SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST
ASSOCIATION

(First Session)

Pursuant to notice duly given, the Second General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association was held in Chicago, Illinois, at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel and was called to order on May 15, 1963, at 1:30 p.m. by the Moderator, Dr. Marshall E. Dimock.

A devotional service was conducted by the Rev. Kenneth K. Marshall, Minister of the Davies Memorial Unitarian Church of Washington, D. C., and by the Rev. Robert G. Lewis of the River Road Unitarian Church, Bethesda, Maryland.

The first item of business was a proposal to amend temporarily Section 2 of Article V of the By-Laws to permit recognized Districts and existing Unitarian regions and Universalist State Conventions to have delegates seated at the 1963 meeting of the General Assembly only. The General Assembly voted against accepting this proposal.

The General Assembly next adopted general rules of procedure.

Reports were heard from the Secretary, the President, the Moderator, the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee.
At the conclusion of the Moderator’s report, a motion was made, predicated on his recommendation, that “the delegates at this annual meeting strongly advise the Board of Trustees to pursue and to achieve a ‘pay-as-you-go’ financial structure.” (The proposal was also described as ‘spend-after-you-have-received.’) Following debate and a standing vote the motion was carried.

In preliminary report the Committee on Credentials informed the meeting that as of 8:00 a.m. on the morning of convening there were present 359 lay delegates and 196 ministerial delegates, representing 255 churches and 24 fellowships from 34 States and 4 Provinces.

(Second Session)

At the opening of the Second Session, a motion was duly made and seconded and unanimously carried that the following new Districts of Unitarian Universalist Association be accorded recognition:

The Unitarian Universalist New York Metropolitan District;
The Thomas Jefferson District of the Unitarian Universalist Association;
The Mid-South District of the Unitarian Universalist Association; and
The Florida District of the Unitarian Universalist Association.
Representatives of these Districts were called to the platform and introduced.

The Secretary of the Association then read into the record of the meeting the following proposal to amend the Constitution:

“It is proposed to amend the Constitution of the Association by adding a new Section 6 to Article III as follows:

Section 6. The Board of Trustees, upon written application, may admit to affiliate membership any organization if, in the Board’s judgment and discretion, such organization’s purposes and programs are in sympathy with the purposes and objectives of the Association. Such membership shall continue until terminated by the organization or the Board of Trustees. Affiliate members shall have no right to vote at meetings of the Association. The Board of Trustees may adopt rules governing the admission of affiliate members and the prerogatives of such members, and such rules may require support of the Association by the payment of annual dues or other form of contribution.”

Pursuant to provisions of the Constitution, debate and action on this proposed amendment was postponed until the next General Assembly.

Four proposed amendments to the Constitution, duly recorded at the 1962 General Assembly, were in turn submitted for action.

The first proposal, having to do with the objectives of the Association, was defeated when the motion for its adoption was not seconded. The second proposal, also dealing with objectives of the Association, was defeated on a voice vote and without debate.*

* For text of these proposals see Minutes of First General Assembly, 1962-63 U.U.A. Directory.
The third proposal was to amend Section 4 of Article III of the Constitution by adding a new subsection (5): Article III, Section 4, limits voting rights of churches and fellowships to such of these members as have in the previous fiscal year:

1. Made a financial contribution to the Association;
2. Conducted regular religious services;
3. Maintained a regular organization with adequate records, and elected officers, and held an annual meeting of members; and
4. Furnished the Association with prescribed statistics.

The new subsection (5) proposed the following requirement:

5. "Maintained a policy of admitting persons to membership without discrimination of race, color or national origin."

This amendment was debated at length with many speakers on each side of the question. The principal controversy centered on whether, if passed, the amendment would conflict with existing constitutional provisions guaranteeing congregational polity in churches and fellowships. The motion to adopt the amendment (which to pass required a two-thirds affirmative vote) was defeated, the vote being 436 in favor and 379 against. On a motion to reconsider, the amendment was again defeated, 459 being in favor and 363 being against. By vote of the meeting, a resolution reminding churches and fellowships of their ethical responsibility to admit members without discrimination, was laid on the table until other General Resolutions were in order.

(Third Session)

The Moderator announced that on this day (May 16, 1963), as provided in the agenda, the polls would be open from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. for the election of Trustees and members of General Assembly Committees.

The next business was to conclude action on Constitutional amendments.

The fourth proposal to amend the Constitution was to strike out references to Regions and Regional Organizations and to substitute in Article V where these terms appear the words "Districts or Service Centers." The proposal was unanimously adopted.

The meeting next considered matters affecting the relationship between the Association's Department of World Service and the Unitarian Service Committee Inc. In accordance with the agenda, the Joint Negotiating Committee on Service submitted an oral report explaining its proposal printed in the agenda. The report called for the merger of the Unitarian Service Committee Inc. and the Association's Department of Service, Projects to establish a new organization to be named Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Inc. An alternate plan was proposed by about thirty churches and fellowships calling for a further study by a new joint negotiating committee and providing that the Association's members thereof would be instructed to press for a world Service organization within the Association which the Unitarian Service Committee, giving up its present independent status, would
join. A motion was made to accept the report of the Joint Committee as printed in the agenda, and, if subsequently the Unitarian Service Committee voted to take like action,* to authorize the Board of Trustees to take all necessary action in behalf of the Association to put the Joint Committee's recommendations into effect. A motion was then made to substitute the alternate plan. There was lengthy debate. The question came first on the substitute motion, and it was defeated, 273 voting in favor and 533 against. At this point a statement was made in behalf of many favoring the alternate plan, asking the delegates to yield to the majority and give full support to the proposal of the Joint Negotiating Committee. The question was then put on the original motion, and the meeting adopted it by a substantial margin. This final vote was not counted.

The business next in order was to consider thirteen proposals to amend the By-Laws. Immediately, a motion was made that all amendments except an amendment making the Treasurer a member of the Board of Trustees [see agenda, page 15] and an amendment correcting an ambiguity in Article VIII, Section 1 [See agenda, page 17] be referred to the Board of Trustees, they to appoint appropriate committees representing our several points of view, to report to the Board and to the denomination at least three months before the General Assembly in 1964 with recommendations and reasons for the same. After a short debate the question was put and the motion was carried, 324 voting in favor and 279 against. At a later session, a motion to reconsider was defeated.

(Fourth Session)

At the outset of the meeting, in separate votes, the delegates unanimously adopted the two amendments to the By-Laws which had in the previous sessions been excluded from the action referring By-Law amendments to committees. The amendments adopted were:

Amend Article III, Section 1, by substituting an entirely new Section 1 as follows: "Section 1. The elected Officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, a President, two Vice Moderators and a Secretary. The Board of Trustees shall appoint a Treasurer of the Association who shall be an Officer of the Association and serve at the pleasure of the Board. These Officers and the Treasurer shall be members of the Board of Trustees and they and twenty other persons shall constitute the Board of Trustees of the Association. Neither the President nor the Treasurer, as members of the Board of Trustees, shall have the right to vote at meetings of the Board."

Amend Article VIII, Section 1, by substituting an entirely new Section 1 as follows: "Section 1. The Board of Trustees shall fill any vacancy on any committee of the General Assembly or on any committee of the Board. Any vacancy in a committee required to be elected by the General Assembly shall be filled by the Board of Trustees until the regular meeting of the General Assembly which occurs in the next odd-numbered year subsequent to the year in which the vacancy occurred, except that persons so appointed in an odd-numbered year prior to the regular meeting shall

* The Unitarian Service Committee Inc. did subsequently, in May 1963, take like action.
serve only until the regular meeting of the General Assembly held in that same year. Any vacancy in any other committee of the General Assembly or committee of the Board shall be filled for the remainder of the term of the office that has been vacated. Any person appointed under this section shall serve in any event until his successor is qualified."

The Committee appointed by the 1962 General Assembly to study a plan for travel equalization, so called, submitted a Resolution as follows:
Resolved: That the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly does hereby adopt, effective for the 1964 San Francisco General Assembly and for all meetings of the General Assembly held thereafter to and including 1968, the following Travel Adjustment Plan for lay and ministerial delegates:

1. Participation in the Plan shall be voluntary but it is expected that all delegates attending each meeting of the General Assembly will participate and pay a Travel Adjustment Fee.

2. The Travel Adjustment Plan shall be administered and interpreted by a Special Committee of the General Assembly consisting of five members selected by the Board of Trustees, one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Trustees and one of whom shall be a member of the Commission on Appraisal. The Special Committee may make rules to carry out the Plan.

3. The fee for 1964 shall be $10 per delegate and thereafter the fee for each meeting shall be established by the Special Committee but shall not exceed $15 per delegate without further action by a meeting of the General Assembly.

4. From the Travel Adjustment Fund collected for each meeting of the General Assembly, payments shall be made to the lay and ministerial delegates who have contributed to the Fund and who make application therefor. With respect to each meeting, the Fund shall be distributed to each such applicant on the basis of the distance traveled by him or her to reach the meeting, the rate of payment per mile for each applicant to be determined by dividing the total of the Fund by the total distance traveled by all such applicants to reach the meeting.

By rules, the Special Committee may designate geographic points or areas from which distances shall be measured, and may under some reasonable plan (based, for example, on air miles between airports), establish mileage figures to be used in all necessary computation.

5. Payments made into the Fund shall be made to the Association. Disbursements from the Fund shall be made by the Treasurer of the Association to such persons and in such amounts as the Special Committee shall direct.

6. The Special Committee is authorized in its discretion not to put the Plan into operation unless at the 1963 General Assembly, the Plan is adopted by at least a two-thirds vote.
The resolution without a counted vote was adopted. The meeting then voted that, to facilitate delegate participation in the equalizing travel fund, a qualifying ten dollar fee be collected with the General Assembly registration fee.

The Secretary announced the formation of the Unitarian Universalist Women’s Federation on May 15, 1963, which action consolidated the Association of Universalist Women, established in 1869, and the Alliance of Unitarian Women, established in 1880. The General Assembly extended its greetings to the new organization.

The Credentials Committee reported on the results of the election of Trustees and General Assembly Committees. The full report is on file. At the conclusion of the report, the Moderator declared that the following persons had been elected to the respective offices set forth below:

**Elected as Trustees**

- MRS. A. POWELL DAVIDE, Washington, D. C.
- SIDNEY P. LATHROP, Portland, Oregon
- SAMUEL E. EBener, Jr., Terre Haute, Ind.
- G. PETER FLECK, Bernardsville, N. J.
- CHARLES W. DAVIDSON, Iowa City, Iowa
- MRS. CLIFTON UTLEY, Chicago, Illinois
- EARLE T. MCKINNEY, Portland, Maine
- ARTHUR K. LITCHFIELD, Stratford, Conn.
- EDMUND W. PEASE, Brooklyn, New York.

**Elected to Business Committee**

- FRANK RIEKE, Medford, Mass.
- MRS. ADA BARNEETT STOOGH, McLean, Va.
- ALBERT DOOLITTLE, West Roxbury, Mass.

**Elected to Commission on Appraisal**

- CLARKE D. WELLS, Cincinnati, Ohio
- JAMES A. GIBSON, Ottawa, Canada
- TRACY M. PULLMAN, Detroit, Michigan
- MRS. GEORGE E. KIMBALL, Winchester, Mass.

**Elected to Nominating Committee**

- MRS. LAWRENCE STEEFE, Apache Junction, Ariz.
- VICTOR SEYMOUR, Lincoln, Neb.
- RICHARD S. MULFORD, Sherman Oaks, Calif.
- DAVID MACPHERSON, Silver Spring, Md.
- MRS. L. CHARLES UNDERWOOD, Cincinnati, Ohio
Elected to the Program Committee

MRS. KARL H. HANSON, San Francisco, Calif.
MRS. JAY D. CARNCROSS, Utica, N. Y.
MRS. FREDERICK W. STEINBERG, San Antonio, Tex.
MRS. BENJAMIN B. HERSEY, Medford, Mass.

The Resolution offered during the Second Session, dealing with admission of members in churches and fellowships without discrimination, was by vote of the meeting taken from the table at this point. [The text of the Resolution is set forth in full in the Agenda]

The meeting then voted to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole.

A motion to amend parts of the Resolution was then offered, and the amendment was accepted by the Committee of the Whole.

After debate and the presentation of other motions to amend, none of which was carried, the Committee of the Whole voted to approve the Resolution as amended. Whereupon, by vote, the Committee of the Whole was dissolved and the meeting of the General Assembly was continued.

The question before the General Assembly was whether to adopt the Resolution in the text approved by the Committee of the Whole. However, before that question was put, a further amendment was offered, adding a final paragraph to the Resolution. The meeting voted to adopt this further amendment. The following is the text of the Resolution in its final form, and it was adopted, 583 voting in favor and 6 against.

WHEREAS, the Unitarian and Universalist movements have historically affirmed the supreme worth of every human personality, the dignity of man, the use of the democratic method in human relationships, and the ideals of brotherhood, justice and peace; and

WHEREAS, refusal to welcome persons into membership in any of our churches or fellowships because of race, color, or national origin would contradict our historical testimony and the declared constitutional purposes of our Association;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that all member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association be charged to declare and practice their faith in the dignity and worth of every person and that all member congregations of our denomination are hereby strongly urged to welcome into their membership and full participation persons without regard to race, color, or national origin; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, to implement the declared constitutional purposes of our Association,

1. The President, with the concurrence of the Board of Trustees, be instructed to appoint a Commission on Religion and Race, composed of at least seven members, whose duty shall be to explore, develop, stimulate, and implement programs and actions to promote the complete integration of Negroes and other minority persons into our congregations, denominational life, ministry and into the community;

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2. This Commission be adequately financed within the budget of our Association; and

3. The report of the action and future program of the Commission be conveyed to the 1964 General Assembly.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all groups applying for membership in the Association be informed by the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association before being accepted into membership of the Unitarian Universalist Association on the stated policy of the Association, which welcomes all qualified persons, regardless of race, color or place of national origin, into the membership of the churches, fellowships and organizations.

(Fifth Session)

The meeting then turned to the consideration of General Resolutions and adopted the General Resolutions set forth in an addendum to these minutes entitled “General Resolutions.”

The Final Report of the Committee on Credentials was as follows:

In attendance:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lay</td>
<td>746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministerial</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Members</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Members</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Trustees</td>
<td>10</td>
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Total Delegates: 1036

Representing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Representing</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Churches</td>
<td>340</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Fellowships         | 47     | 387
| States              | 41     |
| Provinces           | 5      |

The meeting voted to adjourn sine die on May 18, 1963 at 12:20 p.m.

The President of the Association pronounced a benediction.

The agenda for this meeting is incorporated in these minutes by reference thereto, and a copy thereof is on file with the Recording Secretary of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNE S. BOWMAN

Recording Secretary

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

Text of General Resolutions adopted at the Closing Session of the Second General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association, held in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, on Saturday, May 18, 1963, commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m.
1. REFORM OF ABORTION STATUTES

WHEREAS, we as Unitarians Universalists are deeply concerned for the dignity and rights of human beings; and

WHEREAS, the laws which narrowly circumscribe or completely prohibit termination of pregnancy by qualified medical practitioners are an affront to human life and dignity; and

WHEREAS, these statutes drive many women in the United States and Canada to seek illegal abortions with increased risk of death, while others must travel to distant lands for lawful relief;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association support enactment of a uniform statute making abortion legal if:

1. There would be grave impairment of the physical or mental health of the mother.
2. The child would be born with a serious physical or mental defect.
3. Pregnancy resulted from rape or incest.
4. There exists some other compelling reason—Physical, psychological, mental, spiritual, or economic.

2. SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association, at its 1963 General Assembly, reaffirms its support of religious freedom based on the principle of separation of church and state and urges its members to:

1. Uphold the principal of non-sectarian public education;
2. Oppose Bible readings and religious observances in the public schools;
3. Oppose released time for religious education;
4. Refrain, if possible, from holding religious services or classes on public property;
5. Refrain from use of public school property for such purposes without payment of a fair rental;
6. Oppose shared time in the public schools;
7. Pay a full and fair market price for church building sites in publicly subsidized urban renewal areas and refuse to locate where a city, a state or a Federal subsidy is either implicit or explicit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Unitarians and Universalists be requested to give individual and collective study to the problem of inequities and abuses in tax laws as they relate to religious groups.
3. YOUTH WELFARE

WHEREAS, it should be a serious and determined concern of all liberal religious people to provide every possible opportunity for the emotional health and well being of young people, to assist socially and culturally deprived youth, and to promote adequate educational, training and employment opportunities for youth;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association records its concern that increasing numbers of young people are not finding a satisfactory place in our society, and urges Government and industry at all levels to find ways of lessening unemployment, which falls so heavily on youth;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association and its constituent members give support to movements involved in research, prevention and treatment of youth problems, including guidance and counseling centers, group recreational programs and mental health clinics;

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED: That due to the national scope of the problem and the high cost to individual communities, the Association urges the Governments of Canada and the United States, respectively, to give financial assistance to expand community facilities concerned with youth welfare; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Association support, and its constituent societies be urged to support, at all levels, such proposals as a Youth Conservation Corps, Home Work Force, and other effective assistance and guidance programs, including training in remedial reading and needed tutoring services, counseling services for parents and child guidance clinics.

4. CIVIL LIBERTIES

WHEREAS, the United States is founded on the principles of individual rights and civil liberties, embodied in the Bill of Rights of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, for several years these individual rights and civil liberties have been under attack by various elements of our society, resulting in the need for continual vigilance and positive action; and

WHEREAS, at this very moment violation of the traditional American right of the people to speak freely and peacefully to assemble and petition for the redress of grievances is gross and flagrant in many parts of the country, calling into question the reality of American freedom;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That this General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association calls upon the President, Attorney General and all of the duly constituted authorities to act decisively and at once to protect the Constitutionally guaranteed civil rights of American citizens throughout the United States, and to call to account those who violate these guaranteed civil rights, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this Association reaffirms its devotion to the maintenance of the individual rights and civil liberties which are so essential to our democratic way of life, and calls upon all its members and affiliated organizations to bear witness to our belief in these basic tenets by
organizing adult education classes on the guarantees of the Bill of Rights in their respective communities, by urging public and private schools to include such classes in their regular curricula, by supporting the work of such organizations as the American Civil Liberties Union and by constantly reminding our governmental officials, city, state and Federal, of their obligations in this regard.

5. IMMIGRATION

WHEREAS, the present basis of the United States Immigration quota system rests on the national origins of the country’s white population according to the 1920 census; and

WHEREAS, this system contradicts the founding principles of the nation and is at variance with national needs and international responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, over one-half of all immigrants come either as exceptions to the quota or as non-quota immigrants;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association, at its 1963 General Assembly, direct the President of the Association to send an open letter to President Kennedy, and letters to Senator Philip A. Hart and the chairman of the Senate and House Judiciary Committees, stating our support for the passage of Senate Bill No. 747, entitled “A Bill to Amend the Immigration and Nationality Act,” introduced by Senator Hart and 35 other Senators; which bill would rescind the present immigration law and substitute a new law, the provisions of which, as enunciated by Senator Hart, would:

“Remove the purely arbitrary barriers to immigration on the basis of race and national origin and would substitute a new formula based on equality and fairplay...”

“Set America’s immigration record straight and update our basic statutes to conform more with our actual practice since 1952...”

“Facilitate the reunion of families now separated because of inequities in the act of 1952...”

“Enhance America’s economic growth rate by eliminating obstacles to the admission of persons who possess talents and skills urgently needed in this country...”

“Provide a continuing and orderly, but flexible, authority for the yearly admission of a reasonable number of refugees...”

“Bring our traditional principles into a creative relation with the facts of the modern world.”

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a representative of this Association appear at the hearings on Senate Bill No. 747 and its counterpart in the House of Representatives; and

BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED: That this General Assembly urge individual members of its churches and fellowships to communicate with their respective Senators and Representatives in support of this bill.
6. ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT

WHEREAS, our ethical, moral and religious principles set forth in Section 2 of our Constitution, "To implement our vision of one world by striving for community founded on ideals of brotherhood, justice and peace;" and

WHEREAS, although general and complete disarmament is one of the stated policies of the United States Government, concretely expressed by the establishment of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, there is very little public knowledge of or belief in the practical possibilities of progress in this field; and

WHEREAS, general and complete disarmament leading to world peace is one of the most consistently expressed and most fervently sought after goals of mankind; and

WHEREAS, the Unitarian Universalist Association wishes to make its position, in addition to the position of the United States Government, on this critical world issue transparently clear; and

WHEREAS, the traditional concern of liberal religionists to promote and advance world peace may be enhanced by such a clarification of the public record;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association urge that:

1. The United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency be made permanent and its budget expanded so that its vitally important efforts may be increased and effective personnel be procured;

2. The United States Congress be requested to appoint a Joint Arms Control and Disarmament Committee, composed of members of the Foreign Relations and Foreign Affairs Committees, Defense Committees, and Atomic Energy Committee, to inform Congress on the work of the Agency, and to help activate its program;