

**THE NINTH MEETING OF THE
NORTH AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN AND REFORMED COUNCIL
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
October 21, 1983**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Ninth Meeting of the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council was called to order by TE John Bratt, Vice Chairman of the Council, in the absence of the Chairman, at 2:00 p.m., on October 21, 1983, at the Quality Airport Inn, Pittsburgh International Airport, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Bratt led the Council in a brief devotional, reading a passage from Ephesians 4:1-13, followed by prayer.

2. ROLL CALL

The roll was taken. The following delegates and observers were present:

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (ARPC):

TE James T. Corbitt, TE David R. Johnston, RE William H. F. Kuykendall, TE Robert Marshburn

Christian Reformed Church (CRC):

RE Albert A. Bel, TE John Bratt, TE Leonard J. Hofman,
TE John H. Primus

Korean American Presbyterian Church (KAPC):

TE Chun Il Cho, TE Myung Doh Kim, TE Peter B. Kim

Orthodox Presbyterian Church (OPC):

TE John Galbraith, TE Glenn D. Jerrell, TE Jack Peterson,
TE Bernard J. Stonehouse

Presbyterian Church in America (PCA):

TE Robert W. Bradbury, RE Lawrence H. DeBert, TE Robert W. Dunn, TE Frank D. Moser, TE Morton H. Smith (Alternate)

Reformed Presbyterian Church in North America (RPCNA):

TE Bruce R. Backensto, RE Donald McCrory, TE Jerrold S. Milroy, TE Paul M. Martin, TE Randall VanOsdol (Alternate)

3. ADOPTION OF THE DOCKET

The docket as indicated by these Minutes was adopted.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following officers were elected:

Chairman: Rev. John H. Bratt (CRC)
Vice Chairman: Rev. John Galbraith (OPC)
Secretary: Rev. Morton H. Smith (PCA)
Treasurer: Mr. Albert A. Bel (CRC)

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Council were approved as mailed out.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Three communications were presented by the Secretary:

1. Letter from TE John White regarding a proposed national consultation on pornography and obscenity to be held in Cincinnati on November 17-18, 1983. A recommendation of the Interim Committee was adopted as follows: That the Council recommend that its member churches participate in this consultation, if the way be clear. **Adopted**
2. Letter from TE Dwight Linton (PCA) regarding the recent Diaconal Ministries Consultation was received as information.
3. Letter from Mr. Ben Johnson (ARP) offering to edit a newsletter in behalf of NAPARC. It was moved to refer this matter to the Interim Committee for further study in consultation Mr. Johnson and the Rev. John White (RPCNA) to answer the questions raised in Mr. Johnson's letter relative to the purpose of such a newsletter, its cost and distribution. **Adopted**

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Albert A. Bel, Treasurer of the Council, presented the Treasurer's Report (See Appendix C). It was moved and seconded that the report be received. **Adopted**

On motion from Mr. Bel, an annual service fee of \$125.00 is to be paid to the denomination of the Secretary to cover the Secretary's copying and mailing expenses. **Adopted**

8. MEETINGS OF THE CONSULTATIONS

On motion from the Interim Committee, the Council requests that the various on-going consultations between member church agencies (e.g., World Missions, Home Missions, Christian Education, Diaconal Ministries, etc.), schedule their meetings for 1984 on the day before the meeting of the Council and at the same location, and that a reporter from each consultation be appointed to report to the Council. **Adopted**

9. REPORTS FROM THE CHURCHES

Each delegation gave a report of the significant action taken at the recent meetings of the Assemblies/Synods of their respective churches (See Appendices D - I).

10. HERMENEUTICS REPORT

On motion from the Interim Committee, it was moved that the report of the Study Committee, including the testimony and the statement of Dr. Palmer Robertson, be sent to the NAPARC churches for study and possible response in accord with the provision of the Bylaws V, 4, a, and that the Hermeneutics Study Committee be kept active in order to receive responses from the member churches to which they may wish to address an answer (See Appendix J).

11. CONCURRENT ASSEMBLIES/SYNODS

In response to a letter from the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, indicating their desire to celebrate their fiftieth anniversary in Philadelphia in 1986, it was moved that the date for the concurrent meeting of Assemblies/Synods be set for 1987, instead of 1986. **Adopted**

12. REPORT ON THE FEASIBILITY OF DEALING WITH CULTURAL IMPACT AT THE CONCURRENT ASSEMBLIES/SYNODS

The Special Committee to consider the feasibility of making a study of how the NAPARC churches may have an impact on the American culture at the next concurrent meetings of the Assemblies/Synods was brought by Dr. John Primus. The Committee reported that they did not feel that this was feasible due to the nature of the time schedule in which the Assemblies/Synods meet. The topic itself is too large, and too complex to be dealt with meaningfully in a single address. For this reason the Committee felt that though the matter is of great importance, it was not a feasible thing to do at the concurrent meetings of the Assemblies/Synods. The report was received by the Council. (Appendix K).

13. COMITY MATTERS

Correspondence from Dr. J. Philip Clark (PCA) indicating that the question of comity would not be dealt with until November 1983, and also a report that the Committee on Mission to North America of the PCA has already taken a position against entering into such an arrangement, were brought before the Council. The following motion was presented: "That in the event the next joint meeting of the Consultation of the Home Mission Agencies fails to take affirmative action in comity matters, the question of comity be placed in the hands of a study committee to set forth a concept of comity and the reasons for adoption of such a policy." **Adopted**

The Committee appointed by the Chairman is as follows: Bernard Stonehouse (OPC), Convener; Robert Marshburn (ARP); and Leonard Hofman (CRC).

14. INTERIM COMMITTEE

The members of the Interim Committee were elected by the respective delegations to fill out the Committee with a representative from each denomination as follows:

Mr. William Kuykendall (ARP)
Rev. John Bratt (CRC)
Rev. Samuel Chong (KAPC)
Rev. John Galbraith (OPC)
Rev. Morton Smith (PCA)
Rev. Jerry Milroy (RPCNA)

15. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Council is set to be held on October 26, 1984, in Atlanta, Georgia, with the PCA acting as the host Church.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m., with the Rev. Jack Peterson leading in the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Morton H. Smith".

Morton H. Smith, Secretary