

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Beirut, Lebanon November 5, 1954 8:45 A.M.

PRESENT

Geo. J. Appel, A. G. Zytoskee, Wadie Farag, M. J. McCulloch, C. C. Morris.

OPENING

Prayer by Geo. J. Appel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VOTED, That the Minutes of meeting held October 24 be approved.

G. J. APPEL
TRIP TO AMMAN
 1122

VOTED, To authorize Elder Appel to make a trip to Amman at the time of the dedication of the new chapel.

CRIDER AND DARNELL
EDUCATIONAL BOARD
 1123

VOTED, That Brethren C. C. Crider and R. C. Darnell be invited to attend the Educational Board meeting at Middle East College

S. NOUJAIM, REQUEST
FOR HELP OF
 1124

VOTED, To place a request with the East Mediterranean Union for the services of Brother S. Noujaim to assist Doctor Maher Bishai in making up an index for the medical book.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman

C. C. Morris, Secretary

Note: The above minutes were
 approved at the close of the meeting.

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION QUADRENNIAL SESSION

Beirut, LebanonNovember 21, 19544:30 P. M.PRESENT

G. J. Appel, W. R. Beach, J. F. Cummins, T. R. Flaiz, E. E. Cossentine, A. G. Zytoskee, Wadie Farag, O. K. Anderson, R. H. Hartwell, A. W. Fund, S. Noujaim, A. A. Haddad, Henry Melki, C. C. Crider, N. C. Wilson, Ramses Mina, J. S. Russell, Maher Bishai, C. V. Brauer, M. J. McCulloch, M. C. Grin, T. S. Geraty, G. T. Gott, William Wagner, M. V. Jacobson, R. C. Skinner, Y. O. Sangerloo, K. S. Oster, C. C. Morris.

By Invitation: Yacoub Nashed.

OPENING

Prayer by Elders Beach and Jacobson.

The chairman opened the session by a few brief remarks and expressed appreciation for the General Conference representatives present and for the field representatives from the Middle East all having arrived safely. He stressed the need of our approaching our problems at this session with an attitude of prayer and consecration as we deal with the needs before us and think and plan for the development of the work in days to come.

DAILY PROGRAM
1125

VOTED, That the program as listed in the agenda be adopted for this session. It may be necessary to adjust the hour of the evening meeting while here in Beirut to work in with the college program. Such adjustments will be announced from day to day.

STANDING COMMITTEES
1126

VOTED, That the following additions to the Standing Committees as originally voted in Action No. 1099 be made:

Budget Committee: E. E. Cossentine.

Distribution of Labor: M. V. Jacobson.

Plans Committee: A. W. Fund, Y. O. Sangerloo.

Platform and Music: C. V. Brauer.

EXPRESSION OF
APPRECIATION
1127

VOTED, To authorize the secretary to forward to the General Conference a message of sincere appreciation for the General Conference representatives present at this session, and for the financial provisions for our work in the Middle East during 1955.

TREASURER'S REPORT
1128

The Division Treasurer rendered a report for the year 1953, presenting the General Conference Auditor's Statement for the year end.

VOTED, To accept the audited statement as submitted.

A brief report was given on statistics for the Middle East for the first three quarters of 1954 as compared to the first three quarters of 1953. A number of encouraging items are revealed through these figures, as well as some losses. The chairman in his opening remarks Friday evening stressed the need of greater consecration and the need of winning more souls to the message, and this need is impressed upon our minds as we study the statistical records of the past year. The possibilities are great and the courage of all the brethren is good, and we go forward in faith believing that there are greater prospects for the development of the work just ahead. A condensed financial statement was submitted for the work of the current year as of October 31.

AGENDA ITEMS

Several items on the agenda were referred to the Nominating Committee, which was called to meet at 7:45 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman

C. C. Morris, Secretary

The Council convened at 9:30 A.M., November 22, and was led in prayer by Dr. Wagner and Anees Haddad.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VOTED, That the Minutes of meeting held November 21 be approved as read.

At this juncture the items on the agenda were assigned to various committees.

ANNUAL COUNCIL, 1955 1129

VOTED, That the date of our 1955 annual Division Council be set for November 11-19.

DISTRIBUTION OF "GREAT CONTROVERSY" IN ENGLISH 1130

VOTED, To encourage all of our field leaders to promote in a strong way the circulation of Great Controversy in English and to place orders before the special offer of \$1.00 per copy expires in December, 1954.

13TH SABBATH OVERFLOW PROMOTION 1131

The Thirteenth Sabbath Offering Overflow for the first quarter of 1955 has been allocated to the Middle East Division. In order to give strong promotion to this offering within our division territory, it was

VOTED, That special emphasis be given to the Sabbath school offerings during the entire quarter, but that

during the thirteenth week of the quarter all of our church members be encouraged to make the Thirteenth Sabbath offering a special topic of prayer, and that each one put aside something each day of the week toward his individual offering, thus making it a week of sacrifice on behalf of the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering.

NILE UNION REQUEST TO
DIVIDE EGYPT MISSION
1132

Elder Neal C. Wilson, President of the Nile Union, presented the need of reorganization of the territory of the union and the setting up of three local organizations. After a number of observations and comments emphasizing the advantages that would be gained by such an arrangement, it was

VOTED, To approve of the plan and to refer the proposal to the Nile Union Session in December, to be carried out as conditions may permit.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman

C. C. Morris, Secretary

The Session assembled at 4:00 P.M., November 22, and prayer was offered by Brother Ramses Mina.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VOTED, That the Minutes of meeting held 9:30 A.M., even date, be approved as read and amended.

At this juncture time was taken to give the field and institutional leaders the opportunity of presenting their financial requests.

AUDIT COMMITTEE
1133

VOTED, That the following constitute the Section II Audit Committee for the session: Division officers, R. H. Hartwell, Neal C. Wilson, R. C. Skinner, T. S. Geraty, M. J. McCulloch, M. V. Jacobson, W. R. Beach, J. F. Cummins.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn to 9:15 A.M., November 23.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman

C. C. Morris, Secretary

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION QUADRENNIAL SESSION

Beirut, LebanonNovember 23, 19549:15 A.M.PRESENT

Those in regular attendance.

OPENING

Prayer was offered by J. S. Russell and E. E. Cossentine.

APPROVAL OF MINUTESVOTED, That the Minutes of meeting held 4:00 P.M., November 22, be approved as read.ISTANBUL AUDITORIUM
1134

Elder Beach made a statement regarding his and Brother Cummins' visit at Istanbul, at which time G. J. Appel and A. W. Fund were there and joined in the investigations concerning a meeting place for our members. All things being considered, it was the recommendation of the brethren that we go forward and build an auditorium on our present property. Available funds are sufficient to provide the building on the land we now own, and possibly to also purchase the house on the lower right corner adjoining our land.

VOTED, To recommend to the East Mediterranean Union that they give consideration to the advisability of providing an auditorium on our present property at Istanbul.

OPERATING POLICIES
MIDDLE EAST PRESS
MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE
1135

VOTED, That the newly approved policies of the Middle East Press and the Middle East College be included in the regular operating policy booklet of the Middle East Division.

CYPRUS CHURCH
BUILDING PLANS
1136

VOTED, To refer the building plans for the Cyprus church to the Division Building Committee for consideration.

NILE RIVER & LIBYA
MEDICAL PROJECTS
1137

Elder Neal C. Wilson gave a clear presentation of these two agenda items. It is felt that we cannot provide funds for both these new projects in the immediate future, and we have not yet been able to secure a doctor for Libya. After due consideration of both items, it was

VOTED, To appoint a committee consisting of the General Conference brethren present, Dr. William Wagner, Dr. Maher Bishai, the Nile Union and Division officers to study both projects and report back.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn to 4:00 P.M., even date.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman

C. C. Morris, Secretary

The Council reconvened at 4:00 P.M., November 23, and was lead in prayer by Dr. Maher Bishai.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE
ON CREDENTIALS
AND LICENSES
1138

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses rendered its report, which was adopted as follows:

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION

Ministerial Credentials -	O. K. Anderson A. G. Zytoskee
Ministerial License -	Wadie Farag
Missionary Credentials -	Nora Atkins Naim Awais Marie Baart E. J. Green
Missionary License -	Mrs. G. J. Appel Boutros Ghazal Mrs. E. J. Green Mrs. C. C. Morris Mrs. A. G. Zytoskee
Honorary Ministerial Credentials -	Basta Bishai R. S. Greaves Shukri Nowfel
Honorary Missionary Credentials -	A. E. Ashod
Honorary Bible Instructor Credentials -	Nanajan Badal
Honorary Missionary License -	Mrs. A. E. Ashod Mrs. R. S. Greaves Mrs. I. Khalil

DAR ES SALAAM HOSPITAL

Ministerial Credentials -	M. V. Jacobson
Ministerial License -	William Wagner
Missionary Credentials -	Ayoub Azar Mrs. C. C. Crider Gladys Hurd Ruth Mitchell Milena Simeckova S. O. Sjoberg Ruth Tobiassen Evangeline Voth Khalil Yared

Missionary License -

Mary Balta
Penna Dekalaita
Mrs. M. V. Jacobson
Miss Lucy
Wadie Saaty
Mrs. E. Sequeira
Mrs. S. O. Sjoberg
Angel Torosian
Mrs. Wm. Wagner
Mrs. Khalil Yared

Teacher's Credentials -

Mildred Berggren

MIDDLE EAST PRESS

Ministerial Credentials -

M. C. Grin

Missionary Credentials -

Y. E. Berbawy
M. J. McCulloch

Missionary License -

E. Abdalnour
Mrs. M. C. Grin
Edmond Haddad
Y. Maksudian
Mrs. M. J. McCulloch

MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE

Ministerial Credentials -

T. S. Geraty
G. A. Keough
K. L. Vine

Ministerial License -

C. L. Gemmell

Missionary Credentials -

Euphemia Bryne
Edith C. Davis
G. T. Gott
A. J. Jones
Nourhan Ouzounian
Shahin Ouzounian

Missionary License -

Mrs. C. L. Gemmell
Mrs. T. S. Geraty
Mrs. G. T. Gott
Mrs. R. H. Hartwell
Mrs. A. J. Jones
Mrs. G. A. Keough
Michael Nabti
Mrs. K. L. Vine

Teacher's Credentials -

I. Swaidan

Teacher's License -

Mary Haddad
Najwa Nabti

Bible Instructor's Credentials- A. Ruby Williams

EAST MEDITERRANEAN UNION

Ministerial Credentials -	R. H. Hartwell
Missionary Credentials -	A. W. Fund

NILE UNION

Ministerial Credentials -	Neal C. Wilson
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IRAN MISSION

Ministerial Credentials -	K. S. Oster H. K. Salakian Y. O. Sangerloo R. C. Skinner
Missionary Credentials -	J. S. Gabriel Melcom Gasparian
Missionary License -	Mrs. K. S. Oster Mrs. R. C. Skinner

PLANS COMMITTEE
PARTIAL REPORT

1139

The committee on plans rendered a partial report, which was adopted as follows:

HOME VISITATION DAYS
1140VOTED, That we have four Home Visitation Days in 1955.HOME VISITATION TRACTS
1141VOTED, To suggest that we have one health, one temperance, and two religious Home Visitation tracts printed in 1955, and that these be financed as they were in 1954.GENERAL CONFERENCE
HELP

1142

VOTED, To request the following General Conference help during the next three years:

1955 - W. A. Scharffenberg	Temperance
D. A. McAdams	Publishing
1956 - E. W. Dunbar	M. V.
Ministerial Association Secretary	
1957 - J. E. Edwards	Home Missionary
L. L. Moffitt	Sabbath School

And that we renew our request for Miss Burnett to visit the Dar es Salaam Hospital as may be arranged.

MEMBERSHIP GOAL
1143VOTED, To set the following baptismal goals for 1955:

Nile Union	250
East Mediterranean Union	250
Iran Mission	35

LIFE AND HEALTH
ASSOCIATION

1144

WHEREAS, In order to reach the mass of the population of the Middle East, literature and other materials should be prepared along lines of health and home education; to implement same, it was

VOTED, (1) That in the publication of such material the name of "Life and Health Association" be used.

(2) That a paper of 32 pages be published bi-monthly in Arabic, entitled "Life and Health."

(3) That 52 fifteen-minute broadcasts on topics pertaining to life and health, including temperance, be prepared in the Arabic, Farsee, and Turkish languages.

(4) That a set of twenty-four Bible Correspondence School lessons on health and temperance topics be prepared in the Arabic, Farsee, and Turkish languages.

(5) That the work be under the control of the Radio Board.

(6) That the Nominating Committee appoint an editor in chief and two associate editors of the Life and Health program, and someone as circulation manager.

(7) That the Committee on Distribution of Labor nominate two translators for the translation work.

RADIO CEYLON CONTRACT
1145

VOTED, To cancel our contract with Radio Ceylon at the end of December, 1954.

SABBATH SCHOOL HOUR
1146

VOTED, To recommend to the fields of the Middle East Division that our Sabbath school exercises be held, in so far as possible, at a standard hour, suggesting 9:30 A.M., Sabbath.

EDUCATIONAL
STANDARDS MANUAL
1147

VOTED, That we adopt as a standing operating policy for the Middle East Division the "Standards Manual for Institutions of the Seventh-day Adventist Schools" as recommended by the Division Educational Board and Division Board of Regents in their November 12-19, 1954, sessions. (cf. Division Minutes, page 278, action #899)

REVISION MEA OF SDA
SCHOOLS CONSTITUTION
1148

VOTED, To amend the "Constitution of the Middle East Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools." (As revised in Middle East Division Policy Handbook, 1954)

REVISION OF
EDUCATIONAL POLICY
1149

VOTED, To amend the Education Department Policy of the Middle East Division (as revised in Middle East Division Policy Handbook, 1954).

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
TEACHER ACTIVITIES
1150

VOTED, That where holidays within the school year do not extend beyond one week the teacher decides how he shall spend the time; where the holidays extend beyond one week, the proper authority or controlling organization decides how the teacher's time is to be utilized.

VACATION & NATIONAL
HOLIDAY OBSERVANCE
1151

VOTED, To recommend that as far as possible the vacation days during the school year be common with the vacation days of the respective missions and that observance be arranged for government and national holidays which are not of a religious nature.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman

C. C. Morris, Secretary

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION QUADRENNIAL SESSION

Beirut, Lebanon November 24, 1954 9:15 A.M.

OPENING

Those in regular attendance assembled and were led in prayer by J. S. Russell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VOTED, That the Minutes of the meetings, November 23, 9:15 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., be approved as read.

NILE RIVER & LIBYA
MEDICAL PROJECTS

1152

The sub-committee appointed to give study to these two agenda items rendered a report as follows:

"We recommend, That we go forward with our plans for entering Libya just as soon as possible, and that the funds realized through the Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow Offering for the first quarter of 1955 be held for the Nile River project. That further study be given to the method of reaching the villages along the Nile, whether by launch or other means of transportation."

VOTED, To accept the report.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
REPORT

1153

The Nominating Committee rendered its report which was adopted as follows:

VOTED, (1) That in addition to the regularly elected members of the Middle East Division Committee the following be named to serve as appointed members: President, Middle East College; Medical Director, Dar el Salaam Hospital; Manager, Middle East Press; President, Iran Mission; Ramses Mina; S. Noujaim.

(2) East Mediterranean Union: President, R. H. Hartwell; Secretary-Treasurer, A. W. Fund.

(3) Nile Union: President, Neal C. Wilson; Secretary, Ramses Mina; Acting Treasurer, Neal C. Wilson; Assistant Treasurer, Ramses Mina.

(4) Iran Mission: President, R. C. Skinner; Secretary-Treasurer, Y. O. Sangerloo.

(5) Departmental Secretaries: Home Missionary, Publishing and Religious Liberty, Wadie Farag; Radio and Y.P. M.V., A. G. Zytoskee.

(6) Radio Board of Managers: G. J. Appel (Chairman), A. G. Zytoskee (Secretary), C. C. Morris, R. H. Hartwell, Neal C. Wilson, Wadie Farag, Manager Middle East Press, K. S. Oster.

(End of Nominating Committee report)

GENERAL CONFERENCE
AUTHORIZATION ON
NEW SECRETARIES
1154

VOTED, To request the General Conference approval on the appointment of Wadie Farag as the Middle East Division Home Missionary Secretary and A. G. Zytoskee as Radio Secretary.

PLANS COMMITTEE
PARTIAL REPORT

The Plans Committee presented a further partial report which was adopted as follows:

ARABIC HYMNAL
1155

VOTED, That a committee consisting of three members be appointed in each union for the purpose of selecting and translating approximately 300 hymns from our denominational church hymnal, and that one member from each of these committees be asked to meet with Brother Swaidan and Pastor Keough at Middle East College in an Arabic Church Hymnal Workshop, which should meet under the chairmanship of Pastor Keough in the summer of 1955 for the purpose of making and preparing final selections for publication.

EXTENSION DIVISION
1156

VOTED, That any person who is a non-resident student currently enrolled at Middle East College may take Extension Division courses without the usual clearance through the college registrar's office, unless they desire later college hour accreditation.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT
CONVENTION DATE
1157

VOTED, That the Division hold its Publishing Department Convention from May 11 - 14, 1954, in connection with the colporteur institute at Middle East College.

SUB-COMMITTEE ON
COLPORTEUR POLICY
CHANGE
1158

VOTED, To appoint a sub-committee composed of Wadie Farag, Chairman; N. C. Wilson; R. H. Hartwell; Henry Melki; M. J. McCulloch; G. T. Gott, to study the colporteur policy revision suggestions and report back a recommendation to the general council for consideration.

"STORY OF
REDEMPTION"
1159

After considerable discussion on the printing of a translation of the "Story of Redemption," it was

VOTED, To recommend the present translation to the Reading Committee for re-consideration, and they in turn to forward their observations to the Literature Committee, with power to act.

"DESIRE OF AGES"
1160

Brother Bashir Hasso has translated the book "Desire of Ages" into Arabic, which would be excellent material for "Hope".

VOTED, To ask the editor of "Hope" to arrange with Brother Hasso to use his translation of "Desire of Ages" in our monthly magazine.

OTHER SPIRIT OF
PROPHECY BOOKS
1161

In view of the need for Sister White's writings in the Arabic language so that they can be read by our church members, it was

BIBLE TEXTBOOK
WORKSHOP
1162

VOTED, That our division officers, together with the Literature Committee, give earnest study to this need and that volumes already recommended be published just as soon as suitable translations can be prepared.

In order to correlate the teaching of Bible in the schools of the Middle East Association, it was

VOTED, To continue the Bible Textbook Workshop program with the following objectives in mind:

- (a) All schools using the new series of Bible books.
- (b) Materials complete in the national languages.
- (c) Setting up of final examinations on a divisional basis. Further,

In order to implement the Bible Correlation Program, it was

VOTED, (a) That the materials be completed for one book at a time.

(b) That workbooks and syllabi be published in duplicated tentative editions as soon as possible.

(c) That the Union Education Departments assess their anticipated needs so as to indicate the number of copies required of each text for the printed editions.

(d) That such work as can be done outside of the workshop be commenced as quickly as possible and that workshop sessions be held in the summer of 1955.

(e) That wherever possible regional Bible text conferences of teachers be held to acquaint the staffs with the methods and content of the materials before introducing them to the classroom.

(f) That a schedule of anticipated financial needs be drawn up and presented to the Division Budget and Finance Committee by the Division Education Department.

V.O.P. LESSONS
ON DANIEL
1163

In view of the fact that suitable questions in Arabic have been made out for each chapter of the book of Daniel, which can be used for Voice of Prophecy graduates who have no further lessons to complete, and since the Middle East Press has Arabic chapters of Daniel available, it was

VOTED, That these lessons be printed by the press and that our Voice of Prophecy offices send them out with each chapter to our V. O. P. graduates.

SPECIAL DATES 1955
CHURCH CALENDAR
1164

VOTED, That the special dates for 1955 be as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Special Days</u>	<u>Special Offerings</u>
January 1	Home Missionary (Local Church Evangelism)	
22	Religious Liberty Day	Religious Liberty
29	Christian Home & Family Altar Day	
February 5-12	HOPE campaign	
12		HOPE subscriptions
19	Christian Education	Middle East College
March 5	Home Visitation Day	
12	Missionary Volunteer Day	Foreign Missions
19-26	M. V. Week of Prayer and Sacrifice	
26		Middle East Division
April 2	Colporteur Rally Day	S. S. Expense
May 7	Home Visitation Day	
14	Medical Missionary Day	
June 4	Local Church Evangelism	
18	Sabbath School Rally Day	S. S. Expense
July 9		Mid-Summer Offering
August 6	Home Visitation Day	
13	Christian Education	Local training school
20	Christian Temperance	Temperance
Aug. 27 -		
September 3	Missions' Extension Week	
September 3	Missions' Extension Day	Missions Extension
Sept. 24 -		
Oct. 29	Ingathering Campaign	
October 8 - 15	Voice of Prophecy Campaign	
October 15		V.O.P. Offering
29	Tithe Promotion Day	
November 5	Home Visitation Day	
19	Local Church Evangelism (Home Missionary day)	
Nov. 26 - Dec. 3	Week of Prayer and Sacrifice	Week of Prayer and Sacrifice Offering

DATES OF ANNUAL
CAMPMEETINGS
1165

VOTED, To ask the fields for their suggestions on camp-meeting dates for 1955, and submit same to the Division Committee for approval.

TEMPERANCE DEPARTMENT
ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
1166

VOTED, That Wadie Farag be asked to serve as associate secretary of the Middle East Division Temperance Department.

CAIRO EVANGELISTIC
CENTER PLANS
1167

VOTED, To refer the plans for the Cairo Evangelistic Center to the Division Building Committee for consideration.

APPRECIATION TO
HOSTESSES
1168

VOTED, That the secretary be asked to convey to our ladies the sincere appreciation of the delegates attending the quadrennial session for the hospitable entertainment extended to them.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn to 9:30, Friday, November 26, at the Dar el Salaam Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq.
G. J. Appel, Chairman
C. C. Morris, Secretary

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION QUADRENNIAL SESSION

Baghdad, IraqNovember 28, 19542:00 P.M.PRESENT

Those in regular attendance.

OPENING

Prayer by O. K. Anderson.

NOMINATING
COMMITTEE REPORT
1169

The Nominating Committee rendered its final report through its secretary, C. C. Crider, and it was

VOTED, That agenda items 52 and 58 be referred to the Division Committee for consideration.COMMITTEE ON DISTRI-
BUTION OF LABOR
1170

The Committee on Distribution of Labor rendered its report, which was adopted as follows:

VOTED, (1) That A. G. Zytoskee visit Aden and Sudan as soon as can be arranged.

(2) That the available members of the Division Committee attend the East Mediterranean Union Session, December 8-11, in Beit Mery.

(3) That M. J. McCulloch attend the Nile Union Session in Cairo.

(4) That T. S. Geraty accompany E. E. Cossentine to Iran in the interest of education.

(5) To refer the matter of editors and translators to the available members of the Division Committee.

BUDGET COMMITTEE
REPORT
1171

The report of the Budget Committee was rendered through its secretary, J. F. Cummins, and after some free discussion, it was adopted as follows:

1955 REGULAR
APPROPRIATIONS
SECTION I
1172VOTED, That the regular appropriations, Section I, for the year 1955 be as follows:

Division Office	LL	8,978.50
Middle East College	LL	77,520.00
Middle East Press	LL	40,800.00
Radio Studio	LL	12,000.00
East Mediterranean Union	LL	230,400.00
Iran Mission	Rials	2,040,000.00
Nile Union	£Eg	27,300.000

SPECIAL APPRO-
PRIATIONS, 1955
1173

The Treasurer reported the following funds available for special appropriations:

From the General Conference £ 100,000.00

From Middle East Division

Reserves & Emergency Fund LL 50,000.00

Unused Budgets 35,000.00

85,000.00

27,200.00

Total available for Special Appropriations £127,200.00

VOTED, That this amount be appropriated as follows:

East Mediterranean Union

For evangelistic center in Istanbul \$ 50,000.00

Dar El Salaam Hospital

For construction costs,		
main hospital	ID 15,000.000	\$ 42,000.00
For boiler house	ID 1,000.000	2,800.00
Overdraft with Division (Working capital)		5,000.00
For essential items & equipment,		
to be allocated by Board action		5,000.00
		<u>54,800.00</u>

Middle East College

To assist on Administration Building
and well expense \$ 8,000.00

Nile Union

Reimbursement of amount advanced		
for Adventist Institute	£Eg 3,000	\$ 8,550.00
Toward deficit on Nile Union Office		
and other specials throughout Union		5,850.00
		<u>14,400.00</u>

Total Specials \$ 127,200.00

CHURCH EXTENSION
FUNDS
1174

The General Conference made available \$ 12,000.00 for church extension projects. It was

VOTED, To assign these as follows:

East Mediterranean Union	
Nicosia Chapel	\$ 9,000.00
Iran Mission	
Completion of Julfa Church	<u>3,000.00</u>
	12,000.00

(It was agreed that the amount assigned for the Julfa project would be withdrawn if the project is not completed within the next twelve month period.)

ASSIGNMENT
INGATHERING FUNDS
1175

There is on hand in the division treasury approximately LL 7,500.00 representing unappropriated Ingathering Funds.

VOTED, To appropriate these as follows:

Dar el Salaam Hospital Clinic		LL 1,500.00
East Mediterranean Union		
Junior MV Camp Equipment	1,000.00	
Turkish Literature	<u>2,500.00</u>	3,500.00
Iran Mission, for Evangelism		<u>2,500.00</u>
		LL 7,500.00

EVANGELISTIC FUNDS
1176

VOTED, To appropriate to the Nile Union £Eg 1,500.000 from Division Evangelistic Funds for 1955.

1956 BUDGET REQUESTS
1177

VOTED, To request the various missions and institutions to prepare their 1956 requests at the time of their year-end meetings.

MISSIONS EXTENSION
1178

VOTED, To refer the 1955 Missions Extension projects to the available members of the Division Committee for listing.

(End of Budget Committee report)

FINANCE COMMITTEE
REPORT
1179

The Finance Committee rendered its report through its secretary, G. T. Gott, which was adopted as follows:

BIBLE SOCIETY
DONATIONS
1180

VOTED, To encourage local churches to take up offerings once per year for the Bible Societies, and if such offerings are not enough to make a sufficient gift, then to ask the mission to subsidize.

EVANGELISTIC FUNDS
1181

VOTED, To ask the unions and local missions to begin to set up funds for evangelistic work.

SUBSIDY ON TRACTS
1182

VOTED, That the division subsidy on regular doctrinal tracts continue at the 50% rate.

SECONDARY SCHOOL
LABORATORIES
1183

VOTED, To refer the question of establishing secondary school laboratories in the Baghdad school to the East Mediterranean Union Session.

INCREASING MISSION
OFFERINGS THROUGH
SABBATH SCHOOL
1184

WHEREAS, There are still numerous unentered sections of the world missionary field, and many that have been entered are understaffed and ill equipped, and the time remaining for us to cooperate with the Lord in finishing His work in all the world is very short, and

WHEREAS, The General Conference Treasury is dependent to a very large degree upon the Sabbath school offerings for the support of our foreign mission program, and

WHEREAS, The Lord has continued to bless His people with a great degree of prosperity, and since the Bible basis for giving is "as God hath prospered,"

We recommend, 1. That all our believers re-examine their obligation to Christ in view of the great sacrifice He has made in our behalf; and that in gratitude for this inestimable gift and the prosperity with which the Lord has blessed us, we unite in a much more generous support of the mission program, particularly with reference to very considerably increasing the steady systematic support of missions through the Sabbath school.

2. That all our Sabbath schools, classes, and members be urged to look forward to doubling our present rate of giving as soon as possible, and that to this end in addition to giving more liberally from our abundance, we earnestly seek the Lord for a revival of sacrificial giving and the practice of self-denial in all our expenditures, in harmony with the instruction of the Lord that "When those who know the truth practice the self-denial enjoined in God's word, the message will go with power." -- Counsels on Stewardship, 302.

"Let us save every dollar that can be saved, that the matchless charms of Christ may be presented before the souls of the perishing. . . .

"Each one should strive to do for Jesus all that it is possible for him to do, by personal effort, by gifts, by sacrifices. There should be meat in the house of the Lord, and that means a full treasury, that responses may be made to Macedonian cries coming from every land. . . .

"Let all the pennies, dimes, and dollars that are lost to the cause through selfish love of pleasure, through desire to meet the world's standard, through love of ease, be turned into the channel that flows to God's treasury."-- Counsels on Stewardship, pp. 298,299

INITIAL EXPENSE
NEW BOOKS
1185

VOTED, To refer to the Press Board a recommendation that a reserve for initial book expense be put in operation in the Press.

SPECIAL BONUS
STUDENT WORKERS
IN PRESS
1186

VOTED, That the Press give further study to this, and if it seems necessary to provide some type of bonus for student workers in order to keep them in the press during the summer, that the Press itself work out some means of financing this bonus, rather than putting it on the same basis as a student colporteur scholarship.

ASSOCIATION DUES
1187

VOTED, That the question of association dues, medical and otherwise, for institutional workers, be referred to the institutions concerned.

RENT RATE
1188

VOTED, To put into operation the General Conference plan as voted at the last session of the Fall Council of an 11% rent rate,, to become effective January 1, 1955.

RENT SUBSIDY
SINGLE WORKERS
1189

VOTED, That where a single worker is considered a head of a family, that he also be considered on the same status as a married worker, and that he be allowed regular rent subsidy, but with the approval of the next higher organization concerned. Further,

VOTED, That where a single worker who is not the head of a family is renting one room, he be allowed a rent subsidy equal to the difference between 11% of his salary and whatever his rent is, not to exceed 25% of his salary; where his rent is beyond 25%, that the organization employing him share half and half.

EXCESSIVE SABBATH
SCHOOL EXPENSE
1190

VOTED, That the churches be urged to bear more and more of the cost of Sabbath school supplies.

(End of Finance Committee report)

PLANS COMMITTEE
FINAL REPORT

VOTED, That the final report of the Plans Committee be adopted as follows:

WINTER
RELIEF CLOTHING
1191

VOTED, That the Division Home Missionary Department be asked to negotiate with the General Conference to determine the possibility of securing relief clothing and dry milk for use in various parts of the Division field, and further,

That this material, if available, be shipped according to the following schedule:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Port of Arrival</u>
East Med. Union		
Lebanon-Syria	2 tons clothing	Beirut
Jordan	2 " "	via Beirut
Iraq	2 " "	Basrah
Iran Mission	2 " "	Khoramshahr
Nile Union		
Egypt Mission	4 " "	Alexandria
Aden	2 " "	Aden

1955 SUMMER PATTERN
FOR TEACHERS
1192

VOTED, To adopt the following 1955 summer pattern for teachers:

- July 1 - 9 School closing reports, Registration for ensuing school year, and Home visitation.
- July 10 - (a) Summer sessions (one each simultaneously
Sept. 10 in East Med. Union and Nile Union)
 (b) Bible Textbook Workshop and Arabic Hymnal
 Workshop in Beirut.
- Sept. 11 - 24 "Teachers Institutes" (Sponsored by Unions, including preliminary work on Arabic Language Teaching Workshop for summer of 1956)

TEMPERANCE INSTRUCTION IN OUR SCHOOLS
1193

WHEREAS, The forces of intemperance, both the alcohol and tobacco interests are making tremendous efforts to induce people to indulge in the use of their products, and our people, particularly our youth, in common with the general public, are exposed to their propaganda and promotion, and

WHEREAS, One of the strongest deterrents to insidious propaganda is an enlightened people, and

WHEREAS, The best place to reach our youth with the facts concerning these twin evils, both from a mental and spiritual standpoint, is within the framework of our school system,

VOTED, That the Department of Education and the Medical Department of the Middle East Division in cooperation with the Temperance Secretary plan for the giving of temperance instruction in our elementary and secondary schools and college.

EVANGELISTIC ADVANCE
1194

VOTED, To adopt the following resolution on "Evangelistic Advance and Ministerial Dedication".

In this tremendous hour--tremendous in its possibilities for destruction, and tremendous in its opportunities for evangelism--when men, women, and children are longing for a word of hope and courage; when "Christ--the hope of the world" is

being given world-wide publicity; when the truth expressed in the Spirit of Prophecy years ago, "Now is the time for the last warning to be given," when "decided efforts should be made to bring the message for this time prominently before the people. The third angel is to go forth with great power." --Test. Vol 6, p. 16.

We, assembled at this Quadrennial Session, invite our workers around the division in every capacity of service to reaffirm the great call to evangelism which was sounded at the recent General Conference Session, and that in preparation for this work we enter into deep heart searching and reappraisal of personal experience and relationship with God and the message, and that this take the form of:

1. Bible study befitting a ministry charged with the solemn responsibility of bringing such a message as ours to a dying world.

2. A restudy of the counsels of the Lord concerning the minister's personal consecration and dedication to his task.

3. A re-evaluation of our spiritual influence upon the flock.

4. A building up of the unity of the brethren in all lands.

5. A call to a world fellowship of prayer for the final outpouring of the Spirit of God.

6. An integration of the excellent and comprehensive recommendations on evangelism which were passed by the 1952 Autumn Council, as follows:

"1. That division, union, and local field committees proceed immediately to survey their territories and to marshal their forces with a view to organizing an overall program of integrated evangelism by which the total strength of the ministry, the activities of every department and the resources of every institution shall be focused on soul-winning fruitage.

"2. That union and/or local fields organize yearly institutes under the direction of the president and the departmental secretaries at which this program of integrated evangelism shall be developed, soul-winning techniques presented, and church leaders trained more efficiently, thereby allowing ministers to devote their major time and interest to leadership of public evangelism and to rallying the church, the Sabbath school and the youth in concerted action.

"3. That we encourage union and local committees to invite occasionally experienced evangelists to meet with them in counsel.

"4. That when and where practicable, executive committees and boards arrange the duties of all credentialed and licensed workers so that they can conduct, or be associated with, at least one public effort yearly.

"5. That an ever-increasing evangelistic mold be placed on our colporteur work, and that colporteur evangelists be encouraged to cooperate with ministers in soul-winning by preparing the field with literature prior to a public evangelistic campaign, by reporting the names and addresses of those who have purchased literature in the area, and by personally inviting to the meetings those who have manifested an interest in the message.

"6. That every Seventh-day Adventist church be organized as an evangelistic center in which a year-round program of public evangelism is carried forward by

either the conference worker or trained laymen, and that unless a major evangelistic effort is conducted in the vicinity, the lights be on in our churches each Sunday evening where no evangelistic program can be conducted.

"7. That the responsible leaders in local and union fields keep this program of expanding evangelism constantly before their committees, workers and churches, informing them of the progress made in achieving the objective."

SABBATH SCHOOL
OBJECTIVES FOR
PRESENT QUADRENNIUM
1195

In view of the great challenges before us,

VOTED, That the Middle East Division Sabbath School Department set the following objectives for the quadrennium ending with 1957:

Number of Sabbath schools	75
Nile Union	30
East Med. Union	30
Iran Mission	15
Membership	5,400
Nile Union	2,000
East Med. Union	3,000
Iran Mission	400

Offerings for the last year
of quadrennium LL 50,000, the Division Sabbath School Department to divide the total above amount between the unions and Iran.

AUTHORITY OF
OPERATING POLICIES
1196

VOTED, To adopt the following Autumn Council recommendation on "Authority of Operating Policies," and further

VOTED, That every employing agency of the field be supplied with a copy of the current policy.

"The General Conference Working Policy contains the accumulated policy making recommendations and resolutions as passed by the General Conference Sessions and the Autumn Councils, and also the Constitution and By-laws of the General Conference. It is, therefore, the authoritative voice of the church in all matters pertaining to the work of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination in all parts of the world. Because of this it should be strictly adhered to by all organizations in every part of the world field. The work in every organization should be administered in full harmony with the operating policies of the General Conference and of the respective divisions into which the world field is divided. No departure from these policies should be made without approval being first obtained from the General Conference Committee (the division committee is the authorized body acting for the General Conference Committee in the respective overseas divisions.) All conference, mission, or institutional administrators should cooperate in maintaining these administrative policies as they affect the work in their respective organizations. Only thus can a spirit of close cooperation and unity be maintained in the work of the church in all parts of the world field. Because of this, policies adopted should be adhered to carefully."

HOME AND SCHOOL
ASSOCIATION
1197

WHEREAS, We are told in the Spirit of Prophecy that "the well-being of society, the success of the church, the prosperity of the nation, depend upon home influences," (Ministry of Healing, p. 349); and

WHEREAS, the Home and School Association is being sponsored for the purpose of emphasizing the importance of the Adventist home and the school, not only as a beneficent influence in the community, the church and the nation, but particularly in safe-guarding our homes and our children from birth to college age; therefore,

VOTED, (1) That where practical local churches organize Home and School Associations.

(2) That every adult church member be encouraged to take part in the activities of the Home and School Association.

(3) That officers for the Home and School Association be elected in the usual way at the year-end election of officers.

(4) That the officers of every Home and School Association be provided with at least three copies of THE ADVENTIST HOME AND SCHOOL magazine which contains instructions and program material.

REVIVAL OF SOUL-
WINNING SPIRIT
1198

WHEREAS, We believe the end is very near, and millions of persons have not yet heard the everlasting gospel message which alone can prepare them to meet their coming Lord; and

WHEREAS, The unfinished task of giving the message to every creature is constantly magnified by fast-growing populations; and,

WHEREAS, We are told, "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."--Christian Service, p. 68

Be it resolved, That we send forth from this Middle East Division Session a clarion call summoning all our church members in every land to join with our ministers in a great soul-winning crusade; and further,

VOTED, 1. That this crusade begin with a call to prayer and revival in which we seek the Lord for a greater love for souls and for a revival of the soul-winning spirit.

2. That our church leadership plan for revival services in our churches, placing before our membership the need for, and great blessings accruing from, a revival of the soul-winning spirit.

3. That all our members be urged to draw up a prayer list of loved ones, friends, business acquaintances, and others interested in the message found through missionary contacts, and that they be encouraged to pray regularly for those on this list in the family circle and in such church services as the weekly and annual Week of Prayer meetings, missionary, and Missionary Volunteer meetings.

4. That we ask those preparing the instructions for leaders in connection with the Week of Prayer services to include in these instructions suggestions based on point 3 above.

5. That our ministers and church officers plan a coordinated program of missionary work for each church, including a part for each member, implementing the prediction that "every sanctified heart will be pressed into service." -- Ibid., p. 11.

6. That wherever possible, training classes be conducted in every church, teaching our members how to work for souls.

7. That we encourage our lay workers to develop interests and bring souls to decision by systematic literature distribution, holding Bible studies, cottage meetings, public efforts, branch Sabbath schools, etc.

8. That we stress the plan of inviting interested persons to attend church services.

9. That wherever possible a mission-wide coordinated soul-winning program be put into effect, culminating in baptism for those who are won.

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION
YOUTHS CONGRESS
1199

VOTED, That because of financial consideration the Youth Congress proposed by Division Action No. 907 be carried out at Middle East College during the latter part of September, 1956, and further

VOTED, That a trust fund of LL 30,000.00 be set aside from the 1956 appropriations to partially cover the following estimated cost of such a congress:

1. Subsidized travel	LL 12,000.00
(50% travel, passports, visas)	
2. Board	3,000.00
3. Tabernacle, booths, etc.	10,000.00
4. Emergency Expense	<u>5,000.00</u>
	30,000.00

REGIONAL LAYMEN'S
INSTITUTES, 1955
1200

WHEREAS, Laymen's Congresses give a mighty impetus to soul winning and accelerate home visitation, which will "largely accomplish the great work of the third angel's message." Historical Sketches, p. 150; and,

WHEREAS, The Spirit of prophecy specifically calls attention to the opportunity and necessity of "instructing our people in practical methods of presenting the saving truth." Testimonies, Vol 9, p. 81; and,

WHEREAS, These congresses furnish training through demonstrations worked up in the best methods of soul winning and securing decisions for truth; therefore,

VOTED, That during the year 1955 eight regional laymen's congresses be held in the Middle East Division, based on these territorial division:

Lower Egypt	Cairo
Upper Egypt	Assiut
Lebanon-Syria	Beirut
Cyprus	Nicosia
Turkey	Istanbul
Jordan	Amman
Iraq	Baghdad
Iran	Tehran

2. That the delegation to each congress be selected from those who are active and successful in church missionary service and be based on one delegate for every ten members, thus providing for a large number of laymen and vital training necessary for more effective evangelism.

ACCREDITATION OF
EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS
1201

VOTED, To adopt the Autumn Council recommendation on the accreditation of educational institutions with certain proposed changes, suiting it to the needs of this division as follows:

1. All members of the Middle East Association of S.D.A. schools shall be accredited by the Division Board of Regents.

2. Accreditation of educational institutions by agencies other than those provided within the denomination shall be on the following bases:

a. Officialization by an agency, bureau or department of the government shall be undertaken only with the approval of the division upon recommendation of the union mission in which the school is located.

b. Accreditation by non-governmental agencies or organizations shall be sought only with the approval of the union mission in which the school is located, upon recommendation of the board of control of the school or as division policies may direct, except for Middle East Division institutions, in which case accreditation or change of status with accrediting agencies shall be sought only with the approval of the Middle East Division Committee.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR
ORDINATION

VOTED, To adopt the 1954 Autumn Council recommendation on the qualifications for the ordination of ministers as follows, and further

VOTED, That these qualifications be made available to all those holding ministerial licenses throughout the division field.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

The setting apart of men for the sacred work of the ministry should be regarded as one of the most vital concerns of the church. The spiritual growth of God's people, their development in the virtues of Christ, as well as their relationship to each other as members of His body, are all closely bound up with and in many respects dependent upon the spirituality, efficiency, and consecration of those who minister in Christ's stead.

The mind of the Lord concerning the qualifications for the ministry is clearly revealed in the Scriptures. Anciently the minister was known as "The man of God," sometimes "the man of the Spirit." Detailed instructions were given to Moses concerning the qualifications of the priesthood: the priest's dress, his demeanor, his spiritual understanding being emphasized. Then, in order to keep continually before the congregation the high calling of those who served in the tabernacle, the high priest wore on his mitre the words "Holiness unto the Lord."

In the New Testament the picture is just as clear. The Apostle Paul speaks of himself as "a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God" (Rom 1:1). This matter of separation to the ministry was made very clear to him by the Lord Himself when, appearing to him on the Damascus road, He said, "I have appeared unto thee . . . to make thee a minister . . . delivering thee from the people, . . . unto whom I now send thee, to open their eyes and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God" (Acts 26:16-18). He was delivered or separated from the people and then, as the anointed representative of God, he was sent back to the people to be God's mouthpiece and to open their eyes to the glories of the gospel. Later in writing of the work of the minister he spoke of it as a "high calling."

The Spirit of prophecy says:

"A man can have no greater honor than to be accepted by God as an able minister of the gospel." -- Acts of the Apostles, p. 328.

In the Hebrew epistle we read, "No man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God." (Heb. 5:4)

The proofs of a man's divine call must be clearly evident before the church sets him apart by ordination.

"Ministers should be examined especially to see if they have an intelligent understanding of the truth for this time, so that they can give a connected discourse upon the prophecies or upon practical subjects. If they cannot clearly present Bible subjects, they need to be hearers and learners still. In order to be teachers of Bible truth, they should earnestly and prayerfully search the Scriptures, and become conversant with them. All these things should be carefully and prayerfully considered before men are sent into the field of labor." -- Gospel Workers, p. 439.

"A true minister does the work of the Master. He feels the importance of his work, realizing that he sustains to the church and to the world a relation similar to that which Christ sustained. . . . Those who hear him know that he has drawn near to God in fervent, effectual prayer. The Holy Spirit has rested upon him, his soul has felt the vital, heavenly fire, and he is able to compare spiritual things with spiritual. . . . Hearts are broken by his presentation of the love of God, and many are led to inquire, 'What must I do to be saved?'" -- Acts of the Apostles, p. 328.

"The conversion of sinners and their sanctification through the truth is the strongest proof a minister can have that God has called him to the ministry. The evidence of his apostleship is written upon the hearts of those converted, and is witnessed to by their renewed lives. . . . A minister is greatly strengthened by these seals of his ministry." Ibid. p. 328.

For such work a man must indeed be called of God and give clear evidence of his call.

Concerning the examination of ministerial candidates, the Lord's counsel to us is clear:

"There has been too little done in examining ministers; and for this very reason churches have had the labors of unconverted, inefficient men, who have lulled the members to sleep, instead of awakening them to greater zeal and earnestness in the cause of God. There are ministers who come to the prayer meeting, and pray the same old, lifeless prayers over and over; they preach the same dry discourses from week to week and from month to month. . . . The only way in which we can correct this widespread evil, is to examine closely every one who would become a teacher of the Word. Those upon whom this responsibility rests should acquaint themselves with his history since he professed to believe the truth. His Christian experience and his knowledge of the Scriptures, the way in which he holds present truth, should all be understood. No one should be accepted as a laborer in the cause of God until he makes it manifest that he has a real, living experience in the things of God." -- Gospel Workers, pp. 437, 438.

This counsel lays a definite obligation upon the leaders in charge of an ordination service. They should plan for the examination of candidates in such a way that this important procedure shall not be simply perfunctory but give opportunity for a true evaluation of the candidate's fitness. Sufficient time should be made available, particularly in cases where a number of candidates are to be examined. Wherever possible the candidate should plan to have his wife present for the examination, realizing that ordination affects not only the individual but the entire family.

Undue haste has sometimes been apparent in recommending candidates for ordination. On the other hand there has also been undue delay, extending as long as twenty years and more. Both these attitudes are wrong. While no worker should be hurried into ordination, yet it is just as important that when one is ready to be thus set apart, the service should not be unduly delayed. Embarrassment has been brought to workers at times because of being unable to perform certain important ministerial responsibilities. The fact, however, that a ministerial trainee has spent four, five, or even eight years in the field, is of itself no guarantee that he is ready for ordination. One with less ability for evangelistic preaching or who reveals less aptitude than some for other lines of ministerial and pastoral work will naturally take longer to develop. Indeed, some may never qualify for ordination. Those who do not reveal particular ministerial talent and aptitude for definite public leadership should be encouraged to develop as personal soul-winners, recognizing that their call is to some other work less distinctly ministerial.

Conference and mission presidents, and executive committees should recognize a definite responsibility to foster the growth of younger ministers and should see to it that such are given opportunities where they may develop to their full ministerial capacity. Any plan that diverts the minister-to-be from his actual

training and growth is to be discouraged. Injustices have been perpetrated at times when ministerial trainees possessing manual skills have been asked to spend long periods serving in other capacities to the neglect of their ministerial development. Such a plan may save the conference money, but it delays the development of the minister.

When a conference gives a young man a ministerial license it should be recognized as a pledge on the part of the conference leadership to foster that worker's growth. And when one accepts a ministerial license he should regard it as a pledge on his part to render the utmost service of which he is capable. Such a license, however, is not a commitment on the part of a conference that ultimate ordination is assured. It merely provides the opportunity for the licentiate to prove his calling. While all cannot have the same conditions under which to develop into mature ministers, yet one who is called of God will reveal his calling by his whole manner of life and the burden he carries for those who are still in prison house of sin. Under some circumstances it is difficult to provide conditions where public evangelism as such can be carried out, but he who is called of the Lord will be able to give proof of his calling and of his aptness for the ministry as a lifework.

In some areas of the world field educational facilities are somewhat limited. If that be the case, it will naturally take longer for a minister to develop his readiness for ordination. Therefore, in consideration of all the varied conditions, it is impossible to specify any definite length of time for the training period of the licentiate. The fact that a licensed minister is assigned to overseas service should not of itself delay his ordination beyond the time it would have taken place had he remained in the homeland. His service record should be passed along to the new field and receive proper evaluation in the recognition of his development. In suitable cases, a licensed minister who is approaching ordination at the time of his foreign call, may be ordained prior to departure.

Before hands of ordination are laid upon a worker he should have given proof of:

- a. Experience in various types of ministerial responsibility.
- b. Definite call to the ministry as a life work.
- c. Entire consecration of body, soul, and spirit.
- d. Spiritual stability.
- e. Social maturity.
- f. Clear understanding of the Word of God.
- g. Aptness as a teacher of truth.
- h. Ability to lead souls from sin into holiness.
- i. Fruitage in souls won to Christ.
- j. A cooperative attitude and confidence in the organization and functioning of the church.
- k. A life of consistent, exemplary Christian conduct.
- l. An exemplary family.

Ordination of men who have not given clear evidence of their call as soul-saving ministers must be avoided. It will always be true that some men, having been trained for lines of work other than that of the ministry, will in time give proof of their divine call to this sacred work, and the church recognizing this, will feel called to set them apart by ordination. But such cases will certainly be exemptions. Because one holds a responsible position in the organized work, it must not be considered that he is by that fact alone eligible for ordination.

There are certain lines of work in the denomination that are not regarded as strictly ministerial, but which provide experience for some ministerial development. A college president, for example, or the principal of an academy, with young people under his care, bears the responsibility not only of their academic training but also their spiritual welfare. He is, therefore, in a sense their pastor, and in association with the Bible teacher is doing actual ministerial work. However, his call to that responsibility is not of itself a basis for ordination. No man's position in this cause, per se, should influence a committee to set him apart to the holy work of the ministry unless, and until, he gives definite proof of his aptitude and his spiritual maturity, and has a conviction in his own soul that God has called him to the ministry as a life work.

Workers in other capacities such as editors, secretary-treasurers of conferences, and departmental leaders may also come to the place in their service where ordination is appropriate; however, in these cases as in every other, the divine call to the ministry must be clear, before the church, acting as God's representative, separates them to the gospel ministry. Such workers, like all candidates for ministerial credentials, should have the personal conviction that God has called them to the ministry, give evidence of the ministerial call and gift, and be known widely for their piety and ability as soul-winners, before their ordination is recommended and decided.

Ordination must never become simply a reward for faithful service or be considered as an opportunity to add title and prestige to a worker. Neither is it an honor to be sought by the individual, or by his family or his friends on his behalf. Such attitudes and tactics seriously minimize the sacredness of the ministry in the eyes of the church.

The ministry is not merely a profession; it is a calling. It is not for a period of time until some other more attractive occupation beckons a man; but it is a life work. Having put his hand to the plow, one is not free to look backward except at the peril of his soul. The Apostle Paul, like the prophets of old, felt himself "under bonds" and he cried out, "Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel!" (1 Cor. 9:16) One who is ordained to the sacred work of the ministry should feel the same responsibility as the apostle of old. And the conference that employs him should feel a definite responsibility to see that he is free to do his God-appointed work.

The simple record of the ordination of the apostles is impressive. "And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach." (Mark 3:13,14). The first office of one ordained to the ministry is that he should be with God. Only then is he qualified to go forth to men to preach the Word of God. One who is thus consecrated and who enjoys constant communion with his Lord will rejoice in the privilege of rendering complete service, refusing to be entangled in business for personal gain, and other things of this world that he may, by the grace of God, give complete devotion to the cause he loves. Even when he reaches his retirement years, he should feel the call of God to the same standard of life as he did in his most active years, "that the ministry be not blamed." (2 Cor. 6:3).

LAY EVANGELISM
1203

VOTED, That the plan to unify the entire world field in greater lay evangelism and to assure uniformity of reports be adopted as follows:

1. "120" Members

Members of the church may be commissioned as members of the "120" who attain the following four objectives:

- a. Have completed the Training Light Bearers or the Christ-centered Evangelism courses.
(Note: If the individual is unable to read or write and/or is living in a place where the book "Training Light Bearers" is not available in the language, attendance at a lay evangelism training institute conducted by the mission or union Home Missionary secretary will be accepted in place of the completion of the Bible Training Course.)
- b. Actively participate in one or more church missionary activities such as giving Bible studies, holding neighborhood cottage meetings, (a cottage meeting shall be defined as a meeting attended by individuals from more than one family), conducting branch Sabbath schools and Sunday schools, and following up interests created through Bible correspondence schools, Dorcas welfare, radio, literature contacts, et cetera.
- c. Are instrumental in winning at least one person to the church during the two preceding years.
- d. Are recommended by the church board and conference Home Missionary secretary as voted at the 1951 Autumn Council: "That for those engaged in such types of service, appropriate recognition be given to them at special church services, the names of those participating to be recommended by the church board and the conference Home Missionary secretary."

2. Lay Preachers and Lay Bible Instructors

- a. In harmony with the Autumn Council actions of 1930 and 1933 calling for strong laymen who engage in the public presentation of truth in churches, halls, school houses and cottage meetings to be recognized as "lay preachers," we recommend that men of experience in soul winning be designated as "lay preachers" and women as "lay Bible instructors" when the qualifications as stated in those recommendations are met.

GREATER TRACT
EVANGELISM
1204

WHEREAS, We have been told that one of the vital means by which the world is to be evangelized is through our truth-filled literature, which is to be circulated "like the leaves of autumn"; also that "every believer" is urged to participate in this greater effort to enlighten the world through literature; therefore,

VOTED, That our missions, institutions, churches, societies and members be requested to engage in an enlarged effort to circulate our literature in a systematic and regular manner using the following methods:

1. Urge members to carry tracts wherever they go.
2. Promote a tract-a-week plan, appealing to all our members to participate in distributing a minimum of at least one tract a week.
3. Plan a positive program of literature evangelism in every church, providing for systematic, regular tract distribution for a given number of weeks, thus preparing the field for an evangelistic effort.
4. Plan a mailing program for dark areas.
5. Place literature in racks in strategic places, in which our message-filled periodicals and tracts can be attractively displayed.

POLICY ON
WELFARE WORK
1205

VOTED, To adopt the General Conference and division recommendation on welfare work with changes as follows:

WHEREAS, The Spirit of Prophecy indicates that the troubles now prevailing in the world will continue and increase until Jesus comes, thus causing untold human suffering in all lands, and

WHEREAS, the Spirit of Christ constrains us to relieve the suffering of every person in need, so far as lies within our power, and

WHEREAS, additional funds are needed to provide food, clothing, and other necessities for those in need,

VOTED, (1) That in all of our churches the plan be continued of devoting one missionary service every six months to consideration of welfare and emergency relief work, and that the offering taken that day be used for this purpose.

(2) That one half the offering received be retained by the local church for welfare purposes.

(3) That in every organized church an active Dorcas Society be maintained.

COLPORTEUR
RENT POLICY
1206

VOTED, That the regular rent policy be applied to regular colporteurs, and that controlling committees set the rate.

INGATHERING CAMPAIGN
1207

WHEREAS, God has so richly blessed our faithful workers and members in their Ingathering for our world uplift work in the past years; and,

WHEREAS, We firmly believe that the Ingathering endeavor is an important part in God's plan for the finishing of His work in the earth and that still greater blessings are in store for us as we dedicate ourselves more fully to Him for the great task before us,

VOTED, (1) That we as delegates to this first Quadrennial Session of the Middle East Division of Seventh-day Adventists set as the Ingathering goal for 1955, LL 30,000.00, divided as follows:

Nile Union	£Eg.	1,500
East Mediterranean	LL	15,000
Iran Mission	LL	1,500

(2) That we put forth greater effort to enlist every adult, youth, junior, and primary child in this great crusade for Christ.

(3) That we encourage our people to carefully and prayerfully follow up every interest found through our Ingathering with literature, cottage meetings, or Bible studies, with the object of preparing them for baptism and church membership.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM
MV ADVISORY COUNCIL
1208

WHEREAS, The Spirit of prophecy definitely states that "Satan well knows that there is no other class that can do as much good as young men and women who are consecrated to God," and that "the youth are the objects of Satan's special attacks," and

WHEREAS, The time has come for our churches and leaders to recognize the wealth of strength and service that we have in our army of young men and women all over the Middle East, and

WHEREAS, The organization and training of our youth would definitely contribute to the success of every branch of our organized work, and

WHEREAS, It is God's plan to use the youth in the finishing of the work in this our generation:

VOTED, (1) That Missionary Volunteer Societies be organized in every church where such societies are not existing, and further that societies which now exist be inspired to greater activity.

(2) That Regional Institutes be held during 1955 in each local Mission for the purpose of further training local society officers.

(3) That emphasis be made by promotion and detailed plans for the 1956 Division-wide Youth's Congress which is to be held at Middle East College.

(4) That the Missionary Volunteer Secretary of the Division, in consultation with the manager of the Middle East Press and the Union M. V. Secretaries arrange for the translation and printing of the Master Guide Manual in Arabic during the year 1955 if possible.

RESOLUTION OF
GRATITUDE
1209

In the providence and goodness of our God, and because of His loving care and protection over His church, we have been permitted to gather from every part of the Middle East to attend this, the first Quadrennial Session of the Middle East Division.

During the past quadrennium we have witnessed many crises which have disrupted the peace and security of the Middle East. This has resulted in much international tension and hatred, as well as much violence and bloodshed, which at times have threatened to hinder the work of God and endanger the lives of our people and workers. In spite of these confused and disturbed conditions, the blessing and power of God has been evidenced in the large increase of souls who have been born into the remnant church.

We who have the privilege of attending this council wish to record our profound and heartfelt gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His tender mercy, longsuffering and patience towards us.

We are grateful for the preserving power of God in restraining the forces of evil and in saving the lives of His people.

We are grateful to God for sustaining the confidence of our brethren amid unfavourable circumstances and enabling them to stand firm and loyal to the message and its proclamation.

We are grateful for the devotion of our faithful believers and workers who have sacrificed and given liberally of their means, time, and talents for the advancement of "this gospel of the kingdom."

We are grateful for the splendid and representative buildings and physical improvements that have been made possible by the gifts of our people and the liberal appropriations of the General Conference.

We are grateful for the excellent work done, and the Christian service and training rendered through our Division institutions; Middle East College, Middle East Press, and Dar el Salaam Hospital. We are also thankful for all subsidiary institutions being established and built up throughout the Middle East.

Recognizing all these blessings and providences, and others too numerous to mention; and recognizing the gigantic

task and program yet before us in carrying out the Saviour's command; and recognizing that we live in the hour of God's judgment and in an hour of unparalleled opportunity for the church to proclaim a message of hope; and recognizing the exceeding great and precious promises of God; we hereby solemnly pledge ourselves in consecration, devotion and humility to labor in unity and love, praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which will empower us to quickly finish the work and to diligently prepare for the glorious appearing of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

(End of Plans Committee Report)

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman
C. C. Morris, Secretary

The Division Council reassembled November 29, 1954 at 8:45 A.M., with those in regular attendance being present. Prayer by Dr. Maher Bishai.

CALL FOR A. L. WHITE
1210

VOTED, To place a call with the General Conference for Elder A. L. White to spend a week at Middle East College in March, 1955, to study with the college family the Spirit of Prophecy work.

"BETTER LIVING"
IN ARABIC
1211

VOTED, To refer Better Living to the Life and Health Association for consideration, suggesting that it be run chapter by chapter in the columns of the "Life and Health" journal and later printed in book form.

COMMITTEE ON
OPERATING POLICIES
REPORT
1212

The remainder of the morning session was given over to the report on operating policies. A recess was taken for lunch.

The session reassembled at 2:00 P.M. and was led in prayer by J. S. Russell. The report on Operating Policies was completed, and it was

VOTED, (1) That the report be approved as amended and that the revisions be included in a new edition of the Middle East Division Operating Policy booklet.

(2) That the newly revised policies be the policies for all fields within the Middle East Division and that they be strictly adhered to.

VOTE OF APPRECIATION
1213

VOTED, That an expression of appreciation be extended to the Dar el Salaam Hospital and all those having part in entertaining the delegates in attendance at the Baghdad section of the Quadrennial Session.

ADJOURNMENT

VOTED, To adjourn to the call of the chair.

Geo. J. Appel, Chairman
C. C. Morris, Secretary