F. Bresee, D.D., and Rev. J. P. Widney, LL.D., formed the First Church of the Nazarene at Los Angeles, California, with one hundred and thirty-five charter members. They adopted statements of belief, and agreed to such general rules as seemed proper and needful for their immediate guidance, leaving to the future the making of such provisions as the work and its conditions might necessitate. As a result of this organization, a number of churches sprang into existence, reaching as far east as Chicago.

IV. As the group from the East and the group from the West came to know each other better, the feeling grew that they should unite.

After delegates from both areas had conferred, the following basis of union was prepared and adopted unanimously by both bodies:

### BASIS OF UNION

It is agreed that the two churches are one in the doctrines considered essential to salvation, especially the doctrines of justification by faith and entire sanctification subsequent to justification, also by faith, and, as a result, the precious experience of entire sanctification as a normal condition of the churches. Both churches recognize that the right of church membership rests upon experience; and that persons who have been born of the Spirit are entitled to its privileges.

We are agreed on the necessity of a superintendency, which shall foster and care for churches already established and whose duty it shall be to organize and encourage the organizing of churches everywhere.

We are agreed that authority given to superintendents shall not interfere with the independent action of a fully organized church, each church enjoying the right of selecting its own pastor, subject to such approval as the General Assembly shall find wise to institute; the election of delegates to the various assemblies; the management of their own finances; and of all other things pertaining to their local life and work.

It is agreed that any church of the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America going into this organization which may feel it imperative with them to continue to hold their property in like manner as at present, shall be at liberty to do so.

The first union assembly was held in Chicago in October, 1907. It was agreed that the name of the united body should be The Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

V. In 1894 at Milan, Tennessee, the New Testament Church of Christ was organized



with fourteen members by Rev. R. L. Harris to conserve and promote scriptural holiness. The influence of this church soon spread throughout western Texas and Arkansas. Prominent among the leaders was Mrs. Mary Lee Cagle, formerly the wife of Rev. R. L. Harris, who continued the work after her husband's death.

In 1888 the first holiness churches in Texas were organized by Rev. Thomas Rogers and Rev. Dennis Rogers, who came from California.

In 1901 the first Independent Holiness Church was organized at Van Alstyne, Texas, by Rev. C. B. Jernigan. This denomination grew and prospered until, in 1903, there were twenty church organizations.

The legal representatives of the Independent Holiness Church and the New Testament Church of Christ met at Rising Star, Texas, in November, 1904, where a joint committee framed a *Manual* and statement of doctrine and basis of union. The union was fully consummated at Pilot Point, Texas, in November, 1905, and the united body adopted the name Holiness Church of Christ.

VI. In 1907 several representatives from the Holiness Church of Christ accepted the invitation of the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene to attend its General Assembly in Chicago, but were not authorized to take any action with reference to organic union. After the Assembly invited them into counsel, provisional ar-

rangements were made to incorporate the two churches into one body, when proper action could be taken. Upon the invitation of the Holiness Church of Christ, the Second General Assembly convened at Pilot Point, Texas, at two o'clock, Thursday afternoon, October 8, 1908. On the following Tuesday morning, R. B. Mitchum moved: "That the union of the two churches be now consummated," and the motion was seconded by Revs. C. W. Ruth, John N. Short, J. B. Creighton, C. B. Jernigan, H. B. Hosley, P. F. Bresee, and others spoke favorably regarding the motion. On Tuesday, October 13, 1908, at 10:40 a.m., amid great enthusiasm, the motion to unite was adopted by a unanimous rising vote.

VII. In 1898 Rev. J. O. McClurkan and a few others called a meeting of the holiness people of Tennessee and adjacent states to be held in Nashville. At this convention an association known as the Pentecostal Alliance was formed, but its name was later changed to the Pentecostal Mission. From the beginning these people were evangelistic in spirit and had a burning desire to disseminate the doctrine and experience of sanctification. Thus in different sections of the South there came together groups of holiness people, known as bands of the Pentecostal Mission. They were decidedly missionary in spirit, and soon were sending their representatives to "the regions beyond." Throughout their career they have been characterized by this missionary zeal.

At different times the question of the union of the Pentecostal Mission with the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene had been discussed. Finally on February 13, 1915, this union was effected at Nashville, Tennessee, thus uniting both the home and the foreign work of the Pentecostal Mission and the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene.

VIII. In November, 1901, the first stage in the present holiness church movement in the British Isles began, when Rev. George Sharpe, who had been for thirteen and one-half years a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, accepted a call to the Congregational Church at Ardrossan, Scotland. In September, 1905, he became minister of Parkhead Congregational Church, Glasgow; but, after a strenuous, successful, and glorious ministry of thirteen months, he was evicted for preaching Bible holiness.

On September 30, 1906, the first services of the first distinctively holiness church were held in the Great Eastern Roads Hall, Glasgow. The charter members numbered eighty. Other churches were organized and became the Pentecostal Church of Scotland. Visits of Dr. E. F. Walker and Dr. H. F. Reynolds to Scotland, and a visit of Rev. George Sharpe and Mrs. Sharpe to the Fourth General Assembly, at Kansas City, Missouri, led the way to union with the Church of the Nazarene, which was consummated in November, 1915.

IX. The General Assembly of 1919, in response to memorials from thirty-five district assemblies, changed the name of the organization to "Church of the Nazarene."

X. For many years a holiness movement had been developing in Minnesota, the Dakotas, and Montana. It was originated by a group of Methodist laymen, and was formally organized in 1917 at Jamestown, North Dakota, as the Laymen's Holiness Association. Rev. J. G. Morrison was immediately elected Field Evangelist and, in 1919, President of the organization. With him were associated Rev. Ira E. Hammer, Rev. S. C. Taylor, Rev. W. G. Bennett, and over twenty other evangelists and workers engaged in a widespread program of holiness evangelism and camp-meeting promotion. In 1922, under the leadership of these ministers, more than one thousand people identified with the Laymen's Holiness Association united with the Church of the Nazarene.

XI. During the quadrennium 1952-56, two holiness groups in Britain merged with the Church of the Nazarene.

The International Holiness Mission, founded in London, England, in 1907 by Mr. David Thomas, businessman and lay preacher, consummated union with the Church of the Nazarene in Leeds, England, October 29, 1952, with General Superintendent Hardy C. Powers officiating. At the time of union, Mr. John Place

was president of the International Holiness Mission, and Rev. J. B. MacLagan, who for twenty-two years had been a minister in the Church of the Nazarene in the British Isles, was superintendent-minister. The union brought twenty-eight churches, over a thousand constituents, and thirty-six missionaries in South Africa into the Church of the Nazarene.

For about twenty-five years the Calvary Holiness Church of Britain carried on its ministry of holiness evangelism under the leadership of Rev. Maynard James and Rev. Jack Ford. Union of the Calvary Holiness Church with the Church of the Nazarene was consummated June 11, 1955, at Manchester, England, with General Superintendent Samuel Young officiating. About twenty-two churches and over six hundred members came into the church as a result of this union.

XII. The Gospel Workers Church of Canada united with the Church of the Nazarene on September 7, 1958. Under the leadership of Rev. Albert Mills, president, and Rev. C. J. McNichol, secretary, the union took place with Mr. Samuel Goff, son of the founder, Rev. Frank D. Goff, of the Gospel Workers Church, acting as attorney in the negotiations. The union was completed under the supervision of General Superintendent Samuel Young and added five churches and two hundred members to the Canada Central District.



**PART II**

**CHURCH CONSTITUTION**

**Articles of Faith**

**The Church**

**Articles of Organization and Government**

**Amendments**



CONSTITUTION  
of the  
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

---

**Preamble**

In order that we may preserve our God-given heritage, the faith once delivered to the saints, especially the doctrine and experience of sanctification as a second work of grace, and also that we may co-operate effectually with other branches of the Church of Jesus Christ in advancing God's kingdom among men, we, the ministers and lay members of the Church of the Nazarene, in accordance with the principles of constitutional legislation established among us, do hereby ordain, adopt, and set forth as the fundamental law or constitution of the Church of the Nazarene the Articles of Faith, the General Rules, and the Articles of Organization and Government here following, to wit:

**ARTICLES OF FAITH**

**I. *The Triune God***

1. We believe in one eternally existent, infinite God, Sovereign of the universe; that He only is God, creative and administrative, holy in nature, attributes, and purpose; that

He, as God, is Triune in essential being, revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## II. *Jesus Christ*

2. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Second Person of the Triune Godhead; that He was eternally one with the Father; that He became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and was born of the Virgin Mary, so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say the Godhead and manhood, are thus united in one person very God and very man, the God-man.

We believe that Jesus Christ died for our sins, and that He truly arose from the dead and took again His body, together with all things appertaining to the perfection of man's nature, wherewith He ascended into heaven and is there engaged in intercession for us.

## III. *The Holy Spirit*

3. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Triune Godhead, that He is ever present and efficiently active in and with the Church of Christ, convincing the world of sin, regenerating those who repent and believe, sanctifying believers, and guiding into all truth as it is in Jesus.

## IV. *The Holy Scriptures*

4. We believe in the plenary inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, by which we understand the sixty-six books of the Old and New Testa-

ments given by divine inspiration, inerrantly revealing the will of God concerning us in all things necessary to our salvation, so that whatever is not contained therein is not to be enjoined as an article of faith.

### V. *Original Sin, or Depravity*

5. We believe that original sin, or depravity, is that corruption of the nature of all the offspring of Adam by reason of which every one is very far gone from original righteousness or the pure state of our first parents at the time of their creation, is averse to God, is without spiritual life, and inclined to evil, and that continually. We further believe that original sin continues to exist with the new life of the regenerate, until eradicated by the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

### VI. *Atonement*

6. We believe that Jesus Christ, by His sufferings, by the shedding of His own blood, and by His meritorious death on the cross, made a full atonement for all human sin, and that this atonement is the only ground of salvation, and that it is sufficient for every individual of Adam's race. The atonement is graciously efficacious for the salvation of the irresponsible and for the children in innocency, but is efficacious for the salvation of those who reach the age of responsibility only when they repent and believe.

## VII. *Free Agency*

7. We believe that man's creation in God-likeness included ability to choose between right and wrong, and that thus he was made morally responsible; that through the fall of Adam he became depraved so that he cannot now turn and prepare himself by his own natural strength and works to faith and calling upon God. But we also believe that the grace of God through Jesus Christ is freely bestowed upon all men, enabling all who will to turn from sin to righteousness, believe on Jesus Christ for pardon and cleansing from sin, and follow good works pleasing and acceptable in His sight.

We believe that man, though in the possession of the experience of regeneration and entire sanctification, may fall from grace and apostatize and, unless he repent of his sin, be hopelessly and eternally lost.

## VIII. *Repentance*

8. We believe that repentance, which is a sincere and thorough change of the mind in regard to sin, involving a sense of personal guilt and a voluntary turning away from sin, is demanded of all who have by act or purpose become sinners against God. The Spirit of God gives to all who will repent the gracious help of penitence of heart and hope of mercy, that they may believe unto pardon and spiritual life.

## IX. *Justification, Regeneration, and Adoption*

9. We believe that justification is that gracious and judicial act of God, by which He grants full pardon of all guilt and complete release from the penalty of sins committed, and acceptance as righteous, to all who believe on Jesus Christ and receive Him as Lord and Saviour.

10. We believe that regeneration, or the new birth, is that gracious work of God whereby the moral nature of the repentant believer is spiritually quickened and given a distinctively spiritual life, capable of faith, love, and obedience.

11. We believe that adoption is that gracious act of God by which the justified and regenerated believer is constituted a son of God.

12. We believe that justification, regeneration, and adoption are simultaneous in the experience of seekers after God and are obtained upon the condition of faith, preceded by repentance; and that to this work and state of grace the Holy Spirit bears witness.

## X. *Entire Sanctification*

13. We believe that entire sanctification is that act of God, subsequent to regeneration, by which believers are made free from original sin, or depravity, and brought into a state of entire devotement to God, and the holy obedience of love made perfect.

It is wrought by the baptism with the Holy Spirit, and comprehends in one experience the cleansing of the heart from sin and the abiding indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit, empowering the believer for life and service.

Entire sanctification is provided by the blood of Jesus, is wrought instantaneously by faith, preceded by entire consecration; and to this work and state of grace the Holy Spirit bears witness.

This experience is also known by various terms representing its different phases, such as "Christian Perfection," "Perfect Love," "Heart Purity," "The Baptism with the Holy Spirit," "The Fullness of the Blessing," and "Christian Holiness." [40]

## XI. *Second Coming of Christ*

14. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will come again; that we who are alive at His coming shall not precede them that are asleep in Christ Jesus; but that, if we are abiding in Him, we shall be caught up with the risen saints to meet the Lord in the air, so that we shall ever be with the Lord.

## XII. *Resurrection, Judgment, and Destiny*

15. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, that the bodies both of the just and of the unjust shall be raised to life and united with their spirits—"they that have done good,

unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.”

16. We believe in future judgment in which every man shall appear before God to be judged according to his deeds in this life.

17. We believe that glorious and everlasting life is assured to all who savingly believe in, and obediently follow, Jesus Christ our Lord; and that the finally impenitent shall suffer eternally in hell.

### XIII. *Baptism*

18. We believe that Christian baptism is a sacrament signifying acceptance of the benefits of the atonement of Jesus Christ, to be administered to believers as declarative of their faith in Jesus Christ as their Saviour, and full purpose of obedience in holiness and righteousness.

Baptism being the symbol of the New Testament, young children may be baptized, upon request of parents or guardians who shall give assurance for them of necessary Christian training.

Baptism may be administered by sprinkling, pouring, or immersion, according to the choice of the applicant.

### XIV. *The Lord's Supper*

19. We believe that the Memorial and Communion Supper instituted by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is essentially a New

Testament sacrament, declarative of His sacrificial death, through the merits of which believers have life and salvation and promise of all spiritual blessings in Christ. It is distinctively for those who are prepared for reverent appreciation of its significance and by it they show forth the Lord's death till He come again. It being the Communion feast, only those who have faith in Christ and love for the saints should be called to participate therein.

### XV. *Divine Healing*

20. We believe in the Bible doctrine of divine healing and urge our people to seek to offer the prayer of faith for the healing of the sick. Providential means and agencies when deemed necessary should not be refused.

## THE CHURCH

### I. *The General Church*

21. The Church of God is composed of all spiritually regenerate persons, whose names are written in heaven.

### II. *The Churches Severally*

22. The churches severally are to be composed of such regenerate persons as by providential permission, and by the leadings of the Holy Spirit, become associated together for holy fellowship and ministries.



### III. *The Church of the Nazarene*

23. The Church of the Nazarene is composed of those persons who have voluntarily associated themselves together according to the doctrines and polity of said church, and who seek holy Christian fellowship, the conversion of sinners, the entire sanctification of believers, their upbuilding in holiness, and the simplicity and spiritual power manifest in the primitive New Testament Church, together with the preaching of the gospel to every creature.

### IV. *Agreed Statement of Belief*

24. Recognizing that the right and privilege of persons to church membership rest upon the fact of their being regenerate, we would require only such avowals of belief as are essential to Christian experience. We, therefore, deem belief in the following brief statements to be sufficient. We believe:

§ 1. In one God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

§ 2. That the Old and New Testament Scriptures, given by plenary inspiration, contain all truth necessary to faith and Christian living.

§ 3. That man is born with a fallen nature, and is, therefore, inclined to evil, and that continually.

§ 4. That the finally impenitent are hopelessly and eternally lost.

§ 5. That the atonement through Jesus Christ is for the whole human race; and that whosoever repents and believes on the Lord Jesus Christ is justified and regenerated and saved from the dominion of sin.

§ 6. That believers are to be sanctified wholly, subsequent to regeneration, through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

§ 7. That the Holy Spirit bears witness to the new birth, and also to the entire sanctification of believers.

§ 8. That our Lord will return, the dead will be raised, and the final judgment will take place.

### V. *The General Rules*

25. To be identified with the visible Church is the blessed privilege and sacred duty of all who are saved from their sins, and are seeking completeness in Christ Jesus. It is required of all who desire to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, and thus to walk in fellowship with us, that they shall show evidence of salvation from their sins by a godly walk and vital piety; that they shall be, or earnestly desire to be, cleansed from all indwelling sin; and that they shall evidence this—

§ 1. FIRST. By avoiding evil of every kind, including:

- (1) Taking the name of God in vain.

(2) Profaning of the Lord's day, either by unnecessary labor, or business, or by the patronizing or reading of secular papers, or by holiday diversions.

(3) Using of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, or trafficking therein; giving influence to, or voting for, the licensing of places for the sale of the same; using of tobacco in any of its forms, or trafficking therein.

(4) Quarreling, returning evil for evil, gossiping, slandering, spreading surmises injurious to the good names of others.

(5) Dishonesty, taking advantage in buying and selling, bearing false witness, and like works of darkness.

(6) The indulging of pride in dress or behavior. Our people are to dress with the Christian simplicity and modesty that become holiness. "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; but (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works" (I Timothy 2:9, 10). "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price" (I Peter 3:3, 4).

(7) Songs, literature, and entertainments not to the glory of God; the theater, the ball-room, the circus, and like places; also, lotteries and games of chance; looseness and impropriety of conduct; membership in or fellowship with oath-bound secret orders or fraternities. "Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" (James 4:4). "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? . . . Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you" (II Corinthians 6:14-17).

§ 2. SECOND. By doing that which is enjoined in the Word of God, which is both our rule of faith and practice, including:

- (1) Being courteous to all men.
- (2) Contributing to the support of the ministry and the church and its work, according to the ability which God giveth.
- (3) Being helpful to those who are of the household of faith, in love forbearing one another.
- (4) Loving God with all the heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- (5) Attending faithfully all the ordinances of God, and the means of grace, including the

public worship of God, the ministry of the Word, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper; searching the Scriptures and meditating thereon; family and private devotions.

(6) Seeking to do good to the bodies and souls of men; feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and ministering to the needy, as opportunity and ability are given.

(7) Pressing upon the attention of the unsaved the claims of the gospel, inviting them to the house of the Lord, and trying to compass their salvation.

§ 3. THIRD. By abiding in hearty fellowship with the church, not inveighing against its doctrines and usages, but being in full sympathy and conformity therewith.

## ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

### ARTICLE I. FORM OF GOVERNMENT

26. The Church of the Nazarene has a representative form of government.

§ 1. We are agreed on the necessity of a superintendency which shall foster and care for churches already established, and whose duty it shall be to organize and encourage the organizing of churches everywhere.

§ 2. We are agreed that authority given to superintendents shall not interfere with the independent action of a fully organized church.

Each church shall enjoy the right to select its own pastor, subject to such approval as the General Assembly shall find wise to institute. Each church shall also elect delegates to the various assemblies, manage its own finances, and have charge of all other matters pertaining to its local life and work.

27. It is agreed that any church of the Association of Pentecostal Churches of America going into this organization which may feel it imperative with it to continue to hold its property in like manner as at present, shall be at liberty to do so.

## ARTICLE II. LOCAL CHURCHES

28. The membership of a local church shall consist of all who have been organized as a church by those authorized so to do and who have been publicly received by those having proper authority, after having declared their experience of salvation, their belief in our doctrines, and their willingness to submit to our government. [42, 43]

## ARTICLE III. DISTRICT ASSEMBLIES

29. The General Assembly shall organize the membership of the church into District Assemblies, giving such lay and ministerial representation therein as the General Assembly may deem fair and just, and shall determine qualifications of such representatives, provided, however, that all elders in good standing shall

be members thereof. The General Assembly shall also fix the boundaries of Assembly Districts, and define the powers and duties of District Assemblies. [174, 175]

#### ARTICLE IV. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

30. § 1. *How Composed.* The General Assembly shall be composed of ministerial and lay delegates in equal numbers, elected thereto by District Assemblies of the Church of the Nazarene; such ex-officio members as the General Assembly shall from time to time direct; and such representatives of the missionary districts of the Church of the Nazarene as may be provided for by the General Assembly.

§ 2. *Election of Delegates.* Every District Assembly shall elect by ballot, at its session immediately preceding the meeting of the General Assembly,\* an equal number of ministerial and lay delegates to the General Assembly, provided that the ministerial delegates shall be elders of the Church of the Nazarene. Each Assembly District shall be entitled to at least one ministerial and one lay delegate, and such additional delegates as its membership may warrant on the basis of representation fixed by the General Assembly. Each Assembly District shall elect alternate delegates not exceed-

\*An amendment now being voted on by districts, if confirmed, will change this phrase to read, "at a session within sixteen months of the meeting of the General Assembly."

ing the number of its delegates. [179 § 23, 326, 327, 333]

§ 3. *Credentials.* The Secretary of each District Assembly shall furnish certificates of election to the delegates and alternates severally elected to the General Assembly, and shall also send certificates of such elections to the General Secretary of the Church of the Nazarene immediately following the adjournment of the District Assembly.

§ 4. *Quorum.* When the General Assembly is in session a majority of the whole number of delegates elected thereto shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. If a quorum has once been had, a smaller number may approve the minutes then remaining unapproved, and adjourn.

§ 5. *General Superintendents.* The General Assembly shall elect by ballot from among the elders of the Church of the Nazarene as many General Superintendents as it may deem necessary, who shall constitute the Board of General Superintendents. Any vacancy in the office of General Superintendent in the interim of General Assemblies shall be filled by a two-thirds vote of all the District Superintendents of the Church of the Nazarene. [337 § 1]

§ 6. *Presiding Officers.* A General Superintendent appointed thereto by the Board of General Superintendents shall preside over the daily meetings of the General Assembly.



But if no General Superintendent be so appointed or be present, the General Assembly shall elect one of its members as temporary presiding officer. [324]

§ 7. *Rules of Order.* The General Assembly shall adopt Rules of Order governing its manner of organization, procedure, committees, and all other matters pertaining to the orderly conduct of its business. It shall be the judge of the election and qualifications of its own members. [325]

§ 8. *General Court of Appeals.* The General Assembly shall elect from among members of the Church of the Nazarene a General Court of Appeals and shall define its jurisdiction and powers. [337 § 10]

§ 9. *Powers and Restrictions.*

(1) The General Assembly shall have power to legislate for the Church of the Nazarene, and to make rules and regulations for all the departments related to or associated with it in any respect, but not in conflict with this Constitution. [323, 337 §§ 1-15]

(2) No local church shall be deprived of the right to call its pastor, subject to such approval as the General Assembly shall find wise to institute. [80]

(3) All local churches, officers, ministers, and laymen shall always have the right to a fair and orderly trial and the right to take an appeal.

**AMENDMENTS**

**31.** The provisions of this Constitution may be repealed or amended when concurred in by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the General Assembly, and when concurred in by not less than two-thirds of all the District Assemblies of the Church of the Nazarene. Either the General Assembly or any District Assembly may take the initiative in the matter of proposing such alterations or amendments. As soon as such alterations or amendments shall have been adopted as herein provided, the result of the vote shall be announced by the Board of General Superintendents, whereupon such alterations or amendments shall have full force and effect.

**PART III**  
**SPECIAL RULES**

**SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH**  
**TEMPERANCE AND PROHIBITION**  
**MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE**  
**CHURCH OFFICERS**  
**GROWTH IN GRACE**  
**STEWARDSHIP**

## SPECIAL RULES

### I. Support of the Church

“Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel” (I Cor. 9:14).

32. There can be no doubt (1) that the church is obligated to support its ministers, who have been called of God, and who, under the direction of the church, have given themselves wholly to the work of the ministry; nor (2) that all the members of the church have voluntarily committed themselves to this task of supporting the ministry. We urge, therefore, that money be gathered weekly for this holy business, and that, wherever possible and practicable, the pastor's salary be paid regularly every week. [84]

33. We believe that the scriptural method of gathering money for the support of the church is by means of tithes and offerings. We urge that our people adopt tithing as the scriptural and satisfactory plan, that each member may do his minimum share in the support of the whole church, local, district, and general. And on the basis of the divine promises to liberal givers, we exhort our people, in addition to their tithes, to make freewill offerings as generous as circumstances will permit. [595]

34. In disbursing to meet the requirements of the local, district, and general programs of

the Church of the Nazarene, local churches are urged to adopt and practice the budget plan, and, wherever possible, to pay general and district apportionments monthly. [72, 124, 161-166]

## II. Temperance and Prohibition

35. The Holy Scriptures and human experience alike condemn the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage. The manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors for such purpose is a sin against God and the human race. Total abstinence from all intoxicants is the Christian rule for the individual and total prohibition of the traffic in intoxicants is the duty of civil government. [604 § 1]

36. Only unfermented wine and unleavened bread should be used in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. [69 § 10, 260, 266, 573]

## III. Marriage and Divorce

37. The institution of marriage was ordained of God in the time of man's innocency, and is, according to apostolic authority, "honourable in all"; it is the mutual union of one man and one woman for fellowship, helpfulness, and the propagation of the race. Our people should cherish this sacred estate as becomes Christians, and should enter it only after earnest prayer for divine direction, and when assured that the contemplated union is in accordance with scriptural requirements. They should

seek earnestly the blessings which God has ordained in connection with the wedded state, namely, holy companionship, parenthood, and mutual love—the elements of home building. The marriage covenant is morally binding so long as both shall live, and, therefore, may not be dissolved at will.

38. We hold that persons who obtain divorce under the civil law where the scriptural ground for divorce, namely, adultery, does not exist, and who remarry subsequently, are living in adultery, and are ineligible for membership in the Church of the Nazarene. Though there may exist such other causes and conditions as may justify divorce under the civil law, yet only adultery will supply such ground as may justify the innocent party in remarrying. [43, 44, 49]

§ 1. The ministers of the Church of the Nazarene are positively forbidden to solemnize the marriage of persons not having the scriptural right to marry. [255 § 5]

#### IV. Church Officers

39. We direct our local churches in selecting their church officers to elect only such as are clearly in the experience of entire sanctification [64 § 1, 141]

#### V. Growth in Grace

40. There is a marked distinction between a perfect heart and a perfect character. The

former is obtained in an instant, the result of entire sanctification, but the latter is the result of growth in grace.

Our mission to the world is not alone to spread scriptural holiness as a doctrine, but also to be “an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.” Our people should give careful heed to the development of holiness in the fear of the Lord, to the promotion of the growth of Christian graces in the heart, and to their manifestation in the daily life. [13]

## VI. Stewardship

41. Our people should recognize God's ownership of all things and our trusteeship—that we are but stewards of our own lives and are responsible for the use of our time, means, and other possessions; and that we are under the sacred obligation of systematic and proportionate giving of our time and means for the support of Christian work, and of holding and using all possessions sacredly unto the Lord. Because stewardship is essential to the more abundant life, we should seek by all proper means to promote its practice throughout the church. [108, 460]



**PART IV**  
**GOVERNMENT**

**THE LOCAL CHURCH**  
**THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY**  
**THE MINISTER AND MINISTRY**  
**THE DEACONESS**  
**THE SONG EVANGELIST**  
**THE MINISTER OF MUSIC**  
**THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**  
**THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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### **Preamble**

All life must have law; all organization must have government. He who is Head over all things unto the Church himself gave form and order unto His body of followers and representatives. We seek as a church to conform to principles of government in accord with the Holy Scriptures and divine providences, that all things may be done scripturally, decently, and in order.

The government of the Church of the Nazarene is representative, and thus avoids the extremes of episcopacy on the one hand, and unlimited congregationalism on the other.

# CHAPTER I

## THE LOCAL CHURCH

### I. Organization of Local Churches

42. Local churches may be organized by the District Superintendent, or by the General Superintendent having jurisdiction, or by an elder authorized by either of them. [28, 192 § 1, 275, 343]

### II. Full Membership

43. All persons who have been organized into a local church by those authorized so to do, and all who have been publicly received by the pastor, the District Superintendent, or the General Superintendent, after having declared their experience of salvation, and their belief in the doctrines of the Church of the Nazarene, and their willingness to submit to its government, shall compose the full membership of the local church; however, only church members who have reached their fifteenth birthday shall be entitled to vote in annual or special church meetings. [28, 38, 44, 50 § 1, 57, 69, § 2, 77, 262, 272, 343]

44. When persons desire to unite with the church the pastor shall explain to them briefly the privileges of membership in the church and the requirements of the general rules, and if

they are acceptable candidates, after consulting with the church membership committee, the minister shall in a public service, using the approved form for the reception of members (Part VII, Chapter II, 572), receive them into the membership of the church. [25, 38, 49 §§ 1-2]

45. Members of missions, where the organization of a local church has not been effected, shall not be counted as church members nor reported as church members; however, members of a mission may, when duly received according to 43 and 44, hold church membership in some regularly organized local church in which they shall be counted as church members. But the members of missions shall not be reported in the annual statistics as church members. [69 § 12]

### III. Probationary Membership

46. Any local church may, through its church board, establish a system of probationary membership; but probationers must not be counted as church members. [123 § 21]

47. Probationers shall have all the privileges of church members, with the exception of voting and holding church office.

48. Probationers may be received into full membership or dropped at any time, at the discretion of the pastor and church membership committee.

#### IV. Church Membership Committee

49. The church board shall provide a church membership committee of not fewer than three persons, whose duty it shall be to act in the capacity of an advisory committee with the pastor as chairman, and it shall be the duty of this committee to conserve the fruits of our evangelism by the following means: [43, 44, 123 § 21]

§ 1. New converts shall be urged to qualify for church membership by a consistent devotional life, a study of the Bible and the *Manual*, individually and/or in a pastor's membership class. [24, 25, 38]

§ 2. Effort shall be made to bring new members into total fellowship and service of the church.

§ 3. After new members are received, the committee shall work with the pastor in developing a continued program of spiritual guidance.

§ 4. No person shall be received into full membership of the local church until the pastor first consults with the church membership committee concerning that person's reception.

#### V. Change of Membership

50. § 1. The pastor, when requested by a member, may grant a transfer of church membership [see form in 579 § 4] to any local church of the Church of the Nazarene that may

be named, such transfer to be valid for three months only. When the reception of the transfer is acknowledged by the receiving local church, such person's membership in the former local church shall cease. [71, 579 § 5]

§ 2. The pastor, when requested by a member, may grant a certificate of commendation [see form in 579 § 2] to any evangelical church that may be named, after which such person's membership in the local church issuing the certificate shall cease immediately. [71]

§ 3. The pastor, when requested by a member, may grant a letter of dismissal [see form in 579 § 3], thus terminating such person's membership immediately. [71]

51. A member of a local church, when changing his place of residence, is required to report to his pastor at least once in six months. Should he fail to do so, his name may be removed from the church roll by action of the church board, after which the pastor shall write opposite his name, "Removed without letter." [126]

52. When a member of a local church shall absent himself from all religious services of the church for six successive months without a reason deemed justifiable by the church board, his name may be removed from the church roll by action of the church board, after he has been visited and dealt with faithfully, when possible. After such action of the church board

the pastor shall write opposite his name, "Removed by the church board." [127]

53. When a licensed or an ordained minister has united with the church membership or ministry of another denomination, his membership in the local church shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, and there shall be written opposite his name, "Removed by uniting with another denomination." [262, 272]

54. When a member of a local church has accepted license to preach or ordination from any other religious organization, his membership in the local church shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, except in case such person is temporarily commissioned by that religious organization to do foreign missionary work.

55. When a member of a local church or of any of the departments of the church moves to another locality in the same assembly district where vital association with the previous local church is impractical, the pastor shall notify the pastor of the local church nearest the locality, giving the member's name and address if known. If the member moves beyond the bounds of the assembly district, the local pastor shall immediately inform the "Moving Nazarenes Service" of the Department of Evangelism, 6401 the Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri, giving the member's name and new address, if known. The Department of Evangelism shall immediately forward the information to the

pastor of the local church nearest the new locality where the person is residing. [70]

### VI. Church Meetings

56. A meeting of the members of a local church for conference and for the transaction of any business not otherwise provided for shall be known as a church meeting. [61, 75, 80, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 92, 104, 118]

57. Only those persons who have been received into full membership and have reached their fifteenth birthday shall be entitled to vote in church meetings. [43]

58. Any business, including elections, in harmony with the spirit and order of the church, and not otherwise specially provided for, may be transacted at any church meeting.

59. In all cases where the civil law requires a specific course of procedure in calling and conducting church meetings, that course should be strictly followed. [111]

60. The pastor, who shall be ex officio president of the local church, or the District Superintendent, or the General Superintendent having jurisdiction, or someone appointed by the District Superintendent or the General Superintendent, shall preside at annual or special church meetings. [73, 198, 347]

61. An annual church meeting of members of each local church shall be held within sixty days prior to the meeting of the District As-



sembly, public notice of the same always being given from the pulpit at least two Sundays preceding. [80, 104, 112]

**62.** The secretary of the church board shall be the secretary of all church meetings; in his absence a secretary pro tempore shall be elected. [129 § 4]

**63.** Reports shall be given at the annual church meeting by the pastor [69 § 13], the superintendent of the Sunday school [141], the president of the Nazarene Young People's Society [155], the president of the local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society [160], the deaconesses [93], the local preachers [98], the stewards [107], the trustees [114], the local church school board [134], the secretary [129 § 2], and the treasurer [130 § 5] of the church board.

**64.** At the annual church meeting there shall be an election, by ballot, of the stewards [104], the trustees [109, 112], the Sunday school superintendent [142], and the members of the church school board [133] of the local church, to serve for the next church year and until their successors are elected and qualified.

§ 1. Local churches in selecting their church officers are directed to elect only such as are clearly in the experience of entire sanctification. [See Special Rules, 39.]

**65.** At the annual church meeting, there shall be an election, by ballot, of lay delegates

to the District Assembly, on the basis of representation fixed by the General Assembly according to 175, 176 §§ 1, 2.

66. Special meetings of church members of the local church, for conference or the transaction of business, may be called at any time by the pastor or the church board after having obtained the consent of the pastor or of the District Superintendent or of the General Superintendent having jurisdiction. [118]

Public notice of special church meetings shall always be given from the pulpit in at least two preceding regular services, or in such manner as meets the requirements of civil law. [86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 104, 106, 112, 113]

## VII. The Church Years

67. § 1. The church year shall begin on the Monday immediately following the final adjournment of the District Assembly of the Assembly District in which the local church is situated, and shall close at twelve o'clock midnight on the Sunday immediately following the final adjournment of the District Assembly.

§ 2. The statistical year shall close within forty-five days prior to the opening of the District Assembly, and the new statistical year shall begin the day following this close. The exact date of the beginning and close of the statistical year within these bounds shall be set by the District Advisory board. [216 § 1]

**VIII. The Pastor**

68. A pastor is an elder or a licensed minister [80] who, under the call of God and His people, has the oversight of a local church. [39, 194]

69. The duties of a pastor are:

§ 1. To preach the Word. [260, 266]

§ 2. To receive persons into membership in the local church according to 43 and 44.

§ 3. To administer the sacraments in harmony with 260 and 266.

§ 4. To care for the people by pastoral visitation, particularly of the sick and needy.

§ 5. To comfort those who mourn.

§ 6. To reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with all long-suffering and doctrine.

§ 7. To seek, by all means, the conversion of sinners, the sanctification of the converted, and the upbuilding of God's people in their most holy faith. [23]

§ 8. To have the care of all departments of local church work.

§ 9. To appoint the teachers of the Sunday school in harmony with 144.

§ 10. To administer the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at least once a quarter. If he is a licensed minister but has failed to pass in the prescribed course of study as provided in 260 [see also 573], he shall arrange for such administration by an elder. [36, 105 § 2]

§ 11. To read to the congregation the Constitution of the Church of the Nazarene and the Special Rules contained in 1 to 41, both inclusive, within each church year [67 § 1], or have this section of the *Manual* printed and distributed annually to the members of the church.

§ 12. To supervise the preparation of all statistical reports from all departments of the local church, and present promptly all such reports through the district secretary to the District Assembly. [45, 67 § 2, 147]

§ 13. To submit a report to the annual church meeting. [63]

§ 14. To appoint an investigating committee of three in case of accusation filed against a church member. [467]

§ 15. To see that all general budget funds raised through the local missionary society are remitted promptly to the General Treasurer; and that all district budget funds are remitted promptly to the district treasurer. [130 § 2]

§ 16. To nominate to the church board all persons who are paid employees of the local church, and to have supervision of the same.

70. When a member or friend of a local church or any of the departments of the church moves to another locality in the same assembly district where vital association with the previous local church is impractical, the pastor shall notify the pastor of the church nearest

the locality, giving the member's or friend's address if known. If the move is to a locality beyond the assembly district, the local pastor shall immediately inform the "Moving Nazarenes Service" of the Department of Evangelism, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri, giving the name and new address if known. The Department of Evangelism shall immediately forward the information to the pastor of the new locality where the person is residing. [55]

71. The pastor may, when requested by a member, grant a transfer of church membership [579 § 4], a certificate of commendation [579 § 2], or a letter of dismissal [579 § 3, 50 §§ 1, 2, 3].

72. The pastor, together with the church board, according to plans adopted by the General Assembly and agreed to by the District Assembly, shall arrange for the raising of the apportionment of the general budget funds and the apportionment of the district budget funds made to the local church of which he is pastor, and shall raise these apportionments. [34, 124, 161]

73. The pastor shall be, ex officio, president of the local church, chairman of the church board, and head of the church schools, the Nazarene Young People's Society, Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, and all other subsidiary organizations in connection with the local church. [121, 137, 153, 154, 159]

74. The pastor shall have the right to a voice in the nomination of all heads of all departments of the local church. [123 § 11, 142, 149, 155, 160]

75. The pastor shall not contract bills nor create financial obligations for the local church of which he is pastor, unless he be authorized and directed by vote of the church board or by vote of a church meeting; and such action shall be duly recorded in the minutes of the church board or of the church meeting respectively. [123 § 1]

76. The pastor shall always show due regard for the united advice of the District Superintendent and the district advisory board. [192, 216 § 2, 264, 274]

77. In case a licensed or ordained minister presenting credentials from another denomination shall, during the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, make application for membership in a local church, the pastor may not receive such applicant without first having obtained the favorable recommendation of the district advisory board. [43, 76, 219]

78. For the exercise of his office the pastor shall be amenable to the District Assembly, to which he shall report annually and give brief testimony to his personal Christian experience. [179 §1, 261]

79. The pastor shall automatically become a member of the local church of which he is

pastor; or, in case of more than one local church on his charge, of the church of his choice. [256, 270]

### IX. Calling of a Pastor

80. An elder or a licensed minister [68] may be called to the pastorate of a local church by two-thirds favorable vote by ballot of the church members of voting age present and voting at a duly called annual or special meeting of the local church, provided that such elder or licensed minister shall have been nominated to the local church by the church board, which, after having advised with the District Superintendent, made such nomination by a majority vote by ballot of all its members; and provided the nomination shall have been approved by the District Superintendent. [30 § 9 (2), 82, 87, 123 § 2, 189, 192 § 6]

81. In case of disagreement between the church board and the District Superintendent, the church board or the District Superintendent may submit the matter to the General Superintendent having jurisdiction for his decision. From such decision either the church board or the District Superintendent may appeal to the Board of General Superintendents for a final decision.

82. The call of a pastor, if given in the first six months of a church year, may only be for a term ending with the close of that particular church year; and the call of a pastor, if given

in the last six months of a church year, may be only for a term ending with the next church year, provided, however, that the call in either case may be extended as hereinafter provided. [87, 92]

83. In case any local church has not called a pastor prior to the convening of the District Assembly, the General Superintendent presiding at the District Assembly, the District Superintendent, and the district advisory board, in concurrence with the delegates from such local church, shall make pastoral arrangements for that local church. [216 § 3, 344]

84. When a pastor is called, the local church should specify the remuneration he may expect. The amount of this remuneration may be determined by the church board, or by vote of the local church membership on such amount as has been recommended by the church board. When agreement has been entered into between the local church or the church board and the pastor in regard to his remuneration, the payment of the pastor's salary in full shall be considered a moral obligation by the church. If, however, the church becomes unable to continue the payment of the salary agreed upon, such inability and failure shall not be considered a sufficient cause for civil action against the church by the pastor; and in no case shall the church be legally responsible in excess of funds raised during the term of the pastor's actual service, and not otherwise designated.



§ 1. The local church should also make provision for his traveling and moving expenses. [32, 123 §§ 5, 6]

85. No pastor shall resign the pastorate of a local church without giving the local church board and the District Superintendent written notice at least thirty days before the termination of his pastorate; and without having his resignation accepted by the local church board and approved in writing by the District Superintendent.

#### **X. Renewing the Call of the Pastor**

86. The call of a pastor may be renewed for the second year and each succeeding year of his pastorate without nomination by the church board, by two-thirds vote by ballot of all church members of voting age present and voting at a church meeting duly called for this purpose and held at least ninety days prior to the date of convening the next District Assembly, provided such renewal call shall be approved by the District Superintendent within thirty days after such call. His failure to disapprove shall be considered and treated as approval. [66, 192 § 7]

In case of the disapproval of the renewal call by the District Superintendent within that time, either the local church or the District Superintendent may submit the matter to the General Superintendent having jurisdiction for his decision. From such decision either the

local church or the District Superintendent may appeal to the Board of General Superintendents for a final decision.

87. A pastor receiving less than two-thirds but a majority vote on a renewal call shall be considered re-elected for a period of one year; but cannot be voted on again unless nominated by the church board as in regular procedure of calling a pastor. A vote for an extended call may not be taken unless there is a favorable two-thirds vote of the church. [80]

88. However, it is hereby provided that the local church may, when voting to renew pastoral relations after the pastor has served the church for at least one year, extend the call for a period of two, three, or four years on condition that the pastoral vote for one year has been presented and a favorable vote received, and that such extended call shall have been recommended by majority vote of all members of the church board and approved in writing by the District Superintendent. Such a vote must be by two-thirds vote by ballot of church members of voting age present and voting, and must be taken at a church meeting duly called for that purpose at least 90 days but not more than 180 days prior to the date of convening the next District Assembly. [66]

In case of additional renewals of such pastorate, the procedure shall be the same as that stated herein; but each successive renewal shall not be for longer than four years.

89. In case the church meeting for the renewal call is held at a date later than ninety days prior to the convening of the next District Assembly, the procedure shall be that of calling a pastor according to 80.

90. Acceptance of a call to pastoral relations shall be given by the minister not later than thirty days from the date of the church meeting voting the call.

91. After a minister has accepted a call for a period longer than one year, he shall not resign the pastorate of the local church without giving the local church board and the District Superintendent written notice, at least thirty days before the termination of his pastorate, and without having his resignation accepted by the local church board and approved in writing by the District Superintendent.

92. In case the District Superintendent and the church board shall be of the opinion that the question of the continuance of pastoral relations beyond the close of any year of an extended pastoral term should be submitted to the local church, the District Superintendent and the church board together may order the question submitted for vote at a special church meeting held at least ninety days prior to the date of convening the next District Assembly. The question shall be submitted in the following form: "Shall the present pastoral relations be continued beyond the end of the present church year?" [66]

If, by a two-thirds vote by ballot of the church members of voting age present and voting, the church decides to continue its present pastoral relations, the office of the pastor shall continue as though such vote had not been taken.

If, however, the church fails to decide by such vote to continue the present pastoral relations, the term of office of the pastor shall terminate with the close of the next District Assembly.

### **XI. The Local Deaconess**

**93.** A woman who is a member of the Church of the Nazarene and believes that she is divinely led to engage in ministering to the sick and the needy, comforting the sorrowing, and doing other works of Christian benevolence, and who gives evidence in her life of ability, grace, and usefulness, may be licensed as a local deaconess for one year by the church board of the local church upon recommendation of the pastor after proper examination by the church board as to her qualifications for that work. She shall be a member of the local church where she is engaged. She shall make a report to the local church at the annual church meeting. [63, 105 § 3, 123 § 9]

**94.** The church board shall issue to each local deaconess a license signed by the pastor and the secretary of the church board.

**95.** The local deaconess shall work under the direction of the pastor at all times, and

should be accorded respect and careful pastoral guidance in this holy calling for her very work's sake.

96. The license of the local deaconess may be renewed annually by the church board upon the recommendation of the pastor. The license may be suspended or revoked by the church board, upon recommendation of the pastor, after giving her a fair hearing. [123 § 9, 128]

97. After serving for one year, the local deaconess may be recommended by her own local church board to the District Assembly for district deaconess' license upon recommendation of the pastor. [123 § 13, 179 § 3, 299]

## **XII. The Local Preacher**

98. Any member of the Church of the Nazarene who feels called of God to preach and to conduct special meetings in the interest of salvation may be licensed as a local preacher for one year by the church board of a local church having an elder as pastor, upon the pastor's recommendation; or by the church board of a local church not having an elder as pastor, if the granting of license is recommended by the pastor and approved by the District Superintendent. The candidate must first be examined as to his personal experience of salvation, his knowledge of the doctrines of the Bible, and the order of the church; he must also demonstrate that his call is evidenced by grace, gifts, and usefulness. A local preacher shall

make a report to the local church at its annual church meeting. [63, 123 § 8, 192 § 8]

99. The church board shall issue to each local preacher a license signed by the pastor and the secretary of the church board.

100. The license of a local preacher may be renewed by the church board of a local church having an elder as pastor, upon the recommendation of the pastor, or by the church board of a local church not having an elder as pastor, provided that this renewal of license is recommended by the pastor and approved by the District Superintendent. [123 § 8, 192 § 8]

101. A local preacher who has been appointed as supply pastor must be approved by the Committee on Orders and Relations if he continues his service after the District Assembly following his appointment. [193]

102. Local preachers shall pursue the course of study for local preachers and take examinations therein under the direction of the district board of ministerial studies. [220, 224, 582]

103. A local preacher, having served in that relation for at least one full year, and having passed the complete course of study for local preachers, may be recommended by the church board to the District Assembly for minister's license; but, if not received, he shall sustain his former relation. [123 § 10, 179 § 2, 256, 582]

### **XIII. The Stewards**

104. The stewards of the local church shall be no fewer than three nor more than thirteen

in number. They shall be elected by ballot, at the annual or a special church meeting, from among the members of the local church, to serve for the next church year and until their successors have been elected and qualified. [39, 61, 64, 66, 121]

105. The duties of the stewards are:

§ 1. To give special attention, under the direction of the church board, to raising money for the support of the pastor, that he may be free from secular care and anxiety, and may give himself wholly to the work of the ministry. [123 §6]

§ 2. To provide the elements for the Lord's Supper, and, when requested by the pastor, to assist in the distribution of the same. [36, 69 § 10]

§ 3. To co-operate with the deaconesses in caring for the needy and distressed. [93, 299]

106. A vacancy in the office of steward may be filled by the local church at a duly called church meeting. [66]

107. For faithfulness in the discharge of their duties the stewards shall be amenable to the local church. They shall make a report to the local church at the annual church meeting. [63]

#### **XIV. The Local Stewardship Committee**

108. The stewards shall constitute the local stewardship committee, whose duty it shall be to promote the cause of Christian stewardship

in the local church in co-operation with the pastor, the district stewardship committee, and the General Stewardship Committee. [41, 460, 461]

### **XV. The Trustees**

**109.** The trustees of the local church shall be no fewer than three nor more than nine in number. They shall be elected from among the members of the local church to serve for the next church year and until their successors have been elected and qualified. [39, 64, 121]

**110.** Where the local church is not incorporated, or where the civil law requires it, or where for other reasons it is deemed best by the District Superintendent or the district advisory board, the trustees shall hold the title to church property and manage it as trustees of the local church.

**111.** In all cases where the civil law requires a specific mode of election of church trustees, that mode shall be strictly followed. [59]

**112.** Where no particular mode of election is required by civil law, the trustees shall be elected by ballot, at the annual meeting of the local church, or at a special meeting duly called for that purpose. [61, 64, 66]

**113.** A vacancy in the office of trustee may be filled by the local church at a duly called church meeting. [66]

**114.** For faithfulness to their trust, the trustees shall be amenable to the local church.



They shall report to the annual church meeting. In the interim of annual church meetings, they shall make reports to the church board of which they are a part. [63, 115, 120, 168, 169]

#### **XVI. Church Incorporation**

115. In all places where the statutes will permit, the trustees shall have the local church incorporated. Where not inconsistent with civil law, the articles of incorporation shall set forth the powers of the corporation and provide that the corporation shall be subject to the government of the Church of the Nazarene, as from time to time authorized and declared in its *Manual* by the General Assembly of said church. All the property of this corporation shall be managed and controlled by the trustees subject to the approval of the local church. [229 § 3, 423 §2]

116. When a local church is incorporated, all property acquired shall be deeded directly to the church in its corporate name when it is possible to do so.

#### **XVII. Property Restrictions**

117. The real estate of the local church shall not be mortgaged to meet current expenses.

118. The local church may not purchase real estate, nor sell, mortgage, exchange, or otherwise dispose of real estate except by majority vote of the members present at an annual meeting, or at a special meeting duly called for that purpose, and except upon the written approval of the District Superintendent. [61, 66]

**119.** A local church contemplating the purchase of real estate, or the erection of a church building or parsonage, shall submit the proposition to the District Superintendent and the district board of church extension for their consideration and advice. No indebtedness shall be incurred in the purchase of real estate or the erection of buildings without the approval of the District Superintendent and the district board of church extension. [229 § 4, 423 §2]

**120.** Trustees may not divert property from the use of the Church of the Nazarene. [168, 169]

### **XVIII. The Church Board**

**121.** Every local church shall have a church board, composed of the pastor, who shall be chairman, ex officio; the Sunday school superintendent, the president of the Nazarene Young People's Society, the president of the local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, the stewards, and the trustees of the local church. [39, 73, 104, 109, 133, 155, 160]

**122.** The church board shall have a regular meeting within the first ten days of each calendar month, and shall meet specially when called by the pastor, the District Superintendent, or the secretary when there is no pastor.

Between the annual church meeting and the District Assembly the newly elected church board may meet for organization purposes, at which time it shall elect a church secretary and

a church treasurer as provided hereafter and any other officer which it shall be their duty to elect. [61, 123 §§ 15, 16]

**123.** The business of the church board shall be:

§ 1. To care for the interests of the local church and its work, not otherwise provided for, in harmony with the pastor. [75, 171]

§ 2. To nominate to the local church, after having consulted with the District Superintendent, any elder or licensed minister whom it may deem the proper person to become pastor, provided the nomination be approved by the District Superintendent. [80, 192 § 6]

§ 3. To recommend to the local church, with the approval of the District Superintendent, that the call of the pastor be renewed for a term longer than one year. [88, 92]

§ 4. To arrange for pastoral supply, after conference with the District Superintendent, until such time as a pastor shall be regularly called by the local church. [193]

§ 5. To determine the pecuniary support the pastor should receive. [84]

§ 6. To provide ways and means for the support of the pastor, the pastoral supply, or any other paid workers of the local church. [84, 105 § 1]

§ 7. To give proper attention to the support of the District Superintendent and the General Superintendents, in accordance with the authorized plans.

§ 8. To license as local preacher, at its discretion, any person who has been recommended by the pastor; and to renew such license, as provided in 98, 100.

§ 9. To license as local deaconess, at its discretion, any person who has been recommended by the pastor; and to renew such license. [93, 96]

§ 10. To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a local preacher to the District Assembly to be licensed as a licensed minister. [103, 179 § 2, 256]

§ 11. To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a licensed minister to the District Assembly for renewal of license. [179 § 2, 258]

§ 12. To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a local deaconess to the District Assembly to be licensed as a licensed deaconess. [97, 179 § 3, 299]

§ 13. To recommend, at its discretion, upon nomination by the pastor, a licensed deaconess to the District Assembly for renewal of license [97, 179 § 3, 301]

§ 14. To elect, upon nomination by the local church school board, the superintendent of the vacation Bible school, and the superintendent of the weekday Bible school. [135 § 8]

§ 15. To elect a secretary at the first meeting of the new board, to serve until the close of the church year and until his successor has been elected and qualified. [62, 122, 129 §§ 1-4]

§ 16. To elect a treasurer at the first meeting of the new board, to serve until the close of the church year and until his successor has been elected and qualified. [122, 130 §§ 1-5]

§ 17. To cause careful account to be kept of all money received and disbursed by the local church, and make report of the same at its regular monthly meetings, and to the annual meeting of the local church. [130 § 3]

§ 18. To provide a committee, no fewer than two members of which shall count and account for all moneys received by the local church. [105 § 1]

§ 19. To appoint an auditing committee which shall audit, at least annually, the financial records of the treasurer of the local church, the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, the Nazarene Young People's Society, the Sunday school, and any other financial records of the local church.

§ 20. To establish, at its discretion, a system of probationary membership for the local church. [46]

§ 21. To provide a church membership committee of no fewer than three persons. [49]

§ 22. To recommend a licensed deaconess to the District Assembly for election as a consecrated deaconess. [304]

§ 23. To function, if advisable, as the church school board in local churches of no more than fifty members. [136]

§ 24. To appoint a trial committee of five in case written charges are pending against a church member. [467]

§ 25. With the written approval of the District Superintendent and upon the nomination of the pastor to elect such local paid assistants as assistant pastor, directors of Christian education, directors of youth work, or directors of music. The failure of the District Superintendent to disapprove within fifteen days shall be considered and treated as approval. [173, 192 § 9]

124. The church board, together with the pastor, shall follow plans adopted by the General Assembly and agreed to by the District Assembly for raising apportionments both of general budget funds and of district budget funds made to the local church, and shall raise these apportionments. [34, 72, 161]

125. Before a local church school board has been provided in a newly organized local church, the church board and pastor shall appoint a Sunday school superintendent, and shall perform the duties of a local church school board until such board has been regularly elected. [133]

126. The church board may remove the name of a nonresident church member from the church roll upon his failure to report to the pastor at least once in six months. [51]

127. The church board may remove from the church roll the name of a church member

who absents himself from all religious services of the church for six successive months without a reason deemed justifiable by the church board, provided that he has been visited and faithfully dealt with, when possible. [52]

128. The church board may suspend or revoke the license of a local deaconess in harmony with 96.

129. The duties of the secretary of the church board shall be:

§ 1. To record correctly and preserve faithfully the minutes of all church meetings and meetings of the church board, and do whatever else may pertain to his office. [123 § 15]

§ 2. To present to the annual meeting of the local church an annual report of all the activities of the local church, including statistics concerning the membership. [63]

§ 3. To hold in trust all papers, records, and legal documents, including deeds, abstracts, insurance policies, pertaining to the local church and turn over promptly all papers, records, and other documents to his successor in office.

§ 4. To be the secretary of all annual and special church meetings; and to be custodian of the minutes and other papers of such annual and special church meetings. [62]

130. The duties of the treasurer of the church board shall be:

§ 1. To receive all moneys not otherwise provided for, and disburse the same only on order of the church board. [123 § 17]

§ 2. To make monthly remittances of all district funds to the district treasurer, and of all general funds to the General Treasurer, except as otherwise provided. [69 § 15]

§ 3. To keep a correct book record of all funds received and disbursed. [123 § 18]

§ 4. To present a monthly financial report to the church board. [123 § 17]

§ 5. To present an annual financial report to the annual church meeting. [123 § 17]

§ 6. To deliver to the church board the complete treasurer's records at such time as he shall cease to hold the office of treasurer.

## XIX. The Church School

### DEFINITION AND OBJECTIVES

131. The church school is that department of the local church which promotes the Christian educational work of the local church, namely, the Sunday school, the vacation Bible school, the weekday Bible school, the Christian Service Training school, and such other schools and classes as may be classified under this heading, and shall be under the general supervision of the church school board and the direct care of the pastor. [125, 133]

132. The objectives of the church school are:

§ 1. To teach the doctrines of Christianity and the standards of Christian behavior as revealed in the Bible, especially as interpreted by the "Articles of Faith" in the *Manual* of the Church of the Nazarene.



§ 2. To lay the foundation and begin the development of Christian character in young children.

§ 3. To seek the salvation of the unsaved and the entire sanctification of believers.

§ 4. To foster a progressive and continuous development of Christlike character, attitudes, and habits.

§ 5. To lead to the discovery of the Christian philosophy of life, and the Biblical interpretation of the universe.

§ 6. To help the home become more effective in teaching the Christian faith.

§ 7. To influence strongly in favor of church membership and to train for service in the same.

§ 8. To reach the largest possible number of people for Christ and the church.

These objectives are to be accomplished through devout and diligent study and teaching of the Word of God—the Bible—and through any other contributive agencies.

## **XX. The Church School Board**

133. Every local church shall have a church school board composed of the pastor, the Sunday school superintendent, and from three to nine persons elected by the annual church meeting to serve until the close of the next church year and until their successors are elected and qualified. The church school board

shall have general supervision of the church school. [64, 123 § 23, 125]

If desired the church school board may be elected by the annual church meeting as an integral part of the church board, thus functioning as the educational committee of the board.

In this case the church may elect fewer stewards and trustees (though never less than the minimum established by the *Manual*, paragraphs 104 and 109) or elect a larger church board than otherwise.

134. The church school board shall elect a chairman, a secretary, and such other officers as may be necessary. It shall hold regular monthly or quarterly meetings for the transaction of any business pertaining to church school work. Special meetings may be called by the pastor. The church school board shall give an annual report to the annual church meeting. [63]

135. The duties of the church school board shall be:

§ 1. In conjunction with the pastor, to organize or cause to be organized a Sunday school in connection with the local church, and where possible one or more branch Bible schools or extension classes, and have general supervision of the same. [137-147]

§ 2. To nominate one or more persons for the office of Sunday school superintendent in harmony with 142.

§ 3. To elect a Cradle Roll superintendent and visitors upon nomination by the pastor, Sunday school superintendent, and Nursery supervisor, where there is an organized Nursery Department.

§ 4. To elect a Home Department supervisor and visitors upon nomination by the pastor and Sunday school superintendent.

§ 5. To elect or appoint other Sunday school officers, supervisors of departments, and other workers, upon nomination by the Sunday school superintendent and the pastor, as may be necessary. [143]

§ 6. To approve nominees for Sunday school teachers before their appointment by the pastor, or remove an officer or teacher. [145]

§ 7. To organize and promote, when practicable, with the approval of the pastor, a vacation Bible school, a weekday Bible school, and Christian Service Training classes; to select workers for them in harmony with sections 9, 10, and 11, and have general supervision of the same. [148]

§ 8. To nominate to the church board one or more persons for superintendent of the vacation Bible school or the weekday Bible school, in case such schools are organized. [123 § 14]

§ 9. To elect a local director of Christian Service Training, who shall promote the cause of Christian training, arrange training classes for the entire membership of the church, and have general supervision over the same; and

to elect a dean or superintendent of the Christian Service Training school or special school, when such school is organized. [148, 149]

§ 10. To elect other officers and teachers of the vacation Bible school, weekday Bible school, Christian Service Training school, or special school, when such schools are organized. [150]

§ 11. To elect a local director of Christian family life, who shall seek to strengthen the church's ministry to its families, to help the home and the church work more closely together, to encourage parents to make their homes more truly Christian, and to challenge church families to win non-Christian families to Christ.

§ 12. To make surveys and studies of Christian educational needs of the local church and community, and lay plans to meet those needs as fully as possible.

136. In local churches of fifty members or less, the church board may function as the church school board. [123 § 23]

### **XXI. The Sunday School**

137. The Sunday school shall be under the general supervision of the church school board, the care of the pastor, and the immediate leadership of the Sunday school superintendent. [73, 135 § 2]

138. Each Sunday school shall be organized and administered under bylaws adopted for it

by the church school board, provided that such bylaws shall be in harmony with the *Manual of the Church of the Nazarene*. [For suggested bylaws see 578.]

**139.** Each Sunday school shall have a cabinet in which the administrative work of the school is vested. This cabinet shall be composed of the general officers and the department supervisors, if any, of the Sunday school. In case it shall be deemed preferable by the local church, the members of the church school board and/or the Sunday school teachers may be included in the membership of the Sunday school cabinet.

In such situations the Sunday school cabinet becomes both the administrative organization and a group for inspiration, study, and discussion of Sunday school problems. [578, Art. IV, § 2]

**140.** There shall be three classes of members in the Sunday school, namely, active, Cradle Roll, and Home Department.

Active members shall be persons enrolled in the regular school whose attendance at the Sunday sessions is expected.

Cradle Roll members shall be children under three years of age enrolled in the Cradle Roll Division of the Nursery Department. Children not enrolled in Nursery Class may remain on the Cradle Roll until they are four years of age.

Home Department members shall be persons who are enrolled in the Home Department but

who are unable to attend the regular Sunday sessions.

Total Sunday school enrollment shall include all Active, all Cradle Roll, and all Home Department members.

141. The superintendent of the Sunday school shall be a member of the local church whose church school he serves, and shall be in the experience of entire sanctification, and in full sympathy with the doctrine and polity of the Church of the Nazarene. He shall be a member ex officio of the church school board, the church board, and the District Assembly. He shall submit an annual report to the annual church meeting, and a quarterly report to the church board. [39, 63, 121, 175, 239]

142. The Sunday school superintendent shall be elected by ballot by the annual church meeting, from one or more nominations made by the church school board (the Sunday school superintendent not being present when the nominees are selected) with the approval of the pastor; however, the Sunday school superintendent may be re-elected by a "yes" and "no" vote, when such election is ordered by the church school board and approved by the pastor. A vacancy in the office of Sunday school superintendent shall be filled by the local church at a duly called church meeting. [64, 74, 135 § 2]

143. The other officers and teachers shall be professing Christians, exemplary in life, and in

full harmony with the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene. [135 § 5]

144. The teachers of the Sunday school shall be nominated annually by the Sunday school superintendent, approved by the church school board, and appointed by the pastor. In the case of schools having departments, the nominations shall be made by the Sunday school superintendent and the department supervisor of the department in which the teachers are to serve. [69 § 9, 135 §6]

145. In the case of properly proved unsoundness of doctrine, imprudent conduct, or neglect of duty, the church school board shall have the right to declare the office of any officer or teacher vacant by a two-thirds vote of all members of the board. [135 § 6]

146. The church school year shall be the same as the church year as defined in 67 § 1.

147. At the close of the statistical year it shall be the duty of the pastor to supervise carefully the making of the annual statistical report of the Sunday school and forward it to the district secretary. [69 § 12]

## XXII. Other Church Schools

148. A vacation Bible school, a weekday Bible school, a Christian Service Training school, or special classes or schools may be organized when practicable in the local church. These schools or classes shall be under the general supervision of the church school board,

the care of the pastor, and the immediate leadership of a superintendent or dean. [135 § 7]

149. The superintendent of a vacation Bible school or a weekday Bible school shall be elected by the church board upon the nomination of the church school board. The dean of a Christian Service Training school or a special school shall be elected by the church school board. Such officers shall be approved by the pastor. [74, 135 §§ 8, 9]

150. The other officers and the teachers of a vacation Bible school, a weekday Bible school, a Christian Service Training school, or a special school shall be elected by the church school board upon the nomination of the superintendent or dean of the school, with the approval of the pastor. [135 §10]

### **XXIII. The Local Nazarene Young People's Society**

151. Young people may be organized into a Nazarene Young People's Society, and auxiliary societies, for the spiritual benefit of the young people, co-operation in seeking the salvation of other young people, and the advancement of the work of the church.

152. The local organization of the young people shall be perfected in harmony with the constitution of the local Nazarene Young People's Society as approved by the General Assembly. [576 §1]

153. These societies shall be in full subordination to the Church of the Nazarene, and



may inaugurate no movement contrary to the judgment of the local church, or without the consent of the pastor. [73]

154. The times and places of the meetings of such societies shall be chosen under the advice of the pastor and the church board. [73]

155. The president of the local society shall be nominated by a nominating committee, consisting of no fewer than three nor more than seven members of the Nazarene Young People's Society, including the pastor. This committee shall be appointed by the pastor and shall submit at least two names for the office of president, provided, however, that a president may be re-elected by a "yes" or "no" vote when such election is recommended by said committee and approved by the pastor. The president shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present and voting by ballot in harmony with the Constitution. His election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. He shall be a member of the local church whose society he serves, and a member ex officio of the church board, to which he shall make a monthly report. He shall submit a report to the annual meeting of the local church. [63, 74, 121]

156. Each local organization of the Nazarene Young People's Society shall be represented in the District Assembly by its president, of which District Assembly he shall be a member. He shall report the condition of the society to the District Assembly. [175]

**157.** In order to meet the needs of the local church to better advantage, the Nazarene Young People's Society may be organized into divisions in harmony with the Constitution for the local society as approved by the General Assembly. [576 § 1]

#### **XXIV. The Local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society**

**158.** Upon the authorization of the church board, local organizations of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society may be formed within any age group in harmony with the constitution of such local societies approved by the Department of Foreign Missions. [577 § 1]

**159.** The local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be a constituent part of the local church and subject to the supervision and direction of the pastor and the church board. [73]

**160.** The president of the local society shall be nominated by a committee of three to seven active members of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society appointed by the pastor, who shall serve as chairman. This committee shall submit one or more names for the office of president. The president shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of the active members present and voting, and this election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. The president shall be a member of the local

church whose society is served, a member, ex officio, of the church board, and a member of the District Assembly. The president shall present a report to the annual meeting of the local church. [63, 74, 121, 175]

161. All funds raised by the local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society for the general interests of the Church of the Nazarene, except the relief and retirement fund and the general expense fund, shall be paid into the general budget and be sent directly to the General Treasurer to be credited to the local church to which this society is subsidiary until the general budget apportionments of the local church be paid in full for the year, after which all such funds may be devoted to foreign missions exclusively. [72, 124]

162. Funds for the support of general interests shall be raised in the following manners:

§1. From gifts and offerings designed for the general budget and general interests.

§2. From the Prayer and Fasting League offerings.

§3. From special offerings such as Easter and Thanksgiving.

163. No part of the above funds shall be used for local or district expense or charitable purposes.

164. The relief and retirement fund, to be held in trust by the General Treasurer

for the General Council of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society to be used for the relief of sick, needy, and retired foreign missionaries, shall be raised:

§ 1. By placing of names on the memorial roll by the payment of \$25.00 for that special purpose.

§ 2. By annual payments by the members of twenty-five cents each.

§ 3. By freewill gifts or offerings designed for the relief and retirement fund.

**165.** Each member shall contribute twenty-five cents annually for the general expense fund. This fund provides for the cost of printing tracts, literature, and other matter, and for the expense of the general officers in connection with their service for the Council.

**166.** When the general budget apportionment of the local church has been paid in full for the year, opportunities may be given to make offerings for the support of foreign missionary work, such contributions to be known as "specials."

## **XXV. Disorganization of Churches**

**167.** When it seems clear to a District Superintendent that a local church organization should no longer continue as such, it may be disorganized by action and formal pronouncement of the Board of General Superintendents on recommendation of the District Superintendent.

168. In case a local church becomes disorganized, any church property which may exist may in no way be diverted to other purpose but title shall pass to the District Advisory Board acting as agent for said district where such has been incorporated, or other authorized agents, for the use of the Church of the Nazarene at large, as the District Assembly shall direct; and trustees holding property for the disorganized local church shall sell or dispose of the same only on the order and under the direction of the District Advisory Board, or other appointed agent of the District Assembly, either conveying said property or delivering the proceeds from the sale thereof as directed by the District Assembly or its District Advisory Board. (109-120)

169. No board of trustees may divert property from the use of the Church of the Nazarene. [109-120]

#### **XXVI. Withdrawal of Churches**

170. No local church may withdraw as a body from the Church of the Nazarene, or in any way sever its relation thereto, except by provision of the General Assembly, and upon agreed conditions and plans.

#### **XXVII. Prohibition of Financial Appeals**

171. It shall not be lawful for a local church, its officers or members, to send appeals to other local churches, their officers and mem-

bers, to solicit money or financial assistance for their local church needs or for the interests that they may support.

It is provided, however, that such solicitation may be made to local churches and church members located within the bounds of the Assembly District in which the solicitor is located, but on condition only that the solicitation be approved in writing by the District Superintendent and the district advisory board.

172. Members of the Church of the Nazarene who are not authorized local, district, or general officers of the church, or who are not under appointment or officially recognized by the Department of Foreign Missions and the General Board, shall not solicit funds for missionary or kindred activities apart from the General Budget, from congregations of local churches, or from members of such churches.

#### **XXVIII. Paid Assistants in the Local Church**

173. There may be those who feel called to prepare themselves for certain vital lay services in the church, either part time or full time. The church recognizes the place of such lay workers and yet it is basically constituted a voluntary institution, with service to God and others the duty and privilege of all its members according to their abilities. When paid assistance in the local church, whether ministerial or lay, becomes necessary for greater

efficiency, it must be such as will not de-vitalize the spirit of free service by all its members or tax the church's financial resources. [123 § 25]

§ 1. Such local assistants as assistant pastors, directors of Christian education, directors of youth work, or directors of music, shall be nominated by the pastor, after having secured written approval of the District Superintendent, and elected by the church board. The failure of the District Superintendent to disapprove within fifteen days shall be considered and treated as approval. [192 § 9]

§ 2. The employment of such assistants shall be for no more than one year and may be renewed upon recommendation of the pastor, and the favorable vote of the church board. [123 § 25]

§ 3. The duties and services of such assistants are to be determined and supervised by the pastor. [69 § 16]

§ 4. Within sixty days after a new pastor assumes his pastoral duties, the employment of all such paid assistants shall be reviewed, with continuation of service to be dependent upon the recommendation of the new pastor, the written approval of the District Superintendent, and the favorable vote of the church board. The failure of the District Superintendent to disapprove within fifteen days shall be considered and treated as approval. [192 § 9]

## CHAPTER II

## THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

## I. Bounds and Name

174. The General Assembly shall organize the membership of the church into District Assemblies.

The bounds and name of a church Assembly District shall be such as shall be declared by the General Assembly, or by the Assembly District involved, with the final approval of the General Superintendent or Superintendents having jurisdiction. [29]

## II. Membership and Time of Meeting

175. The District Assembly shall be composed of all elders [271, 280]; all the licensed ministers [261], the district secretary [205]; the district treasurer [210], the chairman of the District Church School Board [238]; the president of the district Nazarene Young People's Society [244]; the president of the district Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society [250]; the superintendent of each local Sunday school [141]; the president of each local Nazarene Young People's Society [156]; the president of each local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society [160]; the eligible deaconesses [303, 307]; the eligible lay missionaries [408]; the lay members of the District Advisory Board [215]; and the lay delegates from each local church in the Assembly District. [29, 65, 176]

176. § 1. Local churches in districts of fewer than five thousand church members shall be entitled to representation in the District As-



sembly as follows: two lay delegates from each local church of fifty or fewer church members, and one additional lay delegate for each successive fifty church members and the final major part of fifty church members. [29, 65, 175]

§ 2. Local churches in districts of five thousand or more church members shall be entitled to representation in the District Assembly as follows: one lay delegate from each local church of fifty or fewer church members, and one additional lay delegate for each successive fifty church members and the final major part of fifty church members. [29, 65, 175]

177. The District Assembly shall be held annually, at the time appointed by the General Superintendent having jurisdiction, and in the place designated by the preceding District Assembly or arranged for by the District Superintendent.

178. Prior to the convening of the District Assembly the General Superintendent having jurisdiction may appoint a nominating committee to serve during the District Assembly; this committee may prepare nominations for the usual committees and offices in advance of the convening of the District Assembly. [348]

### III. Business of the District Assembly

179. The business of the District Assembly shall be:

§ 1. To hear reports from and consider the character of all pastors, evangelists, and other

elders and licensed ministers, all deaconesses and song evangelists; however, by vote of the District Assembly the record of written reports received by the secretary may be accepted in lieu of oral reports of ministers not engaged in active service. [78, 261, 271, 280, 287, 303, 307 315]

§ 2. To license as licensed ministers, after careful examination, persons who have been recommended by church boards, and who may be judged to be called to the ministry; and to renew such license. [103, 123, §§ 10, 11, 256, 258]

§ 3. To license as licensed deaconesses, after careful examination, persons who have been recommended by church boards, and who may be judged to be called to the office of deaconess; and to renew such license. [97, 123 §§ 12, 13, 299, 301]

§ 4. To elect to the eldership persons who may be judged to have fulfilled all the requirements for elders' orders. [267]

§ 5. To recognize the orders of persons coming from other denominations who may be judged qualified and desirable for placement in the Church of the Nazarene. [257, 277]

§ 6. To receive, by transfer from other districts, elders, licensed ministers, and deaconesses who have been properly recommended and who may be judged as desirable for membership in the Assembly District. [281-284, 309-312]

§ 7. To issue a transfer to elders, licensed ministers, and deaconesses who desire to transfer to another Assembly District. [281, 282, 309, 310]

§ 8. To commission elders and licensed ministers, who devote their time to evangelism, to serve as evangelists for one year. [285]

§ 9. To commission persons whom it deems qualified to serve as song evangelists for one year. [314]

§ 9a. To commission persons whom it deems qualified to serve as ministers of music for one year. [317]

§ 10. To commission persons whom it deems qualified to serve as directors of Christian education for one year. [320]

§ 11. To elect, by two-thirds favorable vote, by ballot, an elder to the office of District Superintendent, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified; however, the procedure for re-election of a District Superintendent shall be by a "yes" or "no" ballot vote. No person shall be elected to the office of District Superintendent who has reached the age of seventy years. [190]

§ 12. However, it is hereby provided that, after a District Superintendent has served a district for at least one year, the District Assembly may re-elect him for a period of two or three years, on condition that he has first been re-elected for one year. The procedure for election to an extended term of office shall

be by a two-thirds favorable "yes" or "no" ballot, and that such an extended election shall have been recommended by majority vote by ballot of a committee composed of the District Advisory Board, chairman of the District Church School Board, president of the District N.F.M.S., and president of the District N.Y.P.S., with the approval of the General Superintendent in jurisdiction.

In case of additional elections to an extended term of office, the procedure shall be the same as stated herein; but each successive election shall not be for longer than three years.  
[190]

§ 13. In case the General Superintendent and the officers of the district, namely, the District Advisory Board, chairman of the District Church School Board, president of the District N.F.M.S., and president of the District N.Y.P.S., shall be of the opinion that the services of the District Superintendent should not continue beyond the first year of a two-year term or close of the first or second year of a three-year term of such extended election, the General Superintendent having jurisdiction and the district officers may order the question submitted for a vote of the District Assembly. The question shall be submitted in the following form: "Shall the present District Superintendent be continued in office beyond this District Assembly?"

If the District Assembly, by a two-thirds vote by ballot, decides to continue the District

Superintendent in office, he shall continue to serve as though such vote had not been taken.

If, however, the District Assembly fails to decide by such vote to continue the District Superintendent in office, his term of office shall terminate with the close of that District Assembly. [190]

§ 14. To elect a district secretary, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [203]

§ 15. To elect a district treasurer, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [208]

§ 16. To elect, by ballot, two elders and two laymen to the district advisory board, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [212]

When the district has reached a total of one hundred churches, or a total membership of nine thousand, there *may* be three elders and three laymen elected.

§ 17. To elect a district board of ministerial studies of five or more elders, to serve for four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. [220]

§ 18. To elect, at its discretion, a district board of church extension of five members, including the District Superintendent, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District

Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [228]

§ 19. To elect, at its discretion, a district board of ministerial benevolence, of as many members as the District Assembly may choose, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [230]

§ 20. To elect a district church school board in harmony with the procedure stated in 234, to serve until their successors are elected and qualified. [197]

§ 21. To elect a district court of appeals, consisting of five elders, including the District Superintendent, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [346, 472]

§ 22. To elect annually, at its discretion, a district colporteur, upon the recommendation of the Department of Publication of the General Board. [232]

§ 23. To elect, by ballot, in the annual session of the District Assembly immediately preceding the convening of the General Assembly,\* both ministerial and lay delegates to the General Assembly; however, no nominee for delegate shall be declared elected until after he has solemnly promised to attend faithfully all the meetings of the General Assembly from the opening to the closing, unless prevented by some serious providence, such as sickness or death in his immediate family. The District

Assembly shall elect alternate delegates not exceeding the number of its delegates. [30 §§ 1-3, 326, 327, 333]

\*An amendment now being voted on by districts, if confirmed, will change this phrase to read, "at a session within sixteen months of the meeting of the General Assembly."

§ 24. To present to the General Assembly, through the district secretary, a full official journal for the preceding quadrennium, bound in permanent binding, for review and revision. [186, 206 § 7]

§ 25. To consider and care for the entire work of the Church of the Nazarene within the bounds of the Assembly District.

§ 26. To transact any other business pertaining to the work, not otherwise provided for, in harmony with the spirit and order of the Church of the Nazarene. [241 §§ 5, 6]

§ 27. To grant a retired relation to any minister in good standing requesting it, provided he has reached the age of sixty-five years. [289]

§ 28. To place in the retired relation, at its discretion, any minister in good standing who is disqualified for active ministerial labors because of physical disability or old age. [290]

§ 29. To elect a district board of home missions, of as many members as the District Assembly may choose, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified; however, the District Assembly may

order that the district advisory board may constitute the district board of home missions, with additional members elected thereto at the discretion of the District Assembly. [225]

180. The District Assembly may authorize, where civil law permits, the district advisory board to incorporate. After incorporation as above provided, the district advisory board shall have power, on its own resolution, to purchase, own, sell, exchange, mortgage, deed in trust, hypothecate, lease, and convey any property, real and personal, as may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of the corporation. [216 § 7]

181. The District Assembly may establish the Committee on Orders and Relations as a standing committee, empowering said committee to convene prior to the next District Assembly to consider all routine matters subject to its authority, which have been submitted to the district secretary.

#### **IV. The District Assembly Journal**

182. The journal shall be the record of the regular proceedings of the District Assembly.

183. The journal shall be signed by the presiding officer and the district secretary.

184. The journal must be either written or typewritten manuscript, or printed, and substantially bound.

185. Separate items of business shall be placed in separate paragraphs.



186. The journal should be edited carefully with the view to its examination by the General Assembly. [179 § 24, 206 §§ 5, 7]

187. The full official journal for each quadrennium shall be bound in permanent binding, one copy being preserved in the District Assembly files and one copy in the General Assembly files. [206 § 7]

188. The journal shall be arranged as far as possible according to the Table of Contents prepared by the General Secretary in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents. The Table of Contents shall be furnished to the district secretary prior to the convening of the District Assembly.

189. The journal should contain not only the assignment of pastors to local churches, but also all regular and special engagements entered into by ministerial and lay members of the District Assembly who are engaged in any line of denominational service that would entitle them to consideration if applying for assistance from the Department of Ministerial Benevolence of the General Board. [80, 216 § 6, 287, 429 § 2]

## V. The District Superintendent

190. The District Superintendent, elected by the District Assembly, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and quali-

fied. In case of an extended call, the procedure provided in paragraph 179 §§ 11 and 12 shall determine his tenure of office. [179 §§ 10-12]

191. If for any cause a vacancy shall occur in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, the General Superintendents, jointly and severally, may fill the vacancy. [345]

192. The duties of a District Superintendent shall be:

§ 1. To organize, recognize, and supervise local churches within the bounds of his Assembly District, subject to the approval of the General Superintendent having jurisdiction. [42, 275, 343]

§ 2. To visit the local churches in his Assembly District at least once a year, and meet with the church board, at which time he shall preside, and consult with reference to spiritual, financial, and pastoral matters, giving such helpful advice and assistance as he may deem proper.

§ 3. To have special supervision of all the missions of the Church of the Nazarene within the bounds of his Assembly District.

§ 4. To appoint someone to fill a vacancy, should one occur in the office of district secretary. [204]

§ 5. To appoint someone to fill a vacancy, should one occur in the office of district treasurer. [209]

§ 6. To advise with the church board concerning the nomination of an elder or a licensed

minister to the pastorate of a local church and to approve or disapprove such nomination. [80, 123 § 2]

§ 7. To approve or disapprove the renewal of the call of a pastor. [86]

§ 8. To approve or disapprove the granting of license to any member of the Church of the Nazarene who may request local preacher's license or renewal of local preacher's license from the church board of a local church not having an elder as pastor. [98, 100]

§ 9. To approve or disapprove in writing for nomination by the pastor to the local church board such paid local assistants as assistant pastors, directors of Christian education, directors of youth work, or directors of music. [123 § 25, 173 §§ 1, 4]

**193.** The District Superintendent, with the consent of the church board, may appoint a pastoral supply to fill a vacancy in the office of pastor until the next District Assembly. Such appointed pastoral supply shall be subject to removal by the District Superintendent, when his services are not satisfactory to the church board and the local church. [101, 123 § 4]

**194.** The District Superintendent is authorized to perform for a local church within the bounds of his Assembly District all the functions of pastor when that local church is without a pastor or pastoral supply. [68]

**195.** If for any reason the General Superintendent having jurisdiction fails to be present

or to appoint a representative to be present in his stead at the District Assembly, the District Superintendent shall call the District Assembly to order, and shall preside until other provision may be made by the District Assembly. [342]

196. The District Superintendent may fill vacancies occurring in the district board of ministerial studies. [221]

197. The District Superintendent may fill vacancies occurring in the district church school board. [179 § 18]

198. The District Superintendent may preside at the annual, or a special, meeting of a local church, or appoint someone to represent him. [60]

199. The District Superintendent shall be a member, ex officio, of the district church school board, of the council of the district Nazarene Young People's society, and of the council of the district Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. [234, 246, 251]

200. The District Superintendent shall be, ex officio, chairman of the district advisory board. [212]

201. The District Superintendent shall be chairman of the district advisory council. [252]

202. All official acts of the District Superintendent shall be subject to review and revision by the District Assembly, and subject to appeal. [474 § 3]

## VI. The District Secretary

203. The district secretary, elected by the District Assembly, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [179 § 14]

204. If the district secretary shall cease to serve, for any cause, in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, the District Superintendent shall appoint someone to succeed him. [192 § 4]

205. The district secretary shall be a member, ex officio, of the District Assembly. [175]

206. The duties of the district secretary shall be:

§ 1. To record correctly and preserve faithfully all minutes of the District Assembly.

§ 2. To record correctly and preserve all statistics of the district.

§ 3. To forward all statistical charts to the General Secretary to be audited before their publication in the official journal. [367 § 6]

§ 4. To be custodian of all documents of the District Assembly, and turn them over promptly to his successor.

§ 5. To cause to be bound in permanent binding for district files the full official journal for each quadrennium. [186]

§ 6. To forward sufficient copies of the printed journal of each District Assembly to General Headquarters for distribution among

the general officers and general boards of the Church of the Nazarene.

§ 7. To present to the General Assembly, for the District Assembly, the full official journal for the preceding quadrennium, bound in permanent binding. [179 § 24, 186]

§ 8. To do whatever else may pertain to his office.

207. The district secretary may have as many assistants as the District Assembly shall elect.

## VII. The District Treasurer

208. The district treasurer, elected by the District Assembly, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [179 § 15]

209. If the district treasurer shall cease to serve, for any cause, in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, the District Superintendent shall appoint someone to succeed him. [192 § 5]

210. The district treasurer shall be a member, ex officio, of the District Assembly. [175]

211. The duties of the district treasurer shall be:

§ 1. To receive all such moneys from his district as may be designated by the General Assembly, or by the District Assembly, or as the needs of the Church of the Nazarene may re-

quire, and disburse the same according to direction.

§ 2. To render to the General Treasurer an itemized monthly report of all receipts and disbursements. [376 § 7]

§ 3. To keep a correct record of all moneys received and disbursed and to render an annual report to the District Assembly, to which he shall be amenable.

### **VIII. The District Advisory Board**

212. The district advisory board shall be composed of the District Superintendent, ex officio, and two elders and two laymen elected annually by ballot by the District Assembly, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [179 § 16, 200]

213. A vacancy of the district advisory board may be filled by the remaining members thereof.

214. The District Superintendent shall be, ex officio, chairman of the district advisory board.

215. The two lay members of the district advisory board shall be, ex officio, members of the District Assembly. [175]

216. The duties of the district advisory board shall be:

§ 1. To set the date for the beginning and closing of the statistical year in harmony with the provisions of 67 § 2.

§ 2. To give information to and consult with the District Superintendent respecting the ministers and local churches of the Assembly District. [76]

§ 3. To inform and advise with the General Superintendent regarding the pastoral arrangements for the coming year. [83, 344]

§ 4. To appoint an investigating committee consisting of two or more elders in case an accusation is filed against an elder or a licensed minister. [468]

§ 5. To select a trial court in case charges are made against an elder or licensed minister. [468]

§ 6. To recommend to the Department of Ministerial Benevolence of the General Board the disbursement of funds for the temporal relief of aged ministers, and for the widows and orphans of ministers who have died in the work. [189, 288, 429 § 2]

§ 7. To incorporate, where civil law permits and when authorized by the District Assembly. After incorporation, as above provided, the district advisory board shall have power, on its own resolution, to purchase, own, sell, exchange, mortgage, deed in trust, hypothecate, lease, and convey any property, real and personal, as may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of the corporation. [180]

§ 8. In states where the civil law does not permit such incorporation, then the District Assembly may elect the district advisory board



as District Trustees who shall have power, on its own resolution, to purchase, own, sell, exchange, mortgage, deed in trust, hypothecate, lease, and convey any property, real and personal, as may be necessary or convenient for the purpose of carrying on its work in the district. [168, 216 § 7]

§9. To submit to the Board of General Superintendents any plans proposed for the creation of a district center. Such plans shall require the approval in writing of the Board of General Superintendents before they are put in operation. [360]

217. The district advisory board may issue a transfer of membership to an elder, a licensed minister, or a deaconess, who desires to transfer to another District Assembly, before the meeting of the District Assembly in which such person's membership is held. Such transfer may be accepted by the District Assembly to which presented. [179 § 6, 282, 310]

218. The district advisory board may suspend the license of a licensed deaconess when it is required for the good of the church, after a conference with the church board of the local church of which the licensed deaconess is a member, and after giving her a fair hearing, and with the approval of the District Superintendent. [302]

219. In case a licensed or ordained minister presenting credentials from another evangelical denomination shall, during the interim of ses-

sions of the District Assembly, make application to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, his credentials shall be examined by the district advisory board. Only with the favorable recommendation of the district advisory board shall such applicant be received into membership in the local church. [77, 262, 277]

### **IX. The District Board of Ministerial Studies**

**220.** The district board of ministerial studies shall be composed of five or more elders, elected by the District Assembly, to serve for a term of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. [102, 179 § 17]

**221.** Vacancies occurring in the district board of ministerial studies, in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly, may be filled by the District Superintendent. [196]

**222.** As soon as elected, the first member chosen shall call a meeting of all the members of the district board of ministerial studies (hereinafter called the board) for organization and assignment, as follows:

§ 1. The board shall elect from among its members a permanent chairman and a permanent secretary, both of whom may be exempt from the direct work of examination, and who shall do faithfully the work as herein provided.

§ 2. The chairman shall assign to the other members of the board the studies for which each member shall be responsible for examining candidates. Such assignments shall be for

the entire term of the board, unless otherwise mutually arranged.

§ 3. The chairman shall attend all meetings of the board, unless providentially prevented, and shall oversee the work of the board each year. In case of necessary absence of the chairman, the secretary shall do his work, pro-tempore.

§ 4. The secretary shall, at the expense of the District Assembly, provide a suitable record book of ministerial studies, which shall be the property of the District Assembly.

§ 5. The secretary shall enter therein the name and address of each candidate for the ministerial course, and the name of the local church recommending him, the date of licensing, the course of study pursued, and the record of examinations. The secretary shall provide and fill out suitable blanks, and present to each candidate a duplicate of his record as preserved in the records of the District Assembly.

**223.** The district board of ministerial studies may establish classes or seminars in order to assist licensed ministers in the pursuit of the course of study.

**224.** Progress in the ministerial course of study may be measured as herein provided:  
[102, 267, 582, 583]

§ 1. All examinations shall be held at the meeting place of the District Assembly on the day preceding the opening meeting, unless otherwise provided by the board.

§ 2. Any member of any class who fails to appear for examination as directed shall not be advanced in his studies by the District Assembly, unless his absence is satisfactorily explained in writing to the chairman, and he shall have arranged with his examiner for his examination in the studies of his year, and shall pledge to complete his entire work before the final examinations.

§ 3. All examinations shall be conducted in writing.

§ 4. The examiner shall furnish the candidate with a list of no fewer than ten questions for each study and book.

§ 5. All papers shall be marked on a scale of 100.

§ 6. An average of 75 shall be required in all studies as the condition of passing on to the studies of the next year. If any candidate fails to receive a grade of 70 in any subject or on any book, he shall be conditioned in that subject or book, and shall be required to pass an examination in that subject or on the book before he may be permitted to take the examination for advanced work.

§ 7. When a candidate has completed the examinations, the board shall report to the District Assembly the record of examinations, and make recommendations for advancement or for graduation from the course of study.

§ 8. Candidates pursuing the course of study, who may be attending any of the recognized schools of the Church of the Nazarene,

and pursuing the same or similar studies as those which are in the course of study, may present a school record in lieu of examination, and, if satisfactory to the board, may be recommended for advancement in those studies without further examination.

#### **X. The District Board of Home Missions**

**225.** The district board of home missions shall be composed of as many members as the District Assembly may choose, elected by the District Assembly, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified; however, the district advisory board may constitute the district board of home missions, with additional members elected thereto at the discretion of the District Assembly. [179 § 28]

**226.** The district board of home missions shall seek by all means—by the diffusion of home missionary information, by the holding of local meetings and district conventions, by the employment of speakers who have the vision and spirit, and by any other contributive agency—to stir the people to holy zeal and devotion for, and liberality toward, the sacred cause of home missions.

**227.** The district board of home missions, under direction of the District Assembly, and in co-operation with the District Superintendent, may have charge of all home mission work conducted by the Assembly District within its bounds.

**XI. The District Board of Church Extension**

**228.** The district board of church extension shall be composed of five members, including the District Superintendent, elected by the District Assembly to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [179 § 18]

**229.** The duties of the district board of church extension shall be:

§ 1. To advance the cause of building houses of worship and parsonages within the bounds of the Assembly District, in co-operation with the Department of Home Missions of the General Board. [423 §§ 1-3]

§ 2. To verify and conserve the titles to church property. [423 § 2]

§ 3. To assist local churches to incorporate. [115, 423 § 2]

§ 4. To consider propositions submitted by local churches relating to the purchase of real estate or the erection of church buildings or parsonages, and to advise them concerning the propositions submitted. [119]

§ 5. To approve or disapprove, in conjunction with the District Superintendent, propositions submitted by local churches relative to the incurring of indebtedness in the purchase of real estate or the erection of buildings.

§ 6. To do whatever else the District Assembly may direct regarding the matter of church property.

## **XII. The District Board of Ministerial Benevolence**

230. The district board of ministerial benevolence shall be composed of as many members as the District Assembly may elect, to serve until the final adjournment of the next District Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [179 § 18]

231. The district board of ministerial benevolence shall have full power to dispense local benevolence according to its judgment, subject to the approval of the District Assembly.

## **XIII. The District Colporteur**

232. A district colporteur may be elected annually by the District Assembly upon the recommendation of the Department of Publication of the General Board; he shall labor under the jurisdiction of the District Superintendent and shall be amenable to the District Assembly. [179 § 22]

233. The district colporteur shall co-operate with the Department of Publication in the systematic distribution of gospel literature. [432 § 2]

## **XIV. The District Church School Board**

234. The district church school board shall be composed of the District Superintendent, ex officio, and six other members elected as follows: At the first election of the district church school board two members shall be elected to

serve for a term of three years, two for a term of two years, and two for a term of one year. Thereafter, each year, two persons shall be elected by the District Assembly to serve for the full term of three years and until their successors are elected and qualified. [179 § 20, 199]

When the district has reached the total of one hundred churches, or a total membership of nine thousand, three members may be elected to serve for a term of three years, three for a term of two years, and three for a term of one year. Thereafter, each year, three persons may be elected to serve for the full term of three years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Vacancies occurring in the district church school board, in the interim of the sessions of the District Assembly, may be filled by the District Superintendent.

**235.** The district church school board shall organize by choosing a chairman, a vice-chairman, a secretary, and a treasurer.

**236.** There may also be appointed by the district church school board a director of Christian education, a director of children's work, a director of youth work, a director of adult work, a director of Christian Service Training, a director of vacation Bible schools, a director of Caravans, a director of Cradle Roll work, a director of Home Department work, a director of Christian family life, and other departmental



directors as may be needed. These officers may be appointed from among the members of the district church school board or otherwise, but they shall be amenable to that board.

237. The district church school board shall hold a meeting immediately preceding or at the same time as the District Assembly to complete its work for the year, and to prepare a report to be presented to the District Assembly. Special meetings may be held whenever necessary.

238. The chairman of the district church school board shall be, ex officio, a member of the District Assembly. [175]

239. The district church school board shall arrange for an annual district church school convention to be held at some time during the year or immediately preceding the meeting of the District Assembly, and to which delegates shall be elected from the local Sunday schools. These delegates must be members of the Church of the Nazarene.

At this convention the superintendents of all the local schools are expected to be present and take part as opportunity affords. The convention program shall provide for special addresses, papers, discussions, and periods for general consultation relative to the district church school interests. [141]

240. The Assembly District may be divided into zones with zone leaders appointed by the district church school board, who shall work

under the supervision of that board. Zone conventions should be held.

241. The duties of the district church school board, in harmony with the program of the Department of Church Schools of the General Board, [448 §§ 1, 2] shall be:

§ 1. To have full supervision of all church school interests of the Assembly District, not otherwise provided for.

§ 2. To conduct district, zone, and/or group conventions and Christian Service Training schools.

§ 3. To assist the Department of Church Schools of the General Board in securing information relating to district and local church school interests.

§ 4. To promote and encourage church school work throughout the Assembly District.

§ 5. To present an annual report to the District Assembly which shall include (1) a statement of the work accomplished by the district church school board during the past year, (2) a statement of the general condition of the church school work on the Assembly District, and (3) recommendations for the work for the ensuing year. [123 §25]

§ 6. To recommend to the District Assembly the amount considered necessary to be placed in the district budget to finance the district church school work for the ensuing year, or to make other plans for raising the same. [179 § 25]

**XV. The District Nazarene Young People's Society**

242. The district Nazarene Young People's Society shall be composed of the local Nazarene Young People's Societies of the Assembly District.

243. It shall be governed by the constitution of the district Nazarene Young People's Society approved by the General Assembly. [576 § 2]

244. The president of the district Nazarene Young People's Society shall be elected by its annual convention. When so elected and approved, he shall be a member, ex officio, of the District Assembly. [175]

245. The district convention of the Nazarene Young People's Society, which shall meet annually, shall be composed of the District Superintendent, the members of the District Council, district zone presidents, the pastors of local churches, presidents of local societies, local directors of the Nazarene Junior Fellowship, elders of the district within the Nazarene Young People's Society age limits, and two delegates from each local society of thirty or fewer members, including the total membership of the society (ages 4-40), and one additional delegate for each successive thirty members and the final major part of thirty members. One delegate may be appointed by the pastor of each local church not having a fully organized Nazarene Young People's Society. [576 § 2]

**246.** The district council shall be composed of the officers of the district Nazarene Young People's Society, the District Superintendent, the chairmen of standing committees, and the district zone presidents. All district officers shall be active members of a local society within the bounds of the Assembly District. [199]

**XVI. The District Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society**

**247.** The district Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be composed of the local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Societies within the boundaries of the Assembly District. The district society shall be auxiliary to the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. [577 §§ 2, 3]

**248.** The district Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be governed by the constitution of the district Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society approved by the Department of Foreign Missions. It shall be subject to the District Superintendent, the district advisory board, and the District Assembly. [577 § 2]

**249.** The district convention of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be composed of the District Council, the District Superintendent, pastors of local churches, N.F.M.S. zone chairmen, presidents of local societies; two delegates from each local society having an active membership of twenty-five or less and one additional delegate for each additional

twenty-five active members (or major fraction thereof); and General Council members, retired missionaries, missionaries on furlough, and missionary appointees, who hold church membership on the district. [577 § 2]

250. The president of the district Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be a member, ex officio, of the District Assembly. [175]

251. The district council shall be composed of the officers of the district Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society and the District Superintendent, [199, 577 § 2]

#### **XVII. The District Advisory Council**

252. The district boards shall form an advisory council over which the District Superintendent shall preside, said council to meet, if possible, once each six months for counsel and advice as to the best methods of forwarding the work of the Assembly District. [201]

#### **XVIII. Disorganization of a District**

253. When it seems clear to the Board of General Superintendents that a district no longer should continue as such, it may, upon their recommendation, be disorganized by a two-thirds favorable vote of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene and a formal pronouncement thereof. [174]

§ 1. In case a district becomes officially disorganized, any church property which shall exist may in no way be diverted to other purposes, but shall pass to the control of the

General Board, for the use of the Church of the Nazarene at large, as the General Assembly shall direct; and trustees holding property, or corporations created to hold property, for the disorganized district shall sell or dispose of the same only on the order and under the direction of the appointed agent of the General Board, and turn the funds over to such agent. [168, 216 § 7]

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## CHAPTER III

### THE MINISTER AND THE MINISTRY

#### I. Qualifications and Call of the Minister

254. While we recognize and insist that all believers have committed unto them a dispensation of the gospel which they are to minister unto all men, we also recognize and hold that the Head of the Church calls some to the more official and public work of the ministry.

As our Lord called unto Him whom He would, and chose and ordained His twelve apostles "that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach," so He still calls and sends forth messengers of the gospel. The church, illuminated by the Holy Spirit, will recognize the Lord's call.

When the church discovers this divine call, the proper steps should be taken for its recognition and endorsement, and all suitable help should be given to open the way for the candidate to enter the ministry.

255. The perpetuity and the efficiency of the Church of the Nazarene depend largely upon the spiritual qualifications, the character, and the manner of life of its ministers.

§ 1. The minister of Christ is to be in all things a pattern to the flock—in punctuality, discretion, diligence, earnestness. “By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left” (II Corinthians 6:6, 7)

§ 2. The minister of the gospel in the Church of the Nazarene must know that he has peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ, and that he is sanctified wholly by the baptism with the Holy Spirit. He must have a deep sense of the fact that souls for whom Christ died are perishing, and that he is called of God to proclaim to them the glad tidings of salvation.

§ 3. The minister must likewise have a deep sense of the necessity of believers going on unto perfection and developing the Christian graces in practical living, that their “love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment.” He must have a strong appreciation of both salvation and Christian ethics.

§ 4. The minister must have gifts, as well as grace, for the work. He will have a thirst for knowledge, especially of the Word of God; sound judgment and good understanding; clear

views concerning the plan of redemption and salvation as revealed in the Scriptures. Saints will be edified and sinners converted through his ministry. He must be an example in prayer.

§ 5. Any person sustaining a marriage relation contrary to that allowed as justifiable in the Special Rules (37 and 38) shall be ineligible for the office of the ministry in the Church of the Nazarene. [267, 277, 361]

## II. The Licensed Minister

256. When there are members of the Church of the Nazarene who feel called to the ministry, they may be licensed as ministers by the District Assembly and enrolled as members of the District Assembly, provided they (1) have held local preacher's license for one full year; (2) have passed the complete course of study for local preachers; (3) have been recommended for such work by the church board of the local church of which they are members, to which recommendation shall be attached the "Questionnaire for Prospective Licensed Ministers" carefully filled out; (4) have given evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (5) have been carefully examined, under the direction of the District Assembly of the district within the bounds of which they hold their church membership, regarding their spiritual, intellectual, and other fitness for such work; (6) have promised to pursue immediately the course of study prescribed for licensed ministers and



candidates for ordination; and (7) have had any disqualification, which may have been imposed by a District Assembly, removed by an explanation in writing by the District Superintendent and the district advisory board of the district where the disqualification was imposed. [103, 123 § 10, 179 § 2]

257. Licensed ministers from other evangelical denominations, desiring to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, may be licensed as ministers by the District Assembly, provided they present the credentials issued to them by the denomination in which they formerly held their membership; and further provided that they (1) have passed a course of study equivalent at least to the course of study prescribed by the Church of the Nazarene for local preachers; (2) have been recommended by the church board of the local Church of the Nazarene of which they are members; (3) have given evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (4) have been carefully examined under the direction of the District Assembly regarding their spiritual, intellectual, and other fitness for such work; and (5) have promised to pursue immediately the course of study prescribed for licensed ministers and candidates for ordination. [179 § 5]

258. A minister's license shall terminate with the close of the next District Assembly. It may be renewed by vote of the District Assembly, provided (1) that the candidate for renewal shall file with the District Assembly the "Questionnaire for Prospective Ministers"

carefully filled out; and provided (2) that the candidate shall have completed at least two subjects in the year's course of study required, not including subjects in the reading course; and provided (3) that he has been recommended for the renewal of license by the church board of the local church of which he is a member. In case, however, he shall not have passed the course of study required, his license may be renewed by the District Assembly only upon his submitting a written explanation for this failure. Such explanation shall be satisfactory to the Committee on Orders and Relations and approved by the General Superintendent presiding. [79, 123 § 11, 179 § 2, 224 §§ 1-8]

In the case of licensed ministers who are serving as pastors, the recommendation for the renewal of minister's license shall be made by the district advisory board rather than by the local church board.

**259.** The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each licensed minister a minister's license signed by himself and the district secretary. [206 § 8, 269, 278, 286, 316, 580 § 4]

**260.** Such licensed ministers shall be vested with authority to preach the Word; and, provided they pass annually the required studies of the course of study and are acting as pastors, they shall also be vested with authority to administer the sacraments of baptism and the

Lord's Supper in their own congregations, and to officiate at marriages where the laws of the state do not prohibit. [36, 69 §§ 1, 3, 573, 574]

261. All licensed ministers shall hold their ministerial membership in the District Assembly of the district wherein their church membership is held, and shall report to this body annually. [78, 175, 179 § 1]

262. In case a licensed minister has united with the church membership or ministry of another denomination, his church membership and ministerial membership in the Church of the Nazarene shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, and the District Assembly shall cause to be entered into its minute record the following statement: "Removed from the membership and ministry of the Church of the Nazarene by uniting with another denomination." [43, 53, 219, 277]

263. In case a licensed minister shall, without the written approval of the district advisory board of the Assembly District in which he holds his ministerial membership or the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents, regularly conduct independent church activities which are not under the direction of the Church of the Nazarene, or be connected with the operating staff of an independent church or other religious group, he shall be subject to trial under the law dealing with the discipline of a minister. [273, 468]

**264.** The licensed minister shall always show due regard for the united advice of the District Superintendent and the district advisory board. [76]

**265.** Any claim to participation by a licensed minister and/or his dependents, in any plan or fund that the church may have now or hereafter for the assistance or support of its disabled or aged ministers, shall be based only upon regular, full-time, active service rendered by the minister in the pastoral or evangelistic office or other recognized relation, under the sanction of the District Assembly. This rule shall exclude from such participation all those in part-time and occasional service. [276]

### **III. The Ordained Minister**

**266.** We recognize but one order of the official ministry—that of the eldership. This is a permanent order in the Church. The elder is to rule well in the Church, to preach the Word, to administer the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to solemnize matrimony, all in the name of and in subjection to Jesus Christ, the great Head of the Church. [36, 68, 69 §§ 1, 3, 275]

**267.** One who is called of God to this ministry, and who has fulfilled all the requirements of the church for the same, who has successfully completed the full course of study prescribed for licensed ministers and candidates for ordination, who has been recommended

for renewal of district license by the church board of the local church in which he holds his membership, and has been carefully considered and favorably reported upon by the Committee on Orders and Relations of the District Assembly, may be elected to elder's orders by two-thirds vote of the District Assembly, provided he has been in the active ministry not less than two consecutive years either as regularly established pastor or as commissioned evangelist, and has spent the major portion of that time actively in the field; provided further that any disqualification which may have been imposed by a District Assembly has been removed in writing by the District Superintendent and the District Advisory Board of the district where the disqualification was imposed; and provided further that his marriage relationship does not render him ineligible for ordination. No person shall be ordained after passing the fiftieth birthday. [123 § 11, 179 § 4, 224 §§ 1-8, 255 § 5, 361, 583]

268. The candidate thus elected shall be ordained by the laying on of the hands of the elders, and other religious exercises, under the direction of the presiding General Superintendent. [341 § 3]

269. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to the person so ordained a certificate of ordination signed by himself and the district secretary. [206 § 8, 259, 278, 286, 316, 580]

**270.** All elders shall hold church membership in some local church. [79]

**271.** All elders shall hold their ministerial membership in the District Assembly of the district wherein their church membership is held, to which body they shall report annually. Any elder, who for two consecutive years does not report to his District Assembly, either in person or by letter, shall, if the District Assembly so elect, cease to be a member thereof. [29, 78, 175, 179 § 1, 291]

**272.** In case an ordained minister has united with the church membership or ministry of another denomination, his church membership and ministerial membership in the Church of the Nazarene shall, because of that fact, immediately cease, and the District Assembly shall cause to be entered into its minute record the following statement: "Removed from the membership and ministry of the Church of the Nazarene by uniting with another denomination." [43, 53]

**273.** In case an ordained minister shall, without the written approval of the district advisory board of the Assembly District in which he holds his ministerial membership or the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents, regularly conduct independent church activities which are not under the direction of the Church of the Nazarene, or be connected with the operating staff of an independent church or other religious group, he

shall be subject to trial under the law dealing with the discipline of a minister as provided in 468. [263]

274. The elder shall always show due regard for the united advice of the District Superintendent and the district advisory board. [76]

275. An elder may organize a local church when authorized to do so by the District Superintendent or the General Superintendent having jurisdiction. [42, 192 § 1, 266, 343]

276. Any claim to participation by an elder and/or his dependents, in any plan or fund that the church may have now or hereafter for the assistance or support of its disabled or aged ministers, shall be based only upon regular, full-time, active service rendered by the elder in the pastoral or evangelistic office or other recognized relation, under the sanction of the District Assembly. This rule shall exclude from such participation all those in part-time and occasional service. [265, 429 § 2]

#### IV. The Recognition of Elder's Orders

277. Elders from other evangelical denominations, desiring to unite with the Church of the Nazarene and presenting their ordination papers, may have their orders recognized by the District Assembly, after satisfactory examination as to personal experience and doctrine, provided: (1) that they be required to take an examination on the *Manual* and on the history of the Church of the Nazarene, (2) they shall

file with the District Assembly the "Questionnaire for Ordained Ministers Desiring to Join the Church of the Nazarene," carefully filled out; and provided, (3) their marriage relationship shall be in accordance with that required for ordination in the Church of the Nazarene. [37, 38, 179 § 5, 219, 255 § 5, 583]

278. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to the elder so recognized a certificate of recognition signed by himself and the district secretary. [206 § 8, 269, 286, 316, 580 § 2]

279. When the orders of an elder from an other church shall have been duly recognized, his credentials issued by said church shall be returned to him inscribed in writing or stamped across the face as follows:

Accredited by the..... District  
Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene  
this ..... day of ....., 19.....,  
as the basis of new credentials.

..... General Superintendent  
..... District Secretary

280. The elder so recognized shall have his name enrolled as a ministerial member of the District Assembly. [175, 179 § 1]

#### V. The Transfers of Ministers

281. When an elder or a licensed minister desires to transfer to another District Assembly, transfer of ministerial membership may



be issued by vote of the District Assembly in which his ministerial membership is held. Such transfer may be received by the District Assembly to which it is addressed. [179 § 7]

282. When an elder or a licensed minister desires to transfer to another District Assembly before the meeting of the District Assembly in which his ministerial membership is held, a transfer of ministerial membership may be issued by the District Superintendent and the district advisory board. Such transfer may be received by the District Assembly to which it is addressed. [179 § 6, 217, 580 §§ 10, 11]

283. The transfer of a licensed minister shall be valid only when accompanied by a detailed record of his grades in the course of study for licensed ministers, properly certified by the secretary of the district board of ministerial studies of the issuing District Assembly. [580 § 10]

284. All transfers shall be sent direct to the District Assembly to which addressed. The receiving District Assembly shall notify the issuing District Assembly of the reception of the transferred person's membership. Until the transfer is received by vote of the District Assembly to which addressed, the person thus transferred shall be a member of the issuing District Assembly. Such transfer is valid only until the close of the next session following date of issue of the District Assembly to which addressed. [179 § 6, 580 §§ 10-12]

## VI. The Evangelist

285. An elder, or a licensed minister who has completed at least one year of the course of study for licensed ministers, who devotes his time to evangelism, may, upon his request, be commissioned to do the work of an evangelist by two-thirds vote of the District Assembly. Such commission shall continue only until the close of the next District Assembly. [179 § 8]

286. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each commissioned evangelist an evangelist's commission signed by himself and the district secretary. [206 § 8, 580 § 6]

287. The evangelist shall report annually to the District Assembly of which he is a member, and shall attend the District Assembly in person, unless he can give a satisfactory reason for his absence. Should he fail to report, his commission shall not be renewed. [179 § 1]

## VII. The Retired Minister

288. A retired minister is one who has been placed in the retired relation by the District Assembly in which he holds his ministerial membership. [179 §§ 27, 28, 216 § 6]

289. Any minister who is in good standing and has reached the age of sixty-five years may request a retired relation, and, at his request, shall be placed in the retired relation by his District Assembly. [179 § 27]

290. Any minister who is in good standing, but who is disqualified by physical disability or old age from engaging in such active ministerial labors as will afford him sufficient income for support, may, upon recommendation of the committee on orders and relations, be placed in the retired relation by his District Assembly. [179 § 28]

291. Retirement shall not compel cessation from ministerial labors nor deprive of membership in the District Assembly. [175, 271]

292. As a condition to receiving, or continuing to receive, financial assistance from the Department of Ministerial Benevolence, it shall be required that the minister applying for such assistance be placed in the retired relation by his District Assembly, after having passed his sixty-fifth birthday. [429 §§ 1, 2]

#### **VIII. The Restoration of Church Membership of Ministers**

293. Any minister who is expelled or withdraws under charges may reunite with the Church of the Nazarene only with the consent of the District Assembly of the Assembly District from which he withdrew or was expelled.

#### **IX. The Restoration of District Assembly Membership of Elders**

294. If for any reason the name of an elder shall be removed from a District Assembly roll such elder shall not be recognized in any other District Assembly without having secured the

written consent of the District Assembly from whose roll his name was removed.

**295.** When an elder has been deprived of his credentials by expulsion or other disciplinary action, or has surrendered his credentials for any reason, such credentials shall be sent to the General Secretary to be filed and preserved, subject to the order of his District Assembly. [367 § 5]

**296.** When an elder in good standing surrenders his credentials for any reason, such surrendered credentials may, at any subsequent time, be restored to the elder upon order of the District Assembly to which they were surrendered, provided that the restoration of his credentials shall have been recommended by the local church of which he is a member and by the District Superintendent and the district advisory board.

**297.** When an elder has been deprived of his credentials by expulsion or other disciplinary action, or has surrendered his credentials, except as provided in 296, his District Assembly may restore such credentials at any future time, provided that (1) the elder shall have given satisfactory evidence of amendment of life and conduct; and that (2) the church board of the local church of which he is a member shall recommend the restoration of his credentials and the District Superintendent and the district advisory board shall endorse that recommendation. In case of a question of adultery or other sex immorality, however, his cre-

dentials shall not be restored in less than two years from the date of their surrender, and then only with the additional written approval of the Board of General Superintendents.

298. In case the credentials of an elder have been misplaced, mutilated, or destroyed, a duplicate certificate of ordination may be issued, provided that the signature of the General Superintendent and the district secretary who signed the original certificate may be obtained; and further provided that the elder is in good standing and the issuance of a duplicate certificate is requested by the district assembly of the district in which he is a member.

In case the signature of the General Superintendent or the district secretary who signed the original certificate cannot be obtained for the duplicate certificate, the District Assembly of the district in which the elder holds his ministerial membership may adopt a resolution granting to him another certificate. The resolution so adopted shall state fully the reason or reasons for granting another certificate. On the reverse side thereof shall be the following statement inscribed in writing or printing or both writing and printing, and signed by the General Superintendent having jurisdiction and the district secretary:

This certificate is given to take the place of former certificate of ordination given to [name], on the.....day of [month], A.D. 19....., by the [ordaining organization], at which date..he was ordained and

h..... former ordination certificate was signed by ..... and .....

The former certificate was [misplaced—mutilated—destroyed].

..... General Superintendent

..... District Secretary

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## CHAPTER IV

### THE DEACONESS

#### I. The Licensed Deaconess

**299.** A local deaconess in good standing in the Church of the Nazarene who feels divinely led to advance the cause of Christ by ministering to the sick and the needy, comforting the sorrowing, praying with the dying and pointing them to the Saviour, seeking the lost and wandering and endeavoring by all means to lead them to Jesus Christ and salvation, may be licensed as deaconess for one year by the District Assembly.

Qualifications for being licensed as a deaconess by the District Assembly are that the candidate (1) shall be at least twenty-one years of age, (2) shall have served as local deaconess in a satisfactory manner for at least one year, (3) shall have been recommended for such license by the church board of the local church of which she is a member, (4) shall have given evidence of ability, grace, and usefulness, (5) shall have passed a satisfactory examination before the district board of ministerial studies

in Bible doctrine, in government of the Church of the Nazarene, and in domestic qualifications, and (6) shall declare her purpose to pursue immediately and faithfully the course of study prescribed for licensed deaconesses. [97, 123 § 13, 179 § 3]

300. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each licensed deaconess a license signed by himself and the district secretary. [206 § 8, 580 § 5]

301. The credentials of a licensed deaconess may be renewed annually by the District Assembly, provided renewal of license has been recommended by the church board of the local church of which she is a member. If the license be not renewed, she shall no longer serve as deaconess. [123 § 13, 179 § 3]

302. In the interim of sessions of the District Assembly the license of a licensed deaconess may, when it is required for the good of the church, be suspended until the next District Assembly by the district advisory board with the approval of the District Superintendent, after a conference with the church board of the local church of which the deaconess is a member, and after giving her a fair hearing. [218]

303. All licensed deaconesses who have passed at least one-half of the prescribed course of study for licensed deaconesses [584] shall be members of the District Assembly, provided they are in active service. [175, 179 § 1]

## II. The Consecrated Deaconess

304. When a licensed deaconess shall have served in that capacity for two years, shall have successfully passed the prescribed course of study, and shall have been recommended by the church board of the local church of which she is a member, she may be elected to the office of consecrated deaconess by the District Assembly. [123 § 22]

305. The candidate so elected shall be consecrated by the District Assembly with appropriate religious services, under the direction of the presiding General Superintendent.

306. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to the deaconess so consecrated a certificate of consecration signed by himself and the district secretary. [580 § 3]

307. All consecrated deaconesses shall be members of the District Assembly, provided they are in active service. [175, 179 § 1]

308. After being elected and consecrated to the office of consecrated deaconess, the candidate may wear the prescribed deaconess garb. The deaconess garb shall consist of an all-black suit with white collar and cuffs or an all-white suit, with regulation bonnet adopted by the General Assembly of 1907.

## III. The Transfers of Deaconesses

309. When a licensed or consecrated deaconess desires to transfer to another District Assembly, a transfer of membership may be



issued by vote of the District Assembly in which her membership is held, which transfer may be received by the District Assembly to which it is addressed. [179 §§ 6, 7, 580 § 10]

310. When a licensed or a consecrated deaconess desires to transfer to another District Assembly before the meeting of the District Assembly in which her membership is held, a transfer of membership may be issued by the District Superintendent and the district advisory board, which transfer may be received by the District Assembly to which it is addressed. [179 §§ 6, 7, 217, 580 § 11]

311. The transfer of a licensed deaconess shall be valid only when accompanied by a detailed record of her grades in the course of study for licensed deaconesses, properly certified by the secretary of the district board of ministerial studies of the issuing District Assembly.

312. All transfers shall be sent direct to the District Assembly to which addressed. The receiving District Assembly shall notify the issuing District Assembly of the reception of the transferred deaconess' membership. Until the transfer is received by a vote of the District Assembly to which addressed, the deaconess thus transferred shall be a member of the issuing District Assembly. A transfer is valid only until the close of the next session following date of issue of the District Assembly to which addressed. [179 § 6, 580 §§ 10, 12]

#### **IV. Restoration of Membership of Consecrated Deaconesses**

**313.** If for any reason the name of a consecrated deaconess shall be removed from a District Assembly roll, such consecrated deaconess shall not be recognized by any other District Assembly without having secured the written consent of the District Assembly from whose roll her name was removed.

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### **CHAPTER V**

#### **THE SONG EVANGELIST**

**314.** Members of the Church of the Nazarene who feel called to the special ministry of song evangelism may be commissioned as song evangelists for one year by the District Assembly, provided they (1) have been recommended for such work by the church board of the local church of which they are members; (2) give evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (3) have had at least one year of experience in song evangelism; (4) have had not less than one year of vocal study under an accredited teacher and are pursuing the course of study prescribed for song evangelists or have completed the same; (5) are regularly engaged as song evangelists; (6) have been carefully examined, under the direction of the District Assembly of the Assembly District within the bounds of which they hold their church membership, regarding their intellec-

tual and spiritual qualifications and general fitness for such work. [179 § 9]

**315.** All song evangelists shall report annually to the District Assembly from which they receive their commissions. [179 § 1]

**316.** The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each song evangelist a song evangelist's commission signed by himself and the district secretary. [580 § 7]

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## CHAPTER VI

### THE MINISTER OF MUSIC

**317.** Members of the Church of the Nazarene who feel called to the ministry of music may be commissioned as ministers of music for one year by the District Assembly, provided they (1) have been recommended for such work by the church board of the local church of which they are members; (2) give evidence of grace, gifts, and usefulness; (3) have had at least one year of experience in music ministry; (4) have had not less than one year of vocal study under an accredited teacher and are pursuing the course of study or its equivalent prescribed for ministers of music or have completed the same; (5) are regularly engaged as ministers of music; (6) have been carefully examined, under the direction of the District Assembly of the Assembly District within the bounds of which they hold

their church membership, regarding their intellectual and spiritual qualifications and general fitness for such work.

**318.** All ministers of music shall report annually to the District Assembly from which they receive their commissions.

**319.** The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each minister of music a commission signed by himself and the district secretary. [580 § 8]

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## CHAPTER VII

### THE DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**320.** A member of the Church of the Nazarene who feels called to serve as a Director of Christian Education should enroll in the course of study for Directors of Christian Education. Upon completion of the first year of the course he may be commissioned as a Director of Christian Education for one year by the District Assembly, provided he (1) has been recommended for such a commission by the church board of the local church of which he is a member; (2) has given evidence of ability, grace, and usefulness; (3) has passed a satisfactory examination before the district Board of Ministerial Studies as to his intellectual qualifications and abilities for such work; and (4) has been carefully examined, under the direction of the District Assembly of the assembly

district within the bounds of which he holds his church membership, regarding his spiritual qualifications and general fitness for the work. [179 § 10, 587]

**321.** All commissioned directors of Christian education shall report annually to the District Assembly from which they receive their commissions.

**322.** The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall issue to each Director of Christian Education a commission of Christian education, signed by himself and the district secretary [580 § 9]

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## CHAPTER VIII

### THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### I. Functions and Organization

**323.** The General Assembly is the supreme doctrine-formulating and lawmaking and elective authority of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the provisions of the Church Constitution. [30 §§ 1-9]

**324.** The General Assembly shall be presided over by the General Superintendents, jointly and severally. [30 § 6, 341 § 2]

**325.** The General Assembly shall elect its other officers and organize itself for the transaction of its business according to its wisdom and pleasure. [30 § 7]

## II. Membership of the General Assembly

**326.** The General Assembly shall be composed of ministerial and lay delegates in equal numbers, elected thereto by the District Assemblies of the Church of the Nazarene; of the General Superintendents Emeritus and Retired; of the General Superintendents; of the General Secretary; of the General Treasurer; of the Editor of the *Herald of Holiness*; of the Editor in Chief of Church School Periodicals; of the Secretary of the General Nazarene Young People's Society; of the executive secretaries of the several departments of the General Board; of the President of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society; of the presidents of the colleges under the Department of Education; of the President of Nazarene Theological Seminary, and of one delegate for the first twenty-five or fewer missionaries on each foreign mission field, and one additional delegate for the next fifty missionaries or final major fraction thereof, nominated by the district council and elected by the Department of Foreign Missions. In the absence of such nomination the representative shall be elected by the Department of Foreign Missions. [30 §§ 1-3, 179 § 23, 340, 353, 364, 373, 456]

**327.** Assembly Districts shall be entitled to representation in the General Assembly as follows: two elders and two laymen from each Assembly District of one thousand or fewer church members, and one additional elder and

one additional layman for each successive seventeen hundred and fifty members and the final major part of seventeen hundred and fifty members. [30 §§ 1-3, 179 § 23]

**328.** The right of a ministerial delegate-elect to the General Assembly to represent the District Assembly electing him shall be vacated in case he shall accept a pastoral charge or the office of District Superintendent on another Assembly District prior to the convening of the General Assembly.

**329.** The right of a lay delegate-elect to the General Assembly to represent the District Assembly electing him shall be vacated in case he shall remove his church membership to some local church on another Assembly District prior to the convening of the General Assembly.

### **III. The Time and Place of Meeting**

**330.** The General Assembly shall meet in the month of June, every fourth year from the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, at such time and place as shall be determined by a General Assembly Commission composed of the General Superintendents and an equal number of persons chosen by the Board of General Superintendents. The General Superintendents and said commission shall also have power, in case of an emergency, to change the time and place of the meeting of the General Assembly.

**331.** The General Assembly shall open on Sunday with a full day of devotional and in-

spirational services. Provision shall be made for the orderly and careful transaction of business, and for such services at the close of the session as it may order. The General Assembly shall fix the time at which its session shall adjourn. [30 § 4]

#### **IV. Special Sessions**

**332.** The Board of General Superintendents, or a majority thereof, by and with the written consent of two-thirds of all the District Superintendents, shall have power to call a special session of the General Assembly in case of an emergency, the time and place thereof to be determined by the General Superintendents and a commission chosen by the Board of General Superintendents.

**333.** In case of a special session of the General Assembly, the delegates and alternates to the last preceding General Assembly, or their duly elected and qualified successors, shall serve as delegates and alternates to the special session.

#### **V. General Assembly Arrangements Committee**

**334.** The General Secretary, the General Treasurer, and three persons appointed by the Board of General Superintendents at least one year before the convening of the General Assembly shall constitute the General Assembly arrangements committee.

**335.** The General Assembly arrangements committee shall have authority to arrange all necessary details regarding offices, exhibits



and space, entertainment and meals, and whatever else may be needful to contribute to the comfort, convenience, and efficiency of the General Assembly, and enter into contracts necessary to provide the same.

**336.** The General Assembly arrangements committee with the General Superintendents shall formulate a program for the General Assembly, including anniversaries for each of the general interests; a communion service; and other religious services for the first three days of the General Assembly or until a committee on public worship shall have been appointed; all of which program shall be subject to approval by the General Assembly.

## **VI. Business of General Assembly**

**337.** The business of the General Assembly, subject to Part Three, Article IV, Section 9, of the Church Constitution, shall be: [30 § 9]

§ 1. To elect, by a two-thirds vote of its members present and voting, as many General Superintendents as it may deem necessary, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified; provided that the first ballot shall be a "yes" or "no" ballot for the General Superintendents then serving and any vacancies remaining after the first ballot shall be filled by ensuing ballots until the elections are completed. No person shall be elected to the office of General Superintendent who has not attained the age of

thirty-five years, or has reached the age of seventy years. [30 § 5, 338, 588 § 1]

§ 2. To elect a General Superintendent to the emeritus relation when deemed advisable, provided he shall have become disabled or shall have reached his seventieth birthday, and shall have served as general superintendent for three or more quadrennia. It is thereby understood that his election to emeritus relation is of life tenure. [354]

§ 3. To place in the retired relation a General Superintendent who has attained to the age of seventy years, or who, in the judgment of the General Assembly, has become disqualified by physical disability, or by old age, or by any other disqualification that would prevent him from caring adequately for the work of the General Superintendency; and provided that he has served in the office of General Superintendent for a reasonable term of years. The General Assembly may grant retired relation when a General Superintendent who has attained the age of sixty-five years requests it. [354]

§ 4. To fix a suitable retirement pension for each retired General Superintendent. [594]

§ 5. To elect a General Secretary, as provided in § 14 herein, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [337 § 14, 363, 588 § 2]

§ 6. To elect a General Treasurer, as provided in § 14 herein, who shall hold office until

the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [337 § 14, 372, 588 § 3]

§ 7. To elect a General Board, as provided in 381 §§ 1-5, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [377, 382, 589 § 1]

§ 8. To elect a General Board of Foreign Missions, a General Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, a General Board of Church Extension, a General Board of Ministerial Relief, a General Orphanage Board, and a General Board of Education, each having five members, to hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [414, 422, 424, 430, 446, 452, 464]

§ 9. To elect seven persons to be members of the Nazarene Publishing House, a corporation, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [438]

§ 10. To elect a General Court of Appeals, consisting of five elders, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [30, § 8, 474 § 3, 589 § 2]

§ 11. To elect a Book Committee of seven members who are available for regular meetings in Kansas City, one of whom shall be a representative of the Nazarene Publishing

House, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [433, 589 § 3]

§ 12. To elect a Board of Trustees for the Nazarene Theological Seminary, as provided in 459 to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly, and until their successors are elected and qualified. [589 § 6]

§ 13. To elect an Editor of the *Herald of Holiness*, as provided in § 14 herein, who shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. He shall be an ex officio member of the General Assembly. [326, 435, 588 § 4]

§ 14. To form a Committee on Special Nominations composed as follows: The General Assembly Committee on Nominations shall select as many persons as there are General Superintendents, who jointly with the Board of General Superintendents shall constitute the Committee on Special Nominations. The Committee on Special Nominations shall nominate to the General Assembly three persons for each of the following offices: General Secretary, General Treasurer, and Editor of *Herald of Holiness*. From these nominations the General Assembly shall elect one person to each office. [337 §§ 5, 6, 13]

§ 15. To do anything else, in harmony with the Holy Scriptures, that wisdom may dictate for the general welfare of the Church of the

Nazarene and the holy cause of Christ, subject to the Church Constitution. [30 § 9]

## VII. The General Superintendents

**338.** The General Superintendents, elected by the General Assembly, shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [337 § 1]

**339.** A General Superintendent shall hold no other general office in the church during his term of office as General Superintendent. [349]

**340.** The General Superintendents shall be members, ex officio, of the General Assembly. [326]

**341.** The duties of the General Superintendents shall be:

§ 1. To have general supervision of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the law and order as adopted by the General Assembly.

§ 2. To preside over the General Assembly and over the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene, jointly and severally [324, 388]

§ 3. To ordain, or appoint others to ordain, in connection with the elders present, those who have been duly elected to be elders. [268]

**342.** A General Superintendent shall preside over each District Assembly; or, should he be hindered, shall make suitable arrangements for such presidency. [177, 195]

**343.** The General Superintendent having jurisdiction may, after consulting with the Dis-

trict Superintendent, organize local churches or recognize the local churches already organized, wherever there may seem to be need and providential openings. He may appoint pastors to have charge of such local churches until such time as pastors may be duly elected. [42, 192 § 1, 275]

344. The General Superintendent presiding over a District Assembly, the District Superintendent, and the district advisory board, in concurrence with the delegates of local churches, shall appoint pastors over such local churches as have not regularly called pastors. [83, 216 § 3]

345. The General Superintendents, jointly and severally, may appoint District Superintendents over Assembly Districts where vacancies occur. [191]

346. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction shall appoint an elder to fill a vacancy that may occur in a district court of appeals in the interim of sessions of the District Assembly. [179 § 21, 472]

347. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction may preside at the annual, or a special, meeting of a local church, or appoint someone to represent him. [60]

348. The General Superintendent having jurisdiction may, prior to the convening of the District Assembly, appoint a nominating committee to serve during the annual session of the District Assembly. [178]

349. The General Superintendents shall not be members of any of the general boards of the Church of the Nazarene. [339]

350. All official acts of the General Superintendents shall be subject to review and revision by the General Assembly.

351. Any official act of a General Superintendent may be nullified by a unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Board of General Superintendents.

352. The office of any General Superintendent may be declared vacant, for cause, by the unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Board of General Superintendents, supported by a majority vote of all the District Superintendents.

#### **VIII. General Superintendents Emeritus and Retired General Provisions**

353. All General Superintendents Emeritus and Retired General Superintendents shall be members ex officio of the General Assembly. [326]

354. A General Superintendent who has been elected to the emeritus relation or placed in the retired relation shall not be a member of the Board of General Superintendents, and shall be relieved of all official responsibility. [337 §§ 2-4]

#### **IX. The Board of General Superintendents**

355. The General Superintendents shall organize as a board, and arrange for and assign

to the members thereof the particular work over which they shall have special jurisdiction.

**356.** If a vacancy occur, by death or otherwise, in the Board of General Superintendents, in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, the General Secretary shall at once notify all District Superintendents of the Church of the Nazarene, who shall, by two-thirds vote of all, elect some elder of the Church of the Nazarene to fill the vacancy and to perform the duties of General Superintendent until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly. The question of calling for an election to fill the vacancy shall be decided by the Board of General Superintendents. [365]

**357.** The General Secretary shall report the result of the vote to the Board of General Superintendents, which shall announce the same to the Church of the Nazarene through the *Herald of Holiness*. [365]

**358.** The duties of the Board of General Superintendents shall be:

§ 1. To have supervision of the missionary work of the Church of the Nazarene in all foreign fields. These fields shall be visited as frequently as the Board of General Superintendents shall deem advisable. The responsibility for supervision may be assigned by the Board of General Superintendents to any one of their number for the period of the quadrennium. They shall approve or disapprove all



nominations made by the Department of Foreign Missions to the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene for appointment as foreign missionaries. [404 § 2, 407, 413]

§ 2. To have supervision of all general boards and the departments of the General Board. The policies and plans adopted by any board or department shall have the approval of the Board of General Superintendents. The Board of General Superintendents shall have the privilege of making to the General Board and to the departments thereof such recommendations as they shall deem advisable. [404 § 2, 417 § 1, 423 § 1, 429 § 1, 432 § 1, 440 § 1, 448 § 1, 453, 454]

§ 3. To make nominations to the General Board for filling any vacancy that may occur in the following offices during the interim of sessions of the General Assembly: General Secretary, General Treasurer, Editor of *Herald of Holiness*. [365, 374, 398, 435]

§ 4. To fill vacancies that may occur in the membership of the General Court of Appeals in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly. [475 § 1, 589 § 2]

§ 5. To approve the appointments and elections made by the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene in filling vacancies that may occur in its membership. [383]

§ 6. To fill vacancies, upon nominations made by the remaining members thereof, in the following corporate bodies, namely, General Board of Foreign Missions, General Board of

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of Home Missions and Evangelism, General Board  
F Church Extension, General Orphanage  
Board, General Board of Ministerial Relief,  
General Board of Education, and the Nazarene  
Publishing House. [414, 422, 424, 430, 438, 446,  
452]

§ 7. To appoint one of the General Superintendents to serve on the General Council of the Nazarene Young People's Society. [589 § 4]

§ 8. To appoint annually a General Superintendent to have jurisdiction of each of our educational institutions. [441]

§ 9. To appoint General Superintendents to serve as sponsors of the Board of Trustees of Nazarene Theological Seminary and all departments of the General Board. [589 § 6]

§ 10. In conjunction with the Department of Education to arrange courses of study for local preachers, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, song evangelists, ministers of music, and directors of Christian education. [440 § 10, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587]

§ 11. The Board of General Superintendents, with the General Board, is authorized and empowered to apportion the general budget to the several Assembly Districts. [394]

**359.** The Board of General Superintendents shall be the authority for the interpretation of the law and doctrine of the Church of the Nazarene, and the meaning and force of all provisions of the *Manual*, subject to an appeal to the General Assembly.

360. The Board of General Superintendents shall consider and pass upon plans for district centers, which plans shall not be carried out until they have been approved in writing by the Board of General Superintendents. [216 § 9]

361. The Board of General Superintendents shall have discretionary power in the ordaining of divorced persons to the office of elder in the Church of the Nazarene, provided such divorced persons have scriptural grounds for divorce. [255 § 5, 267]

362. The Board of General Superintendents shall have authority to do anything else in the service of the Church of the Nazarene, not otherwise provided for, according to the dictates of its wisdom, in harmony with our general church order, and subject to the Church Constitution.

#### X. The General Secretary

363. The General Secretary, elected by the General Assembly, as hereinbefore provided [337 § 14], shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [337 § 5, 588 § 2]

364. The General Secretary shall be a member, ex officio, of the General Assembly. [326]

365. If in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly a vacancy should occur in

the office of General Secretary for any cause, it shall be filled by the General Board, upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 3, 398]

**366.** The General Secretary shall be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

**367.** The duties of the General Secretary shall be:

§ 1. To record correctly and preserve the journal of the proceedings of the General Assembly.

§ 2. To record correctly and preserve all general statistics of the Church of the Nazarene.

§ 3. To preserve all documents belonging to the General Assembly, and promptly deliver the same to his successor.

§ 4. To preserve carefully, in permanent form, all decisions rendered by the General Court of Appeals. [477]

§ 5. To file and preserve all surrendered credentials of ministers and deliver them only on proper order made by the District Assembly of the Assembly District from which they were received. [295]

§ 6. To audit Assembly District statistical charts for publication. [206 § 3]

§ 7. To do faithfully whatever else may be necessary for the fulfillment of his office. [356, 357]

368. The General Secretary shall be the custodian of, and hold in trust, such legal documents as belong to the general church.

369. The General Secretary, in conjunction with the General Superintendents, shall, prior to the opening of the General Assembly, prepare all necessary forms, including *Rules of Order*, *Manual Abridgment* for revision, and other things necessary for expediting the work of the General Assembly. The expense incurred shall be provided for out of the General Assembly expense fund.

370. The General Secretary is authorized to collect available historic material relating to the rise and development of our denomination, and shall be the custodian of all such records and material.

371. The General Secretary may have as many assistants for his work as the General Assembly shall elect, or, in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, the Board of General Superintendents may appoint.

### **XI. The General Treasurer**

372. The General Treasurer, elected by the General Assembly, as hereinbefore provided, [337 § 14] shall serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified. [337 § 6, 588 § 3]

373. The General Treasurer shall be a member, ex officio, of the General Assembly. [326]

**374.** If, in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, a vacancy should occur in the office of General Treasurer, for any cause, it shall be filled by the General Board, upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents. [358, § 3, 398]

**375.** The General Treasurer shall be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

**376.** The duties of the General Treasurer shall be:

§ 1. To have the custody of all funds belonging to the general interests of the Church of the Nazarene.

§ 2. To receive, and disburse on order, the funds of the Department of Foreign Missions, the Department of Home Missions, the Department of Evangelism, the Department of Publication, the Department of Ministerial Benevolence, the Department of Education, and the Department of Church Schools, and such other funds as properly belong to the General Board, or to any of its departments; the General Superintendents' fund; the general contingent fund; the General Assembly expense fund; other general benevolent church funds; the funds of the General Nazarene Young People's Society; and the funds of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. [380]

§ 3. To give bond for the faithful performance of his duties, in a reliable surety company,

in a good and sufficient sum, as the General Board may direct.

§ 4. To furnish such reports to the boards and departments, for whose funds he may be custodian, as may be required by them.

§ 5. To furnish to the General Board an annual report of all finances of the Church of the Nazarene, including investments. [395]

§ 6. To safeguard annuity funds invested in real estate by proper insurance policies and to provide against the lapsing of such policies.

§ 7. To secure monthly reports of receipts and disbursements from all schools, orphanages, rescue homes, and other institutions of the Church of the Nazarene.

## **XII. The General Board**

377. The General Board of the Church of the Nazarene shall be composed of members who shall be elected by ballot by the General Assembly from among the persons nominated as provided in 381 §§ 1-6. To be elected to membership on the General Board as a representative of a geographical zone, or to remain a member of the General Board as a representative of a geographical zone, one must be a resident on that zone as well as a member of a local church on that zone. [337 § 7]

378. No one shall be eligible for election to the General Board or shall remain a member of the General Board who is an employee of

the General Board, or an employee of any department or institution controlled by the General Board, or deriving a major part of its operating funds from the General Board or General Church funds, or an employee of any of our educational institutions, except as provided in 381 § 4.

**379.** The General Secretary shall be, ex officio, secretary of the General Board.

**380.** The General Treasurer of the Church of the Nazarene shall be, ex officio, treasurer of the General Board and also of the departments thereof. [376 § 2]

**381.** Nominations for the General Board shall be made as herein provided:

§ 1. The delegations representing the assembly districts of each geographical zone in the United States shall nominate to the General Assembly twice the number to be elected to the General Board on the following basis of representation: two laymen and two elders, one of whom shall be a pastor, from each geographical zone of forty thousand members or less, and one layman and one additional elder for the next forty thousand or major fraction thereof, with the provision that no geographical zone shall be entitled to more than a total of six representatives. No district shall have more than one nominee until each district of the zone shall have been represented by a nomination. Those elected by the General Assembly by ballot as herein provided shall be members of



the General Board [337 § 7, 382, 564-70, 589 § 1]

§ 2. The delegations representing the British Commonwealth Zones shall nominate to the General Assembly two elders and two laymen from the Dominion of Canada and two elders from the British Isles from which the General Assembly shall elect by ballot one elder and one layman from Canada and one elder from the British Isles to be members of the General Board. [337 § 7, 570, 589 § 1]

§ 3. The General Council of the Nazarene Young People's Society shall nominate to the General Assembly two members of the General Council, and one of the persons so nominated shall, if acceptable, be elected by the General Assembly to serve on the General Board. [455, 589 § 1]

§ 4. The General Assembly Committee on Education shall nominate to the General Assembly four persons from our educational institutions, two elders and two laymen, one each of whom so nominated shall, if acceptable, be elected by the General Assembly to serve on the General Board. No two of the nominees shall be from the same educational institution. [441]

§ 5. The General Council of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall nominate to the General Assembly two members of the General Council, one of whom so nominated shall, if acceptable, be elected by the General

Assembly to serve on the General Board. [458, 589 § 1]

382. The members of the General Board shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [337 § 7]. In the event that a member of the General Board shall move his church membership or his residence during the quadrennium from the zone which he represents, his membership shall be terminated immediately, and the vacancy so created shall be filled immediately in accordance with 383.

383. Vacancies occurring in the membership of the General Board, and also the departments thereof, shall be filled by the remaining members of the General Board, subject to the approval of the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 5]

384. The General Board of the Church of the Nazarene shall have the following departments, which are hereby established, membership in which departments shall be as provided by vote of the General Board, except that no department of the General Board shall have more than one-third of the membership of said Board:

1. Department of Foreign Missions [403]
2. Department of Home Missions [415]
3. Department of Ministerial Benevolence [428]
4. Department of Publication [431]

5. Department of Education [439]
6. Department of Church Schools [447]
7. Department of Evangelism [425]

All business transacted by said departments shall be subject to the approval of the General Board as hereinafter provided. [404, 417, 423, 426, 429, 432, 440, 448]

385. There shall be a General Co-ordinating Council to relate the work of the departments of the General Board which administer Christian education and evangelism.

This council shall be composed as follows: a member of the Board of General Superintendents, the executive secretaries of the departments of Church Schools, Evangelism, Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and the General Secretary of the N.Y.P.S., plus one layman and one pastor from each of these departments of the General Board elected by the respective departments.

This council shall meet annually to review the programs and publications of the respective departments, to deal with any problems of overlapping and conflict which may arise, and to consider assignment of department functions in the interest of effective administration. This council shall have no power to legislate or alter the basic structure of existing departments.

None of these departments or their divisions shall launch any new major program or publication without the review of the council and a two-thirds favorable vote of the council.

**POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE GENERAL BOARD**

**386.** The General Board shall promote the financial and material affairs of all the departments of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to such instructions as may be given by the General Assembly. It shall co-ordinate, correlate, and unify the plans and activities of the several constituent departments so that a unified policy may be established by and in all the activities of the Church of the Nazarene. It shall have the power to direct the auditing of the accounts of all departments and institutions relating to or associated with the Church of the Nazarene, with a view to securing such uniformity of method and completeness of form as shall be most efficient; and it shall be an advisory body in the business and administrative affairs of the several departments of the General Board and of all the organizations and institutions that are a part of, related to, or associated with this denomination. These departments, organizations, and institutions shall give due consideration to the advice and recommendations of the General Board.

**387.** The General Board shall have power to buy, own, hold, manage, mortgage, sell and convey and donate, or otherwise acquire, encumber and dispose of both real and personal property, sold, devised, bequeathed, donated or otherwise conveyed to it in trust for any lawful purpose, and to execute such trust; to borrow and to loan money in the execution of its lawful purposes.

388. The General Board shall meet before or immediately following the final adjournment of the General Assembly and shall organize by electing officers and committees, and members to departments as required by its articles of incorporation and bylaws, to serve until the next annual meeting of the General Board and until their successors are elected and qualified. The General Superintendents, jointly and severally, shall preside over the meetings of the General Board.

389. The General Board shall meet in annual session, at a time specified by the bylaws of the said Board, at Kansas City, Missouri; however, the hour, date, and place of the annual meeting may, by resolution unanimously adopted at any regular or special meeting, be changed to suit the best interests of the General Board and its departments. [Art. VII § 1, Bylaws General Board.]

390. Special meetings of the General Board may be called by the chairman, the president, or the secretary.

391. The General Board shall choose a finance committee consisting of one member from each department. For this finance committee each department shall have the right to nominate one of its own members. The finance committee shall have charge of the proper investment of trust funds. The General Board, after first referring to this committee all budget askings submitted by the several depart-

ments for the ensuing year, shall receive from the committee a report of its recommendations concerning each request. This committee shall perform any other work assigned to it by the General Board. It shall keep accurate minutes of all its meetings and submit them to the General Board for approval.

**392.** The General Board shall, at its annual meeting, receive from each of its departments a detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of the proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year. From these statements and the statement from the General Treasurer it shall determine the amount to be allotted from the general budget to each department and fund; however, the General Board shall have authority to increase or diminish the amount asked for any department or fund.

**393.** When the general budget with its proposed allotment to each department shall have been agreed upon, it shall be submitted to the Board of General Superintendents for its consideration and suggestions before final adoption by the General Board. The Board of General Superintendents may suggest changes in the proposed general budget and make recommendations in writing before the final adjournment of the General Board, and the General Board shall give due consideration to such suggestions and recommendations.

The general budget shall be the grand total of all department budgets and other funds to be raised by the whole denomination for the support, maintenance, and promotion of its general activities.

394. When the total amount of the general budget has been fixed for the next fiscal year by the General Board, the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents are authorized and empowered to apportion the general budget to the several Assembly Districts on a basis of equity to both the district and general interests affected. [358 § 11]

395. The General Treasurer shall annually present to the General Board a detailed financial report of receipts and disbursements of all funds of which he has been custodian during the past year, including trust funds and investments, together with a detailed statement of the proposed expenditures for the ensuing year of funds not included in the budgets of departments of the General Board. The General Treasurer shall be responsible to the General Board for the faithful performance of his duties. [376 § 5]

396. The General Board shall elect annually three persons residing within convenient distance of Kansas City, Missouri, to serve as members-at-large on the General Stewardship Committee for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. [460]

397. The General Board shall elect by ballot, from one or more nominations submitted by

the Nominating Committee, and approved by the Board of General Superintendents, a stewardship secretary to serve on the General Stewardship Committee until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified; however, he may be removed from such office for cause by a two-thirds vote of all members of the General Board, and with the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents. [460]

**398.** The General Board, during the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents, shall fill any vacancy which may occur in the following offices: General Secretary, General Treasurer, Editor of *Herald of Holiness*. [358 § 3, 365, 374, 435]

**399.** The General Board shall elect by ballot from one or more nominations submitted by each of the following—the Department of Foreign Missions, the Department of Home Missions, the Department of Church Schools, the Department of Education, the Department of Ministerial Benevolence, the Department of Publication, and the Department of Evangelism—and approved by the Board of General Superintendents, an executive secretary for each of these several departments to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified, unless removed from office for cause by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the



General Board and with the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents. [406, 417 § 4, 426 § 4, 429 § 4, 432 § 5, 440 §5]

The General Board shall fix the salary of these executive secretaries.

400. The General Board shall elect by ballot, from one or more nominations submitted by the Department of Church Schools jointly with the Board of General Superintendents, a person to be Editor in Chief of Church School Periodicals, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified, unless he is removed from such office for cause by a two-thirds vote of all members of the General Board, and with the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents. [436, 448 § 8]

The General Board shall fix the salary of the Editor in Chief of Church School Periodicals.

401. The General Board shall elect by ballot from one or more nominations submitted by the Department of Publication jointly with the Board of General Superintendents, a manager of the Nazarene Publishing House, to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until his successor is elected and qualified, unless he is removed from such office for cause by a two-thirds vote of all members of the General Board, and with the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents. [432]

The General Board shall fix the salary of the manager of the Nazarene Publishing House.

402. The General Board shall be organized into departments as hereinbefore provided:

§ 1. Each department shall meet before or immediately following the final adjournment of the General Assembly and organize by choosing a department chairman, a vice-chairman, and a recording secretary. The officers shall serve in the usual capacity of their respective offices. Department committees may be provided at the pleasure of each department.

§ 2. Each department shall meet as many days prior to the convening of the General Board as may be necessary to transact its business. Each department may hold special meetings when called by the chairman or by the recording secretary.

§ 3. Each department shall meet separately for the purpose of considering the business pertaining to that department. It shall formulate its plans and policies, prepare its budget, and submit a comprehensive report of the business transacted for the information and approval of the General Board. Any department shall on request furnish to the General Board any other information required.

§ 4. Each department shall file with the secretary of the General Board complete minutes of each meeting of the department.

§ 5. Each department may employ such help as it may deem necessary, provided it keeps within its disbursing budget.

§ 6. Each department shall prepare a report of all work done during the preceding four years, including funds received from all sources and the amounts and purposes for which disbursed, and a program of activities for the next succeeding quadrennium, and this report when approved shall become a part of the report of the General Board to the General Assembly.

§ 7. No department, organization, or institution that is a part of, related to, or associated with the Church of the Nazarene shall issue annuity bonds, life notes, or other similar financial contracts contrary to the advice of the General Board.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

403. The Department of Foreign Missions shall be composed of those members of the General Board assigned thereto. [384]

404. It shall be the duty of the Department of Foreign Missions: [384]

§ 1. To perform the work of diffusing Christianity more generally by supporting, maintaining, and promoting missionary activity and evangelism by the Church of the Nazarene in foreign mission territory.

§ 2. To supervise and administer the work of organizing, maintaining, and supporting

churches, mission schools, dispensaries, hospitals, and orphanages, and providing them with proper buildings, equipment, and workers; and do whatever else may be proper and necessary for the welfare and progress of foreign missionary work, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [358 §§ 1, 2]

§ 3. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this department.

§ 4. To approve or disapprove nominations for membership on the General Council of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. [457, 577 § 3]

405. Foreign mission territory shall consist of those countries considered advisable by the General Board for foreign missionary work.

406. The Foreign Missions Secretary, elected according to 399, shall give his undivided attention to such duties as properly belong to his office, and in such manner as the interests of the Church of the Nazarene may require in agreement with the Bylaws of the General Board and the policies adopted by the De-

partment of Foreign Missions and the General Board. [412]

407. Missionaries to foreign mission territory, both lay and ministerial, shall be appointed and commissioned by the General Board from nominations made by the Department of Foreign Missions, provided all such nominations shall have first been duly approved in writing by the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 1]

408. All lay missionaries appointed and commissioned by the General Board shall, by virtue thereof, be members of the District Assembly of their choice. [175]

409. The General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be an auxiliary of the Department of Foreign Missions and subject to its direction. [457]

410. A Missionary Study Committee shall be provided whose duty it shall be to authorize, supervise, and correlate all missionary study programs and material for the Church of the Nazarene, including study courses, missionary themes, topics and lines of study, to be used in whole or in part by any department or auxiliary. In case any phase of this study literature is not found adaptable to any department that department may provide such additional study material as shall be approved by the Committee.

411. Nominations to the Committee shall be selected in the following manner: One nominee

shall be selected by the Department of Foreign Missions, one by the Department of Home Missions, one by the Executive Committee of the General Council of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, one by the Department of Church Schools, one by the Department of Publication, and one by the General Council of the Nazarene Young People's Society; and these nominations shall be submitted to the General Board by the Department of Foreign Missions. The Foreign Missions Secretary, elected to that office by the General Board, shall be a member ex officio of the committee.

**412.** The compilation of rules and regulations to govern our foreign missionaries, native home missionaries, foreign mission fields, foreign missionary districts, native local churches, and native church members shall be known as the *Foreign Missionary Policy*.

§ 1. The *Foreign Missionary Policy* shall be adopted by the General Board and shall be subject to amendment from time to time by the General Board.

§ 2. Native local churches and foreign missionary districts may be organized in harmony with the *Foreign Missionary Policy* and shall be subject to the provisions and requirements of said *Policy*.

§ 3. Both native church members and licensed and ordained native ministers shall be subject to the provisions and requirements of the *Foreign Missionary Policy* until the foreign

missionary field or district shall have been organized into a regular Assembly District.

413. In case a foreign missionary district and the native local churches thereof shall become wholly self-supporting and shall be deemed by the District Superintendent and the mission council to be capable of functioning as regular local churches and a regular Assembly District, the procedure shall be as follows:

The District Superintendent and the mission council shall petition the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents for authorization to effect such organization in agreement with the Church Constitution and the *Manual*. Upon the issuance of such authorization the District Superintendent, or someone appointed by the Board of General Superintendents, shall effect the proper organization. Local churches so organized, and Assembly Districts so constituted, shall thereafter in all respects be subject to and governed by the provisions of the Church Constitution and the *Manual*.

414. The General Board of Foreign Missions, a corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, shall be composed of five members elected by the General Assembly, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies therein shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents from nominations made by the re-

maintaining members of the corporation. [337 § 8, 358 § 6]

### THE DEPARTMENT OF HOME MISSIONS

**415.** The Department of Home Missions shall be composed of those members of the General Board assigned thereto. [384]

**416.** The Department of Home Missions shall function clearly in the two distinct divisions of its work, namely, home missions and church extension.

### HOME MISSIONS

**417.** It shall be the duty of the Department of Home Missions in the division of Home Missions: [384]

§ 1. To perform the work of diffusing Christianity more generally by supporting, maintaining, and promoting all phases of church work and missionary activity conducted by the Church of the Nazarene in the home territory, including work among foreign-speaking people and others not cared for by regular pastors, excepting work that is assigned to the Department of Foreign Missions, and all work in whatever country carried on, as may be assigned to it by the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents, with all such activities subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 2]



§ 2. To encourage the organization of churches and otherwise to extend Christianity and the Church of the Nazarene.

§ 3. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this division of work.

§ 4. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which an executive secretary shall be elected according to 399.

418. An Assembly District having not more than eight hundred members may become a home mission district by majority vote of the District Assembly and at the discretion of the General Board.

The District Superintendent of such home mission district shall be nominated by the Board of General Superintendents and elected by vote of the District Assembly. In case the nomination be rejected by the vote of the District Assembly, the General Superintendent presiding shall continue submitting nominations until there is an election by vote of the District Assembly.

419. An Assembly District having home missionary needs it is unable to supply with its

own resources may be eligible to consideration for assistance from the Department of Home Missions in its division of home missions.

**420.** All requests for grants of home mission funds shall be accompanied by reasons therefor, and shall be filed in writing with the Secretary of the Department of Home Missions. Such requests shall be submitted to the Board of General Superintendents for review. No appropriation shall be made by the Department of Home Missions without the written approval of the Board of General Superintendents.

**421.** The distribution of home missionary funds, whether for work among foreigners in the homeland, or for home missionary activities in recognized Assembly Districts, shall be made through the district advisory board of the Assembly District in which the work is being conducted, with the exception of work assigned to the Department of Foreign Missions.

**422.** The General Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, a corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, shall be composed of five members elected by the General Assembly, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies therein shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents from nominations made by the remaining members of the corporation.  
[337 § 8, 358 § 6]

## CHURCH EXTENSION

423. It shall be the duty of the Department of Home Missions in the division of Church Extension: [384]

§ 1. To perform the work of promoting the cause of providing and constructing suitable church buildings for local congregations of the Church of the Nazarene, and of suitable parsonages for the use of its pastors, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [229 § 1, 358 § 2]

§ 2. To devise means by which funds may be secured, held, and managed for its purpose; to make loans from its loan funds and grants from its gift funds under regulations approved by the General Board; to give careful study to proposed church locations and building sites and to make such recommendations therein as it may deem advisable; to furnish such assistance in devising building plans and to supply such architectural service as its facilities and means may provide; to assist local churches in raising funds for new buildings and for liquidating indebtedness on church property; and to assist local churches to incorporate and establish valid titles to church property. [115, 119, 229 §§ 1-5]

§ 3. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities

and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this division of work.

424. The General Board of Church Extension, a corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, shall be composed of five members elected by the General Assembly, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies therein shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents from nominations made by the remaining members of the corporation. [337 § 8, 358 § 6]

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM

425. The Department of Evangelism shall be composed of those members of the General Board assigned thereto. [384]

426. It shall be the duty of the Department of Evangelism: [384]

§ 1. To promote an aggressive evangelism throughout the Church of the Nazarene and to co-operate in every way with the General Superintendents, the District Superintendents, the pastors, and the evangelists in the work of evangelism; to inspire members of our local churches to zeal in soul winning through intercessory prayer, personal evangelism, and the distribution of gospel literature.

§ 2. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this division of work.

§ 3. To perform all other duties relative to evangelism as may be assigned by the General Board.

§ 4. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which an executive secretary shall be elected according to 399.

427. The work of the Crusade for Souls Commission has been referred to the Department of Evangelism by action of the Fifteenth General Assembly, 1960.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF MINISTERIAL BENEVOLENCE

428. The Department of Ministerial Benevolence shall be composed of those members of the General Board assigned thereto. [384]

429. It shall be the duty of the Department of Ministerial Benevolence: [384]

§ 1. To perform the work of providing for the temporal support of disabled ministers,

aged ministers and their needy dependents, and the widows and orphans of ministers of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 2]

§ 2. To devise means by which funds may be secured, held, and managed for its purposes, to make appropriations from its funds for the aid of needy and disabled ministers and the needy and disabled members of the ministers' families, under regulations approved by the General Board; to carry out such plans for funds, relief, support, and pensions as may be authorized by the General Assembly or by the General Board; to control, manage, and supervise such old people's homes as may be established or approved by the General Assembly or by the General Board. [189, 216 § 6, 265, 276, 292]

§ 3. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of the proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this department.

§ 4. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which an execu-

tive secretary of the department shall be elected according to 399.

**430.** The General Board of Ministerial Relief, a corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, shall be composed of five members elected by the General Assembly, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies therein shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents from nominations made by the remaining members of the corporation. [337 § 8, 358 § 6]

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICATION

**431.** The Department of Publication shall be composed of those members of the General Board assigned thereto. [384]

**432.** It shall be the duty of the Department of Publication: [384]

§ 1. To perform the work of spreading Christianity, by the publication, sale, and distribution of moral and religious literature, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 2]

§ 2. To have the general supervision and management of all publications affecting the interests of the Church of the Nazarene, to conduct a systematic distribution of Bibles, books, tracts, and gospel literature; and to provide such literature and other materials as may

be deemed necessary for the interests of the denomination, except as otherwise authorized in paragraph 433. [233]

§ 3. To provide the church with an attractive and varied line of tracts and to promote the work of tract distribution.

Policy regarding types of tracts, format, number of items to be carried, and plans for programs of distribution shall be supervised by a committee including one member from the Nazarene Publishing House (chairman ex officio) and one member each from the staffs of the Department of Home Missions, the Department of Evangelism, the Department of Foreign Missions, the Department of Church Schools, the Nazarene Young People's Society, the Christian Service Training Commission, and one representative from the General Stewardship Committee.

Before publication, all tracts shall have the approval of the Book Committee. [433]

Tracts shall be published by the Nazarene Publishing House under its own imprint or under one of its trade imprints. Establishment of tract prices shall rest with the Nazarene Publishing House.

§ 4. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; no



budget, however, shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this department. Upon the basis of such reports and statements the Department of Publication shall determine and reserve that portion of the net profits of the Nazarene Publishing House for the preceding year necessary to meet its financial obligations and finance its business of the current year. The entire balance of the net profits, if any, shall be applied to the benevolent work of the Church of the Nazarene as directed by the General Assembly.

§ 5. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which an executive secretary of the department shall be elected according to 399.

§ 6. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which a manager of the Nazarene Publishing House shall be elected according to 401.

433. The Book Committee, in conjunction with the management of the Nazarene Publishing House, shall arrange for books and tracts deemed advisable for publication.

No book or tract, except songbooks, shall be published with the sanction of the Church of the Nazarene or the Nazarene Publishing House, or have the imprint of the Nazarene Publishing House or any of its trade names, unless approved in writing by a majority of

the members of the Book Committee, and by them recommended for publication; and no book from other publishers may be advertised in any of our periodicals unless the book has been read and authorization for its advertisement has been given by the Book Committee. [337 § 11, 432 § 3]

434. There shall be an advisory committee to the Book Committee composed of a General Superintendent and the executive officers of all departments, committees, or commissions which initiate and are responsible for the publication of books or tracts. The book committee may also invite to this advisory group other persons who, because of their specialization in Biblical, theological, or other fields, may give valuable counsel in planning the permanent literature of the church.

435. The Editor of the *Herald of Holiness* shall perform such duties as generally belong to the editorial office, and in such a manner as the interests of the Church of the Nazarene may require, and in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon between the Editor and the Department of Publication. In matters of denominational polity and doctrine he shall be governed by the recommendation of the Board of General Superintendents. [337 § 13, 588 § 4]

He shall be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

If, in the interim of sessions of the General Assembly, a vacancy should occur in the editorship of the *Herald of Holiness*, it shall

be filled by the General Board, upon nomination by the Board of General Superintendents. [398]

436. The Editor-in-Chief of Church School Periodicals shall perform such duties as generally belong to that office, in such a manner as the interests of the Church of the Nazarene may require, and in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon by the Department of Church Schools and the Department of Publication. In matters of denominational polity and doctrine he shall be governed by the recommendations of the Board of General Superintendents. [400]

He shall be amenable to the Board of General Superintendents and the General Board.

437. The manager of the Nazarene Publishing House, elected according to 401, shall conduct the business of the Nazarene Publishing House in agreement with the Bylaws of the General Board and the policies adopted by the Department of Publication and the Board of General Superintendents.

438. The Nazarene Publishing House, a corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, shall be composed of seven members elected by the General Assembly, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies therein shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents from nominations made by the remaining members of the corporation. [337 § 9, 358 § 6]

## THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**439.** The Department of Education shall be composed of those members of the General Board assigned thereto. [384]

**440.** It shall be the duty of the Department of Education: [384]

§ 1. To perform the work of promoting the cause of education, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 2]

§ 2. To sustain an advisory relationship to all educational institutions now and hereafter related to or associated with the Church of the Nazarene in matters of courses of study, of buildings, location, general business and administrative policy.

§ 3. To awaken proper interest in education; to encourage the schools and colleges to attain higher standards and greater efficiency; to determine the number of schools and colleges that may receive financial support from this department; and to declare their classification and standards, and the supporting territory of each.

§ 4. To prepare an annual report of (1) its own activities for the past year, including a financial statement, and (2) a general report of the activities and finances of each educational institution, together with (3) a more or less detailed statement of the proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the

ensuing year of the department, and also (4) a more or less detailed statement of the proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing year of each school or college, and (5) of the amount proposed to be allotted to each institution, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval. No budget shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly.

§ 5. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which an executive secretary of the department shall be elected according to 399.

§ 6. To create and maintain an educational fund for the expense of the department and the promotion of its work, and also for the purpose of assisting the educational institutions under its supervision. It shall receive such funds as may be contributed to it for educational purposes through gifts and donations, or through the general budget funds of the church, and shall annually appropriate to each educational institution such an amount as the department may determine for the purpose of assisting such institutions to meet their current operating expenses.

The department shall also have power to administer any and all other funds, gifts, donations, or bequests that may be committed to it for educational purposes; and to solicit and create special funds for scholarships, endowments, or other purposes of the department,

and to administer these funds under such rules and regulations as it may adopt.

§ 7. To make such recommendations to the management of each educational institution as in its judgment will serve to increase its efficiency.

§ 8. To determine, and advise at least quadrennially, the minimum requirements to be maintained for admission, for graduation, for promotion to baccalaureate or other degrees in the educational institutions recognized by the Church of the Nazarene. The requirements thus established shall provide in all cases for the historical, literary, practical, and devotional study of the Bible.

§ 9. To have charge of all matters pertaining to general moral education. This department shall provide that a brief course in moral education be given annually in schools under the supervision of the Church of the Nazarene, and that as many local churches as possible be reached with moral instruction.

§ 10. In conjunction with the Board of General Superintendents to arrange courses of study for local preachers, licensed ministers, licensed deaconesses, song evangelists, ministers of music, and directors of Christian education. [358 § 10, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587]

441. The schools and colleges now and hereby recognized as under the auspices of the Church of the Nazarene, and the zones for

educational purposes sanctioned by the General Assembly are:

- (1) Eastern Nazarene College, Eastern Zone [557]
- (2) Trevecca Nazarene College, Southeast Zone [558]
- (3) Olivet Nazarene College, Central Zone [559]
- (4) Bethany Nazarene College, West Central Zone [560]
- (5) Pasadena College, Southwest Zone [561]
- (6) Northwest Nazarene College, Northwest Zone [562]
- (7) Canadian Nazarene College, Canadian Nazarene College Zone [563]
- (8) British Isles Nazarene College
- (9) Nazarene Theological Seminary

**442.** Each educational institution shall prepare an annual detailed report of its activities during the past year, including a financial report duly audited by a public accountant, and a detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures together with a statement of probable income, as its budget for the ensuing year, and shall forward this report to the Department of Education.

**443.** No educational institution shall employ or retain permanently in its employment any faculty member who is not in full accord with the doctrine of, and in the experience of, entire sanctification, and who is not in full

agreement and sympathy with the Bible doctrines and usages held by the Church of the Nazarene as set forth in the Church Constitution and the *Manual* of government of said church.

444. No educational institution of the Church of the Nazarene shall hereafter be established or receive support from the funds of the department unless its plans and organization have first been submitted to the Department of Education for approval; and no institution shall continue to receive regular support unless its educational standards, plan of organization, and financial methods are approved by the Department of Education.

445. The Department of Education may recommend to the General Board and to the Board of General Superintendents, and to the trustees of the schools affected thereby, that two or more schools be merged or otherwise disposed of, whenever in its judgment the highest educational interests of the denomination will be conserved by so doing.

446. The General Board of Education, a corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, shall be composed of five members elected by the General Assembly, who shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies therein shall be filled by the Board of General Superintendents from nominations made by the remaining members of the corporation. [337 § 8, 358 § 6]



## DEPARTMENT OF CHURCH SCHOOLS

447. The Department of Church Schools shall be composed of those members of the General Board assigned thereto. [384]

448. It shall be the duty of the Department of Church Schools: [384]

§ 1. To perform the work of promoting Christian education and the training of church school workers in the local churches of the Church of the Nazarene. It shall have full supervision of the work of the church school in harmony with the doctrines of the Church of the Nazarene and the program of the General Assembly and the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [137, 241, 358 § 2]

§ 2. To promote the organization and work of Sunday schools, vacation Bible schools, and weekday Bible schools, and provide courses of study and lesson helps therefor; to promote interest in Bible study and mission study (mission study policies, program, and materials subject to the approval of the Department of Foreign Missions), and provide materials for the same; to arrange for such expressional activities as are in harmony with the spirit and teaching of the Church of the Nazarene; in co-operation with the Christian Service Training Commission to promote the work of Christian Service Training as it relates to the preparation of workers for their tasks in the

church schools, provide courses of study, texts, and instructions for the same; to arrange for and conduct, and to assist district church school boards in arranging and conducting conventions and Christian Service Training institutes and schools; to provide standards of efficiency; to arrange for the publishing of such papers, periodicals, and pamphlets as may be needed for the successful prosecution of these objects, and employ the necessary office and field workers.

§ 3. To plan and provide for a General Church Schools convention to be constituted with delegates elected from the districts by the district church schools conventions in such manner and at such a time as the department shall determine. [239]

§ 4. To meet annually as a Curriculum Committee in consultation with the sponsoring General Superintendent. This committee shall be responsible for reviewing carefully, modifying as seems desirable, and giving final approval to all curricular materials which are provided for the use of our church schools. Publication plans shall be in harmony with the editorial policy agreed upon by the Department of Church Schools and the Department of Publication. [358 § 9, 436]

§ 5. To prepare an annual detailed report of its activities for the past year, including a financial report, together with a more or less detailed statement of its proposed activities and expenditures as its budget for the ensuing

year, and submit the same to the General Board at its annual meeting for approval; however, no budget shall be in excess of the goal set by the General Assembly for this department.

§ 6. To recommend to the General Board an amount to be placed in the general budget for the purpose of carrying on the work of this department, the amount to be within the limits of any goal that may be set by the General Assembly for this department. All actual disbursements shall not exceed the amount received for this department.

§ 7. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which an executive secretary of the department shall be elected according to 399.

§ 8. To submit to the General Board one or more nominations approved by the Board of General Superintendents from which an Editor in Chief of Church Schools periodicals shall be elected according to 400.

### **XIII. Christian Service Training Commission**

449. There shall be a Commission on Christian Service Training including a General Superintendent, the executive secretaries of the Department of Church Schools, the Nazarene Young People's Society, the Department of Education, the Department of Evangelism,

the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, and the manager of the Nazarene Publishing House.

§ 1. The Commission shall meet within thirty days after the close of the General Assembly and elect a Chairman and a Secretary to serve until the close of the quadrennium or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

§ 2. The Commission shall operate as an interdepartmental service organization for all agencies of the general church which develop training courses for use in the local church.

§ 3. The Commission shall be responsible for approval and publication of (1) all courses in the area of leadership education; (2) for such other elective courses as may be assigned to it by any of the established departments or agencies of the church; (3) the Commission may initiate such training courses as are needed by the local church or other groups which are not clearly within the jurisdiction of other agencies of the general church.

§ 4. The Commission shall be responsible for promoting the work of Christian Service Training throughout the church and for its entire membership; for providing courses of study, texts, and teacher guides for the same, and for issuing certificates of progress; for arranging for local classes, correspondence work, and area and district schools for Christian Service Training.

§ 5. The Commission may employ a Director and such office assistants as may be needed. The Director shall be amenable to the Commission and shall report annually to the General Board.

The operating budget shall be prepared annually by the Director, approved by the Commission, and recommended to the General Board for adoption.

#### **XIV. The Executive Board in Canada**

450. The Executive Board in Canada, incorporated in 1946 under the title "The Executive Board of the Church of the Nazarene, Dominion of Canada," shall be recognized as the lawful authority of the Church of the Nazarene in Canada in all matters relative to the acquiring, holding, selling, and conveying of property within the Dominion, as outlined in the Articles of Incorporation.

The Executive Board shall be composed of the duly elected District Superintendents of the Assembly Districts of the Church of the Nazarene in Canada. Minutes of the annual meetings of the Executive Board shall be read and approved by the General Board.

#### **XV. British Advisory Council**

451. There may be set up in Britain a permanent organization known as the British Advisory Council of the Church of the Nazarene to speak and act for the said church in

the British Isles on such occasions when united action is called for. The Council shall have no legislative or administrative authority and shall be composed of equal representation from all districts in the British Isles.

#### **XVI. The General Orphanage Board**

**452.** The General Orphanage Board, consisting of five members, shall be elected by the General Assembly to serve until the final adjournment of the next General Assembly and until their successors are elected and qualified. [337 § 8, 358 § 6]

**453.** The General Orphanage Board shall have charge of the orphanage interests of the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the approval of the General Assembly and the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 2]

#### **XVII. The General Nazarene Young People's Society**

**454.** The General Nazarene Young People's Society shall be composed of all district and local Nazarene Young People's Societies.

It shall be governed by the constitution of the General Nazarene Young People's Society approved by the General Assembly. [See Constitution, 576]

**455.** The General Nazarene Young People's Society shall be represented on the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene by one member elected thereto by the General As-

sembly from nominations made by the General Council of the General Nazarene Young People's Society. [381 § 3]

456. There shall be a General Quadrennial Convention, which shall meet at a time fixed by the General Council in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents. The General Quadrennial Convention shall be composed of such members as are designated in 576 § 3.

The General Convention shall elect a General Secretary, who shall be, ex officio, a member of the General Assembly. [326]

#### **XVIII. The General Council of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society**

457. The General Council of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be composed of the General President and of that number of members prescribed by the Constitution of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society and elected in accordance therewith. [404 § 4, 577 § 3]

The General Council of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be governed by the Constitution of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. This organization shall be auxiliary to the Department of Foreign Missions. [409, 577 § 3]

458. The General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society shall be represented on the

General Board by one member elected thereto by the General Assembly from nominations made by the General Council of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. [381 § 5]

459. There shall be a Quadrennial Convention held under the direction of the General Council of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society at the same time as, or immediately preceding, the regular meeting of the General Assembly. This Convention shall elect the General Council of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society in harmony with the Constitution. The Convention shall elect a General President, who shall be a member ex officio of the General Council of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society and also a member ex officio of the General Assembly. [326, 404 § 4, 577 § 3]

### **XIX. The General Stewardship Committee**

460. There shall be a General Stewardship Committee composed of the executive secretary of each of the departments of the General Board, the General Secretary of the General Nazarene Young People's Society, the General Secretary of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, the Manager of the Nazarene Publishing House, the Editor of the *Herald of Holiness*, the Editor-in-Chief of Church School Periodicals, the General Secretary, the General Treasurer, Stewardship Secretary elected by the General



Board, and the three members-at-large residing within convenient distance of Kansas City, Missouri, elected by the General Board. [396, 397]

The General Stewardship Committee shall promote the whole cause of Christian stewardship in the Church of the Nazarene, subject to the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents. [41, 108]

461. The duties of the General Stewardship Committee shall be:

§ 1. To promote and raise the general budget.

§ 2. To have charge of financial publicity.

§ 3. To secure endowments, annuities, and other funds.

§ 4. To promote financial campaigns and provide inspirational speakers.

§ 5. To arrange stewardship campaigns for the purpose of presenting to the entire membership of the Church of the Nazarene the claims of Christian stewardship.

§ 6. To prepare promotional and stewardship literature.

§ 7. To collect and disseminate information designed to promote interest in the work of the kingdom of God.

§ 8. To co-operate with the several departments of the General Board in promoting their work.

§ 9. To do any other work that the General Board may direct.

§ 10. To keep accurate minutes of all its meetings and submit a comprehensive report of its work to the annual meeting of the General Board.

### **XX. Board of Trustees—Nazarene Theological Seminary**

**462.** The Board of Trustees of the Nazarene Theological Seminary shall be composed of thirteen members who shall be elected as follows: The General Assembly Committee on Nominations shall select two nominees from each of the seven Educational Zones and twelve nominees at large. From these twenty-six nominees the General Assembly shall elect seven members from the Educational Zones and six members-at-large. Three of these elected at large are to be laymen. [337 § 12]

No officer, teacher, or employee of any Nazarene educational institution shall be eligible for election to the Board of Trustees of the Nazarene Theological Seminary.

### **XXI. The Organization of General Boards**

**463.** The general boards shall have their bylaws and policies published immediately after the General Assembly, and copies of these shall be available at Headquarters for those desiring them.

**XXII. The Annual Meetings of General Boards**

**464.** The annual meetings of all the general boards of the Church of the Nazarene shall be held at the same time and the same place, in order that all their work, plans, and efforts may be fully correlated. [337 § 8, 414, 422, 424, 430, 446, 452]

**XXIII. The Fiscal Year**

**465.** The fiscal year for all general interests of the Church of the Nazarene shall end at a time specified in the bylaws of the General Board.



**PART V**

**JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**CHURCH DISCIPLINE**  
**DISCIPLINE OF A LAYMAN**  
**DISCIPLINE OF A MINISTER**  
**RULES OF PROCEDURE**  
**DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS**  
**GENERAL COURT OF APPEALS**  
**GUARANTY OF RIGHTS**

## I. CHURCH DISCIPLINE

466. The object of church discipline is not the punishment of offenders, but vindication of the truth, purification of the church, warning of the careless, and reformation and salvation of the guilty. Members of the church who do violence to the General or Special Rules, or who willfully and continuously violate their membership vows, should be dealt with kindly yet faithfully, according to the grievousness of their offenses.

Holiness of heart and life being the New Testament standard, the Church of the Nazarene insists upon a clean ministry, and requires that those who bear its credentials as ministers be orthodox in doctrine and holy in life. Thus the purpose of the discipline of a minister is not punitive or retributive, but is to determine the ministerial standing and church relations of a minister accused of misconduct.

## II. DISCIPLINE OF A LAYMAN

467. If a request is made for investigation of a lay member accused of unchristian conduct, the pastor shall appoint an investigating committee of three members of the local church, who shall make a written report concerning the result of their investigation. [69 § 14] This report must be signed by a majority and filed with the church board. The accusation upon

which an investigation is made must be signed by at least two reputable members of the local church.

After the investigation and pursuant thereto, any two members in good standing in the local church may sign charges against the accused and file same with the church board. Thereupon the church board shall appoint a local board of discipline of five members who are unprejudiced and able to hear and dispose of the case in a fair and impartial manner, and these shall conduct a hearing as soon as practicable and determine the issues involved. [123 § 25] After hearing the testimony of witnesses and considering the evidence, they shall either absolve the accused or administer discipline as the facts shall establish to be proper. Such decision must be unanimous. Discipline may take the form of reprimand, suspension, or expulsion from membership in the local church. Repentance, apology, or restitution may be required.

An appeal from the decision of a local board of discipline may be taken to the district court of appeals within thirty days by either the accused or the church board.

### III. DISCIPLINE OF A MINISTER

**468.** If an elder or licensed minister be accused of conduct unbecoming to a minister, or of teaching doctrines out of harmony with the doctrinal statement of the Church of the Naza-



rene, or of serious laxity in the enforcement of the General or Special Rules of the church, such accusation shall be placed in writing and shall be signed by at least two members of the Church of the Nazarene who are at the time in good standing; this written accusation must be filed with the District Advisory Board of the district where the accused has ministerial membership. This accusation shall become a part of the record in the case, and the accused or his counsel shall have a right to examine same.

When a written accusation is filed, the District Advisory Board shall appoint a committee of two or more elders to investigate the facts and circumstances involved and report their finding in writing and signed by a majority of the committee. If, after considering the committee's report, it shall appear that there are probable grounds for charges, such charges shall be drawn up and signed by any two elders.  
[219 § 4]

In case charges are filed, the District Advisory Board shall appoint five elders of the district to hear the case and determine the issues; these five elders so named shall constitute a district board of discipline to conduct the hearing and dispose of the case according to the laws of the church. This board of discipline shall have power to vindicate and absolve the accused in connection with said charges, or to administer discipline commensurate with the offense. Such discipline may pro-

vide for repentance, confession, restitution, suspension, cancellation of credentials, expulsion from the ministry or membership of the church, or both, public or private reprimand, or such other discipline as may be appropriate.  
[219 § 5]

When a minister is accused of immorality, or of action involving moral turpitude, disciplinary action may be taken and discipline administered by any district where such immoral acts occurred. But when disciplinary proceedings are taken on a district other than the one where the accused holds ministerial membership, only such immoral acts as may have occurred within the bounds of that district may be proved in evidence and form the basis for discipline in that proceeding.

It is provided that in no case shall disciplinary action be taken against a missionary by a foreign missionary district as such.

The decision of a board of discipline shall be unanimous and shall be written and signed by all members. Failure of any member to sign shall make void the entire proceeding. If such unanimous decision cannot be reached, this fact shall be certified to the District Advisory Board by the chairman of the board of discipline, whereupon the District Advisory Board shall determine whether to drop the charges and end the proceedings or to order another hearing. If the proceedings are ended, such action shall not preclude a reconsideration of the case. If another hearing is determined upon,

another board of discipline shall be appointed to conduct the same.

Any hearing by a board of discipline herein provided for shall always be conducted within the bounds of the district where the charges were filed, at a place designated by the board which is to hear the charges.

The procedure at any hearing shall be according to Rules of Procedure hereinafter provided for. [219 §§ 4-5, 263, 273, 471]

**469.** Following a decision by a board of discipline the accused, the District Advisory Board, or those who signed the charges shall be entitled to appeal the decision to the General Court of Appeals. The appeal shall be begun within thirty days after such decision, and the Court shall review the entire record of the case and all steps which have been taken therein. If the court discovers any substantial error prejudicial to the right of any person, it shall correct such error by ordering a new hearing to be conducted in a manner capable of giving relief to that person affected adversely by previous proceedings or decision.

**470.** When the decision of a board of discipline is adverse to the accused minister and the decision provides for suspension from the ministry or cancellation of credentials, the minister shall thereupon immediately suspend all ministerial activity; and, if he refuses to do so, his right of appeal shall be for that reason forfeited.

When the decision of a board of discipline provided for suspension or cancellation of credentials and the accused minister desires to appeal, he shall file with the secretary of the General Court of Appeals, at the time the notice of appeal is filed, his written credentials as a minister, and his right of appeal shall be conditioned upon his compliance with this provision. When such credentials are so filed, they shall be safely kept by the said secretary until the conclusion of the case, and thereupon the same shall either be canceled or returned to the minister as the Court may direct.

#### IV. RULES OF PROCEDURE

471. The General Court of Appeals shall adopt uniform Rules of Procedure governing all proceedings before boards of discipline and courts of appeal. After such rules are adopted and published, they shall be the final authority in all judicial proceedings. Printed Rules of Procedure shall be supplied by the General Secretary. Changes or amendments to such rules may be adopted by the General Court of Appeals at any time, and when these are adopted and published they shall be effective and authoritative in all cases. Any steps which are thereafter taken in any proceeding shall be in accordance with such change or amendment. [468]

#### V. DISTRICT COURT OF APPEALS

472. Each regularly organized district shall have a district court of appeals composed of

five elders elected annually by the District Assembly. This court shall hear appeals of church members concerning any action of a local church or church board when they are aggrieved or adversely affected by such action. Notice of appeal must be given in writing within thirty days after such action or after appellant has knowledge thereof. Such notice shall be delivered to the district court of appeals or a member thereof, and a copy of such notice shall be delivered to the pastor of the local church and to the secretary of the church board concerned. [179 § 21, 346]

473. The district court of appeals shall have jurisdiction to hear and decide all appeals of laymen or churches from the action of a board of discipline appointed to discipline a layman.

## VI. GENERAL COURT OF APPEALS

474. The General Assembly shall elect five elders to serve as members of the General Court of Appeals during each ensuing quadrennium, or until their successors are elected and qualified. [589 § 2] This Court shall have jurisdiction as follows:

§ 1. To hear and determine all appeals from the action or decision of any district board of discipline.

§ 2. To hear and determine appeals concerning the action of any District Assembly affecting the interests of a minister amenable to that Assembly.

§ 3. To hear and determine appeals from the action of any District Superintendent in matters affecting the interests of a minister. When such appeals are so determined by said Court such determination shall be authoritative and final. [202, 337 § 10]

**475.** Vacancies which may exist in the General Court of Appeals during the interim between sessions of the General Assembly shall be filled by appointment of the Board of General Superintendents. [358 § 4]

**476.** Per diem and expense allowances for members of the General Court of Appeals shall be the same as that of members of the General Board of the church, when the members of the Court are engaged in official business of the Court, and payment therefor shall be made by the General Treasurer.

**477.** The General Secretary shall be custodian of all permanent records and decisions of the General Court of Appeals. [367 § 4]

## VII. GUARANTY OF RIGHTS

**478.** The right to a fair and impartial hearing of charges pending against an accused minister or layman shall not be denied or unduly postponed. Written charges shall be given an early hearing in order that the innocent may be absolved and the guilty brought to discipline.

479. The cost of preparing the record of a case for the purpose of an appeal to the General Court of Appeals shall be borne by the district where the hearing was held and disciplinary action taken.

480. A minister or layman who is accused of misconduct or any violation of the church *Manual* and against whom charges are pending shall have the right to meet his or her accusers face to face and to cross-examine the witnesses for the prosecution.

481. The testimony of any witness before a board of discipline shall not be received or considered in evidence unless such testimony be given under oath or solemn affirmation.

482. A minister or layman who is brought before a board of discipline to answer charges shall always have the right to be represented by counsel of his or her own choosing, provided, such counsel be a member in good standing in the Church of the Nazarene. Any full member of a regularly organized church against whom no written charges are pending will be considered in good standing.

483. A minister or layman shall not be required to answer charges for any act which occurred more than five years before the filing of such charges, and no evidence will be considered at any hearing for any matter which occurred more than five years before the charges were filed.

**484.** A minister or layman shall not be twice placed in jeopardy for the same offense. It shall not be considered, however, that such person was placed in jeopardy at any hearing or proceeding where the court of appeals discovers reversible error committed in the original proceeding before a board of discipline.



**PART VI**  
**BOUNDARIES**

**ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS  
EDUCATIONAL ZONES  
GEOGRAPHICAL ZONES**

## CHAPTER I

### ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS

485. ABILENE DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Texas north of the thirty-second parallel and west of the ninety-seventh meridian, with the addition of that portion of Denton County east of said ninety-seventh meridian.

486. AKRON DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio east of a line running south from W. 117th Street on Lake Erie, Cleveland, to the eastern city limits of Belpre, Ohio, on the Ohio River, with Newcomerstown remaining on the Central Ohio District.

487. ALABAMA DISTRICT shall include the state of Alabama and that portion of the state of Florida west of the Apalachicola and the Chattahoochee rivers.

488. ALASKA DISTRICT shall include the state of Alaska.

489. ALBANY DISTRICT shall include all that portion of the state of New York north of and including Delaware, Greene, and Columbia counties.

490. ARIZONA DISTRICT shall include the state of Arizona.

491. AUSTRALIAN DISTRICT shall include the continent of Australia.

492. BRITISH ISLES NORTH DISTRICT shall include Scotland, Ireland, and the counties of

Cumberland, Westmorland, Northumberland, and Durham in England.

**493.** BRITISH ISLES SOUTH DISTRICT shall include Wales and all of England except the counties of Cumberland, Westmorland, Northumberland, and Durham.

**494.** CANADA ATLANTIC DISTRICT shall include the four Atlantic provinces of Canada, namely, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

**495.** CANADA CENTRAL DISTRICT shall include the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, Canada.

**496.** CANADA PACIFIC DISTRICT shall include the province of British Columbia, in Canada.

**497.** CANADA WEST DISTRICT shall include the provinces of Alberta, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, Canada.

**498.** CENTRAL OHIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio that lies south of the north boundary of Ottawa County, east of the west boundary of Ottawa, Sandusky, Seneca, Wyandot, Marion, Delaware, Franklin, Pickaway, Ross, Pike, and Scioto counties, and west of a line running south from W. 117th Street on Lake Erie, Cleveland, to the eastern city limits of Belpre, Ohio, on the Ohio River, with Newcomerstown being on the Central Ohio District.

**499.** CHICAGO CENTRAL DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Illinois that

lies east of the west boundaries of McHenry, Kane, Kendall, Grundy, Kankakee, and Ford counties and north of the north line of Champaign County and that part of Vermillion County which lies north of United States Highway 10, including the city of Danville but not including the town of Oakwood.

**500. COLORADO DISTRICT** shall include the state of Colorado.

**501. DALLAS DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Texas east of the ninety-seventh meridian, with the exception of that portion of Denton County east of said meridian and north of a line beginning at the east border of the north line of Sabine County and continuing west on the north boundary of San Augustine County to Grisby, thence west through Alto and Teague to the ninety-seventh meridian, and including the towns and cities on this line.

**502. EASTERN KENTUCKY DISTRICT** shall be composed of that portion of Kentucky east of the eastern boundaries of Gallatin, Owen, Scott, Fayette, Jessamine, Garrard, Lincoln, Pulaski, and Wayne counties.

**503. EASTERN MICHIGAN DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Michigan known as the Lower (Southern) Peninsula that lies east of the west boundaries of Tuscola, Genessee, Livingston, Washtenaw, and Lenawee counties.

**504. EAST TENNESSEE DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Tennessee which lies east of the west boundary line of Macon, Trousdale, Wilson, Rutherford, Bedford, and Lincoln counties.

**505. FLORIDA DISTRICT** shall include the state of Florida except that portion of the state west of the Apalachicola and the Chattahoochee rivers.

**506. GEORGIA DISTRICT** shall include the state of Georgia.

**507. GULF CENTRAL DISTRICT** shall include all churches among the colored people in the states of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

**508. HAWAII DISTRICT** shall include the state of Hawaii.

**509. HOUSTON DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Texas lying east of the ninety-seventh meridian and south of a line beginning at the east border of the north line of Sabine County and continuing west through Alto and Teague to the ninety-seventh meridian, with the exception of the towns and cities on this line.

**510. IDAHO-OREGON DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Idaho south of the Salmon River; and that portion of the state of Oregon embracing the following counties,

namely, Wallowa, Union, Baker, Grant, Harney, and Malheur.

**511. ILLINOIS DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Illinois lying south of the north boundary of Adams, Brown, Cass, Menard, Logan, DeWitt, Pratt, and Campaign counties and that portion of Vermillion County south of United States Highway 10 and including the town of Oakwood.

**512. INDIANAPOLIS DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Indiana south of the fortieth parallel of latitude east of a line formed by the west boundary of Boone, Hendricks, and Morgan counties; north of the south boundary of Morgan, Johnson, and Shelby counties; and east of the west boundary of Decatur, Jennings, and Jefferson counties.

**513. IOWA DISTRICT** shall include the state of Iowa.

**513a. JOPLIN DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Kansas lying east of the west boundaries of Coffey, Woodson, Wilson, and Montgomery counties and south of the north boundary of Coffey, Anderson, and Linn counties; and that portion of the state of Missouri lying south of the north boundary of Bates, Henry, Benton, and Morgan counties and west of the east boundary of Morgan, Camden, Laclede, Wright, Douglas, and Ozark counties.

**514. KANSAS DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Kansas lying west of the

east boundaries of the following counties, namely, Marshall, Pottawatomie, Wabaunsee, Lyon, Greenwood, Elk, and Chautauqua.

515. KANSAS CITY DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Kansas lying east of the west boundary of Nemaha, Jackson, Shawnee, and Osage counties and north of the north boundary of Coffey, Anderson, and Linn counties; and that portion of the state of Missouri lying west of the east boundary of Mercer, Grundy, Livingston, Carrol, Saline, and Pettis counties and north of the north boundary of Bates, Henry, Benton, and Morgan counties.

516. KENTUCKY DISTRICT shall be composed of that portion of Kentucky west of the eastern boundaries of Gallatin, Owen, Scott, Fayette, Jessamine, Garrard, Lincoln, Pulaski, and Wayne counties.

517. LOS ANGELES DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of California lying south of the northern boundaries of San Luis Obispo and Kern counties, with the exception of that portion of Kern County north of the Tehachipi Mountains; that portion of Los Angeles County lying north of a line beginning at the Pacific Ocean and Imperial Boulevard and continuing in a northeasterly direction along Imperial Boulevard, Alameda Street, Washington Boulevard, Rio Hondo River, the crest of Puente Hills, and the San Dimas Canyon Road to the southern boundary of Angeles



National Forest and the San Bernardino County line; and the whole of Inyo County.

518. LOUISIANA DISTRICT shall include the state of Louisiana.

518a. MAINE DISTRICT shall include the state of Maine.

519. MICHIGAN DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Michigan known as the Lower (Southern) Peninsula that lies west of the west boundaries of Tuscola, Genessee, Livingston, Washtenaw, and Lenawee counties, and that part of the Upper Peninsula that lies east of the east county lines of Delta and Alger counties.

520. MINNESOTA DISTRICT shall include the state of Minnesota.

521. MISSISSIPPI DISTRICT shall include the state of Mississippi.

522. MISSOURI DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Missouri lying east of the westerly boundaries of the counties of Putnam, Sullivan, Linn, Chariton, Howard, Cooper, Moniteau, Miller, Pulaski, Texas, and Howell.

523. NEBRASKA DISTRICT shall include the state of Nebraska.

524. NEVADA-UTAH DISTRICT shall include the states of Nevada and Utah and that portion of the state of California lying east of a line beginning at the town of Cisco on United States Highway 40 in Placer County and proceeding in a northwesterly direction to join

the county lines of Lassen, Shasta, and Plumas counties where they intersect near Juniper Lake in Lassen County. From this point the line will continue in a northerly direction along the county line between Lassen and Shasta counties to the Modoc County line and from there eastward along the county line between Lassen and Modoc counties to the Nevada-California line.

**525. NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT** shall include the states of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and that portion of the state of Connecticut east of a line running north from Bridgeport, Connecticut, excluding Bridgeport, to the Massachusetts line.

**526. NEW MEXICO DISTRICT** shall include the state of New Mexico and that portion of the state of Texas west of the one hundred third meridian.

**527. NEW YORK DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of New York which lies south of the southern boundary of Delaware, Greene, and Columbia counties; that portion of the state of New Jersey lying north of a line drawn between Phillipsburg and Long Branch—including the city of Long Branch; and that portion of the state of Connecticut west of a line running north from Bridgeport, Connecticut, including Bridgeport, to the Massachusetts line.

**528. NORTH ARKANSAS DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Arkansas

north of a line formed by United States Highway 70 for the Tennessee line to Little Rock and State Highway 10 from Little Rock to Greenwood and straight west to the Oklahoma line, but not including the towns and cities on the highway.

**529.** NORTH CAROLINA DISTRICT shall include the state of North Carolina.

**530.** NORTH DAKOTA DISTRICT shall include the state of North Dakota.

**531.** NORTHEASTERN INDIANA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Indiana lying north of the fortieth parallel of latitude and south and east of a line starting at the fortieth meridian on the Hamilton and Madison county line, running due north to the Miami County line, west to the Cass County line, north to the northwest corner of Miami County, thence east to the Wabash County line, following the Fulton and Kosciusko county lines to Marshall County, thence north to the Michigan state line.

**532.** NORTHEAST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma east of the line formed by the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway from Oklahoma City in a northerly direction to the Arkansas River, including the towns and cities thereon except Oklahoma City; thence the Arkansas River to the Kansas state line; and north of State Highway 1 from Oklahoma City to Fort Smith, Arkansas.

**533. NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of California north of the northern boundaries of San Luis Obispo and Kern counties, with the addition of that portion of Kern County north of the Tehachapi Mountains, and west of the western boundary of Inyo County; and west of a line beginning at the town of Cisco on United States Highway 40 in Placer County and proceeding in a northwesterly direction to join the county lines of Lassen, Shasta, and Plumas counties where they intersect near Juniper Lake in Lassen County. From this point the line will continue in a northerly direction along the county line between Lassen and Shasta counties to the Modoc County line and from there eastward along the county line between Lassen and Modoc counties to the Nevada-California line.

**534. NORTHWEST DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Washington east of the Cascade Mountains; that portion of the state of Idaho north of the Salmon River; and Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, and Umatilla counties in the state of Oregon.

**535. NORTHWESTERN ILLINOIS DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Illinois north of the south boundary of Hancock, Schuyler, Mason, Tazewell, and McLean counties and west of the east boundary of McLean, Livingston, LaSalle, DeKalb, and Boone counties.

**536. NORTHWEST INDIANA DISTRICT** shall include that portion of the state of Indiana lying

north and west of a line starting at the fortieth meridian on the Hamilton and Madison county line, running due north to the Miami County line, west to the Cass County line, north to the northwest corner of Miami County, thence east to the Wabash County line, following the Fulton and Kosciusko county lines to Marshall County, thence north to the Michigan state line.

537. NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma that lies north of United States Highway 66, not including the towns and cities thereon with the exception of that portion of Oklahoma County north of a line from the North Canadian River to MacArthur Avenue on 36th Street, west of MacArthur from 36th to 39th Street, north of 39th Street from MacArthur to May Avenue, west of May Avenue from 39th to 50th streets, and north of 50th Street from May Avenue to the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway and west of a line formed by the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway running northeasterly from Oklahoma City to the Arkansas River, not including the towns and cities thereon, and thence northwesterly up the Arkansas River to the Kansas line.

538. OREGON PACIFIC DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oregon west of the east boundary of Wasco County, south of the north boundary of Wheeler County, and west of the east boundary of Wheeler, Crook, Deschutes, and Lake counties.

**538a.** PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT shall be composed of that part of the state of Pennsylvania lying east of the boundary line between Potter and Tioga counties and east of a line drawn from a point at the northern crest of the Allegheny Mountains to Duncannon, thence following the Susquehanna River to the Maryland state line; and that portion of the state of New Jersey which lies south of a line drawn between Long Branch and Phillipsburg—including the city of Phillipsburg.

**539.** PITTSBURGH DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Pennsylvania west of the boundary line of Potter and Tioga counties, thence following a line due south through Clinton County, to the crest of the Allegheny Mountains, and south along this crest to the Maryland state line.

**540.** ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT shall include the states of Montana and Wyoming.

**541.** SAN ANTONIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Texas lying between the ninety-seventh meridian and the one hundred third meridian, south of the thirty-second parallel, except that all the incorporated city of Midland and none of the incorporated city of Hillsboro shall be included in the San Antonio District.

**542.** SOUTH AFRICAN DISTRICT shall include the work among the Europeans in southern Africa.

543. SOUTH ARKANSAS DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Arkansas south of a line formed by United States Highway 70 from the Tennessee line to Little Rock and State Highway 10 from Little Rock to Greenwood and straight west to the Oklahoma line, and including the towns and cities on the highway.

544. SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT shall include the state of South Carolina.

545. SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT shall include the state of South Dakota.

546. SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma east of the line formed by the Santa Fe Railway from the Red River in a northerly direction to Oklahoma City, not including Oklahoma City and other towns and cities thereon; and south of State Highway 1 from Oklahoma City east to Forth Smith, Arkansas, including the towns and cities thereon.

547. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of California lying south of a line beginning in Los Angeles County at the Pacific Ocean and Imperial Boulevard and continuing in a northeasterly direction along Imperial Boulevard, Alameda Street, Washington Boulevard, Rio Hondo River, the crest of Puente Hills, and the San Dimas Canyon Road to the southern boundary of Angeles National Forest and the San Ber-

nardino County line; and of the northern boundary of San Bernardino County.

548. SOUTHWEST INDIANA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Indiana that lies south of the fortieth parallel of latitude; west of a line formed by the east boundary of Montgomery, Putnam, and Owen counties; south of the north boundary of Monroe, Brown, and Bartholomew counties; and west of the east boundary of Bartholomew, Jackson, Scott, and Clark counties.

549. SOUTHWEST OKLAHOMA DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Oklahoma that lies west of a line formed by the Santa Fe Railway running northerly from the Red River to Oklahoma City, including the towns and cities thereon, except that portion of Oklahoma County north of a line from the North Canadian River to MacArthur Avenue on 36th Street, west of MacArthur from 36th to 39th Street, north of 39th Street from MacArthur to May Avenue, west of May Avenue from 39th to 50th Streets, and north of 50th Street from May Avenue to the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway, and south of United States Highway 66, including the towns and cities thereon with the exception of that portion of Oklahoma County above specified.

550. TENNESSEE DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Tennessee that lies west of the east boundary of Sumner, Davidson,



Williamson, Marshall, and Giles counties and the city of Fulton, Kentucky.

551. VIRGINIA DISTRICT shall include the state of Virginia except the counties of Accomack and Northhampton lying east of Chesapeake Bay.

552. WASHINGTON PACIFIC DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Washington west of the Cascade Mountains.

553. WASHINGTON DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Pennsylvania lying west of a line drawn from a point at the northern crest of the Allegheny Mountains to Duncannon, including the town of Duncannon and west of the Susquehanna River and east of the crest of the Allegheny Mountains; all the states of Delaware and Maryland; that portion of the state of Virginia lying east of the Chesapeake Bay, namely, the counties of Accomack and Northhampton; and the District of Columbia.

554. NORTHWESTERN OHIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio west of the west boundary of Pickaway, Franklin, Delaware, Marion, Wyandot, Seneca, Sandusky, and Ottawa counties and north of the north boundary of Preble, Montgomery, Greene, and Fayette counties.

554a. SOUTHWESTERN OHIO DISTRICT shall include that portion of the state of Ohio west of the west boundary of Scioto, Pike, Ross, and Pickaway counties and south of the north

boundary of Preble, Montgomery, Greene, and Fayette counties.

555. WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT shall include the state of West Virginia.

556. WISCONSIN DISTRICT shall include the state of Wisconsin and that portion of the state of Michigan known as the Upper Peninsula, lying west of the east county lines of Delta and Alger counties.

## CHAPTER II

### EDUCATIONAL ZONES

557. *Eastern Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Akron, Albany, Canada Atlantic, Canada Central, Maine, New England, New York, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Washington. [441 (1)]

558. *Southeast Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Alabama, Eastern Kentucky, East Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. [441 (2)]

559. *Central Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Central Ohio, Chicago Central, Eastern Michigan, Illinois, Indianapolis, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Northeastern Indiana, Northwestern Illinois, Northwest Indiana, Northwestern Ohio, Southwest Indiana, Southwestern Ohio, and Wisconsin. [441 (3)]

560. *West Central Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Abilene, Dallas, Hous-

ton, Joplin, Kansas, Kansas City, Louisiana, Nebraska, North Arkansas, Northeast Oklahoma, Northwest Oklahoma, San Antonio, South Arkansas, Southeast Oklahoma, and Southwest Oklahoma. [441 (4)]

561. *Southwest Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Los Angeles, New Mexico, Northern California, and Southern California. [441 (5)]

562. *Northwest Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Alaska, Idaho-Oregon, Minnesota, Nevada-Utah, North Dakota, Northwest, Oregon Pacific, Rocky Mountain, South Dakota, and Washington Pacific. [441 (6)]

563.\* *Conadian Nazarene College Zone* shall include the four provinces of Western Canada, namely, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba. [441 (7)]

## CHAPTER III

### GEOGRAPHICAL ZONES

564. *Eastern Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Akron, Albany, Maine, New England, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Washington.

565. *Southeast Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Alabama, Eastern Ken-

\*The General Assembly provided for the creation of an All-Canada Educational Zone, contingent upon the fulfillment of the recommendations contained in Memorial 71.

tucky, East Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia.

566. *Central Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Central Ohio, Chicago Central, Eastern Michigan, Illinois, Indianapolis, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Northeastern Indiana, Northwestern Illinois, Northwest Indiana, Northwestern Ohio, Southwest Indiana, Southwestern Ohio, and Wisconsin.

567. *West Central Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Abilene, Dallas, Houston, Joplin, Kansas, Kansas City, Louisiana, Nebraska, North Arkansas, Northeast Oklahoma, Northwest Oklahoma, San Antonio, South Arkansas, Southeast Oklahoma, and Southwest Oklahoma.

568. *Southwest Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Los Angeles, New Mexico, Northern California, and Southern California.

569. *Northwest Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Alaska, Idaho-Oregon, Minnesota, Nevada-Utah, North Dakota, Northwest, Oregon Pacific, Rocky Mountain, South Dakota, and Washington Pacific.

570. *British Commonwealth Zone* shall include the Assembly Districts of Australia, British Isles North, British Isles South, Canada Atlantic, Canada Central, Canada Pacific, Canada West, and European South Africa.

**PART VII**

**RITUAL**

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**THE RECEPTION OF CHURCH MEMBERS**

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**MATRIMONY**

**THE FUNERAL SERVICE**

## CHAPTER I

### 571. THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

#### I. The Baptism of Believers

*Dearly Beloved:* Believing that God has given you forgiveness of sins, and spiritual life through Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour, and that you are thus graciously prepared to receive Christian baptism, as declarative of your saving faith and covenant of obedience, you will now give avowals of your belief and purpose.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, our Lord? that He was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary? that He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried? that the third day He rose from the dead? that He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and from thence shall come again to judge the quick and the dead? and

Do you believe in the Holy Ghost? the Church of God? the communion of saints? the remission of sins? the resurrection of the body? and the life everlasting?

*Answer:* All this I steadfastly believe.

Will you be baptized in this faith?

*Answer:* I will.

Do you renounce the devil and all his works? the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the flesh and of the mind?

*Answer:* I renounce them all.

Will you then obey God's holy will, and keep His commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life?

*Answer:* I will.

[The minister, asking the name, shall say:]

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

## II. The Baptism of Infants

*Dearly Beloved:* Baptism is the external seal of the new covenant of grace.

In presenting this child for Christian baptism, you must remember that it is your part and duty to see that he be taught, as soon as he shall be able to learn, the nature and the end of this holy sacrament.

Will you endeavor to lead this child to Christ early in life; call upon him to give reverent attendance upon appointed means of grace; see that he is taught the truth of God as contained in the Holy Scriptures; and help him, as you may be able, in the way of life? If so, answer, "I will."

[The minister may then ask the friends of the child to name the child, and baptize it, saying:]

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

[The minister may offer prayer, the congregation uniting in the Lord's Prayer.]



### III. The Dedication or Consecration of Children

[The following form is provided for use in those cases where the parents or guardians do not care to have children baptized but simply dedicated or consecrated.]

[When the sponsors have presented themselves with the child (or children) before the minister at his call, the minister shall say:]

“Then were brought unto him little children, that he should put his hands on them, and pray: and the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.”

In presenting this child for dedication (or consecration), you not only signify your faith in the Christian religion, but also your desire that he (or she) may early know and follow the will of God, may live and die a Christian, and come unto everlasting blessedness.

In order to attain this holy end it will be your duty, as parents (or guardians), to teach him (or her) early the fear of the Lord; to watch over his (or her) education, that he (or she) be not led astray; to direct his (or her) youthful mind to the Holy Scriptures, and his (or her) feet to the sanctuary; to restrain him (or her) from evil associates and habits; and, as much as in you lies, to bring him (or her) up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Will you endeavor to do so by the help of God? If so, answer, "I will."

[The minister shall then dedicate the child, repeating the full name of the child, and saying:]

Our loving Heavenly Father, we do here and now dedicate (or consecrate) [naming the child] unto Thee, praying that he (or she) may be endued with heavenly virtues, taught by Thy Holy Spirit, nourished by Thy Word, kept by divine grace, and everlastingly rewarded through Thine eternal mercies. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

[Then may the minister offer the following prayer, or may use extemporary prayer.]

Wilt Thou be pleased, O God, to grant unto this child an understanding mind; may Thy providence lead him (her) through the dangers, temptations, and ignorance of youth; may he (she) never run into folly nor the evils of unbridled appetites; may he (she) be led to serve Thee faithfully, so that, when he (she) has glorified Thee in his (her) generation and served Thy cause on earth, he (she) may be received into Thine eternal kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction, II Corinthians 13:14.

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## CHAPTER II

### 572. The RECEPTION OF CHURCH MEMBERS

*Dearly Beloved:* The privileges and blessings which we have in association together in

the Church of Jesus Christ are very sacred and precious. There is in it such hallowed fellowship as cannot otherwise be known.

There is such helpfulness with brotherly watch care and counsel as can be found only in the Church.

There is the godly care of pastors, with the teachings of the Word, and the helpful inspiration of social worship. And there is cooperation in service, accomplishing that which cannot otherwise be done. It is necessary that we be of one mind and heart. The doctrines upon which the Church rests as essential to Christian experience are brief. We believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; we especially emphasize the deity of Jesus Christ and the personality of the Holy Spirit; that man is born in sin; that he needs the work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration; that, after the work of regeneration, there is the further work of heart-cleansing, or entire sanctification, which is effected by the Holy Ghost. And to each of these works of grace the Holy Spirit gives witness. We believe in eternal destiny, with its rewards and punishments.

Do you heartily believe these truths?

Do you take Jesus Christ as your Saviour and do you realize that He saves you now?

Desiring to unite with the Church of the Nazarene, do you covenant to give yourself to the fellowship and work of God in connection with it, as set forth in the General Rules

and Special Rules of the Church of the Nazarene? to endeavor in every way to glorify God, by a humble walk, godly conversation, and holy service; by devotedly giving of your means; by faithful attendance upon the means of grace; and abstaining from all evil, to seek earnestly to perfect holiness of heart and life in the fear of the Lord?

[These questions being satisfactorily answered, the persons may be received. The minister, taking them by the hand, shall say:]

I welcome you into this church, to its sacred fellowship, duties, and privileges. May the great Head of the Church bless and keep you, and enable you to be faithful in all good works.

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### CHAPTER III

#### 573. THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

[36, 69 § 10, 260]

[The administration of the Lord's Supper may be introduced by an appropriate sermon or a suitable address, and the reading of I Corinthians 11:23-29; Luke 22:14-20, or some other appropriate passage. Let the minister give the following invitation:]

The Lord himself ordained this holy sacrament. He commanded His disciples to partake of the bread and wine, emblems of His broken body and shed blood. This is His table. The feast is for His disciples. Let all those who have with true repentance forsaken their sins, and have believed in Christ unto salvation, draw near and take these emblems, and, by faith, partake of the life of Jesus Christ, to your soul's comfort and joy. Let us remem-

ber that it is the memorial of the death and passion of our Lord; also a token of His coming again. Let us not forget that we are one, at one table with the Lord.

[The minister, with the congregation, kneeling, may offer prayer of confession and supplication, with the following prayer of consecration:]

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who of Thy tender mercy didst give Thine only Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption: hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech Thee; grant that, as we receive these Thy creatures of bread and wine according to the holy institution of Thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, in remembrance of His death and passion, we may be made partakers of the benefits of His sacrificial death; who, in the same night that He was betrayed, took bread and, when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat: this is My body, which is broken for you: do this in remembrance of Me."

Likewise, after supper, He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, "Drink ye all of this, for this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins; do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of Me." Amen.

[Then may the minister, first partaking himself, with the assistance of any other ministers present, and when necessary, of the stewards, administer the Communion to the people.]

[If there be those who cannot kneel, let them receive it sitting or standing. While the bread is being distributed, let the minister say:]

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was broken for thee, preserve thee blameless, unto everlasting life. Take and eat this, in remembrance that Christ died for thee.

[As the cup is being passed, let the minister say:]

The blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which was shed for thee, preserve thee blameless unto everlasting life. Drink this, in remembrance that Christ's blood was shed for thee, and be thankful.

[The Lord's Prayer with extemporary prayer of thanksgiving.]

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## CHAPTER IV

### 574. MATRIMONY

[At the day and time appointed for the solemnization of matrimony, the persons to be married—having been qualified according to law—standing together, the man on the right hand and the woman on the left, the minister shall say:]

*Dearly Beloved:* We are gathered together here in the sight of God, and in the presence of these witnesses, to join together this man and this woman in holy matrimony, which is an honorable estate, instituted of God in the time of man's innocency, signifying unto us the mystical union that exists between Christ and His Church. This holy estate Christ adorned and beautified with His presence and first miracle that He wrought, in Cana of Galilee, and St. Paul commended it to be honorable among all men. It is, therefore, not to be entered into unadvisedly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God.

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

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

I require and charge you both that, if either of you knows any impediment why you may not be lawfully joined together in matrimony, you do now confess it; for be ye well assured that so many as are coupled together otherwise than God's Word doth allow are not joined together by God, neither is their matrimony lawful.

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

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

[The man shall answer:]

I will.

[Then shall the minister say unto the woman:]

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

[The woman shall answer:]

I will.

[Then shall the minister ask:]

Who giveth this woman in marriage?

[Joining right hands with the woman, the man shall repeat after the minister:]

I, . . . . ., take thee, . . . . ., to be my wedded wife, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

[The woman shall repeat after the minister:]

I, . . . . ., take thee, . . . . ., to be my wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death us do part, according to God's holy ordinance; and thereto I plight thee my troth.

[Then shall the minister pray thus:]

*R* O Eternal God, Creator and Preserver of all mankind, Giver of all spiritual grace, the Author of everlasting life, send Thy blessing upon these Thy servants, this man and this woman, whom we bless in Thy name; that, as Isaac and Rebekah lived faithfully together, so these persons may surely perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace together, and live according to Thy laws: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



[Then shall the minister say:]

Forasmuch as this man and this woman have consented together in holy wedlock, and have witnessed the same before God and this company, and have declared the same by joining of hands, I pronounce that they are husband and wife together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder. Amen.

[And the minister shall add his blessing:]

God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with His favor look upon you, and so fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace that ye may so live together in this life that in the world to come ye may have life everlasting. Amen.

[Then may the minister offer the following prayer, or may use extemporary prayer:]

O God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob, bless this man and this woman, and sow the seed of eternal life in their hearts, that whatsoever in the Holy Word they shall profitably learn, they may indeed fulfill the same. Look, O Lord, mercifully on them from heaven, and bless them; as Thou didst send Thy blessing upon Abraham and Sarah, to their great comfort, so vouchsafe to send Thy blessing upon this man and this woman, that they, obeying Thy will, and always being in safety under Thy protection, may abide in Thy love unto their lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God, who at the beginning didst create our first parents, Adam and Eve, and didst sanctify and join them together in marriage, pour upon these persons the riches of Thy grace, sanctify and bless them, that they may please Thee, both in body and soul, and live together in holy love unto their lives' end. Amen.

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## CHAPTER V

### 575. THE FUNERAL SERVICE

OPENING SENTENCES, *the following or other suitable selections:*

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

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

INVOCATION, *in the minister's own words or the following:*

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we come into this sanctuary of sorrow, realizing our utter dependence upon Thee. We know Thou dost love us and canst turn even the shadow of death into the light of morning.

Help us now to wait before Thee with reverent and submissive hearts.

Thou art our refuge and strength, O God—a very present help in time of trouble. Grant unto us Thy abundant mercy. May those who mourn today find comfort and healing balm in Thy sustaining grace.

We humbly bring these petitions in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

### A HYMN OR SPECIAL SONG

#### SUITABLE SELECTIONS OF SCRIPTURE:

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ: whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory: receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls”

(I Peter 1: 3-9). Or, Matt: 5: 3, 4, 6, 8; Psalms 27: 3, 4, 5, 11, 13, 14; Psalms 46: 1-6, 10, 11.

ADDRESS

A HYMN OR SPECIAL MUSIC

CLOSING PRAYER

### AT THE GRAVE

*When the people have assembled, the minister may say:*

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:1-6). Or,

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God” (II Corinthians 1: 3, 4).

### THE COMMITTAL

We come hither to lay all that was mortal of our dear friend in this new-made sepulcher. He (she) is not here. His (her) absence occa-

sions our coming hither today. This is but the house in which he (she) lived. While he (she) abode in it, it was alive. But he (she) has gone, and the house is silent and lifeless. As it was taken from the earth, so it will go back and mingle with its kindred elements. We can do no other than to bring it hither, and, laying it back upon the bosom of Mother Earth, say: "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust." Despite the shadow and sorrow caused by his (her) absence, we recognize the immortality of the soul; that through Christ we have hope of eternal life in heaven. Also that these mortal bodies shall come forth to the final awards of eternity.

*PRAYER, in the minister's own words or the following:*

Our Heavenly Father, God of all mercy, we look to Thee in this moment of sorrow and bereavement. Comfort these dear ones whose hearts are heavy and sad. Wilt Thou be with them; sustain and guide them in the days to come. Grant, O Lord, that they may love and serve Thee and obtain the fullness of Thy promises in the world to come.

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20, 21).



**PART VIII**  
**CONSTITUTIONS**

**NAZARENE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES**

**NAZARENE FOREIGN MISSIONARY  
SOCIETIES**

**SUNDAY SCHOOLS**



## CHAPTER I

### 576. CONSTITUTIONS FOR NAZARENE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETIES

#### §1. Local Nazarene Young People's Society

##### ARTICLE I. *Name*

The society shall be called the Nazarene Young People's Society of the ..... Church of the Nazarene.

##### ARTICLE II. *Object*

The object of the society shall be to build up its members in Christian experience and in holy character, and to instruct them in the doctrines of the church, and to bring about the salvation of other young people. The activities of this society shall be distinctly religious and spiritual.

##### ARTICLE III. *Motto*

*Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity (I Timothy 4:12).*

##### ARTICLE IV. *Divisions*

SECTION 1. So that the benefits of the society may best be enjoyed by all ages of the society on their own interest levels, the society shall be composed of three divisions:

- Nazarene Junior Fellowship (ages 4-11 inclusive)
- Nazarene Teen Fellowship (ages 12-19 inclusive)
- Nazarene Young Adult Fellowship (ages 20-40 inclusive)

SEC. 2. These three divisions may be further divided into special age or interest departments as desired by the local church, or it may function with a combination of divisions.

##### ARTICLE V. *Membership*

SECTION 1. Membership in the Nazarene Young People's Society shall be open to all those between the ages

of four and forty inclusive who desire the benefits and blessings offered through the purpose and program of the society, providing that those above eleven years of age are those who give testimony to the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and are of good moral character.

SEC. 2. Membership in the Nazarene Young People's Society shall be divided into three classes: Junior, Teen, and Young Adult.

SEC. 3. Only those members who are members of the Church of the Nazarene and who have reached their twelfth birthday shall vote in the business meetings of the society, hold elective office, or serve as chairmen of standing committees or as delegates to District or General Conventions. All Junior members are eligible to vote and hold office in the Nazarene Junior Fellowship.

#### ARTICLE VI. *Officers*

SECTION 1. The officers of this society shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. All officers shall be members of the local church whose society they serve.

SEC. 2. The officers shall be elected annually by the members of the society, and shall serve for the period of the District Assembly year, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

SEC. 3. The president of the local society shall be nominated by the nominating committee, consisting of not less than three nor more than seven members of the Nazarene Young People's Society, including the pastor, and appointed by the pastor. This committee shall submit at least two names for the office of president, providing, however, that a president may be re-elected by a *yes* or *no* vote when such election is recommended by the nominating committee and approved by the pastor. The president shall be elected by majority vote of the members present and voting by ballot. His election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. He shall be a member, *ex officio*, of the church board to which he shall make a monthly

report. He shall submit a report to the annual meeting of the local church.

SEC. 4. The vice-president of the society shall be elected from one or more names submitted by the nominating committee provided in Section 3.

SEC. 5. Other officers of the society shall be elected from nominations submitted by the nominating committee.

SEC. 6. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Nazarene Young People's Society president, such vacancy shall be filled in harmony with the provisions for the election of president outlined in Section 3.

#### ARTICLE VII. *Executive Council*

SECTION 1. In a society with all above eleven years of age functioning as one division, the executive council shall consist of the pastor, the officers of the Nazarene Young People's Society, the chairmen of the standing committees, and the director of the Nazarene Junior Fellowship.

SEC. 2. In a society functioning with more than one division above eleven years of age, the executive council shall consist of the pastor, the officers of the Nazarene Young People's Society, the presidents of the Teen and/or Young Adult Fellowships, and the director of each division.

SEC. 3. In a society functioning with two or more departments within the Nazarene Teen Fellowship, or Nazarene Young Adult Fellowship, the president of each department and the adult directors of the departments in the Nazarene Teen Fellowship shall become members of the Executive Council.

#### ARTICLE VIII. *Division Officers*

SECTION 1. The officers of each of the three divisions of the society, or departments within divisions, shall consist of a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at an annual meeting of the division or department; the Nazarene Junior Fellowship may elect officers quarterly or semiannually. There shall also be a director of the

Nazarene Junior Fellowship and a director of the Nazarene Teen Fellowship.

SEC. 2. The director of the Nazarene Junior Fellowship shall be elected by the executive council of the Nazarene Young People's Society of which he shall become a member. There shall be no age limit on this director. The director may ask for adult assistants as needed, and such assistants shall be appointed by the executive council of the Nazarene Young People's Society.

SEC. 3. The director of the Nazarene Teen Fellowship shall be nominated by a committee composed of the Nazarene Young People's Society president, the pastor, and the executive committee of the Nazarene Teen Fellowship, and shall be elected by the executive council of the Nazarene Young People's Society of which he shall become a member. There shall be no age limit on this director. (When the Nazarene Teen Fellowship is divided into age departments, in place of a Nazarene Teen Fellowship director, directors of each department shall be elected as provided in Section 4 below.)

SEC. 4. When the Nazarene Teen Fellowship is divided into two or more departments, each department shall have an adult director, elected in accordance with Sections 1 and 3, Article 8. The director shall be nominated by a committee consisting of the pastor, the Nazarene Young People's Society president, and the presidents of the respective departments, and elected by the executive council of the Nazarene Young People's Society of which they shall become members.

SEC. 5. The executive committee of each division or department within a division shall consist of the officers, the chairmen of the standing committees, and the director.

SEC. 6. Each division of the society or department within a division may have a program committee, evangelism and missions committee, literature committee, activities committee, and such other committees as are necessary for properly conducting its work. The committee chairmen shall be elected by the executive

committee of the division, or department, of which they shall become members.

**ARTICLE IX. Meetings**

**SECTION 1.** An annual meeting of the Nazarene Young People's Society shall be held in harmony with the *Manual*, Paragraph 61, within sixty (60) days of the District Assembly. Other business meetings may be held during the year on call of the executive council and with approval of the pastor.

**SEC. 2.** At the annual meeting, there shall be elected the officers of the society in harmony with Article VI, Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, of the Local Constitution. There shall also be elected delegates to the District Convention of the Nazarene Young People's Society in harmony with Article II, Section 2, of the District Constitution, and alternate delegates in equal numbers.

**SEC. 3.** A semiannual conference of the Nazarene Young People's Society consisting of the pastor, the executive council, and the executive committees of the three divisions and departments shall be held to plan the work of all divisions of the Nazarene Young People's Society.

**ARTICLE X. Amendments**

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General Convention of the Nazarene Young People's Society and by the approval of the General Assembly.

**§2. District Nazarene Young People's Society**

**ARTICLE I. Membership**

All local organizations of the Nazarene Young People's Society within the boundaries of ..... District shall be members of the district Nazarene Young People's Society.

**ARTICLE II. Conventions**

**SECTION 1.** There shall be an annual District Convention of the Nazarene Young People's Society at which reports shall be received from the district of-

ficers, directors from the District Council, and zone presidents; and any business pertaining to the work of the Nazarene Young People's Society may be transacted.

SEC. 2. The District Convention shall be composed of the members of the district council, the district superintendent, and the district zone presidents, pastors of local churches, presidents of local societies, local directors of the Nazarene Junior Fellowship, elders of the district within the N.Y.P.S. age limits, and two elected delegates for each society with thirty or fewer members, and one additional delegate for each successive thirty members or final major part of thirty members.

SEC. 3. One delegate may be appointed by the pastor of each local church not having an organized Nazarene Young People's Society.

#### ARTICLE III. *Officers*

SECTION 1. The officers of the district shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot at the annual convention and who shall serve until the close of the following annual convention and until their successors are elected and qualified.

SEC. 2. All district officers shall be voting members of a local Nazarene Young People's Society within the bounds of the district at the time of their election.

#### ARTICLE IV. *District Council*

SECTION 1. The District Council shall be composed of the officers of the District Nazarene Young People's Society, the district superintendent, the director of the Nazarene Junior Fellowship, director of the Nazarene Teen Fellowship, director of the Young Adult Fellowship, director of Literature, director of Evangelism and Missions, director(s) of Youth Camp, and four members at large elected by ballot by the annual convention, two of whom shall be of Nazarene Teen Fellowship age and two of whom shall be laymen of Young Adult age at the time of their election.

SEC. 2. The District Council shall elect a Director of Literature and a Director of Evangelism and Missions both of whom shall become members of the District Council.

SEC. 3. The District Council shall fill any vacancies that may occur in the Council between conventions.

#### ARTICLE V. *Salaried Youth Director*

Wherever desired, the District Convention may establish a plan for the election of a salaried District Youth Director, subject to the approval of the district superintendent and the district advisory board.

#### ARTICLE VI. *District Zones*

The annual District Convention may order the district divided into zones.

#### ARTICLE VII. *Amendments*

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General Convention of the Nazarene Young People's Society and by the approval of the General Assembly.

### §3. **General Nazarene Young People's Society**

#### ARTICLE I. *Membership*

All district and local Nazarene Young People's Societies shall constitute the General Nazarene Young People's Society.

#### ARTICLE II. *Convention*

SECTION 1. There shall be a General Quadrennial Convention of the Nazarene Young People's Society. The length of this convention and the time it shall convene shall be decided upon by the General Council in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents.

SEC. 2. The General Council shall announce the time and place of the General Convention at least ninety (90) days previous to such convention.

SEC. 3. The General Convention shall be composed of the members of the General Council and one ministerial delegate and one lay delegate elected by each

District N.Y.P.S. Convention for the first 500 or fewer members\* and one ministerial\*\* delegate and one lay delegate for each successive 750 members and the final major part of 750 members. All shall be elected by ballot by majority vote.

\*Based on the membership report of the District Assembly prior to the General Convention.

\*\*District licensed or ordained at the time of the General Convention.

SEC. 4. Each delegate to the General Convention shall at the time of the General Convention be a member of the Church of the Nazarene on the district from which he is elected and residing on that district.\* He shall be within the age limits of the N.Y.P.S. No delegate shall be seated in the General Convention who has passed his forty-first birthday at the time of the convention.

\*Not intended to apply to those living near district boundaries where their home residence may be across the line from the place of regular church participation.

SEC. 5. In the case of a pastor, he shall be at the time of the General Convention a member of, and serving on, the assembly district from which he was elected.

SEC. 6. In the case of foreign mission districts and overseas home mission districts, General Convention representation shall be governed by the respective departments of the general church and their respective missionary policies.

### ARTICLE III. *General Council*

SECTION 1. The General Convention shall elect by two-thirds majority vote by ballot a general president and a general secretary.

SEC. 2. At the General Convention there shall be elected to the General Council one member from each of the six educational zones in the United States and one member as a representative of the British Commonwealth. Each of these shall be nominated by a two-thirds majority vote of his respective zone caucus and the election shall be by majority vote of the Convention.



SEC. 3. All of these elected officers shall be members of the N.Y.P.S. The General President and zone representatives shall not have reached their thirty-seventh birthday at the time of their election. The General Secretary shall not have reached his fortieth birthday at the time of his election.

SEC. 4. The General Convention shall also elect three members-at-large who shall be of Nazarene Teen Fellowship age. These shall be elected by a majority vote and no two of them shall be from the same educational zone.

SEC. 5. These elected officers shall constitute a General Council to serve until the close of the following General Quadrennial Convention or until their successors are elected and qualified.

SEC. 6. In the event a zone representative of the General Council shall move his residence or change his church membership during the quadrennium from the zone he represents, his membership on the General Council shall be terminated at once and the vacancy so created shall be filled in accordance with Article I, Section 5, of the General Bylaws.

SEC. 7. No zone representative of the General N.Y.P.S. Council shall be elected to serve more than two quadrennia. No General N.Y.P.S. President shall be elected to serve more than one quadrennium and there shall be no limit of term set for the General Secretary other than that in this Article provided.

SEC. 8. One general superintendent shall be appointed by the Board of General Superintendents as ex officio member of the General Council to serve for the quadrennium. The work of said Council shall be subject to the sanction of the Board of General Superintendents.

SEC. 9. The General Council shall nominate to the General Assembly two members of the Council, one of whom shall be elected by the General Assembly to serve as a member of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene as a representative of the Nazarene Young People's Society.

SEC. 10. The General Council, in consultation with the Board of General Superintendents, shall fill any

vacancy that may occur on the Council between general conventions, according to Article I, Sections 4 and 5, of the General Bylaws.

SEC. 11. The General Council of the Nazarene Young People's Society, in consultation with the sponsoring general superintendent, shall elect a General Director of the Nazarene Junior Fellowship, who shall work with the directors of the district, zone, and local organizations in promoting the interest and work of the Nazarene Junior Fellowship.

SEC. 12. The duties of the General Council shall be defined by Bylaws adopted by the General Convention.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Amendments*

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at a General Convention of the Nazarene Young People's Society, and by the approval of the General Assembly.

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## CHAPTER II

### 577. CONSTITUTIONS FOR NAZARENE FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

#### §1. Local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society

##### ARTICLE I. *Name*

This society shall be called the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society of the ..... Church of the Nazarene.

##### ARTICLE II. *Object*

The object of this society shall be to enlist the members of the church in active missionary service, in united prayer, and in the study of the salvation needs of the world; to promote a wider knowledge of the mission fields of the Church of the Nazarene; to inspire and challenge the youth to open minds and willing hearts for God-called missionary service on the mission fields of the church; and to raise funds, as elsewhere provided for in this Constitution, for extending the kingdom of Jesus Christ around the world. This

society shall be a constituent part of the local church and subject to the supervision of the pastor and the church board.

### ARTICLE III. *Membership*

The membership of the local N.F.M.S. shall be divided into three classes: active, associate, and junior members.

SECTION 1. Any person twelve years old or over and a member of the Church of the Nazarene shall be classified as an active member of the society. A person may become an active member by declaring his intention to pray, give, and work for the objectives of the society. Voting and holding office shall be limited to active members, except in junior chapters. Voting in the annual meeting of the N.F.M.S. shall be limited to active members.

SEC. 2. Any person twelve years old or over and not a member of the Church of the Nazarene may become an associate member of the N.F.M.S. by agreeing to unite in prayer for the objectives of the organization and by making freewill offerings for the support of the missionary interests of the Church of the Nazarene.

SEC. 3. Children through eleven may become junior members of the N.F.M.S. by making known their desire to be members and agreeing to pray for the missionary interests of the Church of the Nazarene, participate in giving as they are able, and work for the objectives of the society.

### ARTICLE IV. *Officers*

SECTION 1. The officers of this society shall be president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, study secretary, publicity secretary, prayer and fasting secretary, membership secretary, *Other Sheep* secretary, and box work secretary. These officers shall be elected by ballot annually by the members of the society, and together with the chapter chairmen, junior and youth supervisors, and pastor shall constitute the local N.F.M.S. council.

The president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, study secretary, and publicity secretary shall constitute the executive committee of the society. The pastor shall be an ex officio member of the N.F.M.S. executive committee.

SEC. 2. The president shall be nominated by a committee of not less than three nor more than seven active members of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society appointed by the pastor, who shall serve as chairman. This committee shall submit one or more names for the office of president. The president shall be elected by a majority vote by ballot of the active members present and voting, and this election shall be subject to the approval of the church board. The president shall be a member of the local church whose society is served, a member ex officio of the church board, and a member of the District Assembly.

*Note*—Where there are two or more chapters in the local society, follow the plan provided for in Article VII.

See local bylaws for duties of officers, appointment of supervisors, assistants, and committees.

SEC. 3. Vacancies occurring in any elective office shall be filled by a majority vote of active N.F.M.S. members present at any regular monthly meeting of the society.

In the case of a vacancy in the office of the local president, the executive committee shall nominate one or more names for the office of president.

#### ARTICLE V. *Meetings*

SECTION 1. There shall be one or more meetings for business, mission study, and prayer held each calendar month, or a minimum of twelve meetings a year.

SEC. 2. The annual meeting of the society shall be held at least 30 days prior to the District Assembly, at which meeting officers for the ensuing year shall be elected. Officers shall assume their duties at the close of the District Assembly or the District N.F.M.S. Convention, whichever is later.

#### ARTICLE VI. *Funds*

SECTION 1. GENERAL BUDGET. All funds raised by this society for the general budget shall be sent direct to the General Treasurer.

Funds for the support of the general budget shall be raised in the following manner: (1) from the regular missionary society general budget offerings; (2) from the Prayer and Fasting League; (3) from special offerings such as the Easter and Thanksgiving offerings.

**SEC. 2. SPECIALS.** Opportunity shall be given to contribute to foreign mission specials over and above the general budget apportionments such as Alabaster and Spanish Broadcast. Additional foreign mission specials are approved and authorized by the Department of Foreign Missions and the Executive Secretary of the Department.

**SEC. 3. RELIEF AND RETIREMENT FUND.** The Relief and Retirement Fund, to be held in trust by the General Treasurer for the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society and to be used for the relief of sick, needy, or retired foreign missionaries, shall be raised by: (1) placing of names on the Memorial Roll by the payment of \$25.00 for that special purpose; (2) by annual payments by members of twenty-five cents each; (3) by freewill offerings or gifts designated for the Relief and Retirement Fund.

**SEC. 4. GENERAL EXPENSE FUND.** Each active member shall contribute twenty-five cents annually for the General Expense fund. This fund provides for the expenses of the general office, council members' expense, literature and helps for the district and local societies.

**SEC. 5.** No part of the above general funds shall be used for local or district expense or charitable purposes.

**SEC. 6. LOCAL EXPENSE.** A local expense fund shall be provided either by assessment or freewill offerings (the amount to be determined by local needs). A percentage of the local expense fund may be set aside to help defray the expenses of the delegates to the District Convention.

*Note*—Since our church is strictly opposed to engaging in any form of merchandising to raise funds for the support of the church and its missionary program, local societies shall refrain from engaging in the sale of merchandise or food as an organization or in the name of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society.

ARTICLE VII. *Chapters*

SECTION 1. This society may have one or more chapters as may be authorized by the executive committee, and approved by the pastor and local church board; and these together shall constitute the local society. A chapter is an integral part of the local society, the division being made for the matter of convenience.

A local society may request the organization of women's chapters, men's chapters, chapters including both men and women, youth chapters, teen-age chapters, children's chapters.

SEC. 2. These chapters meeting in joint session shall elect the officers authorized in Article IV. The executive committee of the local society shall have general oversight of the work of the various chapters, receive all literature for distribution to the various chapters, and keep records and send reports for the combined chapters.

SEC. 3. The officers of each chapter shall be chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, study secretary, publicity secretary, membership secretary, Prayer and Fasting secretary, *Other Sheep* secretary, and box work secretary. These officers shall be elected by ballot annually by the members of the chapter. (Officers of the local society may hold office in any chapter.) The chapter chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, study secretary, and publicity secretary shall constitute the chapter executive committee.

SEC. 4. Chapter chairmen shall be nominated by the executive committee of the respective chapters and elected by ballot by chapter members, with the exception of the youth and junior chapters. Youth and junior chapter chairmen shall be nominated by the local executive committee.

A chapter chairman becomes a member of the local N.F.M.S. council.

ARTICLE VIII. *Amendments*

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General

Convention of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, and by the approval of the Department of Foreign Missions.

§2. District Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society

ARTICLE I. *Membership*

All local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Societies within the boundaries of ..... District shall be members of the District Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. The activities of this society shall be under the supervision of the District Superintendent, the district advisory board, the District Assembly, and the District N.F.M.S. Council. [247-251]

ARTICLE II. *District Convention*

SECTION 1. There shall be an annual District Convention of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society for the purpose of hearing reports of district officers and local presidents; uniting in prayer for the work; making aggressive plans for propagating missionary information and inspiration in the local societies; and conducting any business pertaining to the district organization.

The time and place of the annual N.F.M.S. Convention shall be decided by the District N.F.M.S. Council in consultation with the District Superintendent.

SEC. 2. MEMBERSHIP. The District Convention shall be composed of the District N.F.M.S. Council, the District Superintendent, pastors of local churches, N.F.M.S. zone chairmen, the presidents of local societies; two delegates from each local society having an active membership of twenty-five or less, and one additional delegate for each additional twenty-five active members (or major fraction thereof); and General N.F.M.S. Council members, retired missionaries, missionaries on furlough, and missionary appointees who hold their church membership on the district.

ARTICLE III. *Officers*

SECTION 1. The officers of this society shall be president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, study secre-

tary, publicity secretary, Prayer and Fasting secretary, membership secretary, *Other Sheep* secretary, and box work secretary. The ten named officers shall constitute the District N.F.M.S. Council. The district superintendent shall be ex officio member of the District N.F.M.S. Council.

The District Executive Committee shall be composed of the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, study secretary, and publicity secretary.

SEC. 2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS. The District Convention shall elect a District President, who shall be nominated by ballot and elected by two-thirds favorable vote, by ballot.

The other district officers shall be elected by majority vote by ballot by the Convention from two nominees presented for each office by a nominating committee appointed by the District Executive Committee.

SEC. 3. VACANCIES. A vacancy in the district presidency shall be filled by majority vote of the District N.F.M.S. Council, two nominees having been submitted by the District N.F.M.S. Executive Committee in consultation with the District Superintendent.

All other vacancies occurring in the district council between annual conventions shall be filled by majority vote of the District N.F.M.S. Council.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Amendments*

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of all members present and voting at the General Convention of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, and by the approval of the Department of Foreign Missions.

### §3. General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society

#### ARTICLE I. *Membership*

All district and local Nazarene Foreign Missionary Societies shall constitute the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society. It shall be auxiliary to the Department of Foreign Missions.



## ARTICLE II. *General Convention*

SECTION 1. There shall be a General Convention of the Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society preceding the General Assembly. The time and place shall be decided upon by the General Council in consultation with the General Superintendent Sponsor and the Department of Foreign Missions.

SEC. 2. MEMBERS. This Convention shall be composed of the following members: members of the General Council; District N.F.M.S. Presidents; two delegates from each district of 900 or fewer active N.F.M.S. members; and one additional delegate for each additional 500 active members (or major part thereof), delegates to be elected by ballot by majority vote at the last annual District Convention.

In the case of foreign mission districts and overseas home mission districts General Convention representation shall be governed by the department of the General Church and their respective policies.

## ARTICLE III. *General Council*

SECTION 1. SELECTION OF GENERAL PRESIDENT. The General Convention shall elect a General President, who shall be nominated by ballot. Should a nominee on the nominating ballot receive a two-thirds favorable vote required for election, the nominee may, upon motion passed by the Convention, be declared elected. The General President shall be an ex officio member of the General Council.

SEC. 2. ELECTION OF THE GENERAL N.F.M.S. COUNCIL. The number of members on the General N.F.M.S. Council shall be determined by the active N.F.M.S. membership on the geographic zones on the following basis: one representative for the first 20,000 active N.F.M.S. members or less on the zone, and one representative for each additional 20,000 active N.F.M.S. members or major fraction thereof.

A member of the General Council shall be member of and resident in the geographic zone. Should the Council member move off the geographic zone, he or

she automatically ceases to be the zone representative on the Council.

No two representatives of one geographic zone shall be from the same district until each district on the zone has one representative.

In addition to the zone representatives there shall be one Council member at large.

All Council members (except General President otherwise provided for) shall be elected by the General Convention by majority vote by ballot.

**SEC. 3. NOMINATION OF GENERAL COUNCIL.** Zone representatives on the General Council shall be nominated by zone caucuses, each district on the geographic zone having the privilege of submitting two names to the caucus. The geographic zone in caucus shall elect by ballot the nominees from its zone (twice the number to be elected). Of the nominees submitted to the General Convention for election, no two shall be from the same district until each district on the zone has one representative.

The Council member at large shall be nominated by a nominating committee, appointed by the General Council, consisting of one representative from each geographic zone. The General President shall be the chairman of the nominating committee.

**SEC. 4.** The Council shall elect by ballot a vice-president, a secretary, a secretary of study, and a publicity secretary. These officers, together with the general president, shall constitute an executive committee, three of whom shall constitute a quorum. They shall hold office until the final adjournment of the next Quadrennial Convention and until their successors are elected and qualified. The Council shall assign to its members responsibility for the various emphases and projects.

**SEC. 5.** One General Superintendent shall be appointed by the Board of General Superintendents as sponsor of the General Council to serve for the quadrennium.

**SEC. 6.** The General Council shall nominate to the General Assembly two members of the Council, one

of whom shall be elected by the General Assembly as a member of the General Board of the Church of the Nazarene as a representative of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society.

SEC. 7. The Council shall meet annually prior to the meeting of the General Board. Six shall constitute a quorum. A condensed report of the business transacted in the annual meeting of the Council shall be referred to the Department of Foreign Missions for approval.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Vacancies*

SECTION 1. Should a vacancy occur in the office of General President, in the interim of sessions of the Quadrennial Convention, the secretary of the Council shall at once notify all district presidents, who shall, by two-thirds vote of all, elect a General President to fill the vacancy and to perform the duties of General President until the final adjournment of the next Quadrennial Convention; provided the question of calling for an election to fill the vacancy shall be decided by the General Council in consultation with the General Superintendent Sponsor.

SEC. 2. Should a vacancy occur in the Council during the quadrennium, the Executive Committee shall present two names as nominees. The vacancy shall then be filled by majority vote by ballot of the members of the Council.

SEC. 3. Should a vacancy occur in the Executive Committee during the quadrennium, two names as nominees from the Council shall be presented. The vacancy shall then be filled by a majority vote, by ballot, of the Council.

#### ARTICLE V. *Amendments*

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at a General Convention of the General Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society, and by the approval of the Department of Foreign Missions.

## CHAPTER III

## 578. BYLAWS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

*Note*—These bylaws are entirely suggestive and are to be arranged by the church school board to meet the needs of the local school. [138]

ARTICLE I. *Membership*

SECTION 1. Membership in the Sunday school of the .....Church of the Nazarene is open to all who desire the help and association this school offers and who consent to become members under the provisions of the *Manual* and these bylaws. There shall be three classes of members in the Sunday school; namely, active, Cradle Roll, and Home Department. [140]

SEC. 2. All persons eligible to active membership who declare their willingness to attend with some degree of regularity may be enrolled at once.

SEC. 3. Active members should be dropped from the roll immediately when they join another Sunday school, move out of town, die, or specifically ask to have their names removed. Members who have ceased to attend but who still live in the community should be removed only after every effort has been made by the teacher, supervisor, superintendent, and pastor to gain their attendance. A non-attending member may be transferred to another class upon recommendation of the supervisor and/or superintendent in the interest of gaining his regular attendance. Non-attending members should be removed only upon approval of the pastor.

SEC. 4. The attendance count shall be closed not later than mid-point of the Sunday school hour.

SEC. 5. Cradle Roll members shall be enrolled by the Cradle Roll superintendent.

When Cradle Roll babies are present in the school they should be counted in the attendance. Since there is normally no class to which these children under three years belong, they are usually cared for in a

nursery room and should be listed as "Cradle Roll Attendance." The Nursery supervisor should be responsible for checking the attendance of these children who are present in the church nursery or with their parents and for giving an accurate report of "Cradle Roll Attendance" to be included in the total attendance of the day. Cradle Roll members shall be enrolled as active members in a Nursery class at the age of three years, or two and one-half years if the local church considers it advisable. Children who have reached the age of four years and have not been enrolled in active membership of the Sunday school should be dropped from the Cradle Roll.

It is recommended that the Cradle Roll be sponsored as a project by a young married people's Sunday school class, or young married people's department.

SEC. 6. Home Department members shall be enrolled by the supervisor of the Home Department.

When Home Department members are present in the school they should be counted as visitors in the class where they attend.

It is recommended that the Home Department be sponsored as a project by a middle-aged or older adult class or department of the Sunday school.

SEC. 7. When a church sponsors a branch Sunday school, enrollment and attendance of the branch are to be credited to the parent Sunday school until the branch becomes an organized church. Records from the branch school are to be included in the records of the sponsoring school, but shown as a separate item in local and district reports as follows:

Attendance	126
Branch School	23
	<hr/>
Total	149

Where two or more churches sponsor the same branch Sunday school, enrollment and attendance figures are to be equally divided among sponsoring churches. A branch school shall be defined as a group with reasonable expectation of becoming an organized church, or an extension group with more than one class.

SEC. 8. When a group of persons under the supervision of the Home Department or other approved leadership of the Sunday school *meets regularly each week for not less than one-half hour of Bible study at a time or place other than the regular Sunday school*, such a group shall be known as an extension class. Extension class enrollment and attendance shall be reported as follows, but they shall not be included in the totals for the local Sunday school:

Attendance	126
Extension Class	13

## ARTICLE II. *Classes and Departments*

SECTION 1. For the teaching work and certain group activities the Sunday school shall be divided into classes on the basis of age and other conditions. Each class shall be under the care of a competent teacher suited to the group age.

*Note*—For the most effective work a Sunday school should be departmentalized. Even a small school, if there be more than one class for children, will progress more rapidly if there is a department supervisor to correlate the work of the children's classes. As soon as there are two or more classes within a given age-group, e.g., Juniors (9-11 years), someone should be appointed as the Junior supervisor even though a separate worship service for Juniors is not possible. A youth supervisor and an adult supervisor should be appointed as soon as there are two or more classes in either of these age-groups. The Department of Church Schools will, upon request, furnish full instructions for a plan of departmentalization of the Sunday school.

*Note*—Each Sunday school class above Junior age should be organized to carry out Christian service projects and other helpful class activities. The Department of Church Schools will, upon request, furnish information and plans for such class organization.

## ARTICLE III. *Officers and Their Duties*

SECTION 1. The officers of the Sunday school shall be a superintendent, an assistant superintendent, a secretary, and a treasurer, and such other officers as may be needed. These shall be elected according to the *Manual*, paragraphs 135 and 142.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the superintendent (a) to administer the affairs of the school according

to the provisions of the *Manual* and the bylaws; (b) to counsel with the teachers relative to their work; (c) to give an annual report to the annual church meeting; (d) to attend the District Assembly; (e) to co-operate with the district church school board and Department of Church Schools in the promotion of the church school work.

**SEC. 3.** It shall be the duty of the assistant superintendent to co-operate with the superintendent in the promotion of the best interest of the school and, in the absence of the superintendent, to perform the administrative duties belonging to his office.

**SEC. 4.** It shall be the duty of the secretary (a) to keep an accurate record of the enrollment of the entire school (regular enrollment cards should be used), the record of attendance, absentees, visitors, and such other items as may be required; (b) to keep correct minutes of all meetings of the Sunday school cabinet; (c) and to fill out and forward promptly all statistical and informational blanks requested by the pastor, the district church school board, and the Department of Church Schools.

**SEC. 5.** It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds raised by the Sunday school and disburse the same as directed by the cabinet in harmony with the general rules laid down by the church school board. He shall keep an accurate account of all finances and make a monthly, detailed report to the cabinet and a quarterly report to the church school board of all receipts, expenditures, and obligations. He shall, in co-operation with the officers and teachers, endeavor to impart proper instruction relative to Christian stewardship.

**NOTE**—In the small school one person may serve as secretary-treasurer.

In the larger schools there may be two or more assistant superintendents, and these may be made heads of certain promotional work—membership, missionary, temperance, etc.

Also, it is well to have a librarian, whose duty will be (a) to have charge of all Sunday school literature, books, and periodicals, and direct their proper distribution; (b) to promote and have charge of a workers' library; (c) to create through the school an appreciation for wholesome literature and encourage the reading of the same.

A music committee with the following duties may be profitable: (a) to have general charge of the music of the school; (b) to see that proper persons are selected to lead the singing and play the musical instruments; (c) to see that proper songbooks are provided for each department; (d) to create throughout the school an appreciation for wholesome music in Christian worship and character building; (e) to organize and promote such ensemble work as may be desirable and helpful.

In case the school is departmentized the following should be added:

It shall be the duty of the department supervisor (a) to have immediate supervision of his department, in harmony with the *Manual* and the bylaws of the Sunday school; (b) to attend all cabinet meetings, and to preside at all meetings of the department council; (c) with the superintendent to nominate to the pastor such teachers as may be needed, and provide such other officers and helpers as may be required for the most efficient work of the department; and (d) to co-operate with the pastor and superintendent in their plans for the general advancement of the school.

#### ARTICLE IV. *Aministration and Supervision*

SECTION 1. This school is an organic part of the local church, and of the local church educational program. It is under the general supervision of the church school board, the care of the pastor, and the immediate leadership of the Sunday school superintendent.

SEC. 2. There shall be a Sunday school cabinet, in which the administrative work of the school is vested. The cabinet shall consist of the general officers and the department supervisors, if any, of the Sunday school. (In case it shall be deemed preferable by the local church, the members of the church school board and/or the Sunday school teachers may be included in the membership of the Sunday school cabinet.) This cabinet is the executive body of the school and shall meet regularly on the .....day of each week (or month), with the pastor presiding. This cabinet shall consider (a) the general interests of the school, and lay and execute plans for the realization of these interests; and (b) recommend to the church school board such matters as should have its consideration.

SEC. 3. A general Sunday school conference shall be held the ..... day of each quarter, with the pastor presiding. This conference shall consist of the church school board, the Sunday school cabinet,



and the department councils. This will not be a meeting for the transaction of business, but for inspiration, study, and discussion. General policies may be formed and conclusions drawn to be passed on to the proper executive body for official action and execution. A well-arranged program must be provided for each conference meeting.

#### ARTICLE V. *Amendments*

These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the church school board at any regular meeting, or at a meeting especially called for this purpose, if such change shall not conflict with any legislation contained in the *Manual* of the Church of the Nazarene, and if announcement of such change shall be made at least one week prior to the time of the meeting.



**PART IX**  
**FORMS**

**THE LOCAL CHURCH**  
**THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY**  
**BILLS OF CHARGES**

## CHAPTER I

### 579. THE LOCAL CHURCH

#### §1. Recommendation to the District Assembly

The Church Board of the ..... Church of the Nazarene at ..... recommends A..... B ..... to the ..... District Assembly for \*.....

We certify that ..... has fulfilled all the requirements for such request.

By vote of the Church Board this ..... day of ..... 19.....

.....*Chairman*  
.....*Secretary*

- \* Minister's license
- Renewal of minister's license
- Christian education director's commission
- Song evangelist's commission
- District deaconess' license
- Renewal of district deaconess' license
- Consecration as deaconess

NOTE—This form may be used for seven different recommendations. Fill in the starred (\*) phrase you need.

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#### §2. Certificate of Commendation

This certifies that A ..... B ..... is a member of the Church of the Nazarene at ..... and is hereby commended to the Christian confidence of those to whom this Certificate may be presented.

.....*Pastor*  
Date ..... 19.....

NOTE—When a certificate of commendation is given a person, his membership immediately ceases in the local church issuing the certificate. [50 § 2.]

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#### §3. Letter of Dismissal

This certifies that A ..... B ..... has been until this date a member of the Church of the Nazarene at..... and, at h.....request, is granted this letter of dismissal.

.....*Pastor*  
Date.....19.....

NOTE—Membership terminates immediately upon issuance of a letter of dismissal. [50 § 3.]

#### §4. Transfer of Members

This certifies that A..... B..... is a member in good standing in the Church of the Nazarene at..... and, at h..... request, is hereby transferred to the Church of the Nazarene at ..... in the ..... District.

When the reception of this transfer is acknowledged by the receiving local church, membership in this local church will cease.

.....*Pastor*  
.....19.....*Address*

NOTE—A transfer is valid for three months only [50 § 1.]

#### §5. Transfer Acknowledged

This certifies that A..... B..... has been received into membership by the Church of the Nazarene at ..... this .....day of .....19.....

.....*Pastor*  
.....*Address*

#### §6. Local Preacher's License

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is licensed as a Local Preacher in the Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that..... teachings correspond with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said Church.

By Order of the Church Board of the ..... Church of the Nazarene.

Done at....., the ..... day of ....., 19...

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Secretary

#### §7. Local Deaconess' License

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is licensed as a Local Deaconess in the ..... Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that her spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that she holds to

the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said Church.

By order of the Church Board of the..... Church of the Nazarene.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....

..... Chairman

..... Secretary

CHAPTER II

580. THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

§1. Ordination

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That, under the protection of Almighty God, and with an eye single to His glory, by prayer and other religious services, ..... has this day been set apart and ordained to the office of Elder in the Church of God, according to the rules of the Church of the Nazarene, ..... being judged worthy and well qualified for that work by the ..... District Assembly, and .... is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to administer the sacraments and ordinances and to feed the flock of God so long as ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ and ..... continueth to hold fast the form of sound words according to the established doctrines of the gospel.

In Testimony Whereof we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Church of the Nazarene, this ..... day of ....., in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ..... Done at .....

..... General Superintendent

[269]

..... District Secretary

§2. Certificate of Recognition

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, That, under the protection of Almighty God, and with an eye single

to His glory, ..... has this day been recognized as an Elder in the Church of God, according to the rules of the Church of the Nazarene, ..... being judged worthy and well qualified for that work by the ..... District Assembly, and .... is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to administer the sacraments and ordinances and to feed the flock of God so long as ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ and ..... continueth to hold fast the form of sound words according to the established doctrines of the gospel.

*In Testimony Whereof* we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Church of the Nazarene, this ..... day of ....., in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and .....

..... Done at .....  
 .....  
 ..... General Superintendent  
 .....  
 [278] ..... District Secretary

**§3. Deaconess' Certificate**

**THIS IS TO CERTIFY** that ..... has this day been consecrated to the office of Deaconess in the Church of God, according to the rules of the Church of the Nazarene, she being judged worthy and well qualified for that work by the ..... District Assembly, and she is hereby recommended to all whom it may concern as a proper person to do the work of a Deaconess so long as her spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ and she continueth to hold fast the form of sound faith according to the established doctrines of the gospel.

*In Testimony Whereof* we have hereunto set our hands and the seal of the Church of the Nazarene this ..... day of ....., in the year of our Lord, one thousand nine hundred and ..... Done at .....

.....  
 ..... General Superintendent  
 .....  
 [306] ..... District Secretary



**§4. Minister's License**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is licensed as a Licensed Minister of the gospel in the Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that ..... spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that ..... ministry corresponds with the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said Church.

By Order of ..... District Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....

.....  
General Superintendent

[259]

.....  
District Secretary

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**§5. Deaconess' License**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is licensed as a Licensed Deaconess in the Church of the Nazarene for one year, provided that her spirit and practice are such as become the gospel of Christ, and that she holds to the established doctrines of the Holy Scriptures as held by said Church.

By Order of ..... District Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene.

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....

.....  
General Superintendent

[300]

.....  
District Secretary

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**§6. Evangelist's Commission**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is commissioned as an Evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene, having been commissioned by the ..... District Assembly.

This Commission is for one year from date, and ..... field of labor is to be more especially the .....

Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....  
 .....  
 ..... General Superintendent  
 .....  
 [286] ..... District Secretary

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**§7. Song Evangelist's Commission**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is commissioned as a Song Evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene, having been commissioned by the ..... District Assembly.

This commission is for one year from date, and ..... field of labor is to be more especially the .....  
 Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....  
 .....  
 ..... General Superintendent  
 .....  
 [316] ..... District Secretary

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**§8. Minister of Music—Commission**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is commissioned as a Minister of Music in the Church of the Nazarene, having been commissioned by the ..... District Assembly.

This commission is for one year from date, and ..... field of labor is to be more especially the .....  
 Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....  
 .....  
 ..... General Superintendent  
 .....  
 [319] ..... District Secretary

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**§9. Christian Education Director's Commission**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that ..... is commissioned as a Director of Christian Education in the Church of the Nazarene, having been commissioned by the ..... District Assembly.

This commission is for one year from date, and

..... field of labor is to be more especially the  
 .....  
 Done at ....., the ..... day of ....., 19....  
 .....  
 ..... General Superintendent  
 .....  
 [322] ..... District Secretary

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**§10. Transfer by District Assembly**

To the President  
 Of ..... District Assembly:  
 THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the bearer, .....  
 is a .....  
       [Elder, Licensed Minister, Deaconess]  
 in good standing in the ..... District Assembly  
 of the Church of the Nazarene and, having requested  
 a transfer, is hereby transferred and recommended to  
 the ..... District Assembly of said Church,  
 subject to the action of the District Assembly to which  
 addressed.  
 Done by order of the ..... District Assembly,  
 held at ....., on ..... the day of ....., 19...  
 .....  
 ..... General Superintendent  
 .....  
 [281-284, 309-312] ..... District Secretary

*Note*—This transfer is valid only until the close of  
 the next session following date of issue of the District  
 Assembly to which addressed.

*Note*—The transfer of a licensed minister or a li-  
 censed deaconess shall be valid only when accom-  
 panied by a detailed record of his or her grades in  
 the course of study, properly certified by the secre-  
 tary of the district board of ministerial studies of the  
 issuing District Assembly.

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**§11. Transfer by District Advisory Board**

To the President  
 Of ..... District Assembly:  
 THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the bearer, .....

is a .....  
 [Elder, Licensed Minister, Deaconess]  
 in good standing in the ..... District of the  
 Church of the Nazarene and, having requested a  
 transfer, is hereby transferred and recommended to  
 the ..... District Assembly of said Church,  
 subject to the action of the District Assembly to which  
 addressed.

Done by order of the District Advisory Board of the  
 ..... District, on the ..... day of  
 ....., 19.....

.....  
 District Superintendent

[282, 310]

.....  
 Secretary of District Advisory Board

**§12. Acknowledgment of Reception of Transfer**

To the District Secretary  
 Of ..... District:  
**THIS IS TO NOTIFY** you that the transfer issued to  
 ..... has been  
 duly received by the ..... District Assembly  
 of the Church of the Nazarene, on the ..... day of  
 ....., 19....., in session at .....  
 and the above-named bearer is now enrolled as a  
 member of the receiving District Assembly.

[284, 312]

.....  
 District Secretary

**Note**—The receiving District Assembly shall notify  
 the issuing District Assembly of the reception of the  
 transferred person's membership.

**CHAPTER III**

**581. BILLS OF CHARGES**

**§1. In Trial of a Church Member**

**§2. In Trial of an Elder**

**§3. In Trial of a Licensed Minister**

Bills of Charges can be secured from the General Secretary,  
 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo.

**PART X**  
**COURSES OF STUDY**

**LOCAL PREACHERS**  
**LICENSED MINISTERS**  
**LICENSED DEACONESSES**  
**SONG EVANGELISTS**  
**MINISTERS OF MUSIC**  
**DIRECTORS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

## CHAPTER I

### 582. FOR LOCAL PREACHERS

*This is a two-year Course of Study for Local Preachers. It is prerequisite to entering the course for licensed ministers and must be completed before a person is eligible to proceed with the advanced theological course. [102]*

#### TO BE STUDIED

*Manual of Bible History—Blaikie and Matthews*  
*Exploring Our Christian Faith—Purkiser*  
*Rise of the Church of the Nazarene—Redford*  
*Holiness and Power—Hills*  
*Introduction to Christian Theology—Wiley and Culbertson*  
*The Story of Ourselves—Harper*  
*Manual, Church of the Nazarene*  
*The Macmillan Handbook of English—Kierzek*  
*History of English Literature—Neilson and Thorndike*  
*American Literature—Crawford, Kern, and Needleman*  
*Basic History of the U.S.—Beard*

#### TO BE READ

*Preacher and Prayer—Bounds*  
*The Labor of Love—Williamson*  
*The Superintendent Faces His Task—Ross and McRae*  
*Tongue of Fire—Arthur*  
*Where Two Creeds Meet—McKinley*  
*The Interior Life—Upham*  
*Certainties of Faith—Smith*  
*The Dynamic of Faith—Wilkes*  
*We Are Witnesses—Ellis*  
*The Heart of Wesley's Faith*  
*Essential Christian Beliefs—White*

## CHAPTER II

**583. FOR LICENSED MINISTERS**

*The Course of Study for Licensed Ministers is theological and Biblical in character, leading toward ordination in the ministry of the Church of the Nazarene. To pursue this course of study, the applicant must have completed the Course of Study for Local Preachers or its equivalent.*

When a candidate elects to pursue his preparation for the ministry in one of the colleges or the seminary of the church, he shall be graduated from the course of study when he presents transcripts of record showing minimum credit in the following subject areas:

Biblical Literature.....	12 Semester Units
Theology (including 1 semester of Doctrine of Holiness).....	12 Semester Units
Homiletics, Practics, and Religious Education.....	12 Semester Units
Church History (including History and Polity of the Church of the Nazarene).....	8 Semester Units
English and Speech.....	18 Semester Units
Philosophy and Psychology.....	12 Semester Units
History and Social Science.....	12 Semester Units

In the event a candidate shall do a portion of the work of the home study course and later transfer to college or seminary, the college or seminary shall evaluate the home study work in terms of units toward requirements (but not for college or seminary credit). In the event a candidate shall do a portion of the indicated work in the college or seminary, and complete work by home study, the college or seminary shall be requested to evaluate the college subjects in terms of the home study work for the benefit of the District Boards of Ministerial Studies.

**§1. First Year  
TO BE STUDIED**

*Exploring the Old Testament—Purkiser  
Christian Theology, Vol. I—Wiley*



*Overseers of the Flock*—Williamson  
*The Nazarene Sunday School Today*—Harper  
*Robert's Rules of Order*—Robert

#### TO BE READ

*Heralds of God*—Stewart  
*Gospel of the Comforter*—Steele  
*The Dynamic of Service*—Wilkes  
*Way to Biblical Preaching*—Miller  
*Ministerial Ethics and Etiquette*—Harmon  
*Eradication Defined, Explained, Authenticated*—White  
*How We Got Our Bible*—Smythe  
*The Church Winning Souls*—Lewis  
*Preaching Scriptural Holiness*—Williamson  
*Why I Am a Nazarene*—Fisher

### §2. Second Year

#### TO BE STUDIED

*Exploring the New Testament*—Earle  
*Christian Theology, Vol. II*—Wiley  
*Preaching from the Bible*—Blackwood  
*A History of the Christian Church*—Qualben  
*Fifty Years of Nazarene Missions, Vol. II*—DeLong and  
 Taylor

#### TO BE READ

*The Life and Teaching of Jesus Christ*—Stewart  
*The Way to Pentecost*—Chadwick  
*The Precious Blood of Christ*—Gould  
*The Preacher and His Audience*—Garrison  
*Problems of the Spirit-filled Life*—Deal  
*Enlisting and Developing Church Leaders*—Milhouse  
*Security, the False and the True*—Purkiser  
*Let's Look at Our Church*—Hamlin  
*Man of the Morning*—Brickley

### §3. Third Year

#### TO BE STUDIED

*Christian Theology, Vol. III*—Wiley  
*Fifty Years of Nazarene Missions, Vol. III*—Taylor  
*The Terminology of Holiness*—Chapman

*Principles and Practice of Preaching*—Jones  
*Conflicting Concepts of Holiness*—Purkiser

TO BE READ

*A Right Conception of Sin*—Taylor  
*Perfect Love*—Wood  
*Preaching*—Morgan  
*Epistle to the Hebrews*—Wiley  
*Handbook of Denominations*—Meade  
*Cardinal Elements in Sanctification*—White  
*Progress of World-wide Missions*—Glover  
*How to Speak the Written Word*—Lamar  
*Business Handbook for Churches*—Linamen  
*Fifty Years of Nazarene Missions, Vol. I*—Taylor

(A list of these books, prices quoted, can be obtained by writing the Nazarene Publishing House, 2923 Troost Avenue, Box 527, Kansas City 41, Missouri.)

CHAPTER III

584. FOR LICENSED DEACONESSES

§1. First Year

TO BE STUDIED

*Exploring the Old Testament*—Purkiser  
*ABC's of Christian Doctrine*—Corlett  
*The Life and Teaching of Jesus Christ*—Stewart

TO BE READ

*With Christ in the School of Prayer*—Murray  
*The Dynamic of Service*—Wilkes  
*Christian Purity, Abridged*—Foster

§2. Second Year

TO BE STUDIED

*Exploring the New Testament*—Earle  
*Essential Christian Beliefs*—White  
*Basic Nursing (4th ed.)*—Gill  
*Manual, Church of the Nazarene*

TO BE READ

*The Labor of Love*—Williamson  
*Purity and Maturity, Abridged*—Wood  
*Rise of the Church of the Nazarene*—Redford

## CHAPTER IV

## 585. FOR SONG EVANGELISTS

## §1. First Year

## TO BE STUDIED

Voice Training I—Private study  
*Song Leading*—Sims  
*The Beginning Music Reader*—McKinney  
*Music in Evangelism*—Kerr  
*Essential Christian Beliefs*—White  
*The Church Winning Souls*—Lewis  
*Rise of the Church of the Nazarene*—Redford

## TO BE READ

*Song Leadership*—Rodeheaver-Ford  
*Modern Gospel Song Stories*—Lillenas  
*Singing Disciples*—Benner  
*A Right Conception of Sin*—Taylor  
*Manual of Bible History*—Blaikie and Matthews  
*Why I Am a Nazarene*—Fisher  
*Dynamic of Faith*—Wilkes  
*Where Two Creeds Meet*—McKinley  
*We Are Witnesses*—Ellis

## §2. Second Year

## TO BE STUDIED

Voice Training II—Private study  
*The Amateur Choir Director*—Hjortsvang  
*The Progressing Music Reader*—McKinney  
*Exploring Our Christian Faith*—Purkiser  
*The Nazarene Sunday School Today*—Harper  
*The Life and Teaching of Jesus Christ*—Stewart

## TO BE READ

*Handbook for the Church Pianist*—Auld  
*Dynamic of Service*—Wilkes  
*Getting Help from the Hymns*—Brown  
*Terminology of Holiness*—Chapman  
*Cardinal Elements in Sanctification*—White  
*Let's Look at Our Church*—Hamlin  
*Forty Gospel Hymn Stories*—Sanville  
*How to Speak the Written Word*—Lamar

## CHAPTER V

## 586. FOR MINISTERS OF MUSIC

## §1. First Year

## TO BE STUDIED

Voice Training I—Private study  
*The Beginning Music Reader*—McKinney  
*Song Leading*—Sims  
*Building a Church Choir*—Wilson-Lyall  
*Exploring Our Christian Faith*—Purkiser  
*Rise of the Church of the Nazarene*—Redford

## TO BE READ

*Singing Disciples*—Benner  
*Music in Evangelism*—Kerr  
*Modern Gospel Song Stories*—Lillenas  
*The Church Winning Souls*—Lewis  
*A Right Conception of Sin*—Taylor  
*The Nazarene Primer*—Chapman  
*Let's Look at Our Church*—Hamlin

## §2. Second Year

## TO BE STUDIED

Voice Training II—Private study  
*Essentials in Conducting*—Gehrkins  
*Patterns of Protestant Church Music*—Stevenson  
*The Progressing Music Reader*—McKinney  
*Music in Christian Education*—Thomas  
*Organizing and Directing Children's Choirs*—Ingram  
*Nazarene Sunday Schools Today*—Harper

## TO BE READ

*Music in Worship*—Ashton  
*Getting Help from the Hymns*—Brown  
*Handbook for the Church Pianist*—Auld  
*In Every Corner Sing*—Clokey  
*Cardinal Elements in Sanctification*—White  
*Man of the Morning*—Brickley  
*Why I Am a Nazarene*—Fisher

## CHAPTER VI

**587. FOR DIRECTORS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

*This is a three-year course of study designed to help prepare leadership for directing Christian education in the local church. It leads toward a commission, awarded by the District Assembly upon completion of the course. To pursue this course of study, the applicant must have completed the Basic Training Program for Churchmanship prescribed by the Christian Service Training Commission or its equivalent.*

**§1. First Year****TO BE STUDIED**

*Exploring the New Testament—Earle*

*Enlisting and Developing Church Leaders—Milhouse*

*Teaching for Results—Edge*

*Work in the Local Church:*

*The Nazarene Sunday School Today—Harper*

*N.Y.P.S. Constitution*

*Programs with a Purpose—Gilliland*

*The N.F.M.S. Handbook*

*C.S.T. Blue Book*

*We Are Witnesses—Ellis*

*The Gospel and Christian Education—Wyckoff*

**TO BE READ**

*Studies in Christian Essentials—Jessop*

*Dynamic of Service—Wilkes*

*The Story of the New Testament—Earle*

*Youth and Worship—Price*

*Here's How—Potter*

*Nazarene Primer—Chapman*

*The Sunday School Teacher—Harper*

*Psychology for Christian Teachers—Murray*

*New Testament Holiness—Cook*

**§2. Second Year****TO BE STUDIED**

*Exploring Our Christian Faith—Purkiser*

*Exploring the Old Testament—Purkiser*

*Introduction to Christian Education—Person*

## Teaching Children:

*Teaching Nursery Children*—Carlson  
*Teaching Kindergarten Children*—Young  
*Better Primary Teaching*—Peck  
*Better Junior Teaching*—Shelton

## The Church-related Weekday Activity Program

*PAL Packet, Trail Guide, Path Guide, Brave Guide,  
 Maiden Guide*

## TO BE READ

*Holiness and the Human Element*—Baldwin  
*The Story of the Old Testament*—Winchester  
*History of Christian Education*—Benson  
*Adults Learn and Like It*—Caldwell  
*The Church Winning Souls*—Lewis  
*The Story of Ourselves*—Harper  
*Right Conception of Sin*—Taylor  
*Music in Evangelism*—Kerr

## Christian Home Series:

*Opening Doors of Faith*—Edwards  
*Together with God*—Jones  
*In Favor with God and Man*—Peck

## §3. Third Year

## TO BE STUDIED

*Bible Holiness*—Ellyson  
*Rise of the Church of the Nazarene*—Redford  
*Leading a Sunday Church School*—Heim  
*The Place of the Sunday School in Evangelism*—  
 Barnette

## Teaching Youth:

*Teacher and Young Teens*—Griffith  
*Teaching Youth in the Church*—McRae

## TO BE READ

*Terminology of Holiness*—Chapman  
*Manual, Church of the Nazarene*  
*How to Plan Workers' Meetings*—Benson  
*The Sunday School Reaches Out*—Parker

*Youth and Recreation*—Du Bois

*The Vacation Bible School—Why, What, and How?*—  
Latham

*The Superintendent Faces His Task*—Ross and McRae

*Your Teen-Ager and You*—Williamson

**NOTE**—Write the Nazarene Publishing House for price list  
of the books used in these Courses of Study.





# **APPENDIX**

**GENERAL OFFICERS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS**

## CHAPTER I

### 588. GENERAL OFFICERS

#### §1. General Superintendents

Hardy C. Powers  
G. B. Williamson  
Samuel Young

D. I. Vanderpool  
Hugh C. Benner  
V. H. Lewis

#### §2. General Secretary S. T. Ludwig

#### §3. General Treasurer John Stockton

#### §4. Editor *Herald of Holiness* W. T. Purkiser

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
6401 THE PASEO  
KANSAS CITY 10, MISSOURI

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## CHAPTER II

### 589. ADMINISTRATIVE BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

#### §1. General Board

##### MEMBERS BY GEOGRAPHICAL ZONES

##### (1) *Eastern Zone*

E. E. Grosse  
Morris D. Wilson  
L. W. Durkee  
Leonard Spangenberg

##### (2) *Southeast Zone*

John L. Knight  
L. B. Hicks  
Charles Oney  
John T. Benson, Jr.

(3) *Central Zone*

Paul Updike  
Harvey S. Galloway  
William B. Kelly  
Howard H. Hamlin  
Harlan Heinmiller  
L. D. Mitchell

(4) *West Central Zone*

Ray Hance  
E. S. Phillips  
Lawrence Crawford  
Vernon Lunn

(5) *Northwest Zone*

E. E. Zachary  
Howard R. Olson  
J. Robert Mangum  
Gordon T. Olsen

(6) *Southwest Zone*

George Coulter  
L. Guy Nees  
J. Wesley Mieras  
Willis Brown

(7) *British Commonwealth Zone*

*British Isles*  
George Frame  
*Canadian*  
Edward Lawlor  
Kenneth I. Olsen

(8) *Nazarene Foreign Missionary Society*

Louise R. Chapman

(9) *Nazarene Young People's Society*

James Snow

(10) *Education*

Roy H. Cantrell  
Edward S. Mann

**§2. General Court of Appeals**

T. W. Willingham, Chairman, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas  
City 10, Missouri

Harvey S. Galloway, Secretary, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas  
City 10, Missouri

O. J. Finch

Edward Lawlor

Roy H. Cantrell

### §3. Book Committee

M. A. Lunn

Mendell Taylor

E. S. Phillips

Paul Updike

Orville W. Jenkins

William Greathouse

S. T. Ludwig

### §4. General Council of the Nazarene Young People's Society

James Snow, President

Paul Skiles, Executive Secretary

Don Peterman (Northwest Zone)

Reuben Welch (Southwest Zone)

Paul Wells (Eastern Zone)

Charles Muxworthy (British Commonwealth Zone)

John Hancock (Southeast Zone)

Forrest Whitlatch (Central Zone)

Ray Lunn Hance (West Central Zone)

Kenneth Tippitt, Bill Greenelsh, Justin Rice (Members at Large)

V. H. Lewis, General Superintendent, Sponsor

### §5. General Council of the Nazarene Foreign Mis- sionary Society

Louise R. Chapman, President

Mary L. Scott, Executive Secretary

Mrs. Edward Lawlor (British Commonwealth Zone)

Mrs. Gene Phillips (Central Zone)

Mrs. Paul Updike (Central Zone)

Mrs. D. D. Palmer (Eastern Zone)

Mrs. Gordon T. Olsen (Northwest Zone)

Mrs. Remiss Rehfeldt (West Central Zone)

Mrs. D. S. Somerville (Southeast Zone)

Mrs. George Coulter (Southwest Zone)

Hugh C. Benner, General Superintendent, Sponsor

### §6. Trustees, Nazarene Theological Seminary

E. E. Grosse (Eastern Zone)  
 Harvey S. Galloway (Central Zone)  
 George Coulter (Southwest Zone)  
 Edward Lawlor (British Commonwealth Zone)  
 John L. Knight (Southeast Zone)  
 Raymond McClung (West Central Zone)  
 B. V. Seals (Northwest Zone)  
 Ray Hance (Elder at Large)  
 L. B. Hicks (Elder at Large)  
 Melza Brown (Elder at Large)  
 Howard Hamlin (Layman at Large)  
 M. Lunn (Layman at Large)  
 George J. Reed (Layman at Large)

## CHAPTER III

### GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

#### 590. Relating to Credentials of General Assembly Delegates

§ 1. That it is illegal to seat visitors not regularly elected as alternates in the place of delegates not present. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1919.]

§ 2. That these [visitors] not being elected alternates cannot be seated. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1923.]

§ 3. That since Rev. . . . . has transferred from his former Assembly District and his transfer has been accepted, he has lost all rights of membership in his former Assembly District, and would therefore be ineligible to be seated as a delegate from the Assembly District in which he formerly held his membership. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1928.]

§ 4. Regarding those chosen by the district advisory boards and General Assembly delegations from Arizona, Northern California, Kentucky, Georgia, Michigan, Rocky Mountain, Manitoba-Saskatchewan, and Northwest districts to be members of this General Assembly, it is the opinion of your Committee on Cre-

dentials that their methods of selection contravene the principles laid down by the 1919 General Assembly and restated by subsequent General Assembly sessions, as recorded in 408 § 1, of the 1928 *Manual*; and are also a violation of the requirements of the 1928 *Manual*, 129 § 23, and 230, for the choosing of General Assembly delegates. Your Committee deems such methods of selection of delegates to the General Assembly as illegal and therefore recommends that the above be not seated. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1932.]

§ 5. Your committee was asked to rule as to “what action should be taken when an elder is elected to the General Assembly but before the convening of the Assembly the same elected elder transferred and is received to another district. Is he still qualified to act as delegate to the General Assembly from the District which he left?”

In accordance with the action taken by the Seventh General Assembly (Journal 98 § 220, and referred to in *Manual* of 1932, 416 § 3) your committee rules that such elder is ineligible to be seated in the assembly as a representative of the district which he left. [Adopted by the *General Assembly* of 1936.]

§ 6. Relating to the question of the right of a ministerial delegate-elect who has accepted a pastorate on another district to represent his district in the General Assembly, it is our opinion that paragraph 326 means that when a ministerial delegate-elect has accepted a call to a pastoral charge on another district he has vacated his right to represent at the General Assembly the district that elected him. Further, it is our opinion that the Credentials Committee acted correctly in such cases. [Adopted by the *General Assembly* of 1952.]

### 591. Relating to Parliamentary Procedure

We recommend the adoption of Robert's Rules of Order and Neely's Parliamentary Practice when no definite method of parliamentary procedure is indicated in the *Manual*. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1940.]

### 592. Relating to Judiciary Actions

§ 1. Has the district advisory board the right to transfer a member of the District Assembly to another denomination?

*Ans.* The district advisory board has no authority to transfer a member of the District Assembly to another denomination.

§ 2. (a) Does a District Superintendent have the right to give his written approval to the sale of church property without the consent of the district advisory board?

(b) Does he need the consent of the district advisory board?

*Ans.* (a) The District Superintendent does have the right to give his written approval of the sale of church property without the approval of the district advisory board.

(b) He does not need the consent of the district advisory board.

§ 3. Relating to General Rules 25 § 1 (7), "membership in or fellowship with oath-bound secret orders or fraternities."

(a) Does this mean that the Church of the Nazarene will not permit its members to hold their former insurance in this class of orders, provided that the fees are paid for this purpose only and there is no fellowship with the organization?

(b) Does a church have the right to maintain the membership of a person when he holds membership in a secret order solely for the purpose of keeping his insurance while it bars from membership other persons because they are members of the same order?

*Ans.* (a) (b) According to 25 § 1 (7) of our *Manual*, one cannot be a member of the Church of the Nazarene while holding membership in an oath-bound secret order.

§ 4. A woman marries a man who had been previously married and unscripturally divorced. Would she be barred from membership in the Church of the Nazarene provided her own individual case met the requirements for membership?



*Ans.* Such a person as that referred to would be barred from membership in the Church of the Nazarene.

§ 5. General Rules 25 § 1 (3) relating to "Using of tobacco in any of its forms, or the trafficking therein."

Does this prohibit church membership in the Church of the Nazarene to a person who is employed in a store, either as clerk or manager, where among other things he is obliged to sell tobacco?

*Ans.* There is a distinction between trafficking as the owner of a business and selling as a clerk; and, therefore, we would not interpret the selling as a clerk is violating the letter of the *Manual*.

§ 6. At a church meeting called for the purpose of voting on the recall of a pastor, is it legal to count the votes of members not present at the time of such voting?

*Ans.* It would be illegal to count the votes of members not present when voting on the recall of a pastor.

§ 7. If a licensed minister meets all the requirements for the renewal of his license according to 258, is the District Assembly obliged to renew such license?

*Ans.* A District Assembly is not under obligation according to 258 to renew said license.

§ 8. A church has a debt on its property. It elects a finance committee of three who are members of the church board with instructions to receive and disburse all money which applies to the church debt. Has the church the right to make this committee custodian of that part of the church funds and to receive and disburse the same independent of the regularly elected church treasurer?

*Ans.* The church does have such a right.

§ 9. A pastor resigns. The District Superintendent calls the church board together to consider the appointment of a man to fill the vacancy until the next District Assembly. He finds that the church board had previously held a meeting and elected a man for the pastorate for the remainder of the District As-

sembly year, and also had called him for the year following. Is the church acting within its rights?

*Ans.* The church is not acting within its rights.

§ 10. In case a District Superintendent and pastor fail to investigate charges filed against a minister in their Assembly District as directed in 468 of the *Manual*, does this incriminate the District Superintendent or the pastor for failure to make this investigation?

*Ans.* A District Superintendent would be incriminated if he failed to investigate written accusations against a minister in his Assembly District. The fact of his amenability to his District Assembly is evidence that he will be subject to charges for failing to discharge his official duty. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1928.]

§ 11. Is a vote naming an office merely, and not a person—an elder—for ministerial delegate to the General Assembly legal? The conclusion reached should apply to a layman as well as a ministerial nominee.

*Ans.* It is our opinion that, in interpretation of Part III, Article IV, Section 2, of our Constitution, the naming of an office does not constitute a legal ballot for either ministerial or lay delegate to the General Assembly.

§ 12. Your Committee [on Judiciary] reports on Memorial No. 301, concerning the constitutionality of an age limit for voting, that it is our opinion that the setting by this General Assembly of an age limit for voting is not contrary to our Constitution. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1932.]

§ 13. Clarify the status of an elder who may be dropped from the local membership roll on account of absence of over a six-month period, which is unsatisfactorily explained, and the nonsupport of the church during this period. If a local church drops his name from the roll, what is his Assembly relationship?

*Ans.* It is the opinion of the Committee on Judiciary that the dropping of an elder from the church roll of which he is a member, under the conditions mentioned, cannot affect his status as a member of

his Assembly District. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1940.]

§ 14. Does a recommendation for ordination, if denied, authorize the Orders and Relations Committee to recommend a renewal of minister's license without a recommendation from the local church?

*Ans.* A recommendation for ordination, if denied, does authorize the Orders and Relations Committee to recommend a renewal of license without any other recommendation. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1948.]

§ 15. Your Committee (on Judiciary) reports on Memorial No. 181, concerning the election of delegates to the General Assembly, that it is our opinion that any action of a District Assembly by itself or through its nominating committee which deprives elders in good standing of their constitutional right to become nominees for election to membership in the General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene by making their type or kind of ministry or employment the basis of eligibility for nomination is illegal. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

### **593. Relating to Modification of Constitutions and Bylaws of Auxiliary Organizations by British Isles District**

*Resolved*, That authority be granted the British Isles District Assembly or their successors to modify from time to time the Constitution and Bylaws of auxiliary organizations as may be necessary to meet the prevailing conditions in Britain, with the approval and consent of the General Superintendents being necessary for each alteration or modification. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1944.]

### **594. Relating to Retirement Pension of General Superintendents**

The schedule of pensions for retired General Superintendents shall be as follows:

§ 1. That the Social Security benefits of a retired general superintendent shall be supplemented by an

amount necessary to produce the following retirement pension:

The minimum retirement pension for each general superintendent shall be 25 per cent of the sum of the basic salary plus home allowance and utilities currently paid to active general superintendents.

These benefits are to be scaled upward with each year of service at the rate of 6  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent per year for sixteen years, beginning with the fifth year of service until at the beginning of the twentieth year of service the maximum benefit of 50 per cent will have been reached. The 6 $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent annual increase is based on the minimum retirement pension mentioned above. Said pension shall continue for life. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

§2. The Social Security benefits of a widow of a general superintendent shall be supplemented by an amount necessary to produce the following pension:

The widow of a general superintendent shall be eligible to receive a pension of 60 per cent of the amount of pension to which her husband would be entitled if alive and retired, unless she remarries. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

§3. If in the judgment of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents a general superintendent shall become totally and/or permanently disabled in the interim of General Assemblies, said Boards shall have power to adjust his remuneration until the next General Assembly. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

§4. The pension benefits of a widow of a general superintendent whose marriage to him was for a period of time less than twenty years shall be determined by a formula worked out by the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents with consideration being given to the number of years of their married life and her Social Security benefits, and any major mitigating conditions or circumstances that may exist in her case. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

### 595. Relating to Storehouse Tithing

Storehouse tithing is clearly both the scriptural and practical performance of faithfully and regularly placing the tithe in that church to which the member belongs. [33]

Upon careful reflection the local church is the only storehouse properly recognizable in a scriptural sense. Therefore, to widen the scope of the definition but weakens its import and value. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1932.]

### 596. Relating to Financial Matters

#### §1. Our Financial Policy

First. We recommend that the General Assembly continue the budget system of general finances.

It is our opinion, however, that the primary essential of success in this regard is the full co-operation of every department of the church. Therefore,

Second. We recommend that all general funds raised by each department of each local church, including the Woman's (Nazarene) Foreign Missionary Society, after its fixed items of relief and retirement and general contingent have been excepted, shall be paid into the general budget until the general budget apportionment of the local church be paid in full for the year. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1932.]

Voted: That the present system of including all general interests in one unified budget be continued.

Voted: That the following items be fixed in the general budget: church extension, General Assembly, General Board, General Superintendents' Expense, General Treasurer. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1936.]

In considering the financial policies of the church, we recommend that regular income from tithes and offerings be our method, as it has always been, and that in all matters of expenditure settled budgets be emphasized, with specials of all kinds as second in the order of importance. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1944.]

## §2. Salaries—Nazarene Young People's Society and Woman's (Nazarene) Foreign Missionary Society

WHEREAS, It has been the custom of the Church of the Nazarene not to pay a salary to the District and General Nazarene Young People's Society presidents, and the Woman's (Nazarene) Foreign Missionary Society District and General presidents; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That we petition the Eleventh General Assembly to rule that these several offices be served without pay. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1944.]

## §3. Annuities

That our general boards and institutions be prohibited from using annuity gifts until such have become the valid property by the death of the annuitant, and that such annuity gifts be carefully invested in funds usually accepted as trust funds by the courts of our land. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1923.]

## §4. Debt

That no institution incur any debt on the strength of pledges, and that pledges be not counted as assets until actually paid. [Adopted *General Assembly*, 1923.]

## 597. Relating to Bible Societies

### §1. Approved Bible Societies

WHEREAS, The Church of the Nazarene places special emphasis upon the Bible as the written revelation of God, and we believe that it is the only effective agency to win new followers to Jesus Christ, and because there is an increasing need for more copies of the Scriptures; therefore be it

*Resolved*, First, that the General Assembly express its hearty approval of and sympathy with the work of the American Bible Society in the United States, the British and Foreign Bible Society in England and Canada, and the National Bible Society of Scotland.

Second, that this Assembly endorse the observance of Universal Bible Sunday in December, directing attention of their respective congregations on this day

to the essential place the Scriptures should occupy in the lives of Christian people.

Third, that whenever it is convenient an offering be taken by each congregation on Universal Bible Sunday for the world-wide missionary work of the various Bible societies, the same to be forwarded to our denominational Headquarters, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri, U.S.A.

Fourth, that the General Assembly authorize its General Secretary, or an alternate whom he may appoint, to attend during the ensuing quadrennium each annual session of the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society held in December at Bible House in New York City. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1936.]

## §2. Offering for Bible Societies

*Resolved*, That the Church of the Nazarene designate the first Sunday of December of each year as a special time for the presentation of this important matter and the taking of an offering for the American Bible Society in the United States, and the respective Bible Societies in Canada and the British Isles; also that a special effort be made to have all of our churches take part in such an offering. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1936.] (The second Sunday of December is now observed as Universal Bible Sunday.)

[NOTE—It is understood that our churches in Scotland send their contributions to the National Bible Society of Scotland, the churches in England to the British and Foreign Bible Society, and the churches of Canada to the British and Foreign Bible Society of Canada. The churches of the United States contribute to the support of the American Bible Society.]

## 598. Relating to Educational Institutions

### §1. General Council of Education

In view of the fact that there has been a feeling that a more positive co-ordination of our educational work with that of the general church is not only desirable,

but imperative to the best interests of the cause of education, therefore

(1) We recommend the formation of the General Council of Education to be composed of one representative from each institution.

(2) The function of this Council shall be to consider all matters relating to our educational work referred to it by the various institutions or otherwise. A further function of this Council shall be to study carefully the educational needs and qualifications in the light of proper educational standards and make recommendations concerning the same to the Department of Education. The Council shall meet annually, and the expense of said meetings is to be borne by the various institutions represented.

(3) We recommend that such major matters as the erection of new buildings, the purchase or sale of property, or the creating of any indebtedness in the capital accounts, involving more than ten thousand dollars [\$10,000.00], must have the approval of the majority of the membership of the districts making up the supporting zone, together with the approval of the General Council of Education and the approval of the General Board and the Board of General Superintendents.

In other words, this places each institution in vital relation to the general church, for the institutions would be directly amenable to their respective supporting districts and also subject to the approval of the General Council of Education, the General Board, and the Board of General Superintendents.

(4) We also recommend that our schools adhere strictly to the action of the General Board of Education taken in 1921, requiring our schools and colleges so to adjust their current expense budgets as to be able to operate without an accumulation of annual deficits.

(5) We recommend that the functions of the Educational Secretary shall be to make investigations concerning financial and scholastic needs and possibili-



ties of our educational institutions. He shall further serve our schools and people in connection with the development of a more favorable sentiment regarding our educational work and the securing of general funds and permanent endowments. The expense of such service shall be borne jointly by the schools affected and the Department of Education. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1932.]

### §2. Athletics

We recommend that it be definitely provided that schools and colleges of the Church of the Nazarene engage only in intramural athletics. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1940.]

### §3. Dramatics

WHEREAS, There is danger in the excessive use of dramatic productions in our schools and colleges; be it *Resolved*, That this practice be carefully restricted and greater emphasis be placed on the spiritual exercise that leads to sound Christian experience. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1940]

### §4. Trustees of Nazarene Colleges

We request our college Boards of Trustees to revise their constitution and bylaws as soon as possible so as to equalize their membership between ministers and laymen. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1956.]

### §5. Relating to Christian Day Schools

We recommend that local churches anticipating the organization of a full-time weekday, Christian school program secure the approval of the District Superintendent and District Advisory Board. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

### 599. Relating to Church History

The General Assembly ordered a Committee on Church History and elected to that committee Rev. M. E. Redford, Prof. Clinton Bushey, and Rev. Roy E. Swim. The Assembly ordered further that the expenses of the Committee on History be paid from the

general contingent fund under the approval of the Board of General Superintendents.

The Book Committee, the Board of General Superintendents, the General Church Secretary, and the Committee on History were authorized at their discretion to prepare a history of the Church of the Nazarene. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1936]

#### **600. Relating to Appointment of Pastors for Small Churches**

That this General Assembly advise that pastors for churches that have been organized for less than two years, or that have fewer than twenty-five voting members, or that pay less than twenty-five dollars per week pastoral salary, or are receiving regular assistance from the district, be appointed by the General Superintendent, the District Superintendent, and the District Advisory Board, with the consent of the delegates at the District Assembly.

In case of a vacancy in the pastorate in such churches in the interim between District Assemblies, such should be filled by the appointment of the District Superintendent. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1936. Amended by *General Assembly*, 1960]

#### **601. Relating to Nominating Committee in the Local Church**

*Resolved*, That we approve the use of a nominating committee in the election of officers, boards, and district assembly delegates by the local church. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1944.]

#### **602. Relating to Use of Church Buildings**

This General Assembly goes on record as being opposed to the use of any part of our church buildings for recreational and entertainment purposes. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1940.]

#### **603. Relating to Foreign Missionary Activities Among Young People**

That the missionary activities of the Nazarene Young People's Society be continued as heretofore,

and that there be no separate organization for foreign missionary activities among young people, except that of the Young Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, which may be organized as a chapter of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and of which young men may become associate members. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1936.]

## **604. Relating to Public Morals**

### **§1. Permanent Committee on Public Morals**

Your Committee on State of the Church and Public Morals recommends the appointment of a permanent Committee on Public Morals whose duty it shall be to promote a program of constructive instruction on such subjects as: marriage, divorce, temperance, tobacco, Sabbath observance, oath-bound secret orders, the theater, including the movies, worldliness of other types, and such other related subjects as may need emphasis. This program shall be promoted through the regular periodicals of our church, by pamphlets and booklets, study courses and lectures. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1944.]

### **§2. Public Bathing Places**

*Resolved*, That this General Assembly go on record as being unqualifiedly opposed to our people's patronizing promiscuous public bathing places. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1928.]

### **§3. Modern or Folk Dancing**

*Resolved*, That we go on record as being opposed to modern or folk dancing, either in ballrooms or other places, even under the guise of physical education classes. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1952.]

### **§4. Magazines, Radio, and Television**

Since we are living in a day of great moral confusion in which we face the potential encroachment of the evils of the day into the sacred precincts of our home through various avenues such as current literature, radio, and the more modern medium of television, it is essential that the most rigid safeguards be observed

to keep our homes from becoming secularized and worldly.

While we recognize these agencies are of great value in the propagation of the gospel and the salvation of souls, we do deplore the low moral tone of much current literature, comic magazines, articles and pictures of some magazines, and the contents of many books.

We likewise deplore the sensuous appeal of many radio and television programs. We believe it to be detrimental to the welfare of our homes to listen to or view programs of the Hollywood type of movies or shows of the vaudeville level. We therefore call upon our leaders and pastors to give strong emphasis in our periodicals and from our pulpits to such fundamental truths as will develop the principle of discrimination between the evil and the good to be found in these mediums.

We suggest that the standard given to John Wesley by his mother, namely, "Whatsoever weakens your reason, impairs the tenderness of your conscience, obscures your sense of God, or takes off the relish of spiritual things, whatever increases the authority of your body over mind, that thing for you is sin," form the basis for this teaching of discrimination.

We especially recommend that the reading, listening, and viewing on the Sabbath day be consistent with our high standards of holiness, and that we do not allow any television program to become a substitute for church attendance. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1952.]

### **605. Relating to Racial Discrimination**

Believing that the Church, to justify its existence, must ever place due emphasis upon the sacredness of personality, we, the members of the Fourteenth General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene, therefore recommend:

§1. That the almost world-wide discrimination against racial minorities be recognized as being incompatible with the Scriptures' proclamation that God

is no respecter of persons, and furthermore with the basic principle of the Christian faith that God is the Creator of all men, and that of one blood are all men created, and furthermore is contrary to the experience and doctrine of perfect love.

§2. That each member of the Church of the Nazarene humbly examine his personal attitudes and actions toward other races as a first step in achieving the Christian goal of full participation by all in the life of the community. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1956.]

### **606. Relating to Separation of Church and State**

We, the Fifteenth General Assembly of the Church of the Nazarene, desiring to reaffirm our continuing concern that our great Protestant heritage be understood and safeguarded, remind our people that both our political and religious freedom rest upon Biblical concepts of the dignity of man as God's creation and the sanctity of his individual conscience. We encourage our people to participate in political activity in support of these historic concepts and to be ever vigilant against threats to our precious freedoms.

We recognize that, in the United States, separation of church and state is a tradition which has implemented these principles at the national, state, and local levels. Believing that our precious freedoms are constantly in danger, we urge election of men to public office at all levels of government who believe in these principles and who are answerable only to God and the constituency which elected them when carrying out a public trust. Further, we resist any invasion of these principles by religious groups seeking special favors.

We believe that the role of the church is to be prophetic and constantly to remind the people that "righteousness exalteth a nation." [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

**607. Relating to the *Manual***

§ 1. *Resolved*, that the *Manual* be adopted as amended by the Fifteenth General Assembly. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

§ 2. *Resolved*, that all legislative amendments to the *Manual* by the Fifteenth General Assembly shall be effective upon such date as may be announced in the *Herald of Holiness* by the Board of General Superintendents. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

§ 3. *Resolved*, that the *Manual* Editing Committee be and they are hereby authorized to harmonize conflicting statements which may appear in the records of the actions of the Fifteenth General Assembly in regard to changes in the *Manual*. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1960.]

§ 4. *Resolved*, that the members of the *Manual* Editing Committee be and they are hereby authorized to edit Part VI of the *Manual*, which lists Boundaries, to include all new districts formed since the Tenth General Assembly. [Adopted by *General Assembly*, 1944.]

**NOTE:** Paragraph references within the appendix are to this 1960 *Manual* unless otherwise specified.

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