

**THE
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
1978**

**8th - 11th MAY
THE FLORAL HALL
Promenade, Southport**

**RECORD
OF ASSEMBLY**

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

In accordance with the decision of the Assembly, as advised by the Committee on Structures (p.34), these Minutes are set out in a somewhat different form. A copy of the Minutes in chronological order, recording the proceedings as they happened, will be kept in the office and preserved in the archives. It will be available for inspection for any who wish to see the context of discussion in which any decision was made.

This printed record contains a full record of decisions taken and the processes of amendment and voting by which they were reached. Apart from the Minute of the first day, it is, however, ordered by the subject matter rather than the time of the debate. To that extent it is more subject to inaccuracy or possible omission, but in the view of Assembly such form was judged to be more useful to the churches.

The references are to the place at which, in the Book of Reports issued before Assembly or in this volume of Minutes, the supporting material is to be found.

A. L. MACARTHUR

Clerk of Assembly

Record of the
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
of the
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
in
England and Wales
1978

FIRST SESSION

At SOUTHPORT and within the New Theatre on Monday, the 8th day of May 1978 at 3 o'clock p.m.

Public Worship and Celebration of the Sacrament Members of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, being met together at the time and place duly appointed for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Holy Communion, the Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, the Rt Revd J.E. Young, who, being assisted by the Revds Norman Healey and David Jenkins, led the Assembly in the celebration of the Sacrament. This act of worship included the commemoration of the following ministers and missionaries of the United Reformed Church who had died since Assembly last met:

MINISTERS WHO HAVE DIED SINCE MAY 1977

William Ernest BALLARD	Cecil Gwynn JONES
John H. BEESTON	Idris Gwynne JONES
Edward Arthur BROWN	Thomas Alwyn JONES
John Young CAMPBELL	William McGeachan LAMONT
Mary E. CARPENTER	William Wallace LAWRENCE
William CLARK	Richard Wilson LAWSON
John William Rexter CRAWFORD	William Peter John MACKENZIE
Frederick George EWEN	Reginald John MORRIS
George Gough GARDINER	John Ernest NEWPORT
William James GASTON	Frederick James POPE
Arthur Binnell GROSVENOR	Andrew PRENTICE
Herbert Alfred HAMILTON	Elfan REES
James Elvan HARRIS	Edith Mary SEATON
Thomas HELM	Rowland Motson THOMPSON
John Howarth Eric HULL	Henry Clifford VINCENT
Thomas Edward HUNT	Trevor John WILLIAMS
Ronald Charles LAMBOURNE	William WEST
Andrew Burns JAMIESON	Alfred Gilbert WHEELER

MISSIONARIES WHO HAVE DIED SINCE MAY 1977

Bessie ALDERTON	Kathleen MORRIS
Owen Gwynne Richard BEYNON	Edith OWERS
Winifred EASTMAN	Elaine PLOWRIGHT
Margaret LIVESEY	Henrietta PRATT
Ruth MacLEOD	Elizabeth SINCLAIR
Robert MORISON	Ernest Burford WEEKS

The session was then suspended and resumed at 6 p.m.

Induction of Moderator The resumed session was opened by the Rt Reverend J.E. Young, and on his motion the Rt Reverend Bishop J.E.L. Newbigin, CBE., DD., Moderator-Elect, was called to the Chair and inducted as Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church.

The Moderator addressed the Assembly.

Roll of Assembly The Roll of Assembly, made up in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, was laid on the table.

ROLL OF ASSEMBLY

Moderator: The Right Revd Bishop Lesslie Newbigin, CBE., DD.,
Clerk: The Revd A.L. Macarthur, M.A., M.Litt.
Assistant Clerk: Mr R.A. Heritage
Moderator-elect (1978-79): The Revd Robert O. Latham, MA., BD.,

Provincial Moderators:

I	Revd J. Howard Williams
II	Revd D.G. Stewart
III	Revd J.W.P. Williamson
IV	Revd A.J.G. Walker
V	Revd J. White
VI	Revd R.W. Hugh Jones
VII	Revd R.E. Taylor
VIII	Revd M.F. Hubbard
IX	Revd P.S. Chesney
X	Revd R.J. Hall
XI	Revd C.C. Franks
XII	Revd Dr. J.I. Morgans

Department Chairmen:

<i>Church Life:</i>	Revd Dr. K. Slack
<i>Church & Society:</i>	Revd J. Johansen-Berg
<i>World Church & Mission:</i>	Revd Professor M.H. Cressey
<i>Finance & Administration:</i>	Mr L.R. Palmer

Chairmen of Standing Committees:

Applications: Revd H.M. Springbett
Business: Revd H.S. Ross
Nominations: Revd A.J.G. Walker

Church Life:

Ministerial Training: Revd Dr. L. Newbigin
Supplementary Ministries: Revd J.W.P. Williamson
Doctrine & Worship: Revd Dr. J. Huxtable
Christian Education: Revd C.C. Franks
Youth Work: Revd J.E. Mather
Children's Work: Revd G. Jenkins

World Church & Mission:

At Home: Revd D.E. Marsden *Abroad:* Mr J.E.M. Gilbey
Other Faiths: Dr. D.A. Kerr
Personnel: Revd A.J. Coates

Church & Society: Revd J. Johansen-Berg

Additional Representatives:

- i) Mrs Sue Acty
- ii) Revd Stephen Haine
- iii) Revd Gilbert Tate

Finance & Administration:

Treasurership: *Maintenance of the Ministry:* Mr R.C.N. Tinsley
Welfare & Emergencies: Revd D.A. Smith *Unified Appeal:* Mr G. Vaughan Davies
Development in New Areas and Care of Existing Church Buildings: Revd R.G. Walker

Publications & Publicity: Revd E.A. Banyard

Deployment: Revd A.G. Burnham

Christian Stewardship: Mr R.S. Martin

Synod Clerks:

I Revd A.R. Ritchie; II Revd A.G. Burnham; III Revd R.G. Walker; IV Revd R.H. McMurray Adam; V Mr B. Stonehouse; VI Mr R.A. Heritage; VII Mr Martin J. Ballard; VIII Revd C.H. Grant; IX Revd Ceri Lewis; X Revd D.L. Skidmore; XI Revd J.H. Taylor; XII Revd M.D. Page.

Synod Treasurers:

I Mr J.C. Storer; II Mr G. Butterworth; III Mr M.B.S. Emlyn; IV Mr B.C. Stead; V Mr F. Cooper Watson; VI Mr H.E. Greening; VII Mr P. Wade; VIII Mr P.W. Hamblin; IX Mr J.E. Richardson; X Mr R.S. Martin; XI Mr A.S. Chapman; XII Revd Windsor Hicks.

Theological College Representatives:

Mansfield College, Oxford: Dr. D.A. Sykes; *Congregational College, Manchester:* Revd Dr. S.H. Russell; *Westminster College, Cambridge:* Revd Dr. S. Mayor; *Memorial College, Swansea:* Revd Professor D.L. Trefor Evans; *Bala-Bangor College, Bangor, Wales:* Dr. R. Tudur Jones.

Secretary of Council for World Mission:

Revd B.G. Thorogood.

Senior Chaplain to H.M. Forces stationed in Britain

Revd S.L. Williams -

Past Presidents, Chairmen and Moderators:

Revd Dr. S. Maurice Watts; Revd Dr. H.F. Lovell Cocks; Revd Dr. Norman Goodall; Revd Elsie Chamberlain; Revd Dr. H. Cunliffe-Jones; Mr B.J. Hartwell; Revd Dr. J. Huxtable; Revd Dr. John Marsh; Revd M.O. Janes; Revd C.A. Haig; Revd R.W. Hugh Jones; Revd Dr. E.R. Routley; Revd Dr. C.S. Duthie; Revd C.J. Buckingham; Sir Harold Banwell; Mrs Gwen Hall; Revd R.E. Fenn; Revd K.D. Keay; Revd G.T. Bellhouse; Revd F. P. Copland Simmons; Revd Professor J. Eric Fenn; Revd I.R.N. Miller; Revd Peter McCall; Revd F.D. McConnell; Revd Professor F.G. Healey; Revd H. Burns Jamieson; Revd Principal A.G. MacLeod; Revd A.S. Cooper; Revd Norman Birnie; Revd A.L. Macarthur; Revd Dr. Kenneth Slack; Revd Dr. G.B. Caird; Revd R.J. Hall; Revd J.E. Young.

Youth Representatives:

Mr Christopher Brann; Mr Philip Woods.

District Council Representatives:

Province I:

A: Revd D.A. Brown; Revd D.V. Clarke; Revd S.O. Jones; Revd J. Robinson; Revd W.A. Rodgers; Mrs E.B. Straughan; Mrs L. Lamb; Mrs Jackson.
B: Revd J.M. Bell; Revd W.J. Blakemore; Revd M.R. Throver; Revd D.I. Owen; Revd D. J. Henry; Revd D.R. Hannen; Revd T.E. Grant; Revd J.T. Peters; Miss E. Evans; Mr W. Johnson; Mr G. MacLaren; Mr W. Armstrong; Mrs J. McLaughlin; Mr J.K. Andrews; Mr G.W. Smith; Mr G. Trenholm.
C: Revd P. Heckles; Revd D. Welbrock; Revd D. Beattie; Miss M. White.
D: Revd M. Dunford; Revd D. Dutton; Revd M. Smith; Revd K. Wadsworth; Mr A.C. Holmes; Mr I.J. Smith; Miss L. Varley; Miss N. Watters.
E: Revd H. Byers; Revd C.M. McKee; Revd D.T. Scotland; Mrs Holmes; Mr A. Kelly; Mr T. Simpson.

Province II:

A: Revd W. Courtney; Revd A. Hodgson; Revd T.G. Longmuir; Mr R.A. McCorkell; Miss O.M. Calvert; Mr N.A. Shepherd.
B: Revd A.K. Livesley; Revd H. Cook Griffiths; Revd P. Kennerley; Revd G. Male; Miss N. Goodwin; Mr. J. Jenkinson; Mrs B. Dickie; Mr H.M. Jeffrey.
C: Revd A.J. Wilkinson; Revd J.D. Salisbury; Revd D.J. Netherwood; Revd J.D. Farquhar; Mr A.B. Cope; Mr E. Hill; Mr B.H. Moore; Mr W. Tabiner.
D: Revd G.K. Tolley; Revd D.H. Swansbury; Revd J.W. Evans; Revd L. Pugh; Mrs L. Pugh; Mrs B. Vickers; Mrs H. Holme; Mr E. Mowatt.
E: Revd S.J. Brock; Revd T. Vause; Revd R.A.C. West; Revd D.J. Wilkinson; Revd J. T. Yates; Mr J. Collinge; Mr W. Caffrey; Mrs E. Gillon; Mr H. Stead; Mrs H. Stead.

- F: Revd H. Baker: Revd Stella Sivyou: Revd H.G. Hayes: Revd R. Brueseke: Revd D. Parbury: Professor A.R. Hunter: Miss P.F. Parrish: Dr. C.T. Calam: Mr J.A.Adams: Mr R.J. Fern:
 G: Revd W.N. Leak: Revd T. Russell: Revd P. Scotland: Miss D. Law: Miss I Ross: Dr. K. Lea:

Province III:

- A: Revd G.C. Bembridge: Revd G. Farrand: Revd R.W. Kidd: Revd S. Thornton: Mr E. Jackson: Mr A.A. Johnston: Miss M.E.P. Scott: Mrs E. Wyatt:
 B: Revd R. Andrews: Revd P.S.G. Lidgett: Revd A.R. Wignall: Revd P. Brain: Miss J. Williams: Miss M. Last: Mrs N. Mayor: Mr A. Conn: Revd I.R.M. Latto: Mr F. Heaton.
 C: Revd J.J. Martin: Revd J.B. Hawksworth: Revd G.A. Nunn: Revd P.W. Beaman: Mr W. H. Elliott: Mr. D. Snowdon: Miss M. Metcalfe: Mrs M. Hunt:
 D: Revd A.J. Bradshaw: Revd A. Gaunt: Revd D.W. Holley: Revd J. Martin: Mr R.G. Davies: Mrs I.M. Hopwood: Mrs M.E. Starr: Mrs E. Walker:

Province IV:

- A: Revd K.J. Brock: Revd A.J. Dawson: Revd J.K. Gardiner: Revd A.J. Wells: Miss M. Bruce: Mr W.H. Cassell: Mr T. Grant: Mrs J. Mee:
 B: Revd K.I.C. Edwards: Revd Dr. L.C. Green: Revd B.W. Phillips: Revd E.W.G. Smith: Revd D. Wilson: Mrs M. Andrews: Mr K. Parker: Mr D. Thacker: Mr E.G. Webb: Mr W.C. Heselwood:
 C: Revd E. Allen: Revd D. Main: Revd G. Thrussell: Revd R. Way: Mrs N. Macphail: Revd G.J. Cook: Mr W. Hoyle: Mrs C. McGarrock:
 D: Revd D. Parkinson: Revd D.M. Rogers: Revd Joan D. Norman: Revd E.L. Bray: Mr J. Breare: Mr F.W. White: Mrs A. Bijl:
 E: Revd V. Newman: Revd J.R. Parker: Revd D.W. Turner: Mrs D. Cartwright: Mr E. Harrison: Miss G. Heald:
 F: Revd J.A. Pugh: Revd J. Rammell: Revd I. McLeod: Revd W.J. Taylor: Mr W. Knowlson: Miss M. Atkinson: Mrs L. Browning: Miss E. Symonds:

Province V:

- A: Revd A.P. Burley: Revd G. Courtney: Revd T.R. Dean: Revd W. McGuigan: Revd W.J. L. Paxton: Miss A. Riddoch: Mrs H. Prop: Mrs T.R. Dean: Miss M. Fletcher: Mr A. Cliff: Mr K.W. Phillips: Mrs G. Salisbury:
 B: Revd G. Baker: Revd F.L. Hill: Revd R.E. Parker: Miss B. Blower: Miss D.M. Clarke: Mr H. Sherriff:
 C: Revd N. Appleton: Revd J. Slow: Revd D. Tunbridge: Revd S. Whiffen: Revd J.H. Manson: Mrs J. Berryman: Mr R. Watson: Mrs V. Stonehouse:
 D: Revd B. Griffith: Revd C. Husk: Revd A.R. Lee: Revd K.L. Lee: Revd A. Owens: Mr E. Adams: Mrs D. Adams: Mr H. Almond: Mr W. Hartnell: Mr D. Weedon:

Province VI:

- A: Revd J.C. Campbell: Revd A. Green: Revd A.J. Herring: Revd M.J. Husselbee: Revd W.J. Jones: Revd G. Preston: Mr E.J. Causer: Mr S.A. Cooper: Mr K.L. Mayoh: Mr S.T. Skellern: Mr A. Stephens: Mrs N. Landon:
 B: Revd E. Appleby: Revd E. Thomas: Revd L. Churns: Miss J. Evason: Mrs O. Thomas: Mr D. Griffiths:
 C: Revd C.J.H. Hamblin: Revd V.N.J. Lewis: Revd R. Whitehead: Mr B.A. Jones: Mr R. Clegg: Mr W. Chivers:
 D: Revd I. Alexander: Revd J. McMinn: Revd B. Dawson: Mrs D. Alexander: Mr D. Drew:
 E: Revd Dr. H.D. Beeby: Revd D.M. Howell: Revd A. Todman: Revd F. Mowat: Revd R. Williamson: Miss V. Cant: Mr B. Flynn: Mr E.F. Marshall: Miss F. Mole: Mr H. Whiston:
 F: Revd R.J. Hall: Revd A.B. Holroyd: Revd C.B. Nuttall: Mr C.N. Knight: Mr R. Lee: Mrs G.M. Roberts: Mr D.V. Sexton:

Province VII:

- A: Revd J. Simpson: Revd A. Lloyd Davies: Revd I. Morrill: Mr L.L. Tillett: Mr B. Angell: Mr L.J. Pearce: Revd T.A. Shepherd:
 B: Revd (Mrs) F.E. Chambers: Revd R.L. Eveleigh: Revd N.A. Hall: Revd G.D. Hallas: Mr T.P. Gervis: Mrs M. Lee: Mrs O. Thomas:
 C: Revd A. Speight: Revd D. Dale: Revd K. Pryor: Revd R. Muttram: Revd F. Jones: Mrs R. Pryor: Mr G. Rider: Miss I. Springett: Mrs D. Dean: Mrs R. Muttram:

- D: Revd Colin Evans: Revd D. Greengrass: Revd A. Young: Mrs M. Evans: Miss S. Raggett: Mr F.W.G. Meen:
 E: Revd W.H. Clement: Revd W.E. Hurley: Revd N.B. McConnell: Revd A.R. Ruffell:
 Revd C.K. Wilton: Mr L.F. Gallop: Mrs M. Green: Mr R. Holdsworth: Miss L. Reed:
 Mr. G. Wrycroft:

Province VIII:

- A: Revd R. Irving: Revd D.T. Woffenden: Revd K.F.D. Trunks: Revd T.J. Lander:
 Miss K. Austin: Mr D. Gaskin:
 B: Revd D.A. Barber: Revd R.H. Norman: Revd R.S. Richards: Mrs E. Brain: Mr R. Loates:
 C: Revd M. Howard: Revd F. Hewis: Revd K. Bell: Revd D. Avis: Mrs Grail: Mr G. Pedlar: Mr L. Cumes: Miss J. Bridgeman:
 D: Revd S. Atkins: Revd B. Kirk: Revd Jessie Halfpenny: Revd C. Carr: Miss M. Mills:
 Mr J. Puddy: Mr C. Bacon: Mr W. Aplin:
 E: Revd C.J. Baker: Revd R.J. Ellis: Revd P.E. Gee: Mr R.W. Escott: Mr E.F. Laver:
 Mrs J. Lloydlangston:
 F: Revd W.S. Minnis: Revd B. Treharne: Revd D.C.L. Barber: Revd C.B. Parkin: Revd S.R. Saunders: Mr S.J. Drinnan: Mr E.J. Williamson: Dr. H.R. Cayton: Mrs Bramwell-Jones: Miss I.M. Napier:

Province IX:

- A: Revd J.M. Graver: Revd D. Friend: Revd A.H. Hodgkins: Revd A.G. Meyer: Revd R.O. Balmer: Revd B. Rawling: Revd K.C. Sawyer: Mr H. Crawford: Mrs W.E. Collihole:
 Mr R. Selby: Mr C.E. Bond: Mrs W.J. Knight: Mr T. Hilton-Jones: Mr H.J. Ogden:
 B: Revd A.G. Jones: Revd B. Coward: Revd G.D. Gill: Revd A.E. Thomasson: Miss C. Hardwick: Mr B. Le Marquand: Mrs M. Owers: Mr E. Cartmill:
 C: Revd R.E.G. Norris: Revd G.H. Thomas: Revd D.V. Godfrey: Revd S.H. Hodgson:
 Mrs G.H. Thomas: Mrs D.V. Godfrey: Miss E.F. Saunders: Mrs L.J. Jordan:
 D: Revd M.G. Westerman: Revd J.J. Macro: Revd F.G. Wilson Dennett: Revd E.F. Cattermole: Mr H.J. Eatwell: Mr W.F. Elsey: Mr F.J. Drake: Mrs J.D. Dennett:
 E: Revd D.J. Joseph: Revd D.W. Norwood: Revd (Mrs) C.O.M. Payne: Revd A. Porter:
 Revd B.A.F. Wroe: Mr V.G.F. Morris: Mr K.J. North: Mr G.P. Sargent: Mrs D. Stewart: Mr J.M. Williams:

Province X:

- A: Revd P. Barraclough: Revd J. Dean: Revd Dr. R. Norris: Revd J. Hickmore: Mrs M. R. Bernard: Miss J. Dollar: Miss K. Nichol: Mr H. Pinnock: Mr P. Smith:
 B: Revd K. Lyon: Revd R. Wright: Revd J. Ross: Mrs D. Gill: Mr C. Brown: Mrs B. Marriage:
 C: Revd R.A. Bocking: Revd H. Gordon: Revd B. Stuart: Revd J.R. Shad: Mrs P. Sales:
 Mr A.M. Perry: Mr W. Letman: Mr L. Martin:
 D: Revd C.L. Taylor: Revd E.R. Wimpres: Revd J.M. Sutcliffe: Revd D.H. Stockwell:
 Revd E.P. Schofield: Revd G. Bellamy: Miss K. Meyer: Mrs M.I. Macfarland: Mr K. N. Borrie: Mr W.H.C. Moreton: Mr J. Hornby: Mr C.R. Lowden:
 E: Revd D.A. Newton: Revd I.P. White: Mrs H. Newton: Revd P. Goodchild: Mr L.T.E. Wilson: Mrs E. Wilson:
 F: Revd K. Chippindale: Revd D. Havergal Shaw: Revd A.J. Knight: Revd G.E. Smart:
 Mr W. Budge: Mr J. Gilbert:

Province XI:

- A: Revd J.M. Rees: Revd B. Treharne: Revd J.C. Neary: Revd W.R.P. Adams: Revd A.G. Halliday: Revd K. Fisher: Mr W.W. Georgeson: Mr R. Barthram: Mr F.A.W. Lodde:
 Mr J. Read: Mr J. Furlay Smith: Mr H.C. Andrews:
 B: Revd R.A. Davies: Revd J.C. Goudie: Revd A.G. Green: Revd N.L. Shepherd: Revd W. Workman: Mrs K. Bentley: Miss L. Blanshard: Miss M. Darton: Mr A. Fox: Mr D. Wiggs:
 C: Revd D.J.D. Baker: Revd T.S. Colvin: Revd W.J. Brown: Revd H.E. Brown: Revd A. Pratt: Revd D. Schofield: Revd B.K. Stephenson: Miss S. Thomson: Miss M. Hewson:
 Mrs E. Luzmore: Miss I. Lawrie: Mr J. Ranford:
 D: Revd P.E. McIntosh: Revd M. Whitehorn: Revd C. Teal: Revd B Eyles: Revd C. Coupland: Mr R. Gill: Mrs C. Coupland: Miss G. Burt: Mrs D. Lloyd:
 E: Revd R. Parkington: Revd M.J. Pevy: Revd W.J. Wyatt: Mr L.S. Cowell: Mrs V. Hughes: Miss F.E. Shepherd:

F: Revd R.C. Christopher: Revd P.G. Filby: Revd L.J. Garland: Revd Elizabeth Welch:
Miss A. Tridgell: Miss E. Cross: Miss A. Enness: Mrs O. Stanley:
G: Revd J. Logan Armour: Revd G.E. Beck: Revd D.H. Bending: Revd E. Harries-Rees:
Miss M.E. Butler: Mr A.F. Challis: Mr R.R.P. Smith: Mrs N. Welch:

Province XII:

A: Revd B. Jones: Revd J. Meirion Lloyd: Revd R.A. Crew: Revd W. Mansel Davies:
Mr W. Wood: Mrs D.M. Jenkins: Mr H. Bellis: Mr N. Baker:
B: Revd G. Hewitt: Revd F. Thomas: Revd E.C. Powell: Revd W. Morris: Revd C. Smith-
Draper: Revd C. Lloyd Jones: Mrs J. Smith-Draper: Mr J. Keevil: Mr R. Jones:
Mrs L. Waring: Mrs I. Bevan: Mr P. Jones:
C: Revd Mary Evans: Revd E. Wyn Parry: Revd J. Selwyn Roberts: Revd Doris Leyshon:
Revd D.W.J. Bale: Mr T.L. Jones: Mrs A. Roberts: Mr N. Shepherd: Mr K.E. Thomas:
Mr R.H. Smith: Mrs J. Jones:
D: Revd H.J. Lewis: Revd J.H. Latham: Revd T.H. Owen: Revd E.J. John: Dr E. Jones:
Mr D. Rees: Mrs D. Rees: Mr N. Goodfellow: Mr H. Morris: Mrs J.H. Latham:

Loyal Address The Revd J.E. Young moved the adoption of a Loyal Address to the Throne which was received with a standing vote:

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty

We, the members of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church in England Wales, meeting in Southport, send greetings to Your Majesty.

This has been a memorable year for all your peoples in the celebration of Your Majesty's Silver Jubilee. We have gladly shared in the rejoicings and thanksgivings which have distinguished this happy occasion. Throughout the year we followed Your Majesty's many journeys and engagements with excited interest, admiration and prayer and we would now place on record our gratitude for the unbounded dedication, diligence and graciousness which you have displayed in this demanding period. It is our firm belief that Your Majesty's Silver Jubilee has served to renew and strengthen the bonds of loyalty and unity throughout your dominion. We extend our gratitude to His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh, and all the members of your family for the significant part they too have played in this Jubilee Year.

We rejoice that Your Majesty at all times discharges the duties and responsibilities of State with a Christian commitment, care and compassion which evokes confidence and prompts emulation. In the name of The Assembly of the United Reformed Church we assure you of our continuing prayers, affection and high regard.

We are,

Your faithful and loyal subjects,

LESSLIE NEWBIGIN, Moderator

ARTHUR L. MACARTHUR, Clerk

The Assembly was honoured by the presence of distinguished guests who were received by the Moderator:

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, His Grace Derek Worlock
The Methodist Chairman, Liverpool District, The Revd Norwyn E. Denny

and who then addressed the Assembly.

Reception of Newly Ordained Ministers and Newly Appointed Missionaries

The following ministers ordained to the Ministry since the Assembly of 1977 were introduced by their Provincial Moderators and received by the Moderator of the Assembly:

MINISTERS

James Alexander BRESLIN	Ivy Beamish MORRILL
Cedric William CARR	Robert Michael NORRIS
Phyllis Mary CORDON	Vernon Eric OPENSHAW
Brian COWARD	Gordon PALMER
Paul Anthony FRAMPTON	Christine PINNELL
Norman GEORGE	Colin L.B. PLUMB
John Michael William GRAVER	Paul QUILTER
Michael GUDGEON	David STEC
Elwyn James JOHN	Simon Anthony SWAILLES
David LAWRENCE	Joseph WARREN
Donald MILLER	Ronald Ernest WRIGHT

Raymond and Amanda Adams and David Vincent were introduced by the Revd Boris Anderson and were received by the Moderator as missionaries of the United Reformed Church. Mr Anderson also drew attention to the names of Derek and Carole Lindfield, who had been appointed missionaries of the URC and would be proceeding to Botswana early in 1979.

In the name of the Assembly the Moderator addressed the new ministers and missionaries and commended them to God for the work they had undertaken.

Corresponding Members The Assembly received corresponding members from the Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Congregational Union of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church of Wales, the Union of Welsh Independents and the United Free Church of Scotland who were welcomed by the Moderator and their names added to the Roll, as follows:

From the Church of Scotland

The Rt Revd John R. Gray, VRD, MA., BD., Th.M.
The Revd W. Andrew Wylie, MA.,
Lieut. Colonel D.E. Baird

From the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

The Rt Revd Thomas A. Patterson, BA., DD.
The Revd E.D. Smyth, BD.
The Revd T.J. Simpson, MA., LL.B.
Mr V.R. Arnold, LL.B.

From the Congregational Union of Scotland

Mrs Ina Durrant

From the Presbyterian Church of Wales

The Revd Hugh Williams, BA., BD.
The Revd T.J. Griffith

From the Union of Welsh Independents

The Revd J.D.W. Richards

From the United Free Church of Scotland

The Revd Archibald A. Small

The Assembly was addressed in the name of all the corresponding members and on behalf of their Churches by the Rt Revd John R. Gray and the Revd J.D.W. Richards.

Ministerial Jubilees The attention of the Assembly was drawn to the names of those ministers the Jubilee, Diamond Jubilee or Seventieth Anniversary of whose ordination falls within 1978.

70 Years

Jabez Robert ACKROYD
James Leonard BUDELL

60 Years

Arnold Paton LANSDOWN

50 Years

Arthur William AUSTIN
Hubert CUNLIFFE-JONES
Frederick Charles GLOVER
John McINTYRE
John William MIDGLEY
Leonard MUNDAY
Thomas Percival PAYNE
George Harold SHAW
Samuel William SMITH
Edward Charles Dudley
STANFORD

At the invitation of the Assembly the Moderator undertook to send them the greetings and congratulations of the Church.

Thanks to the Retiring Moderator On the motion of the Revd R.H. McMurray Adam the Assembly resolved to record its thanks to the Revd J.E. Young for the service he had rendered to the United Reformed Church as Moderator. He handed to Mrs Young a token of the Assembly's recognition of the part she had played throughout the year. This expression of thanks was received with acclamation as was Mr Young's reply.

The Assembly then adjourned to meet again in the same place at 9.45 next morning for ordinary business and the session was closed with the singing of a hymn and the Benediction.

OVERSEAS VISITORS

The Revd Professor Martin Cressey, on behalf of the World Church and Mission Department introduced representatives of Overseas Churches, namely:

The Revd Aldo Sbaffi	-	Waldensian Church
The Revd Klaus Böhm	-	Palatinate Church
Oberkirchenrat Horst Hahn	-	Palatinate Church
The Revd Ernest Dawe	-	Palatinate Church
The Revd Fred Kaan	-	World Alliance of Reformed Churches
The Revd Paul Rakotoarivony	-	Church of Jesus Christ in Madagascar
The Revd Samuel Su	-	Presbyterian Church in Taiwan
The Revd Chu Hsien Chen	-	Presbyterian Church in Taiwan
The Revd Gil Dong Na	-	Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea

Professor Cressey expressed the regret of the Revd Dr. Jiri Otter, of the Church of the Czech Brethren who had been prevented from coming, but who had sent the greetings of his Church. A letter of greetings had also been received from the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. In introducing the representatives of the Church of the Palatinate, he drew attention to the special relationship with that Church now reaching its 20th year. They were received by the Moderator and on behalf of all the representatives the Revd Aldo Sbaffi of the Waldensian Church addressed the Assembly.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Reports pp. 3-7)

The report of the Executive Committee was submitted by the Revd J.E. Young who paid tribute to services rendered to the Church by its full-time servants and in particular to some whose service is coming to completion. He drew special attention to the establishment of the group on Priorities and Resources.

On his motion the Report was received and the following resolutions were agreed:

1. The Assembly appoints the Revd Frederik Herman Kaan as Moderator of the West Midlands Province from September 1st, 1978 for a period of seven years.
2. The Assembly appoints the Revd Colin Gower Evans as Moderator of the Eastern Province from September 1st, 1978 for a period of seven years.

3. The Assembly appoints the Revd Michael John Davies as Moderator of the Thames North Province from September 1st, 1978 for a period of seven years.

The Moderator received the three Moderators-elect and the Assembly greeted them with acclamation.

It was then moved and agreed that:

4. The Assembly thanks the Revd R.J. Hall, the Revd R.W. Hugh Jones and the Revd R.E. Taylor for their service to the Church as Moderators of the Thames North, West Midlands and Eastern Provinces respectively.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Assembly to the three retiring Moderators who in turn addressed the Assembly.

5. The Assembly ratifies the decision made in 1977 and agrees to amend the last clause of paragraph 9(3)c (Manual p.23) and 9(4)c (p.25) of the Basis of Union to read as follows:

'the number of such representatives to be:

1-200 members	1 representative
201-400 members	2 representatives
401-600 members	3 representatives
601-800 members	4 representatives
over 800 members	5 representatives'

6. The Assembly makes the following appointments of those to serve as directors of the named Trust bodies:

Devon and Cornwall Congregational Union (Inc.)
Messrs W. Humphreys and W. Pippin

Somerset Incorporated Congregational Union
The Revd M.F. Hubbard

Lancashire Congregational Union (Inc.)
The Revds A.G. Burnham and T. Russell
Messrs M.B.S. Emlyn, N.H. Oldham and G. Butterworth

Attention was drawn to the omission of reference to the Jubilee of ordination of Professor Hubert Cunliffe-Jones in the previous session, and the Assembly expressed its congratulations to Professor Cunliffe-Jones who was present.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (Record of Assembly pp. 25 - 33)

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee, the Revd A.J.G. Walker, drew attention to the appointments of tellers, and on his motion the report was received and the following resolutions were adopted:

1. The Assembly re-appoints the Revd B. Anderson as Secretary of the World Church and Mission Department for a period of five years from September 1st, 1978.
2. The Assembly appoints the Revd J. Oldershaw (of the Churches of Christ) as Youth Secretary in the Church Life Department for a period of five years from September 1st, 1978.
3. The Assembly appoints Chairmen and Secretaries of Committees as set out in paragraph 3 of the Report, including the Revd G. Roper as Secretary of the Deployment Committee.
4. The Assembly nominates the Revd A.L. Macarthur to the Free Church Federal Council for election as Moderator-Elect of the Council 1979/80, to take office as Moderator of the Council 1980/81.
5. The Assembly appoints Committees and representatives of the Church for the year 1978-79 as set out in Appendix to the Minutes (pp. 25 ff.)

6. The Assembly appoints a special Committee as set out in the Appendix to the Report, with authority to bring a name to the General Assembly of 1979 for appointment as Clerk of Assembly and General Secretary.

PROVINCIAL MODERATORS (Reports pp.15-16)

The report of the Provincial Moderators was submitted by the Revd R.J. Hall and on his motion the Assembly took note of the report.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT (Reports pp. 54-61. Accounts pp. 41 ff. Record)

Mr L. Palmer, Hon. Treasurer, introduced the business of the Finance and Administration Department and expressed the sorrow of the Department and their sense of grave loss at the sudden death of Mr J.E. Hooper, the Chairman of the Treasurership Committee, and their profound gratitude for the wide range of voluntary service he had given to the Church. He paid tribute to the work of Mr F. Riceman as Chairman of the Congregational Memorial Hall Trust which had already helped to increase the provisions made for retirement housing for ministers and their widows.

On his motion the report was received.

In answer to a question concerning the apparent surplus on the Pension Funds not passed on in an increase of Pensions, the Revd E.W. Todd indicated that the surplus was on current account and was more than offset by deficits revealed in the most recent actuarial valuation of the Funds.

After discussion Mr Palmer moved the following resolution which was adopted:

1. The Assembly having heard of the proposals for the future division of the Unified Appeal target between the Provinces, monitoring of the income from the Appeal and the necessary publicity, discharges the Unified Appeal Committee with warm thanks to its officers and members for the work they have done to establish the Appeal in the life of the United Reformed Church, and shares their satisfaction that, in the last year of their work, they were able to report a small surplus, despite a time of financial difficulty.

On the motion of the Revd J.E. Mather, seconded by the Revd D. Wilson, the following resolution was proposed:

2. The Assembly notes the resolution passed by the FURY Assembly of 1978 welcoming the fact that the target for the Unified Appeal for 1977 was surpassed by the Church and urging the Church again to strive to exceed the target in 1978, thereby enabling the mission of the Church to grow.

At the invitation of the Moderator, Mr Philip Woods of the FURY Assembly, spoke to this resolution. On being put to the vote the resolution was adopted.

On the motion of Mr B.E. Stonehouse, seconded by the Revd F.L. Hill, the Assembly proceeded to consideration of the resolution of the Synod of the East Midlands Province:

3. Assembly rescinds the decision of its Executive Committee as to the scale of ministerial remuneration to be paid after July 1st, 1978 and resolves that from that date there shall be a £400 increase in the basic stipend plus a further 15% on July 1st 1979.

and on being put to the vote it was carried.

On the motion of Mr L. Palmer, Chairman of the Finance and Administration Department, the following resolution was agreed:

4. The Assembly receives and adopts the accounts for the year ended December 31st, 1977.

Mr N. Tinsley indicated that the increase in stipends now agreed would result in a basic stipend payable from July 1st, 1978 of

0-10 years	£2,430
10-20 years	£2,480
Over 20 years	£2,530

On his motion the following resolutions were then agreed:

5. The Assembly in the light of the decision to increase stipends by £400 resolves that all local churches should accept a surcharge of 10% on their basic monthly assessment from July 1st, 1978 - December 31st, 1978.

The following resolutions were then agreed:

6. The Assembly resolves that the rate of assessment for 1979 shall be £8.70 per member and £0.50p per pound of net assessable income.
7. The Assembly instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to examine the situation in regard to ministers' absence on sick leave and to bring a recommendation to the Assembly's Executive Committee.

The Revd R. Andrews, seconded by the Revd J.W.P. Williamson, moved:

8. The Assembly, concerned at the plight of small churches which find difficulty in meeting their Maintenance of the Ministry assessment and which contribute considerably more to the Fund than the cost of the ministry they receive, instructs the Finance and Administration Department to re-examine the rules of the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund as they affect such churches which are not served by a full-time minister either in a group of churches or in a single or joint pastorate

which was adopted.

Mr Tinsley then moved on behalf of the Committee:

9. The Assembly resolves that the Scope OV maximum shall be £1,750 per annum from July 1st, 1978

which was adopted.

The Hon. Treasurer moved:

10. The Assembly resolves that, with effect from July 1st, 1978, the salary scale for Deaconesses shall be increased as follows:

£2,330 per annum for the first ten years of service
£2,380 per annum for the next ten years of service
£2,430 per annum after twenty years

which was adopted.

The Treasurer then moved:

11. The Assembly authorises the necessary changes in the Scheme of Ministerial Remuneration to cover:

- (i) the adjustment where the assessment exceeds the maximum basic stipend;
- (ii) the payment of grants towards removal expenses;
- (iii) the payment of a grant not exceeding £100 on removal;
- (iv) the revised scale of initial grants and manse furnishing loans;
- (v) the revised discount for single payment of assessment in a group pastorate from January 1st, 1979 and its discontinuance from January 1st, 1980.

When the Revd A.P. Burley moved as an amendment the deletion of (v), the amendment was lost and the motion carried in its original form.

Mr H.E. Greening, Chairman of the Retired Ministers' Housing Society, moved the following resolution concerning the future of Fen Place.

12. The Assembly welcomes the interest of the Civil Service Benevolent Fund in the acquisition of Fen Place, including the care of the present residents and authorises the United Reformed Church Retired Ministers' Housing Society, in collaboration with the Trustees, to continue negotiations in the hope of a successful outcome - the negotiations to proceed on the following basis:

- (a) The consideration to be £105,000 or such other figure as, subject to contract and survey, the Committee and the Trustees agree to accept:
- (b) That the Civil Service Benevolent Fund will give written undertakings to allow the present residents of Fen Place to remain there for so long as they wish, on the same terms and conditions as at present, subject to such increases in charges as may be necessary to maintain present standards:
- (c) That the proceeds of sale be used for the purpose of providing houses, flats and bungalows for retired ministers and their widows in accordance with the practice of the Society and the operation of the CUEW Fund.

It was agreed that the resolution should be taken in two parts and on being put to the vote sections (a) and (b) were agreed.

Part (c) was then moved and an amendment was moved in the following form on behalf of the Southern Province by the Revd Alan Green and Mr A. Chapman:

- (c) That the proceeds of the sale be used for the purposes of the Society, together with the provision of community accommodation as part of the denominational plan for retired ministers, their wives and widows.

The amendment was lost and the resolution was carried in its original form.

On the motion of Mr. H.E. Greening, seconded by Mr L.R. Palmer, the following resolution was agreed:

13. The Assembly authorises the Committee of the URC Retired Ministers' Housing Society to launch an appeal for funds for the purposes of the Society in providing houses, flats and bungalows for retired ministers and the widows of ministers.

Mr Palmer then moved the adoption of the Budget for 1979 which was approved (cf. p. 70 Accounts) .

CHURCHES OF CHRIST (Reports pp.13-14)

The Revd Dr. Norman Goodall, as he moved the report of the Committee for Negotiations with the Churches of Christ, was welcomed on his recovery from illness. He referred to the disappointment of the Assembly that it had proved impossible to proceed with the full scheme of unification, but expressed the satisfaction of the Assembly that steps towards fuller co-operation were already being taken. The report was seconded by the Revd Dr. John Huxtable and was received.

At the invitation of the Moderator, the Revd Philip Morgan, General Secretary of the Churches of Christ, addressed the Assembly which in turn expressed its sense of welcome and support in continued endeavour towards closer relations between the two Churches.

The following resolutions were agreed:

1. The Assembly receives with regret the news that the result of the voting in the Churches of Christ makes it impossible to proceed with the Proposals for Unification approved by the Assembly of 1977,, and therefore resolves to take no further action upon them.

2. The Assembly sends greetings in Christian fellowship to the Annual Conference of Churches of Christ, to their representatives who have served on the Joint Committee and to all the members of the churches; and it expresses the earnest wish that the close relationship hoped for in the resolutions of the Churches of Christ Central Council can be established.

A further resolution was then moved, and the Revd Martin H. Cressèy, seconded by the Revd D. Marsden, moved an addendum to it. The addendum was accepted by the Chairman and the resolution was adopted in the following form:

3. The Assembly resolves to appoint a group of not more than seven people, to serve with a similar number from the Churches of Christ should their Annual Conference also agree, to work in a consultative and liaison capacity, enabling the two Churches to co-operate in all those things which they can properly do together. The Committee shall have direct access to all Departments and Committees of the URC for furtherance of its work; it shall report to the General Assembly through the Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home Committee.
4. It further resolves that the existing representation on each other's Committees shall continue.
5. The Assembly discharges the Joint Committee with thanks for its efforts, for the good relationships achieved and for the enrichment of understanding brought about by the discussions and encourages the appropriate Committees of the Assembly to consider whether, and if so how, aspects of the Proposals for Unification should be harvested for the immediate ongoing life of the United Reformed Church.

A further resolution was moved by the Revd. G. Beck and seconded by the Revd N. Shepherd, and was adopted as follows:

6. The Assembly notes the following minute of the Synod of the Southern Province:

The Synod regrets that the proposed union with the Churches of Christ will not at present take place. We wish to express our gratitude to those who conducted the conversations and to encourage the General Assembly to approve the development of all possible relationships short of union and to make use of the valuable insights the discussions have produced in the areas of the weekly celebration of the Lord's Supper, initiation and Auxiliary Ministry.

WORLD CHURCH AND MISSION DEPARTMENT (Reports pp.44;53)

The Revd M.H. Cressèy introduced the report of the World Church and Mission Department and the Revd D.Marsden reported on behalf of the Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home Committee. At this point the report as far as p.46 was received. Mr Cressèy then proposed the following resolution:

1. The Assembly resolves to affirm Proposition VI of the Ten Propositions in the terms set out in paragraphs 5.65 to 5.68 of the Draft Definitive Response in Appendix 2 of the Report of the World Church and Mission Department.

An amendment was moved by the Revd D. Norwood, and seconded by the Revd S. Haine in the following terms:

With the following amendment to paragraph 5.67, the URC, having consulted its Synods, District Councils and local churches, accepts as an interim measure, the implementing of Proposition VI in terms of Method B in the hope that this will encourage progress in the search for mutually acceptable rites of ordination.

On being put to the vote this amendment was lost.

The Chairman then moved and it was agreed that:

2. The Assembly receives the definitive response to the Ten Propositions prepared by the Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home Committee and authorises its transmission to the Churches' Unity Commission on behalf of the United Reformed Church.

On the resolution of the Revd D.M. Main, seconded by the Revd A.J.G. Walker, it was agreed that:

3. The Assembly requests the M&EW at Home Committee to prepare a discussion paper for consideration by local churches, district councils and synods on 'Personal Episcopacy - a URC view.'

The following resolution was then moved and agreed:

4. The Assembly instructs the Doctrine and Worship Committee to consider in the light of the Report of the Theological Conversations between the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Baptist World Alliance, and of the current World Council of Churches study, 'One Baptism, One Eucharist and a mutually recognised Ministry', the implementation of the practice of both believers and infant baptism within the life of the United Reformed Church, as already agreed in the proposed Scheme of Unification with the Churches of Christ.

The Revd D. Marsden moved, seconded by the Revd R. Whitehead, and it was agreed that:

5. The Assembly encourages the Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home Committee to continue to participate in the National Initiative in Evangelism on behalf of the United Reformed Church and to make arrangements through the World Church and Mission Department and/or the Budget Committee in order that an appropriate contribution may be made to the cost.

Dr D. Kerr introduced the report of the Committee on Mission and Other Faiths. The Revd M.H. Cressy moved the acceptance of this report which was agreed.

The Clerk then reported that the Swedish Covenant Church would celebrate the 100th anniversary of its foundation in June and proposed that a word of greeting be sent on behalf of the Assembly under the signature of the Moderator and General Secretary. This was agreed.

Mr J. Gilbey proposed the following resolutions which were agreed:

6. The Assembly gives thanks for the covenant relationship with the United Church of the Palatinate which it inherited from the Congregational Church in England and Wales and for what this has contributed to the life of the URC. It sends greetings to the Palatinate Church on the twenty-first anniversary of the original covenant and looks forward to hearing any proposals for further development of the relationship which may arise from discussions to be held during the coming year.
7. The Assembly sends greetings and good wishes to the Presbyterian Church of Ghana on the 150th anniversary of its foundation and gives thanks for the fellowship which it enjoys with Presbyterian churches in Ghana, particularly through the work of the Ghanaian chaplaincy in London.
8. The Assembly sends its greetings to the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan and to its Moderator and General Secretary. It shares and supports the deep concern which that Church has consistently shown for all the people of Taiwan and for their right to a decisive voice in their own future.

In discussing resolutions 1, 2 and 3, the Assembly had before it the following corrections to the draft Definitive Response to the Ten Propositions, as set out in the Assembly Reports 1977, pp. 53 - 58 and the Assembly Reports 1978, pages 52 and 53.

Para 1, line 2, should read 'authorised by an Assembly resolution of 1977'
line 7, 'charity not 'clarity'

Para 3, last sentence, delete asterisk.
For 'has, in the same year in which it adopts this response' substitute 'in 1977'. Delete bracketed note at the end.

Para 5, 21, line 4, insert 'more than' before 'twelve'.

Para 5, 31, lines 3 and 4: for 'even some dishonesty' substitute (as was agreed last Assembly) 'costly tension'.

Para 5, 53 Last sentence: for 'shall consider any' substitute 'regard the'.

Para 5, 54, line 2: delete 'agreed' before 'statements'.

Begin second sentence 'The Assembly in 1977 found acceptable this approach setting out....' etc.

line 8: for 'agreement' substitute 'approach'.

Delete asterisk at beginning of para and bracketed note at the end.

PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY (Reports pp 12-13)

The report of the Publications and Publicity Committee was submitted by the Revd Edmund Banyard, Chairman, and on his motion the report was received and at the invitation of the Moderator Mr Norman Hart, Editor of Reform addressed the Assembly. On the motion of the Chairman the following resolution was passed:

The Assembly notes the satisfactory information mentioned in this report and believing that communication is an important aspect of the Church's total ministry urges the Finance Committee to ensure that this work is adequately supported.

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP (Reports pp 9-10)

Mr R.S. Martin introduced the Christian Stewardship report which was then received. He further moved the following resolutions which were agreed:

1. The Assembly urges provinces and/or districts to set up a Christian Stewardship Training Group.
2. The Assembly requests provinces and/or districts to make provision in their budgets for Christian Stewardship Training conferences.

CHURCH AND SOCIETY DEPARTMENT (Reports pp. 35 - 43)

The report of the Church and Society Department was presented by the Revd J. Johansen-Berg, Chairman, on whose motion it was received.

During comments that followed it was agreed to send greetings to the Revd Ben Ngidi and to Byers Naude. The Chairman then proposed the following resolutions:

1. The Assembly approves the statement on 'The Christian View of Marriage' and the summary of United Reformed Church Practice in regard to remarriage after divorce, as set out in the Report.

An amendment was proposed by the Revd G. Muttram, seconded by the Revd F. Jones as follows:

but requests that further consideration be given to the paragraphs 8 and 15.7 of the report of the Church and Society Department which appear to question decisions of individual conscience.

The amendment on being put to the vote was lost.

A further amendment was then proposed by Mr. M. Sheppard, and seconded, that the word 'accepts' be substituted for 'approves' and that after 'Report' the words 'and authorises its issue to the churches' be added. This amendment was lost and resolution 1 agreed in its original form.

It was then moved that:

2. The Assembly requests Synods, either directly or through Districts, to initiate discussions concerning the Report on 'Marriage, Divorce and Remarriage' in order to determine in what ways the Province can assist those charged with pastoral responsibility in this field.

The Revd R. Bocking proposed, seconded by the Revd D. Howell, that the following words be added to the resolution:

but asks for reconsideration of the order of service of 'Prayer for release from vows' in consultation with the Doctrine and Worship Committee.

On being put to the vote the amendment was agreed, and resolution 2 was adopted with this addition.

The following resolutions were then agreed:

3. The Assembly welcomes the decision of Her Majesty's Government to hold an inquiry concerning the Fast Breeder Reactor and urges H.M. Government to ensure that there are safe methods of waste disposal agreed before there is further expansion of this programme.
4. The Assembly endorses the Affirmation in the British Council of Churches statement on Racism and urges all members to make a public stand against racism in all its forms and in support of the reconciliation which is so integral a part of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
5. The Assembly welcomes the EEC Code of Conduct for European Firms operating in South Africa and urges H.M. Government to ensure that there is effective monitoring of British Company performance by a Parliamentary Committee.

The Chairman moved:

6. The Assembly, while accepting that there is a case for continued British economic participation in South Africa, recognises that there are influential and responsible people in South Africa calling for withdrawal of investments, and therefore believes it to be imperative that British firms in South Africa should do all in their power to grant genuine bargaining powers to black workers. The Assembly encourages representations on this subject to firms in which we have direct interest, at national and local level, by committees or individual shareholders,

and it was proposed and seconded that the words 'all workers of whatever race or colour' be substituted for 'black workers'. This amendment was lost and the original resolution adopted.

The following resolutions were then agreed:

7. The Assembly records its appreciation for the work of the Churches' Council on Gambling and in particular for the distinguished service of its Secretary, the Revd Gordon Moody, and welcomes the proposal to form a Council on Gambling to include a wider membership than the Churches.

8. The Assembly urges H.M. Government to accept the proposals of Third World countries in the UNCTAD negotiations for a Common Fund to stabilise commodity prices.
9. The Assembly commends the One World Week to all local congregations and urges them to take initiatives to ensure that the programme receives full ecumenical support in their areas.

The Revd E.P. Schofield and the Revd G. Bellamy then moved the following motion which was adopted:

10. (a) Assembly re-affirms its deep concern for the rights of every person under God and its distress that in many countries and sometimes our own, people are persecuted for their opinions and made prisoners for conscience sake.
- (b) It welcomes the involvement of the Department of Church and Society in the Forum for Human Rights now being established by the BCC and its contacts with Amnesty International and urges it to maintain its work in this field of human and Christian concern.
- (c) It encourages individuals and local churches to take up particular cases where such rights are infringed, to study the circumstances and to give expression to their concern through prayer and action, whereby those who suffer can be helped and those who oppress can be persuaded to turn to new patterns of open and trustful government.

A further resolution relating to one adopted earlier concerning the Common Fund (8) was moved by Mr W. Aplin, seconded by the Revd A.L. Macarthur, and agreed:

11. This Assembly seeks the support of the BCC to bring pressure upon H.M. Government to accept the proposals of the Third World countries for the Common Fund to stabilise commodity prices as set out in recent UNCTAD negotiations. It also seeks the support of the WCC to apply pressure on the other dissenting Governments to accept the proposals.

CHURCH LIFE DEPARTMENT (Reports pp 17-34)

The Revd Dr Kenneth Slack, Chairman, presented the report of the Church Life Department calling upon the Revd R.O. Latham to speak to the concerns of the Ministerial Training Committee and the Revd M.J. Davies to introduce the report of the Youth Committee.

On the motion of the Chairman the report was received and the following resolutions were adopted:

1. That the revision of the affirmations to be made by ministers at Ordinations and Inductions, as set out in the report of the Doctrine and Worship Committee, be approved and, subject to ratification by the Assembly of 1979, be adopted.
2. *Ministerial Training Fund*

The Assembly notes with concern the report of the Ministerial Training Committee regarding the steeply rising costs of ministerial training; re-affirms its conviction that a well-trained ministry will continue to be a vital need of the Church; welcomes the decision of the Treasurership Committee to set money aside from the accumulated funds of the Church to underwrite the immediate deficit and to reduce the burden on the Unified Appeal in 1978 and 1979; aware that the reserves cannot meet the need in the long term urges the Committee to continue its appeal for help from appropriate Trusts; notes with satisfaction that a group has been appointed to review the whole situation and asks that its work be undertaken urgently with a view to a report to the Assembly of 1979.

On the motion of the Revd R.A. Bocking, seconded by the Revd C.A. Haig, an amendment was accepted to the following resolution to substitute 'from the date on which training is provided for the auxiliary ministry' for 'from May 1978' in paragraph (4), and it was agreed:

3. *Ordination of Local Pastors*

- (i) The Assembly recognising that the action by which the Church has traditionally set aside men and women for the ministry of Word, Sacrament and pastoral oversight is ordination; and recognising that there are some in the URC who are now exercising this ministry without ordination; accepts the principle that it is appropriate for such persons to be ordained and therefore gives discretion to District Councils to offer ordination to the ministry of Word and Sacraments to those presently serving as Local Pastors in charge of local churches within the District, and to ordain them. Any cases of difficulty should be referred for the advice of the Applications Committee.
- (ii) All such ordinations shall not alter previously agreed terms of service, and such ministers shall be designated with the letter AR (Assembly Resolution) in Year Book, appearing where other ministers have their mode of entry indicated e.g. College, Roll of Ministers, indicating the way in which they have come to ordination.
- (iii) that local pastors on the official Register not wishing to accept ordination be permitted to continue as at present. The offer of ordination shall remain open for 5 years from this Assembly, i. e. to the Assembly of 1983.
- (iv) that the list of local pastors be closed from the date on which training is provided for the auxiliary ministry and no new candidates be accepted for the Pastoralia Course.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

4. *Auxiliary Ministers*

The Assembly resolves that subject to ratification by the Assembly of 1979 the Basis of Union be amended, as in the Proposals for Unification with the Churches of Christ, in order that an auxiliary ministry may be formed in the URC; that the amendment be to para. 7(21) page 22: '.....others serve as auxiliary ministers, under the same oversight but continuing in other occupations, earning their livelihood within them, and sharing in all the circumstances of a "secular" calling. Auxiliary ministers shall normally serve under the leadership of a full-time minister.

The preparation and training for the full-time ministry shall be of a more extended and developed nature than that for the auxiliary ministry. If auxiliary ministers offer themselves for the full-time ministry, and are recognised as candidates for it they shall undertake such further preparation and training as is required under rules decided by the General Assembly. Full-time ministers whose place and form of service become dependent upon an agency not under the discipline of the General Assembly become, for such time as this is the case, auxiliary ministers, except where the General Assembly agrees, either for specific categories or individuals, to their continued recognition as full-time ministers'.

5. that the Ministerial Training Committee be asked to continue its planning for the selection and training of candidates and detailed consideration of the proposals and suggestions concerning Auxiliary Ministers in the Proposals for Unification with the Churches of Christ, and to submit proposals to the Assembly of 1979 for implementation.

6. *Westminster and Cheshunt Colleges*

The Assembly approves the proposals relating to Westminster and Cheshunt Colleges set out in the Report (p.21).

7. *Church Community Workers*

The Assembly draws the attention of District Councils which contain areas of urban stress, to the leaflet on the training and employment of Church Community workers, which is available from the Church Life Department.

8. *Youth Committee - lending for Life*

The Assembly notes with concern the decision of the Charity Commissioners that Churches cannot invest in the Ecumenical Development Co-operative Society and urges the appropriate committee to take energetic action to ensure that investment by the URC and other Churches becomes possible at the earliest opportunity;

The Assembly welcomes the interest of FURY in the work of EDCS and the contribution already made through the 'lending for Life' project.

9. *Thanks to the Revd Michael Davies*

The Assembly associates itself with the thanks and good wishes expressed by the Youth Committee for the excellent service of the Revd Michael Davies as Youth Secretary.

This motion was received with acclamation and was supported by warm tributes from two young people who spoke of Mr Davies' influence upon them and their generation.

Further motions were then adopted:

10. The Assembly, recognising the urgent need for training among those who lead the children's work of the Church, requests Districts and Provinces to appoint Teacher Training Consultants, to work with the YLTDs wherever possible, and to send the names of those appointed to the Christian Education Secretary, if they have not already done so, by September 1978.

11. *Chaplains and Students*

The Assembly recognises the importance of the work among students and chaplains in places of Higher Education and authorises the formation within the Church Life Department of a Student and Chaplains Committee, as distinct from a permanent working party.

The Committee to comprise:

- 4 chaplains - full time or church-based
- 4 students
- 3 members of teaching staff
- 2 overseas chaplains
- plus a Chairman and Secretary.

12. *Ministry of Healing Group*

It is recommended that Assembly authorises the formation of a Ministry of Healing Committee, within the Department, as distinct from a permanent working party, in recognition of the valuable service which has been rendered by this group. The committee to comprise 12 persons, including doctors, ministers, and at least one non-medical lay person.

13. The Assembly welcomes the proposal for practical co-operation between the Churches of Christ and the United Reformed Church whereby the Revd John Oldershaw and the Revd Keith Forecast will serve as Secretaries respectively for Youth and Christian Education on behalf of both Churches, and gladly accepts the offer of £2,000 p.a. towards the cost of a Youth Leadership Training Officer to serve the churches of both denominations in the area of the East and West Midlands Provinces. The Assembly instructs the Joint Liaison Committee to consult with the Church Life Department in order to facilitate the working out of these arrangements.

On the motion of the Revd J.M. Rees, seconded by Miss Susan Raggett, it was agreed:

14. The Assembly urges district councils to reconsider their function as stated in paragraph 9(3)(x) of the Basis of Union: 'To engage in study concerning the Church's mission in the region and encourage local churches' concern for youth work and social service and a sense of responsibility for the wider work of the church at home and abroad', and urges district councils to initiate in full council debates on youth work within the district, and requests that district councils invite young people to participate in their deliberations.

WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURES (M (Record of Assembly, pp. 34 - 39)

The report of the Working Party on Structures was presented by the Chairman, the Revd R.A. Bocking, supported by the Revd M.G. Hanson, the Secretary, and on their motion was received.

The Revd Dr K. Slack, seconded by the Revd R.O. Latham, then moved:

The Assembly thanks the Working Party for its labours, but notes that the report presented to last Assembly when sent down to Synods and District Councils did not command the assent of the Church at large. The Assembly therefore resolves to pass from the resolutions proposed by the Working Party and from further consideration of the report.

On being put to the vote the resolution was lost.

The following resolutions were then moved:

1. The Assembly instructs its Departmental Central Committees to ensure that all major matters under consideration are drawn to the attention of Synod representatives, and that appropriate papers are made available to them, so that through their representatives Synods and their committees may become aware of questions currently before the Church.
2. The Assembly instructs its officers to keep under review the timetable of Assembly Departmental meetings, Synod meetings and the date of General Assembly in order to provide opportunity for a reasonable flow of information and discussion.

It was then moved that:

3. The Assembly agrees that in 1979 its Annual Meeting shall take place in June, and that the relevant papers for Assembly should be made available to the Church by the end of April, or not less than one month prior to the beginning of Assembly, and asks the Business Committee to make the necessary arrangements.

With the deletion of the words 'by the end of April, or' the motion was put to the vote and defeated.

It was then moved that:

4. The Assembly directs the Business Committee (a) to make arrangements for the meeting of the Assembly in 1980 and subsequent years to be held in late May or June, (b) to consider the possibility of the Assembly being held over a long weekend or during a holiday period, (c) to investigate possible dates and venues for a residential meeting of Assembly, and (d) to ensure that Assembly papers are made available not less than one month prior to the beginning of Assembly.

In discussion (a) was deleted, (b) was agreed, (c) with the insertion of the words to investigate 'the feasibility of' possible dates was approved, (d) that the insertion of the words 'to endeavour' to ensure was agreed.

The following resolution was defeated:

5. The Assembly instructs the Business Committee to consider whether some of the business of Assembly might be dealt with other than in plenary session.

The following resolutions were moved and agreed:

6. The Assembly (a) encourages Synods to use their representatives to the Departmental Central Committee as channels of communication in both directions, (b) authorises Synods to send alternates whenever their nominated representatives to Central Committees are unable to attend, (c) asks Synods to review the dates of their committees and Synod meetings so as to aid the consultative process with the Departments, and (d) urges all within the Church to give reasonable consideration to reports and proposals contained in the Assembly papers as soon as they become available.

7. The Assembly authorises the Clerk and General Secretary to replace the published 'Minutes of Assembly' with a 'Record of Assembly' containing
 - (a) any supplementary reports to Assembly
 - (b) the Minutes of Assembly in a rationalised format
 - (c) cross references to the Book of Reports.
8. The Assembly agrees that the signed copy of Minutes should retain its present form and that a copy should be available for inspection at Church House and at Assembly.
9. The Assembly agrees that Synods shall have the power under the Scheme of Union para. 9(5)(f) to appoint a further three representatives to Assembly.
10. The Assembly agrees that when a District Council cannot fill all its allotted places at Assembly, its vacant seats may be filled from other District Councils within the Province in consultation with the Synod Clerk and bearing in mind the need to balance lay and ministerial representation.

The Chairman then moved:

11. The Assembly agrees that past Chairmen, Presidents and Moderators of the General Assembly shall be *ex officio* members of the Assembly for the three years following their year of service

which on being put to the vote was defeated.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

12. In view of the changed status of the Council for World Mission, the Assembly instructs the Business Committee to consider the question of inviting corresponding members from sister churches within the Council for World Mission.
13. The Assembly agrees that Synods shall have the power to determine, in consultation with the District Councils and Churches concerned, the boundaries and number of District Councils within their Province. All such changes shall be reported to General Assembly.
14. The Assembly draws to the attention of Synods and District Councils the suggestions contained in the 1978 Structures Report, particularly in paragraphs 5, 9, 10, 15, 23, 24 and 25.

A resolution concerning the Executive Committee was amended by the deletion of the words 'shall review its frequency of meeting in the light of these proposals and', and the following decisions made:

15. The Assembly agrees that the Executive Committee shall consist of:

Four representatives from each Synod, including the Moderators, together with *ex officio* members as follows: The Moderator, the Moderator-elect, the immediate past Moderator, the Clerk and General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretary, the Assistant Clerk, the Legal Advisers, the Chairmen and Secretaries of the four Departments, the Chairmen of Business, Applications and Nominations Committees, the Secretary of the Nominations and Business Committees. (Those nominated by Synods shall normally have been members of the General Assembly immediately prior to their service).

16. The Assembly instructs the Executive Committee (a) to consider whether those Standing Committees (e.g. Deployment) which are not related to Departments and which are not directly represented on the Executive Committee should come within the Departmental structure or be represented directly on the Executive Committee, and (b) whenever it makes decisions affecting the whole Church to communicate such decisions to the local churches as soon as possible.

17. The Assembly agrees that the Business Committee of the Assembly shall consist of: a Chairman and Secretary, the Moderator, the Moderator-Elect and immediate past Moderator, the Clerk and General Secretary, the Assistant Clerk, the Chairmen of the four Departments and one representative from each Synod.
18. The Assembly discharges the group of ten which was appointed as a Working Party on Structures.

Resolution 13 requires ratification in 1979 as it involves an amendment of the Basis of Union and meanwhile is referred to District Councils and to Synods.

DEPLOYMENT COMMITTEE (Reports, p. 8)

The Report of the Deployment Committee was submitted by the Revd A.G. Burnham, Chairman, and on his motion it was received.

The Revd A.J.G. Walker, seconded by the Revd P.S. Chesney, moved, and it was agreed that:

1. The Assembly asks the appropriate committee to explore the financial implications of a strategic deployment policy, and to report with recommendations to the Executive Committee or a future Assembly.

On the motion of the Clerk it was agreed that the appropriate Committee was the Deployment Committee, subject to consultation with the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee and the group on Priorities and Resources.

The Revd R. Courtney, seconded by Miss Olive Calvert, moved that:

The Assembly charges the Church Life Department to examine both theological and practical considerations relating to the work of the Deployment Committee.

Discussion followed and on assurance that the proposal would be considered by the Executive Committee, the resolution was withdrawn.

APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE (Reports, p. 11)

The Report of the Applications Committee was submitted by the Revd H.M. Springbett, Chairman, who drew attention to the omission of the name of the Revd N. Compton Dando from the list of ministers transferred to the URC up to the time of the preparation of the report.

At the invitation of the Moderator, Mr N. Pooler, Legal Adviser, explained the situation with regard to the property used by churches released from membership of the URC and the result of consultations with the Charity Commission. Mr Pooler, in consultation with the officers of the Committee, was asked to pursue one aspect of the issue in further consultation with the Commission.

The Chairman then moved the following resolutions which were agreed:

1. The Assembly resolves that the local church at Whitfield, Dover be admitted as a member church of the United Reformed Church.
2. The Assembly grants the application from the church at Worrall to secede from the United Reformed Church and agrees to support an application to the Charity Commission for a scheme to administer the property thereof for the benefit of the local church.
3. The Assembly grants the application from the church at Cockfield, Bury St. Edmunds, to secede from the United Reformed Church and agrees to support an application to the Charity Commission for a scheme to administer the property thereof for the benefit of the local church.
4. The Assembly grants the application from the church at Ashton Road, Oldham to secede from the United Reformed Church and agrees to support an application to the Charity Commission for a scheme to administer the property thereof for the benefit of the local church.

5. The Assembly grants the application from the church at Bursledon to secede from the United Reformed Church and agrees to support an application to the Charity Commission for a scheme to administer the property thereof for the benefit of the local church.
6. The Assembly grants the application from the church at Golborne to secede from the United Reformed Church and agrees to support an application to the Charity Commission for a scheme to administer the property thereof for the benefit of the local church.

The Moderator declared the churches concerned to be received or released as from May 11th 1978.

A further application respecting the church at Pepper Street, Mobberley, was referred for later consideration after a recommendation had been received from the North West Synod.

COMMISSIONING OF ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

The Moderator commissioned as officers of Assembly:

The Revd Boris Anderson to a further period of service as Secretary of the World Church and Mission Department.

The Revd John Oldershaw to be Secretary for Youth.

Mr Clement Frank to be Secretary of the Finance and Administration Department

Mr Richard Gill to be Manager of the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund.

Following the commissioning the Revd E.W. Todd was thanked by the Moderator for the outstanding service he had rendered to the Church since 1972 and in a very difficult period, as Secretary of the Finance and Administration Department. This was confirmed by the applause of the Assembly.

MODERATOR-ELECT

The Clerk announced that 519 votes had been cast in the ballot for the election of a Moderator for 1979 and that the Revd Robert Owen Latham, MA., B.D., had been elected. Amidst applause Mr Latham was received by the Moderator and at his invitation responded.

VISIT OF THE BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

In addition to those visitors mentioned earlier the Assembly was honoured on Tuesday morning by the presence of the Bishop of Liverpool, the Rt Revd David Sheppard. The Bishop was received by the Moderator and at his invitation he addressed the Assembly.

WORSHIP at each morning session was led by the Moderator's Chaplain, the Revd Norman Healey.

Informal music was provided by local youth groups, and question and information sessions held by the Departments during intervals in the business.

ASSEMBLY 1979

The Clerks proposed and it was agreed that the Assembly resolves to meet in 1979 in the City Temple, London, from Tuesday, May 8th to Friday, May 11th, or at such other time and place as may be duly agreed.

THANKS The business of the Assembly having been completed the Revd Dr John Morgans proposed that:

The Assembly records its thanks to all who have contributed to its work. It expresses in particular its thanks to the Metropolitan Borough of Sefton for the use of the Floral Hall Complex and the service of its staff: to the local arrangements committee, the organist and those who provided hospitality. The Assembly further thanks the office staff, the Moderator and his Chaplain, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, the Chairman and Secretary of the Business Committee.

This was greeted with acclamation.

CLOSURE The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer and praise and the Assembly of 1978 was closed with the Benediction.

J.E.Lesslie Newbigin, *Moderator*

Arthur L. Macarthur *Clerk*

COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

APPENDIX 1

NOTE: The Moderator, the Moderator-elect, the immediate Past Moderator, and the General Secretary are members ex officio of every Standing Committee. The Departmental Chairmen and Secretaries are members ex officio of each Committee within their respective Departments. The Secretary of the Finance and Administration Department is a member ex officio of every Committee which has funds.

CHURCH LIFE DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Revd Dr K Slack - 1980
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Provincial Representatives

I	Revd D W Elliott	VII	Mrs M Bason
II	Revd R W Courtney	VIII	Revd S Atkins
III	Mrs B Martin	IX	Revd C B Baxter
IV	Revd E Allen	X	Miss S Fairbairn
V	Revd A O Bourne	XI	Revd M D Whitehorn
VI	Revd W J Jones	XII	Revd M D Page

together with the Chairmen of the Committees within the Department and the Revds Dr L C Green and R E Taylor.

Members under 25: Miss L Carruthers, Mr I Ring

MINISTERIAL TRAINING

Chairman: Rt Revd Dr L Newbigin - 1982
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

Revd Dr E C Blackman	Revd P C Jupp	Revd B G Thorogood
Mrs J Boulind	Mr H L Morris	Revd R J Way
Revd R J Hall	Revd D G Stewart	Revd Dr S H Mayor
Revd K M Hendry	Revd Margaret Taylor	

together with the Principals of the recognised Colleges in Bangor, Cambridge, London, Manchester, Oxford and Swansea.

Panel for Assessment Conferences

Mrs Ruth Clarke	Revd D McIlhagga	Dr G H. Swanson
Revd G J. Cook	Revd Barbara Meachin	Mr D Thacker
Dr K B Everard	Mr R Norris	Revd I Thomas
Revd A Frost	Mrs Beti Onions	Revd E W Todd
Mrs R Goodfellow	Mr D Pitkeathly	Revd G Williams
Mrs Gwen Hall	Revd R K Scopes	Revd T R Willis
Revd Kathleen Hendry	Mrs P E P Sessions	Revd C Wilton
Mrs Mary Herbert	Mr J Simmonds	
Revd H.A. Jacquet	Mrs E M Steel	

together with the General Secretary, the Provincial Moderators and the staffs of the recognised Colleges, and the Chairmen and Secretary of the Ministerial Training Committee.

Board of Studies (Westminster College)

Revd D W Ager (Sec. - 1981)	Mr J.M Ross	Dr D A Sykes
Revd Prof. J Heywood Thomas	Dr G Stanton	Revd D Holt Roberts
Revd W N Leak	Revd H M Springbett	(Chairman - 1979)

together with the College Staff

Nominations to Teaching Staff (Westminster College)

Chairman: Rt Revd Dr L Newbigin
Secretary: Revd R O Latham

Principal, Westminster College (Revd A G MacLeod)

Dr D A Sykes
Revd K M Hendry
1 vacancy

SUPPLEMENTARY MINISTRIES

Chairman: Revd J W P Williamson - 1979
Secretary: Secretary for Stewardship and Supplementary Ministries

Mr W Atherton
Mr P Jones
Dr R D Jurd
Revd B W Kirk
Miss P F Parrish

Revd R Royston-Bishop
Mrs O Russell
Mrs E Stewart
Revd B D Treharne

DOCTRINE AND WORSHIP

Chairman: Revd Dr J Huxtable - 1980
Secretary: Revd D McIlhagga - 1981

Revd Principal P Davies
Revd Dr I Fraser
Revd D C M Gardner
Revd Dr C Gunton
Revd T C Micklem

Revd Joan Peters
Miss A Phillips
Mr J M Ross
Revd Dr S H Russell
Revd H M Springbett
Revd C Thompson

Revd Dr J Heywood Thomas
Revd Professor W. A. Whitehouse
Revd D G Wensley

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chairman: Revd C C Franks - 1979
Secretary: The Christian Education Secretary

Mrs M Brymer
Revd David Jenkins
Revd A McLellan

Revd Dr S H Mayor
Mrs R Goodfellow
Dr J A G Jones

Revd J Robinson
Revd S M Thornton
Mr B Worrall

YOUTH WORK

Chairman: Revd J E Mather - 1981
Secretary: The Youth Secretary

Mrs S Ackroyd
Revd Gillian Bobbett
Miss R Campbell
Mr B Cox

Revd R Diffey
Revd A F T Evans
Mr R D Hall
Revd I James

Revd A K McNicol
Revd D Newman
Revd D Wilson

Members under 25:

Mr C Brann
Mr S Brown
Miss L Carruthers
Mr M Faulkner

Miss A Pagan
Miss H Paton
Miss R Patterson
Mr A Pickles

Miss A Richards
Miss S Raggett
Mr R Whittaker
Mr P Woods

CHILDREN'S WORK

Chairman: Revd G Jenkins - 1983
Secretary: The Christian Education Secretary

Miss M Burnie
Revd G R Chapman
Mr P Lovett

Mrs G Page
Revd Helen Pullin
Mrs D Richmond

Mrs R Scarrow
Revd Pamela Ward
Mrs D Wilton

WORLD CHURCH AND MISSION DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Revd Professor M H Cressey - 1983
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Provincial Representatives

I	Revd R R Bance	VII	Revd S Smith
II	Revd P S Killick	VIII	Revd R A Irving
III	Mrs R M Smith	IX	Revd R D C Cole
IV	Revd D M Main	X	Revd Barbara Meachin
V	Mr J Thorndyke	XI	Revd J Weller
VI	Revd E E B Cruchley	XII	Mrs E M Steel

together with the Chairmen of Committees within the Department and the Revd Dr N Goodall and Mrs A G MacLeod.

MISSIONARY AND ECUMENICAL WORK AT HOME

Chairman: Revd D Marsden - 1983
Secretary: The General Secretary

Revd G E Beck	Revd B Head	Revd R Whitehead
Revd P S Chesney	Revd G Hewitt	Revd C L Taylor
Dr P Clarke	Revd Dr J Huxtable	1 vacancy
Miss E M Gooding	Mrs Jean Parker	

MISSIONARY AND ECUMENICAL WORK ABROAD

Chairman: Mr J E M Gilbey - 1979
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

Revd R R Bance	Miss V A Collins	Revd B Tettey
Revd D Batchelor	Mrs R Cowhig	Revd S M Thornton
Revd R A H Bocking	Revd Doris Leyshon	Revd S Wilton
Miss D J Biggs	Miss M McQuitty	
	Revd A Porter	

MISSION AND OTHER FAITHS

Chairman: Dr D A Kerr - 1983
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

Revd Dr H D Beeby	Revd Florence Frost-Mee	Mrs M Marsden
Revd P Chave	Revd Professor J H Hick	Rt Revd Dr L Newbiggin
Mr B Evans	Revd R H Lewis	Miss P Robinson

PERSONNEL

Chairman: Revd A J Coates - 1983
Secretary: The Personnel Secretary

Revd Stella Beare	Mrs H Lidgett	Revd D C Morgan
Revd G P Breeze	Revd J M Lloyd	Dr E J Welford
Revd R D C Cole	Mrs M MacLeod	Professor R Schwarzenberger
Revd A S Dunstone		

CHURCH AND SOCIETY DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Revd J Johansen-Berg - 1979
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Provincial Representatives

I	Revd T E Grant	VII	Mr C George
II	Revd A Hodgson	VIII	
III	Revd H Starr	IX	Revd S Haine
IV	Revd D Miller	X	Revd G J Tate
V	Revd F T Snape	XI	Revd R C Christopher
VI	Mrs J Loveitt	XII	Professor John Oldfield

together with the Revd A J Addy, Mrs S Acty, Revd P Brain, Mr P J Bunker, Mr R Clarke, Revd D V Clarke, Mr A J Curry, Mrs R Goodfellow, Revd R W H Jones, Mr H O Packer.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Mr L R Palmer - 1979 (Honorary Treasurer of the Church)
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Provincial Representatives

I	Revd Dr A R Ritchie	VII	Mr J Henderson
II	Mr G Butterworth	VIII	Mr P Hamblin
III	Mr M B S Emlin	IX	Mr J E Richardson
IV	Mr J E M Gilbey	X	Mr R S Martin
V	Mr F Cooper Watson	XI	Mr A S Chapman
VI	Mr H E Greening	XII	Miss M Jones

together with the Chairmen of the Committees within the Department

TREASURERSHIP

Chairman: Mr R S Martin
Secretary: The Chief Accountant

Mr F H Bennett	Mr T W Macdonald	Sir Alan Wilson
Mr F H Brooman	Mr L Macro	Revd J White
Mr J A Cumming	Mr D Turner	2 vacancies
Mr K M Kirby		

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY

Chairman: Mr R C N Tinsley - 1983
Secretary: Revd G E Hooper - 1984

Mr F H Bennett	Mr K L G Hales	Revd T Russell
Mr A S Chapman	Revd Kathleen Hendry	Revd P E Wadey
Revd Anita Evans	Revd W Hughes-Edwards	Revd J D Waller
Mr J E M Gilbey	Revd R W H Jones	
Mr J R Gow	Mr T N Kilby	

WELFARE AND EMERGENCIES

Chairman: Revd D A Smith - 1982
Secretary: The General Secretary

Revd J Hislop	Revd B Reita Searle	Mrs A Selwyn Roberts
Mr K E G Paddon	Revd L A Stringer	

UNIFIED APPEAL

The Assembly agreed that this Committee be discontinued from May 1978

DEVELOPMENT IN NEW AREAS AND CARE OF EXISTING CHURCH BUILDINGS

Chairman: Revd R G Walker - 1979
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

Revd J L Armour	Mrs M Herbert	Revd J H Williams
Mr C Bacon	Mr R N Houston	2 vacancies
Mr F Cooper Watson	Revd A C Mellor	
Mr W C Hammond	Mr M Foster Taylor (Property Consultant)	

OTHER COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE

Chairman: The Moderator of the General Assembly

Four representatives of each Synod, including the Moderators, together with *ex officio* members as follows:

The Moderator-elect, the immediate past Moderator, the Clerk and General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretary, the Assistant Clerk, the Legal Advisers, the Chairmen and Secretaries of the four Departments, the Chairmen of the Business, Applications and Nominations Committees, the Secretary of the Nominations and Business Committees.

BUSINESS

Chairman: Revd H S Ross - 1982
Secretary: The Administrative Secretary

together with the Moderator, the Moderator-elect, the immediate past Moderator, the Clerk and General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretary, the Assistant Clerk, the Chairmen of the four Departments and one representative from each Synod.

NOMINATIONS

Chairman: Revd A J G Walker - 1979
Secretary: The Administrative Secretary

together with the Moderator, the Moderator-elect, the immediate past Moderator, the Clerk and General Secretary, the Chairmen of the four Departments, and the Provincial Moderators and one other representative from each Synod.

APPLICATIONS

Chairman: Revd H M Springbett
Secretary: The General Secretary

together with the Moderator, the Moderator-elect, the immediate past Moderator, the Legal Advisers, the the Chairment of the Applications Committee of each Province (or his deputy)

PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY

Chairman: Revd E A Banyard - 1983
Secretary: Secretary for Publications and Publicity

Revd D W Ager	Revd T C Micklem	Revd E P Schofield
Revd T A Chadwick	Mrs P Pavitt	Mr T Ian M Smith
Revd Dr R Duce	Revd C E C Richards	1 vacancy
Revd Dorothy Havergal-Shaw	Mrs M Schofield	

together with the Departmental Secretaries *ex officio*s.

Editorial Advisory Board

Revs P Nash and Kate Compston - 1979
Revd K Wadsworth and Mr R L Broughton - 1980
Revd J H Taylor (Chairman), Mrs N Matanle - 1981

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Chairman: Mr R S Martin - 1981
Secretary: The Secretary for Stewardship and Supplementary Ministries

Revd D Bale	Rev M J Davies	Revd J B Simpson
Revd G F Barrow	Mr D Faragher	Revd G Tillison
Revd C B Baxter	Revd K L Lee	Revd J T Yates
Mr A E Checkland	Mr A Ogilvie	
	Mr L R Palmer	

DEPLOYMENT

Chairman: Revd A G Burnham - 1983
Secretary: Revd G H Roper - 1984

Revd C C Franks	Revd R Royston Bishop	Mr R C N Tinsley
Revd G E Hooper	Revd T Russell	Mr P Wade
Revd R O Latham	Revd C L Taylor	Miss A J Welford
Revd A L Macarthur		

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

URC - METHODIST LIAISON GROUP

Revd G E Beck	Revd C C Franks	Revd J N Murray
Revd Professor M H Cressey	Revd A L Macarthur	Revd A J G Walker
	Revd D E Marsden	

COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THE MANSE SYSTEM

Chairman: Mr A J Cumming
Secretary: Revd G H Roper

Mrs J A Berryman	Revd H G Hayes
Mr C M Frank	Revd G E Hooper
Revd R J Hall	Revd E W Todd

REVIEW GROUP ON RESOURCES AND PRIORITIES

Chairman: Revd J E Young
Secretary: Mr S Lunt

Mr P Chan	Revd J D Waller
Revd N K Fisher	1 vacancy

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH ON OTHER BODIES

1. CHURCH BODIES

British Council of Churches

Dr C Binfield, the Revd Professor M H Cressey, Mrs R Goodfellow, the Revds A L Macarthur, J P Reardon, Miss S Stevenson

Churches' Consortium on Industrial Mission: Revds J P Reardon, R F Taylor
Community and Race Relations Unit - Churches' Consultative Group: Revd J P Reardon
British Churches Housing Trust: Mr M Foster Taylor, Mr C Bacon
Churches' Group on Ministry to Children: Revds C K Forecast, G Jenkins
Christian Aid Scholarships Committee: Revd P C Jupp
Women's Inter-Church Consultative Committee: Mrs S M Tull
Consultative Committee for Local Ecumenical Projects in England: Revds P S Chesney, A L Macarthur
Youth Unit Reference Group: The Youth Secretary

(Appointed by the British Council of Churches on the Nomination of the URC:

Divisions:

Ecumenical Affairs: Revd D E Marsden
Community Affairs: Revd J Johansen-Berg, Mr R Clarke, Dr C Binfield
International Affairs: Revds B Anderson, J P Reardon, Mr John Roper, M.P.

Free Church Federal Council

The representatives to the British Council of Churches (above) together with Mrs J Armour, Mrs J T Morgan, the Revds R H Norman, L A Stringer and R Whitehead.

Chaplaincy Board: Revds H A Jacquet, L A Stringer
Education Committee: Revds Aubrey D Lewis, C K Forecast and M D Whitehorn
Joint Education Policy Committee: Revd M D Whitehorn

Churches' Unity Commission

Revds Professor M H Cressey, C A Haig, A L Macarthur, Dr K Slack, Mrs E M Steel.

2. OTHER COMMITTEES AND NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund: Mr F J Braybrooks (Trustee), Mr L Macro (Hon. Treasurer) Revd R L Richards, Mrs E Salisbury.
British Lessons Council: Revd C K Forecast
Christian Education Movement Council: Revd R Tomes
Church Hymnary Trust: Mr J McVitie, Revd H S Ross
Churches' Council on Gambling: Revds J P Reardon, A Whillis
Churches' Main Committee: Mr N A Pooler, Mr M Foster Taylor, Revd E W Todd
Churches' Advisory Panel of the Boys' Brigade: Revd C K Forecast
Churches' Council for Health and Healing: Revds D Dale and C K Meachin
Federation of Boys' Brigade Companies: The Youth Secretary and the Revd J M Rees
Guides' Religious Advisory Panel: Revd Gillian Bobbett
Inter-Church Drama Consultative Group - Radius: Miss S Fairbairn
International Consultation on English Texts: Revd D McIlhagga
Joint Committee on the New English Bible: Revd Professor J C O'Neill (alternate: Revd R K Scopes)
Joint Editorial Board: - Partners in Learning: Revd C K Forecast
Joint Liturgical Group: Revds D C M Gardner and D McIlhagga
National Christian Education Council: Revds D H Hilton, C K Forecast
National Council of Social Service: Revd J P Reardon
Scouts' Religious Advisory Board: Mr D M Jones, Revd P Poulter
Scout and Guide Fellowship (URC): The Youth Secretary
Society for the Ministry of Women in the Church: Revd Barbara Meachin

2. OTHER COMMITTEES AND NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS (continued)

Temperance Council of the Christian Churches: Revds R W H Jones, H A Jacquet,
G J Tate, J Reardon, M Whitehorn
Union of Welsh Independents Council: Revds T Glyndwr Jones, W G Hughes-Edwards
United Navy, Army and Air Force Board: Revds A L Macarthur, E P Schofield, E W Todd,
S L Williams
United Reformed Church History Society: Revds P C Jupp, A L Macarthur, E W Todd
Wharton Trust: Mr A G Esslemont, Revd C K Forecast
Widows' Fund of the Three Denominations: Revds M J Davies, R J Hall, Mr L Macro,
Revd L A Stringer, Revd E W Todd
Women's World Day of Prayer Committee: Mrs A Whillis

3. COLLEGE AND SCHOOL GOVERNORS AND COUNCILS

Bala-Bangor: Revd E M Jeremiah
Bishop's Stortford College: Mr D A Lundie
Caterham School, Board of Governors: Revd T Perry, Mr G R Mallett (Hon. Treasurer)
Cheshunt Foundation: Revd R O Latham, Mr S H Burns
Congregational College, Manchester: Revds R O Latham, W N Leak
Eltham College/Walthamstow Hall: Revd I L Thomas
Homerton College, Cambridge, Trustees: Mrs J Boulind, Revds C J Buckingham,
A J Coates, Mr F F C Edmonds, Miss A Phillips, Mrs H S Stanley, Revd R E Taylor,
Dr R Watson.
Mansfield College, Oxford: Mr J Cumber, Revd Dr N Goodall, Dr D Harrison, Revds R W H
Jones, J P Lee-Woof, Mr P Spicer.
Milton Mount Foundation, Governors: Mr J D Green, Mrs O K Stanley, Miss Ruth Thompson,
Mr N Micklem, Mr J F Ford.
Queen's College, Birmingham: Revd R O Latham (Governor and Member of Council),
Rt Revd Dr L Newbigin (Governor)
St. Andrew's Hall, Selby Oak: Revd E E B Cruchley, Revd C K Meachin, Miss C Parker,
Revd I L Thomas
Silcoates School, Governor: Dr C Binfield
Springhill College Endowment (Mansfield College): Mr F H Bennett, Revd W W Biggs,
Mr K Corley, Mr R A Heritage, Revds M F Hubbard, R W H Jones.
Swansea College: Revd C H Grant, Mrs J T Morgan.
Taunton School: Revd M F Hubbard
Tettenhall College, Governors: Mr F H Bennett, Revd J C Campbell, Dr J F Galloway,
Mr A Stephens.
Wentworth Milton Mount, Governor: Revd P S Chesney.
Westhill College of Education Council: Mr J Payne (Governor and Trustee),
Revd Professor J E Fenn (Governor)

4. COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION

Revd B Anderson
Revd Stella Beare

Revd R A H Bocking
Mr A J Curry

5. MEMORIAL HALL TRUST

Mr F H Brooman
Revd M J Davies
Mr M Kirby
1 vacancy

Mr F W Lodde
Revd A L Macarthur
Mr L R Palmer
Mr F Riceman

Revd D L Skidmore
Revd J H Taylor
Revd E W Todd
Revd J White

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE GENERAL SECRETARYSHIP

Provincial Representatives:

I The Moderator and the Revd R R Bance; II The Moderator and the Revd A G
Burnham; III The Revd R G Walker and Mrs Rhoda Smith; IV Mr J E M Gilbey and the
Revd R H McMurray Adam; V The Revd G E Hooper and Mr B E Stonehouse; VI The Revd
M J Hesselbee and Mr R A Heritage; VII Mr P A Wade and Mr M J Ballard;

VIII The Revd JE Young and Revd C H Grant; IX The Moderator and the Revd L M Wheeler; X Miss D J Biggs and Revd J Hislop; XI The Revd N Birnie and Mr P J Bunker; XII The Moderator and the Revd M D Page

The Moderator of the General Assembly (The Rt Revd Bishop Lesslie Newbigin)
The Chairman of the Central Committee of each of the four Departments; The Revd Dr K Slack, the Revd Professor M H Cressey, the Revd J Johansen-Berg, Mr L R Palmer

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee: The Revd A J G Walker

Four persons selected by the Executive Committee: The Revd R J Hall (Chairman); Mrs S M Tull (Secretary - non-voting), the Revd B G Thorogood, Miss A Pagan Revd R O Latham (nominated by central office staff).

APPENDIX 2

REPORT OF WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURES

Chairman: The Revd R.A. Bocking
Secretary: The Revd M.G. Hanson

INTRODUCTION

1. The Working Party reported in detail to the Assembly of 1977 and what follows should be read in conjunction with that report and with the draft resolutions (a)-(m) (see Report to Assembly 1977, pages 14 - 23). The Assembly of 1977 accepted resolutions 1 - 8, and we believe these have since been largely implemented, but resolutions 2 - 6 need to be kept continually in mind as basic principles for the life of the Church.

2. Concerning the draft resolutions as such we have received a wide variety of comments from all parts of the Church (viz. 10 Synods, 34 District Councils, 89 local churches) and this report and the proposals now being made reflect our detailed consideration of these comments. It should be stressed that the comments we have received have been extremely varied. Some have been in favour of all or most of the draft resolutions; some have been opposed to them; and there have been many diverse views in between. We are grateful that the Assembly allowed this process of discussion to take place throughout the Church and express our thanks to all who have taken time and trouble to respond in detail.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

3. Scheme of Union. There is insufficient desire for change to encourage any wholesale alterations to the Scheme of Union. Put more positively, there seems to be widespread acceptance of the present structures which are probably working better and more smoothly now than at any time since the formation of the U.R.C. The general conclusion of the 1977 Report (para. 8) has been very widely endorsed.

4. Four-tier structure. We have concluded, for reasons given below (see para. 23), that the four-tier structure of the Church should be retained.

5. Flexibility. Many of the adverse criticisms that we have received about the present structures could well be met by a greater exercise of the flexibility to which we drew attention in paras. 9 and 10 and in the Appendix of our previous report. There is great variety of practice throughout the Church and we still feel that this variety is to be encouraged. We therefore stress once again the need for Synods and District Councils to adjust their patterns of business to meet their changing needs and to avoid unnecessary duplication.

6. Size of Assembly. We are recommending the retention of the Assembly at roughly its present strength - see para. 11 below.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

7. The major intention of the draft resolutions (a) - (m) was to move some of the responsibility at present borne by the Assembly to Synods, so as to share the process of discussion and decision-making more widely. Some of the response to this suggestion indicates that this vision of wider involvement has not been fully recognised. The suggested strengthening of Synods was never intended to be at the expense of District Councils and the recommendation of a smaller Assembly was not designed to create an oligarchy but to balance the wider sharing of debate and decision.

8. Consultation. While a considerably reduced Assembly seems generally unacceptable, there is a clear desire for wider consultation throughout the Church. This creates problems in relation to the channels of communication and the timetable to be followed. Responding to several suggestions that the Assembly might be held slightly later than at present we are suggesting a process of consultation along the following lines.

9. All major matters which are being considered by Departmental Committees at any time and which may become the subject of reports and decision in the Assembly, should be brought at as early a stage as possible to the Central Committee of the Department concerned. All Synods are represented on these Central Committees. We suggest that these Synods representatives should play a major role not only in the discussions which take place within the Central Committee but also in conveying the initial and detailed thinking of the various Committees back to their Synod Committees. (Whenever possible representatives should receive detailed questions or proposals as an aid to this discussion, and provision would have to be made for alternates to attend in their place when necessary.) Synods would then have knowledge of subjects under consideration, and would take whatever action they felt appropriate in each case. Sometimes this would simply be to inform Synod members of what was being discussed; at other times a response might be evoked from the Synod or its appropriate committee. Whatever action ensued the whole process of discussion would become more open and matters would seldom come to the Assembly without some previous airing at least in Synod Committees. This process should become a continuous flow of information and opinion in both directions. (Committees not within the Departmental structure would need to ensure that the process of consultation takes place as fully as possible, perhaps by using the Executive Committee as the channel.) It would further aid this process if all Assembly papers were made available at least one month prior to the Assembly to allow time for reflection on them throughout the Church before decisions are finally taken in Assembly. It needs to be stressed, however, that members of Assembly would still attend as representatives and not as delegates, and that they should not therefore finally come to a decision on any matter until they had heard the report and discussion in Assembly itself.

10. Preparation for and date of Assembly. In preparation for the meeting of Assembly we suggest that Assembly Departments continue to meet as early as possible in the year to allow time for representatives to report to Synod Committees and then, if appropriate, to March meetings of Synods. There would probably not be time at this stage for a direct response to the Assembly Committees themselves, but there would be time for Synods to consider any special approach they wanted to make to Assembly. Assembly papers should be prepared so as to be available by, say, the end of April (later than at present) in time for Assembly to meet, say, in early June. During May any Synod or District Council or local church could then examine this material, if it so wished, through committees, working groups or in full meetings.

11. Size of Assembly. Our proposal that the Assembly should be halved in size did not receive sufficient support for us to press it at this stage. While some agree that the Assembly should be smaller, most feel that the representative and unifying nature of the Assembly is more significant than its purely debating and decision making role.

It is interesting to note that against a maximum possible membership of 750 the Assembly of 1977 actually consisted of approximately 660 members made up as follows:-

Appointed by District Councils	543
Officers of Assembly	4
Officers of Synods	36
Chairmen of Departments and Standing Committees	22
Past Presidents, Chairmen and Moderators	28
Youth representatives	2
Theological College representatives	7
Missionaries	4
Others	2
Corresponding Members	12
	<hr/>
TOTAL	660

A number of past Presidents, Chairmen and Moderators are unable to attend. It is worth noting the high proportion of elected representatives.

12. Frequency of Assembly. Providing the consultative procedure we have outlined is properly followed we feel that the frequency and length of meetings of the Assembly can be left open for possible review at a later stage, but that at present the Assembly should continue to be held annually.

13. Representation to Assembly. There has been widespread opposition to the

suggestion that representatives to Assembly should be appointed by Synods. This we feel has been due to some extent to a misunderstanding of the proposals, but in view of the lack of desire for the strengthening of Synods in general this change is not justifiable.

14. Representation from District Councils. Some of the responses have drawn attention to the difficulty some lay people (e.g. those involved in education) find in being able to attend the Assembly due to work commitments, creating a representation problem for some District Councils. We suggest, therefore,

- (a) that District Councils should be able to transfer any vacant seats at Assembly which they are unable to fill to other District Councils in the Province in consultation with the Synod Clerk;
- (b) that the Business Committee give careful consideration to the relative merits of holding the Assembly over a long weekend or during a holiday period, and that some further thought be given to the possibility of holding the Assembly on a residential basis if suitable dates and venue can be found.

15. In appointing representatives to Assembly, District Councils should ensure that a balance of lay and ministerial representatives is maintained (see para. 9(5)(a) of Scheme of Union). We also feel that District Councils should give serious consideration to the need for some continuity of representation from one year to another among those going to the Assembly - it is not helpful for the full number to be totally different every year.

16. Representation from Synods. We feel that it would be helpful to strengthen the links between Synods and Assembly, and we therefore suggest that in addition to the Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are already members under para. 9(5)(b) of the Scheme of Union, Synods should have the power to nominate three other representatives. In this way Synods would be able to balance the full representation to Assembly from the Province and thus ensure that all aspects of the life of the Church are represented. Synods may also want to appoint some of these direct representatives as members of the Executive Committee. It is further hoped that between these six appointed by the Synods there might be a balance of lay and ministerial representatives.

There is general agreement that each Synod should be represented on the Business Committee.

17. Past Moderators. The proposal that past Presidents, Chairmen and Moderators of Assembly should be *ex officio* members of the Assembly only for three years after their year of service has received very little opposition. This proposal is in line with the principle that members of the Assembly are present either as representatives of a council of the Church or by virtue of their current responsibility. We are putting it forward now, therefore, as a definite recommendation. This change will involve an alteration to the Scheme of Union. The increase proposed in the preceding paragraph would be balanced by the proposed decrease in this.

18. Corresponding Members. In our previous report (para. 17.5) we drew attention to the need for further consideration to be given to the question of corresponding members. The Assembly referred this matter to the Business Committee for attention (resolution 7). We suggest that the Business Committee now be asked to widen this consideration to take into account the new status of the Council for World Mission. It may be thought appropriate for the Assembly to receive corresponding members from some of our sister churches within C.W.M.

19. Business of Assembly. Some suggestions have been made about the style of the Assembly itself, and we recommend that the Business Committee consider whether all the work of the Assembly should be done in plenary session.

20. Assembly Reports and Minutes. We accept that considerable work and expense would be involved in implementing the suggestion (17.8) that Assembly Reports should be printed in temporary form before Assembly and in permanent form with the Minutes afterwards. What we now suggest is that the full book of Reports continue to be sent out as at present and that the full Minutes be kept in typewritten form, but instead of being distributed as such to the Churches, a "Record of Assembly" should be

produced containing

- (a) any subsequent material presented to the Assembly but not contained in the printed Reports; churches would then have all the material presented to members of Assembly;
- (b) the Minutes of Assembly in a rationalised (as opposed to narrative) form so that all the decisions relating to a Department or Committee's recommendations were gathered together;
- (c) cross references throughout (not just in index form) to the Book of Reports.

Anyone desiring to see the Minutes in their full form would be able to do so at Church House or at subsequent Assemblies. The daily draft of Minutes produced during Assembly should continue as at present.

21. Executive Committee. The role of the Executive Committee and the principles upon which it is to act are clearly set out on page 84 of the Handbook. We recommend that whenever, subject to these principles, the Executive Committee takes any decision affecting the Church as a whole, such decision should be communicated to the local churches at an early date.

22. Regarding the size of the Executive, we feel on balance that the Synods should continue to have four representatives but that the Departments would be adequately represented by their Chairmen and Secretaries. If a later date for the Assembly is accepted we consider that the July meeting of the Executive Committee should be discontinued. The consequent saving would justify the retention of an only marginally reduced Executive. The original proposal (j) is therefore put forward again in a slightly amended form.

PROVINCIAL SYNODS AND DISTRICT COUNCILS

23. Role of Synods. Although there is some feeling, which in a few places is expressed strongly, that Synods should be abolished, we are of the firm opinion that they should be retained for the following reasons:-

- (a) that to abolish Synods would involve a major rewriting of sections of the Scheme of Union as well as affecting the operation of the United Reformed Church Act;
- (b) many people feel that the time is not ripe for major changes while we are still in process of getting used to the present structures;
- (c) Synods are in fact fulfilling a very positive and useful role in most areas, and no Synod has directly supported the call for a three-tier structure;
- (d) if a Synod so desired it could limit its activities to an absolute minimum, devolving its responsibilities to District Councils and to its Executive and other Committees; such a move would not require changes in the Scheme of Union and would be a matter for local decision.

The suggestion that Synods should have the power, in consultation with the District Councils and churches concerned, to determine the boundaries and number of District Councils within their Province has been widely accepted, and this proposal is now put forward to Assembly. It will involve changes in the Scheme of Union.

24. Duplication of Business. Part of our initial concern in fulfilling our terms of reference was to cut down on the amount of business which was being duplicated in different Councils, particularly in District Councils and Synods. In the event we recommended that it was within the powers of Synods and District Councils themselves to avoid duplication of business, and the sections on flexibility (paras. 9 and 10 and Appendix of 1977 Report) spell this out. To the same end we also recommended two minor changes (draft resolution (1)) to the functions of District Council. These concern the recognition of students for the ministry and resignations from the ministry. There has been fairly widespread opposition to these changes on the basis that no diminution of District Council responsibility is desired (though that was not our intention), so we are not pressing these details. We would urge, however, that

Synods and District Councils take particular care that students for the ministry are not subjected to interview at every stage of their progress towards acceptance. At present students can be interviewed by up to five different bodies, which is excessive. Some District Councils may feel it sufficient to pass on the names of candidates to the appropriate Synod Committee without too rigorous an examination as long as the Synod is exercising its responsibility here fully. But this can remain a matter for local decision.

MINISTERS EMERITI

25. We were asked to consider the relationship of Ministers Emeriti to the Councils of the Church, particularly in view of the fact that they have speaking but not voting rights in Synods and District Councils. We felt that this situation should continue except that where a Minister Emeritus is "engaged directly in the service of the United Reformed Church within that District" (Scheme of Union para. 9(3)(a) he may for the time being become a full member of that District Council. Such membership would further entitle him to full membership of the Synod (see para.9(4)(a)). However, it shall be for the Synod to decide what constitutes "direct service". We imagine this would normally be confined to service as Interim Moderator in a vacancy, or as Chairman or Secretary of District Council. Each Synod may wish to decide for itself the principle it wishes to follow in this matter.

CONCLUSION

26. We have been struck by the very helpful and constructive spirit behind many of the comments we have received. At the same time we are aware that the desire for radical change which some have expressed and which underlay our original remit has possibly come too early in the life of our Church. Our task, therefore, has been mainly to allay some fears, adjust some imbalances and suggest some ways of using the structures more effectively. It may be that the whole process of discussing these matters throughout the Church has helped to give us a greater sense of identity. Much of the readjustment to the new structures has however continued quite apart from our efforts and will no doubt continue into the future. We are happy, therefore, to present the following resolutions as the summary of our conclusions and to request that we be discharged, with the hope that the Church will continue to allow for variety and flexibility of structures within which the Holy Spirit can stir new activity, can make us more economically and spiritually effective, and create a unity of fellowship, service and worship.

RESOLUTIONS

1. The Assembly instructs its Departmental Central Committees to ensure that all major matters under consideration are drawn to the attention of Synod representatives, and that appropriate papers are made available to them, so that through their representatives Synods and their committees may become aware of questions currently before the Church.
2. The Assembly instructs its officers to keep under review the timetable of Assembly Departmental meetings, Synod meetings and the date of General Assembly in order to provide opportunity for a reasonable flow of information and discussion.
3. The Assembly agrees that in 1979 its Annual Meeting shall take place in June, and that the relevant papers for Assembly should be made available to the Church by the end of April, or not less than one month prior to the beginning of Assembly, and asks the Business Committee to make the necessary arrangements.
4. The Assembly directs the Business Committee (a) to make arrangements for the meeting of the Assembly in 1980 and subsequent years to be held in late May or June, (b) to consider the possibility of the Assembly being held over a long weekend or during a holiday period, and (c) to investigate possible dates and venues for a residential meeting of Assembly.
5. The Assembly instructs the Business Committee to consider whether some of the business of Assembly might be dealt with other than in plenary session.

6. The Assembly (a) encourages Synods to use their representatives to the Departmental Central Committees as channels of communication in both directions, (b) authorises Synods to send alternates whenever their nominated representatives to Central Committees are unable to attend, (c) asks Synods to review the dates of their committees and Synod meetings so as to aid the consultative process with the Departments, and (d) urges all within the Church to give reasonable consideration to reports and proposals contained in the Assembly papers as soon as they become available.
7. The Assembly authorises the Clerk and General Secretary to replace the published "Minutes of Assembly" with a "Record of Assembly" containing
 - (a) any supplementary reports to Assembly
 - (b) the Minutes of Assembly in a rationalised format
 - (c) cross references to the Book of Reports
8. The Assembly agrees that the signed copy of Minutes should retain its present form and that a copy should be available for inspection at Church House and at Assembly.
9. The Assembly agrees that Synods shall have the power under the Scheme of Union para. 9(5)(f) to appoint a further three representatives to Assembly.
10. The Assembly agrees that when a District Council cannot fill all its allotted places at Assembly, its vacant seats may be filled from other District Councils within the Province in consultation with the Synod Clerk and bearing in mind the need to balance lay and ministerial representation.
11. The Assembly agrees that past Chairmen, Presidents and Moderators of the General Assembly shall be *ex officio* members of the Assembly for the three years following their year of service.
12. In view of the changed status of the Council for World Mission, the Assembly instructs the Business Committee to consider the question of inviting corresponding members from sister churches within the Council for World Mission.
13. The Assembly agrees that Synods shall have the power to determine, in consultation with the District Councils and Churches concerned, the boundaries and number of District Councils within their Province. All such changes shall be reported to the General Assembly.
14. The Assembly draws to the attention of Synods and District Councils the suggestions contained in the 1978 Structures Report, particularly in paragraphs 5, 9, 10, 15, 23, 24 and 25.
15. The Assembly agrees that the Executive Committee shall review its frequency of meeting in the light of these proposals, and shall consist of:

Four representatives from each Synod, including the Moderators, together with *ex officio* members as follows: The Moderator, the Moderator-elect, the immediate past Moderator, the Clerk and General Secretary, the Deputy General Secretary, the Assistant Clerk, the Legal Advisers, the Chairmen and Secretaries of the four Departments, the Chairmen of Business, Applications and Nominations Committees, the Secretary of the Nominations and Business Committees. (Those nominated by Synods shall normally have been members of the General Assembly immediately prior to their service.)
16. The Assembly instructs the Executive Committee(a) to consider whether those Standing Committees (e.g. Deployment) which are not related to Departments and which are not directly represented on the Executive Committee should come within the Departmental structure or be represented directly on the Executive Committee, and (b) whenever it makes decisions affecting the whole Church to communicate such decisions to the local churches as soon as possible.
17. The Assembly agrees that the Business Committee of the Assembly shall consist of: a chairman and Secretary, the Moderator, the Moderator-elect and immediate past Moderator, the Clerk and General Secretary, the Assistant Clerk, the Chairmen of

the four Departments and one representative from each Synod.

18. The Assembly discharges the group of ten which was appointed as a Working Party on Structures.

N.B. Resolutions 11 and 13 involve alterations to the Scheme of Union and if passed will require ratification in 1979.

Resolutions 3, 7, 8, 13 involve alterations to the "Rules of Procedure" (Manual pages 67 - 75).

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1977

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THE CHURCH IN THE ECONOMIC CRISIS

The attempt made in each of the past two years to estimate the total expenditure by local churches has continued. More information was available for 1976 but it will not be until the 1977 returns have been processed through the computer that we will be able to provide more detailed and, it is hoped, more accurate figures. In the meantime some of the revised figures for 1976 are based on comparatively small samples taken from different parts of the country.

		£m	£m
	The total income per Church returns		6.33
	<u>Expenditure</u>		
	% of income		
47.	Ministry	2.96	
	Buildings		
	12.6 Repairs	.80	
	4.4 Cleaning & Caretaking	.28	
27.	10.0 Light heat & insurance	<u>.63</u>	1.71
	<u>Central Activities</u>		
	Home	.26	
8.7	Overseas	<u>.29</u>	.55
	Christian Aid etc.	.05	
	Provinces & Districts	.10	
9.3	Other local expenses	<u>.44</u>	<u>.59</u>
			5.81
	Reserves, balances and redemption	<u>.52</u>	
<u>8.</u>			
<u>100%</u>		<u>£6.33</u>	<u>£6.33</u>

In 1975 expenditure for 1976 was forecast to be £5.9m. This was revised in 1976 to £6.57m. The returns from churches for 1976 appear to show that although income increased to £6.33m, expenditure for normal purposes was only £5.81m, the difference (after providing for some debt redemption) being placed to reserve funds or added to balances. The variation compared to the forecast can be traced to expenditure on buildings which was nearly £700,000 less than expected. The following factors may have a bearing on this:

- i) A major part of the reserves are for building maintenance and the actual expenditure in 1976 may have been abnormally low.
- ii) Building work paid for by grants from outside the local church may not have appeared in the returns
- iii) Costs may have influenced churches to defer work which should have been undertaken. It is noted, for example, that a northern industrial district spend 14.9% of its income on light, heat and insurance and only 6% on repairs. In contrast a mixed district further south had figures of 8.4% and 13.5% respectively.

The following table shows actual figures for 1976, a revised estimate for 1977, and new forecasts for 1978 and 1979. The estimates for 1979 are based on the assumption of a 15% increase in the basic stipend.

	1976 £m	1977 £m	1978 £m	1979 £m
Ministry	2.96	3.25	3.40	3.90
Buildings	1.71	1.88	2.16	2.48
Other local costs	.59	.68	.75	.83
<u>Central Activities</u>				
Home	.26	.26	.28	.31
Overseas	.29	.34	.37	.39
	<u>£5.81</u>	<u>6.41</u>	<u>6.96</u>	<u>7.91</u>

A review of the past year provides some grounds for encouragement and thankfulness:-

- i) The churches have provided the full amount required to meet the costs of the ministry.
- ii) The Unified Appeal has been met in full in spite of fears that the introduction of the new Scheme for Maintenance of the Ministry might adversely affect it.
- iii) Although some local churches have found it necessary to draw on reserves to balance their accounts, more have been able to place funds to reserve or increase their balances.
- iv) There is some evidence that members have responded to the need to cover inflation by increased giving.

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Year ended 31st December 1977

£

The amounts received from Churches were		
for Maintenance of the Ministry		2,218,014
for Unified Appeal and Overseas Missions		<u>614,293</u>
		2,832,307
Interest and Income from Investments was		337,709
Other Income amounted to		<u>60,161</u>
		3,230,177

Amounts spent were:

Ministers' stipends and pension contributions	2,155,513	
Annuities and Pensions (excluding those paid from Ministers' widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, the Congregational Ministers' Pension Fund and the Social Workers' Pension Fund)	69,739	
Overseas Missions and the World Church and Mission Department	351,374	
Church Life Department	44,806	
Church and Society Department	6,716	
Cost of Assembly and Moderators	46,996	
Ministerial Training	36,713	
Grants	<u>108,568</u>	
	2,820,425	
Cost of General Service	<u>127,355</u>	2,947,780
		282,397
There was set aside for future pensions an amount of		<u>31,174</u>
Leaving unspent income of		<u>£251,223</u>
The amount of unspent income which can be used only for restricted purposes amounts to £194,833, which leaves a surplus of free unspent income of		56,390
The balance of unrestricted unexpended income at 1st January 1977 was		237,843
Transfers of balances of the funds of the former Presbyterian Church amounted to		205,715
Legacies received were		<u>46,385</u>
Leaving a balance of unrestricted unexpended income at the end of the year of		<u>£546,333</u>

THE INVESTMENT OF FUNDS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1977

	The Funds of the Church			Invested in				
	Capital Funds	Unexpended Income Funds	Total	Property	Investments	Loans	Other Fixed Assets	Current Assets
Central Administration/General Purposes	201,064	546,333	747,397	298,814	323,067		64,246	61,270
Social Responsibility Fund	1,007	100	1,107		1,007			100
Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	288,318	259,701	548,019		521,806			26,213
Ministerial Training Fund	45,057	58,438	103,495		45,057			58,438
Church Extension Fund	172,908	376,281	549,189	15,439	433,474	90,720		9,556
Homes for Retired Ministers' Fund	303,141	45,741	348,882	257,851	37,835		1,165	52,031
Welfare Fund	2,826	25,705	28,531		27,796			735
Fowler Relief in Need Fund	10,088	1,748	11,836		11,587			249
Ministers' Schools Fund	39,033	79	39,112		39,033			79
Fowler Scholarship Fund	11,418	9,230	20,648		20,465			183
World Church & Mission Fund	39,863	127,129	166,992	355	148,345			18,292
Westminster College Fund	168,244	51,308	219,552		208,320			11,232
Special Funds	73,705	145,500	219,205	1,274	146,154	8,796		62,981
Youth Fund		6,388	6,388		95			6,293
Christian Approach to the Jews Fund		31,730	31,730		30,811			919
Inter Church Relations Fund	1,366	787	2,153		1,366			787
	<u>£1,358,038</u>	<u>1,686,198</u>	<u>3,044,236</u>	<u>573,733</u>	<u>1,996,218</u>	<u>99,516</u>	<u>65,411</u>	<u>309,358</u>

ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1977

Notes

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Contribution to Maintenance of the Ministry

Contributions are brought into account on a receipts basis.

(b) Legacies

Legacies are credited direct to the fund designated by the donor on a receipts basis.

(c) Depreciation of fixed assets

No provision for depreciation is made on land and buildings. Depreciation on other assets is provided so as to write off the cost of those assets over their expected useful lives.

2. CLASSIFICATION OF FUNDS

Funds included in Central Activities are classified as Capital or Unexpended Income according to the purpose for which individual funds were established originally. The allocation of previously unclassified funds made in the year followed the original purpose, so far as was possible within the framework of the remaining funds.

3. WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

Westminster College and its contents are not included in the Balance Sheet on page 54, since the College was originally a gift to the Church and its value was not readily ascertainable.

CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

Income and Expenditure Account for the year
ended 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
651,453	Proceeds of Unified Appeal	602,970
	Other Income	
2,123	Tavistock Bookshop Profit	3,465
3,385	URC Insurance Co.Ltd.	3,485
22,071	Dividends on investments	23,108
15,347	Interest	97,036
2,377	Sundry Income	<u>7,141</u>
<u>696,756</u>		<u>134,235</u>
		737,205
	General Allocations	
	Overseas Missions	326,000
288,147	Less Sums specifically received	<u>11,323</u>
5,000	Church Extension	314,677
20,000	Theological Training	5,500
	Retired Ministers' Aid and Widows'	82,753
6,000	Supplementary Fund	6,000
11,000	Welfare and Emergencies	12,000
-	Staff Pension Fund	4,000
<u>112,550</u>	Maintenance of the Ministry	<u>-</u>
<u>442,697</u>		<u>424,930</u>
	Departmental Costs:	
		Costs Income Net
14,281	Central Secretariat	13,753 - 13,753
3,424	General Church Costs	7,620 1,136 6,484
11,994	Assembly	11,293 - 11,293
10,298	Grants	11,591 - 11,591
50,898	Moderators	63,751 - 63,751
29,687	Church Life Dept. General	33,290 - 33,290
10,243	Youth	12,141 61 12,080
7,575	Deaconess	8,785 - 8,785
9,725	World Church & Mission Dept.	27,644 3,854 23,790
7,595	Church & Society Dept.	9,053 - 9,053
37,566	Finance & Administration Dept.	53,846 7,902 45,944
10,528	Professional Fees	11,438 - 11,438
12,043	Publications & Printing	13,729 2,788 10,941
1,981	Information Service	2,130 126 2,004
<u>34,450</u>	Central Office Costs	<u>44,494</u> <u>2,027</u> <u>42,467</u>
<u>252,288</u>		<u>324,558</u> <u>17,894</u> <u>306,664</u>
	Maintenance of Ministry Fund contribution to Ministerial staff salaries	<u>46,747</u>
		<u>259,917</u>
<u>694,985</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>684,847</u>
	Net surplus in year carried to General Purposes Unexpended Income Fund	<u>£1,771</u> <u>£52,358</u>

DETAILS OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

Capital Funds - Year ended 31st December 1977

	Profit/(Loss) On Sale of Investments	Capital Introduced	Net Increase/ (Decrease)	Transfers	Balance 1.1.77	Balance 31.12.77
Central Administration Fund Surplus on property sales	(2,300)	21,621	19,321	5,745	175,998	201,064
Social Responsibility Fund					1,007	1,007
Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	(12)		(12)	1,899	286,431	288,318
Ministerial Training Fund					45,057	45,057
Church Extension Fund	55					
Bowdler Fund		139				
Tidworth Church		43	237	760	171,911	172,908
Homes for Retired Ministers Fund	1,997					
Property brought to account		11,000				
Funds from sale of property at Tontine St. Folkestone		23,403	36,400		266,741	303,141
Welfare Fund	28		28		2,798	2,826
Fowler Relief in Need Fund	(829)		(829)		10,917	10,088
Ministers' Schools Fund					39,033	39,033
Fowler Scholarship Fund	(828)		(828)		12,246	11,418
World Church and Mission Fund				39,863		39,863
Westminster College Fund				168,244		168,244
Inter Church Relations Fund				1,366		1,366
Special Funds						
Capital introduced on reallocation of funds of former Congregational Union of England and Wales		830	830	72,875		73,705
	£(1,889)	57,036	55,147	290,752	1,012,139	1,358,038

DETAILS OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

Funds of the former Presbyterian Church allocated in 1977

	Dividends	Donations	Profit on Sale of Investments	Other Receipts	Grants	Other Costs	Surplus (Deficit)	Balance 1.1.77	Transfer
Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	115				(115)			1,235	1,235
Home Churches Fund	2,796				(1,265)		1,531	87,045	88,576
Overseas Mission Fund	1,425	2,350			(6,317)		(2,542)	112,701	110,159
Church Extension Fund	561				(650)		(89)	221,927	221,838
Christian Approach to the Jews Fd.	2,440				(1,520)		920	30,810	31,730
Inter Church Relations Fund	167	12			(1)		178	1,895	2,073
Westminster College	18,322	3,022	7,829		(14,841)				
Allocation from Ministerial Training Fund				10,000					
Sundry College Income/ Expenditure				24,398		(38,430)	10,300	211,057	221,357
Youth Fund	9						9	14,889	14,898
Womens Missionary Association Payment of capital to C.W.M.	1,277		1,401		(176)	(12,040)	(9,538)	53,311	43,773
Womens Home Church Association	1,390				(95)		1,295	13,388	14,683
Sundry Assembly Funds	16,368	2,286			(7,532)				
Capital introduced upon reallocation of funds of the former Congregational Union of England and Wales				2,128					
Funds reallocated to Retired Ministers Aid Fund						(20,500)	(7,250)	342,503	335,253
	<u>£44,870</u>	<u>7,670</u>	<u>9,230</u>	<u>36,526</u>	<u>(32,512)</u>	<u>(70,970)</u>	<u>(5,186)</u>	<u>1,090,761</u>	<u>1,085,575</u>
Special Funds									
Home Church Fund								89	89
Church Relations								2,397	2,397
Central Administration								<u>80</u>	<u>80</u>
								<u>2,566</u>	<u>2,566</u>

DETAILS OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

Unexpended Income Funds - Year ended 31st December 1977

	Dona- tions	Dividends	Other Income	Grants	Other Payments	Net Increase/ (Decrease)	Legacies	Transfers	Balance 1.1.77	Balance 31.12.77
General Purposes Fund			56,390			56,390	46,385	205,715	237,843	546,333
Maintenance of the Ministry Fund			76,141	(58,000)		18,141	1,500	861	228,684	249,186
Motor Car Grants Fund				(2,630)		(2,630)			13,145	10,515
Ministerial Training Fund	992	4,486	82,753	(31,270)		56,961			1,477	58,438
Church Extension Fund		22,304	15,393	(26,532)		11,165	3,285	269,731	92,100	376,281
Homes for Retired Ministers Fund	1,084	3,481	7,970		(9,025)	3,510	5,311	7	36,913	45,741
Welfare Fund	2,049	964	12,000	(9,640)		5,373	700	2,753	16,879	25,705
Fowler Relief in Need Fund		1,044		(1,175)		(131)			1,879	1,748
Ministers Schools Fund		3,872	79	(7,808)	(1,909)	(5,766)			5,845	79
Fowler Scholarship Fund		1,374	1,909	(255)		3,028			6,202	9,230
Youth Fund								6,388		6,388
Christian Approach to the Jews Fund								31,730		31,730
Inter Church Relations Fund								787		787
World Church and Mission Fd.	433	10,638		(135)	(3,000)	7,936	22,082	97,111		127,129
Westminster College Fund								51,308		51,308
Social Responsibility Fund		100				100				100
Special Funds	2,906	88	11,593	(85)		14,502		130,998		145,500
	<u>£7,464</u>	<u>48,351</u>	<u>264,228</u>	<u>(137,530)</u>	<u>(13,934)</u>	<u>168,579</u>	<u>79,263</u>	<u>797,389</u>	<u>640,967</u>	<u>1,686,198</u>

DETAILS OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

Unexpended Income Funds - Year ended 31st December 1977

Details of Other Income and Other Payments - see above

		Other Income	Other Payments
General Purposes Fund			
Net surplus of Income and Expenditure Account	52,358		
Publications surplus	3,499		
VAT adjustment re previous years	153		
Sums brought to account on reallocation of funds of former Congregational Union	<u>380</u>	56,390	
Maintenance of the Ministry Fund			
Net surplus of Income and Expenditure Account		76,141	
Ministerial Training Fund			
Allocation from General Income and Expenditure Account		82,753	
Church Extension Fund			
Allocation from Dunn Trust	1,000		
Allocation from General Income and Expenditure Account	5,500		
Interest on loans	5,247		
Ground Rents	3,565		
Other income	<u>81</u>	15,393	
Homes for Retired Ministers Fund			
Net Rents received	123		
Sums brought to account on reallocation of funds of former Congregational Union	<u>7,847</u>	7,970	
Deficit on Fen Place Income and Expenditure Account			9,025
Welfare Fund			
Allocation from General Income and Expenditure Account		12,000	
Ministers Schools Fund			
Sums brought to account on reallocation of funds of former Congregational Union		79	
Allocation to Fowler Scholarship Fund			1,909
Fowler Scholarship Fund			
Allocation from Ministers Schools Fund		1,909	
World Church and Mission Fund			
Allocation to General Income and Expenditure Account (World Church & Mission)			3,000
Special Funds			
Sums brought to account on reallocation of funds of former Congregational Union		<u>11,593</u>	
		<u>£264,228</u>	<u>13,934</u>

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977		1977 £
Sums raised from Churches for Assessments and Ministers Supplements		2,218,014
Donations	2,344	
Interest on Investments	<u>33,234</u>	<u>35,578</u>
		2,253,592
<u>Less</u> Sums paid to Ministers for Stipends and Supplements	2,155,313	
Allocation to Ministers Pension Fund	12,500	
Sundry Grants	<u>9,638</u>	<u>2,177,451</u>
Net surplus in year carried to Maintenance of Ministry Fund		<u>£76,141</u>

FEN PLACE

1976 £	Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977	
24,168	Rents and Visitors Fees	26,331
640	Garden Party/Friends of Fen Place	1,500
1,278	Donations	1,099
<u>284</u>	Sundry Interest	<u>25</u>
<u>26,370</u>		28,955
11,672	<u>Less</u> Staff Salaries	17,763
7,387	Provisions and Laundry	8,169
1,996	Maintenance Garden	5,230
5,974	Rates, Lighting, Heating, Insurance	7,533
<u>1,245</u>	Sundry Expenses	<u>1,285</u>
<u>28,274</u>		<u>39,980</u>
£1,904	Deficit in year	£11,025
<u>1,553</u>	<u>Less</u> Allocation from Harrison Longhurst Will Trust	<u>2,000</u>
<u>£351</u>	Net deficit in year - carried to Homes for Retired Ministers Fund	<u>£9,025</u>

SUMMARY OF TRANSFERS

	Transfer
Balance on previously unallocated funds	
Former Presbyterian Funds	1,085,575
Special Funds	<u>2,566</u>
Transferred to	<u>£1,088,141</u>
Capital Funds	290,752
Unexpended Income Funds	<u>797,389</u>
	<u>£1,088,141</u>

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
13,754	Students Fees	17,654
2,100	Federation Fees	5,991
4,497	Conference Fees	<u>6,928</u> 30,573
1,533	Net Flat rents	1,788
336	Donations	189
810	Legacies	350 2,327
8,040	Endowment Income	<u>7,420</u>
2,086	Cheshunt College	2,600
<u>20,000</u>	Allocation from Ministerial Training Fund	<u>4,709</u> 14,729
<u>£53,156</u>		<u>£47,629</u>
11,763	Professors stipends	12,100
2,478	Professors accommodation	3,378
(4,575)	Chair Endowment	(4,650)
-	Allocation from Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	<u>(8,878)</u> 1,950
10,052	Household expenses	10,757
12,911	Wages and National Insurance	16,513
10,700	Rates, Water, Light and Heat, Insurance	<u>11,353</u> 38,623
4,634	Maintenance and Garden	4,781
794	University Fees	834
326	(Student Assistantship	235
-	(Board of Studies	167
4,304	Library	40
1,043	Deficit on Scholarship Fund	-
	Refresher Course	<u>-</u> 1,276
1,603	Office Costs	668
<u>406</u>	Sundry expenses	<u>331</u> 999
<u>£56,439</u>		<u>£47,629</u>
<u>£3,283</u>	Deficit in year carried to College Fund	<u>£ -</u>

CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £				1977 £
1,012,139	Capital Funds			1,358,038
2,566	Special Funds			-
640,967	Unexpended Income Funds			1,686,198
<u>1,090,761</u>	Funds not yet classified			<u>-</u>
<u>£2,746,433</u>				<u>£3,044,236</u>
REPRESENTED BY:				
Fixed Assets at cost				
67,460	Church House		68,529	
457,744	Freehold Property		457,115	
32,650	Leasehold Property		32,650	
15,439	Freehold Ground Rent		<u>15,439</u>	573,733
	Motor cars, Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings		63,198	
31,292	Less Sums written off		<u>28,985</u>	34,213
Quoted Investments at cost				
	Market Value		Market Value	
799,968	705,231 Common Investment Fund:	1,158,589	1,004,236	
535,644	503,506 Investment Pool	1,128,326	979,992	
68,643	<u>66,466</u> Other quoted investments	<u>12,105</u>	<u>9,490</u>	1,993,718
	<u>£1,275,205</u>		<u>£2,299,020</u>	
7,600	Unquoted investments at cost			2,500
Loans and Advances				
133,377	Churches		95,398	
3,912	Ministers		<u>4,118</u>	99,516
27,733	Net Assets of Tavistock Bookshop			31,198
Current Assets				
297,476	Sundry Debtors		216,619	
1,406,708	Cash at Bank, on call and short term deposit		<u>688,304</u>	
			904,923	
(425,497)	Less Sundry Creditors	224,246		
	Balances held for Provinces and Congregations	<u>371,319</u>	<u>595,565</u>	<u>309,358</u>
<u>(713,716)</u>				
<u>£2,746,433</u>				<u>£3,044,236</u>

CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

Source and Application of Current Assets - Year ended 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
	Source of Current Assets:	
2,746,433	Total Funds as at 31st December 1977	3,044,236
<u>1,754,698</u>	Total Funds as at 31st December 1976	<u>2,746,433</u>
991,735	Increase in Funds as detailed on Pages 48-53	297,803
<u>6,736</u>	Adjustment for items not involving movement of Current Assets	<u>19,283</u>
998,471		278,520
	Increase of Current Assets arising from:	
18,811	Sale of Properties	63,524
6,332	Sale of Investments	90,326
2,440	Sale of Other Assets	3,783
<u>11,593</u>	Loans and Advances repaid	<u>37,719</u>
		<u>195,352</u>
<u>1,037,647</u>		473,872
	Application of Current Assets:	
306,372	Purchase of Properties	31,344
522,582	Purchase of Investments	667,348
13,776	Purchase of Other Assets	14,358
<u>69,071</u>	Loans and Advances made	<u>16,435</u>
911,801		<u>729,485</u>
<u>£125,846</u>	Decrease in Current Assets	<u>£255,613</u>
	Movement in Current Assets:	
35,758	Decrease in Debtors	80,857
(310,565)	Decrease in Cash	718,404
234,515	Decrease in Creditors	(201,251)
<u>(85,554)</u>	Decrease in sums held for Provinces and Congregations	<u>(342,397)</u>
<u>£ 125,846</u>		<u>£255,613</u>

COMMON INVESTMENT FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		Units	1977 £
1,749,560	CAPITAL at 1st January 1977	1,515,120	1,521,724
15,314	Units issued in year	414,256	455,187
<u>(156,628)</u>	Units cancelled in year	(17,023)	<u>(14,929)</u>
1,608,246			1,961,982
<u>(86,522)</u>	Profit on sale of investments		<u>13,531</u>
1,521,724	CAPITAL at 31st December 1977	<u>1,912,353</u>	1,975,513
	Special Reserve Fund		
11,241	Balance at 1st January 1977	13,762	
<u>2,521</u>	Underwriting commission received	<u>2,951</u>	<u>16,713</u>
<u>£1,535,486</u>			<u>£1,992,226</u>
	REPRESENTED BY:		
1,476,000	Investments at cost		1,900,008
75,000	Money on short term deposit		-
<u>(15,514)</u>	Balance with Bankers		<u>92,218</u>
<u>£1,535,486</u>			<u>£1,992,226</u>

The units in issue at 31st December 1977 were valued as follows:-

1,269,222	Market Value of investments	2,112,886
<u>59,486</u>	Uninvested cash	<u>92,218</u>
<u>£1,328,708</u>		<u>£2,205,104</u>

1,515,120	Units in issue	1,912,353
£0.87697	Unit value	£1.15308

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977

147,117	Dividends and interest received	144,850
	Distribution made	
	1,515,208 units @ £0.0870	131,830
	38,710 units @ £0.0718	2,779
	167,200 units @ £0.0405	6,768
<u>147,117</u>	140,708 units @ £0.0247	<u>3,473</u>
<u>£ -</u>		<u>£ -</u>

Note. Distributions were made in the year as follows:

January to March	£0.0152	23,041
April to June	£0.0313	48,668
July to September	£0.0158	27,182
October to December	<u>£0.0247</u>	<u>45,959</u>
	<u>£0.0870</u>	<u>£144,850</u>

INVESTMENT POOL

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		Units	1977 £
724,144	CAPITAL at 1st January 1977	573,067	701,384
21,229	Units issued in year	379,977	471,005
<u>(2,757)</u>	Units cancelled in year	<u>(6,806)</u>	<u>(9,058)</u>
742,616		<u>946,238</u>	1,163,331
<u>41,232</u>	Less loss on sale of investments		<u>24,169</u>
701,384	CAPITAL at 31st December 1977		1,139,162
	Special Reserve Fund		
<u>158</u>	Balance at 1st January 1977		<u>158</u>
<u>£701,542</u>			<u>£1,139,320</u>
	REPRESENTED BY:		
673,910	Investments at cost		980,219
<u>27,632</u>	Balance with Bankers		<u>159,101</u>
<u>£701,542</u>			<u>£1,139,320</u>

The units in issue at 31st December 1977 were valued as follows:

560,753	Market Value of investments	1,100,262
<u>27,632</u>	Uninvested cash	<u>159,101</u>
<u>£588,385</u>		<u>£1,259,363</u>
573,067	Units in issue	946,238
£1.027	Unit value	£1.33092

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977

59,454	Dividends and interest received	68,954
	Distribution made	
	573,067 Units @ £0.0984	56,440
	4,260 Units @ £0.0817	348
	231,937 Units @ £0.0481	11,168
<u>59,454</u>	35,001 Units @ £0.0285	<u>998</u>
<u>£ -</u>		<u>£ -</u>

Note. Distributions were made in the year as follows:

January to March	£0.0167	9,592
April to June	£0.0336	19,396
July to September	£0.0196	15,901
October to December	£0.0285	<u>24,065</u>
	<u>£0.0984</u>	<u>£68,954</u>

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS' PENSION FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
	CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
628,568	Balance at 1st January 1977	693,786
279	Legacy received	-
109,977	Excess of income over expenditure	160,032
<u>(45,038)</u>	Loss on sale of investments	<u>1,723</u> 158,309
<u>£693,786</u>		<u>£852,095</u>
	REPRESENTED BY:	
520,362	Investments at cost	757,104
	MV 1976 £468,366	
	1977 £875,618	
173,746	Balance with Bankers	95,246
<u>(322)</u>	Less Creditors	<u>255</u> 94,991
<u>£693,786</u>		<u>£852,095</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977

65,002	Dividends and Interest	67,416
<u>91,273</u>	Contributions from Ministers and Central Church Funds	<u>151,435</u>
156,275		218,851
(41,212)	<u>Less</u> Pensions Paid	52,763
(1,617)	Premium refunds to members on withdrawal	2,551
(224)	Commutation payment	-
-	Death in service payment	63
(1,148)	Transfer values paid on withdrawal	<u>1,742</u>
<u>(2,097)</u>	Management expenses	57,119
<u>£109,977</u>	Excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>1,700</u> 58,819
		<u>£160,032</u>

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976		1977
£		£
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		
997,094	Balance at 1st January 1977	945,985
2,565	Add Legacies received in year	3,809
(77,338)	Profit on sale of investments	777
<u>23,664</u>	Excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>70,648</u>
945,985		1,021,219
ENDOWMENT FUND		
5,359	Balance at 1st January 1977	3,114
(2,245)	Profit on sale of investments	-
<u>£949,099</u>		<u>£1,024,333</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
938,253	Investments at cost - General Fund	993,473
3,114	Endowment Fund	<u>3,114</u>
		996,587
	MV 1976 £850,476	
	1977 £1,172,499	
8,059	Balance with Bankers	28,108
(327)	Less creditors	<u>362</u>
<u>£949,099</u>		<u>£1,024,333</u>
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977		
Dividends and interest		
81,214	General Funds investments	87,139
164	Endowment Fund investments	481
-	General interest	<u>677</u>
40,909	Premiums	88,297
12,500	Contribution from Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	85,639
6,904	Allocation from Retired Ministers' Aid Fund	12,500
<u>118</u>	Donations and sundry income	<u>14,674</u>
141,809		970
(105,676)	Less Pensions	202,080
(9,184)	Refunded contributions	111,232
(3,285)	Office charges	13,076
-	Transfer value paid	2,500
<u>£23,664</u>	Excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>4,624</u>
		<u>131,432</u>
		<u>£70,648</u>

RETIRED MINISTERS' AID FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
	CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
63,310	Balance at 1st January 1977	71,071
55	Legacies	1,823
-	Transfer from Bremner & Thomson Estates, Carmichael & Pirie Funds	16,886
<u>7,706</u>	Excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>584</u>
71,071		90,364
	ENDOWMENT FUND	
32,250	Balance at 1st January 1977	33,250
<u>1,000</u>	Add amount received in year	<u>537</u> 33,787
<u>£104,321</u>		<u>£124,151</u>
	REPRESENTED BY:	
71,455	Investments at cost	88,579
	MV 1976 £67,357	
	1977 £106,976	
<u>32,866</u>	Balance with Bankers	<u>35,572</u>
<u>£104,321</u>		<u>£124,151</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977

	Dividends and interest		
3,692	General Fund investment	5,005	
<u>2,904</u>	Endowment Fund investments	<u>2,674</u>	
6,596		7,679	
3,311	General interest	<u>2,788</u>	10,467
1,082	Receipts from Trusts		1,004
4,500	Allocation from Unified Appeal		5,000
<u>51</u>	Donations		<u>158</u>
15,540			16,629
(930)	Less Grants	1,371	
<u>(6,904)</u>	Allocation to Pension Fund	<u>14,674</u>	<u>16,045</u>
<u>£7,706</u>	Excess of income over Expenditure in year		<u>£584</u>

WIDOWS' SUPPLEMENTARY FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
	CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
8,309	Balance at 1st January 1977	8,691
31	Legacies received in year	-
-	Add Capital transferred from Carmichael Fund	1,549
<u>351</u>	Net surplus in year	<u>277</u> <u>10,517</u>
<u>£8,691</u>		<u>£10,517</u>
	REPRESENTED BY:	
4,058	4,933 Pool Units	5,607
	MV 1976 £3,595	
	1977 £6,565	
<u>4,633</u>	Balance with Bankers	<u>4,910</u>
<u>£8,691</u>		<u>£10,517</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for year
ended 31st December 1977

374	Dividends	755
425	General interest	377
1,500	Allocation from Unified Appeal	1,000
<u>102</u>	Donations	<u>-</u>
2,401		2,132
<u>2,050</u>	Less grants paid	<u>1,855</u>
<u>£351</u>	Excess of Income over expenditure in year	<u>£277</u>

PASTORS' SUPERANNUATION FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
291,478	CAPITAL ACCOUNT Balance at 1st January 1977	291,478
30,246	ACCUMULATED FUND Balance at 1st January 1977	41,788
1,652	Legacies received in year	-
<u>9,890</u>	Excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>12,114</u>
<u>£333,266</u>		<u>£345,380</u>
320,000	REPRESENTED BY: 356758 CIF Units	339,474
	MV 1976 £296,831	
	1977 £411,371	
<u>13,266</u>	Balance with Bankers	<u>5,906</u>
<u>£333,266</u>		<u>£345,380</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year
ended 31st December 1977

28,787	Dividends from Common Investment Fund	29,950
3,398	Allocation from Harrison Longhurst Will Trust	3,154
<u>1,281</u>	Other income	<u>1,286</u>
33,466		34,390
<u>23,576</u>	Less grants	<u>22,276</u>
<u>£9,890</u>	Excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>£12,114</u>

PASTORS' WIDOWS' FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
158,302	CAPITAL ACCOUNT Balance at 1st January 1977	158,302
43,658	ACCUMULATED FUND Balance at 1st January 1977	48,747
2,656	Legacies received in year	1,718
<u>2,433</u>	Net excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>1,985</u> 52,450
<u>£207,049</u>		<u>£210,752</u>
200,000	REPRESENTED BY: 217471 CIF Units	205,934
	MV 1976 £185,719	
	1977 £250,761	
<u>7,049</u>	Balance with Bankers	<u>4,818</u>
<u>£207,049</u>		<u>£210,752</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for year
ended 31st December 1977

18,271	Dividends from Common Investment Fund	18,623
3,397	Allocation from Harrison Longhurst Will Trust	3,154
<u>425</u>	Other income	<u>641</u>
22,093		22,418
<u>19,660</u>	Less grants	<u>20,433</u>
<u>£2,433</u>	Excess of Income over Expenditure in year	<u>£1,985</u>

STAFF SUPERANNUATION FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
	CAPITAL ACCOUNT	
47,161	Balance at 1st January 1977	42,300
(4,532)	Profit on investments realised	10,966
<u>(329)</u>	Excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>2,393</u>
<u>£42,300</u>		<u>£55,659</u>
	REPRESENTED BY	
43,436	Investments at cost	-
	MV 1976 £46,407	
<u>(1,136)</u>	Balance with Bankers	<u>55,659</u>
<u>£42,300</u>		<u>£55,659</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year
ended 31st December 1977

3,069	Dividends and interest from investments	4,360
<u>876</u>	Contributions	<u>1,064</u>
<u>3,945</u>		5,424
3,149	Pension Payments	2,971
1,065	Payments made to deceased member's estate	-
<u>60</u>	Reassured Life Assurance	<u>60</u>
<u>£4,274</u>		<u>3,031</u>
<u>£(329)</u>	Net excess of income over expenditure in year	<u>£2,393</u>

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		
95,753	Balance at 1st January 1977	86,517
(1,985)	Add profit on Investments realised	8,655
<u>-</u>	Allocation from Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	<u>58,000</u>
93,768		153,172
<u>7,251</u>	Less excess of expenditure over income in year	<u>7,932</u>
86,517		145,240
REVENUE RESERVE		
	Management Fund	
<u>2,500</u>	Balance at 1st January 1977	<u>2,500</u>
<u>£89,017</u>		<u>£147,740</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
114,870	Investments at cost	
	MV 1976 £92,643	
(25,678)	Balance with Bankers	147,965
<u>(175)</u>	Less Sundry Creditor	<u>225</u>
<u>£89,017</u>		<u>£147,740</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1977

1,500	Allocation from Home Churches Fund	1,500
9,089	Interest from Investments	8,881
<u>112</u>	Premiums	<u>-</u>
10,701		10,381
17,435	Less Annuities	18,134
513	Premiums refunded	179
<u>4</u>	Administration costs	<u>-</u>
17,952		18,313
<u>£7,251</u>	Excess of Expenditure over Income in year	<u>£7,932</u>

TAVISTOCK BOOKSHOP

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		
32,610	Balance at 1st January 1977	27,733
<u>2,123</u>	Net Profit in year	<u>3,465</u>
34,733		31,198
<u>7,000</u>	Less Sums withdrawn	<u>-</u>
<u>£27,733</u>		<u>£31,198</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
3,112	Furniture, fittings and equipment at cost	3,112
<u>1,559</u>	Less Provision for depreciation	<u>1,714</u>
<u>1,553</u>		1,398
	Stock at lower of cost or market value	30,419
	Less Provision for unsold books	<u>1,125</u>
23,362		29,294
8,542	Debtors	7,418
<u>2,810</u>	Balance with Bankers	<u>3,071</u>
34,714		39,783
<u>8,534</u>	Less Creditors	<u>9,983</u>
<u>26,180</u>		<u>29,800</u>
<u>£27,733</u>		<u>£31,198</u>

Trading and Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31st December 1977

81,447	Sales		86,311
(80,590)	Stock and purchases	88,437	
<u>24,487</u>	Less Closing stock	<u>30,419</u>	<u>58,018</u>
25,344			28,293
(14,786)	Less Salaries and wages	15,127	
(4,546)	Carriage and postage	4,776	
<u>(4,347)</u>	Other expenses	<u>4,925</u>	<u>24,828</u>
1,665			3,465
<u>458</u>	Interest received		<u>-</u>
<u>£2,123</u>	Net profit in year		<u>£3,465</u>

TREASURER'S APPROVAL

I confirm approval of the accounts presented on pages 46-66 of this book.

March 1978

L.R.PALMER
Hon. Treasurer

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

We have examined the accounts of the United Reformed Church together with the notes thereon set out on pages 46-66. These have been prepared under the historical cost convention. In our opinion the accounts together with the statement of source and application of current assets are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the state of the funds as at 31st December 1977 and of the income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

186 City Road,
London EC1V 2NU
March 1978

ROBSON RHODES
Chartered Accountants

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSING SOCIETY LIMITED

In my opinion the Balance Sheet as shown on page 68 gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Society at 31st December 1977 and the Profit and Loss Account gives a true and fair view of the income and expenditure for the year ended on that date and comply with the requirements of the Friendly and Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1968 and the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965.

37 Lansdowne Road,
Luton, Beds
March 1978

A.D.STEPHEN
Chartered Accountant

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSING SOCIETY LIMITED

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977

1976 £		1977 £
	Share Capital	
23	Issued 23 shares of £1 each	23
	Reserve	
	Bequests and Gifts of property at valuation	
	Received to 1st January 1977	50,200
50,200	Brought to Account in year to date	<u>69,000</u> 119,200
	Other bequests and gifts	
	Received to 1st January 1977	153,677
153,677	Surplus on sale of property	32,399
	Donations etc. in year	<u>18,549</u> 204,625
	Unappropriated balance on Profit and Loss Account	
	Balance at 1st January 1977	27,253
27,253	Surplus in year to date	<u>6,344</u> 33,597
12,096	Sums held for Special Objects	357,422
-	Southern Province	-
1,150	Loans	12,462
		<u>3,150</u>
<u>£244,399</u>		<u>£373,057</u>

REPRESENTED BY:

	Freehold property at Cost	244,395	
185,709	Freehold property at Valuation	<u>114,700</u>	359,095
	Balance with Bankers		
	Short Term Deposit	10,454	
	Deposit Account	670	
	Current Account	<u>2,905</u>	
58,832		14,029	
	Sundry Debtors	<u>144</u>	
		14,173	
(142)	Sundry Creditors	<u>211</u>	13,962
<u>£244,399</u>			<u>£373,057</u>

Profit and Loss Account for the year
ended 31st December 1977

5,954	Rents received		6,755
	Less Property costs		
	Insurance	334	
86	Maintenance and Repairs	2,085	
2,998	Rates not recovered	346	
314	Commission and Fees	<u>160</u>	2,925
<u>3,799</u>			
2,155			3,830
	General costs		
	Secretary's Honorarium	100	
100	Audit	42	
42	Chairman and Committee expenses	324	
-	Sundry expenses	<u>38</u>	504
<u>186</u>			
1,969			3,326
<u>4,722</u>	Interest in year to date		<u>3,018</u>
<u>£6,691</u>	Net surplus in year to date		<u>£6,344</u>

LEGACIES RECEIVED IN YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1977

1. URC GENERAL PURPOSES

The late J.C.Bacon	7,096
" " A.D.Ball	18
" " H.Bunce	6,662
" " K.I.Davies	2,048
" " G.M.Gerard	1,700
" " D.A.B.Marples	17,274
" " E.I.Marples	6,060
" " J.J.Ritchie	89
" " D.M.Robbins	<u>5,438</u>
	<u>£46,385</u>

2. OVERSEAS MISSION

The late H.E.Bartlett	150
" " D.M.Cookson	50
" " G.Dennis	3,521
" " W.H.Duguid	2,515
" " E.M.Fox	2,000
" " C.R.Griffin	100
" " M.A.Johnston	2,000
" " L.M.Mackinnon	150
" " A.S.Morton	1,122
" " I.J.Ross	8,224
" " W.Short	250
" " D.H.West	<u>2,000</u>
	<u>£22,082</u>

3. CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

The late C.T.L.Cottle	233
" " E.M.Fox	3,000
" " W.Thorne	<u>52</u>
	<u>£3,285</u>

4. WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

The late M.W.Hunter	250
" " J.A.Ward	<u>100</u>
	<u>£350</u>

5. RETIRED MINISTERS' AID FUND

The late M.W.Hunter	250
" " G.Young	1,500
" " D.Wilson	<u>73</u>
	<u>£1,823</u>

6. PASTORS' WIDOWS' FUND

The late S.T.Watson	<u>£1,718</u>
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7. MINISTERS' WIDOWS' and ORPHANS' PENSION FUND

The late L.D.Alexander	809
" " E.M.Fox	<u>3,000</u>
	<u>£3,809</u>

8. WELFARE FUND

The late E.Boyd	200
" " M.P.Renwick	<u>500</u>
	<u>£700</u>

9. MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY FUND

The late G.Young	<u>£1,500</u>
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10. HOMES FOR RETIRED MINISTERS (FEN PLACE)

The late E.M.Saunders	4,811
" " P.W.Townsend	<u>500</u>
	<u>£5,311</u>

11. RECEIVED FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

The late F.C.Bishop (Singapore)	250
" " S.B.Hardwick (Ickenham URC)	5,000
" " E.N.Holmes (U.A.)	2,000
" " I.J.Ross (Island House)	8,224
" " W.A.Scott (CWM)	468
" " D.M.Barnes (Ret. Welsh Ministers)	<u>550</u>
	<u>£16,492</u>

12. DISCRETION OF REV.D.A.L.MACARTHUR

The late J.C.Bacon	7,596
Less held for special purposes	<u>500</u>
Added to Legacies for General Purposes	<u>£7,096</u>

TOTAL LEGACIES £103,455

BUDGETS 1978 AND 1979

	Actual 1977	Budget 1977	Budget 1978	Budget 1979
DEPARTMENTS				
Assembly and Central Services				
Central Secretariat	13,753	13,551	14,560	17,070
General Church costs	6,484	5,650	5,540	8,250
Assembly costs	11,293	14,000	15,000	15,500
Grants	11,591	11,500	13,000	14,000
Moderators	63,751	106,872	64,700	80,350
Church Life Department				
General	33,290	38,350	37,600	40,320
Youth	12,080	12,575	13,500	15,050
Deaconess	8,785	54,155	10,500	13,800
World Church & Mission Dept.				
General (including C.W.M.)	338,467	338,325	359,350	389,050
Church & Society Department	9,053	9,600	10,200	12,550
Finance & Administration Dept.				
General	45,944	51,175	56,400	68,100
Professional Fees	11,438	57,382	13,000	18,100
Publications & Publicity	10,941	17,175	16,000	18,100
Information Service	2,004	1,800	2,600	3,050
General Office costs	42,467	42,425	49,550	52,510
	621,341	635,400	686,100	763,500
<u>Less Maintenance of the Ministry</u>				
Contributions to Ministerial				
Staff Salaries	(46,747)	(42,000)	(49,000)	(58,000)
	574,594	593,400	637,100	705,500
GENERAL ALLOCATIONS				
Church Extension	5,500	5,500	4,000	4,000
Theological Training	91,631	20,000	35,000	35,000
Maintenance of the Ministry				
contributions to Professors'				
salaries	(8,878)	(5,000)	(9,000)	(11,500)
Retired Ministers' Aid/Widows'				
Supplementary Fund	6,000	6,000	5,000	5,000
Welfare & Emergencies	12,000	12,000	10,000	10,000
Staff Pension Fund	4,000	-	-	-
Contingencies	-	10,000	10,000	10,000
	684,847	641,900	692,100	758,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	684,847	641,900	692,100	758,000
UNIFIED APPEAL	602,970	600,000	648,000	700,000
Other Income	134,235	40,000	44,100	58,000
	737,205	640,000	692,100	758,000
		1,900	-	-
Deficit				
Surplus	52,358			

I N D E X

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Apportionment	4	-
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Budget / Committee	59	70
CBMS / CFWM	4	-
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and Students Working Party	30	19
to the forces	32	-
Children's Allowances	55	-
Children in the Church	28	-
Children's Committee	28	-
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Christian Education	28	-
Christian Stewardship	9	15
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Churches' Unity Commission	45, 50	-
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Congregational College, Manchester	22	-
Continental Consultation	46	-
Corresponding Members	-	7
Council for World Mission	45	21
Deaconesses	26	11
Decision Making in Common	45	-
Deployment Committee	8	22
Development in New Areas and Care of Existing Church Buildings	57	-
Doctrine and Worship / Committee	17	-
E.E.C. Code of Conduct	39	16
Ecumenical Links	42	-
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Children's Committee	28	-
Christian Education Committee	28	-
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History Society	61	-
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Leading for Life.	28	19
Local Pastors	19, 26	18
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Manses	8	-
Mansfield College	24	-
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Memorial College	25	-
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Missionary and Ecumenical Work Abroad	46	-
Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home	45	13
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National Insurance	4	-
Newly Appointed Missionaries	-	6
Newly Ordained Ministers	-	6
Nominations Committee	-	9, 25
Nuclear Energy	38	16
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Ordination of Local Pastors	19	18
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Overseas Visitors	-	8
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Personnel / Committee	48	-
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Presbyterian Church of Ghana	-	14
Presbyterian Church in Taiwan	-	14
Priorities and Resources	5	22
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Publications and Publicity Committee	12	15
Publicity Group	12	-
Recruitment for the Ministry	20	-
Reform / Reform Management & Promotion sub-committee	13	15
Removal Expenses	56	-
Retired Ministers Housing Society	59	12
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	Reports	Record
Service Book	18	-
Silver Jubilee Service	5	-
South Africa	40	16
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Supplementary Ministries Committee	25	-
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Swedish Covenant Church	-	14
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Treasurership Committee	56	10
Unified Appeal	58	10
Welfare and Emergencies Committee	58	-
West Indian Children	42	-
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World Church and Mission Department	44	-
World Development	36	-
Youth		
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Committee	27	19
Leadership Training	27	-
Leadership Training Officers	5	-
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