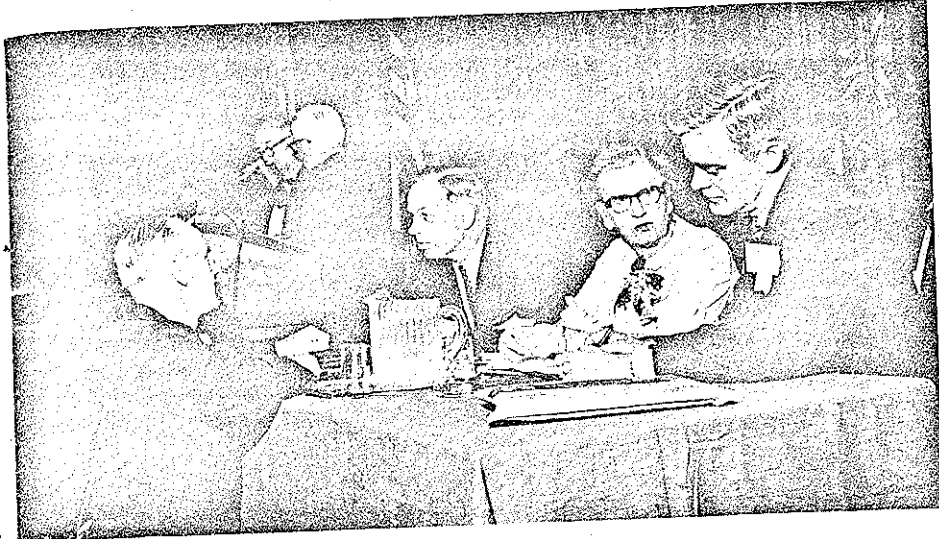


1965

THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
of  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST  
ASSOCIATION



(First Session)

Pursuant to notice duly given, the Third General Assembly of Unitarian Universalist Association was held in San Francisco at the Jack Tar Hotel and was called to order on May 12, 1964 at 1:30 P.M. by the Moderator, Dr. Marshall E. Dimock.

A devotional service was conducted by Reverend Mrs. Greta W. Crosby, Minister of The First Unitarian Church of Lynchburg, Virginia.

After the adoption of Rules of Procedure, reports were heard from the President, the Moderator, the Secretary, who also read greetings from a number of organizations, the Treasurer and the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

At the conclusion of the reports, it was voted that the same be adopted.

The meeting then heard the report of the Commission on Appraisal. At the conclusion of the report, the meeting voted that the report be received and placed on file.

In a preliminary report, the Chairman of the Committee on Credentials stated that at the opening of the meeting there were 477 lay delegates, 179 ministerial delegates, 2 life members, 9 associate members, 17 members of the Board of Trustees, making a total of 684 delegates representing 226 societies, 171 churches and 55 fellowships.

The next item of business was to hear the report of the Commission on Religion and Race. The report was presented by the Chairman of the Commission. At the conclusion of the report, the following resolution was adopted by the meeting:

**RESOLVED**, that in accordance with the purposes and objectives of the Unitarian Universalist Association, this Association and its members hereby declare and affirm their special responsibility to promote the full participation of persons, without regard to race, color, sex, or national origin, in the Association, in member churches and fellowships, in associate members, in the ministry and in society.

The meeting also voted that the report of the commission on Religion and Race be received, approved and placed on file.

The Secretary of the Association read into the record of the meeting the text of proposed amendments to the Constitution which had been duly filed. The proposals were as follows:

It is proposed to amend the Constitution of the Association by rewording Article II, Section 2 as follows:

"In accordance with these corporate purposes, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Association, dedicated to the principles of a free faith, unite in the spirit of Jesus in seeking:"

It is proposed to amend the Constitution of the Association by striking out the present Article II, Section 2(3) and inserting the following:

"To affirm the supreme worth of every human personality without regard to race, color or national origin, to maintain the dignity of man and to promote and defend the use of the democratic method in human relationships;"

A proposal to amend the Constitution of the Association by adding a new Section 6 to Article III, which proposal had been duly filed and read into the record of the Second General Assembly, was unanimously adopted. The new Section 6 is as follows:

"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."

The General Assembly next proceeded to consider and act upon a large number of proposed amendments to the By-Laws. To facilitate this consideration and in accordance with the rules adopted by the meeting, the General Assembly was dissolved into a Committee of the Whole.

A series of by-law amendments, submitted for action at the Annual Meeting in 1963, by vote of that meeting had been postponed for action in 1964. Between the two meetings, special committees studied the 1963 proposals and drafted substitute proposals for the 1964 meeting to consider. In addition there were a number of proposed by-law changes which appeared on the 1964 Agenda for the first time.

At the 1964 meeting, during the deliberations of the Committee of the Whole, all 1963 proposals were rejected. Amendments to the By-Laws establishing the office of Executive Vice President, providing for reporting and recording final votes on General Resolutions, providing for comprehensive study in the churches

and fellowships of certain General Resolutions, requiring five organizational members to join in submitting amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, and requiring at least fifty signatures from five churches or fellowships on a petition to include items of general business and General Resolutions on the Agenda were adopted.

Proposed amendments to change the duties of officers to provide for district representation at meetings of the Association, a number of amendments relating to the form and content of General Resolutions, a proposal to change the form of Agenda and a proposal to have biennial instead of annual meetings were rejected.

For the text of the proposed amendments, reference is made to the Final Agenda for the Third Meeting of the General Assembly. A copy of the Final Agenda is attached to the original minutes of the Recording Secretary.

Following the deliberations of the Committee of the Whole, the Committee of the Whole was dissolved and the General Assembly voted unanimously that the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole be entered in the records of this meeting of the General Assembly and that all proposals to change the By-Laws of the Association, as finally approved by the Committee of the Whole, be now adopted, the said changes to take effect in the manner and at the time designated by the Committee of the Whole.

The proceedings of the Committee of the Whole are set forth verbatim in the transcript of the official stenographer, who was in attendance throughout the entire meeting of the General Assembly. So much of that part of said transcript as relates to the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole is hereby incorporated by reference in the original minutes of the Recording Secretary. A complete copy of the By-Laws of the Association, as amended by the action of the Third General Assembly, is attached to the original minutes of the Recording Secretary, and the By-Laws, as so amended, are also printed in the 1965 Directory of the Association.

With respect to a proposal to amend the By-Laws to provide for inviting representatives of other denominations to attend meetings of the General Assembly, the proposed amendment was rejected but the following resolution was adopted:

**RESOLVED:** That for each regular meeting of the General Assembly, the Board of Trustees may invite as guests of the Association such persons representing other religious bodies to attend such meetings as observers as it may deem appropriate.

The President announced the establishment of "The Frederick G. Melcher Book Award," an award to be made annually under the sponsorship of the Association. The award is presented to the author of the book which judges, appointed by the Association, deem to have made a significant contribution to religious liberalism in the preceding calendar year. The President conferred the first award on Herbert J. Muller for his book entitled *Religion and Freedom in the Modern World*, published by the University of Chicago Press.

At a time in the meeting especially designated, the President presented two distinguished guests from other denominations, Rabbi Alvin I. Fine of Temple Emanuel in San Francisco, and Monsigneur John L. Scanlon, who represented the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Francisco, each of whom gave brief addresses. The President presented the regrets of Bishop James Albert Pike of the Episcopal Diocese of San Francisco, who was unable to attend.

The meeting voted officially to recognize five new Unitarian Universalist Districts

OHIO-MEADVILLE DISTRICT ASSOCIATION  
ST. LAWRENCE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST DISTRICT  
THE CENTRAL MIDWEST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST DISTRICT  
THE MICHIGAN-OHIO VALLEY DISTRICT ORGANIZATION  
(UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST)  
PRAIRIE STAR DISTRICT, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

and a special ceremony was held in which recognition was accorded to the persons who had been particularly active in, and primarily responsible for, the Association's districting program.

Rev. Joseph Barth of Boston presented a report on "Progress of Theological Education and of the Deliberations of the Implementation Committee of the Board of Trustees." The report is on file with the Secretary of the Association.

The following resolution was then unanimously adopted:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the training of ministers and support of Unitarian Universalist theological schools be recognized as a responsibility of all Unitarian Universalist churches and fellowships in this Association.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, to implement this responsibility, the theological schools be included in the regular denominational fund.

**AND FURTHER RESOLVED**, that appropriate action to insure adequate support of ministerial education be commended to the Board of Trustees, the theological schools, and churches and fellowships.

The meeting voted that Dr. Barth's report be received and approved with appreciation.

At the 1963 General Assembly, it was voted "that the delegates at this Annual Meeting strongly advise the Board of Trustees to pursue and to achieve 'pay-as-you-go' financial structure." [Following that meeting the proposal came to be known as CBS, meaning "Collect Before You Spend."] In the report of the Board of Trustees to the 1964 General Assembly, the Board of Trustees presented a comprehensive discussion of the so-called CBS proposal, giving reasons both for and against putting the policy into effect. The meeting voted to follow the recommendation of the Board of Trustees which was that the Association continue its present financial practices which do not include a "Collect Before You Spend" policy.

With respect to possible changes in dates of General Assembly meetings, the following resolution was adopted.

**WHEREAS**, General Assembly meetings now are held at various locations throughout the continent, necessitating long-distance travel for all delegates; and

**WHEREAS**, General Assembly meetings held during summer months:

- (1) would facilitate travel arrangements for many delegates and in some instances reduce travel expenses,
- (2) would make attendance easier for many delegates who have children who are associated with academic institutions,
- (3) would not interrupt the normal "season" of September to June for many local societies; and

**WHEREAS**, summer General Assembly meetings would thus facilitate increased participation by lay delegates from our local societies;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Moderator be instructed to appoint a committee to investigate the possibility of holding General Assembly meetings during the months of June, July or August, said committee to bring its report and/or recommendations for proper By-Law amendments to the 1965 meeting of the General Assembly.

With respect to fund raising, the following resolution was adopted:

**WHEREAS,** it is desirable to raise the level of denominational fund raising,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association be directed to appoint before July 1, 1964, a new Special Study Committee for the purpose of taking an entirely fresh look at all aspects of incentive fund raising applicable to our denomination, provided that the report of that committee should be made not later than February 1, 1965, and shall be communicated with recommendations to all societies and district officers before February 15, 1965, and to the General Assembly for action in Boston next year.

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*

Lay Delegates	655	
Ministerial Delegates	207	
Life Members	1	
Associate Members	9	
Board of Trustees	<u>20</u>	
Total Delegates		892

*Representing*

Churches	276 including CLF	
Fellowships	<u>57</u>	333
States and D.C.	44	
Provinces	<u>6</u>	50

The meeting voted to adjourn *sine die* on May 16, 1964.

Respectfully submitted,

ANNE S. BOWMAN

*Recording Secretary*

**ADDENDUM**

**GENERAL RESOLUTIONS**

The following is the text of General Resolutions adopted at the third General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

[Here set forth the exact text of each resolution adopted.]

Text of General Resolutions adopted at the Closing Session of the Third General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association, held in the Grand Ballroom of the Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco, California, on Saturday, May 16, 1964, commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m.

## 1. ACTS OF TERRORISM

The rise of violence in the political and social conflicts of American life endangers freedom of speech and assembly essential to democratic society. These freedoms and, in general, life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are, and have been Federal rights of all citizens since the founding of the Republic.

### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Unitarian Universalist Association petition President Johnson to appoint a commission to investigate the collapse of law in such acts of terrorism and to make remedial recommendations wherever constitutional rights are denied.
2. Local societies should urge police to invite the assistance of the F.B.I. in any such cases.
3. Congress be petitioned to consider any necessary legislation which will give the Department of Justice jurisdiction in any such cases.

## 2. CIVIL RIGHTS

RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association, at its 1964 General Assembly, reaffirm, defend and promote the supreme worth of every human personality, the dignity of man, and the use of the democratic method in human relationships, as stated in the Purposes and Objectives of its Constitution, and as reaffirmed in the annual meetings of the Association and urge its member churches and fellowships and their individual members to demonstrate their support of these principles by:

1. Defending the right of individuals to engage in non-violent demonstrations and non-violent civil disobedience for greater racial justice;
2. Supporting the legislation currently under debate in the U.S. Senate and urging no weakening of fair and equal employment and public accommodations sections and elimination of the amendment excluding atheists (Ashbrook amendment);
3. Urging the use of Executive Orders to direct all federal agencies to administer federal programs without discrimination; and also urge the Federal government to withhold the expenditure of Federal funds from such state or local programs and agencies which discriminate against persons on the basis of race or religion in the granting or disbursement of their facilities, property, finances or services;
4. Seeking to influence state and local governing bodies and officials to end apathy, police brutality and the use of unwarranted curfews wherever they exist; and to enact adequate state and local legislation toward ending racial discrimination in voting, employment, housing, education, and in places of public accommodation;
5. Urging every citizen to work for freedom of residence in his own neighborhood;
6. Working in human relations councils and other groups formed to further better understanding among peoples;
7. Investing their funds in non-discriminatory enterprises; and
8. Perfecting their non-discriminatory practices in all areas of human relationships.

### 3. FREEDOM FUND

WHEREAS, one hundred years after the abolition of slavery, the descendants of freed slaves still suffer from laws, customs, traditions, and prejudices that should have died with the institution in which they flourished, and

WHEREAS, we believe it to be our deep responsibility to promote the full participation in the life of our country of all persons without regard to race, color, sex, or national origin,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That here solemnly gathered as delegates to the 1964 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association, we do fully endorse the Unitarian Universalist Freedom Fund of the Unitarian Universalist Commission on Religion and Race and the appeal which will be made to our societies for a special offering to implement the purposes of this fund as set forth in the "Report of the Commission on Religion and Race of the Unitarian Universalist Association," and particularly in furtherance thereof,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a goal of \$50,000 be adopted for this special offering,

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the purposes of the Freedom Fund be enlarged to include:

1. Special research projects of the Commission on Religion and Race;
2. Commission support of projects by local churches, fellowships, districts and denominational agencies, and related organizations in the field of civil rights.

### 4. MEDICARE

WHEREAS, meeting the medical needs of our aged population is a pressing social problem, and meeting the cost of medical care is frequently beyond the financial ability of the elderly,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association urge the Congress to enact legislation to provide hospital and medical care for older persons under the Social Security system and in order to offer equal opportunity to everyone, other such auspices as it deems appropriate and advisable.

### 5. POVERTY

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has stated that one-fifth of all American families have resources inadequate to meet their basic needs and has announced a war on poverty in America and has called for a cooperative effort to deal with its causes and cures;

WHEREAS, the blight of poverty is most keenly felt by members of unskilled minority groups, workers displaced by automation, the aged, migrant workers, and the residents of chronically depressed areas;

WHEREAS, societies of the Unitarian Universalist Association have a compelling responsibility in this cooperative effort;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association declare poverty in the midst of plenty intolerable to the religious conscience and incompatible with our principles of economic justice; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Unitarian Universalist Association urge the individual societies and their members to support the President's proposed programs to:

1. Expand and improve programs for economic development in chronically depressed areas;
2. Provide adequate education and vocational training for youth and retrain for displaced workers;
3. Recognize and meet the needs of the aged;
4. Appropriate special school aid funds to accelerate education for culturally deprived children; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That Unitarian Universalists be urged to enter into person to person relationships with those who are economically, socially, politically and culturally deprived to the end that all citizens may fulfill their highest human potentialities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That our churches and fellowships be urged to expand opportunities for the cultural advancement of the socially disadvantaged in their communities.

## **6. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS,** every phase of the religious education of children ought to be entirely in the hands of their respective parents or of the persons and agencies that these parents freely and individually choose;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Unitarian Universalist Association express its opposition to all attempts to alter the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America which would permit the establishment of religious practices in the public schools.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That members of the constituent bodies of the Association call upon their Representatives and Senators to oppose all such attempts.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That copies of this resolution be sent to the members of the 88th Congress, and its text be incorporated in the Unitarian Universalist Association testimony before the Judiciary Committee of the House on May 28, 1964.

## **7. REVISION OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEDURES**

**WHEREAS,** persistent delays in the legislative process of the Congress of the United States result from certain of its traditions, precedents, rules, and procedures,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Unitarian Universalist Association favor the revision of procedures in both Houses of the Congress to the end that legislation having majority support may be considered and acted upon without undue delays imposed by a minority; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the members of the constituent bodies of the Association call upon their Representatives and Senators to support measures appropriate to this objective, and

**BE IT STILL FURTHER RESOLVED:** That copies of this resolution be sent to the members of the 88th Congress.



## 8. THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST MINISTRY

WHEREAS, an effective ministry in the Unitarian Universalist churches requires both the full utilization of qualified persons now available and a continuing influx of able candidates, and

WHEREAS, many are discouraged from entering the ministry because of widespread reluctance of churches and fellowships to call them irrespective of their sex, race, or age,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the churches and fellowships be urged to:

1. Recruit and call qualified candidates for the ministry from all races, ages, and of both sexes.
2. Continue to develop a salary structure commensurate with professional standards as determined by the Unitarian Universalist Ministerial Association.
3. Contribute adequately to support the theological schools and provide financial assistance to theological students regardless of sex, race or age.

## 9. UNITED NATIONS

WHEREAS, the United Nations Assembly adopted unanimously Resolution 1907 on November 21, 1963, urging all member nations to endeavor to promote measures aimed at the elimination of international tension, and

WHEREAS, the UN Assembly is convinced that devoting a year to international cooperation would help to bring about increased world understanding and cooperation and thereby facilitate the settlement of major international problems, and

WHEREAS, the UN Assembly has designated 1965, the twentieth year of the United Nations, as International Cooperation Year,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Unitarian Universalist Association reaffirm and intensify its support of the United Nations by urging all districts, local groups, churches and fellowships to give special emphasis to the International Cooperation Year projects of the Unitarian Universalist Association United Nations program.

## 10. VIETNAM

WHEREAS, the political and military situation in South Vietnam is steadily deteriorating; and

WHEREAS, the danger of enlargement of the present war into a multi-national conflict is ominously increasing; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the Geneva Conference of 1954 was to neutralize the whole Indo-Chinese peninsula;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That we urge the United States government to reconsider its policy in Vietnam and to explore solutions other than military; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That we urge the United States government to express its wish to participate in a reconvened Geneva Conference to consider the de-militarization and neutralization, under international guarantees, of Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam.