

COUNCIL OF CONSTANCE: LIST OF ABUSES DEMANDING REFORM, OCTOBER 30, 1417

The holy council of Constance decrees and ordains that the supreme pontiff who shall next, by the grace of God, assume supreme office, shall, in conjunction with this holy council or with the deputies of the several “nations,” reform the Church before this council dissolves, in head and members, as well as the Roman curia, in accordance with justice and the proper organization of the Church, in all respects enumerated below, which are submitted by the “nations” as needing reform:

The number, character and nationality of the lords cardinals.

The reservations [of benefices] made by the Apostolic See.

The annates, both the *servitia communia* and *servia minuta*.

The collation to benefices and expectative favors.

What cases are to be brought before the Roman curia and what not.

Appeals to the Roman curia.

The functions of the [papal] chancery and penitentiary.

Exemptions and incorporations made during the schism.

Benefices *in commendam*.

Confirmations of elections.

Income during vacancies.

The non-alienation of the possessions of the Roman church or other churches.

For what reasons and in what manner a pope shall be corrected or deposed.

The extirpation of heresy.

Dispensations.

The means of support of pope and cardinals.

Indulgences.

Tenths.

When the above-mentioned deputies shall have been appointed by the “nations,” it shall be free to the others, with the permission of the pope, to return home.

—

J. H. Robinson, *Readings in European History*, vol. 1 (Boston: Ginn, 1905), pp. 513–14.