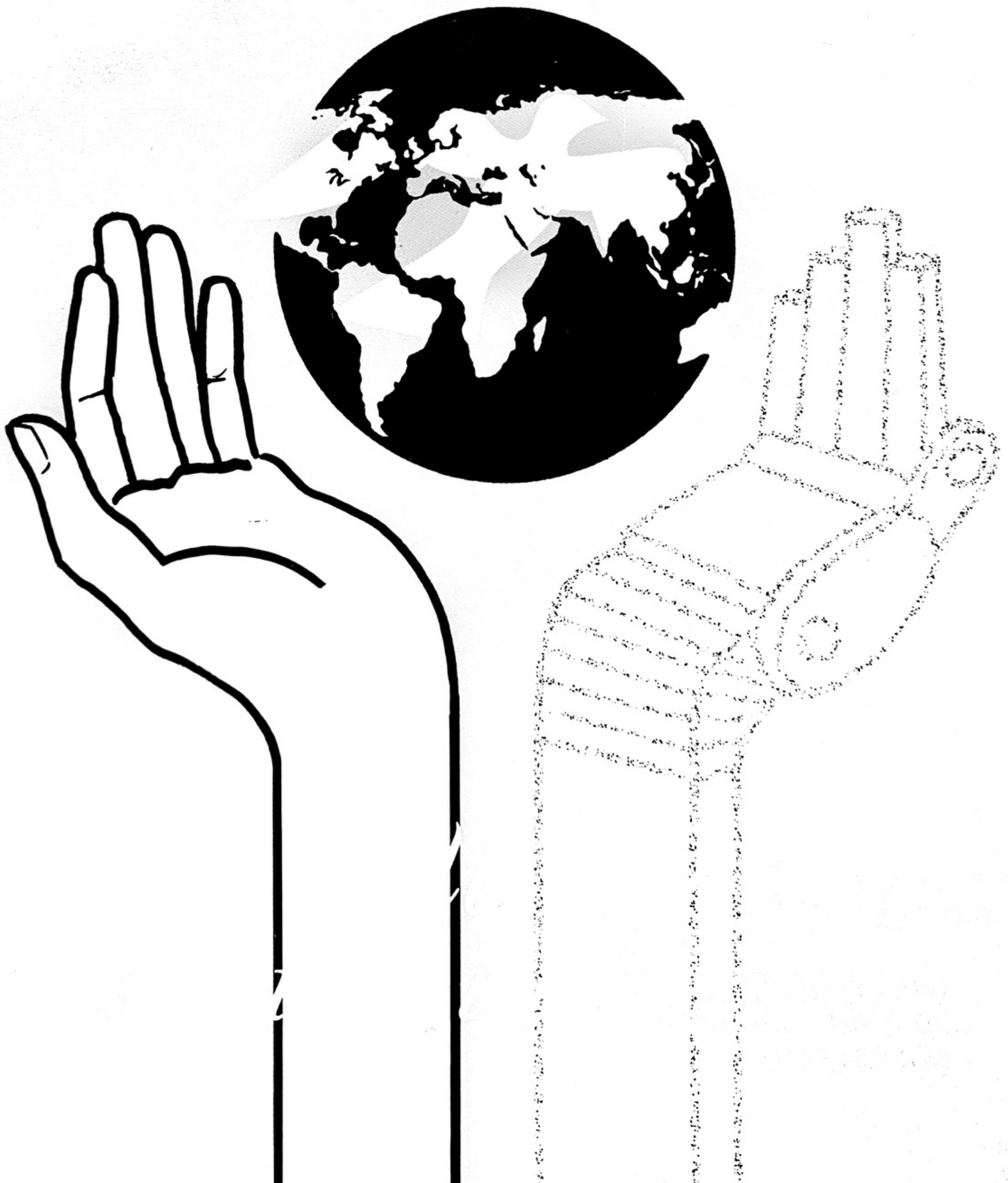


YEARBOOK

1988

CONFERENCE OF MENNONITES IN CANADA

CMC



56. CHRISTIAN PEACEMAKER TEAM (CPT) RESOLUTION — Walter refers to the CPT resolution in the pre-conference *Bulletin*, page 23.

Christian Peacemaker Team Resolution
by Rudy Regehr
on behalf of the Congregational Resources Board

Preamble. At the delegate session in Clearbrook, the Congregational Resources Board received a mandate to explore some options for Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) and then to report back to the annual CMC session. A workshop was held in Altona in January of 1988. This group of thirty people agreed that further action should be taken and that CRB should take further initiatives to implement the concept at the congregational level.

The CR Board has received the communication, concurs with it, and brings the following resolution for delegate approval:

Whereas, the need for Christian peacemaking in the world continues to grow; and

Whereas, approaches and methods of peacemaking must be continually adapted to new situations; and

Whereas, the concept of Christian Peacemaker Teams appears to be a

new model which can be adapted to local as well as other situations,

Be it resolved, that the Conference of Mennonites in Canada:

- a. reaffirm its commitment to present the gospel of salvation as a gospel of peace; and*
- b. recommend that each of our congregations seriously consider forming a Christian Peacemaker Team; and*
- c. request its Congregational Resources Board to conduct seminars in the five regions of Canada for the purpose of offering advice and counsel to congregations on how to establish the teams and to help potential team members clarify local peace and justice issues; and*
- d. also request its CRB to develop a network among these teams across Canada once they are formed.*

M/S David Epp-Stobbe/David Neufeld. Carried.

Discussion on CPT resolution

Rueben Siemens, Rosthern, SK — In favour of motion. Peace is not an easy way.
Henry Unrau, Olivet, Clearbrook, BC — Suggested that CMC/MCCC/CRB use this concept in the Labrador situation.

John Sawatzky, Halbstadt, MB — Encourages members to make a personal witness.

Peter Janzen, MCEC, Waterloo, ON — Endorses the resolution. Have had seminars on conflict resolution.

Palmer Becker, Peace, Richmond, BC — In favour. Asks Bob Hull how to implement this resolution. Could each congregation have a specific action group?

Bob Hull, GC, Newton, KS — Attended seminar in Altona sponsored by CRB. There will be training in each province if the resolution is approved. Harry Huebner is the GC representative on the CPT Steering Committee.

Peter Guenther, Eben Ezer, Clearbrook, BC — Are we trying to say that we might go into civil disobedience?

Rudy Regehr — Some people felt that civil disobedience may be required at times, but the direction of peacemaking is positive action. There might be times when choices would have to be made.

Jeanette Neufeld, Grace, Regina, SK — In favour of resolution. It should also include conflict within the family and peace between roles of men and women.

Mary Mae Schwartzentruber, Stirling Ave, Kitchener, ON — Supports the resolution. CPT could be involved in chaplain and prison ministries, refugee work, NM leadership training and conflict concerns, conflict management in homes and congregations.

Walter Franz — Congregations living near native groups could build bridges.

Vic Kliwer, Altona, MB — MBs withdrew from CPT. He affirms the whole concept. Don't impose certain formulas on certain congregations.

Local Announcements