

The House concurred in the foregoing Message and the President appointed as members, on the part of this House:

Rev. Dr. Abbott of Maryland; Rev. Mr. Flint of Pittsburgh; Rev. Dr. Davis of Western New York; Rev. Mr. Sherrill of Massachusetts; Rev. Mr. Sargent of Western Michigan; Mr. Mather of Marquette; Mr. Dyer of Rhode Island; Mr. Morehouse of Milwaukee; Mr. Monteagle of California; Mr. Barnes of Long Island; Mr. Old of Southern Virginia; Mr. Theopold of Minnesota.

[Communicated to the House of Bishops by Message No. 10.]

The House stood adjourned.

FIFTH DAY

THE ATHENAEUM, MONDAY, October 12, 1925.

The House met pursuant to adjournment, the President in the Chair. The President opened the session with special prayers for Columbus Day. The Minutes of the Fourth Day were read and approved.

The President made the following announcement:

Mr. Edgar Munson of Harrisburg not having arrived at the Convention Mr. Herbert W. Hartman of Harrisburg is appointed in his stead upon the Committee on the General Theological Seminary.

The following Deputies, not before present, appeared and took their seats:

Mr. Beale of Massachusetts, Mr. Shields of Mississippi, Mr. Rodgers of Pittsburgh and Mr. Lowry of South Florida.

The Rev. Dr. Aigner of the Committee on Elections presented:

REPORT No. 2. The Committee on Elections begs to report that Mr. Robert J. Rodgers, an Alternate Deputy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, appointed by the Bishop of that Diocese, is entitled to serve as a Deputy to this Convention in place of Mr. Marcellin Adams.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

MARTIN AIGNER, *Chairman*.

The Rev. Dr. Powell of the Committee on Amendments to the Constitution presented the following:

REPORT No. 1. The Committee met and proceeded to organize, by electing Rev. Dr. Powell of California Chairman, and Mr. Browne of Washington, as Secretary.

REPORT No. 2. The Committee considered the Memorial from the Diocese of Lexington, relative to amending Article I., Section 4, of the Constitution, the object of the Amendment being to make women eligible to the General Convention.

The Committee recommends that the proposed Amendment be not adopted, and presents the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee be discharged from further consideration of the matter.

HERBERT H. POWELL, *Chairman*.

Report No. 2 was ordered placed on the Calendar.

The Rev. Mr. Shepherd of the Committee on the Consecration of Bishops presented the following:

REPORT No. 1. The Committee on the Consecration of Bishops would respectfully report that they have met and organized by the election of the Rev. R. Bowden Shepherd of New Jersey as Chairman and Mr. Rosewell Page of Virginia as Secretary.

R. BOWDEN SHEPHERD, *Chairman*.

The Rev. Mr. Lewis of the Committee on the Prayer Book presented the following:

REPORT No. 1. The Committee on the Prayer Book has met and organized by the election of the Rev. John N. Lewis, as Chairman, and the Rev. E. H. Eckel as Secretary.

JOHN N. LEWIS, *Chairman*.

The Rev. Dr. Kinsolving of the Committee on Christian Education presented the following report:

REPORT No. 1. The Committee on Christian Education organized by the election of the Rev. Dr. Kinsolving of Maryland as Chairman and the Rev. Dr. Massie of Lexington as Secretary.

A. B. KINSOLVING, *Chairman*.

The Committee requested that the resolution introduced by the Rev. Mr. Bennett of Harrisburg be referred to the Committee on Missions, which was done.

The Committee presented a report on the petition presented by Mr. Brinton of Harrisburg with reference to discouraging the use of vile language, and the report was referred back to the Committee with the request that they prepare a resolution concerning same.

The Rev. Dr. Tomkins of the Committee on Social Service presented the following:

REPORT No. 1. The Committee on Social Service has organized, appointing the Rev. Dr. Tomkins of Pennsylvania Chairman and the Rev. Dr. Gray of Kansas, Secretary.

FLOYD W. TOMKINS, *Chairman*.

The Rev. Dr. Stetson of New York presented the report of the Joint Committee on Vacancy and Supply [Appendix XXIV.], and the resolution appended thereto was adopted:

APPENDIX XVII.

REPORT OF COMMISSION ON THE LICENSING OF WOMEN AS LAY READERS

The subject of the enlargement of the Ministration of Women in the Church after the manner in which men have served as Lay Readers, is brought before this Convention by a resolution adopted three years ago, and now by a report and recommendation of the Commission then appointed. It has been in the minds of many church people, especially since women have taken larger place in the world's life and work, that the Church might have the service of women in new ways, that women, of whom there are a great number educated, trained and devoted, might be Commissioned as Readers to use their gifts especially in religious instruction, in the establishment under guidance, in communities somewhat remote from Parish Churches of centers of teaching and Prayer, so that the service and ministry of the Church might be enlarged and people not now closely bound to the Church reached. The number of Clergy and trained layworkers is now wholly inadequate and women are as competent for this outreaching work as men.

We need more instruction as regards the history, life and work of the Church to make them real to our people. In Parish Houses and the nave of the Churches at other times than those of regular services, groups might be gathered for instruction, classes formed which would help to make our people and especially a new generation more intelligent Christians and Church people, and more interested and helpful. We have a great company of Church women able to do this, and the Church might well call them to new forms of service, bearing the old and honored name of Readers. The way in which the Young People's Fellowship has been welcomed within a few years in many Dioceses and Parishes suggests the propriety of what the Commission proposes. There is evident need of putting new emphasis upon teaching, of the character stated, which women properly trained may give. Any undertaking which will help deserves your consideration.

The Commission disclaims purpose or desire in any way to open the subject of the ordination of women, the office of the Deaconess, the House of Church Women So-called, the holding by women of office in Parish, Diocese or Church. But the ministration of women in teaching and the gathering of groups of neglected or overlooked people, at a time when the need of serious purposes in the lives of our young is keenly felt, it is fitting that the Church should make opportunities for our women as well as men to render the largest possible service.

The Commission is able to present a unanimous report with recommendation to the General Convention that there be added these words, as Section IV. of Canon 26 of Lay Readers:

"Women who are communicants of this Church and are fitted by training, education and character, may be appointed as Readers by the Bishop of the Diocese or Missionary District, to act in his jurisdiction upon the request of the Rector of the Parish or of the officer or officers of the Diocese or District, having charge of Mission work therein, with authority, under their direction to read Prayers and give instruction on special occasions, or to form classes affiliated with the Diocese or Parish. In every case, the Bishop shall determine the conditions and manner under which the work of such women in his jurisdiction shall be done."

EDWIN S. LINES, *Chairman*
EDWARD M. PARKER
ROBERT S. CHALMERS

FLOYD J. MYNARD
COURTENAY BARBER
FRANK H. DENMAN, *Commission*