

state his cause of grievance to the Deacons. It shall then be the duty of the Deacons to give the case a careful and impartial hearing, and endeavor, if possible, to remove the cause of complaint without bringing the matter before the Church. If this be impossible, the Deacons shall report the matter to the Church, stating the action which, in their opinion, should be adopted, and their reasons for such opinion. The Church may then act upon the report by giving summary judgment or appointing a special committee of investigation.

NOTE.—In reference to public offences, the Church shall take action according to Article 8, Section 1.

Section No. 5—Duty of Supporting the Administration of the Gospel.

We believe that those whom God has called to “labor in word and doctrine” should devote their time and gifts to this one work, but inasmuch as there has been, and is apt to be, unfaithfulness in contributing to their support by the members of many churches, much to the inconvenience of the pastors, and much to the disgrace of the cause of Christ before the world, and as equality in bearing the burdens of the Church is plainly enjoined on all Christians, in the New Testament, covetousness being by the Holy Spirit pronounced idolatry; therefore it is now distinctly declared to be the bounden duty of every member to give of his substance, for the support of the preaching of the Gospel, in proportion as God has blessed him with ability.

Section No. 6—Alteration or Amendment of Rules of Order.

ART. 1. The foregoing Rules and Regulations may be