

CONSTITUTION,
BY-LAWS,
RULES AND
INCORPORATION

of

**The Michigan State
Spiritualists' Association**

Incorporated at Mason, Aug. 26, 1893

Reincorporated at Lansing, March 30, 1912

Amended May 11, 1912

Michigan State Spiritualists' Association

141 S. Cedar St., Lansing, Mich.

1923

**Bentley Historical
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University of Michigan**

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

Section 1.—We believe in Infinite Intelligence.

Section 2.—We believe that the phenomena of Nature, physical and spiritual, are the expression of Infinite Intelligence.

Section 3.—We affirm that a correct understanding of such expression, and living in accordance therewith, constitute the true religion.

Section 4.—We affirm that the existence and personal identity of the individual continues after the change called death.

Section 5.—We affirm that communication with the so-called dead is a fact scientifically proven by the phenomena of Spiritualism.

Section 6.—We believe that the highest morality is contained in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others should do unto you, do ye also unto them."

Section 7.—We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual, and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys Nature's psychic laws.

Section 8.—We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul here or hereafter.

PREAMBLE

We, the chosen representatives from the Spiritualists' Societies, Churches and Associations of the State of Michigan in Convention assembled in order to form a more perfect and more powerful working organization, establish intelligent co-operation, insure harmonious action and financial success, provide for the ordination and compensations of Pastors, the appointment and maintenance of Associate Pastors, Licentiates, Missionaries and Spiritual Healers, the education and protection of Mediums and Speakers, and to promote generally the religion of Spiritualism and secure the blessings of liberty and protection under the law to ourselves and our posterity as a people, hereby establish this Constitution for the guidance and control of the State Spiritualists' Association of Michigan, subject to the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the National Spiritualists' Association of the United States of America, a religious corporation incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, in all things wherein the same may not be in violation of any of the laws of the United States or of the State of Michigan.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I.

Name—Seal.

Section 1.—The name of this Association shall be the Michigan State Spiritualists' Association, by which name it is incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan.

Section 2.—The initials and words M. S. S. A. shall stand as an abbreviation of the name of this Association.

Section 3.—The seal of this Association shall be circular in form, one and nine-sixteenths inches in diameter, with the words Michigan State Spiritualists' Association, organized August 26, 1893, reincorporated March 30, 1912.

ARTICLE II.

Objects and Powers.

Section 1.—The objects and powers of this Association shall be the organization of the various Spiritualist churches, societies and individual Spiritualists of the State of Michigan into one general association for promoting mutual aid and co-operation in the benevolent, charitable, educational, literary, musical, scientific, religious and missionary purposes and enterprises germane to the phenomena, science, philosophy and religion of Spiritualism.

Section 2.—As an aid to the attainment of the objects of this Association, the By-Laws shall prescribe the qualifications of Pastors, the method by which candidates shall be examined touching their qualifications to become Pastors, the ceremony by which they shall be ordained to the ministry of Spiritualism and the method of revoking ordinations and deposing Pastors for cause. They shall also prescribe the qualifications of Licentiates and Associate Pastors and the method by which they shall be commissioned and the method of deposing them for cause.

Section 3.—The By-Laws shall also provide for the appointment of Missionaries and Spiritual Healers and the issuing of certificates or commissions to them.

Section 4.—This Association shall also have power to grant charters to churches or societies organized for any or all of the objects of this Association, and to acquire by purchase, gift, bequest or otherwise and to hold, control and cause to be conveyed such property, real and personal, as may be necessary or useful to carry out any or all of the objects of this Association.

ARTICLE III.

Officers.

Section 1.—The officers of this Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and five trustees, who shall constitute a Board of Trustees.

Section 2.—The officers shall be elected by ballot at a regular Annual Convention of this Association by the delegates assembled, and shall hold their offices for such length of terms as specified in Sec. 3 of this article.

Section 3.—The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually and shall hold office for one year.

At the 1923 Convention one Trustee shall be elected for five (5) years; one for four (4) years and one for three (3) years. After the 1923 Convention there shall be one Trustee elected annually for a term of five (5) years. All officers to serve until their successors are duly elected and qualify.

Section 4.—No person shall be eligible for any office of this Association until he or she shall have been a member of this Association, or of an Auxiliary in good standing for at least one year immediately preceding his election.

ARTICLE IV.

Duties of Officers.

Section 1.—President—It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings, both of the Association and Board of Trustees, to countersign all Charters issued to the chartered societies, and all papers bearing the seal of the Association.

Section 2.—The President shall have general supervision of the officers of the Association and the transaction of its business, and shall make a yearly report of the progress of the affairs of the Association at its annual Convention.

Section 3.—A Superintendent of Lyceums shall be appointed by the President, who shall perform such duties as may be assigned to him by the Board of Trustees.

Section 4.—Vice-President—It shall be the duty of the Vice-President to perform the duties of the President in the absence of that officer.

Section 5.—Secretary—The Secretary shall be the Secretary at all Conventions of the Association and at all meetings of the Board of Trustees. He shall, under the directions of the President or the Board of Trustees, prepare and keep all records and accounts of the Association, attend to its correspondence, keep a faithful official record of all

meetings, be the custodian of the seal, keep a faithful account of all money received and turn the same over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor. He shall, under the direction of a majority of the Board, sign all charters and papers bearing the seal. He shall endorse all orders for payment of proper bills against the Association after their approval by the Board. He shall affix the seal to all charters, certificates, commissions, powers of attorney, receipts and such other papers as may require the same for authentication.

Section 6.—The Secretary shall make a yearly report at the Annual Convention; such report to contain a full statement of the membership of all Chartered Auxiliaries, and such other matter as the Board shall deem necessary. He shall give a bond for the faithful performance of the duties of his office. He shall also perform such other duties as the President or Board of Trustees may direct, when not in conflict with the Constitution or By-Laws.

Section 7.—Treasurer—The Treasurer shall receive all money from the Secretary and properly account for the same. He shall pay bills against the Association only upon order duly signed by the Secretary and countersigned by the President. He shall deposit all surplus funds in such bank or banks as the Board may designate, in the name of the M. S. S. A. He shall give a bond for the faithful performance of the duties of his office, for the safekeeping of all funds of the Association and the proper disbursement of the same.

Section 8.—The Treasurer shall furnish a statement of his accounts whenever called upon by the President or the Board of Trustees so to do. He shall keep such books of account as they may direct, and at the close of the fiscal year, shall make a full report to the Association at its Annual Convention of all funds received, disbursed and remaining on hand, the statement of disbursements to be accompanied by vouchers, said account to be duly approved by the proper Auditing Committee.

Board of Trustees.

Section 9.—The Board of Trustees shall fill all vacancies which may occur on said Board; vote upon the appointment of Missionaries, Representatives, Spiritual Healers, Attorneys and Agents; perform all the duties required of them under Art. XI. of the N. S. A. By-Laws, subject, "Laws and Services of Ordination"; approve and direct the issue of charters; cancel or modify the same for cause;

solicit gifts, accept bequests, devises and donations, and have the general management and control of the business, affairs, property and funds of the Association.

Quorum of Board.

Section 10.—Unless otherwise specifically provided by the Constitution or By-Laws, a majority of the Board of Trustees shall be sufficient to make a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority of a quorum shall be sufficient to carry any measure.

Meaning of "Majority of the Board."

Section 11.—A majority of the Board shall mean a majority of the entire number of Trustees provided for by the Constitution.

Substituted Trustees.

Section 12.—Any person appointed by the Board of Trustees to fill a vacancy on said Board shall hold office until the next Annual Convention, or until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

Bonds.

Section 12.—The amount, conditions and securities of the Secretary's and Treasurer's bond shall be determined and approved by the Board of Trustees, as well as all other bonds which may hereafter be provided for by the laws of this Association.

ARTICLE V.

Membership.

Section 1.—The membership or primary units of this Association shall consist of all Spiritualists' Societies and Churches chartered by it and they shall send delegates to the Annual Convention upon the following basis: One delegate for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof.

Section 2.—Any Spiritualist of good character and intent, who is living in a town or locality within the jurisdiction of the M. S. S. A. where there is no regularly organized and chartered church or society, may become members of this Association upon the payment of one (1) dollar, providing the applicant is endorsed by the Board or a Committee of the Board; said members shall not be privileged to vote in Conventions.

Section 3.—The Secretary of each chartered society shall prepare and transmit to the Secretary of the Association an annual report, in writing, of the number of members enrolled, and giving such other information regarding their

respective societies as may be required by the Board of Trustees of this Association.

Section 4.—No local society shall have exclusive jurisdiction in any city, town or district, but additional charters shall not be granted by the State Board until thorough investigation shows that the cause would be benefited thereby.

ARTICLE VI.

Fees, Dues, Per Capita Tax, Funds, Auxiliaries.

Section 1.—Auxiliaries shall pay five dollars (\$5.00) for charters when application is made; also N. S. A. dues of three dollars (\$3.00) annually, and a tax of twenty-five cents (25c) per capita, annually, for each member. The time for paying said dues and tax shall be stated in the By-Laws.

Section 2.—Individual members shall pay annual dues of one dollar (\$1.00) at the time specified in the By-Laws.

Fees for Certificates and Commission.

Section 3.—Such fees shall be paid for certificates and commissions, by the recipients thereof, as may be fixed by the Board of Trustees, or provided in the By-Laws.

Section 4.—All money received from the aforementioned sources shall be payable to the State Secretary and shall be used to meet the general expenses of this Association, and shall not be appropriated to any of the Special Funds by less than a two-thirds vote of the Board of Trustees. All donations, contributions, bequests and devises shall be held and used only for the purposes of the fund to which they are given, and when no fund is designated they shall go into the General Fund.

Funds for Other Purposes.

Section 5.—Other funds or revenues may be raised by such other fees, dues and collections as may hereafter be provided for in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII.

Protection of Mediums.

Section 1.—We recognize Mediumship as the foundation of Spiritualism, as giving the proofs of the continuity of life after so-called death, as furnishing advice and spiritual instruction for our guidance, moral development and physical well-being; and that, to insure the best results, our Mediums need protection and encouragement, and, in cases of indigence, financial aid; therefore, special funds should be set aside for such purpose, under the supervision of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VIII.

Annual Convention.

Section 1.—The Annual Convention of this Association shall be held on the first Friday after the first Monday in May each year, at such place as may be determined at the previous Annual Convention. The convention shall be in session three days, Friday, Saturday (of which two sessions shall be devoted wholly to business in each day) and Sunday. The President of the Association shall preside and the Secretary of the Association shall be the Secretary of the Convention. The authorized voters shall be the duly elected delegates from the various chartered societies. At this convention the regular election of officers and Board of Trustees for the ensuing year shall be held, and all necessary business transacted.

Section 2.—The officers and Trustees of this Association shall have all the rights of duly elected delegates in the Convention of this Association by virtue of their office alone.

ARTICLE IX.

Amendments.

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any Annual Convention of this Association; provided that a notice thereof in writing shall have been filed with the State Secretary at least sixty days prior to the time of holding such convention, by any Auxiliary body desiring such change, by a committee appointed to revise this Constitution, or by the Board of Trustees; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to send such notice to all chartered societies immediately upon receipt of the same. All amendments shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote. All amendments that are not acted upon by the Convention may be laid on the table, to be called up at the next Annual Convention as unfinished business.

BY-LAWS

—as—

Revised, Amended and Adopted
1923.

ARTICLE I.

Section 1.—Roberts' Rules of Order shall be authority and govern this Association in all matters not provided for by the Constitution and By-Laws of the M. S. S. A. or by the Rules of the Board of Trustees or by the Constitution and By-Laws of the N. S. A.

Section 2.—The standing committees of the Convention shall be appointed by the President as occasion requires and shall be as follows:

- On Credentials;
- On Rules;
- On Resolutions;
- On President's Report;
- On Secretary's Report;
- On Treasurer's Report;
- On Amendments;
- On Delegates' Reports;
- On Finance, Ways and Means.

These committees shall consist of not less than three (3) nor more than five (5) persons, except the Finance Committee, which shall number seven (7) persons. The terms of office of all the foregoing committees and appointees of the President or Board of Trustees shall expire with the expiration of the term of office of the President or Board of Trustees so appointing said committees or appointees.

Section 3.—The President shall appoint the following officers for each convention:

- A Sergeant-at-Arms;
- A Stenographer;
- An Assistant Secretary;
- A Reading Clerk;
- A Musical Director;
- A Doorkeeper;

and any other special officer as occasion requires.

Official Badge

Section 4.—Each delegate to the Annual Convention shall wear an official badge, to be provided by the Board of Trustees at a reasonable cost, if any, and no badge shall be issued to any delegate representing a society which has not fulfilled the requirements of the Constitution and

By-Laws with reference to reports and dues, but when a delegate has been seated it shall be prima facie evidence or that delegate's right to a badge.

Right to the Floor

Section 5.—No delegate shall speak on any question before the Convention for more than ten (10) minutes, except by two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote, and no delegate not wearing a badge shall be given the floor at any time except by two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Reports and Correspondence

Section 6.—All delegates and local Auxiliaries' reports shall be rendered in writing and referred, without reading, to appropriate committees.

Section 7.—All reports of the officers and committees shall be rendered in writing and read before the Convention; provided said reading may be dispensed with by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Section 8.—The reports of the Annual Convention of the Association shall be compiled, edited, arranged and published under the supervision and control of the Board of Trustees.

Section 9.—The Special Financial Agents of the Association who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees, shall render written report of their work at each Annual Convention, and their term of office shall expire at the end of the fiscal year in which their appointment was made; the scope of employment and powers of such appointees shall be clearly set forth in the commissions granted and a copy thereof filed with the records of the Association.

Time to Elect Officers

Section 10.—At 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon of the second day of the Annual Convention the delegates shall proceed to elect officers and trustees by written ballot; and nominating speeches shall be limited to five minutes. The terms of all outgoing officers shall expire at the close of the last business session of the Annual Convention.

ARTICLE II.

Officers.

Section 1.—The President shall appoint such State Agents, Missionaries and other Special Representatives as hereinafter provided for. All such appointments shall be submitted to, and approved by the Board of Trustees, and shall expire with the term of office of the President appointing.

Section 2.—The Secretary shall be custodian of the head-

quarters and principal office of the Association; shall secure all necessary supplies for the same, and render an account thereof from time to time as required.

Section 3.—The Secretary shall, whenever called upon to do so by the Board of Trustees or any committee thereof, or by the officers of any chartered society in good standing, submit any or all accounts, records or other books, memoranda or documents in his possession and belonging to the Association, for their inspection at the headquarters of the Association.

ARTICLE III.

Board of Trustees.

Section 1.—The Board of Trustees shall have the power to make all rules and regulations for the conduct of the business and affairs of the Association, not provided for in the Constitution and By-Laws and not in conflict therewith. Such rules shall be reduced to writing and kept in form, easy for reference. Copies of rules affecting auxiliary bodies must be forwarded to said auxiliaries for their information.

Section 2.—If any Trustee be absent from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Board without sufficient excuse the office of such Trustee shall be declared vacant, provided that two-thirds ($2/3$) of the Board vote in favor thereof, and the names of the Trustees so voting be entered in full in the Minutes.

Section 3.—The Board of Trustees, by a majority vote, may reject any appointment by the President, of any State Agent, Missionary or Special Representative, or may, by majority vote, appoint any State Agent, Missionary or Special Representative which the President neglects or refuses to appoint.

Section 4.—Said Board shall maintain suitable headquarters and have its principal office in the City of Lansing, at which place the supplies, books, records and other documents not needed in current business of the Association shall be kept.

Section 5.—The Board of Trustees or a committee thereof, shall prepare a general program for each convention or public service in advance of the assembling of the same. All programs prepared by committees or individual members of the Board of Trustees must be presented to and approved by a majority of the Board of Trustees before becoming valid and effective. Convention programs, subject to change shall be sent to all auxiliaries in time for circulation at the last Sunday meeting prior to said Con-

vention.

Section 6.—Said Board of Trustees shall set aside the first Sunday in February to be known as M. S. S. A. Day; and it shall be the duty of all Auxiliaries of the M. S. S. A. to take up a special collection or donate forty per cent (40%) of their regular collection. All money so collected shall be turned over to the General Fund of the M. S. S. A.

Section 7.—The Board of Trustees shall cause to be held at least four (4) Mass Meetings during the year; and may hold not to exceed three (3) such Mass Meetings during the fiscal year in any one city or community, except by a special request of a majority of the active chartered societies in such city or community. In acting upon a request for such extra Mass Meetings, as per above limitations, the Board of Trustees shall consider the best interests of the organization at large, as well as the welfare of the local societies signing the request.

Section 8.—The said Board contributing twenty-five per cent (25%) of any money remaining after all expenses are paid to the entertaining society, turning the remainder over to the General Fund. If there be any deficit the M. S. S. A. shall bear seventy-five per cent (75%) and the entertaining society twenty-five per cent (25%). The entertaining society to furnish meeting place.

Section 9.—It shall be the duty of all auxiliaries of the M. S. S. A. located in the city or community in which a Mass Meeting is being held, to co-operate with the M. S. S. A. by closing their regular services for that date, and render whatever other assistance they may be able to contribute to make these Mass Meetings successful, and it shall be the duty of the Board of Trustees of the M. S. S. A. to notify each auxiliary in said community where said Mass Meetings are to be held at least sixty (60) days prior to said Mass Meeting, to enable said auxiliary or auxiliaries to arrange their church program to conform to the Mass Meeting dates.

ARTICLE IV.

Manager of Medium Home.

Section 1.—A Manager shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, who shall have general supervision over the Mediums' Home at Lansing. He, the Manager, shall carry out such instructions relative to the Mediums' Home as he may receive from time to time from the Board of Trustees.

Section 2.—He shall take an inventory of all furniture,

furnishings, etc., and all belongings at the Mediums' Home which may be the property of the M. S. S. A. or any of its auxiliary bodies, and submit the same to the Board of Trustees at their first regular meeting after the convention, and their last meeting prior to the Annual Convention.

Section 3.—The Manager shall make a faithful report of the conditions existing in the Mediums' Home, as well as the general report of the condition of the property, with such suggestions and recommendations as he may determine. He shall also submit a general report of the condition of the Home at the Annual Convention.

Section 4.—Failure upon the part of the Manager to comply with the rules laid down in the different sections of this Article shall be deemed good and sufficient reason for the Board of Trustees, or majority thereof, to declare the office vacant.

Section 5.—The President may appoint three members of the Board of Trustees to meet and confer with the Manager of the Home whenever special supervision or instructions relative to the conduct of affairs of the Home is necessary and which the authority of the Manager does not cover. General and specific rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Trustees must be observed by this Committee at all times in dealing with problems of the Home.

ARTICLE V.

Auxiliary Charters.

Section 1.—Any seven or more persons, avowed Spiritualists, not already members of any society under the jurisdiction of the M. S. S. A., may apply for charter by paying the proper fee and filing the application therefor, setting forth the following particulars: The full name and residence of the applicants; the purpose or purposes of their Association; the name by which it is to be known and chartered, and its domicile.

Section 2.—The Board of Trustees shall at their earliest convenience, pass upon said application, and if said application is approved by the majority of the entire Board, a Charter shall be issued accordingly, or if such application is not approved, the money, at the time such application is rejected, shall be refunded to the persons making the application.

Section 3.—Said Charter shall set forth all the particulars enumerated in Section 1, and shall entitle the applicants, their associates and successors to membership as a body

in the State Association of Michigan, and to all the rights and privileges accorded the same, and by its Constitution and By-laws, and shall also obligate them as said body to perform all the conditions of said Constitution and By-Laws, and observe all proper rules of said Association.

Section 4—All Charters shall at all times be in the custody of the Secretary of the body to which it is granted, and such Secretary shall forthwith deliver such Charter to his successor in office.

Section 5—All Charters shall be subject to revocation or cancellation for cause, and when so revoked or cancelled, such Charter shall forthwith be returned to the Secretary of Board of the body granting the same. No charter may be cancelled, suspended, nullified or revoked, except by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the full membership of the Board of Trustees.

Section 6—The Board of Trustees shall have power to issue at its discretion, certificates of contributing membership to such persons as shall contribute to the General Fund of this Association.

Section 7—Said certificates shall expire one year from date of issuing same, and shall not confer any special rights upon the holders thereof, nor be considered an endorsement of the holder upon the part of the Association or its officers, except as covered by Section Two of Article Two of the Constitution.

Section 8—The Board of Trustees shall have power to suspend or cancel the Charter of any society subordinate to the M. S. S. A., when, in its judgment, it is for the welfare and general good of organized Spiritualists.

Section 9—The Annual Dues of a chartered church or society shall be due and payable to the Secretary ten days prior to the first day of the Annual Convention.

Section 10—In the event of failure to pay such dues, such defaulting society shall not be entitled to representation in the Convention on behalf of its membership. If, however, within a period of three years, said church or society shall make a showing to the Board of Trustees of this organization, which will satisfy said Board that it is to the best interests of Spiritualism to waive the payment of such delinquency, either in part or the whole thereof, the said Board shall have the power to do so.

Section 11—The Secretary shall notify each society by proper letter, of its obligations to take the annual collection, and also the payment of its annual dues, and making

of annual reports at least thirty days before each becomes due.

Sub-Auxiliaries

Section 12—Any seven or more persons of good character and intent, who are members in good standing, may apply for affiliation as a Sub-Auxiliary to the local society or church, by filing with said local society or church an application, setting forth the following particulars: The full names and addresses of the applicants, the purposes of the organization, name by which it is known, its domicile, a pledge to support the society of which it is a subordinate. Said application to be signed by the president or presiding officer, and secretary. After final action on the application has been taken by the local society a certified copy of the application, together with the action of the local society, attested by the president and secretary, shall be filed immediately with the Secretary of the M. S. S. A.

Disposition of Property and Records of Defunct and Disorganized Auxiliaries

Section 13—The M. S. S. A. shall have general supervision over its auxiliaries. In case any of its Auxiliaries become defunct or inactive, or in case of disagreement, the M. S. S. A. may act as arbitrator between the contestants, and in case no agreement can be reached, the M. S. S. A. may hold in trust all property and all moneys of such auxiliaries for two years; and if there is no reorganization of the auxiliary in such locality at the expiration of two years, such property and moneys shall then become the property of the M. S. S. A.; but in case of reorganization within the period of two years, upon the petition of the Board of said Auxiliary the M. S. S. A. shall within sixty days thereafter, turn over all property and money held in trust for said Auxiliary.

Section 14—When any Auxiliary, chartered by the M. S. S. A., shall persist in conducting its affairs in such a manner as to cause inharmony in its organization or commit any act unbecoming a religious body the State Board of Trusts shall have the power to censure, discipline or reorganize such society as they may see fit.

ARTICLE VI.

Membership

Section 1—The Annual dues of individual members of this Association shall be one dollar per annum, payable in advance, and their names shall be dropped from the

membership roll when over one years in arrears for dues.

Section 2—Transfer Cards shall be issued for the use of Auxiliary Bodies to read as follows:

To the Officers and Members of any Auxiliary Body of the M. S. S. A.

Greetings: We, the officers and members of the.....
.....Church, Charter No.....located at
....., Michigan, to hereby certify that the
bearer....., is a
member in good standing of this church and we most
heartily recommend that His—Her—Application for mem-
bership in any other auxiliary body under the jurisdiction
of the M. S. S. A. be accepted.

.....President.

.....Secretary.

Section 3—Membership Cards shall be issued to read as follows:

Application for Membership to the.....
Church. I hereby make application for membership in
your society and I affirm of my own free will my belief
in and acceptance of Principles of your society as adopted
by the N. S. A. and as expressed on the back of this
application.

.....Applicant.Address

Recommended by Member.....

Recommended by Member.....

Declaration of Principles to be printed on the reverse
side of Membership Card as follows:

1—We believe in Infinite Intelligence.

2—We believe that the phenomena of Nature, physical
and spiritual, are the expressions of Infinite Intelligence.

3—We affirm that a correct understanding of such
expression and living in accordance therewith, constitutes
the true religion.

4—We affirm that the existence and personal identity of
the individual continues after the change called death.

5—We affirm that communication with the so-called
dead is a fact scientifically proven by the phenomena of
Spiritualism.

6. We believe that the highest morality is contained
in the Golden Rule: "Whatsoever ye would that others
should do unto you, do ye also unto them."

7—We affirm the moral responsibility of the individual,

and that he makes his own happiness or unhappiness as he obeys or disobeys Nature's psychic laws.

8—We affirm that the doorway to reformation is never closed against any human soul, here or hereafter.

ARTICLE VII.

Special Funds

Section 1—The Board of Trustees may establish and set aside special funds for the following purposes:

(a) A fund to be known as a Mediums' Home Fund, for the purpose of aiding worthy indigent mediums; for the purpose of establishing and supporting Mediums' Homes and like institutions.

(b) A fund to be known as a Missionary Fund, for the purpose of aiding worthy and needy societies to procure lecturers, or to maintain meetings.

(c) A fund to be known as the Literary Fund for the purpose of accumulating and maintaining libraries, the publication of literature and the distribution of same.

(d) A fund to be known as the Temple Fund, for the purpose of constructing or procuring halls, temples, or places of meeting for societies, or aiding in the same.

(e) A fund to be known as the Sanitarium and Hospital Fund, for the purpose of providing and maintaining sanitariums and hospitals and other like institutions of healing, the management of which shall include the practice and application of the various methods of treatment incidental and peculiar to Spiritualism.

(f) A fund to be known as the Educational Fund, for the purpose of providing schools, colleges, and like institutions of learning and development for the education and equipment of mediums, healers, lecturers and others, which education and equipment shall be in harmony with the phenomena, philosophy, science and religion of Spiritualism.

(g) A fund to be known as the Lyceum Fund, to be used for Lyceum work throughout the State.

ARTICLE VIII.

Delegates

Section 1—The delegates to the Annual Conventions of this Association shall be elected by their respective societies, and a list thereof forwarded to the Secretary at least ten days prior to the assembling of said Convention.

Section 2—The Secretary shall, at least sixty days and not more than ninety days prior to the time of the Annual Convention of this Association, transmit to the Secretary

of each chartered society, blank credentials in duplicate and blank reports, together with a copy of this Article of the By-laws.

Section 3—Voting members of this Convention shall consist of the delegates and alternates duly elected or appointed according to the Constitution and By-laws.

Section 4—The regularly appointed Chairman of Delegations from the various societies shall be empowered to fill vacancies from the list of alternates, and in no case shall proxies be seated.

Section 5—No person shall be seated as a delegate in an Annual Convention, who is affiliated with any organization which is spiritualistic or semi-spiritualistic in its nature, which seeks to rival, undermine or supplant the M. S. S. A. in its chosen field of effort.

Section 6—The Secretary of each chartered society shall make and forward to the Secretary of this Association an Annual Report, which report shall be forwarded at least thirty days prior to the Annual Convention of the same, and shall contain the following information: The number of enrolled members, list of officers and addresses of same, and such other information as especially requested by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE IX.

Agents and Missionaries

Section 1—State Agents may be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Trustees, whose duty shall be to assist in aiding and defending mediums, procuring information, and in promoting the interests of the Association in their respective locations. Said Agents shall not be granted any general power to make contracts or to transact business binding the Association.

Section 2.—All Special Agents, Representatives and Attorneys appointed under Sections 1 and 2, or other appointees, who may be appointed by the President for special purposes, their commissions or powers of attorney shall specify the purpose of their appointment, and to be approved by a majority of the Board of Trustees.

Section 3.—Commissions of Spiritual Healers shall be issued good for one year only, and the date of expiration shall be plainly written or stamped on the face thereof, and upon the expiration thereof shall be returned to the Secretary of the M. S. S. A. Such commissions shall be renewed from year to year at the discretion of the Association. All applications for the renewal of certificates shall hereafter bear the endorsement of the society of

which the applicant is a member, and no renewal shall be granted without such endorsement.

Section 4.—Mediums, Licentiates and Ordained Ministers of the M. S. S. A. are requested, if possible, when called upon to donate their services for at least one of the Mass Meetings for expenses only, called by the Board of Trustees of the M. S. S. A. under the authority given in Section 7 of Article III. of these By-Laws.

ARTICLE X.

Law and Service of Ordination.

Section 1.—Inasmuch as the new amendment to the National Spiritualist Association Constitution and By-Laws takes the matter of ordination out of the jurisdiction of the state associations, this Association shall be governed by the rules and regulations of the N. S. A. as set forth in Article XI. upon all matters pertaining to the Ministry of Spiritualism.

Section 2.—This Association shall be required to exercise due caution on the matter of recommendation for ordination, and the recommendation for the cancellation of the same for cause, to the end that no unworthy or unqualified persons, not actually engaged in the work of public lecturing or teaching the good news of Spiritualism or its philosophy shall have or retain such ordination, or use the same for speculative or illegitimate purposes.

Section 3.—All ministers ordained shall properly fill out blanks and return them to the Secretary of the M. S. S. A. at least once each year in respect to their doings under and by virtue of such ordination.

ARTICLE XI.

Grievances.

Section 1.—In the event that any society shall become two years in arrears on its dues, it shall, at the expiration of thirty (30) days from the last default, become the duty of the Secretary to cite the defaulting society before the Board of Trustees to show cause why its charter shall not be revoked.

Section 2.—Such notice shall set forth the fact of such default and set a suitable and convenient time and place of hearing, allowing not less than thirty (30) days from the date of notice to the time of the hearing.

Section 3.—Any person having any grievance or complaint, or any gross misconduct against any officer, chartered society, state agent, missionary or special agent, pastor, assistant pastor, licentiate or healer, may file a

Bill of Complaint with the Secretary, setting forth such grievance, together with a copy of said bill, and the payment of such fees as may be fixed by the Board of Trustees. The Board may also at its discretion require security for costs to be filed by the complainant, but in no instance shall said Board of Trustees refuse to entertain and hear a case if it is shown that the complainant is not financially able to give such security.

Section 4.—Upon such filing of complaint the Secretary shall cause said copy of complaint, together with a notice to answer, to be mailed by registered letter to, or otherwise served upon, the party complained against; and said notice shall require the filing of an answer within thirty (30) days from the date thereof.

Section 5.—Appearance shall be entered and the case shall proceed according to the rules of equity practised in the courts of the State of Michigan, and a final hearing and argument had before the Board or a Commission appointed by the Board to find the facts.

Section 6.—Upon the finding of facts the Board shall rule and enter judgment as equity and justice may require, fining, impeaching, suspending, revoking or cancelling the charter, certificate or commission, as seems to it just and equitable.

Section 7.—Said Board may also assess such a reasonable cost upon the parties as may appear to be just and equitable.

Section 8.—An appeal shall be from final judgment of the State Board of Trustees in the trial of grievances to the Annual Convention next following the rendition of final judgment.

Section 9.—All cases not governed by the foregoing sections of this Article shall be governed by the rules and regulations specified in the Article on "Penal Code" of the Constitution and By-Laws of the N. S. A.

ARTICLE XII.

Appellate Jurisdiction.

Section 1.—The Board of Trustees of the State Association shall have appellate jurisdiction in all matters arising out of or under the Constitution and By-Laws and rules of said Association. Appeals may be taken to the same from decisions of the officers of boards of all subordinate societies.

ARTICLE XIII.

N. S. A. By-Laws Governing State Associations.

Section 1.—Any By-Laws of the N. S. A. governing the State Associations or in any manner regulating the affairs of the State Associations is hereby adopted by the M. S. S. A. as part of its By-Laws.

Section 2.—The Board of Trustees shall compile and arrange in a proper manner as a part of the By-Laws of the M. S. S. A., such By-Laws of the N. S. A. as are mentioned in Section 1 of this Article.

N. S. A. BY-LAWS

Adopted by the M. S. S. A.

As Per Article XIII., Sec. 1.

Quotations from N. S. A. By-Laws:

ARTICLE IV.

PENAL CODE

Section 1. Any person holding a commission, certificate or diploma from this Association or any auxiliary thereof, or holding any office or position under, or membership in, such auxiliary or society chartered by it, may have his commission, certificate or diploma annulled, be removed from office or expelled from membership in such auxiliary or society chartered by it, on being found guilty of either:

(a) Wilfully violating the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association, or of any auxiliary thereto having jurisdiction, or society chartered by such auxiliary; or,

(b) Such conduct, professional or personal, as is likely to bring the cause of Spiritualism into public disrepute; or.

(c) Publicly advocating doctrines antagonistic to, or inconsistent with, the fundamental teachings of Spiritualism, or the principles of the Constitution of the United States.

Section 2. Any auxiliary of this Association, or any society chartered by such auxiliary, which wilfully disregards the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association or of the auxiliary by which it is chartered, or which condones and upholds any person guilty of the offenses mentioned in Section 1 of this Article, may be disciplined by being deprived of representation in State or National conventions for a limited period¹ or by having its charter revoked.

Section 3. Any person or society having ground for grievance or complaint under Sections 1 and 2 of this Article, or under Article XIV of the Constitution of this Association, may file a complaint in writing, signed by the

complainant, briefly setting forth the facts relied on to sustain the charge.

Section 4. If the accused person or society holds a commission, certificate, diploma or charter directly from this Association, or holds an office or position of honor or trust thereunder, the complaint or petition for impeachment shall be filed directly with the President or Secretary of this Association, and the Board of Trustees in their judicial capacity shall have original and final jurisdiction.

Section 5. In all other cases the complaint shall be filed with the President or Secretary of the auxiliary, or society chartered by it, having original jurisdiction in the case; if the accused be an officer or member of a local society the complaint shall be filed with the proper officers of such society; if the accused be a local society, chartered by a state auxiliary, or an individual member of a state auxiliary, the complaint shall be filed with the proper officials of such auxiliary, and in either case the official board of such society whether designated directors, trustees or otherwise, shall proceed to try the case according to the general principles laid down in the following Sections of this Article.

Section 6. The secretary of the official board about to conduct a trial shall give notice in writing thirty days in advance, to all parties concerned, of the time and place of hearing, and at time of giving such notice shall furnish the accused a written copy of the complaint or petition filed against him.

Section 7. Either side may employ counsel and summon witnesses. If requested by either side the board shall exclude from the hearing all persons except the parties, their counsel and witnesses.

Section 8. The parties and witnesses shall be sworn, the charges read; the accused shall plead guilty or not guilty to each specification. Then the testimony shall be taken, and the substance thereof be recorded by the secretary. After the argument of counsel the board shall close the hearing and go into executive session. A majority vote of the full board shall determine their verdict as to the guilt or innocence of the accused on each specification of the charges.

Section 9. If the verdict be guilty, the penalty shall be immediately fixed by majority vote of the full board, and both verdict and penalty announced, and unless notice of appeal is filed in writing with the board within thirty days after the verdict and penalty are announced, it is

hereby made mandatory that the society or officials having authority to act in the matter shall carry the verdict into effect without undue delay, by removing the accused from office under this Association, or from office under, or membership in, an auxiliary of this Association, or society chartered by such auxiliary, by annulling his commission, certificate or diploma, or by revoking its charter or suspending its right of representation in State or National conventions for a limited period, or by imposing such other penalty as the case may require.

Section 10. Within thirty days of the date of announcing the verdict either side may file notice of appeal with the secretary of the trial board, which notice suspends all action in connection with carrying out the penalty, and upon the filing of which it becomes the duty of the Secretary to transmit a complete copy of his records of the trial to the secretary of the State Association, if the appeal be from the decree of the official board of a society chartered by it, or to the Secretary of this Association, if the appeal be from the decree of the official board of one of its auxiliaries.

Section 11. Within thirty days after receipt of records of trial the secretary of the official board of the association appealed to shall give sixty days' notice of the time and place of hearing of the appealed case, and procedure shall be the same as at the first hearing, the appellate board having authority to review both law and fact, and to receive additional testimony, and to annul or confirm the verdict, or increase or decrease the penalty. If the appellate board be the official board of a State Association either side may appeal, according to the same procedure throughout as in the first appeal, from decision of such appellate board to the Board of Trustees of this Association, which shall have final jurisdiction in all cases whatsoever arising under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association, or of any auxiliary thereto or society chartered by such auxiliary.

Section 12. Appeals from the decree and verdict in all appealable cases may be taken on the following grounds:

(a) As against the weight of evidence, or on insufficient evidence.

(b) As result of unfair or improper proceedings at trial.

(c) For admitting improper evidence or excluding proper evidence to such a degree as to determine the verdict.

(d) As based on a misinterpretation of some provision of the Constitution and By-Laws governing the case.

(e) As being inconsistent with, or repugnant to, the Constitution and By-Laws of the State Association having jurisdiction, or of this Association.

Section 13. Rehearings shall be allowed within one year from final decision upon newly discovered material evidence, not cumulative, or for any other good and satisfactory reason appearing to the board or tribunal having jurisdiction of the case at the time a petition for rehearing is filed.

Section 14. The Board of Trustees of this Association shall have final appellate jurisdiction over all questions arising under the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association, or of any auxiliary thereto, or of any society chartered by such auxiliary, and shall have authority to give final interpretations of all provisions of such constitutions and by-laws, and to pass on the constitutionality or legality of all such provisions.

ARTICLE VI.

Delegates—Proxies—Membership.

Section 1. Auxiliaries shall elect delegates and alternates to conventions of this Association at least thirty days prior to date of opening session, and shall mail properly executed credentials, on forms furnished by the Secretary, to the General Offices at least twenty days prior to date of opening session.

Section 2. No delegate shall represent more than one auxiliary, or have more than one vote.

Section 3. Unrepresented auxiliaries may authorize in writing some member of the convention to select proxies for them and may send sealed instructions to such proxies.

Section 4. No person shall act as delegate or proxy who is not a member of some auxiliary of this Association or of a society in good standing chartered by such auxiliary.

Section 5. No society shall be considered in good standing, or be entitled to representation in conventions, which has not paid its current dues, and no local society shall be considered in good standing which has not held at least three public meetings during the preceding fiscal year.

Section 6. After the convention of 1920, an individual shall not hold active or voting membership in more than one body affiliated directly or indirectly with the N. S. A.; provided this section shall not apply to camp meeting associations, lyceums, aid societies and educational institutions.

Section 7. Individuals may become honorary life mem-

bers of the N. S. A., without voice or vote at its conventions, upon payment of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00), and in recognition of such contributions shall have their names placed on the Honor Roll of the National Spiritualist Association.

Section 8. After the convention of 1920 camp meeting associations, lyceums, research and aid societies, leagues and similar institutions shall have representation in State Conventions for their charters only and be entitled to but one vote.

Section 9. Persons holding membership in independent Spiritualist organizations shall automatically lose active or voting membership in societies auxiliary to the N. S. A., and shall not be seated as delegates in its conventions, or in the conventions of its auxiliaries.

ARTICLE IX.

Law and Services of Ordination.

(Whenever the masculine pronoun appears herein, it is to be interpreted to mean either male or female persons.)

Ministry—How Constituted.

Section 1. The Ministry of Spiritualism shall consist of four classes, to-wit: Pastors, Licentiates, Associate Ministers and Medium Missionaries, whose duties and qualifications are set forth in the following rules and

Pastors—Qualifications.

Section 2. No person may become a candidate for ordination until he has received a call to the pastorate of some regularly organized society or church, or been appointed missionary by some State Spiritualist Association incorporated as a religious body, in the state in which it is located, or by the National Spiritualist Association of the United States of America.

A fee of \$25.00 shall be required from each applicant for ordination, \$10.00 of which shall go to the treasury of the N. S. A. and \$15.00 of which shall go to the treasury of the auxiliary recommending the ordination. On recommendation for ordination being refused by an auxiliary body, the applicant may appeal to the Board of Trustees of the N. S. A.

Section 3. All candidates for ordination must have been members in good standing of some auxiliary society or church for at least one year in the state where application for ordination is made.

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That no person shall be eligible to ordination unless, for at least one year he has

held, under the jurisdiction of this Association or of one of its State auxiliaries, either a licentiate-minister or general missionary certificate.

Section 4. No person shall be eligible for ordination unless he can present ample and recent credentials of good character.

Section 5. All candidates must give decisive proof of their ability to present intelligently the principles and philosophy of Spiritualism.

Ordinations Under Auspices of N. S. A. or State Associations.

Section 6. Ordination of ministers shall be granted only by the N. S. A., and upon the recommendation of a chartered auxiliary having jurisdiction over the applicant. Ordination certificates shall be prepared in such a manner that space shall be provided in the lower right-hand corner for the signatures of the President and Secretary and the seal of said Association, and with a similar space provided in the lower left-hand corner for the recommendation of the auxiliary proposing the applicant for ordination.

Section 7. When an ordination has been granted by the N. S. A., the rite of ordination shall be performed by the officers of the auxiliary recommending the same, or by a duly authorized agent of the N. S. A.

Filling Vacancies on Commission.

Section 8. In case of the refusal or inability of a minority of an N. S. A. Commission to serve, the majority may fill such vacancy or vacancies from competent and worthy persons affiliated with a Spiritualist society or church; and it shall be the duty of the Secretary to make such substitution a part of the record.

Jurisdiction Defined.

Section 9. In ordaining pastors, licensing licentiates and commissioning associate ministers, the jurisdiction of State Associations shall extend over all societies or churches chartered exclusively by them and in all cases where societies or churches hold charters exclusively from the N. S. A., jurisdiction shall be vested in it; but a society or church, holding a charter from a State Association and a charter from the N. S. A., may elect to apply to either of them, but when once an application has been made, jurisdiction shall rest in the body first applied to, in each given case. No person can hereafter be legally ordained to the Spiritualist ministry save by and through the means above named, except as provided in the following section No. 10.

Ordination Sanction.

Section 10. No person heretofore ordained to the Spiritualist or other ministry by any church, society or other organization, except a commission of the National Spiritualist Association, or a State Association, shall be deemed an ordained minister within the meaning of these provisions for ordination, unless such person shall have received ordination sanction from the Board of Trustees of the National Spiritualist Association. But, before the Board of Trustees shall grant ordination sanction to any applicant, it shall require the applicant to file over his signature answers to the five questions designated by the letters a, b, c, d and e in the "Order of Exercises in Public Ordination," herein contained.

Appointment of Secretary.

Section 11. In all cases, the officers of the State Association or the N. S. A. commission, as the case may be, shall appoint or elect a competent person, who may or may not be one of the state officers or one of the commission, who shall act as secretary and make a record of everything done and all official papers received from the time of the application for ordination up to the refusal or consummation thereof.

Examination of Candidate.

Section 12. Before proceeding with the ordination of the candidate, the officers of the State Association or the commission of the N. S. A., as the case may be, shall subject the candidate to a preliminary examination touching his qualifications; and as a part of such examination the candidate shall produce evidences of his education, professional equipment, purpose of work, inspirational or other forms of spirit control, if he claims to work under spirit influence, and length of service as licentiate, or of study in some preparatory school. Such diplomas of graduation, certificate of character, and letters of recommendation, as may be held, shall be exhibited, and such questions as may, in reason, be propounded by the examiners shall be answered. If the examination be satisfactory, a formal motion to proceed with the service of ordination shall be made and recorded. At the ordination a synopsis of the record made by the Secretary shall be read.

Filing of Records.

Section 13. When the ordination is conducted by a State Association, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to file with the said State Association and with the National

Spiritualist Association a certified copy of the complete record of the application, examination and ordination of the candidate, and when conducted by a commission of the N. S. A., the Secretary shall file with the National Spiritualist Association a certified copy of the complete record of the application, examination and ordination. The society or church at whose instance the ordination is conferred shall also keep a record of the same.

Time and Place of Ordination.

Section 14. The time and place for public ordination may be determined by mutual agreement between the candidate, the society or church and the state officers or N. S. A. commission.

Section 15. Ministers who have received ordination sanction need not be publicly reordained.

Section 16. In performing the public ceremony of ordination, the "Order of Exercises" herein provided shall be followed, as far as practicable, but the "Address to the Candidate" shall under no circumstances be omitted.

ORDER OF EXERCISES IN PUBLIC ORDINATION

Section 17.

- (1) Organ Voluntary.
- (2) Singing by Congregation, Choir or Quartette, etc.
- (3) Reading of Appropriate Selections.
- (4) Devotional Exercises.
- (5) Singing.
- (6) Reading Synopsis of the Record Kept by the Secretary.

Address to Candidate.

(7) The candidate shall rise and face such members of the commission as may be selected by them to make such address, or the president of the State Association or such officer as he may appoint to represent him, who shall address the candidate as follows:

"You are about to receive at the hands of the ordination commission of the N. S. A. (or the.....State Association of Spiritualists), a high and sacred trust with whose care and keeping you shall hereafter be charged.

"You are to have conferred upon you the rite of ordination to the Spiritualist ministry, through which you are empowered to unite persons of legal age in the bonds of matrimony, according to the laws of the several states; to comfort the sorrowing; to administer spiritual consolation to those who are about to leave the earth; and to conduct the service of burial whenever called upon so to do.

"Before appointing you to this high and sacred office, it is my duty as the authorized representative of the ordination commission of the N. S. A. (or..... State Association of Spiritualists) to ask you a few questions."

Questions for Candidate.

Section 18.

(a) "Do you acknowledge your belief in and recognition of a Supreme Power manifest in the universe, whom men call God, or Infinite Intelligence?" (Assent.)

(b) "Will you, because of your love for truth, keep sacred and inviolate the trust now to be committed to your care?" (Assent.)

(c) "Will you promise upon your honor as a..... in the presence of the Angels and these witnesses in the form, to foster, protect, and defend every principle of right and justice, to honor and exalt your mediumship or ministry, and to glorify the cause of truth so long as you shall live." (Assent.)

(d) "Will you promise to uphold this Association and the cause of organization in all good works, to the end that local societies may be strengthened, happy homes established, and good outwrought for all?" (Assent.)

(e) "Do you declare your belief in the principles of the National Spiritualist Association, and assert your positive conviction of the truths of the tenets of Spiritualism?" (Assent.)

"Having received your solemn promise, I, representing the ordination commission of the N. S. A. (or, the president of the State Association of Spiritualists), under the authority conferred upon me, now declare you ordained to the sacred office of a minister of the religion of Spiritualism and clothed with all the rights and privileges vested in a minister of religion, according to the laws of the several states."

(8) Felicitations by ordaining officers or commission.

(9) Benediction.

Installation.

Section 19. After a minister has been ordained either by a commission of the N. S. A., or by the officers of a State Association, or received ordination sanction, as hereinbefore provided, he shall be formally installed with appropriate exercises as pastor by the society or church to which he has been called, which may invite other Spiritualists and believers in other faiths to participate.

Section 20. The president of the society or church shall extend the right hand of fellowship to the minister being installed, or this office may be performed by some other person to whom by courtesy the same may be delegated by the president. The ordination exercises may be used as a guide for the installation.

Compensation of Pastors, Etc.

Section 21. The compensation of pastors, licentiates and associate ministers shall be such salary as may be provided by the societies or churches which they may serve, or such fees and contributions as they may receive from or on behalf of those persons to whom they may minister through their spiritual gifts; or salary, fees and contributions combined.

Licentiates—Duties

Section 22. Spiritualist societies or churches may, in their discretion, elect one or more of their members as licentiates, whose duty it shall be to conduct the services in the absence of the minister, when occasion requires, and follow such line of study and work as will best fit them for full service in the ministry. After such election, the society or church may make application to the State Association having jurisdiction, otherwise to the National Spiritualist Association, to license the person so elected to perform the duties aforesaid. State Associations shall send to the N. S. A. copies of all licenses thus issued by them.

Qualifications.

Section 23. All persons thus elected and licensed should be chosen with strict regard to their ability to progress in the work, their educational fitness and moral worth. No person shall be so elected and licensed who has not been a member in god standing for one calendar year of some auxiliary society or church in the state where application is made.

After one year of service, a licentiate shall be eligible as a candidate for ordination, providing he has made sufficient progress in the line of education and unfoldment as a speaker and has conducted himself in an exemplary manner.

Section 24. No licentiate shall assume the title of "Reverend" or perform the ceremony of marriage; nor shall he exercise the full prerogatives of an ordained minister until he has received legal ordination as hereinbefore provided.

Associate Ministers—Psychics and Mediums.

Section 25. The associate ministry of Spiritualism shall consist of psychics and mediums, through whom physical phenomena can be produced, and test and message mediums known to possess psychical powers of a genuine and edifying nature that have been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the examining board or committee. All applicants for certification in either class of the associate ministry must have been members in good standing for at least one year in some body affiliated with the N. S. A.

Associate ministers shall be divided into three classes as follows:

Class A—Such persons as are deemed qualified to give messages from the public platform, as well as in private.

Class B—Such persons as are deemed qualified to give messages only in private or in circles.

Class C—Such persons as are deemed to possess physical mediumship of an edifying nature.

The officials of the organization granting the certificates shall satisfy themselves by due investigation of the moral fitness, as well as mediumistic ability, of the applicant before granting the certificate.

Section 26. None of these psychics and mediums shall be eligible for ordination, but may be commissioned, on the application of the society or church of which they are members by the State Association having jurisdiction, otherwise by the National Spiritualist Association, as associate ministers. Associate ministers shall not assume the title of "Reverend" nor perform the marriage ceremony.

Duties

Section 27. The duties of associate ministers shall be to render all possible assistance to the societies or churches of which they may be members and to the cause of Spiritualism at large, by administering spiritual consolation through the giving of messages and demonstrating the fact of spirit return in holding circles and seances.

Section 28. The faithful discharge of these duties shall entitle them to the protection of the society or church to which they belong, as well as the protection of the State Association of their State and the National Spiritualist Association of the United States of America, in case of persecution, unjust or illegal prosecution, or in case any injustice or indignity is offered them because of the legitimate use of their mediumship or psychic powers.

Examination

Section 29. The satisfaction given by the exercise of

powers as psychics and mediums, as well as their moral character, shall determine the fitness of persons to receive commissions as associate ministers. These qualifications shall be passed upon by a committee appointed by the official board of the State Association having jurisdiction, otherwise by the Board of Trustees of the National Spiritualist Association. Each seance shall be judged by itself, and no medium shall be declared incapable because of one failure to produce phenomena of a positive character.

Section 30. The certificates issued to licentiates and associate ministers shall state boldly in the body thereof that the person to whom they are issued shall not thereby be entitled either to assume the title of "Reverend" or perform the marriage ceremony.

Missionaries, Agents, Etc.

Section 31. General missionaries may be appointed by the President, with the approval of the majority of the Board, whose duty it shall be to organize new societies, to solicit societies to charter, to solicit contributions to the various funds, and otherwise promote the general interests of the Association, under such rules as the Board may prescribe. Commissions shall be issued to such missionaries, setting forth their duties and powers.

Medium Missionaries

Section 35. Mediums who are members of a local society affiliated with the N. S. A. or a State Association, upon the application of the society of which they are members, and mediums who are individual members of a State Association, may be appointed as medium missionaries by the National Board or by the State Association, as the case may be, provided such mediums have passed a satisfactory examination before the governing body of the society of which they are members, touching their qualifications as mediums, their fitness for public and private work, and their worthiness of character.

Certificates of Medium Missionaries

Section 36. The certificates to be issued to medium missionaries shall state the name of the appointee, the society of which the appointee is a member, the fact that a satisfactory examination was passed, the phase or phases of mediumship possessed, that the appointee is deemed worthy and qualified to hold public seances or religious meetings, and to give private spirit communication in accordance with the rites and religious belief of the Spiritualist denomination; that the said appointee is authorized and directed

to solicit and collect contributions for the support of the missionary work, and that the said appointee is **not** authorized to assume the title of "Reverend" **nor** perform the marriage ceremony, and that the certificate is valid for one year only from the date of its issuance.

State Association Missionaries

Section 37. State Associations may appoint as many general missionaries to work at large in their respective states as in the discretion of the Association may seem advisable. The commissions to be issued to such missionaries shall be similar to those issued to the general missionaries appointed by the National President.

Healers

Section 38. Members of local societies affiliated with the N. S. A. or a State Association, and individual members of a State Association, who are known to possess the spiritual gift of healing, may be commissioned by the National President, with the approval of the majority of the Board of Trustees; or by the State Association, as affiliation may appear, to practice as spiritual healers, in accordance with the rites and religious belief of the Spiritualist denomination.

Compensation

Section 39. The compensation of medium missionaries and spiritual healers shall be such fees or contributions as they may receive from or on behalf of those persons to whom they minister.

Fees for Certificates

Section 40. All fees for certificates shall be paid annually as follows:

Licentiates	\$10.00
Associate Ministers	
Class A	10.00
Class B	5.00
Class C	10.00
Medium Missionaries	5.00
Healers	5.00

Th fees in this section provided shall be paid to the body by which the certificate or commission is issued.

Blank Forms

Section 41. Blank certificates of medium missionaries and blank commissions of licentiates, associate pastors, healers, and general missionaries, shall be furnished by the N. S. A. to State Associations without charge, and no other shall be issued.

Degrees of N. S. T.

Section 42. Diplomas may be granted by the Official Board of the N. S. A. conferring the degree of "National Spiritualist Teacher", to be designated by the letters N. S. T., upon such persons as may satisfy the Board that they are qualified to teach the science, philosophy and religion of Spiritualism, upon complying with the following conditions:

(a) Proof of membership in a body affiliated with the N. S. A.

(b) Evidence of good moral character.

(c) Upon satisfying the Board by writing and oral examinations as to their ability and educational qualifications to teach the science, philosophy and religion of Spiritualism.

Section 43. Applications shall be made in writing to the Secretary of the N. S. A. and each accompanied by a fee of ten dollars

Section 44. Such diplomas may be revoked and cancelled for cause after due and ample hearing, according to the provisions of the Penal Code

ARTICLE X

Omnibus

Section 1. The third Sunday in November in each year shall be known as "Gratitude Day", on which all auxiliaries, and societies chartered by them, shall hold a special service in honor of the mediums who have devoted their lives to the cause, and shall take up a special collection for the "Mediums' Relief Fund".

Section 2. After the convention of 1920, no member of a local society or individual member of a State Association shall be allowed to vote on questions coming before such local society or State Association until he has been a member in good standing in such society or State Association for a period of three months immediately preceding the date of voting.

Section 3. Charters, certificates, licenses, commissions, official documents, papers, decrees, judgments, orders and rules, issued or promulgated by recognized governing bodies of Spiritualists of other nations, or by the National Spiritualist Association or by any of its State Auxiliaries, or societies chartered by it, or chartered by said State Auxiliaries, shall be recognized and be given full faith and credit by every society, association, or body in affiliation directly or indirectly with the N. S. A., unless and except

in case any such official document, decree, judgment, order, rule, certificate, charter, license, commission or paper, shall be in conflict with, or contrary to, the law of the state or municipality wherein any such affiliated body is situated, in such state or municipality, but in none other, such document or paper shall be recognized or given effect.

Section 4. After the Convention of 1922 platform speakers and mediums holding papers from the National Spiritualist Association or its Auxiliaries shall refrain from serving on the platforms of independent organizations known to be antagonistic to the principles and policies of the National Spiritualist Association.

Section 5. After the Convention of 1922 speakers and mediums known to be antagonistic, or affiliated with independent organizations known to be antagonistic to the principles or policies of the N. S. A., shall not be employed by associations or societies auxiliary to the National Spiritualist Association.

ARTICLE XI.

Section 1. By-Laws for the government of Auxiliary Bodies shall be substantially as follows:

BY-LAWS of ARTICLE I.

Name

Section 1. This society shall be known as.....

.....
Charter Number.....

ARTICLE II.

Charter Obligations

Section 1. This society being chartered by the Michigan State Spiritualists' Association, which is an auxiliary to the National Spiritualist Association, shall conform to and abide by all the laws of the N. S. A. and M. S. S. A. now in force or that may be hereafter enacted.

ARTICLE III.

Officers and Duties of Each

The Officers of this society shall consist of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Trustees. These officers shall constitute and be known as the Executive Board.

Section 2. President—The duties of the President shall

be to preside at all business meetings of the society, also of the Executive Board; put all questions when properly made and seconded, and announce the result; countersign all warrants ordered drawn on the Treasurer of the society or the Executive Board, and perform any other duties that may be required of him by the society, or by the By-Laws of the N. S. A. or M. S. S. A.

Section 3. Vice-President—The duties of the Vice-President shall be to perform all the duties of the President in his absence, or when requested by him to do so, also to act as a member of the Executive Board in the performance of its duties

Section 4. Secretary—The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep a correct record of the Minutes of all the meetings of the society, also of the Executive Board; to answer all correspondence as directed by the society; collect all moneys due the society, or collected at its meetings and turn same over to the Treasurer at the earliest possible moment, taking his receipt for same, draw all warrants on the Treasurer and then only when legally ordered to do so by the Executive Board, or by the society while in business session; keep a record of the society's membership and their individual financial standing with the organization, and perform such other duties as required by the laws of the N. S. A. and M. S. S. A., also to perform such other duties as usually fall to this office in other similar organizations. He shall be the custodian of the Charter and all other property of the society except its money.

Section 5. Treasurer—The duties of the Treasurer shall be to receive from the Secretary all moneys collected for the society by him, giving a receipt for same; pay all warrants properly drawn and signed by the Secretary and President. He shall keep a correct account of all money received and disbursed, and shall pay no money out of the funds of the society except on warrants ordered drawn either by the society or its Executive Board, properly drawn by the Secretary and countersigned by the President. He shall submit his books and accounts to the proper committee for the purpose of auditing, and shall render such assistance in the audit as required by the committee.

Section 6. Trustees—The duties of the Trustees shall be to act as members of the Executive Board, also they shall be the auditors of the books of the society. The chairman of the Trustees shall be the chairman of the Auditing Committee.

Section 7. Chairman of Trustees—The First Trustee

shall be chairman of trustees, and his absence the second trustee or third in the order of their election shall be chairman. The chairman of trustees shall have the power to fill vacancies pro tem. for the purpose of acting as an auditing committee.

Section 8. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and First, Second and Third Trustees.

Section 9. Executive Board—It shall be the duty of the Executive Board, (1) To carry out all instructions and perform all duties pertaining to the conduct of the affairs of the church which may be assigned them by the members of the church at any of its regular meetings, or at a special meeting, legally called for that purpose. (2) To have charge of the affairs of the church during the interim between meetings of the society, to provide hall, speakers and mediums unless otherwise instructed by the society. (3) To pay all bills for hall, speakers, mediums and printing, but it shall contract no other debts, nor pay any other bills unless instructed to do so by the society at a regular meeting of same, or a special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 10. Trustees—It shall be the duty of the three trustees to audit all books and records of the society, and report their findings to the members of the society at its regular business meetings in January, July, or whenever instructed to do so.

Section 11. The trustees shall have power to appoint time for meeting with the Secretary and Treasurer for the purpose of audit. They shall have authority to demand the books, papers and anything pertaining to the affairs of the church necessary to the proper audit of same, but shall not retain same longer than necessary to perform their duties as auditors.

ARTICLE IV.

Election of Officers

Section 1. The annual election of officers shall be held at the regular meeting in January of each year, and the term of office shall be for one year, or until successors are elected and qualified.

Section 2. All elections to office shall be by ballot, a majority of members in good standing present shall be sufficient to elect; vacancies to be filled in the same manner as the election of officers at an annual election.

Section 3. When three or more candidates for the same office are being balloted for, and no one receives a majority

of the votes cast, the person receiving the least number of votes shall be dropped and not considered further as a candidate for that office.

Section 4. When an officer has been absent for two consecutive Board Meetings, the president shall declare the office vacant and proceed to fill the vacancy by appointment, with the approval of a majority of the executive board, such appointee to hold office until the next regular business meeting of the society, at which time the society shall proceed to fill the vacancy, provided the Board does not instruct the president not to declare a vacancy.

ARTICLE V.

Business Meetings

Section 1. The regular business meetings of the society shall be held quarterly, the first Friday in January, April, July and October. The fiscal year shall begin at the close of the regular meeting in April of each year.

Section 2. Special business meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the Board or by a written request signed by seven members of the society.

Section 3. When the President refuses or neglects to call a special Board meeting or special meeting of the society when properly requested to do so, it shall be the duty of the Vice-President to act, if both president and vice-president fail to act, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to call the meeting and they may elect a president pro tem.

Section 4. A written notice of a special business meeting of the society must be sent to each member of the society in good standing at least five days previous to such meeting, such notice shall state time and place of such meeting, and the business to be transacted at same, and no business shall be done except that which is specified in the notice of such special meeting.

ARTICLE IV.

Executive Board Meetings

Section 1. The regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held sometime between the first and the tenth of each calendar month, the time and place to be set by the Board at its previous session.

Section 2. The president shall call a special meeting of the Board when he shall deem it necessary, or upon the written request of three members of the Board.

Section 3. Each member of the Executive Board must have a notice of such special meeting at least 24 hours before the time of holding such meeting.

ARTICLE VII.

Quorum

Section 1. Ten members in good standing shall constitute a quorum to do business at all regular and special business meetings of the society, and a majority of those present shall decide all questions unless otherwise provided for.

Section 2. Five members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of those present shall decide all questions.

ARTICLE VIII.

Dues

Section 1. The annual dues of the membership of this society shall be \$....., payable in advance on or before the annual meeting in January of each year.

Section 2. Admission fee shall be \$....., same to accompany the application for membership.

Section 3. The N. S. A. law governing membership shall apply to this church.

ARTICLE IV.

Grievances

Section 1. When necessary the Executive Board may appoint a Grievance Committee, same to hear complaints and decide upon the merits of the case. Either party thereto may appeal to the next regular business meeting and from there the differences may be appealed to the M. S. S. A. Board for adjudication.

ARTICLE X.

Amendments

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular business meeting, two-thirds of a quorum in good standing voting in the affirmative, providing a written notice has been sent to each member ten days previous to the meeting, such notice to contain a statement of the By-Law, also the proposed amendment.

Section 2. Whenever a local organization chartered by the M. S. S. A. does not have a set of By-Laws regularly adopted by its organization, these By-Laws shall apply and be in full force.

Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the society when the N. S. A., M. S. S. A. or the By-Laws of this society do not apply.

ARTICLE XV.

These By-Laws may be repealed, suspended or amended at any convention of the Association by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the delegates present.