

From the Ross Documents

(Green and White Book)

“The adequacy of this volume has been certified by the fact that the drafts have been carefully scrutinized, edited and verified to assure their accuracy.”

[Certified as an Amendment by the General Secretary Bishop G. R. Ross]

SECTION B - GENERAL BOARD, PRESIDING BISHOP FIRST AND SECOND ASSISTANT PRESIDING BISHOP

1. The General Assembly shall elect from the duly elected General Board a Presiding Bishop, a First Assistant Presiding Bishop and a Second Assistant Presiding Bishop.
2. The Presiding Bishop will automatically become President of the Corporation upon election. In case of death or disability, the First Assistant Presiding Bishop shall become the Acting Presiding Bishop until the next general election. He may hold office until he reaches his 74th birthday. However, if he is in good health and has served the church well, the rules may be suspended and he may be elected for another term of four (4) years.
3. The Presiding Bishop, after being duly elected by the General Assembly, shall have power to appoint all State Bishops subject to the approval of the majority of the General Board and a majority of the pastors of said state, sign all appointments with the General Secretary after being approved by the General Board. The Presiding Bishop shall not pastor more than one church at a time during his tenure of office. All of his actions shall be subject to the approval of the General Board.

As an Executive he shall not be guilty of the following:

1. Adultery or immoral character.
2. Tyranny and absolute monarchical powers who exercises his power brutally or treats others with extreme cruelty.
3. Failing to carry out his duties as a Bishop or Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ according to its doctrinal principles
4. They shall not be guilty of smoking, drinking or any unclean habits.
5. If found guilty of any of the above named charges, he shall be removed from office by the Board of Bishops with the right of appeal to the General Assembly.
6. The Presiding Bishop shall make all appointments of State Bishops and hear all matters after the General Board has authorized him to do so. All papers of appointive and elective officers shall be signed by the Presiding Bishop and General Secretary, providing however, that the General Board has passed on them and it has been approved by the General Assembly.
7. Bishop L. Willis then amended his motion to say: That the Presiding Bishop would

receive no salary, but instead a free-will offering, pastor one (1) church and maintain his jurisdiction. The motion was seconded by Elder W. L. Porter and others, After further discussion of this document, it was then moved by Bishop Win. Rimsen of Michigan and supported by Bishop D. A. Burton of Penna., that the entire document governing the Presiding Bishop and General Board be adopted as read with the Amendment as offered by Bishop L. Willis. The motion was carried.

8. First Assistant President Bishop and Second Assistant Presiding Bishop - Qualifications and Duties. The qualifications of the First and Second Assistant Presiding Bishop shall be the same as the qualifications of the Presiding Bishop. The First and Second Assistant Presiding Bishops shall aid and assist the Presiding Bishop in discharging his executive functions and shall serve in their respective order if for any reason the Presiding Bishop is unable to serve or if the position shall become vacant. Upon the death of the Presiding Bishop in Office, the First Assistant Presiding Bishop shall become the Presiding Bishop and finish out the term of his predecessor.
9. Neither the Presiding Bishop nor any other member of the Board can serve at the same time as an officer of the General Assembly, the General Council, the Board of Bishops, or any national auxiliary of the General Church. Neither can the wives of the Presiding Bishop and the First and Second Assistant Presiding Bishop's serve as the head of any national auxiliary or department of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. Due to the question of legality of Section B-9, we, the Committee, request that this question be resolved by the General Assembly.⁴

⁴Passed 11/68. Bishop F. S. Green-Chairman, Bishop Win. Rimson-Vice Chairman, Bishop L. T Walker, Bishop W. A. Patterson, Bishop W. L. Broussard, Bishop C. C. Cox, Mother Mattie McGlothen, Elder Richard Bratton, Elder S. L. Green Jr, Elder L. A. Jordan, Elder P. L. Winbush- Secretary