

The Standing Commission On The Structure of the Church

Contents

	Page
I. INTRODUCTION	AA-284
A. Identity of Commission	
B. Committees of the Commission	
C. Commission Procedure	
D. The Structure of the Church .	
II. CANONICAL CHANGES	AA-287
A. Deputation Size, House of Deputies - Three in Each Order	
B. Equalization of Deputies' Transportation	
C. Executive Secretary of the General Convention to Become Executive Officer	
D. Interval Between General Conventions to Become Budget Cycle	
E. Provincial Presidents	
III. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS - SECOND READING	AA-290
A. Enfranchising Communicants Not Domiciled in Diocese	
B. Voting by Retired Bishops	
IV. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT - FIRST READING	AA-291
Vote by Orders - The Divided Vote	
V. COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS - REALIGNMENT AND STANDARDIZATION	AA-293
A. Preliminary Statement	
B. Table of Committees, Commissions and Boards	
C. Standing Commissions and Joint Commissions	
D. Joint Standing Committees and Joint Committees	
E. Standing Committees	
F. Legislative Committees	
G. Boards	
VI. NEW JOINT RULE FOR JOINT SESSION TO DEBATE MAJOR ISSUES	AA-304
VII. MISCELLANEOUS	AA-304
A. Consent to the Consecration of Bishops	
VIII. APPENDIX	AA-305
A. Report of Receipts and Expenditures	
B. Estimated Requirements for 1980-1982 Triennium	
C. Extra Provincial Dioceses — A Position Statement	
D. Funding the Commission	
IX. LEVELS OF AUTHORITY WITHIN THE CHURCH	AA-307

APPENDICES

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Identity of the Commission

The Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church was established by the 1970 General Convention meeting in Houston and derives its authority from Canon I.1.2.(f).

The Standing Commission is an outgrowth and combination of the functions of the Joint Committee on the Structure and Organization of General Convention created by the 1937 General Convention and the Joint Commission to Study the Provincial System created by the 1955 General Convention. These were combined into the Joint Commission on the Structure of General Convention and Provinces by action of the 1961 General Convention.

Canon I.1.2.(f) defines the duties of the Commission as follows:

(f) It shall be the duty of the Commission to study and make recommendations concerning the structure of the General Convention and of the Church. It shall, from time to time, review the operation of the several Joint Committees and Joint Commissions to determine the necessity for their continuance and effectiveness of their functions and to bring about a co-ordination of their efforts. Whenever a proposal is made for the creation of a new Joint Committee or Joint Commission, it shall, wherever feasible, be referred to the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church for its consideration and advice.

The present composition of the Commission with date of expiration of term and Province of each member being placed in parenthesis is as follows:

The Rt. Rev. Robert H. Cochran (1982 — VIII)** *Vice-Chairman*
The Rt. Rev. William H. Folwell (1979 — IV)* *Vice-Chairman*
The Rt. Rev. Alexander D. Stewart (1982 — I)

The Rev. Jesse F. Anderson, Jr. (1982 — III)
The Rev. George E. Bates (1979 — VIII)
The Rev. Robert R. Parks (1979 — II)

Mrs. Donald C. Barnum (1979 — III) *Secretary*
Mr. K. Wade Bennett (1982 — VII)
Mr. Charles M. Crump (1979 — IV) *Chairman*
Mr. John H. Farquharson (1979 — I)
Mrs. Henry N. Somsen (1982 — VI)
Mr. Frank T. Wood, Jr. (1982 — II)

*The Rt. Rev. Gerald N. McAllister (1979 — VII) was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Bishop Folwell who resigned in February, 1978, due to the press of other responsibilities.

**Elected *Vice-Chairman*, 1978

B. Committees of the Commission

The Commission has carried on its work by dividing itself into four Standing Committees as follows:

Committee on General Convention Organization

Mr. John H. Farquharson, *Chairman*
The Rt. Rev. Alexander D. Stewart
Mr. Charles M. Crump
Mrs. Henry N. Somsen

Committee on Orders

The Rev. George E. Bates, *Chairman*
The Rt. Rev. William H. Folwell
The Rev. Jesse F. Anderson, Jr.
Mr. Frank T. Wood, Jr.

Committee on Provinces, Dioceses and Other Groups

Mr. Wade Bennett, *Chairman*
The Rt. Rev. Robert H. Cochrane
The Rev. Robert R. Parks
Mrs. Donald C. Barnum

Executive Committee

Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Secretary

C. Commission Procedure

The Commission held four meetings during the Triennium, January 26–27, 1977, October 23–25, 1977, October 24–26, 1978 and March 19–21, 1979.

Agenda items considered by the Commission originated from (a) specific referrals by resolutions of the 1976 General Convention, (b) resolutions introduced at that General Convention and either not fully considered or not adopted by the Convention, (c) matters identified by members of the Commission or others, (d) requests for consideration of matters received from other Committees, Commissions, organizations or individuals and (e) matters identified in the course of the meetings of the Commission.

To carry out the mandate to review the operation of the several Joint Committees and Joint Commissions, the Commission requested information from all of the Joint Committees and Joint Commissions. The Commission sought the advice of the Presiding Bishop, the President of the House of Deputies and the Executive Secretary of the General Convention, as well as other Bishops, Priests, lay persons, including the staffs of the Executive Council and of Committees, Commissions and Boards.

The Basic Concepts and Principles concerning the Church and concerning organization structure identified by the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church in its report to the 1976 General Convention meeting in Minneapolis (Journal pp. AA-11–AA-13) have continued to guide the Commission during this Triennium. They are reprinted as Appendix A to this report, and we commend them for your study.

The Commission expresses its appreciation to the Rev. James M. Gundrum, Executive Secretary of the General Convention, who attended all meetings of the Commission and was most helpful in identification of issues and the gathering of information.

D. The Structure of the Church

1. The major organization components of the Church are:

- a. The Communicant
- b. The Parish (or Mission).
- c. The Diocese.
- d. The Province.
- e. The General Convention.
- f. The Executive Council of the General Convention.
- g. The Office of the Presiding Bishop, including the staff for the general church program.

2. The Church, as an organization, is basically a democracy divinely motivated and led. Its democratic nature is defined by the way in which it functions and, by its functioning, establishes the responsibility and authority of the different organization components.

- a. The Communicants elect the Vestries of the Parish.
- b. The Parishes, acting through their Vestries, or in Parish meetings, elect representatives to the Diocesan Convention.

APPENDICES

- c. The Diocesan Convention elects representatives to the Provincial Synods and Deputies to the General Convention.
- d. The General Convention comprises the House of Deputies, consisting of elected representatives of the laity and clergy from each Diocese, and the House of Bishops, consisting of all the Bishops, each having been duly elected by a Diocese or by Diocesan representatives.
- e. The Provincial Synods and the General Convention elect the members of the Executive Council of the General Convention.
- f. The Presiding Bishop is chosen by the House of Bishops and his selection is confirmed by the House of Deputies.

3. Each Diocese is led by a Bishop who is duly elected by the membership of that Diocese in Diocesan Convention and whose election is confirmed by a majority of the Bishops and a majority of the Standing Committees of all the other Dioceses.

4. The whole Church is led by a Presiding Bishop elected by the House of Bishops and confirmed by the House of Deputies.

5. The Bishops receive their authority and responsibility for their leadership from two sources:

First, such authority and responsibility are to be found in the commissioning by Jesus of the first Apostles and their successors, who have been known as Bishops. The Bishops together are the Episcopate. This apostolic responsibility and authority is conferred by the Holy Spirit in the authorized service of ordination and consecration of a Bishop and is manifested in the office of the Bishop as:

- a. Chief evangelist and missionary.
- b. Chief steward of the sacraments.
- c. Chief overseer of:
 - (1) The spiritual welfare of all the people committed to the Bishop's care, clergy and laity alike;
 - (2) The proclamation of the Gospel in preaching and teaching; and
 - (3) The selection and ordination of persons for the offices of deacon and priest.

Second, the Episcopate derives its responsibility and authority from the consent of those who are led. This consent is secured from the members of the organization through the processes of Convention. The Convention through the Constitution and Canons, Prayer Book, program and budgets and other legislative actions expresses its consent to the Episcopate.

The Commission recognizes that the two types of responsibility and authority are not clearly separate and distinct. The "apostolic authority" leadership helps motivate and shape the responses of those led and, further, the degree of consent may depend on their evaluation of the effectiveness of the leadership.

6. The Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council of the General Convention are the administrative arm of the Convention and are responsible for carrying out the program and policy adopted by the General Convention. They have charge of the unification, development and prosecution of the missionary, educational and social work of the Church, and of such other work as may be committed to them by the General Convention.

The Presiding Bishop, as President of the Executive Council of General Convention, is the Chief Administrative Officer of the Church in addition to being the Chief Pastor of the Church.

These concepts and principles have been used by the Commission as guidelines in its work. Throughout its deliberations the Commission has approached its task in the belief that its purpose is not to propose the abolition of any existing Church structure nor to suggest the substitution of new structures, but instead to make recommendations which if followed, would in our opinion facilitate the work of the Lord by clarifying and perhaps realigning existing structural units.

II. CANONICAL CHANGES

A. Deputation Size, House of Deputies — Three in Each Order

In its report to General Convention over a period of fifteen years, this Commission and its predecessor Commissions and Committees recommended Plans of Proportional Representation until its Report to the 1976 Minnesota Convention when this Commission recommended that each Diocese be represented in the House of Deputies by three Presbyters and three Lay Persons. The decision to recommend equal reduction in number of Deputies from the Dioceses rather than proportional representation was based largely on the Commission's conclusion that the polity of the Episcopal Church recognizes the principle of equality among Dioceses.

The 1976 General Convention rejected the proposal to reduce the number of Deputies from four to three and referred the question of Proportional Representation to this Commission for study and report. The Commission has complied with this direction and presents its report, again recommending straight reduction rather than proportional representation.

As the size of the House of Deputies continues to increase by the erection of new Dioceses, an increasing burden is placed upon the legislative process.

The Episcopal Church, as stated in the Preamble to the Constitution, is "a Fellowship . . . of . . . Dioceses, . . ." Considering this fact, it is appropriate that each Diocese be represented by an equal number of Deputies. If the size of the House is to be reduced, the only feasible method appears to be a reduction in the size of the Deputations. A few Dioceses are voluntarily reducing their Deputations to save expense and to assert leadership in the movement to reduce the size of the House.

The following resolution, which was recommended to the Louisville Convention in 1973 by the House of Deputies Committee on Structure, by this Commission to the 1976 General Convention and again to the 1979 General Convention, would accomplish a 25% reduction in size and *by having three Deputies in each order would virtually eliminate the problem of the divided vote:*

Resolution #A-86

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That Canons I.1.3(a) and I.1.3(b) be renumbered as Canons I.1.4.(a) and I.1.4.(b), that Canon I.1.4 be renumbered as Canon I.1.3(c), that present Canon I.1.3(c) be renumbered as Canon I.1.3(b) and that there be enacted new Canon I.1.3(a) to read as follows:

"Section 3(a). 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 three Presbyters canonically resident in the Diocese and by three Lay Persons, communicants of this Church having domicile in the Diocese."

B. Equalization of Deputies' Transportation Expense

In reports to 1973 and 1976 General Conventions, this Commission recommended that there be assumed by the Church as a whole the travel expense of each Diocese's Deputies attending the Convention. The House of Bishops has informally established a program which accomplishes this result.

The Commission is of the opinion that the General Convention should be held in different sections of the country, but even were it held only in the geographical center of the country, inequities would exist in the burden of travel expense. This inequity can be removed by the adoption of the following resolution:

APPENDICES

Resolution #A—87

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That Canon I.1 be amended by renumbering present Section 9 and all succeeding sections, and by the adoption of a new Section 9 to read as follows:

“Sec. 9. In order that the cost of transportation to meetings of the General Convention may be equalized, the Treasurer of the General Convention shall pay to each Diocese a transportation allowance for each of its Deputies, not to exceed eight, in the amount of the lowest individual round-trip coach air fare from the See City of such Diocese to the commercial airport nearest to the place of meeting of the Convention. The total of all such allowances shall be prorated equally among the several Dioceses, and the portion allocable to each Diocese shall be added, with respect to such Diocese, to the General Convention assessment provided for in Section 8, with respect to the year of such meeting of the General Convention.”

C. Executive Secretary of the General Convention to Become Executive Officer

Resolution #A—88

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That Title I, Canon 1, Section 13 be amended as follows:

Sec. 13. There shall be an Executive Office of the General Convention, to be headed by a General Convention Executive ~~Secretary~~ *Officer* to be appointed jointly by the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies. The Executive Office of the General Convention shall include the functions of the Secretary and the Treasurer of the General Convention and those of the Manager of the General Convention, and, if the several positions are filled by different persons, such officers shall serve under the general supervision of the General Convention Executive ~~Secretary~~ *Officer*, who shall also co-ordinate the work of the ~~Joint~~ Committees, ~~Joint~~ Commissions, Boards and Agencies funded by the General Convention. Expense Budget.

D. Interval Between General Conventions to Become Budget Cycle

The Constitution was amended in 1970 to make it possible to hold regular meetings of the General Convention Triennially, Biennially or Annually. Most Canonical language was subsequently changed to conform to the Constitutional changes, but the Canonical language with respect to the preparation and adoption of budgets is still geared to a three year interval between meetings of the General Convention. The Commission recommends deletion of the requirement that the Executive Council transmit to the Provinces statements of existing appropriations within Dioceses and that Synods report to the Executive Council their findings with respect to the proposed budget. This is not being done and seems to be an unwieldy procedure. However, the Presidents of the Provinces will receive the proposed budget four months before the General Convention. To cure this difficulty, the Commission recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution #A—89

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That Canons I.4.6(a) and I.4.6(c) be amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 6(a). The Council shall submit to the General Convention at each regular session thereof a program for the [~~triennium, including~~] ensuing budgetary period

which budgetary period shall be equal to the interval between regular meetings of the General Convention. The program so submitted shall include a detailed budget of that part of the program for which it proposes to make appropriations for the ensuing year, and estimated budgets for the [two] succeeding [years] portion of the budgetary period. In connection with the preparation of such budget the Executive Council shall, at least fifteen months before the session of the General Convention, transmit to the President of each Province a statement of its existing appropriations for the Dioceses within such Province, showing the items for which such appropriations are expended, for the purpose of obtaining the advice of the Province as to changes therein. The Synod, or Council, of each province shall thereupon, in such manner as the Synod shall determine, consider such budget and report its findings to the Executive Council for its information.

After the preparation of the budget, the Executive Council shall, at least four months before the sessions of the General Convention, transmit to the Bishop of each Diocese and to the President of each Province a statement of the existing and the proposed appropriations for all items in the budget. The Executive Council shall also submit to the General Convention with the budget a plan for the apportionment to the respective Dioceses of the sum needed to execute the program.

“(c). Upon the adoption by the General Convention of a program and plan of apportionment for the [ensuing triennium.] *budgetary period*, the Council shall formally advise each Diocese with respect to its proportionate part of the estimated expenditure involved in the execution of the program in accordance with the plan of apportionment adopted by the General Convention. Such objective shall be determined by the Council upon an equitable basis.”

E. Provincial Presidents

The role of the Province in the structure of the Episcopal Church has been discussed for generations. At the 64th General Convention (Louisville) a resolution was passed instructing this Commission to develop a proposal for “a strong regional system within the Episcopal Church for the planning and implementation of Mission, Program and Ministry, appropriate for the respective regions . . .” and, further instructing the Executive Council “. . . to use every appropriate means to involve the existing provincial system and existing coalitions of Dioceses in the development and implementation of Mission, Program, and Ministry during the next triennium.” (Journal, 1973, p. 445).

During the ensuing triennium the Regional Groupings Committee of the Structure Commission considered the history of the Provinces and studies of the system which had been made, and conducted a survey to find out how Church leadership at the Diocesan level felt about the issue. “Various opinions were expressed, but the consensus seemed to be (1) the value of a level of structure between the Diocese and the National Church is largely informational and educational, (2) the present geographical boundaries of the Provinces are not necessarily, or even usually, suitable for joint programming, and (3) joint programming needs to be done on an *ad hoc* basis. (It is interesting that a similar survey conducted early in 1960 produced a similar variety of opinion. See Journal, 1961, p. 594.)” (Journal, 1976, p. AA-34.)

Two proposals recommended by the Structure Commission in response to the 1973 resolution were adopted by the 1976 Convention.

It should be pointed out that, in the terminology of the Anglican Communion, the word “Province” is used to describe territories in the Church, often contiguous with national boundaries, under the jurisdiction of an archbishop or a metropolitan.

APPENDICES

In this sense, the entire Episcopal Church constitutes a Province, under the jurisdiction of the Presiding Bishop. The fact that the Episcopal Church uses the word "province" to designate its geographical subdivisions, and has them headed by Bishops known as Province Presidents, has led to some confusion in the Anglican Communion.

In the opinion of the members of this Commission the requirement that the President of a Province in this Church be a Bishop has probably inhibited greater use of the Provincial structure. The workload of Bishops is such that few can devote a great deal of time to leadership and administration of a Province. It is for this reason that this Commission endorses a proposal which came from the floor of the House of Deputies at the 1976 Convention: that the Canons be changed to allow a Province, if it wishes, to elect someone other than a Bishop as its President.

Mindful that the Presiding Bishop uses the Presidents of the nine Provinces as his Council of Advice, the proposal requires, in case the Province elects someone other than a Bishop as its President, that a Bishop be elected as Vice President, and that the Bishop so chosen represent the Province on the Presiding Bishop's Council of Advice and serve as President of the House of Bishops of the Province.

Therefore, the Commission recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution #A—90

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That Title I, Canon 8, Sec. 6 be amended as follows:

Sec. 6(a). The President of each Province ~~shall~~ *may* be one of the Bishops, *Presbyters, Deacons or Lay Persons* of the Province, elected by the Synod by the concurrent vote of the three orders and by a plurality in each order. ~~He~~ *The person elected* shall hold office for such term as the Synod may determine.

(b.) *When the person elected President is not a Bishop, a Vice-President who shall be a Bishop shall be elected by a concurrent vote of the three orders and by a plurality in each order. In this event, the Bishop so elected shall serve, ex officio, as President of the House of Bishops of the Synod and shall represent the Province in all matters requiring the participation of a Bishop.*

If this proposal is adopted, House of Bishops' Rule XXVI should be amended to conform.

III. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS — SECOND READING

A. Enfranchising Communicants Not Domiciled in Diocese.

The 1976 General Convention adopted on First Reading an amendment to Article I, Section 4, of the Constitution, to eliminate the words: "having domicile in the Diocese" and inserting: "in good standing in the Diocese, but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese."

The reason stated for the amendment is the fact that communicants of border parishes who do not live within their respective Dioceses are prevented from serving as Lay Deputies, thereby depriving the Church of available leadership.

The Commission favors the principle of permitting such communicants to be eligible to serve as Deputies.

The Commission, therefore, recommends that the amendment adopted by the 1976 General Convention be adopted on Second Reading as follows:

Resolution #A—91

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 66th General Convention amend Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church in the following manner:

“In line 5, eliminate the words ‘having domicile in the Diocese’ and insert the words ‘in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese.’”

B. Voting by Retired Bishops.

The 1976 General Convention adopted on First Reading an amendment to Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution to grant a seat and vote to every assistant Bishop and to withdraw from retired Bishops the right to vote but retaining for them both seat and voice.

The Commission recommends the adoption on Second Reading of this amendment as follows:

Resolution #A—92

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 66th General Convention amend Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Episcopal Church in the following manner:

“At the beginning add: ‘Every Bishop of this Church shall have a seat and voice in the House of Bishops.’”

“After ‘every Suffragan Bishop’ insert: ‘every Assistant Bishop.’ Eliminate: ‘by reason of advanced age or bodily infirmity, or who.’ After ‘has resigned his jurisdiction’ insert: “and has not retired.’ so that it reads:

“*Sec. 2. Every Bishop of this Church shall have seat and voice in the House of Bishops. Each Bishop of this Church having jurisdiction, every Bishop Coadjutor, every Suffragan Bishop, every Assistant Bishop, and every Bishop who, under an election to an office created by the General Convention, or for reasons of mission strategy determined by action of the General Convention or the House Bishops, has resigned his jurisdiction, and has not retired, shall have a seat and a vote in the House of Bishops. A majority of all Bishops entitled to vote, exclusive of Bishops who have resigned their jurisdiction or positions, shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.*”

IV. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT — FIRST READING

Vote by Orders — The Divided Vote.

Normally in the House of Deputies each Deputy, whether Clerical or Lay, votes as an individual and the affirmative vote of a majority of those present is sufficient for adoption of a resolution or motion. However, a vote by orders is required by the Constitution for adoption of amendments to the Constitution and the adoption of a Prayer Book and alterations thereof and additions thereto. It is, in fact, a requirement not only of a vote by orders but a vote by Dioceses and orders with each Diocese casting one vote in each order.

Article I, Section 4 provides that a vote by orders is required also when demanded by the Clerical or Lay representation from three or more Dioceses. It further provides

APPENDICES

that no action of either order shall pass in the affirmative unless it receives the majority of all votes cast and unless the sum of all the affirmative votes shall exceed the sum of other votes by at least one whole vote. As a divided vote of a deputation is not an "affirmative" vote it is counted as a negative vote. This is the so-called "Divided Vote" provision. Efforts to change this have been made repeatedly for the past half century.

The 1970 General Convention actually adopted on first reading an amendment to Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution to provide that when the vote of the Deputies in either order in a Diocese is evenly divided, the vote shall be recorded as one-half vote for the affirmative and one-half for the negative. The amendment was defeated on its second reading at the 1973 General Convention. However, at that Convention, the House of Deputies directed the appointment of a Special Committee to make recommendations to the 1976 General Convention.

This Special Committee on Voting Procedures recommended an amendment to provide a formula for counting votes. (1976 Journal, page A-7) This recommendation and various amendments proposed to it were tabled in the House of Deputies. (1976 Journal, pages D115-116).

Although historically relatively few resolutions of importance have been defeated by the divided vote, the Commission senses that many Deputies feel frustrated by this provision and desire a change. We, therefore, are proposing an amendment which follows the pattern of the 1976 recommendation but is, in our opinion, easier to understand and administer.

Under the recommendation of the Commission hereinafter set forth the quorum required to cast a valid ballot must number 60% of those Dioceses entitled to vote. Assuming the number of deputations in the House of Deputies as 120, not less than 72 (60%) deputations voting in each order in the affirmative or negative would be required for a valid ballot. The recommendation further requires an affirmative majority of 2/3 of those voting in the affirmative or negative, as a divided vote is to be construed as an abstention.

The following examples illustrate the proposed recommendation:

Assume: Dioceses entitled to vote		120
Dioceses voting in the affirmative or negative — 60% required for a valid vote		72
Assume: Dioceses voting		120
Affirmative	68	
Negative	32	(2/3 of 100) = 67
Divided	20	
	<hr/>	
	120	

The measure passes as the affirmative 68 votes exceed 2/3 (67) of the 100 voting in the affirmative and negative.

Assume: Dioceses voting		120
Affirmative	65	
Negative	45	(2/3 of 110) = 74
Divided	10	
	<hr/>	
	120	

The measure fails as the affirmative 65 votes do not equal 2/3 (74) of the 110 voting in the affirmative and negative.

The Commission, therefore, recommends the adoption of the following:

Resolution #A—93

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the last paragraph of Section 4 of Article I of the Constitution be amended to read as follows:

“On any question, the vote of a majority of the Deputies present shall suffice, unless otherwise ordered by this Constitution; or, in cases not specifically provided for by the Constitution, by Canons requiring more than a majority; or unless the Clerical or the Lay representation from three or more Dioceses require that the vote be taken by orders. In all cases of a vote by orders, the two orders shall vote separately, each Diocese and Missionary Diocese having one vote in the Clerical order and one vote in the Lay order and ~~(the concurrence of the votes of the two Orders shall be necessary to constitute a vote of the House)~~ a concurrent affirmative majority of two-thirds (2/3) of those Dioceses and Missionary Dioceses voting in the affirmative and negative in each order shall be required. A divided vote within an order or in a Diocese or Missionary Diocese shall be construed as an abstention and shall not be counted as a vote. ~~(No action of either order shall pass in the affirmative unless it receives the majority of all votes cast, and unless the sum of all the affirmative votes shall exceed the sum of other votes by at least one whole vote.)~~ No action shall pass in either order unless the vote therein includes total affirmative and negative votes of at least 60% of the Dioceses and Missionary Dioceses entitled to vote.”

V. COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS — REALIGNMENT AND STANDARDIZATION

A. Preliminary Statement

In its report to the 1973 General Convention, this Commission reviewed and recommended certain changes in the structure and duties of the several Committees, Commissions and Boards. A number of those recommendations were adopted by that General Convention, including the realignment of the 22 parallel Standing Committees of the House of Bishops and of the House of Deputies.

Among the duties of this Commission as set forth in Canon 1.1.2.(f) is to:

“... review the operation of the several Joint Committees and Joint Commissions to determine the necessity for their continuance and the effectiveness of their functions and to bring about a coordination of their efforts.”

Further provision is made for reference to this Commission of proposals for the creation of new Joint Committees or Joint Commissions. Pursuant to these provisions, several of the Joint Commissions have requested that this Commission recommend their establishment as Standing Commissions to assure continuity of membership in a continuing study of matters of concern resulting in legislative proposals.

After reviewing the duties and responsibilities of the several Joint and Standing Commissions, the members of the Commission are in full agreement that all Commissions of the General Convention should be *Standing Commissions*, with the members thereof being appointed for terms equal to twice the interval between regular meetings of the General Convention and with terms rotated so that the terms of half the members shall expire at the conclusion of each regular meeting of the General Convention. Standing Commissions are composed of Bishops and of Presbyters, Deacons and Lay persons who may, but need not, be members of the House of Deputies.

APPENDICES

The Commission believes that Committees should be grouped under the category of *Standing Committees* when the members are appointed upon the adjournment of General Convention to serve through the succeeding Convention and *Legislative Committees* which are appointed in the year of General Convention for service primarily during the ensuing Convention. In each category, the Committees may be *Joint* when composed of members of *both Houses* or simply *Standing* or *Legislative Committees* when composed of members of a *single House*. Only Bishops and Deputies may serve as members of Committees.

Finally, there are those Boards and other agencies created by General Convention for special purposes which do not fall under the classification of either Committees or Commissions.

B. Table of Committees, Commissions and Boards

The following table of Committees, Commissions and Boards illustrates their alignment as they will exist if the recommendations of this Commission for changes in the Canons and Rules hereinafter set forth are adopted:

Standing Commissions	CANON
The Church in Small Communities	I.1.2 n (1)
Constitution and Canons	I.1.2 n (2)
Ecumenical Relations	I.1.2 n (3)
Human Affairs and Health	I.1.2 n (4)
Metropolitan Areas	I.1.2 n (5)
The Structure of the Church	I.1.2 n (6)
World Mission	I.1.2 n (7)
Standing Liturgical Commission	II.4
Standing Commission on Church Music	II.6
Joint Standing Committees	<i>Joint Rule</i>
Nominations	I.1-2 (a) - (m)
Planning and Arrangements	VII.18
Program, Budget and Finance	VI.17
	II.10-11
Joint Committees	I.1-2 (a) - (m)
Committees and Commissions	VIII.22
Place of Future General Conventions	VIII.22
Standing Committees	
<i>House of Bishops</i>	<i>H. B. Rules</i>
A. Pastoral Letter	I, XXVII
B. Resignation of Bishops	I
C. Religious Communities	I
D. On Nominations and Elections	I
E. Advisory — Council of Advice (Presidents of Provinces)	I, XXVI
<i>House of Deputies</i>	<i>H. D. Rules</i>
State of the Church (Also Council of Advice to the President under Canon I.1.1. (b))	7

Legislative Committees

Parallel Committees

H.B. General
Rule I; H. D.
Rule 7

1. Dispatch of Business
2. Certification of the Minutes
3. Rules of Order
4. Constitution
5. Canons
6. Structure
7. Admission of New Dioceses
8. Consecration of Bishops
9. World Mission
10. National and International Problems
11. Social and Urban Affairs
12. Mission to Rural America
13. Evangelism
14. Liturgy
15. Church Music
16. Ministry
17. Education
18. Church Pension Fund
19. Church Support
20. Ecumenical Relations
21. Miscellaneous Resolutions
22. Privilege and Courtesy
23. Credentials

Boards and Other Agencies

Board for Theological Education	Canon III, 6
Clergy Deployment Office	1976 Journal C-71
Council for the Development of the Ministry	1976 Journal C-115
General Board of Examining Chaplains	Canon III, 7
House of Bishops Committee on Pastoral Development	1973 Journal 1139 I, 6

C. Standing Commissions and Joint Commissions

The Commission recommends that Canon I.1.2 be rewritten and incorporate portions of Joint Rule I to make uniform the procedure for the appointment, organization and operation of Standing Commissions and Joint Commissions. The following Resolution is presented for adoption:

Resolution #A—94

Resolved, The House of _____ concurring, That Canon I.1.2 be repealed and the following Section 2 be inserted in lieu thereof and the Standing Commissions set forth in Sub-Section (m) shall be comprised initially of the members of the existing Joint and Standing Commissions of the same name:

APPENDICES

Sec. 2(a). The General Convention by Canon may establish Standing Commissions to study and make recommendations to the General Convention on major subjects considered to be of continuing concern to the Church and Joint Commissions to study and make recommendations to the General Convention on specific subjects of concern during a single interval between two regular meetings of the General Convention. The Canon shall specify the size, composition and duties of each such Commission. Such Commissions shall be composed of Bishops, Presbyters and Lay Persons and may include Deacons and other clergymen and lay persons not members of the House of Deputies.

(b). The terms of all members of Standing Commissions shall be equal to the interval between the regular meeting of the General Convention preceding their appointment and the adjournment of the second succeeding regular meeting of the General Convention and such terms shall be rotated so that, as near as may be, the term of one-half of the members shall expire at the conclusion of each regular meeting of the General Convention. The terms of all members of Joint Commissions shall be only from the time of appointment until the adjournment of the first regular meeting of the General Convention following their appointment.

(c). The Presiding Bishop shall appoint the episcopal members, and the President of the House of Deputies the lay and clerical members, of such Commissions as soon as practicable after the adjournment of the General Convention. Vacancies shall be filled in similar manner. One member of each such Commission shall be appointed from the membership of Executive Council to serve as liaison therewith.

(d). The Presiding Bishop, in respect of Bishops, and the President of the House of Deputies, in respect of Clergy and Lay Persons, may appoint members and staff of the Executive Council, or other experts, as consultants or coordinators to any Commission, to assist in the performance of its functions. Notice of such appointment shall be given to the Secretaries of both Houses. Each such Commission shall have power to constitute committees and engage the services of consultants and coordinators necessary to the carrying on of its work.

*(e). The Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies shall be members **ex officio** of every Commission with the right, but no obligation, to attend meetings, and with seat and vote in the deliberations thereof, and shall receive their minutes and reports of their activities; **Provided**, that the said presiding officers may appoint personal representatives to attend meetings in their stead, but without vote.*

(f). The Executive Secretary of the General Convention, shall, not later than the month of January following the meeting of the General Convention, notify the members of the respective Houses of their appointments upon Commissions and their duty to present Reports to the next Convention. One year prior to opening day of the Convention the Executive Secretary of the General Convention shall remind the Chairmen and Secretaries of all Commissions of this duty.

(g). Every Commission shall be convened by the senior Bishop in service on the Commission, and when convened, shall elect a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, and a Secretary. In the event that the Commission is not organized as above provided within six months from the date of adjournment of each General Convention, any three members may take such action as may be necessary to organize the Commission. After the Commission shall have been convened and its officers chosen, the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman shall be empowered to call a meeting and fix the time and place and shall do so upon signed request of three members.

(h). It shall be the privilege of either House to refer to a Commission any matter related to the subject for which it was appointed; but neither House shall have the power, without the consent of the other, to instruct the Commission as to any particular line of action.

(i). It shall be the duty of each Commission to give appropriate notice in the Church press of issues before it and of the time and place of meetings at which such issues are to be considered, together with instructions as to the manner in which members of the Church may address their views to such Commission.

(j). Every Commission shall prepare a Report, which together with any minority Report, shall be sent, by the first of April prior to each Convention, to the Executive Secretary of the General Convention, who shall print and distribute the same, as far as practicable, to all members of said Convention.

(k). The Report of every Commission presented at the General Convention shall:

(1) Set forth the names of its original members, any changes in membership, the names of all those who concur in and all those who dissent from its recommendations, and shall further state, if less than a majority of its entire membership sign the Report, their authority for presenting it.

(2) Summarize the work of the Commission, including the various matters studied, the recommendations for action by the General Convention and drafts of Resolutions proposed for adoption to implement the recommendations of the Commission.

(3) Include a detailed report of all receipts and expenditures, including moneys received from any source whatsoever, during the preceding interval since the last meeting of the General Convention; and, if it recommends that it be continued, the estimated requirements for the ensuing interval until the next regular meeting of the General Convention.

*(l). Every Commission, as a condition precedent to the presentation and reception of any Report in either House, in which such Commission proposes the adoption of any Resolution, shall, by vote, authorize a member or members of that House, who, if possible, shall be a member of the Commission with such limitations as the Commission may impose, to accept or reject, on behalf of the Commission, any amendments proposed in such House to any such Resolution; **Provided, however,** that no such amendment may change the substance of the proposal, but shall be primarily for the purpose of correcting errors. The name of the member or members of the particular House upon whom such authority has been conferred, and the limitations of authority, shall be communicated in writing by the Chairman of such Commission to the Presiding Officer of such House not later than the presentation of such Report in that House. The application of this Rule in either House may be suspended, in any particular case, by the majority vote of the members of such House.*

(m). Every Commission whose Report requests expenditure out of the funds of the General Convention (except for the printing of the Report) shall present to the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance its written request, on or before the first business day of the session, and all Resolutions providing for any such expenditures shall be immediately referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance. No proposition involving such expenditures shall be considered unless so presented and until after report of the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance.

APPENDICES

(n). There shall be the following Standing Commissions:

(1) Standing Commission on the Church in Small Communities, consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3 Presbyters or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons). It shall be the duty of the Commission to concern itself with plans for new directions for Churches in Small Communities.

(2) A Standing Commission on Constitution and Canons, consisting of 12 persons (3 Bishops, 3 Presbyters or Deacons and 6 Lay Persons).

The Standing Commission shall:

*(i) Review such proposed amendments to the Constitution and Canons as may be submitted to the Commission, placing each such proposed amendment in proper Constitutional or Canonical form. The Commission shall express its views with respect to the substance of any such proposal only to the proponent thereof, **provided**, however, that no member of the Commission shall, by reason of such membership, be deemed to be disabled from expressing, on the floor of the House of which he be a member, his personal views with respect to the substance of any such proposed amendment.*

*(ii) Conduct a comprehensive review of the Constitution and Canons with respect to their internal consistency and clarity, and on the basis of such review propose to the General Convention such technical amendments to the Constitution and Canons as in the opinion of the Commission are necessary or desirable in order to achieve such consistency and clarity without altering the substance of any Constitutional and Canonical provisions, **Provided, however**, that the Commission shall propose, for the consideration of the appropriate legislation committees of the two Houses, such amendments to the Constitution and Canons as in the opinion of the Commission are technically desirable but involve a substantive alteration of a Constitutional or Canonical provision.*

(iii) Be authorized, on the request of the Presiding Bishop, the President of the House of Deputies, the Executive Council, or any Bishop having jurisdiction, to prepare and to issue advisory opinions on any Constitutional or Canonical question or interpretations of any provision of the Constitution or the Canons. Such opinions and interpretations may be made by the full Commission or a Committee or individual member thereof and the Commission may utilize the services of consultants in preparing opinions and interpretations.

(3) A Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations, consisting of 24 members (8 Bishops, 8 Presbyters or Deacons, and 8 Lay Persons). Its duties shall be to develop a comprehensive and co-ordinated policy and strategy on relations between this Church and other churches, to make recommendations to General Convention, concerning interchurch co-operation and unity, and to carry out such instructions on ecumenical matters as may be given it from time to time by the General Convention. It shall also nominate persons to serve on the governing bodies of ecumenical organizations to which this Church belongs by action of the General Convention and to major conferences as convened by such organizations.

(4) A Standing Commission on Human Affairs and Health, consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3 Presbyters or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons who shall

include representation of a broad diversity of scientific and medical disciplines). It shall be the duty of the Commission to study and concern itself with the theological, ethical and pastoral questions inherent in such aspects of human affairs as human health, sexuality and bioethical problems. The Commission may cooperate with bodies having allied concerns established by other religious, scientific or lay groups and organizations.

(5) A Standing Commission on Metropolitan Areas consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3 Presbyters or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons). Its duties shall be to develop recommendations and strategies which will be of concrete assistance to the Church in Metropolitan Areas in shaping new patterns of mission.

(6) A Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church, consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3 Presbyters or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons). It shall be the duty of the Commission to study and make recommendations concerning the structure of the General Convention and of the Church. It shall, from time to time, review the operation of the several Committees and Commissions to determine the necessity for their continuance and the effectiveness of their functions and to bring about a co-ordination of their efforts. Whenever a proposal is made for the creation of a new Committee or Commission, it shall, wherever feasible, be referred to the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church for its consideration and advice.

(7) A Standing Commission on World Mission, consisting of 12 members (3 Bishops, 3 Presbyters or Deacons, and 6 Lay Persons) of whom one-half shall come from jurisdictions outside the continental United States of America. Its duties shall be to review, evaluate, plan and propose policy on overseas mission to the General Convention.

The Commission recommends that Canon II.4 of a Standing Liturgical Commission and Canon II.6 of the Music of the Church be amended by the following resolutions to eliminate provisions for their appointment, organization and operation which has been provided for all Standing Commissions in the proposed rewriting of Canon I.1.2 (a) - (m).

Resolution #A—95

Resolved, The House of _____ concurring, That Canon II.4 be amended by striking Sections 2 and 3 in their entirety and by amending Section 1 to read as follows:

Sec. 1. There shall be a Standing Liturgical Commission, *consisting of 9 members (at least 2 Bishops, 2 Presbyters or Deacons and 2 Lay Persons)*. The Custodian of the Book of Common Prayer shall be a member *ex officio* of the Commission. It shall be the duty of this Commission to collect and collate material bearing upon future revisions of the Book of Common Prayer, to prepare; and present to the General Convention from time to time recommendations concerning the Lectionary and the use of the Psalter, to prepare Offices for Special Occasions as authorized or directed by the General Convention or the House of Bishops, and upon request to advise concerning liturgical uses.

Resolution #A—96

Resolved, The House of _____ concurring, That Canon II.6 be amended by striking Sub-Sections 2(b), (c), (d) and (e) and by amending Section 2 to read as follows:

Sec. 2. There shall be a Standing Commission on Church Music (*consisting of 12 members (2 Bishops, 4 Presbyters or Deacons and 6 Lay Persons, of whom at least*

APPENDICES

4 are professional Church musicians). It shall be the duty of this Commission to collaborate with the Standing Liturgical Commission as regards the musical setting of liturgical texts and rubrics; encourage the writing of new music for liturgical use, and at times to produce such compositions in its own name; recommend norms both as to liturgical music and as to the manner of its rendition; serve as a link between associations of professional Church musicians and diocesan music commissions; assist in the setting up of diocesan and regional courses and conferences on Church music; collect and collate material bearing upon future revisions of the Church Hymnal; and, in general, serve the Church in matters pertaining to music.

D. Joint Standing Committees and Joint Legislative Committees

The Commission recommends that Joint Rule I "Joint Committees and Joint Commissions" be rewritten to eliminate reference to Joint Commissions which are covered by the proposed revision of Canon I.1.2.

Resolution #A—97

Resolved, The House of _____ concurring, That Joint Rule I be repealed and the following inserted in lieu thereof:

1. Joint Standing Committees and Joint Legislative Committees

1. By Joint Rule or Joint Resolution the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies may authorize or direct the appointment of Joint Standing Committees and Joint Legislative Committees.

2. (a) The Joint Rule may specify the size and composition and shall specify the duties of each such Committee. The membership of such Committees shall be limited to Bishops having vote in the House of Bishops, members of the House of Deputies and such ex officio members as may be provided in the Joint Rule creating such a committee.

(b) The terms of all members of Joint Standing Committees shall be equal to the interval between the regular meeting of the General Convention preceding their appointment and the adjournment of the succeeding regular meeting of the General Convention and until their successors are appointed; except that any Clerical or Lay member, who has not been elected as a Deputy to the succeeding General Convention by the 31st day of January in the year of the said Convention, shall be replaced on the Joint Standing Committee by appointment by the President of the House of Deputies, such appointment to be for the unexpired term of the former member. Any other vacancy, by death, change of status, resignation, or any other cause, shall be filled by appointment by the Presiding Officer of the appropriate House, and such appointments, likewise, shall be for the unexpired terms. The terms of all members of Joint Committees shall be only from the time of appointment until the adjournment of the first regular meeting of the General Convention following their appointment.

(c) The Presiding Bishop shall appoint the episcopal members, and the President of the House of Deputies the lay and clerical members, of Joint Standing Committees as soon as practicable after the adjournment of the General Convention and of Joint Committees not later than sixty (60) days in advance of each General Convention. Vacancies shall be filled in similar manner.

(d) The Presiding Bishop, in respect of Bishops, and the President of the House of Deputies, in respect of Clergy and Lay Persons, may appoint members and staff

of the Executive Council, or other experts, as consultants or coordinators to any such Committee, to assist in the performance of its functions. Notice of such appointment shall be given to the Secretaries of both Houses. Each such Committee shall have power to constitute sub-committees and engage the services of consultants and coordinators necessary to the carrying on of its work.

*(e) The Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies shall be members **ex officio** of every such Committee with the right, but no obligation, to attend meetings, and with seat and vote in the deliberations thereof, and shall receive their minutes and reports of their activities; **Provided**, that the said presiding officers may appoint personal representatives to attend meetings in their stead, but without vote.*

(f) The Executive Secretary of the General Convention, shall, not later than the month of January following the meeting of the General Convention, notify the members of the respective Houses of their appointments upon Joint Standing Committees and their duty to present Reports to the next Convention. One year prior to opening day of the Convention the Executive Secretary of the General Convention shall remind the Chairmen and Secretaries of all Joint Standing Committees of this duty.

(g) Except as otherwise provided, the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies shall designate a chairman and vice-chairman or co-chairman of such Committees. Each such Committee shall elect its own Secretary.

(h) It shall be the privilege of either House to refer to such a Committee any matter relating to the subject for which it was appointed; but neither House shall have the power, without the consent of the other, to instruct such Committees as to any particular line of action.

(i) All such Committees shall perform all of the duties with respect to their work that are imposed on Standing and Joint Commissions by Canon I.1.2 (i) through (m).

In order to standardize the provisions of the Joint Rules relating to Standing and Joint Committees, the Commission recommends the following amendments to the Joint Rules:

Resolution #A—98

Resolved, The House of _____ concurring, That Joint Rule II, Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance, be amended by deleting the third paragraph thereof.

Resolution #A—99

Resolved, the House _____ concurring, That Joint Rule VI, Committee on Planning Arrangements, be amended as follows:

VI. Joint Standing Committees on Planning and Arrangements.

17. There shall be a Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements for the General Convention, which shall have sole responsibility between conventions for the matters indicated by its title. The Committee shall be composed, *ex officio*, of the Executive Secretary of the General Convention, the Bishop and General Chairman of Arrangements of the Local Committee of the Diocese in which the General Convention shall be held, the Vice-Presidents, Secretaries, and Chairmen of the

APPENDICES

Committees on the Dispatch of Business, of the two Houses, and the General Convention Manager.

It shall be the duty of the Committee to consult with the Presidents of the two Houses, the Chairmen of the Joint and Standing Committees and Commissions, Boards and Agencies of the General Convention, the Executive Council, and such others as it may deem necessary, in the study and determination, prior to any meeting of the General Convention, of the arrangements for, and the nature of, the Agenda thereof, to be recommended by it to the General Convention for such meeting.

It shall be the further duty of the Committee, subject to the instructions, if any, of the General Convention, to investigate possible sites for future Conventions, and to report its recommendations to the General Convention for determination by that body. In making such recommendations, the Committee shall certify to the convention the willingness of the Dioceses within which recommended sites are located to have the General Convention meet within their jurisdictions.

Resolution #A—100

Resolved, The House of _____ concurring, That Joint Rule VII be amended to change the name of the Joint Committee on Nominations to the "Joint Standing Committee on Nominations" and to delete the following subparagraph:

"(h) Representatives of this Church on the Anglican Council of North America and the Caribbean."

The Commission recommends the deletion of subparagraph (h) in order that these representatives may be appointed by the Presiding Bishop as the work of this Council falls within the program area of World Mission of the Executive Council.

E. Standing Committees

The Rules of the House of Bishops provide for several Standing Committees which function during the interval between Conventions, as does the Committee on the State of the Church of the House of Deputies. This latter Committee also serves as a Council of Advice to the President of the House of Deputies for which provision is made in Canon 1.1.1.(b).

The Commission recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution #A—101

Resolved, by the House of Deputies, That Rules 17, 18, 20 and 21 and Title V of the Rules of Order of the House of Deputies be amended by striking the words "Joint Committees and Joint Commissions" and inserting in lieu thereof "Joint and Standing Committees and Joint and Standing Commissions."

F. Legislative Committees

The Rules of both Houses provide for the appointment of twenty-two (22) Committees, which have identical names and are designated as "Standing Committees."

In fact, they are not true Standing Committees because the members are appointed shortly *before* General Convention and they review resolutions referred to them primarily during meetings of the General Convention. The Commission recommends that these be termed "Legislative Committees." The following Resolutions will accomplish this change of name:

Resolution #A—102

Resolved, by the House of Bishops, That General Rule 1. and Daily Order I.10 be amended by striking "Standing Committee" wherever it occurs and substituting in lieu thereof the words "Legislative Committee."

Resolution #A—103

Resolved, by the House of Deputies, That Rule 5(a), 7, 12(a), 14, 18, 21, 24 and 51 be amended by striking the words "Standing Committee" and inserting in lieu thereof the words "Legislative Committee."

G. Boards

The Commission recommends that Canon III.6.1 be amended to provide for rotation of terms of members of the Board for Theological Education by adoption of the following Resolution:

Resolution #A-104

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That Canon III.6.1 be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1 (a.) There shall be a Board for Theological Education of the General Convention consisting of ~~fifteen~~ sixteen members with commitment to theological education appointed jointly, at a regular meeting of the General Convention, by the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies, with the confirmation of the General Convention; four of whom shall be Bishops; four of whom shall be Presbyters or Deacons; two of whom, at the times of their appointments, shall be Postulants or Candidates for Holy Orders duly enrolled in accredited seminaries; and six of whom shall be Lay Persons.

(b.) Except for members who are Seminarians and as provided in (d.) hereafter, all members of the Board shall serve terms beginning with the close of the meeting of General Convention at which their appointments are confirmed and ending with the close of the second regular meeting thereafter. Such members shall not serve successive terms. Members who are Seminarians shall be eligible to serve only single terms equal in duration to the period between two successive regular meetings of General Convention.

(c.) Bishops shall be appointed by the Presiding Bishop, and other clerical and all lay members, including Seminarians, shall be appointed by the President of the House of Deputies, all subject to confirmation of the General Convention.

(d.) Members, except for Seminarians, shall serve rotating terms with one-half of the total membership being appointed and confirmed at each regular meeting of General Convention. To achieve such terms, in the first instance following adoption of these provisions, one-half of the appointees in each category indicated, shall have terms equal only to the period between two successive regular meetings of General Convention.

(e.) Positions of members of the Board which become vacant prior to the normal expiration of such members' terms shall be filled by appointment by the Presiding Bishop or by the President of the House of Deputies, as appropriate. Such appointments shall be for the remaining unexpired portion of such members' terms and if a regular meeting of the General Convention intervenes, appointments for terms

APPENDICES

extending beyond such meetings shall be subject to confirmation of the General Convention. Members appointed to fill such vacancies shall not thereby be disqualified from appointment to full terms thereafter.

Resolved further, That this amendment shall take effect immediately upon adoption by concurrent action.

VI. NEW JOINT RULE FOR JOINT SESSION TO DEBATE MAJOR ISSUES

The members of the Commission have considered in this triennium as in the last triennium a suggestion that the General Convention be restructured as a unicameral body consisting of Bishops, Presbyters and Lay Persons. While this Commission does not recommend such a structural change, one of the principal advantages of a unicameral legislature could be accomplished by having joint sessions of the two Houses for debate of important resolutions.

This recommendation grows out of the realization that Bishops do not always understand the rationale of the Deputies in adopting a certain resolution and vice versa. If debate on a limited number of major issues was conducted in joint sessions where all could hear, the legislative process would be expedited.

The Commission therefore recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution #A—105

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That joint rules of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies be amended by renumbering Joint Rule VIII to be Joint Rule IX and by inserting the following new Joint Rule VIII:

“VII. Joint Session, House of Bishops and House of Deputies.

“Prior to or during any meeting of the General Convention one or more joint sessions may be held for the purpose of debating major issues. A joint session may be called by the President of the House of Bishops and the President of the House of Deputies. Joint sessions shall be held when called by joint resolution adopted by not less than a majority vote of those voting in each House. The President of the House of Bishops shall preside over the joint session but upon his request or in his absence, the President of the House of Deputies shall preside. In the event of request by the two Presidents, or in their absence, the Vice Chairman of the House of Bishops and the Vice President of the House of Deputies, respectively, shall preside. Votes upon issues may be taken as in the case of Committees of the Whole which shall not be binding upon either House.”

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Consent to the Consecration of Bishops

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Rochester memorialized the 65th General Convention to eliminate subsection (c) of Title III, Canon 14, Section 1, which deals with consent to the consecration of Bishops when the election takes place more than three months prior to a General Convention. It requires the consent of a majority of the Standing Committees and of Bishops having jurisdiction to the consecration of a Bishop-

elect. The resolution did not pass, but was referred to this Commission for study and report.

When additional information was requested from the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Rochester, the response was that the present system of voting on a candidate was "expensive, ineffective" and that "members of the committee were called upon to approve or disapprove the election of Bishops all over the country whom they knew little or nothing about."

A questionnaire was circulated to the Standing Committees in twenty-one Dioceses of the nine Provinces, asking them to respond to seven questions which embodied the areas of concern expressed by the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Rochester. Answers were received from seventeen of the Dioceses, which included representation from eight of the nine Provinces.

Over one-half of the Standing Committees responding indicated that there has been some discussion regarding this section of the Canon, but seventy percent suggested that they were not in favor of changing it.

In related questions, which are also found in the Canon, there was unanimous agreement that Priests, Laity and all Bishops should be contacted in approval of the consecration of a Bishop.

The members of the Standing Commission on Structure have reviewed the results of the study, and have given careful consideration to the responses of the Standing Committees, and do not recommend that this section of the Canon be changed.

VIII. APPENDIX

A. Report of Receipts and Expenditures

General Convention Triennial Budget			\$16,200.
	1977	1978	1979
Receipts from			
General Convention Budget:	\$ 6,744.87	\$2,502.76	\$3,000.00 (1)
Expenditures:			
Commission Meetings — travel, hotel, meals, taxi, etc.	2,597.63 2,271.53	2,297.33	2,558.22
Committee Meetings — travel, hotel, meals, taxi, etc.	771.74 783.17	94.00	
Long Distance, postage, photocopying, etc.	320.80	111.43	200.00 (2)
Totals	<u>\$ 6,744.87</u>	<u>\$2,502.76</u>	<u>\$2,758.22</u> <u>241.78 (3)</u> <u>\$3,000.00</u>

(1) Revised Budget for 1979

(2) Includes estimated expenses following filing of Report

(3) Anticipated 1979 lapsed balance

APPENDICES

B. Estimated Requirements for 1980-1982 Triennium

	1980	1981	1982
Commission Meetings @\$4,500	\$ 9,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Committee Meetings	700.00	900.00	
Long Distance, postage photocopying, etc.	1,000.00	300.00	500.00
Totals	\$10,000.00	\$5,700.00	\$5,000.00
Total for Triennium			\$21,400.00

C. Extra Provincial Dioceses — A Position Statement

Introduction

Almost all of the matters dealt with in our report were specifically referred to the Commission by previous conventions, the Executive Council, or some agency of the Church seeking guidance. This clearly indicates the derivative, servant role of the Commission to the Church. However, part of that role in the past has included addressing issues having to do with the ordering of the Household of God which may not have been specifically referred but were of general concern to the Church.

On the premise that a good servant does more than the minimum which is asked, the Commission has addressed itself to the issue of Extra Provincial Dioceses.

This is intended to be a very brief historical statement of what has happened in this area together with some of the consequences in the life of the Church. It concludes with a specific recommendation to General Convention.

Position Statement

The existence of Extra-Provincial Dioceses is not something without historical precedent in the Anglican Communion. When it has happened in the past, it has usually been as a consequence of war or disaster (e.g. Hong Kong and Macao, Cuba, etc.). It has not been a deliberately chosen policy but rather a way to cope with a crisis.

At the 1976 General Convention, extra-provincial status was granted to Costa Rica under the "metropolitical authority" of the Bishops of the 9th Province. The intention was that this would be a place to "warehouse" independent dioceses until there were enough to create a new province for the Caribbean area. They would, in the meantime, have the benefits of support and guidance from beyond their own boundaries. At its November 1978 Synod, the Ninth Province supported a move by Puerto Rico to seek autonomy by way of becoming an extra-provincial diocese. At a later meeting of a representative of the Executive Office of the Anglican Communion with representatives of the Ninth Province it was agreed that Puerto Rico would wait until the 1982 General Convention to request extra-provincial status. Since then Ecuador has indicated its desire to become an extra-provincial diocese.

No one opposes these dioceses in their aspirations for autonomy but for a number of reasons these moves have been disturbing to many in the Anglican Communion.

First, the category of the extra-provincial diocese in the life of Anglicanism (always seen as a momentary anomaly) has now been utilized as a way toward autonomy. It is not the change as such that is questioned as it is the more important issue of whether or not this is the best way to achieve the sought for goal.

Another disturbing aspect of this development is that the Ninth Province is not a province in the usual sense in which this designation is used by the rest of the

Anglican Communion outside of PECUSA; i.e. as an autonomous jurisdiction. PECUSA itself and not the Ninth Province is the provincial authority that is recognized by the rest of the Anglican Communion. As a consequence the supposed "metropolitan authority" which they are exercising does not really rest with that body. This statement is not intended to be an indictment of the Ninth Province. Neither is it an indictment of the Minnesota Convention. First the Province and then the Convention acted with great conviction and idealism. Unfortunately they also acted without having in mind the newest structure within the Anglican Communion, the Anglican Consultative Council.

The A.C.C. represents the whole of our communion. Its "Terms of Reference" (Charter) gives it eight functions to perform on behalf of all Anglicans. The second and third functions are particularly significant in this discussion and they are as follows:

2. To advise on inter-Anglican, provincial, and diocesan relationships, including the division of provinces, the formation of new provinces and of regional councils, and the problems of extra-provincial dioceses.

3. To develop as far as possible agreed Anglican policies in the world mission of the Church and to encourage national and regional Churches to engage together in developing and implementing such policies by sharing their resources of manpower, money and experience to the best advantage of all."

Lambeth '78 served to further clarify the levels of authority within the Anglican Communion. A.C.C., despite the confusion of some bishops, was affirmed in the role envisioned for it in the "Terms of Reference" just quoted.

Recommendation

It is the recommendation of this Standing Commission on Structure that the General Convention abide by the Charter of the Anglican Consultative Council which we adopted at Houston in 1970. The A.C.C. is the proper body to determine the timing, makeup, and mode of emergence for new provinces within our worldwide communion. PECUSA needs to move through them in all matters having to do with the declaring of any diocese as having extra-provincial status as well as matters dealing with the initiation and nurturing of a new province. We would therefore urge any such issues to be referred, with whatever recommendations we may have, to the Anglican Consultative Council for final disposition.

D. Funding the Commission

Resolution #A—114

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That 21,400 be appropriated for the expenses of the Standing Commission on the Structure of the Church.

IX. LEVELS OF AUTHORITY WITHIN THE CHURCH

The 1964 General Convention, meeting at St. Louis, in response to several Dioceses requesting that the General Convention define the context of responsibility within which the Episcopal Church speaks on various levels of authority, adopted a statement on "Levels of Authority Within the Church".

In considering various matters of structure and, in particular, those relating to the representation of the Episcopal Church on Anglican and Ecumenical bodies, the Commission found this statement to be a helpful document of reference. While not submitting this statement in resolution form for adoption at the 1979 General Conven-

APPENDICES

tion, the Commission voted to include the statement in its report as a republication to make it readily available to the Church.

Levels of Authority Within the Church

It is the historic right and the undoubted duty of the Christian man and of the Christian Church to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to witness to that Gospel in every phase of human life and activity.

The Church in so speaking rests upon the authority given to it by the Lord Christ. The Christian speaks out of faith and conscience. Both the Church and the Christian are, we pray, obedient to the Holy Spirit.

But in so speaking, individual Christians and bodies of Christians within the Church should speak out of the context of their own levels of authority and responsibility. There is an obligation in our mutual interdependence within the Body of Christ that calls for appropriate restraint lest any statement or action seem to claim authority that it does not possess.

1. The Protestant Episcopal Church accepts as its authority the Holy Scriptures, the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds, and speaks through the Book of Common Prayer and the Constitution and Canons of the Church. The Protestant Episcopal Church speaks also through the Resolutions, Statements, and actions of the General Convention. In these ways the Church speaks at the highest level of responsibility for the Church, to the Church and to the world.

2. Similarly, the House of Bishops, as the Fathers in God of the Church, speaks corporately to the Church the mind of its Chief Pastors. Further, each Bishop may speak as an apostolic Shepherd within his own jurisdiction, yet with a sense of mutual responsibility to his episcopal brethren and with faithfulness to the teaching of the Church.

3. In the interim of General Convention, the Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council are the responsible representatives of the Church, granted authority to implement the statements and actions of General Convention and of the House of Bishops. When, in the course of the fast-moving events of life today, it is not possible to await a meeting of General Convention, it is the duty of the Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council to speak God's word to his Church and to his world.

4. At a lesser level of responsibility and authority, the officers and staff of the Executive Council may, from time to time, speak their own Christian mind, after consultation with the Presiding Bishop, in areas of great concern in which General Convention has not acted. Such statements or actions should not be interpreted as the will of the whole Church, but as that of the individuals and group directly responsible.

The official bodies of the Church alone can commit the Church. But the right of voluntary and unofficial associations of members of the Church, as they are led, by conscience, to act and to apply Christian principles in specific fashion to concrete situations, is recognized.

In encouraging such witness, we urge that groups and individuals will identify their private character and not appear to assume authority which is not possessed. Unofficial groups and individuals also bear responsibility to the Church of which they are part.

The Holy Spirit of God is not to be bound. Yet the Church must act with a sense of order within itself, that God's word be spoken effectually to God's world and in charity within its own fellowship.