

Canon 51, Sec. 11, was amended by the addition of the following sentence immediately after the words "canonically attached":

Each Deaconess shall report annually to the Bishop of her Diocese in the form prescribed by the Bishop.

R. BLAND MITCHELL,
RICHARD A. KIRCHHOFFER,
House of Bishops.

J. FRANCIS SANT,
JACKSON A. DYKMAN,
House of Deputies.

Capital Punishment

Mr. Adams, of California, on the Second Day, presented a resolution on the abolition of capital punishment, which was referred to the Committee on Christian Social Relations.

Bishop W. Appleton Lawrence, on behalf of the Episcopal Pacifist Fellowship, presented the following resolution:

INASMUCH as the individual life is of infinite worth in the sight of Almighty God; and

WHEREAS, the taking of this human life falls within the providence of Almighty God and not within the right of man; therefore be it

Resolved, The House of Deputies concurring, that the General Convention goes on record as opposed to capital punishment.

The foregoing resolution was referred to the Committee on Social and International Affairs.

The Bishop of San Joaquin presented the following resolution from the Eighth Province Meeting, May 7, 1958:

WHEREAS, The conscience of many thoughtful people has been aroused by the condemnation to death of individuals who may be innocent; and

WHEREAS, There is a growing body of public opinion which believes that capital punishment is archaic and ineffective to protect society, as shown by the fact that states which have abolished it have the lowest homicide rates; and

WHEREAS, Research has demonstrated that the death penalty fails for the most part on obscure, impoverished, friendless or defective individuals and rarely on the well-to-do and educated; and

WHEREAS, The Church believes that each individual is sacred, as a child of God, and that to legalize killing of an offender is to deny the basic

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Christian doctrines of forgiveness of sin and the power of redemption, and that mercy is a Christian duty; and

WHEREAS, Resolutions urging abolition of the death penalty have been recently passed by Six Dioceses, one Missionary district and the Synod of the Eighth Province; therefore be it

Resolved, The House of Deputies concurring, that this 59th General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America record its conviction that the death penalty ought to be abolished.

The foregoing resolution was referred to the Committee on Social and International Affairs.

The Bishop of Texas, on the Fifth Day, reporting for the Committee on Social and International Affairs, recommended that the House take no action on either resolution. The motion was lost.

The House adopted the resolution presented by Bishop W. Appleton Lawrence.

[Communicated to the House of Deputies by Message No. 54.]

The Rev. Dr. Gosnell, of West Texas, on behalf of the Committee on Christian Social Relations, recommended concurrence.

The Rev. Dr. Fenn, of Maryland, offered an amendment regarding life imprisonment.

The whole matter was referred to the Committee on Christian Social Relations.

The Rev. Dr. Gosnell, of West Texas, on the Eighth Day, presented Report No. 13 of the Committee on Christian Social Relations, and included Reports No. 14 and 15, having to do with Message No. 54 of the House of Bishops and resolutions referred to it on the question of capital punishment.

These were placed on the Calendar No. 32.

Item No. 32 was taken from the Calendar on the Tenth Day, being Reports No. 13, 14 and 15 of the Committee on Christian Social Relations on capital punishment, which included Message No. 54 from the House of Bishops.

The Rev. Dr. Fenn, of Maryland, proposed an amendment, which was lost.

The Rev. Dr. Gosnell, of West Texas, moved concurrence with the House of Bishops in Message No. 54.

The House concurred.

[Communicated to the House of Bishops by Message No. 162.]

Central Brazil—Election of the Rev. Edmund Knox Sherrill

The House of Bishops went into Executive Session on the Ninth Day.

The Secretary read the list of nominations for the vacancy in the Episcopate in the Missionary District of Central Brazil.

The Chair announced that an election was in order for a Bishop for the Missionary District of Central Brazil.

The Chair appointed the Suffragan Bishop of Connecticut, the Suffragan Bishop of Minnesota, the Bishop of Mexico, and the Bishop of Sacramento as Tellers.

The Bishops, in order, deposited their ballots and the Rev. Edmund Knox Sherrill, Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Sao Paulo, Brazil, was found, on the first ballot, to have received a majority of votes and was thereupon declared by the Chair to have been chosen Bishop of the Missionary District of Central Brazil.

The Chair announced the completion of the election of the Rev. Edmund K. Sherrill, subject to confirmation by the House of Deputies.

The Chair appointed the Bishop of Southern Ohio, the Bishop of Southern Brazil, the Bishop of Southwestern Brazil, and Bishop Melcher to notify the Rev. Edmund K. Sherrill of his election.

The following communication was sent to the President of the House of Deputies:

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED

That the House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church in General Convention assembled in the City of Miami Beach, Florida, did on the 15th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight, in conformity with Canon 40, Sec. 2 (a), make choice of the Rev. Edmund Knox Sherrill, Rector of Holy Trinity Church, Sao Paulo, Brazil, to be Bishop of the Missionary District of Central Brazil.

HENRY K. SHERRILL, *Presiding Bishop.*

ALEXANDER M. RODGER, *Secretary of the House of Bishops.*