

**THE
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
1973**

7th–11th MAY

THE CITY TEMPLE

Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1A 2DE

**REPORTS
TO ASSEMBLY**

The United Reformed Church in England & Wales
86 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9RT

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The United Reformed Church

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

and other papers submitted to the

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

London, 7th - 11th May, 1973

Minutes of the Executive Committee

At LONDON and within 86 Tavistock Place, WC1H 9RT on Thursday, November 9th 1972, the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE met and was constituted with prayer; the Moderator, The Rt. Revd John Huxtable, presiding.

Attendance There were also 62 members present.

⁵ **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from 5 members.

Minutes Minutes of a meeting held on 14th July 1972 of those who at that time were known to be qualified for membership of the Executive Committee were laid on the table.

The Minutes of the Assembly held on 5th October 1972 were also laid on
¹⁰ the table.

MATTERS ARISING FROM ASSEMBLY

Acknowledgment of Loyal Address An acknowledgment of the Loyal Address to the Throne received from the Home Secretary on behalf of the Queen was read to the Committee.

¹⁵ **Dates of retirements** The Chairman of the Nominations Committee, the Revd A. J. G. Walker, reported that there had been some confusion in the resolutions submitted to the Assembly regarding dates of retirement of the General Secretaries, the Provincial Moderators, and that no date had been given for the retirement of the Editor of 'Reform'. He moved, and it was
²⁰ agreed, that the Nominations Committee be asked to bring proposals to the next meeting of the Committee clarifying these matters.

Appointments A number of appointments requiring to be made had been referred to the Chairman of the Nominations Committee but no meeting of the Committee had yet been held. The Chairman raised the question of the
²⁵ scope of that Committee's task. It was agreed that all appointments made by the General Assembly or the Executive Committee should pass through the Nominations Committee except where a special procedure is laid down.

It was agreed that vacancies on the Treasurership Committee, the Youth Committee in the representation of the URC on the FCFC, and on the CCWM
³⁰ Board should be considered by the Nominations Committee and recommendations brought to the January meeting of the Executive. A group of tellers to act at the Assembly of 1973 should also be nominated.

The Chairman raised the question of the membership of Provincial Moderators on various Committees and sought the guidance of the Executive Committee on the principles to be observed. It was agreed that Committees which felt that their work required a direct link with the Moderators' Committee should bring the matter to the notice of the Nominations Committee. It was agreed to appoint the Revd R. E. Taylor to membership of the Central Committee of the Church Life Department.

It was agreed that in bringing names for appointment as Corresponding Members to other Assemblies, so far as possible the Moderator should go accompanied by ministers and elders to the number required. Appointments would require to be made in January. Attention was drawn to the long established custom of the P.C. of E. in sending its Moderator to the Synod of the Waldensian Church, a practice which that Church hoped would continue through the URC. The Executive welcomed this news and agreed.

The Chairman was asked to bring from his Committee to the January Committee nominations for any other vacancies which it was desirable to fill in advance of the General Assembly, particularly in regard to a Chairman and Secretary of the Board of Studies. It was also agreed that the Committee's report to the Assembly in May should be in duplicated form in order that it might take account of matters arising on the eve of the Assembly.

Finance & Administration Dept. The Chairman of the F. & A. Department, Mr. L. Palmer, gave indication that the Budget Committee were already aware that economy would be required in expenditure, and asked for the co-operation of the Departments.

Clarifications The attention of the Executive was drawn to the fact that rules VI. 2 (i) and (ii) of the Rules of Procedure regarding the dates of Provincial Moderators' retirements, while consistent with each other, were now inconsistent with the Scheme of Union. The Revd M. H. Cressey was asked to prepare a redraft in consultation with Sir Harold Banwell.

DEPARTMENTS:

Church Life The Revd R. O. Latham, Secretary of the Department of Church Life, reported the plans of the Youth Committee for Project '73 to promote interest in and support for work in West Bengal, Bangladesh, and in Milton Keynes New Town. In answer to questions he gave assurance that these projects had been worked out in consultation with Departments of the uniting Churches, and that such consultation would continue in respect of any future projects.

A study kit on the theme 'What we believe' was also reported to be in process of preparation by the Department.

Material for the observance of a Children's Festival was now available in a new form.

The report was received and the Department was given general encouragement to proceed along these lines.

World Church & Mission An appointment to represent the United Reformed Church in Lutheran Consultations on the Continent was required,

and it was resolved to appoint the Revd M. H. Cressey to serve on this consultation, thereby continuing work already undertaken for the PCE. It was also noted that the British Council of Churches was shortly to refer to its member Churches the question of the size of the General Council in the future and to seek an early reply. It was agreed that this should be dealt with by the Executive of the WC & M.

Church and Society The Revd J. Reardon on behalf of the Department of Church & Society reported that a Working Party set up by the PCE had now completed its work on a study of non-violence and had prepared a full report. The Department was seeking means of publishing it, and sought the encouragement of the Executive. In view of the need for discussion of this issue in the churches, the Executive gave its general encouragement, provided the nature of authorisation is clearly indicated, namely the authority of the working party that prepared it.

Finance & Administration On behalf of the F. & A. Department Mr. K. W. Thorndyke moved the following resolutions, which were agreed :

‘In pursuance of the powers contained in Section 18(1) of the U.R.C. Act 1972 delegated to it by resolution of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church passed on the 5th October 1972 the Executive Committee appoint the Treasurer of the Church (or such other person nominated by the Central Committee (Finance & Administration Department)) to exercise the power to sanction the alteration revocation or addition to the trust and provisions of the Declaration of Trust dated 16th July 1963 made by the Presbyterian Church of England Trust and relating to the freehold premises known as St. Ives, Tudor Road, Pinner, Middlesex.’

‘In view of the rules of the Pension Fund and the conditions involved in approval of such fund by the Inland Revenue, the strongest persuasion should be brought to bear on those eligible to join, and attempts to withdraw membership should be discouraged.’

It was resolved to draw the attention of all District Councils to this second resolution.

MINISTERIAL ROLLS

It was reported that correspondence had been received regarding ministerial rolls and the Applications Committee had asked its Chairman and the two General Secretaries to consult together and bring recommendations to the next meeting. Information would be circulated as soon as available but meanwhile the Executive urged Moderators and Secretaries of districts to keep comprehensive lists of all of either of the uniting Churches, presently listed as exercising ministry or holding status as ministers or ordinands in their areas.

It was further agreed that the same group, together with the Revd John White and the Revd Dr. Kenneth Slack, should consider other related matters and in particular the status to be accorded to those who have qualified for the ministry through the Roll of Ministers examinations but are not ordained.

CORRESPONDENCE

Representation of Districts at Assembly In answer to questions submitted regarding the roll of Assembly in 1973 it was agreed that lists of District Council representatives with their addresses should be collected⁵ by the Moderators and forwarded to the Revd A. L. Macarthur as soon as possible. Questions regarding the interpretation of the Scheme of Union with regard to the provincial representatives were considered, but it was finally resolved that the Scheme must be its own interpreter.

Lancashire Congregational Union The Executive Committee resolved¹⁰ to appoint the Revd J. W. P. Williamson and the Revd D. G. Stewart as members of the Lancashire Congregational Union in accordance with the powers conferred under the United Reformed Church Act.

United Board Note was taken that in connection with the appointment of chaplains and the care of those serving in the Armed Forces the uniting¹⁵ churches had had different practices, Congregationalists working through the United Board, and Presbyterians mainly through the Church of Scotland. Difficulties exist in regard to the use of the Church of Scotland connection by the United Reformed Church, and the United Board had already agreed to offer the same services to the URC as previously offered to Congrega-²⁰ tionalists. The Executive agreed that an appropriate resolution should be submitted to the Assembly in May in order to establish the position, but as a matter of urgency resolved to appoint the Revds D. A. Harries, S. L. Williams, D. R. Friend, A. J. Spivey, K. L. Darbyshire, C. G. Prenton, and A. Clement Jones (serving chaplains) with the Revds J. Huxtable, E. W. Todd, J. H.²⁵ Manson to represent the URC at the Annual Meeting to be held in February 1973.

Yorkshire Province At the suggestion of the Synod of the Yorkshire Province the Executive appointed Mr. John Gilbey as a member of the Synod in accordance with para. 9(4) (g) of the Scheme of Union.

³⁰ A question received from Yorkshire Province had also been raised by other provinces concerning the membership of District Councils. It was agreed that no alteration of the Scheme should be proposed by the Executive but it was suggested that many of the difficulties could be resolved by making use of associate status.

³⁵ **St. Andrew's Hall** Questions had been raised regarding the representation of the URC on the Council of St. Andrew's Hall. In view of proposals for the revision of the constitution of St. Andrew's Hall now under consideration, it was agreed that those previously representing the two uniting Churches should continue for the present.

⁴⁰ **Personal Membership** A letter asking whether members of non-uniting churches could hold a personal membership of the URC was considered but it was resolved to reply that there was no provision for personal membership in the Scheme.

ASSEMBLY 1973

Questions about the times of the Assembly meetings were referred to the Business Committee.

Closure There being no other business the meeting was closed with the
5 Benediction.

J. Huxtable, *Moderator*
A. L. Macarthur, *Clerk*

At LONDON and within 86 Tavistock Place WC1H 9RT on Wednesday, 31st January 1973, the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE met and was constituted with prayer; the Moderator, The Rt. Revd John Huxtable, presiding.

Attendance There were also 64 members present.

10 **Apologies** Apologies for absence were received from 2 members.

Minutes Minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 1972 being in the hands of members were taken as read, approved and signed.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

15 The Revd A. J. G. Walker on behalf of the Nominations Committee submitted the following proposals which were approved:

Dates on which present appointments terminate:

- (a) General Secretaries: May 1975
- (b) Provincial Moderators: Revd J. Howard Williams 1979; Revd D. G. Stewart 1975; Revd J. W. P. Williamson 1979; Revd J. N. Beard 1975; Revd J. White 1974; Revd R. W. Hugh Jones 1975; Revd R. E. Taylor 1977; Revd C. A. Haig 1975; Revd D. A. Smith 1977; Revd R. J. Hall 1976; Revd V. N. J. Lewis 1979; Revd W. J. Samuel 1977.
- (c) Editor of 'Reform': 30th June 1977
- 25 (d) Convener of Publications Committee: May 1977

Committee Appointments:

- Treasurership Committee: Sir Alan Wilson
- Youth Committee: Mr. G. Duncan; Miss R. V. Tully
- Children's Committee: Mr. C. Webb
- 30 CCWM: Nominations awaited from World Church & Mission

Corresponding Members 1973:

- (a) Church of Scotland: The Revd Dr. K. Slack (Moderator-elect); the Revds C. A. Haig and M. H. Cressey; Mr. L. R. Palmer
- (b) Congregational Union of Scotland: The Revd Dr. K. Slack
- 35 (c) Congregational Union of Ireland: The Revd Dr. K. Slack (or the Rt. Revd J. Huxtable)
- (d) Presbyterian Church in Ireland: The Revds Dr. K. Slack, T. J. Cornford, R. Whitehead, J. P. Reardon; Mr. J. E. M. Gilbey
- (e) The Union of Welsh Independents: The Revd E. Harries-Rees

- (f) Presbyterian Church of Wales: The Rt. Revd J. Huxtable, the Revd Dewi Rhys; Mr. Alan Owen (Ipswich)
- (g) Synod of the Waldensian Church: The Revd Dr. K. Slack
- 5 (h) Churches of Christ: It was resolved that the group appointed to talk with the Churches of Christ should consider how the two Churches should be represented at each other's Assemblies, and bring recommendations to the next Executive Committee.
- (i) Board of Studies: To elect its own Chairman. Secretary: Revd N. W. Leak until May 1975

10 **Other Vacancies:**

FCFC: Mrs. M. Webb

FC Education Committee: Revd J. Sutcliffe

New English Bible: Revd Prof. J. C. O'Neill (alt: President J. E. Newport)

15 BCC Youth Committee: Revds K. Cranston, M. J. Davies

Boys' Brigade: Revd M. J. Davies

Scouts: Revd K. Faulkner

Guides: Revd G. Bobbett

MINISTERIAL ROLLS

20 It was reported that the group asked to consider the establishment of appropriate ministerial rolls had not yet met, but a meeting had been arranged for 13th February.

STATUS OF THOSE QUALIFIED BUT NOT YET ORDAINED

25 Attention was drawn to correspondence from some who were presently unordained but qualified for ordination by R.O.M. examination subject to call. They were serving part-time in the oversight of small local churches. The Northern Province had prepared a petition on the matter to go before the General Assembly. Meanwhile the group appointed at last meeting had met to consider this matter. The Revd C. J. Buckingham reported on behalf
30 of the group. The memorandum submitted by the group was amended in two places and it was agreed that it be printed as part of the Executive Committee's report to the Assembly (see Appendix) and that a resolution be submitted with a view to the implementation of the proposals. It was also agreed that a copy be sent immediately to the Northern Synod in case that Synod should
35 feel that the concern of their petition had been sufficiently resolved.

RULES OF PROCEDURE: Rule VI 2 (i) & (ii)

In accordance with the minute of the last meeting (p. 4) the Revd M. H. Cressey submitted the following as a proposed revision of rule 2 of the rules of procedure:

40 (i) Each Moderator shall be appointed for such term not exceeding seven years as the General Assembly shall in each case think fit, beginning (unless the General Assembly in special circumstances determines otherwise) on

the first day of September following the Assembly at which he is appointed, subject always to the provisions of Rule VI.2 (iii).

(ii) The General Assembly shall have power to determine any such appointment during its terms or to renew any such appointment for successive⁵ terms of not more than five years each, subject always to the provisions of Rule VI.2 (iii).

(iii) No Moderator shall be eligible to hold office after the end of the calendar year in which he shall attain the age of sixty-seven and a term of office which extends into that calendar year shall (unless the General¹⁰ Assembly in special circumstances determines otherwise) end on the 31st day of August of that year.

It was agreed that the rules be amended accordingly.

ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATION

Attention was drawn to a petition from the Wessex Synod asking that Synod¹⁵ Clerks and Treasurers be ex-officio members of the Assembly.

The Clerk submitted proposals for immediate adoption. These were considered, and the following proposals adopted:

The Executive Committee authorises the Clerk to complete the roll of Assembly in accordance with para. (5) (a) – (h), pp. 35/6 of the Scheme²⁰ of Union, and agrees that under

(5) (b) All Synod Clerks shall be included

(5) (d) Each of the recognised Theological Colleges shall appoint one representative

(5) (e) The Department of World Church & Mission shall be authorised²⁵ to add up to 12 missionaries on furlough in any one year

(5) (f) No additions be made at this stage.

It was agreed that no action be taken in respect of the Wessex petition for the inclusion of Synod Treasurers, the matter being left to the Assembly. The Finance & Administration Department was asked to consider ways in³⁰ which Synod Treasurers could be kept in touch with the financial policy of the whole Church. It was pointed out that while the other three departments would be represented by several Chairmen, the Church & Society Department, doing its work through ad hoc groups rather than Standing Committees, would have only one voice. It was agreed that the Department should appoint³⁵ two additional representatives to the Assembly in 1973.

It was also agreed that the senior of the serving Chaplains to the Forces of the URC stationed in Britain at the time of the Assembly should be a member.

ASSEMBLY 1973

⁴⁰ **Business Committee Report** Sir Harold Banwell, Chairman of the Business Committee, gave a detailed report of the arrangements so far planned for the Assembly in 1973. The report was received. The Finance & Administration Department were asked to decide on the nature of the expenses to be paid to members of Assembly in time for the information to go out with the⁴⁵ Assembly papers.

Reports and Minutes The Clerk proposed, and it was agreed, that the Reports to Assembly and Minutes of the Assembly be printed and circulated to all members of the Assembly and the Secretaries of all local churches.

ASSEMBLY 1974

⁵ The attention of the Executive Committee was drawn to a tentative invitation from the East Midlands Synod for the General Assembly of 1974 to meet within its bounds, and in Nottingham. After discussion the Synod was encouraged to investigate the possibility more fully and subject to confirmation, it was agreed that the Assembly should be recommended to accept
¹⁰ the invitation.

DEPARTMENTS

Church Life Under the affairs of the Church Life Department the following resolution was moved and adopted :

¹⁵ 'The Executive Committee, noting that comments of the URC on the form of the proposed Lutheran/Reformed Agreement are required by March 1973, authorises the Committee on Doctrine & Worship to forward such comments as it may deem appropriate, making clear that they are the comments of a Committee and not of the Church, and to submit the substance of its comment to the General Assembly for its further action.'

²⁰ **World Church & Mission Department** On the motion of the Revd B. Anderson on behalf of the World Church & Mission Department the following resolution was adopted :

Re St. Andrew's Hall

'The Executive Committee of the URC

²⁵ 1. recognises that, as a result of the URC Act, this Church becomes a sponsoring body of the St. Andrew's Hall Missionary College in succession to the Overseas Missions Committee of the PCE;

2. welcomes the opportunity of consultation with the St. Andrew's Hall Council on future developments which will be initiated in due course by the
³⁰ Council's working group on "The Future of St. Andrew's Hall";

3. undertakes to continue to support the College at least until the end of the academic year 1973-74;

4. and instructs the WC&M Department to make the appropriate arrangements for consultation and continued support, and to report in due course
³⁵ to the Assembly or in case of urgency to the Executive Committee.'

Church & Society Department The Chairman of the Church & Society Department raised a question about the circulation of published reports to members of Assembly. Guidance was given that where the Assembly was called to deliberate on such material, members of the Assembly must be in
⁴⁰ possession of it but that discretion should be exercised in the drafting of resolutions to avoid calling for an Assembly judgment except where this was clearly required.

Finance & Administration Department The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Executive to Mr. Kenneth Thorndyke for carrying some of the duties of the Treasurer during the closing months of 1972 pending Mr. Palmer's retirement from his professional duties, and the executive greeted⁵ this with acclamation. Mr. Palmer gave a brief report of the financial prospects for 1973 and indicated his intention to pass on appropriate information to the Church.

On the motion of the Clerk the following resolution was adopted :

'The Executive Committee appoints the Rt. Revd J. Huxtable, Messrs.¹⁰ L. Palmer, P. A. Simpson, N. Pooler, K. Thorndyke, the Revd E. W. Todd and the Revd A. L. Macarthur to act for it in regard to the apportionment of resources under the URC Act, and authorises them to appoint from among themselves the persons to consult with the Charity Commissioners under the provisions of section 13 (2) of the Act.'

¹⁵ **CORRESPONDENCE**

Lancashire Congregational Union The Clerk reported that he had received an acknowledgment of the action of the Executive Committee (p. 4) in appointing the Moderators of the North West and Mersey Provinces to the Board of the Lancashire Congregational Union Inc.; expressing²⁰ confidence in the co-operation of the Union and the two Provinces.

Woolwich On the motion of Mr. N. Pooler the following resolution was adopted :

'The Executive Committee resolves to appoint the persons who from time to time are the members of the Stewardship Committee of St. Andrew's²⁵ United Reformed Church, Woolwich, as the Managing Trustees of the charities administered in connection with the former St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church of England Church, Woolwich, under the terms of a Scheme sealed by Order of the Charity Commissioners on the 25th July 1972'.

Yorkshire Synod On a request from the Yorkshire Synod it was agreed³⁰ that Mrs. J. Parkinson be appointed as a member of the Synod of the Yorkshire Province.

INITIATIVES TOWARDS UNITY

A question was asked concerning Press reports that the URC was to take certain specific initiatives towards wider unity. The Moderator made it clear³⁵ that these were reports emanating from an unofficial conference called by a group of Anglicans, Methodists and others. He further reported that the matter is under detailed consideration by the Central Committee of World Church & Mission which will bring any proposals to the Assembly for proper consideration.

⁴⁰ **NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the Executive Committee would meet on 5th April 1973 at 1.30 p.m.

Closure There being no further business the meeting was closed with the Benediction.

J. Huxtable, *Moderator*
A. L. Macarthur, *Clerk*

APPENDIX I

Meeting of Group on Part-Time Ministries and Roll of Ministers, Tuesday 23rd January 1973, 10.45 a.m.

Present: The Revds C. J. Buckingham, Dr. K. Slack, J. Huxtable and A. L. Macarthur.

- ⁵ We considered the position of those who have successfully completed the non-collegiate examinations of the former C.C.E.W., but were not admitted to the Roll of Ministers because of the then operative rule that only those should be ordained who could render full-time service. These persons are listed on p. 342 of the C.C.E.W. Year Book 1972 (26 in all). Some of them
¹⁰ act as Local Pastors.

The Basis of Union statement on Ministry in the United Reformed Church (p. 24) especially in paragraph 21 does not lay down that the ministry need be a full-time occupation, though in many cases it will and should be so. It may be that we are moving into a period when ministers partly at least
¹⁵ involved in other employment should be accepted as part of the total ministry.

We therefore suggest that the Assembly advise Provinces and District Councils that such persons as have completed their ministerial training after the approval of their candidature by the appropriate Councils of the Church may be ordained while continuing in their other employment, provided that
²⁰ the District Council and Province are satisfied that the candidate is called to an adequate sphere of ministry and that the pastorate will be adequately served, and that such a settlement can be satisfactorily related to such groupings of churches as the District Council may be planning. Since ordination to the ministry has to do with the whole Church and not simply
²⁵ the local, the ordinand should be ready to consider a call from another pastorate and remain as much under the care and discipline of the District Council as other ministers.

While action on this matter is the responsibility of the District Councils and Provincial Synods, we suggest that the Applications Committee should
³⁰ be informed of all such cases and, if necessary, be consulted about any in which unusual circumstances occur. This should help to ensure that comparable standards have been applied in all cases; and so the Assembly will be assured that this aspect of its work has been dealt with responsibly.

Resolutions

- ³⁵ **1** The Assembly receives the report of the Executive Committee regarding provision for the ordination of those who have completed the non-collegiate Examinations but have not yet been called, and authorises District Councils to act in accordance with its recommendations.
- ⁴⁰ **2** The Assembly gladly accepts the invitation of the East Midland Province to hold its meeting in 1974 in Nottingham, and resolves to meet in the Albert Hall, Nottingham, on Monday, May 6th 1974 at 6 p.m. or at such other time and place as may be duly authorized. The Assembly resolves to confirm the action of the Executive Committee and appoints the Revd J. Huxtable, Messrs L. Palmer, P. A. Simpson, N. Pooler, K. Thorndyke, the

Revd E. W. Todd and the Revd A. L. Macarthur to act for it in regard to the apportionment of resources under the URC Act, and authorises them to appoint from among themselves the persons to consult with the Charity Commissioners under the provisions of section 13 (2) of the Act.

- 5 **3** The Assembly resolves to accept the invitation of the United Board to share in its work and agrees that appointments of full time United Reformed Church Chaplains to the Forces shall be made through the agency of the Board.
- 10 **4** In accordance with the constitution it resolves to appoint four members to serve on the Board and requests the Church Life Department of the U.R.C. to keep the work of the Chaplains under review and to report thereon to the Assembly from time to time.

APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Committee met on 31st October 1972 and on 13th February 1973.

The following ordinations, since 1st January 1972 were noted :

<i>Name</i>	<i>College</i>	<i>Date and place of ordination</i>
⁵ Mrs S. K. Armitage	RoM	1. 6.72 Christchurch, Hatfield, Herts. (Associate minister) and St Albans Industrial Chaplaincy
¹⁰ Miss Stella M. Beare	RoM	17. 1.73 Malmesbury, Wilts.
Mr Peter Chave	Cheshunt/ Westminster	15. 7.72 Kings Norton, Birmingham
Miss K. M. Chegwin	Mansfield	23. 9.72 Assistant, Christ Church, Chelmsford
¹⁵ Mr J. G. Dean	New	15. 1.72 Saltaire, Shipley, Yorks.
Mr A. C. Gardiner	Mansfield	1. 7.72 Christ Church, Castleford, Yorks.
²⁰ Mr Colin Gunton	Mansfield	17.11.72 Theological Dept., Kings College, London and Associate Minister, Western Road, Romford
Mr A. Huyton	RoM	15. 6.72 Rainford, Lancs.
²⁵ Major Lionel Jameson	RoM	26.11.72 Malvern Link, Worcs.
Mr D. J. Joseph	Swansea	14. 6.72 Saintwell, Cardiff
Mr J. E. Mayer	RoM	9. 6.72 Wycliffe, Warrington, Lancs.
Mr A. R. Ruffell	Manchester	25.11.72 Saffron Walden, Essex
³⁰ Mr J. Schofield	Scottish Congregational Edinburgh	1.11.72 Otterburn and Birdhopecraig, Northumberland
Mrs B. K. Stephenson	Mansfield	22. 9.72 Charlton, Blackheath, London
³⁵ Mr J. Stirling	RoM	4. 5.72 Darlington, Union St.
Mr K. P. Swaine	Manchester	2. 9.72 Wigston Magna, Leics.

Applications for entry into the Ministry of the U.R.C. were received from:

Mr L. W. Brown – it was agreed that he is eligible to be ordained when he enters the full-time Ministry;

⁵ Mrs R. M. Forrester – it was agreed that she is eligible for ordination as soon as she receives a call to a pastorate;

Mr J. Greatorex – it was agreed that he is eligible to be ordained when he enters the full-time Ministry;

Resignations from the Ministry of the former C.C.E.W. were noted:

¹⁰ The Revd David Dews of Leamington Spa

The Revd Alan Figgis of St Mary Cray Church

The Revd W. S. Herrington of Kirkheaton and Dogley Lane, Huddersfield who has entered the Ministry of the Church of England

¹⁵ The resignation of the Revd John Stott of Trinity Church, Brixton, had been approved by the Southern Province.

The Committee noted that the following ministers are no longer in full-time pastoral charge:

The Revd E. N. Bangay who is undertaking full-time social work

²⁰ The Revd J. F. Britten who is undertaking full-time teaching in a Comprehensive School

The Revd Sallie Ffrench who has recently married

The Revd W. A. Grant who is undertaking full-time teaching

The Revd F. E. Hughes who has the care of the religious department of a Secondary School

²⁵ The Revd D. S. Morris who is undertaking a Teachers' Training Course in Bristol.

The Committee noted that the Revd F. G. Jay formerly of Salem Church in Bradford has moved into the Ministry of the Community Church, Scroon Lake, New York, United Church of Christ, U.S.A. No formal transfer had ³⁰ been requested and none was given. Mr Jay's name was removed from the U.R.C. Roll of Ministers.

The Committee received the transfer of The Revd D. J. Hudston from the Moravian Church.

³⁵ The Committee noted the transfers of The Rev D. E. Ferguson to St Marks, Aylesbury and the Rev D. D. Jenkins to Sketty Green, Swansea, from the Congregational Union of Scotland and the Union of Welsh Independents, respectively.

The Committee endorsed the entry of the following names upon the Register of Local Pastors:

⁴⁰ Mr Eric Chambers

Mr W. G. Webster

Miss R. Oldfield

Mrs H. M. Tizard

The Committee decided that the Provincial Moderators should ascertain from each of the Home Missionaries whether she would prefer to proceed to ordination to the full-time Ministry, or to have her name added to the Register of Local Pastors.

- 5 Concerning ministers no longer in pastoral charge the Chairman was asked to consult with the Joint General Secretaries about their continuing status but it was generally agreed that they should be in the pastoral care of the Provincial Moderators and that a triennial review of their status in the Ministry should be undertaken.
- 10 The Committee appointed a sub-Committee to consider the position, in relation to ordination, of persons who have satisfactorily completed the non-collegiate examinations of the former C.C.E.W. but have not entered full-time pastoral service. The Sub-Committee, consisting of the Revds C. J. Buckingham, J. Huxtable, A. L. Macarthur, and K. Slack, later submitted a
- 15 report which was received by the full Committee which endorsed the recommendations within the report and asked the Executive Committee to consider the authorization of action along the lines recommended. (See Report of Executive Committee.)

The Committee requires guidance about those persons who apply for

20 non-Collegiate Ministerial training and who already have qualifications which might be expected to render some part of the training unnecessary or some variation in the training necessary. There is uncertainty whether it is, or is not, the responsibility of this Committee to determine such training variations and, if it is not, to which Committee application for exemptions or variations should

25 be made. Indeed, the whole process for which the Committee is responsible needs further clarification and steps are being taken that this should be done.

C. John Buckingham, *Chairman*

THE MODERATORS' REPORT 1973

'BUSINESS as usual during alterations' describes the life of the past year. The changes which have been planned and carried through so that the United Reformed Church could begin its life with new structures have demanded much attention from us. Though the office of provincial moderator has been given new emphases which are set out in some detail, we see ourselves as pastors rather than administrators and are grateful that the Church recognises this in the provision of lay assistants and clerical help.

Our main role in the months preceding Union was that of learner and interpreter. This process continues as all of us in the Church make the effort to forget old phrases and to learn a new terminology. Tolerance and patience are needed, especially with those who are slow to learn and are more set in their ways. For the most part those who have been involved in planning and those who have been called to office in District Council and Synod have shown sensitivity to unfamiliar traditions together with a resolution to live together as colleagues and servants of the one Lord of the Church.

The climax of all our planning and consultation came on 5th October, 1972 – the historic day of Union, when with others we were privileged and proud to be set apart for our ministry in the name of Christ. Provincial and local celebrations have been inspiring and made their impact on the community. The glare of publicity has been on all. We realise, however, that the Church will be judged by the quality of her fellowship, work and mission. We rejoice that there are ministers, preachers, teachers and congregations who take time and trouble to maintain high standards in worship, training, fellowship and the care of property.

Living in tension

When two rivers meet there is bound to be turmoil for a time. Some issues are as yet unresolved and will make the task more demanding in these early years. Different standards and methods in the payment of ministers make settlements less easy than they should be; the promise of pastoral care for each congregation will inevitably put a greater strain on ministers and demand a greater sense of responsibility from elders and members.

We would urge District Councils and Synods to have the minimum structure with an economic programme of meetings and committees, so that pastoral care is not diminished or stifled.

Care of People

Problems of belief and conduct, personal needs on an unprecedented scale and acute social ills emphasise the priority of pastoral service required of ministers, elders and members. We note and commend the increasing study of the office of elder which could help to revitalise our churches.

Ministers

During 1972 15 ordinands entered the Ministry and more than 100 ministers moved to new pastorates.

We are embarrassed and distressed when a minister decides to leave his church for some other occupation without any consultation with his elders

or his provincial moderator as sometimes happens. We are aware of the problems that press upon ministers to-day. We share them when we are allowed to do so. The Church by ordination sets the seal upon a man's sense of vocation and makes him its representative. Is it to have no reference made
5 to it when he begins to consider leaving its service?

For the most part ministers work hard, often in unrewarding and isolated situations. The renewal of faith, increase of knowledge and deepening of devotion is always necessary. A good many (would there were more!) grasp opportunities offered in summer schools, special courses, reading
10 parties and fraternal. We would encourage churches to share in regular prayer and group study with their minister, both for their own sakes and for his. We must try and find new styles of Christian devotion.

Inflation

This brings increasing pressure on churches and ministers. More and more
15 money has to be found by fewer and fewer people and what is raised does not go as far as once it did. This is reflected in the felt need for extra income for a minister's family, often provided by him or by his wife securing secular employment. Recent increases in the basic stipend have not kept pace with the rise in the cost of living. The price of books prohibits many ministers
20 from acquiring these essential tools and each congregation might well set aside an annual sum for this purpose. Increases in the cost of travel and holidays add extra strain. One of the most acute results is the cost of housing for retired ministers and for churches acquiring manses. Too many ministers, having lived in a tied dwelling for so long, are forced to continue in pastoral charge
25 after reaching retiring age because they cannot solve this problem. The Church will need to consider how a young minister can either build up capital or be able to acquire his own property during his working life.

We are disturbed to discover the different treatment in the payment of pastoral expenses and urge all churches to be realistic in this regard.

Local Unions

The significant number of serious conversations taking place between neighbouring churches across denominational divisions makes life untidy for any Church. It is clear that these will increase as advantage is taken of the Sharing of Church Buildings Act and as witness is planned in new towns and
35 in areas of ecumenical experiment. The time has gone by when any one denomination could act as if it alone carried responsibility for the Gospel. Nevertheless, careful consultation with District Council and Provincial Synod should take place before schemes have developed too far.

Postscript

40 We are now a re-formed 'apostolic' band of twelve brothers. The majority have suffered a sea change in territorial responsibilities, inevitably with mixed feelings. Most of us now have an office address and staff. Those of us who formerly served in this kind of ministry welcome our three new colleagues – Vernon Lewis, Howard Williams and John Williamson.

45 Gratitude is the dominant feeling we share for the confidence, encouragement, co-operation and personal friendship we receive from ministers and churches.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED BY SYNODS

for consideration by the General Assembly 1973

1 NORTHERN: Re Local Pastors

At its meeting on 6th January 1973 the Northern Synod passed the following resolution:

'On the motion of the chairman, the Synod resolved to ask the General Assembly to initiate a report for consideration by the whole Church on matters arising from the petition concerning the ordination of local pastors.'

The Business and Selection Committee of the Northern Synod, authorised to deal with non-contentious business on behalf of the Synod, agreed on the 19th March 1973 as follows:

'The Committee took up consideration of the effect of action taken by the Assembly's Executive Committee in regard to the ordination of certain local pastors. The members of the Executive present outlined the report and resolution of that committee to be presented to the Assembly of 1973. The Revd A. R. Ritchie, Chairman of the Synod's Ministry, Students and Applications Committee, explained the intention of the resolution of Synod (Minutes p.7). After discussion it was agreed that the Moderator and Clerk should be instructed to move, on behalf of the Synod, a resolution or amendment in the Assembly to request that the matters raised in this section of the report of the Executive Committee and consequent resolutions be given further consideration by an appropriate Assembly Committee, and by the whole Church through reference to Synods and District Councils before decision is taken.'

2 WESSEX: Re Members of Assembly

At the meeting of the Executive Committee on 9th January 1973 the following minute was agreed:

'The Scheme of Union page 36 (b) makes provision for the General Assembly to elect to its constituency "such other officers of the General Assembly and of the Provincial Synods as the General Assembly shall from time to time determine".'

The Executive agreed to submit the following resolution to the General Secretary of the United Reformed Church:

'That the Wessex Synod make representation to the United Reformed Church Executive Committee and thence to the General Assembly that Synod Clerks and Treasurers of each Province be members of Assembly.'

Note: The Executive Committee at its meeting on January 31st 1973 agreed to include Synod Clerks in the membership of Assembly. No decision was taken concerning Synod Treasurers.

3 NORTH WESTERN: Re Members of Assembly

At its meeting on 17th February 1973 the North Western Synod agreed to forward the following resolution for acceptance by the Assembly:

- 5 'Assembly resolves to appoint the Secretaries of its sixty-five District Councils to be members of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church under the terms of Section 9, paragraph 5, sub-paragraph (f) of *The Scheme of Union*, such appointment to take effect from the closing of the present Assembly'.

4 MERSEY: Re Constitution of Assembly

10 *At its meeting on 10th February 1973 the Mersey Synod considered the following resolution and accepted it for forwarding to the General Assembly:*

- 15 'The Liverpool South District Council, being concerned about the small representation of Districts at the General Assembly, noticed that the total number expected to attend the General Assembly in May 1973 is well below the maximum envisaged in the Scheme of Union, and requests the Synod to raise with Assembly for further consideration, the matter of District Representation'.

5 YORKSHIRE: Re District Councils and Synods

At the meeting of Yorkshire Synod on 10th March 1973 the following resolutions were adopted:

- 20 'The Synod resolves to give notice of motion to the General Assembly in the following terms, and appoints the Clerk and the Rev G. J. Cook to present the motions in the General Assembly:
1. The Assembly resolves that Synods shall have the right to appoint to membership of District Councils members of the United Reformed Church other than those specified in the Scheme of Union, para. 9(3) (b).
 - 25 2. The Assembly resolves that District Councils and Synods may appoint at their discretion members of the United Reformed Church to be associate members of such District Councils or Synods, such associate members having the right to speak but not to vote at meetings of the respective councils.'

6 THAMES NORTH:

30 *At its meeting on 10th March 1973 the Thames North Synod passed the following resolutions:*

1. **Assembly Representation:** In view of its concern that the interval between two members of the same Church attending the General Assembly will be so long (on the basis of the present representation, in the Central London District the average interval will be at least five years), the Central London District Council suggests that the number of representatives to be appointed by the Districts be increased from 1 for every 10 churches (or part thereof) to 1 for every 6 churches (or part thereof) and that steps be taken to increase the permitted size of the Assembly accordingly.
- 40 2. **Ministerial Roles:** The Revd Howard Shapland expressed concern at the meagre nature of the recommendations anent ministerial stipends to be brought to this year's General Assembly by the Finance Consultative

Committee and outlined ways by which they could be improved. On his motion, duly seconded, the following resolution was passed with one dissident:—

5 'The Maintenance of the Ministry Committee of Assembly being unable to recommend a higher rate of stipends for Ministers than £1,200 – £1,300 per annum, the Thames North Provincial Synod urges the Assembly to consider as a matter of urgency the role of Ministers as full or part-time in the Church of the future in order that they may be able to receive a higher income commensurate with to-day's standards.'

10 **3. Youth Representation:** On behalf of the Church Life and Mission Committee the Revd Kenneth Graham put the following resolution which had emanated from the Youth Work Panel:—

15 'that the Assembly of the United Reformed Church be asked to make arrangements for the Youth of our Churches to be represented at District Councils, Synods and Assembly. (It is understood that this matter is already coming to the Assembly but it seems good that the Synod should express its support now).'

This resolution was carried.

7 WALES:

At the Synod of the Province of Wales on 14th March 1973 the following
20 *resolutions were passed:*

1. Re Interim Moderator 'The Synod of the Province of Wales resolves that the General Assembly be requested to instruct the appropriate Committee to examine the term 'Interim Moderator' to discover if a more meaningful name can be found for this office.'

25 **2. Re Ministerial Status** 'The Synod of the Province of Wales resolves to support the Petition that persons who have passed the Roll of Ministers Examinations and wish to combine secular work with part-time service to the Churches be granted Ministerial Ordination'.

CHURCH LIFE DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Mrs Gwen Hall

Secretary: Revd Robert O. Latham

Chairmen of Committees:

DOCTRINE AND WORSHIP:	Revd Dr E. R. Routley (Secretary: Rev. D. McIlhagga)
MINISTERIAL TRAINING:	Revd J. I. Evans
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:	Revd C. C. Franks
SUPPLEMENTARY MINISTRIES:	Revd N. Birnie (Secretary: Rev. F. R. Tomes)
YOUTH WORK:	Revd K. Cranston
CHILDREN:	Revd D. H. Hilton

Staff Secretaries:

<i>Secretary for Mission:</i>	Revd C. K. Meachin
<i>Secretary for Christian Education:</i>	Revd J. M. Sutcliffe
<i>Youth Secretary:</i>	Revd M. J. Davies
<i>Youth Leadership Training Officer:</i>	Mr B. Harris
<i>Teacher Training Officer:</i>	Mr M. D. Woolnough

The first report of the Church Life Department to the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church.

INTRODUCTION

In the Scheme of Union, and in the Explanation of the Proposed Structure as set out in the First Assembly Agenda, the Church Life Department was charged to be responsible for Ministerial Training, including the standards⁵ and scope of the examinations and training, the relationships with the recognized former Congregational Colleges, and the special responsibilities for Westminster Cheshunt College. Both Collegiate and non Collegiate students come under the scope of the Ministerial Training Committee. To the Supplementary Ministries Committee was given the care and training of¹⁰ Deaconesses, Lay Preachers and Local Pastors; to Christian Education the challenge to minister to the whole church in the building up of faith and worship, including Christian Stewardship and the 'ministry of the whole people of God'. Work among young people (14-21) was entrusted to a special committee, and so was Children's work. Responsibility for Doctrine and¹⁵ Worship was also included within the Department, and the concern for Spiritual Healing, the pastoral care of students, nurses and others away from home, and the Chaplains to the Forces were added to the assignment.

**The paragraphs marked with large asterisks
are for special note by local churches.**

A staff of six secretaries was appointed together with a full complement of committees, most of which were composed of members with a specialist knowledge or interest. All the committees have met twice since the inauguration of the Church. Many of the agenda items have been common to more than one committee and all committees have been asking not 'what did the Presbyterian Church of England or the Congregational Church in England and Wales do?' but 'what should the United Reformed Church be doing in this new situation?' This approach has liberated the committees and enabled them to experience something of the fresh leading of the Holy Spirit, in the U.R.C.

It is too early to be confident about the unity of the Department as such, but already there are encouraging signs that the Department is more than the sum of its constituent committees, and that each committee has much to give to and receive from the department as a whole. This is clearly demonstrated by the keen desire of the Central Committee to report to Assembly under the heading of themes which recurred in committee reports.

As we have sought to discover the form our ministry should take within the total life of the Church and the distinction in function between the Department as an Assembly Committee, and the committees of Synods, Districts and local churches, certain areas of service have been delineated. We are aware that there are areas in addition to those we will describe in this report and that there is more to do than we have been able to do in the last few months. Within these areas we believe that our task is to enable Synods, Districts and local churches to fulfil their own ministries and mission the better. We want to hear from these Councils of the Church anything that will help us to serve our Lord and His Church the better, and encourage the Church to be United and Reformed in every aspect of its life and mission.

Area One ★THE PROVISION OF THE TOOLS★

30 Belonging to the Church ★

Both of the uniting Churches had been working together for over three years prior to 5th October 1972 to produce a Church Membership Course for the U.R.C. This was published on 5th October, and entitled 'Belonging to the Church'. Its approach, its material and its format are attractive and relevant. It is adaptable to the large and the small church. It has comprehensive background papers for the 'Leader' and 'take-home' papers for the participants. It has been well received by our churches, and other Churches have shown much interest in it. The reviews in the Free Church Press have been excellent. Copies containing material for a group of ten are available from The Tavistock Bookshop – Price £2.15 (plus 25p postage). Sets of additional take-home papers are also available at 13p per set (plus postage).

Putting the Faith into Words ★

This is a study project on the Faith which the Church has received and declares in the Scheme of Union (para. 17, page 23. Schedule D, page 28). It is intended for Church members of all ages, and can be used in House

Groups, Elders Meetings, Local Church Conferences, etc. It will help all who use it to sort out their own understanding of the faith and to express that faith in contemporary terms. We hope that every member church of the U.R.C. will include this study in its programme for 1973–74. Their experience⁵ could also contribute to a study being undertaken by the World Council of Churches on Salvation Today, in which they have asked member churches to set up groups of church members, to attempt to formulate what they believe in today's language.

What's in a Name ★

¹⁰ The group that met to consider the project outlined above hoped to devise something in which the whole membership of the local church, children and adults alike, could share to celebrate the fact of the U.R.C. But it did not work out like that. Instead a special celebration has been devised for the children which it is recommended should be organized at Provincial level, and if¹⁵ possible, at District level. The celebration takes the form of a Children's Rally in a large central church, perhaps the church in which the Synod Assembly is to be held in the autumn. It is intended that this 'celebration' will take the place of the Children's Rally held for so many years in connection with the Annual Assembly of the C.C.E.W. in Westminster Chapel, and thereby²⁰ restricted to those children who could be transported to the Chapel. An Order of Worship has been prepared and a Workbook for each child. These are available at cost price from the Church Life Department. Single copies are free, packets of 100 at £1.50 per hundred. It is hoped that in every Province provision will be made for the children of the churches to share in, and experience something of, the wider fellowship of the U.R.C.²⁵

Partners in Learning ★

A working party set up by the Christian Education and the Children's Committees reviewed the Partners in Learning courses and the Scripture Union courses, in order that some guidance may be given to our churches on their³⁰ use.

Recognizing that the Church is taking education seriously, the group found that:

- ³⁵ **1.** they could not recommend the Scripture Union courses. The publications are attractive and the material is in some ways more easily useable by an inexperienced member of staff but aspects of the educational and theological premises of the courses are unacceptable. There is no parallelism or standard length of course and this makes it impossible to work out the commitment of both former churches to a total church approach to education and worship;
- ⁴⁰ **2.** the 'Partners in Learning' courses remain the only ones prepared for a total church approach and to which the representatives of the Church contribute as writers and as members of the Educational Panel.

In the light of this report it is recommended that:

- ⁴⁵ the Assembly expresses its gratitude to the Partners in Learning Editorial Board and Panel for providing the annual series of volumes for the total church programme and for the financial responsibility they carry in publishing them.

Project 73 ★

Project 73 has been launched as an attempt to involve U.R.C. Youth in study and practical action on the theme of 'Mission' at home and overseas. The problems of Christian witness in Bangladesh and in Britain's New Towns⁵ at first sight, have little in common. However, both repay a more detailed study and both urgently require the energy and drive which young people can bring to raising the funds which are so urgently required. The Project will also provide a focus for the activities of local groups and District Forums and help to give U.R.C. Youth a sense of identity and purpose. A Project¹⁰ Folder has been produced, and this with a filmstrip, provides all the support material which is necessary for a Youth Group to take an intelligent and active part in this venture.

It is recommended that:

¹⁵ the Assembly commends Project 73 to District Youth Forums and local Church Youth Groups for study and action.

Order of Service for Ordination of Elders ★

An early and urgent priority for the Doctrine and Worship Committee was to prepare a draft order of worship for the Ordination and Induction of Elders. This draft was circulated, through the Moderators, to District Councils and²⁰ has been warmly welcomed. Comments on the Order in the light of its use will be welcomed by the Doctrine and Worship Committee before it submits a final draft to the 1974 Assembly for approval. As a result of the experience of reading aloud Schedule D at Ordination and Induction services, there has been a widespread feeling that the Schedule needs to be re-stated in a more²⁵ acceptable liturgical form.

It is recommended that:

the Assembly authorizes the Doctrine and Worship Committee to reconsider Schedule D with a view to transforming it into a more acceptable liturgical form.

Hymnody

³⁰ This is not the time for the U.R.C. to produce a new hard cover hymn book or to investigate the possibility of co-operating in the production of an ecumenical hymn book. Congregational Praise is not at the end of its life, and the third edition of the Church Hymnary is about to be published. We think that this is the time to prepare a hymn book supplement under the name³⁵ of the U.R.C. as a celebration of our formation. Both uniting Churches have shared in considerable preparatory work, involving over seventy congregations using experimental material, which it was hoped would eventually contribute to some form of hymn book supplement. Moreover the last five years has witnessed a considerable 'creative upsurge' in the production of worship⁴⁰ material, including hymn writing, and many of our own people have contributed. These hymns are too recent to have found a place in other supplements or hymn books.

It is suggested that the supplement should consist of 120–140 items and contain a proportion of (a) traditional hymns which are not in either Congregational Praise or the Church Hymnary (3rd edition), (b) hymns which⁴⁵ are to be found in other supplementary material and have begun to be used

with some frequency in our churches, and which need to be in a more accessible form, and (c) new material hitherto unpublished. There should be a minimal overlap with Congregational Praise and the Church Hymnary (3rd edition). Some effort should be made to supplement the weaker sections of these books. For example hymns which children can sing with adults in the congregation. The hymns in our supplement should be readily singable and published in both harmony and melody editions.

We believe that, if the matter is put in hand by this Assembly, it should be possible to produce a Hymn Book Supplement in time for the Assembly of 1975. It would also be necessary to employ secretarial assistance for the Chairman and/or the Secretary of the Supplement Committee, and to make financial provision for this. Also it would be necessary to retain the services of a professional hymnologist.

The Assembly will wish to know the probable financial implications of this project. The facts known to us have been submitted to the Finance Department.

If the Hymn Book Supplement project be put in hand, and the publication date of May 1975 be accepted, then it should be noted that the whole editorial and production schedule is a very tight one indeed and the committee set up with production responsibility could not be expected to deal with a nationwide correspondence on the inclusion of individual items in the supplement.

It is recommended that the Assembly;

- (a) authorizes the production of a Hymn Book Supplement for use with both Congregational Praise and The Church Hymnary (Third Edition);
- (b) instructs a committee, to be nominated to the Executive by the Nomination Committee, and to be responsible to the Doctrine and Worship Committee, to undertake the task of the selection and editing of material and the production of the book;
- (c) authorizes the necessary expenditure including the fees of a hymnological consultant, and the payment of part time secretarial assistance.

U.R.C. Service Book

It is thought desirable to have a United Reformed Church Service Book as soon as possible. As a first step the Doctrine and Worship Committee has had before it a draft Order for Holy Communion. This will be issued as soon as possible, and is offered to the churches for their use and comment.

We would refer to two related issues. First, a distinctive feature of Reformed Church Liturgies has in the past been the placing of the Narrative of Institution before the Eucharistic part of the service as a 'Warrant'. Some modern liturgies in Britain have put these words within the Thanksgiving Prayer. The Committee would offer the guidance that there should be liberty to vary the practice, but that normally the Narrative of Institution should either retain its place before the Thanksgiving Prayer as Warrant, or be used after the prayer at the Breaking of the Bread. In any case, there should be unflinching use of the Narrative of Institution.

It is recommended that:

the Assembly instructs the Doctrine and Worship Committee to prepare material for inclusion in a Service Book for use in the United Reformed Church, and to consider the preparation of services for congregational use.

5 Place of Children in Worship

The two previous sections on Hymnody and a Service Book illustrate the need for the Committees of the Department to work together. In selecting hymns we need to have those which can be sung with children in worship (these are not necessarily 'Children's' Hymns). In preparing a Service Book the question of the place of children in worship including the celebration of Holy Communion needs careful consideration. The Children's Committee, Christian Education Committee and Doctrine and Worship Committee have arranged to meet together to examine these questions.

Pilots ★

Pilots is a weeknight activity formerly sponsored by the Congregational Church to complement the work of Christian Education carried out among the children of the Church on Sundays. It caters for the 7–14 age group and its programme is designed to help children fulfil the Pilot promise to 'learn, pray and serve all I can in the world-wide Church of Jesus Christ'. It is non-uniformed, highly adaptable to local situations, and includes both boys and girls. Captains must be Church members. There are approximately 140 Pilot Companies. Officer training courses are arranged and Summer 'camps' are held in four centres. A policy of regionalisation is proposed under which each Province will be asked to appoint a Pilot Officer leading to the creation of a series of regional Pilot Councils. These Officers and Councils will then assume responsibility for advocacy, training and some organisation, leaving the national Pilot Panel to co-ordinate the work of the movement and to prepare programme material. The Chief Pilot Officer is Mr M. D. Woolnough, Teacher Training Officer of the Church.

It is recommended that:

the Assembly approves the setting up of regional Pilot Councils and requests Provinces to appoint Pilot Officers in consultation with the Pilot Panel.

Uniformed Organizations

A significant proportion of the Youth work of the United Reformed Church is undertaken by the Uniformed Organisations. A Uniformed Organisations' Panel has been set up comprising the Church's representatives on the Religious Advisory Panels and Boards of the various organisations and members of the Boys' Brigade Federation and Guide and Scout Fellowship. This Panel will advise and assist the Youth Committee in its relationships with the organisations and with local Churches which have their own units of such organisations.

Lent Leaflet ★

The Chairman of the Doctrine and Worship Committee, the Revd Dr Erik Routley, prepared the Lent Leaflet for 1973. It has been widely used and much appreciated. The Revd Edmund Banyard has been commissioned to produce the 1974 leaflet.

Area Two

★ TRAINING ★

The Department offers the services of its staff and committees in the setting up and staffing of training sessions anywhere in the country. We suggest that the most effective unit for such training is the District Council, and we⁵ look forward to active co-operation and participation during the coming year. As illustrations of the training sessions which could be mounted we instance:

1. The Training of Elders What is the function and ministry of Elders in the U.R.C.? The debate about the eldership was one of the keenest on the road to union. District conferences in which the two traditions share their insights as they examine the eldership as described in the Scheme of Union reveal much that otherwise remains hidden. Dr Stephen Mayor of Westminster Cheshunt College has already held a number of such training sessions and an outline programme is available.

2. Teacher Training policy and Programme A number of problems, e.g. the rapid turnover of teachers, the diversity of teaching and educational experience, the interest or lack of interest in education revealed in the budgets of local churches, complicate the formation of a national policy and often stifle local initiative in pursuing an imaginative teacher training programme. The Children's Committee is convinced of its responsibility to offer training opportunities to the whole church without inhibiting co-operation in ecumenical training; and of the importance of helping church staffs to acquire specialist skills. As a policy and programme for the church and to meet the differing needs of new and experienced teachers, the Teacher Training Officer has been asked to concentrate on the following areas of work:

1973: meetings at Synod level which would lead to a three-year programme in every District

1974: basic training

1975: special skills, e.g. music, art, drama etc.

1976: advanced training

3. Equipped to Teach 97 candidates enrolled for the course in September 1972. The Equipped to Teach course book has been revised and a new section on the use of the Bible in Christian Education added. From Spring 1973 it will be possible for candidates to begin the course at any time of the year. Each candidate will be given his or her own work programme.

4. Youth Leadership Training Youth work throughout the Church would be much more effective if more trained leadership were available and, whilst there are many excellent courses organized by Local Authorities and various voluntary organisations, there is opportunity and need for the U.R.C. to extend its training work. We recommend that each Province should have a Part-time Training Officer (1) to organize courses, weekends, etc. for the Province, and (2) to encourage local church leaders to make use of the training opportunities available.

The Youth Committee has appointed a Working Party, including training specialists, to consider how to help Provinces with Leadership

Training, to plan and execute a pilot Training Scheme and to consider co-operation with local training facilities (including other Churches and L.E.A.'s).

It is recommended that:

- 5 Assembly recognizes the importance of Youth Leadership Training and instructs the Youth Committee and the Committees responsible for Youth work in Provinces and Districts to work out together plans for Youth Leadership Training most suitable for each Province.

Area Three ★ CONFERENCES ★

- 10 Conferences are also part of our training programme. The staff of the Department has arranged one-day and weekend conferences for groups of churches during which we have sought to demonstrate, to share, to involve church members in the issues which concern their particular ministry whether it be as Elder, Lay Preacher, Teacher, or a Church member witnessing in the
15 world. The Christian Education Committee is planning to arrange 'Specialist Consultations' for those with common interests and questions; e.g. teachers, doctors, trade union members. The U.R.C. will take the initiative but will in every instance seek to recruit ecumenically.

- The FORUM is our largest total church conference. It is a rich slice of the
20 Congregational tradition which we hope will soon be enjoyed by all U.R.C. members. It is a holiday conference with a serious programme. It takes place at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, August 18-24, 1973. The theme is Christian Hope. Also at Swanwick in August 4-10 is the conference of the Congregational Council for World Mission. The programme is similar: the
25 theme is Power. Both are family conferences which fill the Hayes to capacity, which is just over 300. At the time of writing there is room at both, and a welcome at both for all U.R.C. people.

- For Young People there is a galaxy of Conferences, Workshops, Expeditions, which blend both traditions. The National Youth Forum which unites them
30 met at Westhill at Easter 1973, with representative young people coming from every Synod and nearly every district. Here they were able to experience something of the joy of the U.R.C. and to make their concerns known. One was the burning issue of 'participation', which we will consider under that heading later in this report.

- 35 For children too there are a number of Camps organized in different parts of the country. There are four camps for the children's organization Pilots and their officers, and two for those who enjoy 'Adventure Camps'. Details of all these are obtainable from the Department.

- We believe that the residential conference is an ideal teaching, training
40 setting, and it provides the opportunity of wider fellowship of the U.R.C. which we all need.

- Theological Students** A Conference is arranged for all our students in their final year. The conference is centred on New College, London, and opportunity is provided to visit the Offices of the Church and C.C.W.M. and
45 to interview the members of staff. This is a first class exercise in relationships which is valued by both students and staff alike.

Ministers Refresher Courses By the generous provision of the Kings Weigh House Trust, funds are made available for our ministers to take part in Refresher and Retraining Courses, most of which are of an ecumenical nature. In 1972 sixty ministers took part. There were two theological Reading Parties, one run by the Revd Dr John Marsh and the other by the Revd Wilson Dennett, and of these a typical comment was 'I enjoyed the whole exercise thoroughly, and I have come back to the routine thoroughly invigorated'.

At Westminster College Cambridge there is to be another Refresher Course offered to four ministers from each Province. This takes the place of the Presbyterian Church's regular Refresher course for each minister every seven years, which was highly prized by those who attended, and attendance was expected of each minister in his turn. The Ministerial Training Committee is reviewing the provision of Refresher Courses for ministers and hopes to report to the next Assembly.

Area Four THE MINISTRY

We are concerned with the ministry of the whole Church, and of every member of it. Our training programmes reflect this and so does the programme material which is produced. We are searching for the most effective means of helping local churches to fulfil their many sided ministry, and Lay Training has been the unhelpful name that has been associated with our efforts. We are ready to experiment with local churches and District Councils in varied forms of training for the ministry of the whole church, and we would welcome invitations.

Lay Preachers In some forms of ministry our brief is much clearer. For instance the care of Lay Preachers is given to the Supplementary Ministries Committee. A course leading to the Lay Preacher's certificate is available, and the question of the pattern of conferences and services which are specifically for Lay Preachers is being considered afresh, now that Provincial and District Pastoral Committees are responsible for supervising the training and fellowship of Lay Preachers.

The question of 'accreditation' of Lay Preachers has been raised. Most District Councils have accepted as accredited lay preachers those members of the U.R.C. who were previously recognized lay preachers in the Congregational and Presbyterian churches. But what are the standards to be set for the accreditation of lay preachers in the future? The committee suggests that the District should satisfy themselves that the lay preacher:

1. has a sense of call himself and that this seems to be justified by his conduct of worship;
2. has been commended by his local church;
3. is in sympathy with the basis of the United Reformed Church and is willing to serve in the churches of the District;
4. is willing to undergo training.

Local Pastors The Scheme of Union, para. 24 states that 'Other full and part time ministries recognized by either of the uniting Churches at the time of Union shall continue to be exercised in the U.R.C. without further commissioning subject always to the decisions of the General Assembly. The U.R.C. shall determine from time to time what other ministries may be required and which of them should be exercised as ministries of the whole Church. It shall decide how those who are to exercise them shall be set apart'.

It is recommended that:

the Assembly approves the following rules for admission to the Register of Local Pastors:

- 10 **1.** The United Reformed Church recognizes the ministry of local pastors on the Register of Local Pastors as auxiliary to that of the ordained ministry. They are called to share with ordained ministers in the pastoral oversight of particular churches or groups of churches, and may preside at the sacraments and at the Church Meeting and Elders' Meeting in the churches they have been called to serve. Unless they have retired, their service is normally part time and they earn their living at another occupation. A church served by a local pastor is not normally eligible for help from denominational funds towards any remuneration paid.
- 15 **2.** The United Reformed Church will admit to the Register of Local Pastors those who:
 - 20 (a) have completed the Lay Preachers' Certificate Course (with the addition of Pastoralia) to the satisfaction of the tutors and assessors appointed, and
 - (b) have been commended by their District Council and Provincial Synod with evidence of their Christian character, sense of vocation, fitness for the work and understanding of the basis of the United Reformed Church, and
 - 25 (c) have been called to pastoral charge.
- 3.** Applications will be considered by the Supplementary Ministries Committee, which may, in exceptional cases, modify or dispense with the requirement in 2(a) on grounds of age, qualifications or experience.
- 30 **4.** The Supplementary Ministries Committee will keep a list of those who have completed the course of study but are not in pastoral charge.

Deaconesses It is difficult to write a job prescription for a deaconess because each has her own gifts and there is considerable variation in the work done. But in general it can be said that a deaconess is a full time church worker who has both a caring role and a teaching role, but is not committed to the ministry of Word and Sacraments. She invariably works as a member of a team. She is paid from the central funds of the Church, and therefore can serve where there is greatest need for her services, irrespective of the local church's ability to support her. A deaconess does not serve for more than seven years in one place; her aim is to recruit and train local leadership to take her place.

40 There are at present eight deaconesses serving and one in training.

The Committee believes that the minimum salary for deaconesses should be the same as the minimum stipend for ministers. Recognising that it may not be possible to put this principle into effect immediately, it asks that this year deaconesses should receive the same increase as ministers.

It is recommended that:

the Assembly resolves for the year July 1st, 1973 to June 30, 1974 the salary scale for deaconesses shall be as follows:

5	During the first five years of service	£ 920
	" " second " " " "	£ 970
	" " third " " " "	£1020
	" " fourth " " " "	£1070
	After twenty years service	£1120

10 Deaconesses not on full pay shall receive a proportionate increase. The increase shall be met for the first six months from the reserve funds at the disposal of the Supplementary Ministries Committee, and thereafter from the general funds of the Church.

Ministry of the Word and Sacraments To the Ministerial Training Committee was given the responsibility of supervising the standards and scope of the examination and training of both collegiate and non-collegiate students
15 for the ministry. This involves relationships with former Congregational Colleges, and a direct responsibility for Westminster/Cheshunt College. The committee has been concerned with attempting to integrate the procedures followed previously by the two Churches in this sphere. At the request of the Board of Studies of Westminster/Cheshunt College the Committee
20 set up a group 'to examine the total situation and to work out a policy for the financial maintenance of students in all the Colleges'. The group has met★ and made some interim recommendations, but was convinced that the issues raised must be considered in the bolder context outlined in the following resolution:

25 *It is recommended that the Assembly:*

1. appoints a Commission to explore the forms of ministry needed in the U.R.C. in the foreseeable future; to estimate the number of full time, fully trained ministers required; to suggest the scope and content of the training desired; and in the light
30 of this examination to recommend a policy for the whole Church concerning the use of the existing Colleges and the available financial resources for ministerial training'.
2. *instructs that:*
each of the recognized Colleges be represented on the Commission together with representatives of the Moderators, the Finance Department, and the Church Life
35 Department, and such others as the Nomination Committee deems necessary;
3. authorizes the necessary funds to be made available to enable the Commission to work speedily and effectively'.

★ The group met after the Central Committee had considered reports to Assembly. In view of the urgency of this matter members of the Central Committee and the Ministerial
40 Training Committee were asked to approve these resolutions by correspondence.

RECOGNITION OF COLLEGES FOR THE TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY

Bala-Bangor The College authorities have intimated their desire to be a recognized College of the U.R.C. as they had been of the C.C.E.W.

5 *It is recommended that:*
the Assembly recognizes Bala-Bangor College for the training of ministers of the United Reformed Church.

Queen's College, Birmingham After careful study of the course of study offered at Queen's, and the objectives of this 'ecumenical' College,

10 *It is recommended that:*
the Assembly recognizes the course offered at Queen's College for students for whom good reasons can be adduced for studying there, and for whom adequate financial provision can be assured.

The Nomination to the Teaching Staff of Westminster/Cheshunt College The Nominations Committee brought forward the name of the Revd Martin Cressey, M.A., as the sole nominee for the Barbour Chair of Systematic Theology at Westminster/Cheshunt College, Cambridge. Professor Semple surveyed the distinguished academic career of Mr Cressey and his outstanding service to the Joint Committee which negotiated the formation of the U.R.C. The Ministerial Committee and the Department Committee support this nomination.

It is recommended that:
the Assembly appoints the Revd Martin Cressey, M.A., to the Barbour Chair of Systematic Theology at Westminster/Cheshunt College from 1 September 1973.

25 **Candidature for the Ministry★** The First Assembly appointed a panel for Assessment Conferences from which six assessors could be invited to share in such conferences as were needed. Some Provincial Synods and District Councils asked for clarification of their place and function.

30 *It is recommended that the Assembly supports the following procedures for candidature for the Ministry:*

1. candidates must first obtain the support of their local Church Meeting, and then apply through the Moderator to the District Ministerial/Pastoral Committee, for consideration by a National Assessment Conference.
- 35 2. The Assessment Conference will report on each candidate to the Moderator of the Province who will take the name to the Provincial Ministerial Committee. This Committee will have the final decision on the acceptance of the candidate, and on the recommendation of the College in which the candidate shall be trained, or the R.O.M. non-collegiate course.
- 40 3. The Colleges are asked to submit an annual report on each student to the Synod Ministerial Committee, who are requested to meet the student once each year.
4. R.O.M. candidates will be under the same care as College students and the Provincial Committees will be kept informed annually of their progress.

COLLEGE STATISTICS

College	Total No. in Training for U.R.C. Ministry Oct. 1972	New Candidates, Oct. 1972	Estimated No. to enter Ministry of U.R.C. 1973	Estimated No. to enter U.R.C. 1974	Actual No. entered U.R.C. in '72	Total No. of Theol. Students (incl. Post -grad.)	Total No. of places available for Theol. Students
Westminster/ Cheshunt	17	8	7	4	1	25	38
New	16	3	3	5	5	24	40+
10 Manchester	21	4	4	5	4	27	78
Manfield	3	0	3	0	3	22	35
Swansea	0	0	0	0	1	26	40
Bala-Bangor	0	3	0	0	0	12	24
R.O.M.	18	7	5(6)	5	5	-	-
15 Totals	75	25	22(23)	19	19	136	255

The following are the names of those who have completed the R.O.M. Examinations since May 1972:

	R. I. Perks (Berks)	Thames North
	K. J. E. Pryor (Suffolk)	Eastern
20	G. A. Harmer (Surrey)	Southern
	L. Jameson (Warks & Worcs)	West Midland
	P. Loviett (Warks & Worcs)	West Midland

Report of the Westminster/Cheshunt College

The Joint Committee of the Authorities of Westminster and Cheshunt Colleges met in December 1972. The Rt. Reverend John Huxtable and the Reverend President J. E. Newport were respectively elected Chairman and Secretary for the year 1972/73.

Membership of the Committee and of the Joint Board of Studies.

30 *It was agreed to recommend to the General Assembly and to the Governors:*

that the administrative structure of the joint college agreed by the Joint Committee on 12th December 1966 should be reaffirmed, suitably modified in order that the United Reformed Church might make the appointments previously made by the Presbyterian Church of England.

35 Consequently, of the eight members of the Joint Committee of the Authorities of Westminster and Cheshunt Colleges, four should be appointed by the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, and four be appointed by the Governors of Cheshunt College; the committee to elect its own Chairman and Secretary.

40 Of the twelve members of the Joint Board of Studies (in addition to members of the Joint Senatus), eight should be appointed by the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, and four by the Governors of Cheshunt College; the Secretary to be appointed by the General Assembly; joint

Chairmen to be appointed by the General Assembly and the Governors of Cheshunt respectively.

College Charges The Committee agreed that charges for the year beginning October 1973 should be fixed as follows:

⁵ Establishment £140 Tuition £140 Board & Lodging £320

Reports

The Committee received reports from the Joint Board of Studies, the Joint Senatus, and the House Committee of Westminster College.

The Committee discussed the relationship of the two colleges, now that ¹⁰ the United Reformed Church has come into existence. It noted that a ministerial candidate from the United Reformed Church should apply for admission to the Secretary of the Joint Board of Studies, following his recognition as a candidate for the ministry by his Provincial Ministerial Committee. The Joint Board of Studies has appointed the Senatus as its Interviewing Com- ¹⁵ mittee. The Cheshunt Governors would no longer need to interview or accept as students candidates from the United Reformed Church.

With regard to students of the United Reformed Church, therefore, the purpose of uniting the work of the two colleges has now been fulfilled; those of both Presbyterian and Congregational backgrounds will enter by the same ²⁰ route, follow the same course, and on leaving be ordained in the same Church. The Governors of Cheshunt College retain the right to introduce other students, and to offer bursaries to students of the U.R.C. introduced by the Joint Board of Studies. The United Reformed Church now appoint the ²⁵ four professors formerly appointed by the Presbyterian Church. The Governors of Cheshunt College continue to appoint their President (who also acts a Professor of Applied Theology in the Joint College) and the Director of Field Studies and Lay Training (who gives part of his time to the Department of Applied Theology within the joint College).

The Committee will continue to bear in mind the relationship of the two ³⁰ colleges, in conjunction with the Governors of Cheshunt College and the Ministerial Training Committee of the U.R.C., and with reference to the needs for ministerial training in that Church and more widely.

Senatus Report

The formation of the United Reformed Church has further strengthened the ³⁵ close association of the two colleges, not least because all the teachers and (with one exception) all regular students now belong together in one Church. The rearrangements so far made by the General Assembly with regard to college administration, and the tentative discussions about the future which were begun by the Joint Authorities before the union of the ⁴⁰ Churches, fall outside the scope of this Report. Nevertheless, the Senatus for its part wishes to express its earnest hope that steps leading to the establishment of a united college will now be energetically pursued.

At the beginning of 1972 eleven students were in training for the ordained ⁴⁵ ministry, of whom nine were preparing for the English Presbyterian ministry, one for the ministry of the C.C.E.W., and one for the Congregational ministry in Southern Africa. At present eighteen regular students are in training,

including sixteen ex-Presbyterians, one ex-Congregationalist and the Southern African Congregationalist. In addition five students, including three from U.S.A., one from Switzerland and one from Spain, came into residence in the Michaelmas Term to continue their theological studies, while two students from the Church of Scotland are completing their research projects as Lewis and Gibson scholars.

The student from the Evangelical Church of Spain is supported by a grant made available to the Senatus from the Cheshunt College Foundation. The Cheshunt College Governors also made it possible earlier this year for three candidates for the Roll of Ministers by examination, two Congregational ministers and a Congregational missionary to spend a term in college. Eight senior associates of the Colleges were enrolled in October – five from U.S.A., one from Australia, one from Wales and one from Canada – as well as one Canadian minister taking the Certificate Course in Pastoral Theology.

That Certificate Course has now been well established under the general direction of Dr S. H. Mayor. Three of our final-year students are taking it, along with students from other theological colleges in Cambridge. A Refresher Course for ministers, organized by Professor Buick Knox was held in June 1972, and arrangements for another course in 1973 are in train.

It has been an eventful and encouraging year in the life of the Colleges. Mention should be made of the heavy responsibilities that have fallen in particular upon the Principal in connection with the successful raising of funds for the re-roofing of the college buildings, and as Moderator of the last General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of England. The Senatus looks forward with confidence to the future, and hopes that more and more candidates for the ministry of the United Reformed Church will be encouraged to take advantage of the facilities and resources which these Colleges provide.

Area Five OTHER CONCERNS

The Department was given responsibility for Spiritual Healing, the pastoral care of students, nurses, etc. and Chaplains to the Forces. The Chaplains are under the care of the United Board to which the Executive Committee made urgent appointments and concerning which it will bring an appropriate resolution to the Assembly.

Spiritual Healing Recognizing the fact that the ministry of healing is an essential part of the life and mission of the Church, the Department has decided to set up a specialist panel to keep the Church informed on this aspect of its ministry.

★ Care of Students, etc. in Universities, Polytechnics, Nursing Schools and other Higher Education establishments. A small working party, comprising full-time and part-time Chaplains, serving a variety of Higher Education Establishments, students, former members of the Presbyterian Universities and Colleges Committee and Department staff, has met on two occasions to advise and assist the Department in this area of its work.

The Group has so far produced two working papers which, after consideration by the Central Committee, have been sent to Provincial Moderators, Chaplains, Student Organizations and other interested bodies for study and

comment. The first paper, prepared by the Revd Dr Leslie Green, Chaplain to Sheffield Polytechnic, deals with 'The role of the Chaplain'. A clear distinction is made between full and part time Chaplains committed to work within the educational institution and the local Minister who has a pastoral concern⁵ for those students who come within the sphere of his church.

It must not be assumed that each successive minister of a certain church must necessarily be the chaplain to a particular institution. The possibility of using suitable laymen, as chaplains, should be explored more fully, together with the need to consider ecumenical Chaplaincies and the appointment of¹⁰ someone of another denomination to act officially as chaplain where there is no U.R.C. Chaplain. It is important in the case of a minister with a local church who is acting as a part time chaplain, to ensure that both he and his congregation are aware of his commitments within the institution. The status of U.R.C. Ministers (and laymen) who are full or part time chaplains needs¹⁵ to be clarified. Is this work to be recognized as a 'real ministry' and, if so, what is the relationship with the Church and its Councils?

Regular training courses ought to be provided for chaplains and the responsibility for these (including finance) will lie with the Department. The Group will continue to study the Role of the Chaplain in the light of²⁰ comments received on Dr Green's paper.

It is recommended that the Assembly:

1. instructs the appropriate Committee to consider the status of U.R.C. Ministers and Laymen who are full time or part time student Chaplains and their relationship with the Church and its Councils;
- ²⁵ 2. approves that a programme of regular training courses for Chaplains be drawn up and authorizes provision to be made in the budget of the Church Life Department to finance these.

The second paper is a more general one on practical issues, concerned with the appointment of and responsibility for chaplains and other related³⁰ matters. It suggests that there is a great diversity of Higher Education establishments and, in providing Chaplaincy services, the Church ought to be thinking not only of

44 Universities (with 230,000 students) but also of
30 Polytechnics (with 80,000 full time and another 75,000 part time
³⁵ students with one or more 'A levels')
160 Colleges of Education (110,000 students) and
870 or more specialized colleges – as well as the whole range of Further
Education Colleges (at which another 70,000 students are taking
higher level courses).

⁴⁰ The Church should determine centrally (i.e. through its Church Life Department) policy on Chaplaincy matters and also co-ordinate the work. The detailed implementation of policy, including appointment of and relationships with individual chaplains, should be the responsibility of the Province. Where there is duplication of chaplains following the Union it will be for⁴⁵ the Province to sort this matter out if necessary – though in some cases it could be helpful for both chaplains to act jointly, at least for the time being.

Some suggestions are made about the responsibilities of Interim Moderators and Provincial Moderators where a vacancy occurs in a local church, the minister of which has traditionally been a chaplain of a nearby Higher Education Establishment. For example, if it is decided that this relationship should continue, there should be consultation with students, other Chaplains and, in some cases, College authorities in addition to the normal vacancy procedure.

The possibility of appointing part-time chaplains (i.e. ministers with small congregations which might not justify the time of a full-time minister) should be considered. Should the Chaplaincy proportion of the cost be met by the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund in such cases?

The whole question of the financing of the work of chaplains must be considered. The Church needs to recognize that this is part of its total ministry. Out of pocket expenses have to be met – where should these funds come from?

It is recommended that the Assembly:

1. affirms that policy on Chaplaincy matters and liaison with Students should be the responsibility of the Church Life Department but that the detailed implementation of policy, including appointment of and relations with individual Chaplains, should be the responsibility of the Provinces;
2. instructs the Church Life Department in consultation with the Finance and Administration Department Central Committee, to consider the financing of the work of Chaplains (i.e. out of pocket expenses, remuneration of whole or part-time Chaplains and contribution to ecumenical Chaplaincies) and to submit recommendation to the Executive Committee as soon as possible.
3. instructs the Church Life Department to maintain a central register of Chaplains and requests that Chaplains submit an annual report of their work to the Department and to the Provincial Moderator.

The Group has also given consideration to the procedure for linking up students commencing their studies with the appropriate Chaplains and has recommended that at least initially, a centralized liaison system should be tried. A return form should be circulated in the June Information Service to all Church Secretaries asking them to insert the names and college addresses of all students, nurses, etc., and to return the form to the Church Life Department by mid-September. The Secretary of the Consultative Group would then collate this information and send it out to Chaplains by the beginning of term.

Relationships with the National Federation of Presbyterian and Congregational Students, 'PRONGSOCS' and other student bodies and organizations would also now be the responsibility of the Secretary of this group, the Revd Michael Davies.

It is recommended that:

the Assembly authorizes that a centralized liaison system be introduced to link-up students with Chaplains and requests Church Secretaries to forward the name and college addresses of students, nurses, etc., commencing studies at a Higher Education Establishment, to the Church Life Department by 15th September each year.

Area Six QUESTIONS TO BE FACED

Throughout this first report to Assembly there have been questions raised which the new Church has to face, and we believe it is the responsibility of the Department to attempt to formulate those questions which relate to the life of the Church. Two examples are the form and scope of the full time⁵ ministry of the Church of the future, for which we have requested a Commission to be set up, and the participation of children in the worship of the church both with regard to the kind of hymns which are made available and their place in the celebration of Holy Communion.

Ordination Our concern for Local Pastors and Lay Preachers who are¹⁰ authorized to celebrate Holy Communion has raised the question of the significance of Ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in the United Reformed Church. The ordination of Elders too is in need of clarification and explanation. Our intention is to ask the Doctrine and Worship Committee to elucidate the doctrine and practice of Ordination.

Communication A major issue raised by the Christian Education Committee is the Church's approach to the non-reading masses. Is evangelism to be restricted to those who read the latest Penguin? Is there Biblical evidence to support the view that our Lord's response to human need in some instances contained no verbal didactic element? And what have the mass movements in²⁰ Latin America and the cultural Revolution in China, which claim that they have given individuals and communities a sense of having their future restored to them, to teach the Church today? Is the current 'Pop religious movement', and the Pentecostal movement of any significance? The committee will seek advice from those involved in the sphere of communication²⁵ and others and will hope to be able to make some practical suggestions to our churches.

★Participation The participation of women in the committees of the Church has been welcomed, and the Department is now seeking to discover what service it ought to render to the groups of women in our churches.³⁰ Some of these are active and have played a vital part in the promotion of overseas mission and the deaconness service as well contributing in the fullest sense to the life of the whole Church. Others are passive and often on the very fringe of the life of the local churches.

The participation of young people is another question. The Department³⁵ and the Youth Committee are concerned with the full participation of young people in the life of the Church at every level, particularly at the local church level, and are disturbed about the lack of provision for this under the present structure of the United Reformed Church. At the last two Assemblies of the Presbyterian Church of England resolutions were passed:

- ⁴⁰ (a) providing two members of the Presbyterian Youth Committee (under 25) with seats in the Assembly;
- (b) permitting each Presbytery to nominate one young person to attend the Assembly with the right to speak but not to vote;
- (c) instructing Sessions to consider the participation of young people in⁴⁵ the life and work of the congregation and to encourage them to play

their full part, especially through membership of courts, and committees, and through the congregation's Youth Council.

- (d) asking Presbyteries to involve young people in Presbytery Committees where they have a particular contribution to make and
- 5 (e) providing places on certain national Assembly Committees (Worship, Church and Community, Publications and Publicity) for representatives of Presbyterian Youth.

The Youth Committee recognizes that this is part of a wider issue of Christian commitment and undertakes to investigate more fully this very
10 important aspect of Church life. As part of this concern

It is recommended that the Assembly:

- ★ 1. being concerned about the inadequate provision for youth participation at District level, urges District Councils to examine ways in which young people may be fully involved at this level;
- 15 ★ 2. instructs the appropriate Committee to give urgent consideration to finding practical ways whereby one young person under 25 years may be included in the representation of each district at the General Assembly.
- ★ 3. recognizing that it may not be possible to include adequate representation of young people in the District representation at the next Assembly, resolves that two members
20 of the Assembly of Youth be granted seats at the 1974 General Assembly.
- ★ 4. instructs the Nominations Committee to take steps, when reconstituting national committees, to ensure that there is representation of young people thereon.

CONCLUSION

The Department submits this wide ranging report conscious of the fact that it
25 raises more questions than it answers, and that we are only at the beginning of our ministry of service to the churches. We ask for your patience, your active co-operation, and your prayers, that together we may offer to the Lord of the Church our obedience and our willing service, which it may please Him to accept and transform into new life in our churches and effective
30 witness in the world, as part of His eternal mission.

ADDENDUM:

Reformed Lutheran Agreement (prepared by the Doctrine and Worship Committee).

In recent years there has been increasingly closer contact between the
35 World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Lutheran World Federation. It is the stated view of a previous General Secretary of the W.A.R.C. that 'Lutheran and Reformed Churches realise that their present separation no longer possesses a *raison d'être* and that the unity of the Churches of the Reformation is a preliminary and essential condition of the reconstruction
40 of Christian unity'.

On the European level, with the encouragement of the World bodies, annual meetings of Lutheran and Reformed theologians have taken place since 1964. These conversations, by producing clarification of the questions at issue, led to a plan for overcoming the Church separation between the
45 Lutheran Churches, the Reformed Churches and the Union Churches in

Europe. Meetings of officially appointed representatives took place on the topic 'Church Fellowship and Church Division' in 1969 and 1970 at Leuenberg in Switzerland. The response of the churches to the plan made there was sufficiently encouraging to enable a draft 'Agreement ("Konkordie") among Reformed Churches in Europe' to be drafted in September 1971 at what was described as a Preparatory Assembly, also at Leuenberg. At this Preparatory Assembly, the Revd M. H. Cressey, then Convenor of the Inter-Church Relations Department of the Presbyterian Church of England, represented that Church and the Congregational Church in England and Wales, and was also the liaison person for the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and the Presbyterian Church of Wales. The draft Agreement was printed in the Assembly Book of Reports of the Presbyterian Church of England in 1972, and the General Assembly of that year passed a resolution which welcomed the progress towards understanding and closer fellowship evidenced by the report, encouraged the Doctrine Committee to share in the discussion of the draft, and expressed the hope that the United Reformed Church would participate in the negotiations with a view to the eventual establishment of an Agreement between these two great families of the Church. This Committee in its turn referred the matter to the Doctrine and Worship Committee of the United Reformed Church. The Executive Committee of the United Reformed Church at its meeting in November 1972 appointed the Revd M. H. Cressey as the U.R.C. representative in the conversations.

Action has had to be taken speedily as comments on the draft agreement had been asked for by March of 1973, when the responses of the eighty or more Lutheran, Reformed and Union Churches in Europe would be examined at a second meeting of the Preparatory Assembly which is intended to prepare a final text for submission to the decision-making bodies of the Churches.

The Agreement may be seen to have two very readily acceptable objects. First the production of a statement which makes it clear that Reformed and Lutheran Churches agree on the central truths of the Gospel. Second, to enable Reformed and Lutheran Churches in Europe to have full pulpit and table fellowship. It is important to note that in its essential nature the agreement is to be seen not as something to replace the Confessions of Faith of the Churches that would sign it but rather as a statement that can be seen to be in agreement with existing Confessions of Faith, and thus a declaration that there is no existing disagreement of sufficient weight to justify continuing the present situation in which Lutheran and Reformed Churches do not have pulpit and table fellowship.

This whole matter might seem to have very much more relevance on the Continent than in Britain, and it is true that the effect of the Agreement being signed would be particularly great, for example, in Germany, where it would mean a significant step forward in ecumenical relations. Nevertheless, in this country, its effect would not be negligible. It would aid the relations between the United Reformed Church and the small member bodies of the Lutheran Council of Great Britain. It would also have significance for those people who had married a partner from a church of the other confession.

The Doctrine and Worship Committee examined the document in the form in which it existed in January 1973, and found it to be consistent with

the Basis of Union of the United Reformed Church as well as with the historical Confessions of Faith of both Congregationalism and Presbyterianism in Britain. On the assurance that no substantial changes would be likely to be incorporated in its revision, it agreed to any revised document being sent to members of the General Assembly. On the instructions of the Executive Committee of the General Assembly, the Doctrine and Worship Committee has intimated to the Secretariats of the World Council of Churches Faith and Order Commission, the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Lutheran World Federation, the bodies servicing the project, that the United Reformed Church is likely to approve the Agreement. It asked the Revd M. H. Cressey to represent the United Reformed Church when the final revision was being undertaken. After further examining the revision, the Committee will present the Agreement to the General Assembly of 1974 for its decision.

(It is hoped that the final agreement will be ready to be printed with the Assembly report. If not it will have to be circulated as an additional paper.)

Motion: *That the Assembly receives the report.*

WORLD CHURCH AND MISSION DEPARTMENT

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

IN THE immediate aftermath of the union of two traditions problems of integration confront the new Church at every level of its life. The danger of over-preoccupation with such problems is always present, and has to be off-set by awareness of the Church's mission to the world, of its relationship to the World Church and of its commitment to seek wider unity in this land. Responsibility for leadership and initiative in these matters has been committed to the Department of World Church and Mission. The Reports which follow indicate the ways in which the Department has sought to begin its pursuit of these objectives.

¹⁰ The Department, however, has not been involved in a new beginning in all matters because it has inherited from the uniting Churches ongoing work of Mission and Inter-Church Relations. The Department has been concerned to continue and to develop the work thus transmitted to it.

Two matters in particular have occupied the attention of the Department:

¹⁵ **Issues of wider Union in England** Acting upon the instructions of the General Assembly of October 1972 the Department has appointed a Committee, under the Chairmanship of the Revd Dr. Norman Goodall, for Conversations with the Churches of Christ. These Conversations have begun and the Committee will report separately to the Assembly.

²⁰ At its first meeting in October 1972 the Central Committee took up the question of Multilateral Conversations towards Union in England. It did this in the light of the U.R.C.'s declared intention to 'take, wherever possible and with all speed, further steps towards the unity of all God's people.' A Resolution requesting such action had been transmitted from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of England. Further there were indications from the Church Leaders' Conference, held in Birmingham in September 1972, not only of a widespread desire for urgent movement towards union, but also of a growing hope that the U.R.C. might be able to take an initiative in this matter. The Department, therefore, requested its officers to look into the matter in consultation with other Church leaders. While these steps were being taken an unofficial, but widely representative Conference, met in Oxford to consider the next steps towards union. This gathering culminated in the expression of a very strong desire that the U.R.C. might be able to take the lead in the initiation of multilateral conversations for union. In February 1973 ²⁵ the Department, first through its Committee on Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home and then in Central Committee, considered all these facts and prepared the Resolutions which it now brings (Resolutions 1 and 2) recommending that the Assembly invite other Churches in England urgently to consider the possibilities of conversations towards Union.

CCWM and Overseas Work Under the constitution of the U.R.C. the major part of its Overseas Mission work is carried out through the agency of C.C.W.M., but at the same time the Department is charged to 'express the Church's concern for its own missionaries in all matters affecting their status⁵ and service, and particularly in matters about which missionaries themselves may make representation.' It is necessary to work out the practical implications of these two requirements. Further, there are matters of overseas involvement which lie outside the scope of the work of C.C.W.M. The Department is giving consideration to these issues. Some details will be found in the Report of the¹⁰ Committee on Missionary and Ecumenical Work Abroad.

The Department has had before it a number of other matters :

World Alliance of Reformed Churches The Department has made recommendations for representatives at the meetings of W.A.R.C. (European area) to be held in Amsterdam next September, and has appointed the Revds¹⁵ M. H. Cressey, D. P. C. Geddes, R. Whitehead and Mrs M. O. Berridge as its representatives on the British Committee of W.A.R.C.

British Christians in Europe The Associate Secretary will attend a consultation called by the Methodist Church in the matter of the care of the increasing number of British Christians who will be in Europe in connection²⁰ with the European Economic Community. The Department hopes that they will be encouraged to make contact with indigenous Churches.

Baptists and Union Churches The Department was gratified to learn that at its meeting in November 1972 the Baptist Union Council resolved as follows :

²⁵ 'That in view of the long-standing relationship which has existed between the Union Churches and the Baptist Union no revision be made of the list consequent upon their joining the United Reformed Church should such churches express the desire to remain in membership.'

Interchange The Revd S. S. T. Evans, Chairman of the B.C.C. Interchange³⁰ of Preachers Committee has agreed to act as the U.R.C. representative on that Committee together with Miss D. J. Biggs. Requests for exchanges with American ministers should also be made to Mr Evans.

Advocacy and Communication The Department is fully aware of the continuing need for its work, both in the ecumenical and overseas missions³⁵ spheres, to be known and understood throughout the churches. It is giving careful consideration to this matter. To ensure the proper relationship between policy and advocacy it has invited the Revd C. K. Meachin to attend the Missionary and Ecumenical Work Abroad Committee. He will also be available for consultation with the Central Committee.

⁴⁰ Communication is not a one-way process. The Department is aware of the importance of ecumenical experiment and work in local situations and desires to be kept informed of developments in such situations. Some of the urgent issues which are arising from areas of Ecumenical Experiment are dealt with in the Report of the Committee on Missionary and Ecumenical⁴⁵ Work at Home.

Finance The Central Committee has recommended to the Finance and Administration Department that the sum of £279,889 be accepted as U.R.C.'s contribution to C.C.W.M. work in 1973.

Discussions continue with the Finance and Administration Department
5 regarding the financing of other work of the Department.

Brian M. Pratt, *Chairman*

John Huxtable, *Secretary*

MISSIONARY AND ECUMENICAL WORK AT HOME

As the Department of World Church and Mission has the general task of engaging with Christians in every place on the assignment given by the living God of history to his people, so the 'Home' committee seeks to help
10 the United Reformed Church relate to world and church and mission as they are exemplified in these islands. Already in the first months of the Committee's meetings it has found pressing questions from each of these directions. Our part of the *world* is anguished by the tragedy of Northern Ireland: our sister *churches*, with ourselves, are looking to their future: and in each place
15 all Christians are called to *mission* – 'missionary and ecumenical work at home' wherever our homes are situated.

Ireland Together with the Church and Society Department, the Committee is naturally much concerned over the social, political and religious questions thrust at all British citizens by events in Ireland. It is also conscious of special
20 responsibilities arising from links of fellowship with Irish Christians. The Presbyterian Church of England through its close relations with the Presbyterian Church in Ireland had something of an inside view of the situation and was well placed to detect, for example, the failure of the mass media adequately to report the positive efforts for peace and reconciliation made by
25 the churches in Ireland. It is vital that the United Reformed Church should preserve and develop these links, remaining sensitive to the feelings of isolation and misunderstanding which press upon responsible churchmen, both Protestant and Catholic, as they seek the right way forward. As a contribution to this awareness, the Committee has warmly encouraged
30 ministers who have visited Ireland or have helped to arrange holiday visits to England by Irish children or adults. In particular the Revd Roger Whitehead, of Hereford, has made several visits to Belfast and made many valuable contacts there. The Committee is willing to act as a liaison body for all those in the U.R.C. who want to foster good relations with the Irish Churches and
35 thus support the ecumenical initiatives of the British Council of Churches Ireland Advisory Group. It is important to remember that the Irish churches which are members of the B.C.C. have a presence on both sides of the border and have sought to guide and support all their people in ways of moderation and reconciliation.

40 **The Future of the British Churches** The British Church Leaders Conference last September, the various conversations in Scotland, Ireland and Wales and the discussion of 'talks about talks' in England have all engaged the attention of the 'Home' Committee as well as the Department in general.

Encouragement has been given to the maintenance of all the relationships formed by the Presbyterian and Congregational Churches before our union. These include the exchange of visits by Corresponding Members to the Assemblies, arrangements concerning the mutual eligibility of ministers,⁵ inter-communion agreements and membership of ecumenical councils. As with almost every aspect of our national life, there are many uncertain factors, material and spiritual, in our present situation. What the future holds for the British churches is less clear now than it was even a decade ago. But the United Reformed Church is committed to the view that our future is¹⁰ *together* in the purpose of God. This togetherness must be and is increasingly being manifested locally; and for this reason the Committee has so far spent most of its time on questions arising from local ecumenical experiments. What has been done so far is of course only a beginning. The Committee is holding a day conference in July to plan main lines of approach to the work¹⁵ of ecumenical mission in Britain.

The relation between local ecumenical experiment and national denominations

(a) The local ecumenical church as a corporate entity

The United Christian Congregation in Skelmersdale New Town, in an area²⁰ of ecumenical experiment, has requested that it be recognised as a constituent local church of all the denominations which support the experiment, namely the Baptist Union, the Church of England, the Methodist Church, and the United Reformed Church. An area of ecumenical experiment is 'a defined area where, under responsible authority, certain denominational traditions²⁵ are suspended for a period in order that new patterns of worship, mission and ministry can be undertaken' (B.C.C. Report 'The Designation of Areas of Ecumenical Experiment', Section A, 1970). About forty-five such areas have been fully designated and in about half of these the U.R.C. has a share. Prior to union the Presbyterian Church of England had gone so far as to enable³⁰ Presbyteries to induct ministers to pastoral office in such areas. This was not, however, the same as receiving a local ecumenical church as a full constituent congregation of the denomination.

In terms of the U.R.C. understanding of the Church, once a group of members with some degree of recognition from the wider Church, is associated³⁵ in a locality for worship, witness and service, there exists a local church. What is to be the relation of that local church to the national denominations? So far as the URC is concerned, such a local church may apply for admission to the URC and a Synod may 'receive and forward' such an application to the General Assembly 'with a recommendation through the Moderator of the⁴⁰ Synod', and the Assembly may 'receive and decide upon it'. If such an application is to be accepted, then (a) it must be decided whether the constitution of the local church is sufficiently compatible with the Scheme of Union, (b) it must be decided whether being a local U.R.C. church under the Scheme of Union is compatible with what is required of a local church under the⁴⁵ constitution of other denominations to which it is also to belong, and (c) special administrative arrangements will have to be made to deal with the

fact that as an ecumenical body it has responsibilities, spiritual, conciliar and financial to other denominations as well as to the U.R.C.

The question of compatibility has already presented itself in another form⁵ in relation to Union Churches of Congregationalists and Baptists which have joined the U.R.C. or wish to do so. Alongside the legal points about trusts dealt with in the United Reformed Church Act, para. 14, there is the ecclesiological problem of what is required for a local church to comply with the Baptist Union basis which states among other provisions that 'each Church¹⁰ has liberty under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to interpret and administer (Christ's) laws' (cf. Appendix 8, Reports to B.U. Assembly, 1972). Some hold that this requires strict Independency, but the B.U. Council in November 1972 agreed 'that in view of the long-standing relationship which has existed between the Union Churches and the Baptist Union no revision be made of the list (of member churches of the B.U.) consequent upon their joining the¹⁵ United Reformed Church should such churches express the desire to remain in membership.' It should be noted that this resolution does not express any judgment on the question of principle and could be understood simply as acknowledging the Union Churches as a group as a kind of 'area of ecumenical²⁰ experiment'. At an earlier stage, the Presbyterian Church of England, in receiving Amersham Free Church as a congregation of the P.C.E. as well as a member church of C.C.E.W. and B.U., declared that there was 'no clear policy upon which . . . general legislation could at present be based and only through such a local and exceptional experiment could the nature of required legisla-²⁵tion become apparent' (P.C.E. Assembly Reports, 1965).

If objection is made to having more such anomalies, it should be noted that it would also be anomalous to refuse to receive as a local church a group of people any one of whom would, if a baptised and 'confirmed' member of his own denomination, be readily accepted as a member by a 'normal' U.R.C.³⁰ local church. Indeed the P.C.E. Assembly (Minutes 1971 p. 129) resolved 'that for the purpose of reception of members by transfer from other churches, an ecumenically constituted congregation acknowledged as of good standing by member churches of the British Council of Churches shall be declared to be a true branch of the Church of Christ'.

(b) *The members of a local ecumenical church*

³⁵ The members of a local ecumenical church, such as Skelmersdale or Bar Hill, fall into two categories: (i) those who were before joining this local church members of a 'normal' denominational local church; (ii) those who there entered for the first time into what the U.R.C. calls 'the full privileges and responsibilities of membership of the Church'. Given that there are no⁴⁰ 'grades' of such membership in the Church of Jesus Christ, and given that the church is more than a collection of local independent units, then those who become members for the first time at e.g. Bar Hill cannot be regarded as members of the local church only and must therefore either choose a denomination or be enabled to express their membership through more than one regional and national form of the Church. The latter course clearly accords⁴⁵ better with their actual local Christian experience.

If this last point is valid, can those in category (i) be regarded differently? The Methodist Church has, at present, said 'yes' and permits 'ecumenical membership' for those admitted for the first time in an ecumenical setting but not for those who transfer to an ecumenical local church (cf. Report ⁵ 'Church Membership in Shared Churches in Pioneer Areas', Methodist Conference, 1972). This distinction is made in order to 'contain' another anomaly, namely that an 'ecumenical member' has in relation to different denominations privileges and responsibilities, and particularly the latter, which are mutually incompatible, e.g. in relation to marriage discipline. ¹⁰ Yet once the anomaly is permitted for one category in a given local church, it is undesirable to 'contain' it short of the bounds of that local community. It must, moreover, be recognised, as was noted above, that an individual member in other situations is denominationally 'transferable'; even when he deals with conflicting church disciplines by a decision of conscience and if ¹⁵ necessary a change of local allegiance, this often leaves unchanged his existential attitude to the Church local and universal. The implicit ecclesiology of a mobile Christian population must be given due weight, without treating 'vox populi' as always 'vox Dei'. Special attention must be given to the problems presented by provisions of the Sharing of Church Buildings Act ²⁰ 1969, which do not envisage any merging of membership rolls. It may be that the Act can still operate without amendment even if the separate membership rolls maintained under its provisions contain identical lists of names.

(c) *The minister in a local ecumenical church*

The problem of having privileges and responsibilities in more than one ²⁵ denomination becomes more pressing in the case of ministers. A U.R.C. minister inducted to pastoral charge in a local ecumenical church or a Baptist minister serving a Union Church or a Methodist minister permitted to serve in an area of ecumenical experiment partly financed by U.R.C. money has to ask himself to whom he is, under God, responsible. Where a local church ³⁰ and its members have multiple-membership it seems clear that a distinction must be made between privileges and responsibilities arising out of the pastoral relationship to that particular local church and more general privileges and responsibilities pertaining to the ministry of word and sacraments. Once again anomaly must be recognised in any disjunction between these ³⁵ distinguishable aspects of ministerial office; yet disjunction seems to be necessary, because it must be clear which denomination has the responsibility and authority to deal with matters affecting the minister's good standing and on a more material level has financial responsibility for ensuring his stipend and safeguarding his position with regard to future service and pension rights. ⁴⁰ The U.R.C. Ministerial Training Committee and Maintenance of the Ministry Committee must clearly be involved in discussion of these matters.

In view of these considerations, the Committee suggests to the Assembly (see Resolution 3) the following three guide lines.

1. Synods have the right to receive and forward applications for member- ⁴⁵ ship of the United Reformed Church from local churches which already have or desire to have simultaneous membership in one or more other denominations; where such an application is submitted by a Synod, the Synod's

recommendation should include a statement on the mutual compatibility of the proposed memberships and details of appropriate administrative arrangements for the equitable apportionment of responsibilities both of the local church to denominations and of denominations to the local church.

⁵ **2.** In the case of local churches admitted to the United Reformed Church as in paragraph 1 above, all their members who have been admitted to the full privileges and responsibilities of membership of the Church of Jesus Christ will exercise these privileges and responsibilities within the United Reformed Church in the manner laid down in the detailed proposals for each local church; since full members of any local Christian church who are in good standing may at the discretion of the church meeting be received as individuals into membership of a local U.R.C. church, a local ecumenical church of such full members should be equally welcome to participate in the life of the U.R.C. as a group.

¹⁰ **3.** In the case of those exercising the ministry of word and sacraments in another denomination who are :

(a) inducted to the pastoral charge of a Union Church which is a local church of the U.R.C. and also a member church of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, or

¹⁵ (b) inducted or otherwise given responsibility in a local church admitted to the U.R.C. as in paragraph 1 above or in an area of ecumenical experiment :

Such a minister may *either* (i) apply for admission to the ministry of the U.R.C. in the way provided for in the Scheme of Union *or* (ii) retain status as a minister of another denomination *provided* that in the latter case he or ²⁰ she shall have in the local church and the councils of the U.R.C. the privileges and responsibilities of a minister of the U.R.C. other than those which bear directly on the determination of status as a minister in good standing or particular conditions of stipend or of future service and pension rights, these exceptions being explicitly stated in detail for each case in an agreement to ²⁵ be approved by the District Council and the Provincial Synod.

Further discussion is needed concerning the role of ministers of other denominations in sector ministries or team ministries; the above paragraph 3 deals only with the particular cases described in (a) and (b).

Martin H. Cressey, *Chairman*

Boris Anderson, *Secretary*

MISSIONARY AND ECUMENICAL WORK ABROAD

³⁰ The Committee has met twice since the inception of the United Reformed Church. The remit of the Committee is very wide, covering the overseas mission areas with which both former Churches were concerned as well as the increasing amount of work and relationships developing between Churches in various parts of the world. All members have been interested and stimulated ³⁵ by contact with and experience of fields with which they were not previously familiar.

By its nature, the Committee is required to work in close co-operation with the Congregational Council for World Mission, and with the Secretary for Mission in the Church Life Department. In doing so it will learn to resolve many of the problems of detail which inevitably follow a change of organization and at the same time enter into the spirit of the world Church of which we form a small but significant part.

Perhaps the most satisfactory way of reviewing the work done by the Committee so far is to take the continents in alphabetical order.

Africa A report was received from the Revd A. L. Macarthur of his visit to South Africa on the occasion of the 75th Anniversary Conference of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa. He had had opportunities to visit many Churches and Church leaders and found that 'even now in Christ there is neither Bantu nor white . . . but one new humanity. . . . Whether there is sufficient slack in the political time-scale for this to be significant is the critical question.' Correspondence previously carried on between the P.C.E. and Dutch Reformed Church is being continued by the Committee.

The Committee had assumed the responsibilities of the former P.C.E. for a Ghanaian Chaplaincy in London, aiming at the integration of Ghanaians into British churches during their stay in England. The work was begun twelve years ago at the initiative of two Ghanaian Presbyterian Churches – The Presbyterian Church of Ghana and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ghana. The U.R.C. therefore co-operates with these Churches in responsibility for the chaplaincy. New opportunities are opening up in the new situation brought about by the formation of the U.R.C. The Chaplain, the Revd Albert Wurapa, is preparing a plan for the future development of the chaplaincy for presentation to the Chaplaincy Committee, on which the M. & E.W.A. committee is represented.

Continued involvement in the Nairobi Training Centre for Broadcasting and Audio-Visual Services run under the auspices of the All Africa Council of Churches is anticipated, though the degree of financial assistance which will be possible is still uncertain.

Concern has been felt regarding the arrest of Presbyterian Church leaders in Mozambique.

America Contact with South America has been slight, but enquiries are being made as to the best means of developing relations with Churches there. Regular contacts with Churches in North America are also less than the Committee would like, but arrangements for ministerial exchanges between U.R.C. and American ministers, which have been part of the life of both Congregationalists and Presbyterians, are to be continued. The committee is grateful to the Revd S. S. T. Evans of Bromley for his agreement to serve as Secretary for this ministerial exchange programme.

Asia The Secretary has been able to visit Bangladesh and found a heartening state of affairs in spite of the aftermath of war. The new political climate appeared to offer new possibilities to the Church. It is hoped that Bishop Blair of Dacca will be able to make closer contact with U.R.C. during his visit to England this year.

Among other Asian Churches which have been in touch with the department have been the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea, which has expressed a wish for closer links with the U.R.C. and the Swatow Church of Hong Kong which invited the U.R.C. to be represented at celebrations of the 125th anniversary of the first preaching of the Gospel in Swatow.

The Committee noted that a China Study Project had been launched at Selly Oak with a view to keeping British Churches informed of developments in China, particularly with regard to Christian witness there. It was felt that at the present juncture in particular this was a worthwhile development. The Committee is inviting the Revd V. E. W. Hayward, who has been appointed Research Secretary to the Project to a future meeting.

Europe Perhaps the enlargement of the European Economic Community has led to or rendered more urgent, consideration of the relations between U.R.C. and its sister Churches in Europe. The European Area of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches comprises fourteen million members, of which two million are in the United Kingdom. The Committee has heard reports of visits to the Waldensian, German, and Hungarian Churches, and spent time considering the part the Church is to play in the World Alliance. Thought has also been given to the needs of British Christians who will increasingly be taken to the Continent in the course of their work. The Committee believes that every attempt should be made to encourage members to integrate with continental Churches.

The role of the European Area of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and its relation to the Conference of European Churches has been discussed. The draft constitution of the W.A.R.C. European Area will be examined before a meeting of the Alliance to be held in Amsterdam in September at which the U.R.C. will be represented. It was noted that the United Reformed Church was represented in discussion being held in Geneva between Lutheran and Reformed Churches in Europe.

In the past Congregational and Presbyterian links with the Continent have been far from negligible. The two components of U.R.C. have between them had contact with 24 of the 27 member Churches of the World Alliance in Continental Europe. Clearly the time is ripe for deepening these contacts as the country itself becomes part of the E.E.C.

C.C.W.M. Besides the relations mentioned above, the Committee maintains, through its links with C.C.W.M, close contact with the work done in numerous countries overseas. The first Board meeting of C.C.W.M., since the U.R.C. union had the pleasure of receiving more new workers going overseas than for a good many years.

Details of the work in which C.C.W.M. is involved overseas will be available through the C.C.W.M. Annual Report but mention should be made here of one or two areas for which this last year has had special significance.

Papua As the people of Papua New Guinea prepare for independence, the members of the United Church also prepare themselves to play a full part in the life of the new nation – and C.C.W.M. is giving them its full support. Not so long ago church life was localized and tribal. Now the Church is

trying to reach out to everyone from university students on one hand to primitive Highland folk on the other, and is participating in government programmes, medical, educational and social.

Rhodesia Very different problems face the Churches in Rhodesia.

⁵ For the Congregational Church, as for the others, church leadership is critically important. There has been a rapid run down in C.C.W.M. ministerial strength, and there is anyway a question of whether at this point white leadership can help an African Church to develop. We welcome therefore the appointment of the Revd Joshua Danesa as first Moderator for the region.

¹⁰ **Madagascar** Madagascar has also been the scene of a quiet political revolution. There is new emphasis on Malagasy culture. The Church of Jesus Christ is determined to bridge the great cultural gap between town and village by putting fresh emphasis on outlying areas and the use of Malagasy rather than French.

¹⁵ **North India** The newly united Church of North India is beginning to feel its self-identity as it faces formidable problems. C.C.W.M. is pleased to be involved in the remarkable work of the Calcutta Cathedral Service.

The Committee is responsible for advocacy within the United Reformed Church, working closely with the Church Life Department in this field.
²⁰ Changing patterns of deputation will be examined by a Spring Conference on Advocacy to be held at Selly Oak with representatives from all the Provinces. It is hoped to link missionaries more closely with Districts and Provinces of U.R.C. so that personal interest and concern may be maintained. Information about the work of C.C.W.M. is being sent to all U.R.C. local churches in the
²⁵ World Church and Mission pack which goes with each edition of the Information Service.

On the financial side, the Committee is responsible for approving the C.C.W.M. budget insofar as the U.R.C. as a constituent member is concerned. This is a big responsibility, and it is clear that rising costs and the financial
³⁰ pause resulting from the creation of U.R.C. will call for an increase in giving if the work being done in various spheres is to be maintained and extended. The trend of contributions from the churches over the last few years calls for gratitude and gives cause for encouragement for the future.

The Committee is aware that its work is a mixture of relationships between
³⁵ individuals and societies in a sensitive but fruitful area. It will endeavour to remember constantly what it is doing and in whose name as it treads the intricate paths it will follow into the corners of the world. It will seek to bring the U.R.C. into fellowship with many Churches, and share in thought, prayer and deed in their problems, hopes, sufferings and opportunities.

John E. M. Gilbey, *Chairman*

Boris Anderson, *Secretary*

⁴⁰ **MISSION AND OTHER FAITHS**

The Committee on Mission and Other Faiths sees its work primarily as having to do with people of other faiths resident in this country. But it recognizes that to understand those faiths it must be aware of what is going on elsewhere,

for example, in the world of Judaism or Islam. It will be our task to keep in touch with other agencies inside and outside the Christian Church which are active in the field of interfaith dialogue, in order to share ideas and experience and to avoid unnecessary overlapping. We need to seek effective⁵ ways of approach to the Jews, Muslims, Sikhs and Hindus in our midst, realising that effective 'dialogue' involves a willingness to listen as well as to speak. In the past, Presbyterians were helped in their approach to the Jews by having the Revd R. H. Lewis as consultant on Jewish matters, and the committee recommends his reappointment as consultant for two years to¹⁰ June 1975 (see Resolution 4). The committee requires time for full consideration of the issues involved in its work, and hopes, as a result of its own study, to produce material which will be of value for further study by groups and individuals in contact with people of other faiths. To that end it has arranged a study conference in mid-April to discuss two basic questions,¹⁵ one theoretical and one practical – A Christian theology of religions, and How to help ministers and churches in their approach to those of other faiths.

Alan G. MacLeod, *Chairman*

Boris Anderson, *Secretary*

Continued.

Appendix

SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WORLD ALLIANCE OF REFORMED CHURCHES (PRESBYTERIAN AND CONGREGATIONAL)

1. The theological work of the W.A.R.C. is done through Commissions in Europe, North America and at world level. Three particular issues have been singled out for attention at the present: 'A theological basis of human rights'; 'How to do theology'; and 'The involvement of the whole people of God in church and society'. It is hoped that theologians in all member Churches may take active part in these discussions.

The W.A.R.C. has been involved in the dialogue promoted by the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity on the general subject 'The presence of Christ in Church and World'. This dialogue will continue until 1975.

Co-operation with the Lutheran World Federation continues to be strengthened; and the Baptist World Alliance has accepted the idea of bilateral conversations between its Executive and that of the W.A.R.C.

2. The Report looks briefly at the work of the W.A.R.C. in six continents.

Asia The W.A.R.C. Executive met in Djakarta in July 1972. In addition to their normal work, the committee members were able to establish important contacts with the officers of the Council of Churches in Indonesia as well as with almost all the 20 W.A.R.C. member Churches in this vast country.

The Church in North India has decided to confirm its membership in W.A.R.C. The Church has communicated its desire 'for full communion and fellowship with all those Churches with which any of its uniting Churches were at the time of union in full communion'.

In July 1972 Mr. Perret visited the Churches in North India and in Pakistan.

Australasia The President (Dr Thompson), a vice-president (Mrs Shanti Solomon) and the Revd Fred Kaan paid visits to the Churches in Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

Africa Mr Perret and Mr Kaan visited the Republic of South Africa in October 1971 on the question of organizing a consultation on racial problems in that country by our member Churches. The first meeting of the organizing committee for this consultation was held in Pretoria in December 1972.

The fate of several hundreds of prisoners in Mozambique, arrested in mid-June 1972 remains uncertain. Among them are 31 leaders and members of the Presbyterian Church in Mozambique. Among these were its President, news of whose tragic death in prison became known on 12th December 1972. The World Council of Churches, the French speaking Churches in Switzerland and the Anglican bishop of Lourenco Marques, have helped in demanding an enquiry into this matter and in giving assistance to the prisoners.

Latin America Dr Thompson paid visits to Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala and Mexico. In Mexico there was a celebration of the centenary of its National Presbyterian Church.

5 **North America** Interconfessional dialogues are very much the order of the day in the U.S.A. A Lutheran Reformed dialogue has started in Canada. Six years of conversations between Roman Catholics and representatives of the North American Area of the W.A.R.C. have resulted in the publication of two important documents: 'The ministry in the Church' and 'Women in the Church'. The present theme for
10 discussion is 'The shape of the unity we seek in the modern world'.

Europe Special mention is made of the formation of the United Reformed Church in October 1972. A meeting of the European Area Council is scheduled for 6th – 11th September, 1973 in the Free University of Amsterdam on the theme 'Whom do you say that I am?'

15 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

The Assembly receives the Report.

1. The Assembly, recalling the commitment in the Scheme of Union that the United Reformed Church will take, wherever possible and with all speed, further steps towards the unity of God's people and welcoming the response given on behalf of other
20 Churches in the Service in Westminster Abbey on 5th October 1972, now:

1. Invites those Churches to share in discussions as to how that unity can be furthered in England.
2. Resolves to appoint eight people to be available to meet with similar groups from such other Churches as may be ready to accept this invitation.
- 25 3. Records its hope that these discussions will produce concrete proposals for conversations between those Churches able to commit themselves to seek the formation of a united church.

The Assembly instructs its representatives to report the progress made towards this end not later than the Assembly of 1974.

30 2. The Assembly addresses this invitation to the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, the Churches of Christ, the Church of England, the Methodist Church, and the Roman Catholic Church, and asks the F.C.F.C. to act as agent in securing representation of such smaller Churches as desire to participate.

35 3. The Assembly takes note of the guide lines on the URC and local ecumenical experiments put forward by the World Church and Mission Department in its report and commends them to Synods, District Councils and local churches.

4. The Assembly agrees that the Revd R. H. Lewis continue as the Church's consultant on Jewish matters for a further two year period, June, 1973 – June, 1975.

CHURCH AND SOCIETY DEPARTMENT

Chairman: The Revd John Johansen-Berg, M.A., B.D.

Secretary: The Revd John P. Reardon, B.A.

Flexibility The Church and Society Department was set up with a Central Committee but no other standing committees. The idea was to give it maximum flexibility, enabling it to work mainly through working parties and provincial committees. The Central Committee has responded positively to this general ⁵ plan. Such a structure makes demands on the Central Committee since it must be ready to study and discuss a wide variety of issues for which there are no specific committees; it must make good use of material which is available through ecumenical channels; it must select carefully the issues to be studied by working parties with a view to presenting thorough reports on a limited ¹⁰ number of topics. The degree of success of this flexible structure has yet to be shown but the Department is very ready to try it.

Relationship to B.C.C. Departments The subjects in our remit involve the Department in several Departments of the British Council of Churches: Social Responsibility, International, Education, Industrial Advisory Committee and Community and Race Relations Unit. As previous representation ¹⁵ remained until the present Assembly, we have relied on our former representatives on these bodies, some of whom are also members of the Department. Our structure makes links with relevant ecumenical bodies all the more important so we look forward to having a strong representation on all these ²⁰ Departments so that there can be a two-way flow of information.

The B.C.C. is currently concerned with a review of its own structure. General approval has been given to the development of the work through four Divisions: Ecumenical Affairs, Community Affairs, International Affairs and Christian Aid. There is some concern at the range of matters which will fall ²⁵ to the Division of Community Affairs, which will incorporate the work of the present Social Responsibility Department, Education Department and Community and Race Relations Unit, but this is parallel to the situations in several denominations including our own. It is recognised that there will be a need for realistic selectivity in the issues pursued by the Council.

³⁰ **Advisory Group on Broadcasting** At our first meeting it was suggested that there were some special concerns for which we should need advisory groups, but that any groups set up should be subject to annual review by the Department. One such concern was Broadcasting which we agreed was a subject of major importance for the Church in the current social scene. ³⁵ Policy decisions regarding broadcasting, training for religious broadcasters and participation in religious advisory panels require much thought by people who are involved in broadcasting. The Department appointed some people who had been involved with this work to meet with the Chairman and

Secretary to discuss whether an advisory group was necessary and what should be its remit. Their recommendations were discussed by the Department which then agreed :

- 5 1. That an Advisory Group on Broadcasting be established to report, from time to time, to the Department Committee, on matters in the field of broadcasting, and, in particular,
 - (a) to offer advice on the kind of broadcasting courses available ;
 - (b) to maintain links with ecumenical broadcasting committees and agencies ;
 - 10 (c) to offer advice and opinion on developments and legislation affecting broadcasting ;
 - (d) to suggest appropriate material for study in churches, Synods and Districts ;
 - 15 (e) to recommend the names of U.R.C. members to be sponsored for broadcasting courses.
- 20 2. That the Group be not larger than eight people plus the Chairman and Secretary of the Department ex-officio, and that it include in its membership, if possible, people professionally engaged in broadcasting and religious advisers to television companies, in addition to some who are concerned about broadcasting primarily as consumers.

It was recognised that there was much work to be done in this field, both in relation to television and sound broadcasting. The introduction of independent local radio stations will present the church locally with more responsibilities and opportunities. The advisory group will help us to discharge
25 our national responsibility in this matter. As a Department we shall gladly receive information and enquiries from local churches, Districts and Provinces on this subject and do our best to help in the way we have indicated.

World Development The One per cent Appeal resulted from a shared concern in the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches. This remains a
30 matter of vital interest in the United Reformed Church so it was felt that we should formulate our general policy on world development as early as possible for presentation to the Assembly. Those who had been most involved in this work met together to submit proposals to the Department which considered the subject at its January meeting. Resulting from these discussions the
35 Department suggests that the U.R.C. should discharge its responsibilities in three ways :

- (a) **POLITICAL ACTION** Each year the Department should set political targets which are realistic and attainable, providing churches with the necessary simple guidance to enable them to take political
40 action. For this ongoing political task the Department intends to keep in close co-operation with the World Development Movement to which it will look for help and advice. For 1973 the following targets suggest themselves :
 - 45 (i) Every church should correspond with the local M.P. about the aid budget, with particular reference to urging the Government

to attain the UNCTAD target of 0.7 per cent of Gross National Product in official aid.

(ii) Every church should be encouraged to take part in the Europe '73 Programme.

- 5 (b) **EDUCATION** The Department should make a determined effort in the field of education concerning world development, providing help and material so that local churches can see the importance of their part in the struggle for world justice. Educational material, e.g. visual aids, pamphlets and reports will be made available.
- 10 (c) **FINANCIAL APPEAL** The Assembly should be asked to launch a World Development Appeal in the form of a One per cent Appeal directed to individuals; church meetings should be encouraged to challenge the members of their congregations to make personal contributions. The appeal should be organised annually by the Church and Society Department in consultation with C.C.W.M. and Christian Aid.
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On this third section it was made clear that one per cent of take home pay was chosen because it seemed an appropriate minimum response from Christians to a world crisis. The Department was aware that such an appeal would not receive universal response and in many cases the response would fall short of the percentage suggested but this did not preclude setting a realistic target for individual giving. In view of the fact that stress was being laid on political action, it was felt that churches should be encouraged to send ten per cent of the total raised to the World Development Movement for its political work. If this was decided by a church meeting, a covering letter, provided by the Department, should be sent out with the appeal literature and this would make the intention clear.

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Going into Europe Our country's going into Europe presents the Church with wider responsibilities and greater opportunities. The B.C.C. is aware of and studying these and, through our representatives, we share in that study and in participation in European conferences. The Secretary of our Department shared in a visit to the Church and Society Department of the Ecumenical Centre in Brussels where the main subject was the relationship of the E.E.C. to the Third World.

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35 Many congregations will wish to study the implications of British membership in the E.E.C. As part of this study we commend a study kit, 'Going into Europe' which has been produced by the B.C.C. This contains a series of study papers on the Community, the attitude of the British Churches, Christian responsibility in the Common Market and related issues; there are also suggestions for worship and for local action.

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The E.E.C. and world development are related in 'Europe '73' which is a programme, organised on the initiative of the World Development Movement, aimed at encouraging the enlarged E.E.C. to adopt policies which will be helpful to the poorer countries. Amongst the policies commended are the adoption of an agreement on sugar along the lines of the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement; an increasingly open policy for textile imports from the developing countries; the phasing out of duties and internal taxes on pro-

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cessed goods, especially coffee; an agreement with the Asian countries on Community aid policies comparable to future aid programmes to Africa and the Caribbean. The basic idea of this programme is to keep before the enlarged Europe the vision which saw it as having great potential for good in the world as a whole. The temptations of increasing riches lead to the vision being too quickly forgotten. It is therefore appropriate that at the outset such a programme should be mounted and we hope that our membership will play its full part.

Non-Violent Action A remit carried over from the Presbyterian Church was the production of a Report by a Commission on the subject of non-violent action. The Commission was an ecumenical one and it included academics, ministers, a Member of Parliament and a Brigadier. The Report, which the S.C.M. Press published in the Spring, considers ways in which civil and international tensions can be overcome by non-violent action. The sections of the Report are:

- 15 Preface.
- Violence.
- The Response of Christians.
- Some Theological presuppositions.
- Some Case Studies in non-violence.
- 20 Eliminating the causes of violence.
- Non-violent methods of conflict resolution.
- Non-violent methods of political and social change.
- Non-violent methods and international conflict.
- Training for non-violent action.
- 25 Some general proposals about the use of non-violent action.
- Some proposals for the use of non-violence in actual political situations.
- Conclusion.

It was published as a Report commissioned for the United Reformed Church but the Preface makes it clear that this was a remit carried over from the Presbyterian Church and outlines the negotiations that led to the formation of the Commission, including the approaches to the Department of International Affairs of the B.C.C. and its encouragement to the Presbyterian Church to service such a Commission. The Preface also points out that this is a Group report and that the U.R.C. has yet to decide in what way it wishes to make use of it.

The hope of the Department is that the Report will stimulate discussion on these issues in the U.R.C. and other Churches and, beyond these, in the community in general. The Commission would also like to see some resulting action. One of the conclusions of the Report reads:

'Non-violent methods are applicable in a variety of different situations. We accordingly recommend (i) the training of the army in non-violent techniques; (ii) the training of volunteer reservists for non-violent peacekeeping operations; (iii) the setting up of non-violent training schools by the churches; (iv) the increase in the numbers of the police and in the spread of the population to be found among them; (v) the strengthening of the work of the U.N. in mediation and peace-keeping.'

In a generation of spiralling violence, this Report underlines the urgency of applying non-violent responses to situations of tension. Even high-ranking officials in military circles now question the practicality of violent responses in a world of such devastating potential for destruction. This is a matter for urgent and practical thinking and action. Christ calls his followers to a ministry of reconciliation so they should be in the forefront in such action.

We hope that the Assembly will commend the Report for discussion by Provinces, Districts and Church Meetings and that it will encourage this Department to explore further the means of implementing the conclusions.

¹⁰ **'The Search for Security'** The October Council meeting of the B.C.C. commended for study and discussion by member churches a report 'The Search for Security: A Christian Appraisal', the result of a Working Party chaired by Revd E. Rogers. It contains a useful survey of post-war ecumenical contributions to the debate about defence and security in a nuclear age and ¹⁵ examines the British approach to defence and disarmament. There are important sections on the Conduct of Modern War, Keeping the Peace, Disarmament and the Foundation of a lasting Peace.

Edward Rogers describing the report writes :

'We set the scene by attempting to analyse the meaning of "security" and ²⁰ then summarise previous B.C.C. reports and statements on defence policy. We then look at the various inter-related ways that have been tried to prevent the outbreak of war or to restrain its fury. We follow this by examining the alternatives to war that have been suggested as more intelligent, or more moral (or both) ways of settling disputes. We survey and endeavour to ²⁵ interpret the changing pattern of contemporary conflict.'

This is quite a considerable report which would be most useful to study groups prepared to go into the subjects raised in some depth.

Liquor Licensing The Erroll Committee published its Report in December 1972 and included within it the following recommendations:

- ³⁰ (a) greater flexibility in the hours during which drink can be sold ;
- (b) access by children under 14 to bars in licensed premises if the licensee so wishes and provided that the justice thinks the premises suitable ;
- ³⁵ (c) the lowering of the age limit for the purchase and consumption of intoxicating liquor in licensed premises from 18 to 17 ;
- (d) a new, simplified licensing system ;
- (e) restrictions on the licensing justices' ability to prevent the opening of premises in their area on the grounds that new facilities are not 'needed' ;
- ⁴⁰ (f) greater powers for justices and local authorities to control and maintain the standards and conduct of licensed premises ;
- (g) the assimilation of registered members' clubs to the ordinary licensing system ;
- ⁴⁵ (h) the setting up of a working party to monitor the effects in various fields of any future legislation.

The Department welcomes the publication of the Report and, in general, its attempt to rationalise and up-date the licensing laws. It is felt desirable that there should be greater flexibility in hours of opening of licensed premises, but the Department supports the view that there should be a statutory maximum and minimum. It seems that the discretion of the justices is a reasonable safeguard in granting more access to licensed premises by children under 14. The Department has mixed feelings about the lowering of the age limit for purchase and consumption of alcohol in on-licence premises, and hopes that this matter will be carefully researched and considered before any change is made. The Department feels that the greater onus of responsibility for the sale of liquor for consumption by those under age should be shifted from the licensee to the purchaser, although the Department does not intend that such a change should erode the principle of the licensee's over-all responsibility for the conduct of his establishment.

15 The main general criticism of the Report is that it acknowledges the seriousness of heavy drinking and alcoholism and then appears to under-rate them in its recommendations. The Report envisages the establishment of a monitoring exercise after changes in the law, but, in the absence of strong public demand for legislation, the Department favours further research into the possible effects of such changes before they take place.

Provinces The Department is pleased to know that most Provinces have set up Committees concerned with Church and Society matters and that a number have decided to undertake specific studies, e.g. the Yorkshire Committee is studying race relations; the Welsh Districts education, the Eastern Province broadcasting, education and the environment; the Mersey Province unemployment.

The Secretary has visited a number of Provinces; others have sent written reports. We hope to hold a conference for Provincial officers so that we can share information and clarify the objectives of the Assembly and Provincial Committees. We hope that Provinces will keep us informed of their intentions so that we can avoid unnecessary duplication in work and arrange for co-operation where there are shared interests.

Population One of several remits passed on from the two denominations was the desirability of undertaking some study on the theme of population trends and control. The National Council of Social Service has completed such a study and the Report is being studied by the Department. Churches wishing to obtain copies should write to Mr. David French, National Council of Social Service, 26, Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3HU.

Cycle of Deprivation Among the current concerns of the B.C.C. Social Responsibility Department is the emphasis of Sir Keith Joseph on the 'Cycle of Deprivation'. He has been concentrating on the phenomenon within our society of socially deprived families who never seem able to improve their standard of living and for whom the social services seem unable to find solutions. These families produce the deprived families of the next generation. The B.C.C. Department has co-operated with the Minister in discussing preparation for parenthood which he believes is one area in which the cycle

may be broken and in which the churches have an important contribution to make. The B.C.C. Department believes that the cycle cannot be effectively broken without changes in housing policies and general social policies.

It may be that one of the answers lies in the concept of community care,⁵ which has been applied in other spheres, e.g. the care of those suffering from nervous breakdown and mental instability. Experience shows that there are some parents who are inadequate and no amount of preparation will remedy the deficiency. This aspect of the role of the community towards children, as one way of breaking the cycle of deprivation, might profitably be a subject¹⁰ of study by our own Department.

The Longford Report The Longford Report is a lengthy and detailed piece of work by a Committee set up by Lord Longford to investigate pornography. Amongst the voluminous evidence sought and submitted is that from religious bodies. In this section the Report begins: 'Very many members of the clergy¹⁵ of all denominations offered to submit evidence, and we have been grateful particularly for the wide recognition that the churches have a positive role to play in helping society to recognise that Christianity is not "anti-sex" or repressive, but concerned to prevent its degradation and the unhappiness that may be concerned by pornographic exploitation of an instinct essentially²⁰ good and valuable.'

It goes on to quote evidence from particular bodies, including the Congregational and Presbyterian Churches.

The summaries of conclusions are given under the headings: Broadcasting, Cinemas and Theatres, Books, Magazines and Newspapers, Advertising, Sex²⁵ Education, and Legal. In the legal section, the Report states: 'The statutory definition of "obscene" adopted in the Obscene Publications Acts, 1959 and 1964, and the Theatres Act, 1968, is defective and a new definition is necessary to meet the extensive present-day publication and presentation of degrading material. . . . The cinema, television and sound broadcasting should be³⁰ brought within the purview of the Obscene Publications Act, 1959, but the consent of the Attorney-General should be necessary before proceedings are launched.'

A new statutory provision is recommended for dealing with those who exhibit or distribute in a public place material which, while falling short of being³⁵ "obscene" is "indecent".'

Although the Committee had no official status it sought and received much publicity, some of it of a sensational kind, and the publication of its Report (available as a Hodder paperback) has added new impetus to the debate about pornography. There is pressure from some quarters for changes in the law⁴⁰ but no plans for legislation have been announced. If the Government decides to introduce legislation the Department should be ready to make comments. Meanwhile it would be useful to receive reactions to the Report from individuals, churches and Provincial Committees.

Northern Ireland The situation in Northern Ireland continues to be one of⁴⁵ great complexity and violence. Anything written about the political situation today is likely to be out of date in a week or less as initiatives pass from one group to another and violence is used to shatter attempts at reconciliation.

Few outside the situation can appreciate the tremendous tension in which the people of Northern Ireland in general and those in the city centres in particular have to live and work. Each time that hope is brought into the situation, by the declaration of a cease fire, by the publication of a Green Paper, or by the calling of a conference, a new wave of violence crushes that hope and a deeper sense of despair ensues. The spread of violence to rural and border areas and the growth of violence by Protestant extremist groups are just two of a number of features which make the situation increasingly complex. We realise how much we need to be informed about the situation and concerned about it. We need to support the people caught up in this tragic situation by prayer and by any practical action which is open to us.

Over the past year we have strengthened our links with the situation there, through holiday visits organised by our own and other ministers, by the visits of Corresponding Members to Belfast, and by the longer visits of ministers in our Church who have given pastoral help in the troubled areas. Representatives of our Department have met with some of these and with representatives of the Department of World Church and Mission to discuss what should be the response of our church to the situation in Ireland. We agreed that some kind of exchange would be mutually helpful and that this possibility should be explored. No formal inter-departmental group has yet been set up but we realise the advisability of keeping in close touch as Departments in carrying out our respective roles. We shall also keep in contact with the B.C.C. Ireland Group to see what initiatives they are taking and to avoid duplication.

It is very important that people in this country should realise that much constructive action is undertaken in Ireland, though it receives less publicity than the violent actions which are all too common. There are many reasons for the continued violence. It is partly the result of an historical time bomb which makes the present situation have something of an air of inevitability about it. It is partly that there is a desperate element in the situation determined to keep the violence going because this is seen as the only way to bring about changes of sufficient significance. It is too easy to give all the attention to the bombs and the bullets and to forget the many statements and efforts by church people and others to bring about reconciliation and that there have been a number of activities which have crossed the barrier between Protestant and Catholic.

The least we can do is to acquaint ourselves with the background of the situation by reading material, such as the information issued by the Presbyterian Church in Ireland or studies such as the Quaker study, 'Orange and Green' by D. P. Barritt and A. Booth; to help in any practical way we can by assisting with exchanges or giving financially; to join in the prayers of those who are concerned, through 'Intercessors for Ireland' or as individuals. Part of our study of the situation is expressed in the report on 'Non-Violent Action' where it says, 'The future of Ulster lies in political, economic and social changes.' Much more thought needs to be given to the manner in which such changes can be brought about; in a situation where violence is expressed daily, the Report points to the necessity for more non-violent action. We hope we may have the opportunity of discussing these aspects of the Report with

some of the responsible people in the situation who are struggling to find the way forward to a better future for Ireland. We assure them of our continued prayers and support.

Churches wanting to relate to the situation in Northern Ireland could, with profit, study the leaflet 'What can I do about Northern Ireland' issued by the Community and Race Relations Unit of the B.C.C. and circulated in the February Information Service.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Taiwan Being one of the three mission fields of the Presbyterian Church of England, Taiwan was a major current concern which has been passed to us. When this subject was discussed at our Department meeting the members were anxious that information should be made available so that those who had been previously unacquainted with the situation in Taiwan might be alerted to the injustices inherent in the present situation. To this end some material was published in Reform and attention was drawn to available material.

After more than twenty years of being unrecognised, the People's Republic of China has been admitted to the United Nations Organisation. The growing recognition that has followed is something that we welcome but this should not be allowed to obscure the question of Taiwan. The island is a hundred miles off the mainland and has a population of fourteen million, of whom twelve million are native Formosans. Two million are Chinese who came to the island with Chiang Kai-Shek in 1949.

From 1895 to 1945 Formosa (as it was called then) was under the rule of Japan. After the surrender of Japan to the allies, the status of the island was never legally determined. The British Government has therefore rightly maintained over many years that the status is undetermined. The Nationalist Chinese authorities were authorised by General Macarthur to undertake temporary military occupation of the island on behalf of the Allied powers but were not given legal status as a government then nor in any treaty since. The Nationalist occupation has not been a happy one for the Taiwanese people; as early as 1947 there was a wide protest by the people against the corruption of the authorities; the result was a brutal massacre in which twenty thousand Taiwanese leaders lost their lives. There has been from that time an underground movement for self-determination.

The forces of Chiang Kai-Shek were defeated on the mainland and so moved to the island of Formosa at the end of 1949. The whole machinery of government intended for the vast extent of China was imposed on a small island. The representation of the native islanders on the Government is tiny compared with the population on the island. No proper elections have been held since the mainland elections a generation ago.

Taiwan has a population larger than two-thirds of the U.N. members. Both the People's Republic of China and the Chiang Kai-Shek regime lay claim to the island. Many people on the island claim that they have a right to determine the future of their country themselves. This was expressed in a courageous statement made by the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan which said that the people did not wish to be governed by Peking or Taipei but to choose their own government.

As a Department we intend to continue the concern which was passed to us from the Presbyterian Church of England which has already made contact with the Foreign Office and with individual M.P.s. We urge our membership to acquaint themselves with the relevant information and then to do all it
5 can to pass this on to their local M.P.s and to the public generally. We believe that our own Government shares some responsibility for the situation and that it might take the initiative in pressing for an internationally supervised plebiscite to ascertain the wishes of the inhabitants, whether this be for some form of association with the mainland or for independence. Nothing that
10 has been said by governments in the past year has given the necessary reassurance that the rights of the people of Taiwan will not be overlooked and a people that have waited a generation for legal status to be given to their country are rightly impatient. As a Church we should do all that we can to keep this injustice and the necessity for action before our own Government
15 and, through them, the rest of the world.

Vietnam The continuing escalation of violence in Vietnam has been a matter of grave concern for many years. The terrible saturation bombing unleashed on North Vietnam before and after Christmas cast a cynical light on the alleged objectives of American policy. Many Americans spoke out
20 against the bombing. Bishop Sansbury expressed something of the Christian concern in this country when he wrote to the Times of the 'glaring contrast between the Christian gospel of an incarnate Redeemer with all that means for the sanctity of the individual and the bombing to obliteration of North Vietnam.' We cannot state too strongly our regret that the American President
25 thought it right to unleash terrible destruction on North Vietnam as a way of trying to re-write parts of the settlement as it was being negotiated. Although a Settlement was signed in January the situation remains tense and hostile, and it will be years before the Vietnamese people recover from the devastation of the war. It is for the people of the world now to demonstrate their com-
30 passion and their thanksgiving for the cease-fire by massive programmes of rehabilitation and reconstruction in S.E. Asia. We hope that Her Majesty's Government will play an important part in such programmes and in any international developments designed to reinforce the prospects of peace.

Southern Africa Tensions in Southern Africa have mounted this year as
35 individuals have been deported and confrontation with governments becomes increasingly inevitable. S.W. Africa, where the church leaders have been so outspoken against government policies, has been one scene for such confrontation. The tensions in other parts of the continent, as the Portuguese forces engage revolutionary elements and Rhodesia confronts Zambia,
40 underline the explosiveness of the situation.

In this country concern has been expressed about British business involvement in the apartheid system of South Africa. It does not require much research to show how close a connection there is between the high dividends of some British firms or their South African subsidiaries and the low wages paid to
45 black Africans. This must be a matter of heart-searching for businessmen in general and for Christian businessmen in particular.

The World Council of Churches has adopted a clear policy in favour of withdrawal, expressed in the following resolution at Utrecht:

'The World Council of Churches, in accordance with its own commitment to combat racism, considering that the effect of foreign investments in Southern Africa is to strengthen the white minority regimes in their oppression of the majority of the peoples in this region, and implementing the policy as commended by the Uppsala Assembly (1968) that investments in

5 "institutions that perpetuate racism" should be terminated:

(a) instructs its Finance Committee and its Director of Finance:

10 i) to sell forthwith existing holdings and to make no investments after this date in corporations which, according to information available to the Finance Committee and the Director of Finance, are directly involved in investment or trade with any of the following countries: South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Angola, Mozambique and Guine-Bissao; and

15 ii) to deposit none of its funds in banks which maintain direct banking operations in those countries.

(b) urges all member churches, Christian agencies and individual Christians outside Southern Africa to use all their influence including stockholder action and disinvestment, to press corporations to withdraw investments from and cease trading with these countries.'

20 The B.C.C. International Department have set up a small group to examine the W.C.C. Papers and other relevant material in order to give advice on the matter.

The policy of withdrawal certainly raises a number of questions. There are many business firms in various countries prepared to invest in South Africa and

25 other Southern Africa countries. To withdraw may simply open the door to more reactionary elements. This applies also if individual shareholders withdraw holdings from a firm operating in an apartheid society. As happened in the case of a church organisation putting on the market a considerable holding in a particular firm recently, the available shares are bought up very

30 quickly. It is questionable whether this has any beneficial effects on the local situation of injustice in South Africa, though it may make a point.

One alternative policy is to keep shares but use the investment to urge more responsible policies in the companies concerned. Wages for black workers are very inadequate when compared with those of white workers.

35 Job reservation makes it difficult for the black worker to improve his status whatever his training and qualifications may be. No black worker is allowed to work over a white worker and this applies even to community roles like that of a policeman. Pensions and medical provision may be inadequate or non-existent for black employees. Obviously conditions vary from company to

40 company but most British owned businesses leave much to be desired in their treatment of black workers. Shareholders have the right to enquire about these matters and to seek an improvement.

The existence of the problem can be readily appreciated. Reaching an agreement on effective action may not be so easy. One help in this regard is

45 the setting up of an ecumenical group 'Christian Concern for Southern Africa' which has an especial concern with these matters. Its aims are to encourage those in business to examine the moral implications of investment

in Southern Africa more closely than has been the case hitherto ; to raise issues with individual business concerns relating to employment under apartheid ; to raise moral and social issues with institutional investors regarding investment in Southern Africa and in particular to examine church investment ;
⁵ to conduct research into matters relating to investment in Southern Africa. The group is anxious not to duplicate anything being done but where possible to help in anything being undertaken by the denominations. As effective work in this field will demand much time and expertise, the setting up of such a group with part or full-time help will probably be welcomed by the churches.

¹⁰ In our own denomination we need to think seriously about the issues raised, to ask some questions regarding our own investments and to discuss with our own resource people, businessmen in our membership, what is a realistic and Christian policy concerning investment in such situations. In the past Christian conscience has led the churches not to invest in certain business
¹⁵ concerns ; we need to ask the question whether withdrawal, or some alternative policy of action for improvement in the situation, is the right attitude for the churches to take in regard to investment in Southern Africa.

Our Christian concern for Southern Africa cannot be expressed simply in terms of attitude to business. We have many more responsibilities with regard
²⁰ to situations which are so unsettled and have the seeds of so much civil strife. The Report on 'Non-Violent Action' speaks of some of these situations and possible action towards resolving tensions. Another aspect which must not be overlooked is the importance of maintaining a dialogue with those within the situation, both those with whom we are in broad agreement and those
²⁵ with whom we disagree. In our confessional group we have particular links with the Dutch Reformed Church ; through missionary work we have other important links ; these and other contacts should be constantly followed up and used so that there may be a continuing dialogue with people in the situation, especially those who are best placed to bring about change peacefully.
³⁰ A situation which has so much complexity historically and which has so many tensions and injustices currently requires many approaches rather than one ; in our attempts to improve conditions in British owned businesses, in our willingness to help financially in black training programmes, in our ready acceptance of visitors from the South African situations and our continued
³⁵ contacts with the situation there, including our contacts with the Congregational, Presbyterian and Dutch Reformed Churches, in our continued expressions of what we believe to be the right relationship between people of different racial groupings in terms of the dignity, equality and rights of all people, we express our Christian concern and accept the ministry of reconciliation to which Christ calls us.
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Ugandan Asians We reject racial discrimination from whatever quarter it comes. When President Amin announced in August 1972 that all British Asians in Uganda were to leave the country within 90 days, he was expressing a policy of racial discrimination which has been condemned by many leaders,
⁴⁵ both white and black, around the world. Soon after this crisis was created, when the response of the British Government became clear, the officers of the B.C.C. issued a statement, beginning :

'We, the officers of the British Council of Churches, welcome the positive and unhesitating acceptance of responsibility for United Kingdom passport holders in Uganda made by the British Government. The offer to airlift and receive the British Asians into Britain within the prescribed period is a commendable response to the emergency. So also are the negotiations with other countries to obtain entrance for some of those being expelled.'

The stand taken by H.M. Government and action since then have been commendable and the churches have expressed their support of the Government in these matters. There are still problems resulting from this crisis. The plight of stateless Asians in European camps and the conditions of Asians still in camps in this country must be matters of concern to us all. We hope that a remedy will be found speedily and that all those still in camps will be resettled with the minimum of delay.

We are grateful for the publication of 'The Ugandan Asian Crisis' (a CRRU booklet) by Douglas Tilbe. It sets out the background and development of the crisis in a clear and readable manner and will be found helpful for any wishing to inform themselves about the subject.

This crisis is just one more example of what can happen in a society which allows racial discrimination. The nations of the world need to make it plain that the Charters and Declarations which state the rights of all people, irrespective of their colour, nation or creed, are not to be ignored and that, when they are, international disapproval will be demonstrated in practical ways. Only by constant vigilance and costly action shall we come to the peace and justice which God wills for his world.

CONCLUSION

These have been the concerns of this Department in the first year of its existence. They are all concerned with people, with the relationships between people, the cruelty often expressed towards each other, with deprivation and destruction, with insecurity and poverty; they are all very human concerns. And yet they are also divine concerns for the Report is also about the raising of standards, feeding the hungry, giving rights to people, overcoming hate with love, bringing peace and reconciliation. These do not express a second gospel but are an expression of the one gospel, for Jesus, the Saviour of the world, brings good news to modern man in all his needs, physical, mental and spiritual. We are conscious therefore, that our work as a Department relates to that of the other Departments as theirs to ours. We are various Departments for convenience but we are one Church to proclaim the Gospel of Christ. We hope that in the Church and Society Department we can play our part in this common task and we look for the support and co-operation of the Provinces, Districts and local churches as we seek to do so.

RESOLUTIONS

1. The Assembly *urges* church meetings to correspond with local Members of Parliament about the aid budget, in particular to request that H.M. Government should give the U.N.C.T.A.D. target of 0.7 per cent of Gross National Product in official aid;
5 *encourages* churches to participate in the Europe '73 Programme;
 resolves that there should be an annual World Development Appeal, in the form of a One Per Cent appeal, made to individual members of the Church and that the appeal should be organized by the Church and Society Department in consultation with C.C.W.M. and Christian Aid.
- 10 2. The Assembly commends the Report 'Non-Violent Action: a Christian Appraisal' (SCM Press) for study by church meetings, districts and provinces and encourages the Church and Society Department to explore further the methods of implementing the conclusions.
- 15 3. The Assembly resolves to send copies of the Report, 'Non-Violent Action: a Christian Appraisal' to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and urges H.M. Government to implement the proposals concerning the training of the army in non-violent techniques, the training of volunteer reservists for non-violent peace-keeping operations, the increase in the number of the police and the strengthening of the role of the United Nations Organization in mediation and peace-keeping.
- 20 4. The Assembly commends the Report 'The Search for Security' (SCM Press) for study by Provinces.
5. The Assembly *urges* church meetings to acquaint their membership and local M.P.s with information concerning Taiwan and
25 *encourages* the Church and Society Department to continue with representations to H.M. Government, urging initiatives to bring about an internationally supervised plebiscite in Taiwan to ascertain in what way the inhabitants wish to be governed in order that the status of the island may be legally determined.
6. The Assembly encourages the Church and Society Department to explore further ways in which the Church might express its Christian concern for Southern Africa, and to consult with the Department of World Church and Mission, and C.C.W.M. and the
30 Investment Committee on this matter.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Mr L. R. Palmer

Secretary: The Revd E. W. Todd

THIS REPORT is in the first place an account of stewardship – of things attempted and achieved; this is seen in its most formal shape in the presentation of the accounts for 1972, necessarily in two parts for the former Congregational and Presbyterian Churches.

⁵ More important, however, are the plans for the future. Here, it must be said at the outset, the problems of integration have proved even more formidable than at first thought and progress has been further impeded by serious depletion in the ranks of the staff of the Department. Indeed, it has been possible only to achieve limited objectives by strenuous efforts on the part
¹⁰ of the full-time staff and of members of the various Committees serving the Department.

Although this report contains a brief note of the activities of the various functional Committees in the Department, the broad objectives of the Department, together with some of the overriding problems, should perhaps first
¹⁵ be mentioned. First, there is the identification of the various conventions and practices affecting the finances of the two Churches which have grown up over many years of separate existence. Although it is intended to present one set of accounts for 1973 it will take a good deal longer to amalgamate the Funds of the new Church into a single entity. Meanwhile we shall, for
²⁰ example, continue with two sets of brokers, who will however maintain close liaison with one another.

Then there is the effect of the national economy on our planning. As was agreed before the Union of the two Churches, the Congregational quotas and targets for the 1970/72 triennium will continue through 1973 as will the
²⁵ targets under the Presbyterian Unified Appeal. But the estimates for the former were worked out in 1968/69 and as individuals we are only too painfully aware of what has happened to the purchasing power of the pound since then. It follows from this that, without an increase in income from the churches for 1973 some deficit for 1973 is to be expected. At the moment of preparation
³⁰ of the report, this is estimated at about £25,000. A voluntary addition of £100 from each of the 100 largest churches and of £50 from each of another 300 churches could deal with this particular problem.

But what of 1974 and beyond? This depends not only on the economic background of the world in which we live and work but also on the sort of
³⁵ Church we want to establish. Least controversial probably is the proposition that full-time staff, whether ministers or lay workers, should be realistically remunerated. More difficult to assess, perhaps, is the part which the United Reformed Church should take centrally as well as locally. The Central Com-

mittee of the Finance and Administration Department concludes that in the current economic uncertainties and until it is possible to assess on the one hand the economics which will result from amalgamation of the two Churches and, on the other hand, its commitments in the new situations, it would be wise merely to budget for 1974 and to prepare estimates for subsequent years in the light of experience. The Budget Committee and the Unified Appeal Committee conclude that, taking into account the savings in office accommodation and numbers of central staffs as compared with the arrangements before 5th October 1972, and the extra cost of staff largely due to inflation, an increase in the contributions of churches to central funds of the order of 25 per cent is the minimum necessary to maintain the work of the Church at home and overseas at its present level.

The difficulties with which local churches are contending are, of course, only too well known. Against the background, in some cases, of a falling membership they, too, are conducting their battles against inflation. Part of the costs of provincial and district organization have also to be met by local churches. Church Treasurers have the problem of putting over to congregations that in an inflationary situation a nominally static church income is, in fact, a decreasing income. The Finance and Administration Department intends to establish a close and continuing dialogue between itself and provincial treasurers to minimise the risk of getting out of touch with the 'grass roots'.

There is the danger, of course, that increased costs, which are properly attributable to inflation and to our determination to pay more realistic stipends and salaries, may be taken by some as a concomitant of Union. Comparisons are difficult but it does seem pretty clear that had the two Churches remained separate, increases of at least an equivalent order would have had to be faced. This does not excuse the Finance and Administration Department – and indeed any other Department or Activity of the Church – from endeavouring to achieve greater economy, efficiency and effectiveness. These must be included in our objectives for the coming year.

Particular aspects of the work of the Department's Committees are summarised below.

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Chairman: The Revd John White

Secretary: The Revd E. W. Todd

35 Stipends

The task set before the United Reformed Church before union took place was to achieve a unified scheme for the maintenance of the ministry as soon as possible: it was recognized that this would take a few years – partly because at the moment we do not have sufficient statistics on which to begin work. More immediately we were asked to achieve parity in the scale of basic minimum stipends and this we hope to achieve by 1st July 1973. We propose a basic scale from that date of:–

	0–10 years of service	£1,200
	11–20 " " "	1,250
45	Over 20 years " "	1,300

This will involve an increase in each of the three grades for the ex-Congregational fund of £120 – subject to the 'freeze'; and of £100 in the first two grades and £50 in the second two for the ex-Presbyterian fund. The Committee proposes to make to ex-Presbyterian ministers with more than 15⁵ years of service an ex-gratia payment of £50 (either in one sum or in instalments) in the course of the year – as a £50 increase cannot in any way be regarded as adequate against the present rate of inflation.

For the time being other provisions (Children's Allowances and Congregational Car Schemes in Group Pastorates) will remain as at present. This¹⁰ further increase in the minimum stipend will involve another increase in the assessment on former Presbyterian congregations (an increase of 10p per member and of 04p per £1 of congregational income) so that the assessment will be £2.70 per member and 42p per £1 of congregational income as from 1st January 1974.

15 Pension Arrangements

As regards pension provision, the Presbyterian Ministers and Widows and Orphans Fund and the Congregational Ministers' Pension Fund will continue for the time being. Under the Congregational Pastors' Superannuation and Pastors' Widows Funds it is proposed that:—

- 20 i) the £10 special payment made by the State to pensioners in December 1972 be disregarded in calculating grants.
- ii) for 1973/4, pending further investigation, the income limits be £679 and £559 respectively.

An actuarial valuation has been arranged and it is hoped as a result of this,²⁵ and subject to the consent of the Charity Commissioners, to increase the benefits under these two funds more substantially.

Housing for Ministers in Retirement

This continues to be an urgent problem. We are glad to report that houses are being left to the Church for this purpose and Fen Place is available. The³⁰ Committee responsible for its management has agreed that Congregational ministers and their wives or widows will be eligible for admission to Fen Place on the same basis whether they have entered the United Reformed Church or not. The Retired Presbyterian Ministers Housing Society continues to provide housing for ministers and widows at low rental. The supply never³⁵ quite matches the demand and allocation has to take account of need. It is hoped to bring a more comprehensive scheme for provision of housing to the next Assembly.

TREASURERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr K. W. Thorndyke

Secretary: The Revd E. W. Todd

The Treasurership Committee has found it necessary to establish a number⁴⁰ of Sub-Committees to deal with Accounting Systems, Investments and Salaries. Among the long list of outstanding problems are the determination of a common policy with regard to the use of legacies, the application of V.A.T., the treatment of Overseas Mission Funds and sundry Assembly Funds, and the administration of property and staff houses.

Church Insurance The former Presbyterian Insurance Company was wholly owned by the Church and became part of the assets of the United Reformed Church on union. The Treasurership Committee authorized its Directors to seek a new name and it is now registered as the URC Insurance Company. The Congregational Insurance Company retains its independent status and has also changed its name, being known now as the Congregational and General Insurance Company.

UNIFIED APPEAL COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr G. Vaughan Davies

Secretary: Mr J. W. Paterson

A Budget Committee was set up in 1972 to enquire into the probable expenditure and income for 1973 and to prepare proposals for 1974 for the consideration of the 1973 Assembly and as a preliminary to the work of the Unified Appeal Committee.

It is proposed that the new style 'Unified Appeal' should include all contributions made by the ex-Congregational and ex-Presbyterian Churches except that element of the Home & Overseas Churches Fund of the former required for the Maintenance of the Ministry and the Presbyterian Maintenance of the Ministry Fund. It will be recalled that it is the intention to keep the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund separate in the new Church.

DEVELOPMENT IN NEW AREAS AND CARE OF EXISTING CHURCH BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Chairman: The Revd R. G. Walker

Secretary: Mr W. G. Nutley

After two meetings of this Committee, a pattern is emerging and draft forms of application are now available which can be modified in the light of experience. Applications for assistance must be made in the first instance to the Province who will give what help it can : thereafter the Committee will, in the light of the various applications before it, and the resources at its disposal, see what other help can be forthcoming.

WELFARE AND EMERGENCIES COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr R. J. S. Green

Secretary: The Revd A. L. Macarthur

The work of the Committee is directed primarily for the needs of ministers and their families and to local churches in certain emergencies. It administers a variety of beneficiary funds. In the past, income for these purposes was also raised by an annual Welfare Appeal to Congregational churches and from the Special Contingencies Fund of the Presbyterian Church and from its Unified Appeal Fund.

For 1973 it is proposed to seek authority of Assembly for the continuance of these separate arrangements but to rely on the new style Unified Appeal to meet requirements for 1974 onwards.

LEGAL AND TRUST COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mr K. M. Kirby

Secretary: The Revd A. L. Macarthur

The Committee met in December 1972 and considered a number of matters of legal policy or procedure, most of which had been suggested by the Legal Advisers, Mr P. A. Simpson and Mr N. Pooler. These included questions⁵ regarding the various trust corporations associated with the United Reformed Church. The Legal Advisers were asked to consider in particular how a Trust Corporation could best be established for the new Church.

The Committee recommended (a) that forms of legacy should be published, together with a note drawing attention to the possibility of houses being¹⁰ left for use by retired ministers and (b) that Model Rules should be provided for voluntary adoption (with or without amendment) by local churches. Those recommendations were adopted by the Central Committee. Forms of covenant are also to be provided.

The Committee took the view that new legislation is necessary to enable¹⁵ trust funds with limited objects to be used for the newer type of ecumenical Centre.

PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Chairman: The Revd R. T. Brooks

Secretary: Mr P. W. Bush

Three Sub-Committees for dealing with the Tavistock Bookshop, Reform (Management) and General Publications and Services have been established.

²⁰ The Committee is also setting up a voluntary team for providing information to the media at national and provincial levels, and to co-operate with provincial information officers. In the light of experience the Committee may wish to make recommendations to a future Assembly.

The following comments on some of the other more important activities²⁵ may be interesting.

Reform

This was launched in November 1972 and has been well received. There are firm annual subscriptions for over 33,000 copies per month. Advertising revenue has been good and we do not anticipate any financial loss on the³⁰ first 'normal' year of publication ending in December 1973. The intention is to make the magazine an effective means of bringing the world, the Church in the world and the local church into close contact. The Committee is grateful for the helpful co-operation of secretaries in local churches in launching Reform so successfully.

³⁵ **Tavistock Bookshop**

The Bookshop continues to provide valuable service to the Church and satisfactory financial results. Accounts have been prepared for the period 1st July 1971 to 5th October 1972 and the net profit of £4,725 compares

favourably with that of previous periods. The Manager, Mrs O. Russell, will retire in June 1973. Five years ago both the Independent Press Ltd., and the Tavistock Bookshop were losing money. The bringing together of these two organizations under Mrs Russell's able leadership has resulted in a bookshop⁵ which now serves the United Church and which has been a source of revenue from the beginning during a period when a number of religious bookshops have had to close.

The Church is further indebted to Mrs Russell for her assistance during this last year with the re-organization of library and storage facilities which¹⁰ was the essential preliminary to the overall re-organization of the Tavistock Place offices.

Since October there has been an increase in the use of the Bookshop facilities for Provincial Synod Bookstalls, Church and Conference Bookstalls. It is hoped that these facilities will be yet more widely used by the Church¹⁵ in the future. Mr A. E. Hockley, the accountant, has been appointed Manager of the Bookshop from 1st July 1973 with Mr D. Berry as Assistant Manager. It is good to know that they will have the full support of a capable and experienced staff.

General Publications and Services

²⁰ These include the following:—

1. The Manual of the U.R.C. — intended as the authoritative reference of the terms of Union and structure of the U.R.C.
2. Year Book — available September.
- ²⁵ 3. 'Belonging to the Church' — this production about membership of the Church has been well received.
4. U.R.C. Diary — a larger print order for 1974 has been placed.
- ³⁰ 5. Information Service — this service to individual churches gives up-to-date news from the various Departments of the Church.

RESOLUTIONS:

Maintenance of the Ministry

1. *The Assembly resolves:*
³⁵ that with effect from 1st July 1973, the minimum rate of stipend payable to a minister in full charge, shall be:—
£1,200 for the first ten years of service;
1,250 for the next ten years;
1,300 after twenty years.
- ⁴⁰ 2. *The Assembly resolves:*
 - i) that Rule 2 (1) of the Presbyterian Maintenance of the Ministry Fund be amended accordingly; and
 - ii) that with effect from 1st January 1974, Rule 9 (i) of the Presbyterian Maintenance of the Ministry Fund be amended to read as follows:—

In order to provide the necessary funds for payment of the minimum stipend and children's allowances, the minimum required contribution to the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund from each congregation or joint pastorate shall annually be calculated on figures for the penultimate year, at the rate of £2.70 a member and £0.42 in the £ of the congregational income, from which income shall be excluded for purposes of such calculation amounts received as legacies, gifts in lieu of legacies, amounts spent on repairs and redecoration of church, church hall and manse and contributions to the Fund in excess of the highest basic stipend.

5
10 3. *The Assembly resolves:*

that for the year 1st July 1973 – 30th June 1974 the scale of Children's Allowances and the regulations of the Congregational Maintenance of Ministry Scheme as regards 'Other Earnings Deductible', definitions of 'scope' and 'pastoral expenses' and 'Car Schemes in Group Pastorates' shall remain as for the year 1st July 1972 – 30th June 1973.

15
4. *The Assembly resolves:*

that in regard to Children's Allowances:—

- 20
- a) ministers inducted to former Presbyterian charges before 5th October 1972 will continue to receive, or be eligible for, children's allowances in accordance with the former Presbyterian scale in force at that date.
 - b) former Congregational ministers, and all new entrants to the ministry of the United Reformed Church after 5th October 1972, shall be entitled to children's allowances in accordance with the regulations of the Congregational Church in England and Wales in force at that date.

25 5. *The Assembly resolves:*

that in each specialized ministry assisted by the Maintenance of Ministry Fund of the former Congregational Church, the maximum initial charge on the Fund shall not normally exceed one half of the basic minimum stipend for up to ten years of service.

30 6. *The Assembly resolves:*

that for the purposes of the Congregational Ministers Pension Fund the basic minimum stipend for the year 1973/74 shall be £1,200.

7. *The Assembly resolves that in regard to :*

- 35
- i) Congregational Pastors' Superannuation Fund, for the year 1973/74 and pending further investigation, the income limit shall be £679;
 - ii) Congregational Pastors' Widows' Fund, for the year 1973/74, and pending further investigation, the income limit shall be £559;
 - iii) the special payment of £10 made by the state to pensioners in December 1972, this shall be disregarded when calculating grants.

40 **Welfare and Emergencies**

- 45
1. The Assembly authorises the Welfare & Emergencies Committee to prepare a Welfare Appeal for 1973 and to address that appeal to those of its member Churches that were formerly in membership of the Congregational Church in England and Wales.
 2. The Assembly resolves that the assessment for the Special Contingencies Fund for 1973 shall be at the rate of 5p per cent on the combined membership and ordinary income of former Presbyterian congregations as recorded in the statistical returns for 1971.
 3. The Assembly welcomes the proposal that in 1974 appeals and assessments for these purposes shall be amalgamated and included in the new Unified Appeal.

Appendix

REPORT of the COUNCIL OF THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HISTORY SOCIETY

The Congregational Historical Society and the Presbyterian Historical Society of England have now become one body called the United Reformed Church History Society, under the presidency of Dr G. F. Nuttall.

Separate accounts of the constituent societies continued until December 5 31st 1972 and will be combined after that date. The accounts of both societies for 1972 are available. The PHS accounts show a substantial fund accumulated over several years for the purpose of publishing an up-to-date history of Presbyterianism in England and two other smaller projects. None of these had been carried out and at the final Council meeting of the PHS the hope 10 was expressed that the Council of the URCHS would be able to further the projects.

At the AGM of the CHS held in May 1972, the Annual Lecture entitled 'A Forgotten Thread in Congregational History: The Calvinistic Methodists' was delivered by Prof. Edwin Welch, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A. This was printed 15 in the final issue of the CHS Transactions issued in October 1972.

At the Annual Meeting of the PHS held in June 1972, the Annual Lecture, entitled 'The Wandsworth Presbytery, 1572' was delivered by Revd Malcolm McAra, M.A. This will be printed in the first issue of the URCH'S Journal to be issued in May 1973.

20 The Council wishes to express sincere thanks to all who carried on the work of the constituent societies during 1972, and especially to those who assisted in the very onerous task of transferring the Presbyterian Historical Society Library to its new quarters where, supplemented by additional books on Congregational History, it has become the library of the United Reformed 25 Church History Society.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Accounts year ended 31st December 1972

Under the provisions of the United Reformed Church Act 1972 the Presbyterian Church of England was dissolved on 5th October 1972. On and from that date (the date of formation) the assets previously under the control of the Treasurership Committee were held as far as circumstances permitted on similar trusts for the United Reformed Church (apart from the Ministers and Widows and Orphans Fund). As a matter of administrative convenience the accounts for the year ended 31st December 1972 appearing on pages 78 to 90 cover without break the Funds which were under the control of the Treasurership Committee of the Presbyterian Church of England to the date of formation and which on and from that date passed, as nearly as may be, under the control of the Treasurership Committee of the United Reformed Church. The accounts do not include the Funds which were held for the purposes of the Congregational Church in England and Wales for details of which see pages 92 to 106.

The accounts on pages 78 to 90 are subject to Audit.

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

BALANCE SHEET 31st December 1972

1971						
£	General Funds available for the following :				£	£
58,194	Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	..	..	..	53,380	
822,049	Ministers Pension Funds	..	..	..	895,277	
2,186	Home Church	..	..	..	2,186	
44,491	Overseas Missions	..	..	..	40,393	
25,460	Women's Missionary Association	..	..	..	26,291	
7,931	Women's Home Church Association	..	..	..	8,492	
8,759	Christian Approach to the Jews	..	..	..	9,320	
90	Inter-Church Relations	..	..	..	—
21,113	Westminster College	..	..	..	19,058	
3,343	Youth	..	..	..	13,563	
						1,067,960
Funds available for Special Objects of the following :						
77,491	Home Church	..	..	..	94,303	
43,823	Overseas Missions	..	..	..	40,389	
9,534	Women's Missionary Association	..	..	..	8,482	
123,399	Church Extension	..	..	..	139,431	
15,186	Christian Approach to the Jews	..	..	..	15,185	
1,375	Inter-Church Relations	..	..	..	1,527	
39,255	Westminster College	..	..	..	39,310	
289	Youth	..	..	..	1,290	
112,277	Other Assembly Funds	..	..	..	129,513	
						469,430
General Endowment Funds available for the following :						
18,977	Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	..	..	..	18,977	
33,609	Ministers Pensions Funds	..	..	..	34,609	
6,290	Home Church	..	..	..	6,290	
20,851	Overseas Missions	..	..	..	20,851	
6,360	Women's Missionary Association	..	..	..	6,360	
100,092	Westminster College	..	..	..	97,570	
						184,657
Endowment Funds (including Unspent Income) available for Special Objects:						
3,810	Home Church	..	..	..	3,818	
9,408	Overseas Missions	..	..	..	10,046	
1,955	Women's Missionary Association	..	..	..	2,057	
1,049	Women's Home Church Association	..	..	..	1,078	
62,438	Westminster College	..	..	..	60,405	
73,440	Sundry Trusts for Church Purposes	..	..	..	73,290	
						150,694
Church House Building and Furnishing Funds:						
72,247	Grants donations and Legacies received	..	..	..		72,247
Secretary's House Fund						
1,230	Amounts set aside to date	..	..	..		860
1,828,001						1,945,848
41,447	Sundry Balances held for Presbyteries and Congregations (£39,092) and for the Investment Pool (£5,505)					44,597
<u>£1,869,448</u>						<u>£1,990,445</u>

1971

£	Church House at cost	£	£
67,460	Freehold Buildings	67,460	
4,787	Furniture and Equipment	4,787	
			72,247
	Secretaries' and Moderators' Houses at Cost (Freehold)		
15,253	General Funds	26,764	
5,594	Special Funds	70,752	
			97,516
	Other Property as valued at 31 December, 1959. or at cost:		
355	General Funds	355	
9,673	Special Funds	9,673	
			10,028
	Investments, including Investment Pool (see note 4 on Accounts):		
904,494	General Funds	940,503	
155,893	Special Funds	165,619	
186,176	General Endowment Funds	184,654	
144,367	Special Endowment Funds	144,527	
			1,435,303
	Loans and Advances:		
83,672	Special Funds		83,695
123,836	Balance at Bank		35,106
164,800	Deposit Loans with Local Authorities etc.		254,600
	Advances		
3,08	Mission Fields		1,950

 £1,869,448

 £1,990,445

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

MOVEMENTS IN FUNDS

	TOTAL	Maintenance of the Ministry	Pension Funds	Home Church	Overseas Missions
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January, 1972:					
General Funds	993,616	58,194	822,049	2,186	44,491
Funds for Special Objects ..	496,106	—	—	77,491	43,823
General Endowment Funds	186,179	18,977	33,609	6,290	20,851
Endowment Funds for Special Objects	152,100	—	—	3,810	9,408
	<u>1,828,001</u>	<u>77,171</u>	<u>855,658</u>	<u>89,777</u>	<u>118,573</u>
Add:					
Legacies	45,715	5,000	2,868	—	7,025
Surplus on Investments and Property sold	44,660	—	32,384	—	—
Excess of Receipts over Payments for year:					
General Funds	39,907	—	38,976	—	—
Funds for Special Objects	32,599	—	—	16,820	—
	<u>1,990,882</u>	<u>82,171</u>	<u>929,886</u>	<u>106,597</u>	<u>125,598</u>
Less:					
Loss on Investments sold ..	2,442	—	—	—	—
Excess of Payments over Receipts for year:					
General Funds	24,767	9,814	—	—	11,123
Funds for Special Objects	17,825	—	—	—	2,796
	<u>1,945,848</u>	<u>72,357</u>	<u>929,886</u>	<u>106,597</u>	<u>111,679</u>
Balance at 31 December, 1972:					
General Funds	1,067,960	53,380	895,277	2,186	40,393
Funds for Special Objects ..	542,537	—	—	94,303	40,389
General Endowment Funds	184,657	18,977	34,609	6,290	20,851
Endowment Funds for Special Objects	150,694	—	—	3,818	10,046
	<u>1,945,848</u>	<u>72,357</u>	<u>929,886</u>	<u>106,597</u>	<u>111,679</u>

NET ASSETS OF FUNDS

Freehold Property and Equipment:					
Church House	72,247	—	—	—	—
Secretaries & Moderators Houses	97,516	—	—	—	8,603
Other Property	10,028	—	—	3,378	355
Investments	1,435,303	31,328	868,707	42,046	82,662
Loans Outstanding	83,695	—	—	29,975	—
Balance at Bank, etc.	289,706	41,029	61,179	31,198	18,109
Advances	1,950	—	—	—	1,950
	<u>1,990,445</u>	<u>72,357</u>	<u>929,886</u>	<u>106,597</u>	<u>111,679</u>

Deduct: Creditors and Provisions	44,597				
	<u>1,945,848</u>				

Year ending 31st December 1972

Church Extension	Christian Approach to Jews	Inter-Church Relations	College	Youth	Womens Missionary Association	Womens Home Church Association	Sundry Assembly Funds	Trust Funds
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
—	8,759	90	21,113	3,343	25,460	7,931	—	—
123,399	15,186	1,375	39,255	289	9,534	—	185,754	—
—	—	—	100,092	—	6,360	—	—	—
—	—	—	62,438	—	1,955	1,049	—	73,440
123,399	23,945	1,465	222,898	3,632	43,309	8,980	185,754	73,440
441	—	—	2,261	994	1,625	—	25,501	—
—	—	—	—	10,850	—	191	1,235	—
—	561	—	—	—	—	370	—	—
15,591	—	152	—	7	—	29	—	—
139,431	24,506	1,617	225,159	15,483	44,934	9,570	212,490	73,440
—	—	—	2,442	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	90	2,316	630	794	—	—	—
—	1	—	4,058	—	950	—	9,870	150
139,431	24,505	1,527	216,343	14,853	43,190	9,570	202,620	73,290
—	9,320	—	19,058	13,563	26,291	8,492	—	—
159,431	15,185	1,527	39,310	1,290	8,482	—	202,620	—
—	—	—	97,570	—	6,360	—	—	—
—	—	—	60,405	—	2,057	1,078	—	73,290
159,431	24,505	1,527	216,343	14,853	43,190	9,570	202,620	73,290
AT 31st DECEMBER 1972								
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72,247	—
—	—	—	—	18,161	—	—	70,752	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6,295	—
11,881	22,582	1,366	193,992	95	39,307	7,304	64,729	69,304
41,589	—	—	—	*2,228	—	160	14,199	—
85,961	1,923	161	22,351	1,175	3,883	2,106	18,995	3,986
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
139,431	24,505	1,527	216,343	14,853	43,190	9,570	247,217	73,290

* Internal Loan

Sundry Funds
Church House
Sec's House Fund

44,597
202,620
129,513
72,247
860
202,620

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

MINISTERS PENSION FUNDS

Movements in Funds year ended 31st December 1972

	Total	Ministers and Widows and Orphans Pension Fund	Retired Ministers Aid Fund	Widows Supple- mentary Fund
Balances at 1st January, 1972	£	£	£	£
General Funds	822,049	774,564 (a)	42,714	4,771
Endowment Funds	33,609	5,359	28,250	—
	855,658	779,923	70,964	4,771
Add Excess of Receipts over Payments for year	42,020	40,002	2,018	—
Surplus on Investments Sold	32,384	32,384	—	—
Less Loss on Investment Sold	—	—	—	—
Excess of Payments over Receipts for year	176	—	—	176
	£929,886	£852,309	£72,982	£4,595
Balances at 31st December, 1972:				
General Funds	895,277	846,950	43,732	4,595
Endowment Funds	34,609	5,359	29,250	—
	£929,886	£852,309	£72,982	£4,595

NET ASSETS OF FUNDS, 31st DECEMBER 1972

Investments	868,707	792,467	72,182	4,058
Balance at Bank and on deposit	61,179	59,842	800	537
	£929,886	£852,309	£72,982	£4,595

VALUATION OF INVESTMENTS, 15th DECEMBER 1972

General Funds	£1,047,839	£985,795	£56,970	£5,074
Endowment Funds	42,099	4,128	37,971	—
	£1,089,938	£989,923	£94,941	£5,074

(a) Including £25,403 from W. & O. (Cont. Liab.) Fund.

In his Quinquennial Report dated the 12th November, 1969, on the Ministers and Widows and Orphans Pension Fund as at the 31st December, 1968, the actuary stated that on the assumption that the special contributions to the Fund are continued as follows:

- (1) £10,000 per annum from the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund to the 31st December 1993;
- (2) £4,000 per annum from the Retired Ministers Aid Fund to the 31st December, 1988;
- (3) £2,200 per annum (average) from the Retired Ministers Aid Fund (Trust Funds) to the 31st December, 1998.

there was a surplus on the Fund at the 31st December, 1968, of £59,000. In arriving at this figure account was taken of the possible effect of inflation on future stipends.

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

Receipts and Payments Accounts

ORDINARY ASSEMBLY FUNDS

year ended 31st December 1972

	Total	Maintenance of the Ministry	Home Church	Overseas Missions	Church Extension	Christian Approach to Jews	Inter- Church Relations	College	Youth
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS									
Congregational Assessments	328,475	328,475	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unified Appeal	88,351	—	13,761	53,991	2,811	26	2,689	8,789	6,284
Donations	5,037	116	11	3,563	34	—	7	(d) 1,300	6
Income from Investments, etc.	18,416	2,935	1,132	4,730	—	710	—	8,909	—
Transfers from Special Funds	5,930	—	(a) 1,174	(a) 2,247	—	1,009	—	—	(b) 1,500
Terminal Fees, etc., at College	19,842	—	—	—	—	—	—	(e) 19,842	—
Funds for Special Objects—Income less Expenditure	31,425	—	16,820	—	13,457	—	147	—	1,001
Excess of Payments over Receipts for year	22,869	9,814	—	8,942	—	—	—	4,113	—
	520,345	341,340	32,898	73,473	16,302	1,745	2,843	42,953	8,791
PAYMENTS									
Stipends, etc.	358,720	303,035	8,647	33,829	—	—	—	8,782	4,427
Grants, etc.	14,052	471	2,143	6,361	1,010	545	1,643	466	1,413
Children's Allowances	11,414	11,414	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pensions and National Insurance	9,513	6,853	914	1,258	—	—	—	177	311
Office Charges, etc.	26,941	6,502	4,374	7,462	1,835	639	1,088	2,724	2,317
Expenditure at Mission Stations	14,939	—	—	14,939	—	—	—	—	—
Retiring Allowances	2,127	—	—	2,127	—	—	—	—	—
Passages and Outfit Allowances	4,701	—	—	4,701	—	—	—	—	—
Maintenance of College	23,796	—	—	—	—	—	—	23,796	—
Transfers to Other Funds	18,065	13,065	—	—	—	—	(c) 50	(c) 4,950	—
Funds for Special Objects—Expenditure less Income	4,854	—	—	2,796	—	—	—	2,058	—
Excess of Receipts over Payments for year	31,223	—	16,820	—	13,457	561	62	—	323
	520,345	341,340	32,898	73,473	16,302	1,745	2,843	42,953	8,791

(a) Transfers from Other Funds (c) Transfer to Special Funds (d) Including Legacy £261

(b) Including £1,350 Special Grant (e) Including Rent from Flats £2,693

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

**Receipts and Payments Accounts of
MINISTERS PENSION FUNDS**

Year ended 31st December 1972

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Ministers and Widows and Orphans Pension Fund</i>	<i>Retired Ministers Aid Fund</i>	<i>Widows Supple- mentary Fund</i>
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Premiums	29,154	29,154	—	—
Interest from:				
General Endowment Funds ..	50,319	46,464	3,587	268
General Interest Account ..	813	719	66	28
Trust Funds, etc.	1,705	110	1,595	—
Unified Appeal allocation ..	4,869	26	3,184	1,659
Donations	1,401	171	614	616
Legacies	2,868	568	2,300	—
Transfers from Other Funds ..	46,316	45,316 (a)	1,000	—
Excess of Payments over Receipts	176	—	—	176
	£137,621	£122,528	£12,346	£2,747
PAYMENTS				
Pensions, Grants, etc.	57,144	52,878	1,983	2,283
Contributions refunded	1,180	1,180	—	—
Office Charges	4,643	2,786	1,393	464
Sundry Expenses	382	279	103	—
Transfers to Other Funds ..	6,849	—	6,849	—
Excess of Receipts over Payments	67,423	65,405	2,018	—
	£137,621	£122,528	£12,346	£2,747

(a) Including £25,403 from W. & O. (Cont. Liab.) Fund.

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

THE ASSEMBLY ACCOUNT

Year ended 31st December 1972

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
	£		£
Congregational Assessments	— 12,874	Travelling Expenses of Members	6,871
Sundries	21	Deputation Expenses other Assemblies	499
	<u>12,895</u>	Expenses Moderator, Clerk, Convener and Clerk of Business Committee	462
Excess of Payments over Receipts for year	5,304	Printing Reports, Minutes, etc.	£2,457
		Less Charged to other Funds	999
			<u>1,458</u>
		Expenses of Committees without Funds	2,691
		Office Charges	3,250
		Grants to Historical Society and other Committees	1,303
		Grants to Free Church Federal Council, British Council of Churches, World Council of Churches, etc.	1,665
	<u>£18,199</u>		<u>£18,199</u>

Note on Balances:

Deficit brought forward from 1971	..	..	..	£1,593
Deficit for year brought down	..	..	..	5,304
Deficit forward to 1973	..	..	..	<u>£6,897</u>

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

OFFICE CHARGES

Year ended 31st December 1972

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
	£		£
Transfers from Funds:		Salaries & Allowances ..	16,690
Maintenance of Ministry	6,269	Annuity, Superannuation	
Overseas Missions ..	5,108	Premiums, Retiring Allowances	3,420
Home Church ..	1,625	Rates and Insurance ..	4,916
Women's Home Church		Lighting and Heating ..	1,237
Association	1,161	Postages	1,797
Christian Approach		Stationery and Printing ..	878
to Jews	464	Telephone and Telegrams ..	1,007
Inter-Church Relations	697	Repairs, Maintenance and	
College	1,625	Furnishings	466
Church Extension ..	1,625	Caretaker and Cleaning ..	1,643
Youth	1,625	Auditors Fees	1,250
Pension Funds ..	4,644	Legal Adviser	500
Other Funds ..	3,815	Sundries	264
	28,658	Transfer to Secretary's House	
Rent from Tavistock		Fund	200
Bookshop and Historical		Relief and Rehabilitation Fund	
Society	1,300	Pensions	330
Rent from Committee Rooms	226		
3% of Income Tax Refund on			
Covenants	4,377		
Sundries	37		
	<u>£34,598</u>		<u>£34,598</u>

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS
INVESTMENT POOL

Comprising all Assembly Funds and a Presbytery fund except Ministers and Widows and Orphans Pension, Beaverbrook Funds and Nivison Endowment

CAPITAL ACCOUNT

Fund at 15th December, 1971	..	..	..	..	£710,703
Net realized profits on investments sold	..	..	..	..	266
Amount subscribed on issue of units	..	..	..	..	28,676
Unrealized appreciation of Investments over the year to date					63,539
					<u>803,184</u>

Deduct:

Net realized losses on investments sold	..	..	..	..	—
Unrealized depreciation of investments over the year to date					—
Repaid on encashment of units	..	..	..	..	5,107
					<u>5,107</u>
Fund at 15th December, 1972	..	..			<u>£798,077</u>

Represented by:

Investments at middle market value at 15th December, 1972					786,545
Deposits with Local Authorities, etc.	..	..	..	..	5,900
Balance at Bank	..	..	..	..	5,632
					<u>£798,077</u>

INCOME ACCOUNT

Income (gross) receivable for the year (including amount brought forward at 16th December, 1971)	..	..			41,377
Deduct Distributions made during year					
15th March, 534,124 units @ 1.44p	..	..	..	..	7,691
15th June, 534,708 units @ 2.76p	..	..	..	..	14,758
15th Sept., 534,708 units @ 0.98p	..	..	..	..	5,240
15th Decr., 547,073 units @ 2.49p	..	..	..	..	13,622
					<u>41,311</u>
Balance on Income Account at 15th December, 1972	..				<u>£66</u>

Represented by Income Tax recoverable	..	..	..	..	£1,810
Less Bank Balance overdrawn	..	..	..	..	1,744
					<u>£66</u>

Number of units in issue at 15th December 1972 — 550,440

Basic value of one unit at 15th December 1972 — 144.93p

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

NOTES OF ACCOUNTS

Year ended 31st December 1972

1. (a) The accounts are drawn up to include the funds of the former Presbyterian Church of England, together with the investments which are administered by the Presbyterian Church of England Trust. The accounts do not include those funds under the control of Synods, Districts and local Churches, and the assets of the Overseas Missions.
- (b) Westminster College buildings and contents and sundry other property are not included in the balance sheet.
- (c) The Treasurership Committee is in receipt of income from certain other trusts. The investments from which such income is derived are not, however, included in the balance sheet.
2. No account has been taken of amounts due to or owing by the Treasurership Committee at 31st December, 1972, except as indicated in the balance sheet. There are, however, included in the accounts certain amounts received and payments made in January, 1973 which are regarded as relating to the year 1972.
3. The expenditure in the Mission Field included in the Overseas Missions Receipts and Payments Account relates to the fifteen months ended 31st December 1972, and is arrived at after deducting amounts received in the Mission Field.

4. Investments at 31st December, 1972:

- (i) Investments, other than those held by Investment Pool, as valued at 31st December, 1957, or at subsequent cost, or valuation when handed over:

1971 £		£
778,180	Pension Funds (General)	809,477
16,745	Special Funds	6,225
25,355	General Endowment Funds	22,833
—	Special Endowment Funds	—
<hr/>		<hr/>
£820,280		£838,535
<hr/>		<hr/>
£963,617	Middle Market Value 15th December, 1972 plus subsequent purchases at cost	£1,054,804
<hr/>		<hr/>

- (ii) Investments in the Investment Pool at cost to Funds concerned at date of acquisition of units:

£		£
126,314	General Funds	131,026
136,648	Special Funds	156,894
160,821	General Endowment Funds	161,821
144,367	Special Endowment Funds	144,527
10,000	Presbytery Funds	10,000
<hr/>		<hr/>
£578,150		£604,268
<hr/>		<hr/>
£710,705	Middle Market Value 15th December, 1972, plus subsequent purchases at cost and uninvested Cash Capital	£798,076
<hr/>		<hr/>
Unquoted Investments at 31st December, 1972		
£2,500	Special Funds (URC Insurance Co. Ltd.)	£2,500
<hr/>		<hr/>

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

LEGACIES

Legacies received year ended 31st December 1972

						£	£	
<i>Maintenance of the Ministry</i>								
Late	Mr. G. M. Lockie	..	..	..	..		5,000
<i>Overseas Missions</i>								
Late	Miss M. A. Graham	..	..	..	..	138	
"	Mrs. H. M. Russell	..	..	..	..	778	
"	Miss J. A. Hunter	..	..	..	..	17	
"	Miss E. E. Bache	..	..	..	..	1,000	
"	Miss J. O. Allen	..	..	..	..	500	
"	Miss G. A. Mott	..	..	..	..	3,749	
"	Miss G. G. Clarke	..	..	..	..	6	
"	Mrs. F. O. M. Preston	..	..	..	..	837	
							7,025	
<i>Women's Missionary Association</i>								
Late	Miss I. Elliott	..	..	..	..	190	
"	Miss M. Barnett	..	..	..	..	15	
"	Mr. R. Goodwin	..	..	..	..	50	
"	Mrs. A. F. Harrison	..	..	..	..	1,020	
"	Mrs. M. Anderson	..	..	..	..	100	
"	Mrs. D. Macdonald	..	..	..	..	250	
							1,625	
<i>Westminster College</i>								
Late	Mr. A. P. Buchanan	..	..	..	..	261	
"	Revd. G. V. Healey	..	..	..	..	2,000	
							2,261	
<i>Committee on Youth</i>								
Late	Miss E. M. F. Roe	..	..	..	..		994
<i>Church Extension Fund</i>								
Late	Miss A. E. Paterson	..	..	..	..		441
<i>Retired Ministers Aid Fund</i>								
Late	Miss M. Tear	..	..	..	..	100	
"	Miss G. J. Rose	..	..	..	..	1,000	
"	Mr. D. Greenlees	..	..	..	..	1,000	
"	Mrs. E. Munro	..	..	..	..	200	
							2,300	
<i>Ministers & Widows & Orphans Pension Fund</i>								
Late	Dr. J. A. Brand	..	..	..	..		568
<i>Presbyterian Church of England</i>								
Late	Mr. J. J. Ritchie	..	..	..	..	22,974	
"	Miss E. M. F. Roe	..	..	..	..	2,000	
"	Miss E. W. Andrews	..	..	..	..	10	
"	Mr. F. E. Bunting	..	..	..	..	517	
							25,501	
							<u>£45,715</u>	

PRESBYTERIAN ACCOUNTS

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

**Trading and Profit and Loss Account
for year ended 31st December, 1972**

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Committee Publications</i>	<i>Outlook</i>
	£	£	£
Sales	5,517	330	5,187
Advertising Revenue	815	—	815
TOTAL INCOME	6,332	330	6,002
Stock at 31st December, 1972	332	332	—
Trading Loss for year	1,179	1,179	—
	<u>7,843</u>	<u>1,841</u>	<u>6,002</u>
Purchasing, Printing, etc.	5,411	27	5,384
Advertising Commission	204	—	204
Administration Expenses	564	564	—
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,179	591	5,588
Stock at 1st January, 1972	1,395	1,250	145
Trading Profit for year	269	—	269
	<u>7,843</u>	<u>1,841</u>	<u>6,002</u>

Balance Sheet, 31st December 1972

LIABILITIES		£	ASSETS		£	£
Bank Overdraft	10,629		Stock			332
			Amount due from Tavistock Bookshop for assets taken over	4,919		
			Less Repaid	2,401		
					<u>2,518</u>	
			Capital Account—			
			Balance at 1 Jan. 1972	7,719		
			Add Loss for year	910		
					<u>8,629</u>	
			Less Assembly Grant		850	
					<u>7,779</u>	
	<u>£10,629</u>					<u>£10,629</u>

No account has been taken of any share of the profits of the Tavistock Bookshop which may be due to the committee for the period 1st July, 1969 to 31st December, 1972.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Accounts year to 31st December 1972

Under the provisions of the United Reformed Church Act 1972 the Congregational Church in England and Wales was dissolved on 5th October 1972. On and from that date (the date of formation) the assets, apart from those held for the Ministers' Pension, Pastors' Superannuation and Pastors' Widows' Funds are held as far as circumstances permit on the same trusts as before the date of formation but extended to include the purposes of the United Reformed Church until the coming into force of a scheme under Section 13 of the Act dividing the assets between the United Reformed Church and the Non-Uniting Churches.

The accounts for the year ended 31st December 1972 cover without break the funds both to the date of formation of the United Reformed Church and also on and from that date, including assets which under a scheme of allocation yet to be made by the Charity Commissioners will pass to the Non-Uniting Churches. The accounts do not include the funds which were held for the purposes of the Presbyterian Church of England for details of which see pages 78 to 90.

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Home and Overseas Churches Fund

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December 1972

	Budget		
	1972	1972	1971
	£	£	£
INCOME			
County Quotas	118,390	118,390	118,390
Overseas Mission	229,850	226,623	226,761
Membership Fees	9,700	9,426	9,961
Donations: General	1,250	1,113	1,551
Cong. Insc. Co.	745	—	745
Dividends and Interest—Common Investment Fund	1,325	2,290	1,287
Other	200	287	449
Legacy Equalisation	4,465	4,641	4,494
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	365,925	362,770	363,638
Balance transferred from Accumulated Fund ..	3,620	3,922	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£369,545	£366,692	£363,638
ALLOCATIONS			
Overseas Mission	213,350	209,723	210,262
Central Administration: General	16,660	18,808	15,429
Moderators	17,545	18,730	16,283
Church Relations	4,890	4,954	4,747
Training and Mission	18,985	19,063	17,632
Finance: General	18,165	15,910	17,569
Maintenance of Ministry	61,700	61,700	61,700
Ministers' Pension Fund	16,750	16,304	15,227
Ministers Friendly Society—Deficit	1,500	1,500	1,500
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	369,545	366,692	360,349
Balance transferred to Accumulated Fund ..	—	—	3,289
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£369,545	£366,692	£363,638

Publications Account

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December, 1972

		1971
Sales of: Congregational Monthly	10,577	11,678
Year Book 1972/73 Edition	3,171	2,508
Enterprise	3,613	3,890
Prayer Fellowship Handbook	1,997	2,245
Advertising Revenue	2,943	3,522
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£22,301	£23,843
Printing, Paper and Lay Out	11,287	12,027
Distribution Charges	3,992	4,764
Contributors	300	350
Administration—Direct Charges	2,925	3,133
Office Administration	1,959	2,250
Grant to C.C.W.M. on Enterprise	165	190
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20,628	22,714
Balance carried forward to 1973	1,673	1,129
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£22,301	£23,843

CCEW ACCOUNTS
Central Services

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December, 1972

	Central Administration		Church Relations	Training & Mission	Finance		Total	Budget 1972	1971
	General	Moderators			General	Maintenance of Ministry			
CENTRAL SERVICES									
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT									
INCOME									
Dividends and Interest:									
Common Investment Fund	14,780	3,010	36	22	—	1,135	18,983	18,350	17,833
Other	4,409	—	—	—	—	1,718	6,127	8,300	8,749
Donations: General	317	—	—	61	—	171	549	470	1,158
Cong. Inscce. Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1,330	1,330
Legacy Equalisation	1,635	—	—	—	—	—	1,635	1,245	1,811
Grants	—	—	—	3,075	—	—	3,075	2,575	3,075
Literature	18	—	—	66	—	—	84	455	333
Central Fund	—	—	—	—	—	18,079	18,079	19,690	19,118
Church Aid Fund	—	—	—	—	—	4,981	4,981	5,290	5,207
	21,159	3,010	36	3,224	—	26,084	53,513	57,705	58,614
Home Churches Fund	18,808	18,730	4,954	19,063	15,910	61,700	139,165	137,945	133,360
	£39,967	21,740	4,990	22,287	15,910	87,784	192,678	195,650	191,974
EXPENDITURE									
Stipends	—	—	—	—	—	69,490	69,490	74,000	64,620
Children's Allowances	—	—	—	—	—	7,876	7,876	8,000	7,823
Personal Allowances	—	—	—	—	—	286	286	360	230
Retirement Grants	—	—	—	—	—	2,751	2,751	2,900	3,137
Staff Salaries	8,994	16,572	4,061	15,439	13,127	—	58,193	59,570	56,082
Office Accommodation	10,171	—	—	300	—	—	10,471	10,260	10,049
Printing & Stationery	2,155	—	—	—	350	—	2,505	2,500	2,423
Telephone & Postage	1,301	—	—	687	363	—	2,351	2,700	2,514
Office Expenses	598	—	11	405	346	—	1,360	1,365	1,370
Secretarial Travel	717	4,311	230	1,569	229	—	7,056	6,490	6,121
Committee Travel	4,196	857	427	854	759	—	7,093	7,900	7,397
Assembly & Council	3,629	—	—	—	—	—	3,629	4,500	4,400
Conferences	617	—	—	869	461	—	1,947	1,845	2,052
Advocacy & Promotion	1,608	—	—	1,363	275	—	3,246	2,900	3,406
Literature Subsidy	20	—	181	—	—	—	201	100	54
Grants	3,260	—	80	801	—	—	4,141	3,805	3,736
Professional Charges	2,701	—	—	—	—	—	2,701	1,750	2,402
	39,967	21,740	4,990	22,287	15,910	80,403	185,297	190,945	177,816
Transfer to Accumulated Fund	—	—	—	—	—	7,381	7,381	4,705	14,158
	£39,967	21,740	4,990	22,287	15,910	87,784	192,678	195,650	191,974

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Balance Sheet of Home and Overseas Churches Fund and Central Services

As at 31st December 1972

CAPITAL AND FUNDS

	£	£	1971 £
Capital			
Central Administration	304,875		257,274
Social Responsibility	607		607
Training & Mission	1,007		1,007
		306,489	
Special Funds			
Home Churches Fund	2,397		2,061
Lease Surrender—Net Amount	45,214		39,911
Church Relations	80		80
Training & Mission	415		382
Central Administration	89		89
Maintenance of Ministry	16,539		19,072
		64,734	
Legacies Equalisation			
Home Churches Fund	26,516		30,733
Central Administration	12,378		7,219
		38,894	
Accumulated Funds			
Home Churches Fund	15,457		19,956
Maintenance of Ministry	47,985		40,603
Youth Leadership Training	1,081		1,081
		64,523	
Depreciation Provision			
Freehold Properties	3,371		3,371
Motor Cars	3,236		6,027
Furniture & Equipment	2,841		1,996
		9,448	
		£484,088	£431,469
REPRESENTED BY			
Fixed Assets—at cost:			
Freehold Properties	93,468		71,073
Motor Cars	15,230		12,261
Furniture & Equipment	10,704		8,151
		119,402	
Investments			
Common Investment Fund—306,043 Units	325,259		223,215
Other	—		45,305
Interest in Tavistock Bookshop—at cost	14,000		14,000
Loans	25,000		30,000
		364,259	
		483,661	
Current Assets			
Debtors	30,584		21,992
Stock of Literature, Stationery & Badges	635		1,050
Cash at Bank and in Hand	229		9,897
Money on Deposit	30,000		12,500
Church House Reconstruction	5,450		
	66,898		
Less: Creditors and Provisions	28,097		17,975
Bank Overdraft	38,374	66,471	—
		427	
		£484,088	£431,469

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Movement on Capital Funds—Year ended 31st December 1972

	<i>Central Administration</i>
Balance 1/1/72	257,274
Add: Legacies Proportion	7,046
Anonymous Gift	36,000
Surplus on sale of Property	11,971
Donation towards General Work of U.R.C.	1,000
	<hr/>
	313,291
Less: Legal costs—Cong./Presby. Union	7,176
Independent Press Ltd.—guarantee payments	1,240
	<hr/>
Balance 31/12/72	£304,875

Movement on Special Funds

	<i>Home Churches</i>	<i>Maint. of Ministry</i>	<i>Training & Mission</i>	<i>Lease Surrender</i>
Balance 1/1/72	2,061	19,072	382	39,911
Add: Profit on transfer of Investments to C.I.F.	483	—	—	5,303
Dividends—C.I.F.	—	—	33	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,544	19,072	415	45,214
Less: Sussex 1971 Quota Shortage	147	—	—	—
Loans on Car Schemes	—	2,533	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£2,397	£16,539	£415	£45,214

Legacies Equalisation

	<i>Home Churches</i>	<i>Central Administration</i>
Balance 1/1/72	30,733	7,219
Add: Legacies Proportion	424	6,794
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	31,157	14,013
Less: Transfer to Income	4,641	1,635
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance 31/12/72	£26,516	£12,378

Movement on Accumulated Funds

	<i>Home Churches</i>	<i>Maintenance of Ministry</i>
Balance 1/1/72	19,956	40,604
Add: Amount added	—	7,381
Surplus on Car Sales	848	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20,804	47,985
Less: Amount deducted	3,922	—
Cost of Office Removal	900	—
Church Leaders Conference	525	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance 31/12/72	£15,457	£47,985

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Central Fund for Ministerial Support*Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1972***CAPITAL AND FUNDS**

Capital	270,200	270,200
Contingencies Fund	12,847	12,847
Special Emergency Fund	336	336
	£283,383	£283,383

1971

270,200

12,847

336

£283,383

283,164

219

£283,383

REPRESENTED BY

282,936 Common Investment Fund Units	283,164	283,164
Cash at Bank	219	219
	£283,383	£283,383

Note: Income from Common Investment Fund amounted to £18,079 and has been transferred to Maintenance of Ministry.

Church Aid Fund*Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1972***CAPITAL AND FUNDS**

Capital	61,046	60,595
Contingencies Fund	7,386	7,386
Legacy Equalisation	2,546	2,584
	£70,978	£70,565

1971

60,595

7,386

2,584

£70,565

REPRESENTED BY

70,303 Common Investment Units	71,347	71,347
Debtors	7	18
Less: Bank Overdraft	71,354	800
	376	
	£70,978	£70,565

Note: Income from Common Investment Fund	4,519	4,778
Trust Income	10	—
Other Income	29	12
Legacy Equalisation	462	429
	£5,020	£5,219

Payments of Sundry Bequests	12	12
Maintenance of Ministry	4,981	5,207
Transfer to Capital Account	27	—
	£5,020	£5,219

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Ministers' Pension Fund

Year ended 31st December 1972

Balance of Fund at 1st January 1972	.. .. .	95,666
Contributions:		
Ministers and Churches	.. .. .	70,674
C.C.E.W.	.. .. .	16,304
		<hr/>
Transfer Values received from Assurance Company	.. .. .	86,978
Transfer Values from other Pension Funds	.. .. .	15,652
Investment Income (Gross)	.. .. .	397
Profit on Stock sold	.. .. .	8,567
Sundry Income	.. .. .	2,713
		8
		<hr/>
		209,981
Pensions	.. .. .	10,092
Amounts paid on death	.. .. .	412
Amounts paid to Ministers on Withdrawal..	.. .. .	947
Amounts transferred to other Pension Funds	.. .. .	1,794
Administration	.. .. .	443
		<hr/>
		13,688
Balance of Fund at 31st December, 1972	.. .. .	<hr/>
		£196,293
		<hr/>
REPRESENTED BY		
Investments at cost (Market Value £174,426)	.. .. .	177,947
Money on Deposit	.. .. .	3,500
Cash at Bank	.. .. .	11,015
Income Tax Recoverable	.. .. .	3,947
		<hr/>
		196,409
Less: Creditors and Suspense	.. .. .	116
		<hr/>
		£196,293
		<hr/>

Notes 1. In addition to the above, the Trustees continue to hold paid-up benefits under a Group Pension Policy secured by contributions paid before 1st June 1971.

2. There is an outstanding call on shares purchased amounting to £9,500 which is due on 5/1/73.

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Home for Retired Ministers (Fen Place)

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December 1972

	1972	1971
INCOME		
Rents—Houses and Bungalows	12,028	11,058
Visitors	504	489
Garden Party	623	508
Church Collections	388	428
Donations: General	817	625
Cong. Insce. Co.	250	125
Dividends and Interest	928	1,633
Transfer from Accumulated Fund	99	—
	<u>£15,637</u>	<u>£14,866</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Staff Salaries	6,355	5,782
Provisions and Laundry	4,190	3,983
Maintenance—Furniture and Equipment	1,413	1,010
Buildings	—	400
Rates, Lighting, Heating and Insurance	3,330	2,629
Administration	349	496
	<u>15,637</u>	<u>14,300</u>
Transfer to Accumulated Fund	—	566
	<u>£15,637</u>	<u>£14,866</u>
 <i>Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1972</i>		
CAPITAL AND FUNDS		
Capital	60,354	60,297
Special Legacy	5,000	5,000
Accumulated Fund	458	557
Depreciation Provision—Furniture & Equipment	3,800	3,600
	<u>£69,612</u>	<u>£69,454</u>
REPRESENTED BY		
Freehold Property at cost	60,465	58,788
Furniture and Equipment at cost	5,965	5,965
	<u>66,430</u>	<u>64,753</u>
5604 Common Investment Fund Units	7,307	8,571
Stocks of Fuel and Provisions	75	80
Debtors and Payments in Advance	650	836
Cash at Bank and in Hand	20	20
	<u>8,052</u>	
Less: Creditors and Provisions	3,177	2,697
Bank Overdraft	1,693	2,109
	<u>4,870</u>	
	<u>3,182</u>	
	<u>£69,612</u>	<u>£69,454</u>

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Pastors' Superannuation Fund*Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December 1972*

	<i>Budget 1972</i>	<i>1972</i>	<i>1971</i>
INCOME			
Dividends and Interest:			
Common Investment Fund	16,500	15,292	16,171
Other	—	562	1,658
Donations: General	200	167	422
Cong. Insc. Co.	300	—	300
Legacies Equalisation	1,500	1,485	1,551
Transfer from Accumulated Fund	1,510	1,697	—
	<u>£20,010</u>	<u>£19,203</u>	<u>£20,102</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Grants	20,000	19,148	19,815
Administration	10	55	10
Transfer to Accumulated Fund	—	—	277
	<u>£20,010</u>	<u>£19,203</u>	<u>£20,102</u>

*Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1972***CAPITAL AND FUNDS**

Capital	225,397	225,397
Legacies Equalisation	6,807	8,092
Accumulated Fund	5,570	7,267
	<u>£237,774</u>	<u>£240,756</u>

REPRESENTED BY

239,322 Common Investment Fund Units		239,069	239,069
Less: Bank Overdraft	1,152		1,830
Creditors.. .. .	143	1,295	143
		<u>£237,774</u>	<u>£240,756</u>

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Pastors' Widows Fund

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December, 1972

	Budget 1972	1972	1971
INCOME			
Dividends and Interest:			
Common Investment Fund	6,500	7,484	6,449
Other	5,500	6,060	8,710
Donations: General	300	560	596
Cong. Insc. Co.	150	—	150
Legacies Equalisation	1,600	1,411	1,665
Transfer from Accumulated Fund	3,960	1,625	—
	<u>£18,010</u>	<u>£17,140</u>	<u>£17,570</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Grants	18,000	17,085	17,488
Administration	10	55	11
Transfer to Accumulated Fund	—	—	71
	<u>£18,010</u>	<u>£17,140</u>	<u>£17,570</u>
<i>Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1972</i>			
CAPITAL AND FUNDS			
Capital		82,062	80,152
Legacies Equalisation		6,630	7,342
Accumulated Fund		28,545	30,170
		<u>£117,237</u>	<u>£117,664</u>
REPRESENTED BY			
111,213 Common Investment Fund Units		117,071	96,521
Money on Deposit		—	20,000
Debtors		522	—
		<u>117,593</u>	
Less: Bank Overdraft	213		1,286
Creditors	143	356	143
		<u>£117,237</u>	<u>£117,664</u>

Staff Superannuation Fund

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1972 and Account for the year to that date

Fund as at 1st January, 1972		52,703	53,144
Contributions		1,189	1,223
Dividends and Interest		3,072	3,091
Profit on Sale of Investments		—	25
		<u>56,964</u>	<u>57,483</u>
Less: Pension Payments	4,705		4,780
Loss on Sale of Investments	4,938	9,643	—
Fund as at 31st December, 1972		<u>£47,321</u>	<u>£52,703</u>
REPRESENTED BY			
Investments at cost (Market Value £62,393)		46,972	51,981
Debtors	1,294		613
Less: Bank Overdraft	945	349	109
		<u>£47,321</u>	<u>£52,703</u>

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Welfare Fund

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December, 1972

INCOME			1971
Donations		7,196	7,612
Dividends and Interest: Common Investment Fund		128	135
Other Trust Income		—	39
Legacies Equalisation		84	84
Transfer from Accumulated Fund		552	842
		<u>£7,960</u>	<u>£8,712</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Gifts		7,929	8,665
Administration		31	47
		<u>£7,960</u>	<u>£8,712</u>
Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1972			
CAPITAL AND FUNDS			
Capital		300	300
Legacies Equalisation		586	670
Accumulated Fund—Debit Balance		[492]	60
		<u>£394</u>	<u>£1,030</u>
REPRESENTED BY			
2,000 Common Investment Fund Units		2,000	2,000
Less: Bank Overdraft		1,606	[970]
		<u>£394</u>	<u>£1,030</u>

Arthur Clegg Bowdler Fund

Income and Expenditure—Year ended 31st December, 1972

INCOME			1971
Dividends and Interest: Common Investment Fund		3,461	3,659
		<u>£3,461</u>	<u>£3,659</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Grants		2,758	3,169
Examination Books		39	15
Administration		—	2
Transfer to Accumulated Account		664	473
		<u>£3,461</u>	<u>£3,659</u>
Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1972			
CAPITAL FUNDS			
Capital		25,274	25,074
Special Fund		14,649	14,649
Accumulated Account		21,064	19,400
		<u>£60,987</u>	<u>£59,123</u>
REPRESENTED BY			
54,151 Common Investment Fund Units		54,254	54,254
Cash at Bank	7,571	5,707	5,707
Less: Creditors and Provisions	838	6,733	[838]
		<u>£60,987</u>	<u>£59,123</u>

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Church Building Fund (incorporating The English Congregational Chapel Building Society)

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December 1972

INCOME		1971
Dividends and Interest:		
Common Investment Fund	2,441	2,582
Other	2,841	2,808
Donations: General	8	31
Cong. Insce. Co.	—	510
Rents and Ground Rents	5,059	4,089
	<u>£10,349</u>	<u>£10,020</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Gifts to Churches	3,435	9,543
Administration	94	90
Transfer to Accumulated Fund	6,820	387
	<u>£10,349</u>	<u>£10,020</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1972

CAPITAL AND FUNDS			
Capital	101,247	98,948	
Accumulated Fund	23,261	16,441	
	<u>£124,508</u>	<u>£115,389</u>	
REPRESENTED BY			
38,201 Common Investment Fund Units	38,247	38,247	
Other Investments at cost (Market Value £18,591)	20,202	12,351	
Ground Rents at cost	15,439	15,439	
Money on Deposit	4,502	12,128	
Loans to Churches	47,556	37,077	
Cash at Bank	812	1,147	
	<u>48,368</u>		
Less: Provisions	2,250	46,118	1,000
	<u>£124,508</u>	<u>£115,389</u>	

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Common Investment Fund

	<i>Number of Units 31/12/72</i>	<i>Value 31/12/72</i>	<i>Income 31/12/72</i>
Home and Overseas Churches Fund	31,801	39,243	1,915
Central Administration: General	147,228	181,684	8,960*
Moderators	47,103	58,127	3,010
Special Gift	29,492	36,394	897‡
Lease surrender	31,241	38,552	1,709*
Church Relations	558	689	36
Training and Mission	350	432	22
Finance: Maintenance of Ministry	17,758	21,914	1,135
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Blake Trust—one half share	305,531	377,035	17,684
Central Fund	64,347	79,406	4,111*
Church Aid Fund	282,936	349,152	18,079
Fen Place	70,303	86,756	4,492†
Pastors' Superannuation	5,604	6,916	307
Pastors' Widows	239,322	295,331	15,292
Welfare	111,213	137,240	6,962
Bowdler	2,000	2,468	128
Church Building	54,151	66,824	3,461
Westhill Bursary	38,201	47,141	2,441
Hassals Trust	512	632	33
	404	499	27†
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,174,524	£1,449,400	£73,017
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Kings Weigh House Trust	46,814	57,770	2,992
Schools Fund	54,403	67,135	3,476
Blake Trust—one half share held for Devon County Union	64,346	79,405	4,111
Other Sundry Trusts	145,739	179,847	8,516
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,485,826	£1,833,557	£92,112

* Total per Account £14,780 page 93.

† Total per Account £4,519 page 96.

‡ £522 allocated to Pastors' Widows Fund. £375 allocated to Home and Overseas Churches Fund.

Common Investment Fund

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1972

	1972	1971
CAPITAL AND FUNDS		
Capital	1,593,774	1,338,946
Special Reserve Fund	8,855	6,092
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,602,629	£1,345,038
REPRESENTED BY		
Investments (Market Value £1,820,199)	1,589,274	1,342,694
Income Tax Recoverable	16,425	7,361
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,605,699	
Less: Bank Overdraft	3,070	5,037
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Note: Market Value of Investments	£1,820,199	1,602,629
Cash for Investment	13,358	£1,345,038
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,833,557	

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Movement of Capital Funds

Year ended 31st December 1972

	<i>Common Investment Fund</i>	<i>Church Aid Fund</i>	<i>Fen Place</i>	<i>Pastors' Widows</i>	<i>Church Building Fund</i>
Balance 1/1/72	1,338,946	60,595	60,297	80,152	98,948
Add: Anonymous Gift	36,000	—	—	—	—
Sundry Trusts	143,789	—	—	1,958	—
Legacies Received	8,673	424	350	—	—
Profit on Sale of Investments	66,366	—	—	—	—
Improvement Grant	—	—	901	—	—
Sale of Church Property	—	—	—	—	2,299
Amount added	—	27	—	—	—
	1,593,774	61,046	61,548	82,110	101,247
Less: Loss on Transfer of Investments to C.I.F.	—	—	1,194	48	—
Balance 31/12/72	£1,593,774	£61,046	£60,354	£82,062	£101,247

Movement on Legacies Equalisation

	<i>Church Aid</i>	<i>Pastors' Supn.</i>	<i>Pastors' Widows</i>	<i>Welfare</i>
Balance 1/1/72	2,584	8,092	7,342	670
Add: Legacies proportion	424	200	700	—
	3,008	8,292	8,042	670
Less: Transfers to Income	462	1,485	1,412	84
Balance 31/12/72	£2,546	£6,807	£6,630	£586

Movement on Accumulated Funds

	<i>Pastors' Supn.</i>	<i>Pastors' Widows</i>	<i>Fen Place</i>	<i>Welfare</i>	<i>Bowdler</i>	<i>Church Building</i>
Balance 1/1/72	7,267	30,170	557	60	19,400	16,441
Legacy	—	—	—	—	1,000	—
Amount Added	—	—	—	—	664	6,820
	7,267	30,170	557	60	21,064	23,261
Amount withdrawn	1,697	1,625	99	552	—	—
Balance 31/12/72	£5,570	£28,545	£458	£Dr(492)	£21,064	£23,261

L. R. PALMER
Treasurer

Auditors' Report

We have examined the Balance Sheets of the foregoing funds of the former Congregational Church in England and Wales. As explained by way of note, the accounts for the year ended 31st December have been prepared in the manner which would have been appropriate if no dissolution of the Congregational Church in England and Wales had taken place on 5th October 1972.

Subject thereto in our opinion such Balance Sheets are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of these Funds and according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books.

24/28 Moorgate, London EC2R 6EA.
April 1973

J. Dix Lewis, Caesar Duncan & Co.
Chartered Accountants

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Summary of Accounts—1972

	Budget		1971
	1972	1972	
INCOME			
Contributions from the Churches for work at Home	128,090	127,816	128,351
Contributions from the Churches for work Overseas	229,850	226,623	226,762
Dividends and Interest	81,155	79,607	85,120
Other Income including Legacies	16,600	15,174	19,370
	<u>455,695</u>	<u>449,220</u>	<u>459,603</u>
Transfer from Accumulated Funds	9,090	7,244	—
	<u>£464,785</u>	<u>£456,464</u>	<u>£459,603</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Ministerial Support	100,610	95,456	89,401
Care of Retired Ministers and Widows	40,900	38,985	40,441
Remitted to C.C.W.M. for Overseas Mission	213,350	209,723	210,262
Service to Churches from the Centre	80,600	79,038	78,504
Service to Churches through Moderators	20,815	21,740	19,465
Grants to National Bodies	3,805	4,141	3,736
	<u>460,080</u>	<u>449,083</u>	<u>441,809</u>
Transfer to Accumulated Funds	4,705	7,381	17,794
	<u>£464,785</u>	<u>£456,464</u>	<u>£459,603</u>

CCEW ACCOUNTS

Congregational Ministers' Friendly Society

Income and Expenditure Account—Year ended 31st December, 1972

INCOME		REVENUE ACCOUNT							
1971		Premiums returned upon death or withdrawal	..	..	..	..	..	..	1972
996		Transfer to Management Expenses Account	..	..	..	..	..	..	900.70
198		Annuitants paid	..	..	..	..	..	..	185.25
17,772									17,508.23
<u>£18,966</u>									<u>£18,594.18</u>
EXPENDITURE									
2,951		By Premiums and Contributions received	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,705.15
3		Fines	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.50
8,989		Interest and Dividends received gross	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,183.27
7,023		Excess of Expenditure over Income	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,703.26
<u>£18,966</u>									<u>£18,594.18</u>
MANAGEMENT EXPENSES ACCOUNT									
EXPENDITURE									
129		Incidental Expenses, Printing, Postages, Stationery, Actuarial Fees, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	131.31
69		Congregational Church in England and Wales for Administration Charges	..	..	..	..	..	..	53.94
<u>£198</u>									<u>£185.25</u>
INCOME									
198		By Transfer from Revenue Account	..	..	..	..	..	..	185.25
<u>£198</u>									<u>£185.25</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1972

		Capital							
156,834		Balance as per last Account	..	..	..	..	..	..	116,600.27
1,500		Add: Amount allocated from Home Churches Fund towards Deficit Liquidation	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,500.00
158,334									118,100.27
		Less: Deficit on Revenue Account for year	..	..	..	..	..	7,703.26	
		Less: Net Profit on Investments realised	..	..	..	..	..	2,111.10	
41,734									5,592.16
<u>116,600</u>									<u>112,508.11</u>
Reserve									
2,500		Management Fund	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,500.00
143		Creditors	..	..	..	..	..	..	128.43
1,986		Bank Overdraft	..	..	..	..	..	..	7,746.90
<u>£121,229</u>									<u>£122,883.44</u>
Assets									
119,619		Investments:							
1,610		At Cost (Market Value 31.12.72 £124,693)	..	..	..	..	..	..	119,666.90
		Income Tax Recoverable	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,216.54
<u>£121,229</u>									<u>£122,883.44</u>

In my opinion, the foregoing Revenue Account, Management Expenses Account and Balance Sheet give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society at 31st December, 1972, and of its income and expenditure for the year ended on that date, and comply with the Friendly and Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1968 and the Friendly Societies Act 1896. The last actuarial valuation of the assets and liabilities of the Society at 31st December 1969 showed a deficiency of £37,426, which has subsequently been reduced by special contributions totalling £4,500.

(Signed) B. E. F. BENNETT
of the firm of Robson, Rhodes & Co.
Chartered Accountants

24/28 Moorgate,
London EC2R 6EA.
April, 1973.

STANDING ORDERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Questions

1. (i) A member may :
 - (a) if two clear days' notice in writing has been given to the General Secretary ask the Moderator or the Chairman of any Committee any question on any matter relating to the business of the Assembly to which no reference is made in any report before the Assembly ; and
 - (b) with the permission of the Moderator put to him or to the Chairman of any Committee any questions relating to urgent business of which such notice has not been given, but a copy of any such question shall, if possible, be handed to the General Secretary at the beginning of the morning session of the Assembly at which the question is to be asked.
- (ii) Every question shall be put and answered without discussion.

Notices of Motion

2. (i) A Provincial Synod may deliver to the General Secretary not less than six clear weeks before the commencement of the annual meeting of the Assembly notice in writing of a motion for consideration at the Assembly.
- (ii) No such notice shall be accepted if the question raised is the subject of any report to the same Assembly, or is capable of being raised as an amendment to any report before the Assembly, or has been the subject of any decision given by the Assembly within the preceding two years.
- (iii) Any accepted notice shall first be considered by the appropriate Committee which shall report to the Assembly thereon. The report of the Committee shall appear on the Agenda of the Assembly with the notice of motion.
- (iv) If the report of a Committee cannot be brought before the Assembly immediately following the receipt of the notice, then the notice and report shall be placed on the agenda for the next following Assembly unless the subject matter is otherwise to be considered by the Assembly but if the Provincial Synod giving the notice considers that the notice raises a question which merits urgent consideration then the notice shall stand referred to the Business Committee.
- (v) If a church or a District Council wishes to put forward a motion for consideration by the General Assembly then they shall submit the motion to the Provincial Synod for consideration and if thought fit for transmission to the General Assembly at such time as will enable the Synod to comply with paragraph 2(i) of Standing Orders. In the case of a church the motion must be submitted through the District Council.

Speeches

3. Speeches made in presentation of the report and motions of any Department and its committees shall not in aggregate exceed 30 minutes, save by the prior agreement of the Assembly on the recommendation of the Business Committee. The proposers of any other motion shall be allotted 10 minutes or such longer period as may be recommended by the Business Committee or determined by the Moderator. Each subsequent speaker shall be allowed five minutes unless the Moderator shall otherwise determine.
4. When a speech is made on behalf of a committee, it shall be so stated. Otherwise a speaker shall begin by stating his name and his accreditation to the Assembly.

5. In each debate, whether on a motion or on an amendment, no one shall address the Assembly more than once, except that at the close of each debate the proposer of the motion shall have the right of reply, but must strictly confine himself to answering previous speakers and not introduce new matter. Such reply shall close the debate on the motion or that amendment as the case may be.
6. The foregoing Standing Order shall not prevent the asking or answering of a question which directly arises from the matter before the Assembly or from a speech made in the debate upon it.

Seconding

7. No motion or amendments shall be debated or put to the Assembly unless it has been seconded. The seconder may, if he then declares his intention of doing so, reserve his speech until a later period in the debate.

Amendments

8. An amendment shall be either to omit words or to insert words or to do both, but no amendment shall be in order which has the effect of introducing an irrelevant proposal or of negating the motion.
9. No amendment shall be moved unless a written notice of its terms has been (a) submitted to the General Secretary before the Assembly opens, or (b) handed to the General Secretary during the Assembly, unless the Moderator otherwise decides.
10. If the Moderator considers that an amendment is of such a character that it cannot adequately be debated without previous distribution of copies, he may so decide and discussion of the amendment shall be adjourned until copies are available.
11. No motion or amendment which necessitates expenditure additional to that which has been provided for in the estimates for the current or ensuing year shall be put to the meeting unless and until the cost involved and the possibility of providing the additional amount has been considered by the Central Committee of the Finance Department, or in case of emergency by the Assembly Business Committee.
12. If an amendment is carried, the motion as amended shall take the place of the original motion and shall become the substantive motion upon which any further amendment may be moved. If an amendment is rejected a further amendment not to the like effect may be moved.
13. An amendment which has been moved and seconded shall be disposed of before any further amendment may be moved. Notice may be given of intention to move a further amendment should the one before the Assembly be rejected.

Alterations of motion or amendment

14. A member may, with the concurrence of the seconder and the consent of the Assembly, alter a motion or amendment he has proposed.

Withdrawal of motion or amendment

15. A motion or amendment may be withdrawn by the proposer with the concurrence of the seconder and the consent of the Assembly. Any such consent shall be signified without discussion. It shall not be competent for any member to speak upon it after the proposer has asked permission for its withdrawal unless such permission shall have been refused.

Closure of debate

16. In the course of the business any member may move that the question under consideration be not put. This resolution takes precedence of every motion before the Assembly, and as soon as the member has explained his reasons for proposing it, and it has been

seconded, the vote upon it shall be taken, unless it appears to the Moderator that such motion is an unfair use of the rules of the Assembly. Should the motion be carried the business shall immediately end.

- 5 17. In the course of any discussion, it is competent for any member to move that the question be now put. Unless it appears to the Moderator that this motion is an abuse of the rules of the Assembly, the vote shall be taken upon it immediately. When an amendment is under discussion, the motion shall apply only to that amendment. To carry this motion, two-thirds of the votes cast must be given in its favour. The mover of the original motion retains his right of reply before the question is put.

10 Voting

18. Every question shall be determined by a majority of the votes of members present and voting as indicated by a show of hands unless the Assembly rules that there shall be a ballot.

Points of Order

- 15 19. A member may rise to a point of order or in personal explanation, but a personal explanation shall be confined to some material part of a former speech by him at the same meeting which may have been misunderstood. A member so rising shall be entitled to be heard forthwith.
- 20 20. The ruling of the Moderator on a point of order or on the admissibility of a personal explanation shall not be open to discussion.
21. A member may raise a point of order, offer a personal explanation or ask a question by standing in his place, in which event his words shall be repeated from the platform. Otherwise, no one shall address the Assembly except from a place indicated by the Moderator.

25 Suspension of Standing Orders

22. Any one or more of the Standing Orders, in any case of urgency or upon motion made on a notice duly given, may be suspended at any meeting so far as regards any business at such a meeting, provided that three-fourths of the members of the Assembly present and voting shall so decide.

30 Admission of public and press

23. Members of the public and representatives of the press shall be admitted to the Assembly unless the Assembly otherwise decides and they shall occupy such places as are assigned to them.

Minutes

- 35 24. The minutes of each day's proceedings shall be circulated on the following morning and, after any necessary correction, sustained at the opening of the afternoon session. The minutes of the closing day of the Assembly shall be submitted at the close of the business and, after any necessary correction, sustained.

40 The substance of the minutes shall thereafter be published, at the expense of the Church, in the first available issue of the official magazine and a copy of the minutes shall be sent to each Synod, District Council and local church.

Record of attendance

25. A record of attendance at the meetings of the Assembly shall be kept in such manner as the Executive Committee may determine.

