

# The Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons

## MEMBERSHIP

The Rt. Rev. Walter D. Dennis, *Chairman*  
The Rt. Rev. Herbert Donovan  
The Rt. Rev. Duncan M. Gray, Jr.  
The Very Rev. Richard Coombs  
The Rev. Canon Kermit Lloyd  
The Rev. Orris G. Walker, Jr.  
John D. Cochran  
Hon. Mary Lou Crowley  
Burns H. Davison II  
Sarah McCrory  
Robert C. Royce  
Fred C. Scribner, Jr., *Vice-Chairman*

## INTRODUCTION

The Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons is charged with (1) approving as to form proposed constitutional and canonical amendments, when asked to do so by their proposers; (2) conducting a continuing “comprehensive review” of the Constitution and Canons and proposing such amendments as seem indicated to insure the “internal clarity and consistency” of the same; and (3) carrying out such specific assignments as might be referred to the Commission by the General Convention. We have attempted to follow that mandate during the last triennium.

The Commission met three times during the triennium: in St. Louis, March of 1983; in Garden City, L.I., N.Y. (Garden City I) in March of 1984; and again in Garden City (Garden City II) in November of 1984.

The Rev. Canon James R. Gundrum, Secretary of the General Convention, was present at all of our meetings. Dr. Charles R. Lawrence, President of the House of Deputies, was present at the Garden City I meeting.

At its organizational meeting in St. Louis, the Commission addressed a number of resolutions and references to it from the General Convention. All received final action then, or at the following meetings, except:

**B-60**—A change in the name of the “Commission on the Church in Small Communities” should be considered and proposed by that Commission or the Commission on Structure.

**D-002**—Emerging ministries among lay persons is a substantive question beyond the charge of this Commission.

The Commission did not address these matters further.

In addition to the references from the General Convention and the regular work of the Commission, two other matters came before us by inquiry from other interim bodies. A request for the canonical establishment of the Archives of the Episcopal Church was referred to Hon. Mary Lou Crowley, to assist the proponents of the amendment in drafting the same. A proposal to merge the Standing Liturgical Commission and the Standing Commissions on Church Music was referred to Canon Lloyd, to assist these Commissions in preparing an amendment in canonical form.

## THE BLUE BOOK

---

During the triennium, the Commission continued to solicit recommendations and suggestions from chancellors and others concerning desirable amendments to improve clarity and consistency within the Constitution and Canons. In addition, the Commission considered numerous inquiries and requests for technical assistance from individuals and official bodies of the Church, dealing with each as seemed appropriate in each instance.

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The following amendments were proposed and passed at the General Convention of 1982, and are to be acted upon finally at the General Convention of 1985. The Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons recommends to the 68th General Convention the adoption of the proposed resolutions.

#### Resolution #A-1

“Dioceses, Missionary Dioceses, etc.”

*Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first two paragraphs of Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution shall be stricken and a new paragraph be substituted therefor, as follows:*

~~The Church in each Diocese which has been admitted to union with the General Convention shall be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies by not more than four Presbyters or Deacons, canonically resident in the Diocese, and not more than four Lay Persons, communicants of this Church, in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese, but the General Convention by Canon may reduce the representation to not fewer than two Deputies in each order. Each Diocese shall prescribe the manner in which its Deputies shall be chosen.~~

~~The Church in each Missionary Diocese beyond the territory of the United States of America, which shall have been established by the House of Bishops or by the Constitution, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe, shall each be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies equal to that of other Dioceses, subject to all the qualifications and with all the rights of Deputies, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution. Each such Missionary Diocese, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe, shall prescribe the manner in which its Deputies shall be chosen.~~

*The Church in each Diocese which has been admitted to union with the General Convention, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe, shall be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies by not more than four ordained persons, Presbyters or Deacons, canonically resident in the Diocese and not more than four Lay Persons, communicants of this Church, in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese; but the General Convention by Canon may reduce the representation to not fewer than two Deputies in each order. Each Diocese, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe, shall prescribe the manner in which its Deputies shall be chosen.*

#### Resolution #A-2

*Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Article VIII of the Constitution be amended by striking from said Article VIII the words “or Missionary Diocese,” that said Article VIII will read:*

No person shall be ordered Priest or Deacon to minister in this Church until he shall have been examined by the Bishop and two Priests and shall have exhibited such testimonials and other requisites as the Canons in that case provided may direct. No persons shall be ordained and consecrated Bishop, or ordered Priest or Deacon to minister in this Church, unless at the time, in the presence of the ordaining Bishop or Bishops, he shall subscribe and make the following declaration:

“I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and do solemnly engage to conform to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of the Episcopal Church.”

*Provided*, however, that any person consecrated a Bishop to minister in any Diocese or ~~Missionary Diocese~~ of an autonomous Church or Province of a Church in communion with this Church may, instead of the foregoing declaration, make the promises of Conformity required by the Church in which he is to minister.

If any Bishop ordains a Priest or Deacon to minister elsewhere than in this Church, or confers ordination as Priest or Deacon upon a Christian minister who has not received Episcopal ordination, he shall do so only in accordance with such provisions as shall be set forth in the Canons of this Church.

No person ordained by a foreign Bishop, or by a Bishop not in communion with this Church, shall be permitted to officiate as a Minister of this Church until he shall have complied with the Canon or Canons in that case provided and also shall have subscribed to the aforesaid declaration.

**Resolution #A—3**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Article X of the Constitution be amended by striking therefrom references to ~~Missionary Dioceses and the Convocation of American Churches in Europe~~, so that said Article X will read:

The Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, the Form of Consecration of a Church or Chapel, the Office of Institution of Ministers, and Articles of Religion, as now established or hereafter amended by the authority of this Church, shall be in use in all the Dioceses and ~~Missionary Dioceses~~, and in the ~~Convocation of the American Churches in Europe~~, of this Church. No alteration thereof or addition thereto shall be made unless the same shall be first proposed in one regular meeting of the General Convention and by a Resolve thereof be sent within six months to the Secretary of the Convention of every Diocese, and of the ~~Convocation of every Missionary Diocese and of the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe~~, to be made known to the Diocesan Convention or Convocation of the ~~Missionary Diocese~~ or of the ~~Convention of the American Churches in Europe~~, at its next meeting, and be adopted by the General Convention at its next succeeding regular meeting by a majority of all Bishops, excluding retired Bishops not present, of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote in the House of Bishops, and by a majority of the ~~Clerical and Lay Deputies of all the Dioceses entitled to representation in the House of Deputies and all the Missionary Dioceses, and of the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe~~, voting by orders, each to have the vote provided for in Article I, Sec.5. *a vote by orders in the House of Deputies in accordance with Article I. Sec. 4, except that concurrence by the orders shall require the affirmative vote in each order by a majority of the Dioceses entitled to representation in the House of Deputies.*

## THE BLUE BOOK

---

But notwithstanding anything hereinabove contained, the General Convention may at any one meeting, by a majority of the whole number of the Bishops entitled to vote in the House of Bishops, and by a majority of the Clerical and Lay Deputies of all the Dioceses entitled to representation in the House of Deputies, ~~and all the Missionary Dioceses, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe,~~ voting by orders as previously set forth in this Article:

- (a). Amend the Table of Lessons and all Tables and Rubrics relating to the Psalms;
- (b). Authorize for trial use throughout this Church, as an alternative at any time or times to the established Book of Common Prayer or to any section or Office thereof, a proposed revision of the whole Book or of any portion thereof, duly undertaken by the General Convention.

And *Provided*, that nothing in this Article shall be construed as restricting the authority of the Bishops of this Church to take such order as may be permitted by the Rubrics of the Book of Common Prayer or by the Canons of the General Convention for the use of special forms of worship.

### Resolution #A—4 Clarifying language

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Article II of the Constitution be amended as hereinafter provided:

1. Add the words “for election” to the last sentence of Section 4 of Article II so said sentence will read:

He shall be eligible *for election* as Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor of a Diocese or as a Suffragan in another Diocese or ~~may be elected by the House of Bishops as a Bishop of a Missionary Diocese:~~

2. Add the words “for election” to the last sentence of Section 7 of Article II, so said sentence will read:

He shall be eligible *for election* as Bishop or Bishop Coadjutor or Suffragan Bishop of a Diocese or ~~he may be elected by the House of Bishops as a Bishop of a Missionary Diocese:~~

### Translation of Bishops.

The reference in Section 8 of Article II of the Constitution, which permits translation of bishops, to “required consents of the Bishops and Standing Committees of the Church” has caused some uncertainty as to what it is to which such consents are required. The history of the section makes it clear that the reference is to consents of the bishops and standing committees to the election of the bishop in the second diocese, so that the resignation which the bishop is required by the section to tender is a qualified one (effective only in the event the necessary consents to the election in the second diocese are obtained) such that it does not result in relinquishment of the original episcopal office in the event the election in the second diocese fails for lack of the required consents by the bishops and standing committees of the Church. The consent required to the resignation of the bishop is only that of the House of Bishops, as provided in the last line of the section. To clarify the language of the section the Commission recommends adoption of the following resolution:

**Resolution #A—5**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Article II, Section 8 of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:**

Sec. 8. A Bishop exercising jurisdiction as the Ordinary, or as the Bishop Coadjutor, of a Diocese, may be elected as Bishop, Bishop Coadjutor, or Suffragan Bishop, of ~~a Diocese or Missionary Diocese~~ *another Diocese; Provided, that he shall have served not less than five years in his present jurisdiction; and Provided always, that before acceptance of such election he shall tender to the House of Bishops his resignation of his jurisdiction in the Diocese in which he is then serving, subject to conditioned on the required consents of the Bishops and Standing Committees of the Church to his election, and also, if he be a Bishop Coadjutor, his right of succession therein, and such resignation, and renunciation of the right of succession in the case of a Bishop Coadjutor, shall be consented to by the House of Bishops.*

**Clarification of Vote By Orders.**

There are provisions for a vote by orders in the House of Deputies in Section 5 of Article I of the Constitution and also in Section 2 of Article VI, in Article X and Article XI. These provisions have been written and amended at various times and contain inconsistencies and a lack of clarity. It is believed that much of the mystique of the vote by orders which has engendered suspicion and dispute will be dispelled by clear and consistent provisions in each of the Articles. No substantive change in the provisions is made.

**Resolution #A—6**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Article I of the Constitution be amended by deleting the fourth paragraph of Section 4, adding a new Section 5 reading as follows:**

*Sec. 5. The vote on all questions which come before the House of Deputies shall be governed by the following provisions, supplemented by such procedural provisions as the House of Deputies may adopt in its Rules of Order:*

*Unless a greater vote on any question is required by this Constitution or by the Canons in cases not specifically dealt with by this Constitution or unless a vote by orders on a question is required, the affirmative vote of a majority of all of the Deputies present and voting shall suffice to carry any question. A vote by orders on any question shall be taken if required for that question by this Constitution or by the Canons or if the Clerical or Lay representation from three or more separate Dioceses shall so request at the time of the call for the vote on that question. In all cases of a vote by orders, the vote of each order, Clerical and Lay, shall be counted separately, each order in each Diocese shall have one vote, and a vote in the affirmative by an order in a Diocese shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the Deputies present in that order in that Diocese.*

*To carry in the affirmative any question being voted on by orders requires concurrence in the affirmative by both orders and, unless a greater vote is required by this Constitution or by the Canons in cases not specifically dealt with by this Constitution, concurrence in the affirmative by an order requires the affirmative vote in that order by a majority of the Dioceses present in that order.*

## THE BLUE BOOK

---

### Resolution #A—7

**Resolved**, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Sec. 2 of Article VI of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2. The General Convention may accept a cession of the territorial jurisdiction of a part of a Diocese when such cession shall have been proposed by the Bishop and the Convention of such Diocese, and consent thereto shall have been given by three-fourths of the Parishes in the ceded territory, and also by the same ratio of the Parishes within the remaining territory.

Any territorial jurisdiction or any part of the same, which may have been ceded by a Diocese under the foregoing provision, may be retroceded to the said Diocese by such joint action of all the several parties as is herein required for its cession, save that in the case of retrocession of territory the consent of Parishes within the territory retroceded shall not be necessary; *Provided*, that such action of the General Convention, whether of cession or retrocession, shall be by a vote of two-thirds of all the Bishops present and voting and by a vote of two-thirds of the House of deputies voting by orders in the House of Deputies in accordance with Article I, Section 5, except that concurrence by the orders shall require the affirmative vote in each order by two-thirds of the Dioceses.

### Resolution #A—8

**Resolved**, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first paragraph of Article XII of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

#### ARTICLE XII

No alteration or amendment of this Constitution shall be made unless the same shall be first proposed at one regular meeting of the General Convention and by a Resolve thereof be sent to the Secretary of the Convention of every Diocese and of the Convocation of every Missionary Diocese and of the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe; to be made known to the Diocesan Convention or the Missionary Diocese Convocation or the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe at its next meeting, and be adopted by the General Convention at its next succeeding regular meeting by a majority of all Bishops, excluding retired Bishops not present, of the whole number of Bishops entitled to vote in the House of Bishops, and by an affirmative vote by orders in the House of Deputies in accordance with Article I, Section 5, except that concurrence by the orders shall require the affirmative vote in each order by a majority of the Dioceses entitled to representation in the House of Deputies a majority of the Clerical and Lay Deputies of all the Dioceses and of all the Missionary Dioceses and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe entitled to representation in the House of Deputies, voting by orders, each having the vote provided for in Sec. 4 of Article I.

## NEW PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

A. Proposal to conform the Constitution to Title I, Canon 16. [*Comment*: Please refer to the Commentary on Revisions to Conform the Canons to the new Title I, Canon 16 below.]

**Resolution #A—9**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first paragraph of Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution be amended as follows:**

Sec. 4. The Church in each Diocese which has been admitted to union with the General Convention shall be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies by not more than four Presbyters or Deacons, canonically resident in the Diocese, and not more than four Lay Persons, *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing in the Diocese, but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese; . . .

**B.** A proposed simplification to Article X to delete a reference to the structure and composition of previous Books of Common Prayer.

In the exposition to Article X of the Constitution in *White and Dykman* (1979), the author writes:

There is one simplification that could be made at the time of any future amendment to the Article. The words, “‘The Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, the Form of Consecration of a Church or Chapel, the Office of Institution of Ministers, and Articles of Religion’ in the first sentence, are an inheritance from a time when this material was regarded as a series of supplements to the Book of Common Prayer, rather than an integral part of it. Added subsequent to the adoption of the Prayer Book of 1789, these ‘Offices’ and Articles were printed after the Psalter in the Prayer Books before 1979. Since the Prayer Book of 1979 has incorporated this material (except for the Articles) into the structure of the book itself, the words quoted above would seem no longer necessary.”

**Resolution #A—10**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first sentence of Article X of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:**

**ARTICLE X.**

The Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, ~~the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining, and Consecrating Bishops, Priests and Deacons, the Form of Consecration of a Church or Chapel, the Office of Institution of Ministers, and Articles of Religion~~, as now established or hereafter amended by the authority of this Church, shall be in use in all the Dioceses and Missionary Dioceses, and in the Convocation of American Churches in Europe, of this Church.

**OTHER REFERRALS FROM GENERAL CONVENTION**

**A.** Resolutions D-65 and C-13A, dealing with a comprehensive review of Title III and inclusive pronouns, led to joint consultations with the Council for the Development of Ministry. That body undertook to completely revise Title III, which revision included a number of items dealing with substantive changes that were beyond the charge of Constitution and Canons. Rather than duplicate efforts, the Council for the Development of

Ministry has prepared, and will present at the General Convention, a total revision of Title III in response to Resolutions D-65 and C-13A. During the triennium, a subcommittee from Constitution and Canons met with a companion subcommittee from CDM to coordinate our efforts. As the revision process proceeded, Constitution and Canons reviewed CDM's work to assist them in clarifying the revision and working towards internal consistency of form and substance. The report of CDM incorporates the work of Constitution and Canons.

B. D-120S, concerning questions of disability and handicap, was considered by the Commission. The following canonical amendments are proposed to effectuate the intent of that resolution.

### Resolution #A—11

*Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title I, Canon 16, Sec. 5 (as proposed to be effective January 1, 1986; see page 137 of the Constitution and Canons) be amended to read as follows:*

Sec. 5. No one shall be denied rights or status in this Church because of race, color, or ethnic origin, *or disability/handicap.*

### Resolution #A—12

*Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title III, Canon 9 be amended by the addition of a new Section 2, renumbering subsequent sectioning, as follows:*

*Sec. 2. No one, otherwise qualified, shall be denied access to the ordination process of this Church because of race, color, ethnic origin, gender, disability/handicap, or age, except as otherwise specified by Canon.*

C. The Commission was directed by the 67th General Convention to undertake a comprehensive review of the Constitution and Canons and propose any amendments necessary to conform the new Title I, Canon 16 adopted in New Orleans. These were to be presented to the General Convention meeting in Anaheim in 1985, so that these amendments could take effect simultaneously with the new Title I, Canon 16 on January 1, 1986.

Since it was made very clear at the time when the new Canon was presented in New Orleans that there was no intention to change in any way the status or understanding of Confirmation by the passage of this Canon; and since the new Canon itself states that Confirmation "is expected" of "all adult members of this Church," we have assumed that our charge requires us to find an equivalent term for the word "communicant" in the present Canons. Since the present definition of a "communicant" includes Confirmation, we have determined that the equivalent term under the new Title I, Canon 16 would be "confirmed communicant." Furthermore, with the category of "adult" communicant provided for in the new Canon, we believe that the best possible equivalent term in virtually every instance would be "confirmed adult communicant." Again, in most instances, the phrase "in good standing" is also included either because it is included in the present Canon or because it seems necessary to provide the equivalent under the new Title I, Canon 16.

One final comment: The changes proposed below in Title I, Canon 5, Sec. 1 are based on the recommendations of the Committee on the State of the Church. Obviously, it was their responsibility to determine the data to be reported on parochial reports, and we have simply incorporated their suggestions in this proposal.

**Resolution #A—13**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title I, Canon 2, Sec. 5 be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5. The Presiding Bishop may appoint, as Chancellor to the Presiding Bishop, a *confirmed adult* communicant of the Church in good standing who is learned in both ecclesiastical and secular law to serve at his pleasure as his counselor in matters relating to his office and the discharge of his responsibilities.

**Resolution #A—14**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the last sentence of Title I, Canon 4, Sec. 1(c) be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1(c). . . Each Province shall be entitled to be represented by one Bishop or Presbyter or Deacon canonically resident in a Diocese which is a constituent member of the Province and by one Lay Person who is a *confirmed adult* communicant in good standing of a Diocese which is a constituent member of the Province, and the terms of the representatives of each Province shall be so rotated that two persons shall not be simultaneously elected for equal terms.

**Resolution #A—15**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the fourth sentence of Title I, Canon 5, Sec. 1 be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1. . . This report shall include the following information: (1) the number of baptisms, confirmations, marriages and burials during the year; ~~the total number of baptized persons and communicants in good standing at the time of the report, and for all purposes the number of members of this Church shall be deemed to be the number of baptized persons;~~ *the total number of adult baptized members, baptized members under 16 years of age, and total number of baptized members; the total number of adult communicants, communicants under 16 years of age, and total number of communicants; the number of confirmed members, confirmed adult communicants in good standing, and other persons who are active in the congregation, including those who have not transferred and / or whose baptism has not been recorded in this Church.*

**Resolution #A—16**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title I, Canon 8, Sec. 7 be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7. Each Diocese and Area Mission within the Province shall be entitled to representation in the Provincial House of Deputies by Presbyters or Deacons canonically resident in the Diocese or Area Mission, and Lay Persons, *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing, but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese or Area Mission, in such number as the Provincial Synod, by Ordinance, may provide. Each Diocese or Area Mission shall determine the manner in which its Deputies shall be chosen.

**Resolution #A—17**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title III, Canon 2, Sec. 4(4)(2) be amended to read as follows:

(2) Four Lay Persons, *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing, to whom the applicant is personally known.

In such case, the reasons for departing from the regular form must be given in the attesting clause, which shall be signed by the same, or some other, Presbyter of this Church in good standing, and shall be in the following words, viz.:

I hereby certify that the Lay Persons whose names are attached to the foregoing certificate are *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing, and that this form of certificate was used for no reasons affecting the moral or religious character of the applicant but because (here give reasons for departing from the regular form).

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Presbyter of the Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—18**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the last paragraph of Title III, Canon 10, Sec. 5(4) be amended to read as follows:

This certificate must be attested by the Minister of the Parish, or by the Clerk or Secretary of the Vestry, as follows, viz.:

I hereby certify that A.B. is a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Parish in \_\_\_\_\_ and a *confirmed adult* communicant *in good standing* of the same; that the foregoing certificate was signed at a meeting of the Vestry duly convened at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_; and that the names attached are those of all (or a majority of all) the members of the Vestry.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
The Minister (or Clerk or Secretary of the Vestry)  
of \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—19**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first sentence of Title III, Canon 10, Sec. 7(a) be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7.(a). Should there be no organized Parish at the place of residence of the Candidate, or should it be impracticable, through circumstances not affecting his moral or religious character, to obtain the signatures of the Minister and Vestry, or of the Vestry, it may suffice if the certificate be signed by at least one Presbyter of the Diocese in good standing, and six Lay Persons, *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing; . . .

**Resolution #A—20**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the form of certificate set forth in Title III, Canon 10, Sec. 7(b) be amended to read as follows:

---

CONSTITUTION AND CANONS

---

I hereby certify that the Lay Persons whose names are attached to the foregoing certificate are *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing, and that this form of certificate was used for no reasons affecting the moral or religious character of the Candidate, but because (here give the reasons for departing from the regular form).

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Presbyter of Diocese, or Missionary Diocese,  
of \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—21**

***Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first sentence of Title III, Canon 10, Sec. 10(a) be amended to read as follows:***

Sec. 10(a). A person of Christian character, proven fitness, and leadership in his community, who is willing to serve in the capacity of Deacon without relinquishing his secular occupation, may be proposed and recommended to the Bishop for admission as a Postulant by the Minister and Vestry of the Parish in which his service is desired, or (should the Parish be without a Minister) by the Vestry and some other Presbyter of the Diocese in good standing, or (if it is intended that the Postulant should serve outside, or apart from, an organized parish) by one such Presbyter and six Lay Persons who are *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing and who are well informed regarding the area or circumstances within which it is proposed that the Postulant should serve.

**Resolution #A—22**

***Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title III, Canon 11, Sec. 6(a)(2) be amended to read as follows:***

Sec. 6(a)(2). Six Lay Persons, *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing.

**Resolution #A—23**

***Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the certificate set forth in Title III, Canon 11, Sec. 6(b) be amended to read as follows:***

I hereby certify that the Lay Persons whose names are attached to the foregoing certificate are *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing, and that this form of certificate was used for no reasons affecting the moral or religious character of the Candidate, but because (here give the reasons for departing from the regular form).

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_  
Presbyter of the Diocese, or Missionary Diocese,  
of \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—24**

***Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title III, Canon 28, Sec. 1 be amended to read as follows:***

## THE BLUE BOOK

---

Sec. 1. Any person, being a *confirmed adult* communicant of this Church in good standing, who is a salaried, professional, Church worker, who is employed or seeks to be employed as a Christian Education, College, or Social Worker, in the service of this Church in any Diocese, and who fulfills, in the opinion of the Bishop, the following qualifications: . . .

### Resolution #A—25

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title IV, Canon 3, Sec. 3 be amended to read as follows:**

Sec. 3. In each of the Provinces there shall be a Court of Review of the Trial of a Presbyter or Deacon, which shall be composed of a Bishop therein; three Presbyters canonically resident in one or other of the Dioceses within the Province; three Lay *Persons who are confirmed adult* communicants of ~~the~~ *this Church in good standing*, having domicile in the Province; ~~two~~ at least *two* of said Lay communicants *Persons* to be learned in the law.

### Resolution #A—26

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first sentence of the second paragraph of Title IV, Canon 3, Sec. 20(c) be amended to read as follows:**

Sec. 20(c). The several Courts may appoint not less than two nor more than three ~~lay~~ *Lay Persons who are confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing, learned in the law, as Assessors.

### Resolution #A—27

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first sentence of Title IV, Canon 4, Sec. 3 be amended to read as follows:**

Sec. 3. A Bishop may be charged with any one or more of the offenses specified in IV.1, other than that of holding and teaching doctrine contrary to that held by this Church, by three Bishops or ten or more *confirmed adult* communicants of this Church in good standing, of whom at least two shall be Presbyters; ~~one~~ *One* Presbyter and not less than six Lay communicants *Persons* shall ~~belong to be of~~ the Diocese of the accused, or, in case the accused have no jurisdiction, ~~to of~~ the Diocese in which he has domicile.

### Resolution #A—28

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the third sentence of the second paragraph of Title IV, Canon 4, Sec. 6 be amended to read as follows:**

Sec. 6. No further proceeding shall be had by way of presentment on such charges, except that any *confirmed adult* communicant of this Church in good standing may make and present to the Presiding Bishop his affidavit alleging the discovery of new evidence as to the facts charged and setting forth what such evidence is; . . .

COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW—CONTINUED

A. In accordance with the proposed amendment to Article X of the Constitution and the rationale set forth above, it is proposed to amend Title II, Canon 3, Section 1 to delete certain references.

Resolution #A—29

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title II, Canon 3, Sec. 1 be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1. The copy of the Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and Other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the Use of Episcopal Church, together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, ~~the form of making, ordaining, and consecrating Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, the form of Consecration of a Church or Chapel, and the office of institution of ministers, and Historical Documents of the Church, including the Articles of Religion,~~ accepted by the General Convention of this Church, in the year of our Lord 1979, and authenticated by the signatures of the Presiding Officers and Secretaries of the two Houses of the General Convention, is hereby declared to be the Standard Book of Common Prayer of this Church.

B. The Book of Common Prayer has combined what were originally two offices of instruction and a catechism into "An Outline of Faith, Commonly Called the Catechism." The appropriate title should be substituted throughout the Canons for the form previously used.

Resolution #A—30

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title III, Canon 5, Sec. 2(a)(3) be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2(a)(3). Christian Theology: The Church's teaching as set forth in the Creeds and ~~the Offices of Instruction~~ *An Outline of the Faith, Commonly Called the Catechism*;

Resolution #A—31

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title III, Canon 8, Sec. 2(b)(4) be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2(b)(4). He shall satisfy the Bishop and the Commission on Ministry of the Diocese of his ability to read the Holy Scriptures and conduct the services of the Church in an intelligible, seemly, and reverent fashion. He shall satisfy them likewise of his knowledge of the general outline of the contents of the Old and New Testaments, and of the Church's teaching as set forth in the Creeds and ~~Offices of Instruction~~ *An Outline of the Faith, Commonly Called the Catechism*.

Resolution #A—32

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the first sentence of Title III, Canon 21. Sec. 2(a) be amended to read as follows:

**THE BLUE BOOK**

---

Sec. 2(a). It shall be the duty of Ministers of this Church who have charge of Parishes or Cures to be diligent in instructing the children in *An Outline of the Faith, Commonly Called the Catechism, . . .*

**Resolution #A—33**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That Title III, Canon 26, Sec. 3(d) be amended to read as follows:**

Sec. 3(d). The Church's Doctrine as set forth in the Creeds and ~~Offices of Instruction~~ *An Outline of the Faith, Commonly Called the Catechism.*

C. The Canons contain numerous forms of testimonials and certificates. In an attempt to modernize the language and rework the pronouns so as to make them inclusive of both the male and female gender, the Commission proposes the following amendments.

**Resolution #A—34**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the certificate contained in Title III, Canon 10, Sec. 5(3) be amended to read as follows:**

To the Standing Committee of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Place) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_:

I hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with A.B., and that I believe ~~him~~ *the Candidate* to be well qualified to minister in the Office of Deacon, to the glory of God and the edification of His Church.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—35**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the certificate contained in Title III, Canon 10, Sec. 5(4) be amended to read as follows:**

To the Standing Committee of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Place) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date) \_\_\_\_\_:

We do certify that, after due inquiry, we are well assured and believe that A.B., for the space of three years last past, ~~hath~~ *has* lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and that ~~he~~ *the Candidate* is loyal to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, and does not hold anything contrary thereto. And, moreover, we think ~~him~~ *A.B.* a person worthy to be admitted to the Sacred Order of Deacons.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—36**

**Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the certificate contained in Title III, Canon 10, Sec. 8 be amended to read as follows:**

To the Right Reverend \_\_\_\_\_, Bishop  
of \_\_\_\_\_:

We, being a majority of all the members of the Standing Committee of \_\_\_\_\_, and having been duly convened at \_\_\_\_\_, do testify

that A.B., desiring to be ordered Deacon, ~~he~~ *hath* laid before us satisfactory certificates that for the space of three years last past ~~he~~ *hath* the Candidate has lived a sober, honest and godly life, and that ~~he~~ *the Candidate* is loyal to the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church and does not hold anything contrary thereto. And we hereby recommend ~~him~~ *A.B.* for ordination to the Diaconate.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—37**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the certificate contained in Title III, Canon 11, Sec. 4(3) be amended to read as follows:

To the Standing Committee of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Place) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_:

We do certify that, after due inquiry, we are well assured and believe that the Reverend A.B., Deacon since the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_, being the date of his ordination to the Diaconate (or for the space of three years last past) ~~he~~ *hath* lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and ~~hath~~ *hath* not written, taught, or held anything contrary to the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of this Church. And, moreover, we think ~~him~~ *the Reverend A.B.* worthy to be admitted to the Sacred Order of Priests.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—38**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the certificate contained in Title III, Canon 11, Sec. 7 be amended to read as follows:

To the Right Reverend \_\_\_\_\_, Bishop of \_\_\_\_\_:

We, being a majority of the members of the Standing Committee of \_\_\_\_\_, and having been duly convened at \_\_\_\_\_, do testify that the Reverend A.B., Deacon, desiring to be ordered Priest, ~~he~~ *hath* laid before us satisfactory certificates that since the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_, being the date of his ordination to the Diaconate (or for the space of three years last past), ~~he~~ *hath* lived a sober, honest, and godly life, and ~~hath~~ *hath* not written, taught, or held anything contrary to the Doctrine, Discipline, or Worship of this Church; and we hereby recommend ~~him~~ *the Reverend A.B.* for ordination to the Priesthood.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, in the year of our Lord \_\_\_\_\_.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—39**

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the preface to the service contained in Title III, Canon 12, Sec. 5(b) be amended to read as follows:

~~A.B., who is already a minister of Christ, now desires to be made a Deacon (or ordained a Priest) in this Church. He has satisfied the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese that he accepts the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church. The Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese is satisfied that A.B., who is already a minister of Christ, accepts the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church and now desires to be made a Deacon (or ordained a Priest) in this Church. We are about to confer upon him A.B. the grace and authority of Holy Orders as this Church has received them and requires them for the exercise of the Ministry therein ministry of a Deacon (or Priest).~~

**Resolution #A—40**

*Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the precatory recitation in letters of ordination contained in Title III, Canon 12, Sec. 5(b) be amended to read as follows:*

~~Acknowledging the ministry which he A.B. has already received and hereby adding to that commission the grace and authority of Holy Orders as understood and required by this Church for the exercise of the Ministry ministry of a Deacon (or a Priest).~~

**Resolution #A—41**

*Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the mandatory preface to be read by the Bishop contained in Title III, Canon 12, Sec. 5(c) be amended to read as follows:*

~~A.B., who had been ordained by a Bishop whose authority has not been recognized by this Church, has now satisfied the Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese that he accepts the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church and that he now desires conditional ordination. The Ecclesiastical Authority of this Diocese has been satisfied that A.B., who has been ordained by a Bishop whose authority has not been recognized by this Church, accepts the Doctrine, Discipline, and Worship of this Church, and now desires conditional ordination. By this service of ordination, we propose to establish that A.B. is qualified to minister in this Church exercise the ministry of a Deacon (or a Priest).~~

**Resolution #A—42**

*Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the testimonial contained in Title III, Canon 14, Sec. 1(a) be amended to read as follows:*

~~We, whose names are hereunder written, fully sensible of how important it is that the Sacred Order and Office of a Bishop should not be unworthily conferred, and firmly persuaded that it is our duty to bear testimony on this solemn occasion without partiality or affection, do, in the presence of Almighty God, testify that we know of no impediment on account of which the Reverend A.B. ought not to be ordained and consecrated to that Holy Office. We do, moreover, jointly and severally declare that we believe him the Reverend A.B. to be of such sufficiency in good learning, of such soundness in the Faith, and of such virtuous and pure manners and goodly conversation that he is apt and meet as to be able to exercise~~

the Office of a Bishop to the honour of God and the edifying of His Church, and to be a wholesome example to the flock of Christ.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

**Resolution #A—43**

***Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the testimonial contained in Title III, Canon 21, Sec. 6(a) be amended to read as follows:***

I hereby certify that the Reverend A.B., who has signified to me his *the* desire to be transferred to the Ecclesiastical Authority of \_\_\_\_\_, is a Presbyter (or Deacon) of \_\_\_\_\_ in good standing, and has not, so far as I know or believe, been justly liable for evil report, for error in religion or viciousness of life, for three years last past.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

D. The Council on the Development of Ministry will be presenting to the General Convention a proposal to repeal the existing Title III and adopt a revision thereof, which proposal will not be able to take into account the amendments to Title III proposed by this report. Thus, in order to comply with the Rules of Order, it will be necessary to propose and hold in committee a “technical amendments” resolution to harmonize the work of the General Convention as it legislates on the proposals presented by this report of the Joint Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons with the final legislation on CDM’s proposal.

**Resolution #A—44**

***Resolved, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the revision of Title III of the Canons proposed by the Council for the Development of Ministry as adopted be amended to take into account any and all amendments to Title III heretofore adopted by the 68th General Convention, to wit:***

[Text to be added.]

**REPORT ON WHITE AND DYKMAN**

The Commission is able to report to the General Convention that it is anticipated that Volume II of *White and Dykman* will be delivered to purchasers of Volume I and will be available for sale with Volume I, as a complete set, prior to the 68th General Convention at Anaheim. The revision and publication of this resource work has been a primary concern of this Commission for nine years. We believe that the final product will be worth both the effort and the wait.

The General Convention Budget will make provision for a supplemental “pocket part” to be issued in the year following each General Convention so that these volumes may be kept current with subsequent legislation and the development of the Canon and civil law as it effects this Church.

# THE BLUE BOOK

---

## FINANCES

### Financial Report, 1983-1985

	1983	1984	1985	Total
<b>Receipts through February 28, 1985</b>				
General Convention	\$7,160.00	\$16,901.00	\$8,475.00*	\$32,536.00
<b>Expenditures through February 28, 1985</b>				
Meetings	\$5,129.99	\$12,521.11	\$1,934.00	\$19,585.10
Supplies, etc.	<u>59.56</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>59.56</u>
	\$5,189.55	\$12,521.11	\$1,934.00	\$19,644.66

\* Budgeted for 1985

### Proposed Budget for 1986-1988

	1986	1987	1988	Total
Meetings	\$7,200	\$16,900	\$8,000	\$32,100
Supplies	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>          </u>	<u>400</u>
	<u>\$7,400</u>	<u>\$17,100</u>	<u>\$8,000</u>	<u>\$32,500</u>

### Resolution #A—45

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the sum of \$32,500 be appropriated for the work of the Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons during the next triennium.