

ACTS OF SYNOD 1983

Class 1 (Barrier Act Procedure)

No	Act	
	None	

Class 2 (Others)

No	Act	Sederunt
1	Synod Committees, Reports & Correspondence repealing Act 1, Synod 1977 (as amended)	2
2	Act interpreting Act anent seats in Presbytery 1970 (as amended 1982)	3
3	Act declaring the bounds of Southern Presbytery amending Act of Synod 25/11/1953	3
4	Act anent Bequests & Legacies replacing legislation of Synod 1965, 1966, 1967 & 1968	8
5	Act anent property of the Free Presbyterian Church of South Australia	14
6	Act anent Stipend Adjustment Formula amending Act of Synod 1981	4
7	Act establishing "8:14 Foundation"	4
8	Act anent "8:14 Foundation" Administration Committee	14
9	Act amending Provident Funds Committee Regulations 1981 as amended 1982	10,12
10	Act anent relations with Reformed Presbyterian Church of Australia	12
11	Act anent Church Extension dollar-a-week Scheme	14
12	Act anent church magazine & Synod minutes	6
13	Act anent adjustment of Mr S.R. Tamata's stipend	6
14	Act anent responsibilities of the Training of Ministry Committee	5
15	Consolidating Act anent Reception Status and Oversight of Students and Home Missionaries; repealing act of Synod 16/04/1962 and Act 4 Synod 1978 and all previous Acts thereanent, excepting so far as they may be embodied in this Act.	5
16	Act anent Student Training and Allowances; repealing the Act of Synod of the same name 1975 as amended and all previous Acts thereanent, excepting so far as they may be embodied in this Act.	8, 9
17	Act anent Regulations for Licensing of Students; amending Act 6 of Synod 1975	9
18	Act anent Admission of Ministers from Other Churches	9
19	INTERIM ACT - Act correcting Federal Relations Act 1954	13

CLASS 1 – ACTS WHICH HAVE PASSED THE BARRIER ACT

None

CLASS 2 – ACTS OF SYNOD OF GENERAL INTEREST TO THE CHURCH

**ACT 1 - Synod Committees, Reports & Correspondence
repealing Act 1, Synod 1977 (as amended)**

Monday, 9th May 1983, Sederunt 2

That previous pertinent legislation be rescinded, and that Synod enact as follows:

1. That Synod Committees (except Administration and Inter-Church Relations) be composed on a regional basis unless otherwise decided in a particular case.
2. That no Synod Committee shall consist of more than five members, it being recognised that committees may nominate officebearers for committee membership for Synod's approval.
3. That the Treasurer of Synod shall forward his report and annual accounts to Synod members at least sixty (60) days prior to the scheduled opening of Synod.
4. That all documents and Committee reports for transmission to Synod shall be lodged with the Clerk of Synod at least fortyfive (45) days prior to the scheduled opening of Synod. Any document or report presented after that date must be accompanied by a letter showing cause why it could not be presented by the due date. The Administration Committee shall judge whether the reasons advanced are sufficient, and if there are extenuating circumstances shall transmit the same to Synod, reporting accordingly. If the Committee shall refuse to transmit the material, it must state reasons to those concerned. Appeal or complaint against the decision may be made to Synod in the usual way, without conforming to the above-mentioned deadline.
5. Requests for finance from Synod funds are to be forwarded by presbyteries direct to the Finance Committee, to reach the Convener at least forty-five (45) days prior to the scheduled opening of Synod, and a copy shall be forwarded by the Presbytery Clerk and to any other Committee concerned.
6. The Clerk of Synod shall arrange for Committee Reports and Recommendations to be printed and shall distribute them so that they shall be in the hands of members of Synod not later than fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled opening of Synod, extra copies being produced for binding with the minutes in due course.

ACT 2 - Act interpreting Act anent seats in Presbytery 1970 (as amended 1982)

Monday, 9th May 1983, Sederunt 3

Synod interprets residential supply as being regular full time pastoral duties.

ACT 3 - Act declaring the bounds of Southern Presbytery amending Act of Synod 25/11/1953

Monday, 9th May 1983, Sederunt 3

Synod do now declare the bounds of the Southern Presbytery to be the boundaries of the States of Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania.

ACT 4 - Act anent Bequests & Legacies replacing legislation of Synod 1965, 1966, 1967 & 1968

Wednesday 11th May 1983, Sederunt 8

BEQUESTS AND LEGACIES

1. Bequests automatically vest in the relevant trust corporation. The disbursement and/or investment of the same is a legal responsibility of the trustees.
2. Notwithstanding, a bequest to a congregation, or congregational organization, in terms which allow the capital to be spent, may be retained and administered locally on the following conditions:
 - (a) certified copies of the relevant documents shall be lodged by the Deacons' Court, or other organisation, with the Presbytery of the bounds;
 - (b) Presbytery shall determine whether the sum shall be held locally or not;
 - (c) in any event, the trustees shall be kept fully informed so that they be assured that they will not be held to be in breach of trust.
3. In all other cases bequests are to be held and administered by the relevant trust corporation in consultation with the congregation or committee concerned, and a full report made by the trustees to the ensuing Synod.

ACT 5 - Act anent property of the Free Presbyterian Church of South Australia

Friday 13th May 1983, Sederunt 14

Synod hereby appoint and authorize the Rev. ROWLAND SKIPSEY WARD and/or Mr JAMES ROBERT BRUCE WEBSTER and/or the Rev. JOHN McINTOSH CROMARTY to negotiate on behalf of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia with all other parties interested in the property of the Free Presbyterian Church of South Australia. Synod further authorize the said Rev. R.S. Ward, J.R.B. Webster and J.M. Cromarty to execute an irrevocable settlement of all claims to the said property by the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia on such terms as they see fit; and Synod further authorize and direct the body corporate, The Trustees for Victoria of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, to execute any documents which may be necessary to bring to finality any settlement which may be effected.

ACT 6 - Act anent Stipend Adjustment Formula amending Act of Synod 1981

Monday 9th May, Sederunt 4

That the amount of child allowance payable under the stipend formula be increased to \$5 per dependant child per week and be payable while the child continues to attend school (i.e. to year 12). Payment to commence in the first week of June and be reviewed by Synod 1984.

ACT 7 - Act establishing "8:14 Foundation"

Monday 9th May, Sederunt 4

- i) That there be established a special fund, based on the principle of 2 Corinthians chapter 8 verse 14 and known as 'The 8:14 Foundation' and referred to in these regulations as 'the fund'.
- ii) The object of the fund is to provide a source of finance and/or credit for capital expenditure in the work of the church.

- iii) The fund shall consist of money and property of any nature, which is either a gift to the fund, or placed on deposit with the fund, or which is made available to the fund.
- iv) Deposits with the fund may be free of interest, or at an agreed rate of interest or at such rate as may from time to time be determined by the Synod; and for such periods as may be agreed upon.
- v) The fund shall be applied, both as to capital and income, in making available loans, or credit, or gifts for such capital expenditure in the enterprises of the church, including presbyteries and congregations as may from time to time be approved by the Synod.
- vi) The fund shall be administered by a Committee consisting of the Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer of the Synod, together with one representative from each presbytery. The cost of administration shall be a first charge on the fund.
- vii) The Committee shall examine and report on contributions to and disbursements from the fund, the administration and promotion of the fund, interest rates to be charged on loans and paid on deposits, reserves to be maintained, and on such other matters as may affect the fund.
- viii) All loans and credit from the fund shall be subject to such arrangements for repayment as are approved by Synod.
- ix) Applications for loans or assistance from the fund shall be submitted to the Clerk of Synod in accordance with ordinary administrative procedures and be accompanied by all such information as may be necessary for the Synod to make a determination.
- x) When not immediately required for the purposes of the fund, the assets of the fund may be invested in suitable authorised trustee investments.

ACT 8 - Act anent "8:14 Foundation" Administration Committee

Friday 13th May 1983, Sederunt 14

1. That N.A. McPherson be appointed Convener of the Committee.
2. That deposits made with the Fund be accepted upon the following basis:
 - a) Interest free and available on 30 days notice.
 - b) At an agreed rate of interest up to 8% p.a. and repayable on 30 days notice - or for any other agreed period up to 3 years.
3. That interest be paid on all loans from the Fund for the first year and shall be at cost plus 1%.
4. That when sufficient monies are available in the Fund approval is given for loans to Brisbane, Penrith or Armidale with repayments to be made at a minimum of \$50 per week.
5. That these provisions be reviewed by Synod 1984.
6. That initial Administration expenses be met from the Synod General Fund.

ACT 9 - Act amending Provident Funds Committee Regulations 1981 as amended 1982

Wednesday 11th May 1983, Sederunt 10

and Thursday 12th May 1983, Sederunt 12

1. That Synod amend the second sentence of Reg C 4 to read: The general intention is that the benefit for a married man at retirement be not less than 10% of the average annual stipend for the three years preceding retirement (and pro rata for those of other marital status) in respect of each year of service, but this is not and cannot be guaranteed.
2. That Synod amend Reg C 5 to read: Contributions are allocated to members' accounts as follows with effect from 1/07/1983:

Married Men 8% of minimum stipend

Women & Single Men 5% of minimum stipend

On change of marital status by men allocations for the future are adjusted accordingly.

3. That Synod delete Reg C 9 a b & c and replace it by the following:
 - a. Payment of Retirement Fund benefit will not be made in respect of those who have given less than 5 years active service, but 50% of the benefit (to which are added insurance premiums paid out) vests in the member at the conclusion of 5 years active service and a further 10% for each completed year of service thereafter until full vesting is reached after ten years. It is understood that a member must make arrangements to meet any undischarged financial liability to the church before any amount will be paid to him by virtue of this clause. It is also understood that insurance premiums paid out will be deducted from the amount available to the member. Amounts forfeited by reason of this clause will be applied towards contributions by the church on behalf of other members, and an equivalent amount taken from the levy on congregations and placed to the credit of the Supplementary Benefits Fund (see Reg E 3).
 - b. Active service in the ministry of the Free Church of Scotland will count as service with the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia for the purpose of the vesting of the benefit accumulated from church contributions while in the service of the Australian church.
4. That the following sentence be added to Reg D 2: Long Service Leave is a benefit granted to assist recuperation from the strains of ministerial life and to aid ministerial efficiency. Accordingly, it ought to be taken when due or within a short time thereafter, if not taken in broken periods.
5. That Synod amend Section E 2 as follows: delete all words after "targetted benefit".
6. That Synod add the following to Section E of the Regulations: 3. From amounts arising by reason of the provisions of C 9 a Supplementary Benefits Fund is established and accounted for as a distinct fund. Transfers from this account whether interest or otherwise are made on the authorization of the Provident Funds Committee in accordance with rules or decisions of Synod as made from time to time.

ACT 10 - Act anent relations with Reformed Presbyterian Church of Australia

Thursday 12th May 1983, Sederunt 12

1. That we convey our fraternal greetings to the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Australia (Clerk: 20 Fenwick Street, Geelong 3220) and send them a copy of our Synod reports and minutes.
2. That we advise the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Australia of our pleasure at learning of the approach of their Presbytery to the Southern Presbytery, and indicate that we have authorized and do now authorize the Southern Presbytery to meet with them to discuss a closer relationship or organic union, and that we would meantime welcome the opportunity to share together in areas of common concern.

ACT 11 - Act anent Church Extension dollar-a-week Scheme

Friday 13th May 1983, Sederunt 14

That whereas Synod accepted the Recommendation to a scheme involving our members and other interested persons contributing funds on a weekly basis and whereas a request in the said Recommendation requesting Synod to nominate a suitable amount was overlooked, it is recommended that the amount of \$1 per capita be nominated.

ACT 12 - Act anent church magazine & Synod minutes

Tuesday 10th May 1983, Sederunt 6

That Synod Minutes be sent to our Missionaries and that expenditure of providing and sending the Banner to them be met by the Missions Committee.

ACT 13 - Act anent adjustment of Mr S.R.Tamata's stipend

Tuesday 10th May 1983, Sederunt 6

That Committee have the authority to adjust Mr Tamata's salary when necessitated by currency fluctuations.

ACT 14 - Act anent responsibilities of the Training of Ministry Committee

Tuesday 10th May 1983, Sederunt 5

In addition to particular remits made from time to time by the Synod, the responsibilities of the Synod's Training of Ministry Committee are:

- a. To give guidance in preparatory studies to intending students having the ministry of the PCEA in view, to exercise general supervision of provisionally and fully recognized students at all stages of their studies, to conduct examinations, and to authorize payment of monies for the purposes of the Committee; all in accordance with Synod regulations as in force from time to time.
- b. To receive and consider all applications from ministers of other churches for ministerial status in the PCEA, referred from Presbyteries to which such applications have been made and to obtain whatever further information is required and to make appropriate recommendations to Synod.
- c. To prepare and implement, with the approval of Synod, a course of training in biblical subjects, theology and church history, suited for elders and other interested persons, to be conducted by correspondence and/or lectures, certificates to be issued upon successful completion of each section.
- d. To maintain such liaison with other committees and presbyteries as may contribute to the effective discharge of its responsibilities, including making appeals for finance from time to time as may be necessary.

ACT 15 - Consolidating Act anent Reception Status and Oversight of Students and Home Missionaries; repealing act of Synod 16/04/1962 and Act 4 Synod 1978 and all previous Acts thereanent, excepting so far as they may be embodied in this Act

Tuesday 10th May 1983, Sederunt 5

CONSOLIDATING ACT ANENT RECEPTION STATUS AND OVERSIGHT OF STUDENTS AND HOME MISSIONARIES: repealing Act of Synod 16/04/1962 and Act 4 Synod 1978 and all previous Acts thereanent, excepting so far as they may be embodied in this Act.

1. Home missionaries

The church does not encourage the exercise of the pastoral office by those not set apart to it, but does permit the needful provision in special circumstances of home missionaries, whose duties are those performed by an ordained pastor except for the dispensing of the sacraments and presiding over church courts. Permission to celebrate marriage may be granted by resolution of Synod, subject to civil requirements.

The moral and spiritual requirements required in a home missionary are those expected in a minister, and such a person should be an elder in good standing or a recognized student for the ministry. The end in view for those recognized as home missionaries is ordination to the ministry, the requirements of Synod as regards studies, licensing and ordination trials being always observed.

2. Role of Presbytery re students/home missionaries

To the presbytery belongs the right and duty of judging of the fitness or otherwise of men within its jurisdiction who apply to be accepted as students for the ministry or home missionaries, examining them as to their qualifications at any stage of their progress, and of determining in due time, after examination, whether they may be licensed to preach the gospel or not. As the presbytery is exercising its discretion, not dealing with a point of law, there is no regular provision for an applicant to appeal against the presbytery's decision, but the right to petition Synod remains.

3. How reception regulated

In view of the present smallness of presbyteries, and because the general interest of the church at large is so vitally bound up with the exercise of its functions in this area, reception of students and home missionaries is so regulated by Synod that Synod must confirm the acceptance by a presbytery before the presbytery's acceptance is effective.

4. Free Church of Scotland students

By virtue of the Federal Relations Act, Synod 1954, recognized students for the ministry of the Free Church of Scotland are recognized by the PCEA, subject to satisfactory evidence of their status being produced to the presbytery of the PCEA within whose bounds they reside or intend to reside, their membership being with a congregation in the bounds, and their coming under the oversight of the presbytery and the Synod's Training of Ministry Committee as if a local student.

5. Preliminaries to an application

Those contemplating the ministry of the word should discuss the subject with their own pastor and seek guidance in preparatory studies from the Synod's Training of Ministry Committee, from whom application forms may be obtained.

Specifically, the PCEA is looking for a man with the scriptural qualifications of mature Christian character - thus "not a novice" but "apt to teach", married to a believing wife and "ruling his household well", and "of good report among outsiders". University training or its equivalent is required of ministers, and at least two years' membership in the PCEA is considered desirable at time of recognition. While not an inflexible rule, it is considered that the level of maturity required is such that a candidate will be at least 21 years of age at the beginning of his course.

6. Application/examination/supervision

a. In considering the acceptance of students for the ministry, the presbytery shall bear in mind the seriousness of the decision it is called upon to make and its bearing on the welfare of the whole church, and shall exercise every care in the matter of the application. The presbytery must not assume that the applicant is called by God, but must discern the outward evidences of God's call in the character, gifts and graces of the applicant;

b. The applicant shall appear in person before the presbytery;

c. From the information in and with the application form and by personal examination, the presbytery shall satisfy itself as to the following points:

- i) the maturity of the applicant's Christian character and conviction, and his sense of God's call,
- ii) the applicant's knowledge of the Reformed Faith and familiarity with the principles of the PCEA,
- iii) the stability of his background, the nature of his domestic life, his satisfactory length of membership in and service to the PCEA,
- iv) his experience and ability in public speaking and/or lay preaching, and his aptness to teach,
- v) his reputation among outsiders, former employers, etc., and his capacity of making and maintaining satisfactory personal relationships,
- vi) his emotional and general health,
- vii) his plans for financing himself during the course of study.

d. After examination of the candidate, the presbytery deliberates in private and resolves either to receive the application or decline it. The presbytery communicates its decision to the Synod's Training of Ministry Committee with any additional relevant information. If the presbytery decline the application, the matter goes no further unless complained against in due form. If it receives the application, the Training of Ministry Committee arranges whatever interviews it considers appropriate, and it then reports its finding to the presbytery.

e. On receiving the recommendation of the Synod's Training of Ministry Committee, the presbytery shall follow it unless it sees good cause to decide otherwise, in which case the application is held in abeyance pending reference by presbytery to the Synod (see 6.6).

f. If the Training of Ministry Committee is favourable to the request of the applicant, the presbytery admits him to provisional recognition, the period of probation being for a minimum of one year. Thereupon, the presbytery must exercise regular oversight of the student and meet with him in private at least once in the ensuing year. At the end of the year of provisional recognition, the presbytery may extend the period of provisional recognition by a maximum of one further year, or it may admit him to full recognition, provided that the presbytery is satisfied with him, and the Training of Ministry Committee report that his studies are satisfactory. The presbytery continues oversight in the manner already described until the course of study is completed and the Training of Ministry Committee

certified accordingly. When this occurs, he may be taken on trials for licence to preach the gospel and, if he passes satisfactorily, is licensed and is then eligible for a call. Throughout his course, the presbytery are to provide that counsel and encouragement appropriate to the case. If serious personal or spiritual problems arise, the presbytery seek the advice of the Training of Ministry Committee, and this done, may withdraw recognition, advising other presbyteries accordingly. The Training of Ministry Committee constantly monitors study progress, and arranges, where desirable, for the person's expenses in attending annual Synod meetings as an observer, to be met from Committee funds. If at any stage, the Training of Ministry Committee judges that the person's studies are not satisfactory it consults the presbytery and, this done, may withdraw recognition or impose special conditions.

g. Although having responsibility to the presbytery and the Training of Ministry Committee, until a student is licensed he remains under the direct supervision of the session of the congregation to which he belongs, and the session must certify each year to the presbytery and to the Training of Ministry Committee its continued satisfaction with his character and conduct.

ACT 16 - Act anent Student Training and Allowances; repealing the Act of Synod of the same name 1975 as amended and all previous Acts thereanent, excepting so far as they may be embodied in this Act

Wednesday 11th May 1983, Sederunt 8 & 9

ACT ANENT STUDENT TRAINING AND ALLOWANCES; repealing the Act of Synod of the same name 1975 as amended and all previous Acts thereanent, excepting so far as they may be embodied in this Act.

Training

1. Those contemplating the ministry are to be urged to give early indication of possible intention and sessions and presbyteries are to give counsel and oversight to all such whether they have received formal recognition as students or not.

2. Formal recognition as a student is not given unless the applicant holds the Higher School Certificate, or its equivalent, securing matriculation into a recognized Educational Institution, and the first year of recognition is always provisional.

3. The normal course requires

(1) the successful completion of a 3 year degree course at a recognized University or like institution, and

(2) the successful completion of a 3 year theological course at the Free Church of Scotland College, Edinburgh, or an alternative Synod approved College where a comparable standard is maintained. Tertiary and Theological studies need not be taken in the order stated, subject to Synod's Training of Ministry Committee approval and any requirements of the Theological College. Students who acquit themselves well in the normal course may, subject to approval of Synod, proceed to Postgraduate study.

4. The modified course involves

(1) the successful completion of 2 years of a 3 year degree course at a recognized University or like institution, and

(2) the successful completion of a 3 year theological course as for the normal course, but with the opportunity to seek Synod approval for exemption from the Hebrew language. This course is intended for men over 35 years whose practical experience in industry and commerce and in the life of the church suggests modification of the normal course.

5. The course may be further modified, at the discretion of the Synod, in the case of elders over the age of 35 years whose family or other circumstances are such as render attendance on the normal course impractical and where it is considered that their background and gifts are such that they can meet licensing requirements (with exemption in Hebrew if requested and granted by Synod) while they labour as home missionaries for a period of from two to four years. Very careful examination and report is made to the Synod in respect of such a proposed course since it is not granted automatically but only in special cases where Synod, through its Training of Ministry Committee, is fully satisfied with all aspects.

6. Recognized students must have the written approval of the Training of Ministry Committee before embarking on any course of study, or before taking on additional studies to the ones the Committee has specified.

Allowances

7. Financial support in the provisional year and in subsequent years to the divinity stage is derived by the student from government allowances and vacation employment, with the Synod meeting fees for approved courses (not otherwise reimbursed) and a grant of books to the value of one week of minimum stipend for ministers as set from time to time. If a further living allowance is necessary at the predivinity stage it will be at the discretion of the Synod and on a needs basis, hence early notice by a (recognized or intending) student to the Committee is necessary in order that Synod approval may be sought.

8. At the divinity stage the fees and annual grant of books continues, and in addition a living allowance on a needs basis together with fares to the city where study is to be undertaken (for student only, not family) and return to point of licensing if applicable. Fares paid are based on the most economical and practical mode of transport and do not include cost of transporting personal or household effects.

9. Only recognized students are eligible for allowances, and then only after entering into a bond agreeing to return the amount received from the Synod if they do not proceed to licensing or give less than 5 years service from date of license, subject to a reduction of 20% of the aforesaid amount for each completed year of active service, and subject to the proviso that if the sum owing is not repaid within one year of leaving the church's service interest at normal bank overdraft rates as set from time to time will accrue from date of cessation of service, and the whole sum due must be paid within two years of cessation of service. The bond does not apply to monies paid for pulpit supply to home missionaries or students in vacation, but only to allowances granted by Synod through the Training of Ministry Committee.

10. Any student who desires to engage in paid employment during the course of the academic year (with the exception of occasional weekend supply) must have the written approval of the Training of Ministry Committee, and the pastoral load for home missionaries is to be a matter of agreement

between the Training of Ministry Committee and the presbytery concerned, so as to ensure adequate time is given to study.

ACT 17 - Act anent Regulations for Licensing of Students; amending Act 6 of Synod 1975

Wednesday 11th May 1983, Sederunt 9

ACT ANENT REGULATIONS FOR LICENSING OF STUDENTS; amending Act 6 of Synod 1975.

- a. That the word "they" in Act 6 1975 when referring to the presbytery, be replaced by the word "it".
- b. The words beginning "satisfactory answers" and concluding "in the presence of the presbytery" in paragraph 6 of the said Act be deleted and replaced by the following:

Satisfactory answers having been obtained, he is then required to sign the Formula. Then the moderator, in the name and by the authority of the presbytery, shall license the student to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thereafter the moderator shall briefly address the newly-licensed preacher in suitable terms, and the presbytery shall engage in prayer. At the conclusion of this procedure, the moderator and other members of the presbytery shall give the right hand of fellowship to the licentiate.

- c. That paragraph 5(g) be added to the Act to read as follows:

(g) Church Principles, with attention to the Regulative Principle embodied in W.C.F. 21:1 and how it bears on Public Worship. The student should be able to demonstrate competent exegetical grounds for exclusive psalmody.

ACT 18 - Act anent Admission of Ministers from Other Churches

Wednesday 11th May 1983, Sederunt 9

Application for admission being made by a minister of any other denomination not embraced by an Act of Synod creating mutual eligibility, the presbytery concerned arranges to confer with him in reference to, inter alia,

- a) his character and status
- b) the reasons which have led him to the application,
- c) the course of professional education he has pursued,
- d) the body by which he was ordained, and the manner of ordination.

The presbytery has no power to admit him, but transmits its report to the Synod's Training of Ministry Committee, together with any remarks or recommendations it may see fit to add. The Training of Ministry Committee make such further enquiries as seem appropriate and the case is reported to the next meeting of Synod for its decision.

Authority to admit him having been granted by Synod, the presbytery requires the applicant to answer the questions prescribed in Act of Synod 1952, and to sign the Formula. After prayer and a suitable address by the moderator, he is admitted into communion and declared a Minister (or probationer) of the church eligible for call.

ACT 19 - Act correcting Federal Relations Act 1954

Thursday 12th May 1983, Sederunt 13

Synod notes that as a result of a drafting error the 12th word in clause (a) of the Federal Relations Act 1954 reads "ministers" rather than "members." Accordingly Synod remits the proposal to correct this error to Presbyteries in terms of Barrier Act procedure, and meantime passes the same into an interim Act.