

**The
UNITED REFORMED CHURCH**

**GENERAL
ASSEMBLY
1980**

**6th-9th May
VICTORIA HALL,
Sheffield**

**RECORD
OF ASSEMBLY**

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

In accordance with the decision of the Assembly (Record 1978, p. 39) this Record of Assembly 1980 follows, so far as is possible, the order in the Book of Reports and not, apart from the first afternoon and evening, the order in which the business was taken in the Assembly. A copy of the Minutes in chronological order 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 Record, which groups matters according to their subject and omits references to the times of sessions, is more subject to inaccuracy and omission. It does, however, contain a full record of decisions taken and of the process of amendment and voting by which they were reached.

The references are to the place at which the supporting material is to be found.

ROBERT O. LATHAM

ACTION CHECK LIST

The Record of Assembly herewith records many decisions which it is important that the Councils of the Church should note and where appropriate take action. This check list may help those responsible to see they they are considered.

Most of the resolutions are based on Reports to Assembly, to which reference should also be made.

	Page No.	Churches	Districts	Provinces
Schedule D	44,45 (Rec.14)		X	X
Church Community Workers	52		X	X
Presidency at the Lord's Supper	39 (Rec.16)		X	
Priorities and Resources	20,30	X	X	X
Christian Stewardship	32	X	X	X
Publications & Publicity	38	X	X	X
Mansfield College	64		X	X
Racism	71	X	X	X
Religious Education	71	X	X	
First Report of Churches' Council for Covenanting	78	X	X	X
Plan for Partnership in Ministerial Remuneration	86	X	X	X
Property Report	87	X	X	X

Record of the
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
in England and Wales
1980

FIRST SESSION

At SHEFFIELD and within the Victoria Hall on Tuesday, the 6th day of May 1980, at 3 o'clock.

Public Worship and Celebration of the Sacrament Members of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, being met together for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Holy Communion at the time and place duly appointed, the Assembly was constituted with prayer by the Moderator, the Rt Revd Robert O.Latham, who, being assisted by the Revds Charles Meachin, Arthur Macarthur, Keith Forecast and John Oldershaw, 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 last Assembly.

MINISTERS WHO HAVE DIED SINCE MAY 1979

Francis AULD	James Alexander LITTLE
William Alfred Martin AUSTIN	Geoffrey Ernest LODMORE
Emryce Anthony BONNELL	Thomas Hindley MATHER
Donald Eade BROCK	Nathaniel Johnston McLELLAN
James Leonard BUDDLE	Herbert MULHOLLAND
Sydney George CASTLING	Owen Rhys OWEN
Kenneth Humphrey COULDREY	Charles Frederick PALMER
Lawrence Kenneth DARBYSHIRE	Leopold Gordon PHILLIPS
Lawrence James FARMER	Harry Ambrose POPE
Algar Samuel FINCHAM	Griffith QUICK
Joseph Makepeace FORSTER	Idwal REES
Margaret FULLERTON	William John REES
Brian GOBLE	John Angus Cadwaldr RODERICK
Wallis HAYWARD	Edna Victoria ROWLINSON
Brian Anthony HEAD	Gordon King RUSH
Edward Martin HODGE	Joseph SIMMS
John Macdonald HOWARD	Sydney SMITH
Amy J. HOWELL	Conrad George STALLAN
Henry Arthur JACQUET	Alfred Lefonso TRUDGEON
Ernest Francis JONES	Sidney Maurice WATTS
Kenneth Douglas KEAY	Kathleen Upton WHITEFIELD
Arnold Henry LEGG	Charles Raymond WYATT

MISSIONARIES WHO HAVE DIED SINCE MAY 1979

Harold BAILEY	Edith HOAD
Sarah Elizabeth BOTTOMS	Margaret PACKER
Eric Herbert George BLACKLOCK	Constance STOWELL
Janet BRYSON	Tony STRANGE
Jean Naomi CULLEN	Nellie Florence TODMAN
Mollie Eileen CULLINGFORD	Agnes Elizabeth TOWERS

The Session was then suspended, and after a Reception by the Deputy Lord Mayor of Sheffield, the Assembly resumed at 6.30 pm in the City Hall.

Induction of Moderator The resumed session was opened by the Rt Revd Robert O. Latham, and on his motion the Revd John Johansen-Berg, MA., B.D., Moderator-Elect, was called to the Chair and inducted as Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church.

The Moderator signed the Assembly Bible and 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 Rt Revd John Johansen-Berg
Clerk: The Revd. A.L. Macarthur
Assistant Clerk: The Revd. M.B. Stolton
Moderator-Elect: (1980-81) The Revd Principal M.H.Cressey

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.F. Slow
VI	Revd Dr. F.H. Kaan
VII	Revd C.G. Evans
VIII	Revd M.F. Hubbard
IX	Revd P.S. Chesney
X	Revd M.J. Davies
XI	Revd C.C. Franks
XII	Revd Dr. J.I. Morgans

Department Chairmen:

Church Life:	Revd Dr. K. Slack
Church & Society:	Mr Raymond T. Clarke
World Church & Mission:	Revd Principal M.H.Cressey
Finance & Administration	Mr F.H. Brooman

Chairmen of Standing Committees:

Applications: Revd H.M. Springbett
Business: Revd H.S. Ross
Nominations: Revd N.W. Bainbridge

Church Life:

Ministerial Training: Revd Dr. Lesslie Newbigin
Supplementary Ministries: Dr R.D. Jurd
Doctrine & Worship: Revd Dr. J. Huxtable
Christian Education: Revd Margaret T. Taylor
Youth Work: Revd J.E. Mather
Children's Work: Revd G. Jenkins
Ministry of Healing: Revd D. Dale
Chaplains & Students: Revd Dr. L.C. Green

World Church & Mission:

M. & E.W. At Home: Revd D.Marsden **M. & E.W. Abroad:** Revd R.D.C.Cole
Mission & Other Faiths: Dr D.A.Kerr
Personnel: Revd A.J.Coates

Church & Society:

Additional Representatives:
i) Revd P. Brain
ii) Dr Mary Ede

Finance & Administration:

Treasurership: Mr R.S.Martin **Maintenance of the Ministry:** Mr R.C.N.Tinsley
Welfare & Emergencies: Revd D.A. Smith
Church Buildings: Revd R.G. Walker

Publications & Publicity: Revd E.A. Banyard

Deployment: Revd A.G. Burnham
(to be represented by the Revd G.E.H. Roper)

Christian Stewardship: Revd J.B. Simpson

Synod Clerks:

I Revd Dr. A.R. Ritchie; II Revd A. Harrison; III Revd R.G.Walker;
IV Revd A.J. Wells; V Mr B. Stonehouse; VI Mr R.A. Heritage;
VII Mr M.J. Ballard; VIII Revd J.E. Young; IX Revd D.C. Lewis;
X Revd D.L. Skidmore; XI Revd J.H. Taylor; XII Revd M.D. Page.

Additional Synod Representatives:

I Revd A.R. Forsyth; Revd G.A. Harding, Mr.K.R.Hounsome
II Revd J.D. Salsbury; Revd T. Russell; Mr. J.E. Morris.
III Revd Sheila Massey; Revd R. Andrews; Mr W. Whitlow.
IV Revd E. Allen; Revd D. Miller; Mr. J.E.M. Gilbey.
V Revd N.J.W. Appleton; Mr E.G. Leigh Brown; Revd A.C. White.
VI Revd M.J. Husselbee; Mr David Griffiths; Revd R.J. Hall
VII Mrs M. Evans; Miss K. Head; Mr V. Hughff.
VIII Revd Gillian Bobbett; Revd A. Baillie; Revd T.E. Girling.
IX Mr R. Garner, Mrs C.Thomas.
X Revd G.W. Satchell; Revd R.L. Gordon; Miss Dorothy Biggs.
XI Revd M.D. Whitehorn; Mr F.A.W. Lodde; Mrs J. Armour.
XII Miss M. Jones; Mr J. Rhys; Mr K. Thomas.

Synod Treasurers:

I Mr J.C. Storer; II Mr W. Glenfield; III Mr M.B.S. Emlin;
IV Mr B.C. Stead; V Mr Michael Bond; VI Mr H.E. Greening;
VII Mr P.A. 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 J.R. McKelvey;
Westminster College, Cambridge: Revd Dr R. Buick Knox;
Memorial College, Aberystwyth: Revd Dr W.T. Pennar Davies;
Bala-Bangor College, Bangor, N. Wales: Dr R. Tudur Jones.

Youth Representatives:

Miss Vivienne Ross; Mr Geoffrey Rodgers.

Secretary of Council for World Mission:

Revd Bernard G. Thorogood.

Senior Chaplain to H.M. Forces stationed in Britain:

Revd S.L. Williams.

Missionaries on Furlough:

Miss Sally Kingsley, Revd & Mrs Geoffrey Marsden
Miss Jose Robins, Revd Robin Sleigh, Mr Peter Storey.

Past Presidents, Chairmen and Moderators:

Revd Dr H.F. Lovell Cocks; Revd Dr Norman Goodall; Revd Elsie
Chamberlain-Garrington; Revd Dr H. Cunliffe-Jones; Mr B.J. Hartwell;
Revd Dr J. Huxtable; Revd Dr J. 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 G.T. Bellhouse; Revd Professor J.Eric Fenn;
Revd I.R.N. Miller; Revd F.D. McConnell; Revd Professor F.G.Healey;
Revd H. Burns Jamieson; Revd A.G. Macleod; Revd A.S. Cooper; Revd
Norman Birnie; Revd A.L. Macarthur; Revd Dr K. Slack; Revd Dr G.B.
Caird; Revd R.J. Hall; Revd J.E. Young; Rt Revd Bishop Leslie
Newbigin; Revd R.O. Latham.

District Council Representatives:

(Names appearing with an asterisk were appointed to fill District vacancies (cf. Resolutions 10, p.21, Assembly Report 1978)

Province I:

- A: Revds. R.H. McMurray Adam, J.H. Couch, J.Schofield; Miss D.Kailofer, Dr R. Goodman, Mrs R. Lamb, Mrs E.B. Straughan.
- B: Revds. D.R. Hannen, D. Watson, S. Brock, J.M. Bell, C.A. Hobson, T.E. Grant, F.J. Nelson; Miss H. Paton, Mrs M.L. Franks, Mr R.G. Atkinson, Mr K. Hall, Mrs C. Jones, Mr J. Park, Mrs A. Wilson.
- C: Revds. D. Stec, A.E.Summers, D. Welbrock; Dr P.H. Clarke, Mr. W. Hepburn.
- D: Revds. R.J. Lewis, G. McCleave, P.I. Poulter, M.G. Dunford, Mr J. Moore, Mrs J.J. Irvine, Dr A. Fraser, Mr M. Ross.
- E: Revds. H. Byers, J. Edwards, D.H. Roberts; Mr A. Kelly, Mr T. Simpson, Mr A. Colquhoun.

Province II:

- A: Revds R.W.Courtney, N.Charlton, D.Westhead; Miss J.Laidman, *Dr R.M.Cowhig; Miss E. Higginbottom.
- B: Revds. B. Jones, A.K. Livesley, G. Storr, T. Wigley; Mrs M. Ayres, Miss K. Drew, Miss R.M. Lund, Mr A. Uffold.
- C: Revds. A.J. Wilkinson, J.D. Farquhar, J. Warren; Mr A. Eccles, Mrs A.L. Kenyon.
- D: Revds. J.W. Evans, D.H. Swansbury, G.K. Tolley; Mrs P. Crocker, Mr R. Good, *Dr C.T. Calam.
- E: Revds. R.A.C. West, D.J. Wilkinson, P. Roche, S.H. Fisher; Mr W. Caffrey, Mrs E. Gillon, Mrs M. Jeffrey, Mrs V.M. West.
- F: Revds P.Killick, S.Sivyou, E. Chambers, J.R.Sparks; Mr J.B.Coleman Mr.R.Williams, Mrs I.M.Calam, Mrs.P.Dyson, Mr.E.Chilton.
- G: Revds P.D. Scotland, D. Jenkins, G. Carling; Dr K. Lea, Dr M.M. Reekie, Mr G.B. Yuille.

Province III:

- A: Revds R.W. Kidd, J.E. Mayer, S.M. Thornton, R.F. Williams; Mrs M. Hall, Mr. G Gibson, Mr R.E. Parry, Miss M.E.P. Scott.
- B: Revds J.D. Cave, J.D. Cox, A. Huyton, S.H. Marsh; Mrs M. Hughes, Mrs S. Grimsey, Mr. W.G. Mackay, Mrs W. Kriel.
- C: Revds. P.R.M. Smith, E.M. White, A. Bailey, P.W.Beaman; Mr E.G. Hall, Mr A.Ast Mrs. M. Jones, Mr. J.T.H. Owen.
- D: Revds W.R. Marchbank, H.A.Starr, R. Hambly, J.M. Chisholm; Mr J.R. Gow, Mr F.B. Collins, Mrs E. Walker, Miss C. Kellett.

Province IV:

- A: Revds. A.J. Dawson, A.G. Burroughs, V.E.Openshaw, N. Soulsby; Mr T. Grant, Mr W.H. Cassell, Mr. W. Norman, Miss J. Fuller.
- B: Revds. L.G. Anderson, F.R. Nunn, R. Royston-Bishop, E.W.G. Smith; Mr B.R. Middleton, Mr K. Parker, Mrs A. Priestley, Mr R.E. Wilson.
- C: Revds. R. Bance, C. Richards, A. Savage, R. Way; Mrs S. Henderson, Mr C. Moore, Dr K. Waters, Mr T. Townsend.
- D: Revds. D. Parkinson, Eileen Sambrooks, J. Bolton, J. Harwood; Mr H. Sorton, Mrs D. Rogers, Mrs B.Sugden, *Dr J.C.G.Binfield.
- E: Revds. C. Hannam, D.J. Hudston, M.J. Wear; Mr S.C. Cook, Mrs M. Kellett, Mr J. Marshall.
- F: Revds. J. Jenkinson, J.A. Pugh, W.J. Taylor; Miss J. Dixon, Mrs B. Ellis, Mr M. Allinson,

Province V:

- A: Revds. A.P. Burley, G. Courtney, B.J. Slater, Margaret Laurie, S.A. Madin, J.R.W. Paull; Miss A. Riddoch, Mrs. J. Cowdell, Mrs J. Jones, Mr M. Fleming, Mr H.G. Orton.

- B: Revds. G. Baker, D. Newman, C. Jones; Miss B. Blower; Mr J. Clew, Miss C. Smith.
- C: Revds D.R. Tunbridge, R.S. Taylor, S.J. Whiffen, Mr. R.F. Jones, Mr A.J.M. Olsen Mrs B. Stonehouse.
- D: Revds J. Andrews, D. Peel, C. Husk, G. Hooper; Mr. W. Hartnell, Mr. D. Weedon, Mrs. J. Andrews.

Province VI:

- A: Revds W.J. Jones, A. Green, W.J. Boyd, D.A. Davis, B.G. Prior, *J. Key, Mr W. McGowan Mrs N. McUnie, Mr E.J. Causer, Mr S. Williams *Mrs D. Budden *Mr H. Maccallum
- B: Revds E.C. Appleby, K.A. Wilkinson, P. Cullum; Mrs P. Spinks, Miss J. Evason Mr. B. Room.
- C: Revds. A. McLellan, T. Hawthorn, R. Snuggs; Mr. J.W. Cooper, Mr. R. Clegg, Mr. S. Marshall.
- D: Revds. G. Jenkins, H.P. Jones, Phyllis Tee; Miss J. Kingham, Mrs N.P. Jones, Mr. D.S. Williams.
- E: Revds P. Chave, E. Cruchley, J. Forsyth, E. Marshall; Miss A. Pickerden, Miss V. Cant, Mr. H. Reeves,
- F: Revds. M.B. Clarke, (Mrs.) C. Craven, A.B. Holroyd, J.C. Neary, C.B. Nuttall; Mr. G. Davis, Mr. A. Redhead, Mrs. V. Franklin.

Province VII:

- A: Revds. D. Hilton, I.B. Morrill, D. Sparkes; Mr. P. Robson, Mr. B. Woolley, Mrs. C. Angell, Revd. B. Angell.
- B: Revds. D.W. Flynn, P.E. Wadey, R.J. Woods, R.L. Eveleigh, (Mrs.) F. Chambers; Dr R.D. Jurd, Mr. W. King, Mr. A.C. Hicks.
- C: Revds. J. Geyer, M. Melvin, (Miss) E. Gooding, R. Muttram, F. Jones; Mrs M. Bach, Mrs Page, Miss M. Cook, Mrs. J. Flint, Mr. A. Birch.
- D: Revds. M. Spencer, L.N. Flint, A.E. Young; Mr. F. Meen, Mr. C. Raggett, Miss S. Raggett.
- E: Revds. L.W. Brown, B.T. Sturtridge, C.E. Stewart, E.A. McIlwain; Mr. D.F. Horton, Mr. G. Caink, Mrs. M.A. Bason, Mr. J.L. Russell.

Province VIII:

- A: Revds. B. Townsend, K.F.D. Trunks; Miss K. Austin, Mr. K. Hancock.
- B: Revds. W.J.L. Cartwright, R.H. Norman; Mr. M. Waddington, Mrs. M. Waddington.
- C: Revds. K.H. Bell, F.W. Hewis, K.J. Hibberd, W.R. Stokes; Mr. F.J. Brumwell, Mr. L.G. Cumes, Mrs. E. Grail.
- D: Revds. H. Stentiford, S. Atkins, (Miss) J. Halfpenny; Mr. C. Bacon, Miss I. Reeves, Mr. A. Chamings.
- E: Revds Stella Beare, R.J. Ellis, H.W. Jones; Mrs. J.U. Johns, Mrs. M. Young, Mr. R.J. Coole, Mr. R.W. Escott.
- F: Revds. M. George, A.S.J. Phippen, J.E. Ticehurst, D.J. Owen, K.E. Roach; Mr. R.M. Herwig, Mrs. P.E.P. Sessions, Mrs. F. Vowles, Mr. E.E. Perry, Mr. N. Lanaway.

Province IX:

- A: Revds. R.O. Balmer, D.P. Churchward, A. Lister-Hetherington, J.F. Mackriell, A.C. Mellor, S. Rees Tyrer, Dr. J.S. Wright, Mr. M. Casey, Mr. W.R. Croft, Mr. R.E. Feltham, Mr. R.W. Gourdie, S.E.H. Lukey, Mr. R.G. Mudd, Mr. A.C. Mundon.
- B: Revds. D. Wales, G. Workman, M.F. Camroux, A.G. Hamilton; Mrs. E.L. Walker, Mrs. M. Woodland, Mr. S.H. Nelson, Mr. R.W. Norris.
- C: Revds. D.A. Cox, M.C. Playdon, G.A.F.J. Story, G.H. Thomas; Mr. E. Adams, Miss M. Cumber, Dr. D.E. Mackay, Mr. G. Noble.
- D: Revds. R.D.C. Cole, R.P. Cox, A.J. Spring, M.G. Westerman; Mr. D. Butler, Mr. W.F. Eisey, Miss E. Paterson, Mr. W.E. Pearson.
- E: Revds. T.C. Stiff, T.A. Gill, A.E. Molineaux, D.T. Woffenden, P. Grimshaw; Mr. R.A. King, Mr. J. Gay, Mrs. G. Langdon, Dr. E.J. Welford, Mrs. G.A. Robertson.

Province X:

- A: Revds. W. Mahood, J. Miller, R. Richards, J. Farmer; Mr. E. Coales, Mrs. M. Stacy, Mrs. K. Cook, Mrs. E. Terry.
- B: Revds. K. Winn, D. Strange, J. Hussey; Mrs. J. Lediard, Mr. D. Dover, Mrs. B. Marriage.
- C: Revds. D.E. Ferguson, J. MacKelvie, K.W. Marsh, W.E.C. Sewell; Mrs. P.D. Burgin, Mr. N. Croft, Mr. V. Lane, Mr. A.G. Taylor.
- D: Revds S.C. Orchard, A.E. Circus, K.B.C. Fear, J.P. Reardon, H.R.W. Rady, Mr G. Bellamy; Mr. T. Bacon, F.J. Bates, Mr. M.L. Bradburn, Mr. C.A. Carter, Mr. D. Currie, Mr. E. Downes.
- E: Revds. J. Dey, I. White; Mr. L. Wilson, Mrs. L. Wilson; Revds M. Hopley, F. Ackroyd.
- F: Revds I Duncan, D. Bradburn, P. Newell, D. Atkinson; Mrs. I. Duncan, Mrs. D. Bradburn, Mr. J. Gilbert, Mr. G. Ingram.

Province XI:

- A: Revds. Janet Sowerbutts, Olive Symes, H. Kember, D. Beryl Bennett, R. Currie; Mrs. P. Wardle, Mr. J.F. Smith, Mrs. R. Goodfellow, Mr. J. Rayner, *Miss V. Collins.
- B: Revds J. Durell, B. Stone, J.P. Caton, R. Talmey, J.M. Ward; Miss E. Thomas, Miss M. Hayman, Mr. F.A. Bolton, Mr. A. Cummings, Mr. A.O. Galer.
- C: Revds. D.J.D. Baker, K. Chippindale, P. McIntosh, D.A. Pratt, K. Summers, R.E. Taylor; Mrs. M. Berridge, Mrs. B. Moore, Mr. B. Scopes, Mr. D.J. Smith, Mrs. M. Taylor, Mr. R. Heath.
- D: Revds. B. Eyles, R. MacNab, S. Sexton, B. Shirley, C.H. Coupland; Mrs. C.H. Coupland, Mr. I. Giles, Mr. V. Palmer, Mr. D. Dowdell, Mrs. A. Cole.
- E: Revds J.H. Hoadley, I. Stewart; Mr. N. Alexander, Mrs. J. Pevy Mrs. J. Tookey.
- F: Revds. D. Piggins, R. Tucker, S. Bidmead, D. Noel; Miss D. Hounsome, Mr. M.J. Goodger, Mrs. C. Wyatt, Mr. M. Ruskin.
- G: Revds. J.L. Armour, G.E. Beck, W. Connelly, R.H. Smith; Miss C. Fairhall, Mrs. M. Fenn, Miss M. Rose, Miss M.F. Smith.

Province XII:

- A: Revds. B. Jones, R.A. Crew, T. Meirion Lloyd, D. Thomas-Jones; Mrs. D.M. Jenkins, Mrs R.A. Crew, Mr. I. Wynn Roberts, Mr. G. Dennis-Jones.
- B: Revds. B. Phillips, C. Smith-Draper, Mrs. I. Bevan, Miss E. Stark, Mrs. J. Smith-Draper, Mr. R. Jones, Mr. P. Jones.
- C: Revds. N. George, M. Gudgeon, J.L. Humphreys, D. Jones, K. Phillips; Mr. R. Evans, Mrs. A. Roberts, Mr. N. Shepherd, Mr. R.H. Smith, Mrs. J. Jones.
- D: Revds. T.H. Owen, A.E. Swinford, I.T. Rees, F.C. Glover; Mr. H. Morris, Mr. B. Williams, Mr. L. John, Mrs. E. Steel, Mr. J. Elford.

Loyal Address The retiring Moderator moved the adoption of a Loyal Address to the Throne which was agreed:

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty

The General Assembly of the United Reformed Church in England and Wales, meeting in Sheffield, sends loyal greetings in Your Majesty, as has been our practice and that of our predecessors.

We express our deep sympathy with you in the cruel murder of Lord Louis Mountbatten and members of his family, and we hope and work and pray for a just and lasting peace to be established in Ireland.

We rejoice in the settlement which has been reached in Zimbabwe, and resolve to do all in our power to assist in the establishing of a strong multi-racial society. We have been associated with the peoples of Zimbabwe since 1860 when missionaries from our former London Missionary Society settled among them. We intend to continue to serve them through the Churches now established there.

We thank God for the example you and your family continue to give in the maintaining of Christian standards and assure you of the constant prayers of your people in the United Reformed Church that He may guard and guide you in all your undertakings.

We remain,

Your faithful and loyal subjects in Christ Jesus,

JOHN JOHANSEN-BERG, Moderator

ARTHUR L. MACARTHUR, Clerk.

The Assembly joined in the singing of the National Anthem.

The Assembly welcomed Distinguished Guests from the City, namely, Councillor William Owen, JP., Deputy Lord Mayor; Mr. Bernard E. Cotton, The Master Cutler; The Rt Revd David Lunn, Bishop of Sheffield; other representatives of the local churches and the Revd Canon Leslie Greedy, Chairman of the Sheffield Council of Churches who responded on their behalf.

Corresponding Members and Delegates from other Churches The Assembly received the following Corresponding Members and Delegates from other Churches:

The Church of Scotland

The Revd R. Stuart Loudon, TD., DD., D.Litt.
The Revd David Strachan, MA., BD.
Mr David K. Swan, JP.

The Presbyterian Church in Ireland

The Rt Revd W.M. Craig, BA., DD. (Moderator)
The Revd D.H. Allen, MA., BD.
Mr J. McDonald, MBE.

The Presbyterian Church of Wales

Mr Alun Creunant Davies, JP.

The Congregational Union of Scotland

The Revd Hamish Smith, BD. (President-Elect)

The Union of Welsh Independents

Mr Dafydd R. Ap-Thomas, MA., BD.

The Re-Formed Association of Churches of Christ

Dr David Thompson

The Congregational Federation

The Revd Ivor Morris, MA., B.Litt. (President)

The Reformed Church in Hungary

The Revd Zsigmond Vad

The Palatinate Church

Pfarrer Klaus Böhm
Revd Ernest Dawe

The Presbyterian Church in Zaire

The Revd Baminyinyi Muadiamvita Nsenda Ilunga

The Church of North India

Mr A.C. Dharmaraj

The United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman

The Revd Maitland Evans

The Council for World Mission
The Revd Lee Ching Chee

The Netherlands Reformed Church
The Revd A. Kranenburg

The Waldensian Church
Pastor Aldo Rutigliano

The Moderator expressed to them the welcome of the Assembly and Mr Creunant Davies and Pastor Klaus Böhm spoke on their behalf. The Assembly expressed its understanding and appreciation of the apologies received from the Moderator of the Church of Scotland and the General Secretary of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches whose visits to Zimbabwe and Taiwan were being made on behalf of many Churches.

The Assembly received the Revd Harry O. Morton, General Secretary of the British Council of Churches, and at the invitation of the Moderator, Mr. Morton addressed the Assembly.

Ministerial Jubilees The attention of the Assembly was drawn to the names of those ministers the Jubilee or Diamond Jubilee of whose ordination falls with 1980.

60 Years

Reginald Ernest FENN

50 Years

Clifford Spencer DAVIES
Arthur HALFPENNY
David HARRIES
Francis George HEALEY
Hampden Nicholson HORNE
Howard Hawgood Bentley JUTSON
Henry Herbert Gill MacMILLAN
Robert William Montague MOULD
Alan Henry PRINGLE
Philip Evan PRITCHARD
Cyril Joseph STELEY
Charles Edward SURMAN
John WRIGHT

The Revd R.E. Fenn, who was present, was received with acclamation, and at the request of the Assembly the Moderator undertook to send the greetings and congratulations of the Church to those who had served the Church for so long.

The session was closed with the singing of a hymn and the Benediction, and Assembly adjourned to meet again in the Victoria Hall, Sheffield, at 9.30 next morning for ordinary business.

Reception of Newly Ordained Ministers

The Moderator received, in the name of the Assembly, those new ordained into the ministry and commended them to God in Prayer.

Benjamin John ANGELL
Joseph BATH
David BRADBURN
David Reed BRETT
Eric CHAMBERS
Jeanie Elizabeth CLARKE
David George CORNICK
Christine CRAVEN
Peter Leslie FLINT
Walter FORD
Peter David FOSTER
Eileen GOODING
Gillian Avril JONES
Herbert William JONES
Ian JONES

Stella Gwendolin JONES
Frederick George LAMBERN
Joyce Audrey LANGDOWN
Gary Stuart MCGOWAN
Richard MORTIMER
Patricia Florence PARRISH
Kathleen Mary PAYNE
David Andrew PITKEATHLY
Frank Arnold RICHARDS
Eileen Mary SAMBROOKS
Norman SETCHELL
David Martin McLellan SKITT
David TATEM
Christopher Frederick WARNER
Elizabeth Cynthia WYATT

The Assembly agreed to send greetings to those newly appointed as missionaries who are already at work overseas.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Reports pp.3-6)

The Revd R.O.Latham presented the Report of the Executive Committee which on his motion was received.

The General Secretary then introduced the following resolutions which were passed by more than the required 2/3rds majority:

1. The Assembly, subject to ratification in 1981, resolves to amend the Basis of Union by the addition of a new paragraph to section 9 (3) as follows:

'Two young people, being members of the URC, nominated by the District Youth Forum, Committee or equivalent'

and by the addition of a new paragraph to section 9 (4) as follows:

'Two young people, being members of the URC nominated by the Provincial Youth Forum, Committee or equivalent'.

2. The Assembly, subject to ratification in 1981, resolves to add to section 9 (4)d of the Basis of Union the words 'Chairman and Treasurer'.

Note: the section would then read:

'The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, for the time being, of each District Council within the Province.'

The following resolutions were then proposed and agreed:

3. (a) The Assembly resolves to add a new clause to section 9 (5) of the Basis of Union to read:

'Such number of representatives of the Fellowship of United Reformed Youth, being members of the URC, as the Assembly shall from time to time determine.'

- (b) 'The Assembly deletes section 9 (5)h' thereby removing the category of Corresponding Member and establishing the practice with regard to visitors to the Assembly.

It was noted that the amendment with regard to FURY representatives would be numbered 9 (5)h in the Basis.

It was also agreed, in relation to Provincial Trusts, that

4. Under the provisions of the URC Act 1972, paragraph 19 (4) new Trust Bodies require the approval of Assembly. Three resolutions are submitted as follows:

- (i) The Assembly, consonant with the provisions of the URC Act of 1972, paragraph 19 (4), gives approval to the establishment of the Trust Body to be named The United Reformed Church (Southern Province) Trust Limited.

- (ii) The Assembly, consonant with the provisions of the URC Act of 1972, paragraph 19 (4), gives approval to the establishment of the Trust Body to be named The United Reformed Church (East Midlands Province) Incorporated.

- (iii) The Assembly, consonant with the provisions of the URC Act of 1972, paragraph 19 (4), gives approval to the establishment of the Trust Body to be named The United Reformed Church (Wessex) Trust Limited.

It was further agreed to give a subsequent Executive Committee authority to deal with further applications in this respect.

The following appointments were made:

5. The Assembly agrees to the request of Congregational Union of England and Wales Incorporated that Mr Denis W. Turner and Mr John Bryan be appointed to its Board of Management.

THANKS AND PRESENTATION TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY

The Revd R.O. Latham spoke warmly and generously of the ministry of the Revd Arthur L. Macarthur, MA., M.Litt., as General Secretary and Clerk of the Assembly of the United Reformed Church and drew attention to the statement in the Reports pp.5-6. Mention was made of Mr Macarthur's wide-ranging skills as an administrator; his personal gifts in ministry; his care of our churches; his ecumenical insights and the ministry which has always extended from his home.

The Revd H.S. Ross seconded this commendation emphasising the General Secretary's wisdom and integrity throughout his long ministry.

In wishing the General Secretary and his wife every blessing in the future, the Revd R.O. Latham presented him with a cheque (for £5,000) marking the gifts of many in the URC.

Mr Macarthur was received by the Assembly with acclamation and he responded to their goodwill. At a later point in the Assembly Mrs Macarthur was received by the Moderator and was given a small gift in token of esteem and acknowledgment of the part she had played in support of her husband.

DEPLOYMENT COMMITTEE (Reports p.6)

The Revd G. Roper introduced the report of the Deployment Committee in the absence of the Chairman of the Committee. The Assembly took note of the Report.

CWM VISITORS' REPORT

The Moderator invited Mr A.C. Dharmaraj to introduce the report of the CWM team visit to the URC from April 18th-30th 1980 visiting South Wales, Bristol and the West Midlands. The report was received. Members of the team present at Assembly were:

Mr A.C. Dharmaraj (Church of North India)
The Revd Maitland Evans (United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman)
The Revd Lee Ching Chee (Church of Christ in China, Hong Kong Council)

Greetings were received from the fourth member of the team, the Revd Anthon Vos (Reformed Churches in the Netherlands) who was unable to be present.

FINAL REPORT OF PRIORITIES AND RESOURCES GROUP (Reports pp.7-30)

The Moderator invited the Revd J. Young to introduce the final report of the Priorities and Resources Group and on his motion the report was received.

The Moderator invited the Assembly to discuss the issues involved in both these Reports.

After an extensive debate the Clerk moved that:

The Assembly received The report of the visitors from the Council

for World Mission, expressed its warm thanks to them for their visit and their thoughtful and searching comments. The Assembly asked that the Report be given wide circulation and that the list of urgent concerns set out at the end of the Report be carefully considered by the appropriate Committees and Councils of the Church.

The resolution was adopted and the visitors thanked for their excellent report, further comment on their report is on p.19 under World Church and Mission.

The Revd J.E.Young then on behalf of the Priorities and Resources Group proposed that:

1. The Assembly urges District Councils and Synods to help their members to widen their experience of worship; to encourage small churches to come together in larger groups from time to time for worship, and to foster, initiate and make known experiments in newer styles of worship.

This was agreed.

It was further proposed that

2. The Assembly, acknowledging the need for members of the URC to be more sure of their faith in Jesus Christ, and better able to relate it to contemporary life and share it with others:

asks the Christian Education Committee in consultation with the World Church and Mission and Church and Society Departments and the Stewardship Committee, to set up a small working party to suggest ways in which this need may be met, and to bring to Assembly in 1981 a 'learning programme' to make use, for example, of the period from Christmas to Easter for three to five successive years, designed to build up confidence in the Christian faith among our membership.

An amendment, proposed by the Revd John Reardon, seconded by the Revd Margaret T. Taylor, to delete all words after the phrase 'in which this need may be met' was sustained, and the motion as amended was carried.

The following resolution was agreed:

3. The Assembly asks the Church Life Department to investigate the role of small groups in the work of the church and its outreach.

The Revd J.E.Young the Chairman then moved:

The Assembly as a proper response to the Gospel and as a stimulus to its partnership with God in mission calls the whole URC to do its utmost to arrest the fall in numbers of Church members and during the next five years to aim to achieve a stable membership. It asks each local church to set targets for an increase in the number of its members and frequently to review its policies for pastoral care and training in the meaning of membership.

After an adjournment an amendment standing in the names of Revd D.J.Jones seconded by the Revd J.L.Humphreys was put to the vote and accepted and the resolution was agreed in the following form:

4. The Assembly as a proper response to the Gospel and as a stimulus to its partnership with God in mission reminds the whole URC that the task of the Church is to do its utmost to share the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ, by word and deed, with as many people as possible. This sharing includes inviting challenging and welcoming people to respond to Jesus Christ and express this in church membership. The Assembly knows it must leave the result

of such evangelisation in God's hands. The Assembly urges each church to consider whether it is evangelising and frequently to review its policies for pastoral care and training in the meaning of membership.

5. The Assembly requests the World Church and Mission Department, in consultation with the Deployment and Ministerial Training Committees, the Finance Department and the Provincial Moderators, to prepare a pilot project with a view to developing new mission outreach throughout the country and report back to Assembly.

The resolution was carried.

6. The Assembly calls on each local church to give urgent and continuing consideration to its work among children and young people, and to take steps to strengthen this work and endeavour to bring more young people to commitment to Jesus Christ and his Church.

He indicated his willingness to accept the following amendment to its wording: after 'among' in line 2 insert 'young parents'; in line 3 change 'young' to 'younger'.

The resolution, as amended, was agreed.

It was agreed that:

7. The Assembly welcomes the growth in the number of ecumenical unions of churches and ecumenical sharing of buildings, worship and ministry, re-affirms its commitment to pray and work for such visible unity of the Church as Christ wills and in the way He wills; and encourages local congregations, District Councils and Synods to keep this commitment in the forefront of their policy making and programmes.
8. The Assembly asks the Review Group to be appointed by the Ministerial Training Committee to include 'In Service Training' in its terms of reference and to prepare a scheme for such training to be presented as part of its report.

The Chairman then moved that:

The Assembly resolves to accept as a standard for personal giving throughout the URC the figure of 2% of take-home pay, but realises that some may not be able to reach such a standard and therefore others able to do so must give more than 2%.

An amendment proposed by the Revd Robert Courtney and seconded by the Revd Robert Latham was carried and the resolution passed in the following form:

9. The Assembly resolves to accept as a standard for personal giving throughout the URC the figure of 5% of take home pay.

In the light of this decision an additional amendment in the names of Revd Norman Charlton seconded by the Revd T. Russell was withdrawn.

A further resolution proposed by Dr Leslie Newbigin seconded by the Revd J. Simpson was carried:

10. The Assembly recognising that Christian giving is a response to the Gospel of infinite love of God and not a law imposed upon the conscience of the believer, reminds members that the only figure which has biblical warrant is the figure of 10%, and commends for their prayerful consideration the ancient and honourable practice of tithing.

On the motion of the Chairman the following resolutions were then agreed:

11. The Assembly resolves to set up a Long Range Policy Group.
12. The Assembly calls upon District Councils and Synods to take steps to make sure that the District Visitation to a church involves a thorough and wide-ranging review of its life and witness and has as its main aim, the production of an acceptable plan for the future of that church.
13. Synods are requested to ensure that guidelines and training are available for District Visiting Teams.
14. The Assembly discharges the Priorities and Resources Group and commends its report to churches, District Councils and Synods for continuing discussion and formation of policy.

The Clerk was asked to write to the members of the group to thank them for all they had done.

This concluded the business of the Priorities and Resources Group.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT (Reports p.31)

The Chairman, the Revd.J.B.Simpson, introduced the report of the Christian Stewardship Committee. The Assembly took note of the Report.

APPLICATIONS COMMITTEE (Reports pp. 32-33)

The Chairman, the Revd Harold Springbett, introduced the report of the Applications Committee.

The name of the Revd B.J.Angell was added to the list of those ordained following the Assembly Resolution with regard to Local Pastors.

The Assembly took note of the Report.

PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLICITY (Reports pp.34-35, 38)

The Chairman, the Revd Edmund Banyard, introduced the Report of the Publications and Publicity Committee and on his motion the Report was received. Discussion ensued upon the Report.

The following resolution was then moved by the Chairman:

1. The Assembly welcomes the possibility of an interdenominational hymn book and urges the responsible committees to seek as full an involvement as possible.

An amendment proposed by Mr F.H.Brooman and seconded by Mr R.S.Martin, in the following terms was sustained:

Delete the words 'as possible' at end of third line and substitute: 'as appears practicable and desirable in the light of the proposals of the Methodist Church and of the financial requirements. Assembly empowers the Executive Committee, at its discretion, to authorise the Treasurership Committee to invest such a sum as will secure up to a one-sixth share in the publication of the new book, or to enter into arrangements for the purchase of the new book from the Methodist Publishing House and its distribution throughout the URC'.

The resolution as amended was agreed.

It was further moved:

2. The Assembly urges local churches, Districts and Synods to explore ways of utilising local press and radio, to set up training opportunities for those concerned, and to sponsor Communication (Training) Days to cover the many aspects of communicating to others.

which was agreed by the Assembly

MODERATORS' REPORT (Reports pp.36-37)

The Revd J.W.P. Williamson presented the report of the Provincial Moderators assisted by the Revd Colin Evans who outlined (in dialogue form) some of the concerns the Moderators share about the life and ministry of the URC, together with the nature of their own ministry in terms of worship, pastoral care and leadership.

CHURCH LIFE DEPARTMENT (Reports pp.39-65)

The Report of the Church Life Department was presented by the Revd Dr Kenneth Slack, Chairman, and on his motion the report was received. Dr Slack drew especial attention to the publication of 'A Book of Services' and expressed the thanks of the Assembly to the Doctrine and Worship Committee for preparing it. Copies were presented to the Moderator of Assembly, the Revd Robert O Latham (immediate past Moderator of Assembly) and to the General Secretary.

The Chairman of the Ministerial Training Committee, Dr Leslie Newbigin, then spoke to the proposals relative to the introduction of an Auxiliary Ministry into the life of the United Reformed Church, drawing especial attention to the modifications outlined in paragraph 94 (pages 55-56) of the Reports to Assembly.

Discussion on the Report followed and questions were answered in relation to various Committee responsibilities in the Department.

A correction was noted in relation to paragraph 38, page 49, that the 'birth of this great pioneer' (Robert Raikes) should read 'the start of this great pioneer's work'.

Considerable discussion ensued on the report of the Committee on the Ministry of Healing manifesting expansion in its work in the life of the Church.

The Chairman, Dr Slack, then moved the following resolutions which were agreed:

1. The Assembly welcomes the publication of A Book of Services, thanks the Doctrine and Worship Committee for preparing it and commends it for use to Ministers, Congregations and the Councils of the Church.

The following resolution was then moved:

The Assembly agrees to withdraw the version of 'Schedule D' printed in the Record of the General Assembly 1979 and substitutes the new version on pages 44 and 45, paragraph 14.

As amendments were moved raising complicated matters of procedure, it was agreed to defer this discussion pending consultation with those wish to propose amendments.

The Revd R.F. Williams, seconded by the Revd R.G. Walker, then moved:

2. The Assembly requests that in view of (a) the wide discrepancy of practice within the United Reformed Church regarding prerequisites for the administration of the Sacrament of Baptism to infants;

(b) the lack of clear guidance in the approved 'Order of Worship for Baptism' as to the conditions under which its administration can be considered appropriate;

(c) the Ordination Statement that 'The highest authority for what we believe and do is God's Word in the Bible, alive for his people today through the help of the Spirit'; and

(d) the new situation created both by the welcome provision of a 'Service of Thanksgiving, Dedication and Blessing' and by the proposed unification with Churches of Christ: the Doctrine and Worship Committee now consider the preparation of guidelines in harmony with Scripture to assist ministers and local churches in judging the appropriateness of the Sacrament when the child's parents or guardians are not themselves in full membership of the Church.

This was agreed.

The following resolution moved by the Revd M.J.Davies and seconded by Dr Richard Jurd was agreed.

3. The Assembly, in view of delay in the establishment of the Auxiliary Ministry, extends until 1983 the authorisation given in 1978 to District Councils to offer ordination to Local Pastors, provided that those to be considered are qualified for admission to the Register and are in charge of local churches: the conditions concerning such ordinations set out by the Assemblies of 1978 and 1979 shall also apply to any ordained under this extended authority.

On the motion of the Chairman the following was agreed:

4. Assembly instructs the Supplementary Ministries Committee to proceed with the selection and training of Church Related Community Workers in accordance with the scheme set out in the report.

The Chairman moved:

5. (i) The Assembly ratifies the amendment to the Scheme of Union para 7 (21) by adding the following words 'others serve as Auxiliary Ministers continuing in other occupations and earning their livelihood within them' as resolved at the General Assembly 1979, Minute 6 p.16.
(ii) The Assembly accepts the modifications to the Working Guidelines approved at the 1979 Assembly as set out on pages 55 and 56, paragraph 94.

After careful discussion this was put to the vote and carried.

The following were then agreed:

6. (i) The Assembly continues to recognise Mansfield as a college within which ministers for the URC may be trained.
(ii) The Assembly records its thanks to the Principal and to the Teaching and Ancillary staff for the admirable training they provide for ministerial students.

- (iii) The Assembly notes the close links of Mansfield with Oxford University and continues to encourage suitable students to study for the BA degree in theology and determines to make available finance necessary for this purpose.
- (iv) The Assembly records its thanks to Mansfield staff for giving generously of their time and skill in training Course III students, without cost to the Church.
- (v) The Assembly requests Provincial Moderators and District Councils to be mindful of the needs of Mansfield College for ancillary staff when considering appointments to vacant charges in the Oxford area.
- (vi) The Assembly gives thanks to God for the work and witness of Mansfield College in past years and commends the College to the prayer and interest of the Church.
- (vii) The Assembly, mindful of the benefit gained by the Church from the Pastoralia course run by Mansfield College, requests the review group on Ministerial Training to take seriously the recommendation that an annual grant of £2,000 be made to the College.

and on behalf of the Visitors Bishop Newbiggin expressed thanks to the College for its welcome and positive response to the visit.

On the proposal of the Chairman it was agreed that:

- 7. The Assembly
 - (i) agrees that the Group to be appointed to carry out the Review of the Colleges agreed in 1975 shall examine and report on the total provision for Ministerial Training in the United Reformed Church;
 - (ii) instructs the Nominations Committee to appoint a Review Group for this purpose.

Following extended discussion it was agreed that:

- 8. The Assembly receives the report on the Presidency at the Lord's Supper and reaffirms the Guidelines (1975) for the guidance of District Councils and local churches concerning Presidency at the Lord's Supper.

The Revd.R.O.Latham spoke warmly by way of tribute to the Revd Dr Kenneth Slack as outgoing Chairman of the Church Life Department and proposed that

- 9. The Assembly records its thanks to the Revd Dr Kenneth Slack for five years of outstanding service as Chairman of the Department. Dr Slack has presented the wide-ranging Department's reports to Assembly with characteristic clarity and conciseness. He has made Departmental meetings lively. He has represented the Department persuasively and has been consistent and reliable in his support of the Departmental staff.

Dr Slack was received by the Moderator amid the acclamation of the Assembly.

Thanks of the Assembly were expressed to Dr John Huxtable in the following resolution which was passed with acclamation:

10. The Assembly wishes to place on record its appreciation of the service rendered by the Revd Dr John Huxtable as Chairman of the Doctrine and Worship Committee for the past five years. His ecumenical experience and wide knowledge of the concerns of the Doctrine and Worship Committee have enabled it to move forward with confidence.

The Clerk was asked to send a message to Dr Huxtable.

Thanks were expressed by Dr Slack to the Revd J.E.Mather in the following resolution which was received by the Assembly:

11. The Assembly wishes to place on record its thanks to the Revd J.E.Mather, MA. for his Chairmanship over five years of the Youth Committee. His experience as a former Youth Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of England has provided valuable continuity and enabled him to share creatively in the development of the youth programme.

Mr Mather was received by the Moderator.

Mr Roger Tolman and Mr Ron Forster were received by the Moderator as Youth Leadership Training Officers. Dr Slack then moved:

12. The Assembly records its deep gratitude to the Revd Robert Latham for his leadership and service in the secretaryship of the Church Life Department since the inauguration of the United Reformed Church.

The Assembly accepted the motion with acclamation.

In relation to the proposed alternate form of the Statement of the Nature, Faith and Order of the URCh (Schedule D), as set out in the Book of Reports, p.44 paragraph 14, the Revd Dr K.Slack moved the following resolutions:

13. The Assembly passes from further consideration of Schedule D which was before the Assembly in 1979 (cf. p.18 Record 1979).
14. Subject to ratification of this decision in 1981, the Assembly authorises the use of the version set out on pp.44 and 45 of the Reports to this Assembly as an alternative to that in the Basis of Union.

Dr Slack indicated that amendments in the names of the Revd Buick Knox, seconded by the Revd R.Richards; and Bishop L.Newbigin, seconded by the Revd R.O.Latham, to the proposed new wording, received the support of the Officers of the Church Life Department.

The Assembly agreed that the following amendments should be accepted:

15. Paragraph 4
Lines 1 - 3 to read 'We accept with thanksgiving to God the witness to the Catholic faith in the Apostles' and Nicene creeds,'

lines 4 - 7 to read 'We acknowledge the declarations made in our own tradition by Congregationalists and Presbyterians (and the Churches of Christ) in which they stated the faith and sought to make its implication clear.'

Paragraph 5
line 10 ('if the need arises')
to be placed after line 7
('but we affirm our right and readiness')

Paragraph 6
lines 1 - 3 to read
'Held together in the Body of Christ
through the freedom of the Spirit,
we rejoice in the diversity of the Spirit's gifts.'

The resolution was then agreed by Assembly approving the revised Schedule D as amended (Report pp.44 and 45, para 14).

CHURCH AND SOCIETY DEPARTMENT (Reports pp.66-71)

The Moderator invited the Chairman, Mr Raymond T.Clarke, to present the Report of the Church and Society Department and on his motion the report was received.

General discussion followed on those items in the report not covered by resolutions. Replies to questions and comments were given by members of the Departmental Committee.

The Chairman then moved the following resolution which was agreed:

1. The Assembly urges all churches to study the question of racism, both locally and nationally, using the publications of the British Council of Churches' Community and Race Relations Unit, and commends to all Churches the CRRU Project Fund as a practical way of contributing to the creation of a truly multi-racial society in Britain.

It was further proposed that:

2. The Assembly urges local churches and, where possible, District Councils to express forcibly to Local Education Authorities the need to
 - (a) maintain specialist RE staff in secondary schools and the option of RE as a CSE 'O' and 'A' level examination subject;
 - (b) ensure that both primary and secondary schools contain staff who have received some training in RE;
 - (c) make provision of adequate finance, resources and timetable periods for RE (with a minimum of 5% of the timetable in secondary schools);
 - (d) enable Advisors to make clear time commitments to the needs of RE in County Schools;
 - (e) release teachers for full and part-time in-service training in RE to make up for any current deficiencies;

- (f) appoint Standing Advisory Committees on Religious Education to consider the development of agreed syllabuses and to provide for consultation with representatives of religious bodies within their areas.

The resolution was carried.

On behalf of the East Midlands Province the Revd R Taylor proposed, seconded by the Mr B.E.Stonehouse

3. Assembly requests the Church and Society Department, in collaboration with the BCC, to pursue urgently a study of the development of nuclear energy resources, with particular reference to the recommendations of the Massachusetts Conference on Faith, Science and the Future, and with a view to encouraging discussion of this issue throughout the councils of the Church.

The resolution was carried.

On behalf of the Thames North Province, the Revd B.Sewell proposed. seconded by the Revd D.Skidmore:

4. Assembly urges H.M.Government to do everything within its power to secure the inclusion of the right of conscientious objection to military service in the European Convention on Human Rights and similarly to secure the inclusion of such a right into any Charter of Human Rights which the European Communities may adopt.

The resolution was carried.

On behalf of the Department the Revd P.Brain proposed:

5. The Assembly welcomes the publication of the Brandt Commission's report, 'North-South: A Programme for Survival', as of great importance in the search for international peace and development and urges local churches to study it and to press their Members of Parliament to ensure that its analysis of the present world situation and its recommendations for action are given urgent attention by Her Majesty's Government.

The Assembly adopted the resolution .

It was further moved by the Revd M.George and seconded by the Revd J.Reardon that:

6. The Assembly, welcoming the publication by the British Council of Churches of the document, 'The Future of the British Nuclear Deterrent', and noting the resolution passed by the BCC Assembly in November 1979, urges Her Majesty's Government to allow for a period of public debate before making decisions about the retention of an independent British nuclear deterrent after the present Polaris missiles have become obsolete. The Assembly further urges churches to engage in discussion of the question raised in the BCC report and resolution, with a view to communicating their views to their Members of Parliament.

The resolution was carried.

WORLD CHURCH AND MISSION DEPARTMENT (Reports pp.72-81)

The Chairman, the Revd Principal Martin H.Cressey together with members of the Department introduced the report of the World Church and Mission Department and on his motion the report was received.

Dr David Kerr introduced the new study handbook entitled 'With people of other Faiths in Britain' and commended it to the Assembly.

The Assembly took note of the report of the Mission and Other Faiths Committee. Mrs Helen Lidgett introduced members of the CWM team of visitors who reflected together on their visit to the URC from April 18th to May 9th 1980. This presentation was greeted with acclaim by the Assembly.

The Chairman asked the Assembly to welcome the presence in Assembly of Mr Barrie Scopes the new General Secretary of CWM; the Revd Philip Morgan, General Secretary of the Re-formed Association of the Churches of Christ and General Secretary elect of the British Council of Churches; and Dr David Thompson, President of the Re-formed Association.

General discussion followed relative to items in the Departmental Report not covered by resolutions.

The Chairman presented the following resolutions which were carried:

1. The Assembly commends the first report of the Churches Council for Covenanting to Synods, Districts and local churches for careful consideration, instructs the M and EW Home Committee to initiate discussion of it throughout the Church and to seek responses from the whole Church, to help it in the preparation of a report and recommendations for presentation to the Assembly of 1981.
2. The Assembly approves the revised Proposals for Unification submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee of the URC and the Central Council of the Re-formed Association of the Churches of Christ and resolves to proceed in accordance with them.

This resolution gained the whole-hearted assent of the Assembly with one vote cast against and one abstention.

3. The Assembly resolves to make the scheduled amendments defined in the revised Proposals for Unification as amendments to the Basis of Union and the Structure of the United Reformed Church to become effective on the date of unification as defined in the revised Proposals for Unification, subject to the ratification of this resolution at the Assembly of 1981 and the completion of the other processes laid down in these Proposals.

This was carried with no dissentients.

The Chairman then moved and it was agreed that:

4. The Assembly authorises the Legal Adviser, in consultation with the officers, to prepare clauses for inclusion in the Churches of Christ/URC Bill to secure amendments to the URC Act 1972 as set out in the Joint Report p.5.

It further authorises the Legal Adviser, after appropriate consultation with the Committees and other bodies concerned, to submit for the approval of the Executive Committee in July

- (i) a clause establishing that the Congregational Federation Ltd shall be deemed to be included in the Second Part of the Schedule to the Baptist and Congregational Trusts Act 1951.
- (ii) a clause ensuring that provision can be made as to the Trusts upon which the property of local churches which the Assembly has agreed or may agree to release from membership of the URC may be held.

The Assembly expressly authorises the Executive Committee to take all necessary steps in consultation with those able to act for the Re-formed Association of the Churches of Christ to arrange for the promotion in Parliament of the Churches of Christ/URC Bill as presented to the Assembly but with such additional clauses as the legal adviser has been authorised to prepare and the Executive Committee may approve.

The Assembly further expressly authorises the Executive Committee to appoint and authorise such other person or persons or Committee as may be deemed appropriate to promote and deal with the day to day conduct and carriage of the Bill with power to make such further amendments not inconsistent with the revised Proposals for Unification as the person or persons or Committee so appointed and authorised with the advice of the legal adviser may consider necessary.

The Chairman gave a brief account of the recent events in Taiwan which had led to the arrest of the General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Taiwan and of some of his colleagues. Revd Boris Anderson reported on his recent visit and answered questions about the situation. Attention was drawn to a letter written by Revd C.M. Kao, the General Secretary, a few days before his arrest sending greetings to the URC.

On the motion of the Chairman, the Assembly resolved as follows:

- 5. The Assembly is deeply concerned at developments in Taiwan following the human rights rally in Kaohsiung on December 10th 1979 and shocked at the arrest on April 24th of Dr Kao Chun Ming, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan. It instructs its officers to protest to the Taiwanese authorities at Dr Kao's arrest and to assure the Presbyterian Church of its support and sympathy; and further authorises the World Church and Mission Department in consultation with the Moderator, the General Secretary and the Secretary of the Church and Society Department, to keep the situation under review and to act as necessary on its behalf.

The General Secretary was asked to send a greeting to the Church in Taiwan in response to Dr Kao's letter and to write to the Foreign Secretary asking that H.M. Government should give urgent consideration to this matter.

450 members of the Assembly signed a paper signifying their deep concern.

The Moderator led the Assembly in prayer both for those arrested and for the Church.

This concluded the business of the Department.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT (Reports pp.82-99)

The Assembly took up consideration of the Report of the Finance and Administration Department which was submitted by Mr F.H.Brooman, the Hon.Treasurer, on whose motion the Report was received.

Mr Brooman began his report by paying tribute to his predecessor, Mr Leslie Palmer, and requested that the Assembly send him greetings.

The Accounts for the year ending December 31st, 1979 were submitted by the Treasurer at whose suggestion Mr Robin Gray of Messrs Robson Rhodes, the Auditors, was invited to read the Report issued by his firm.

The Accounts for the year ended December 31st, 1979 were then received and adopted.

The Treasurer then proposed that:

1. Assembly notes that the Church did not quite succeed in reaching the target for the Unified Appeal for 1979 but records its thanks to all who contributed to the Appeal, particularly those Provinces which accepted an extra commitment.

This was agreed.

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE (Reports pp. 82-84, 87)

The Chairman of the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee, Mr R.C.N.Tinsley, was invited to present the report of the Committee.

Mr Tinsley then moved that:

Assembly adopts the Plan for Partnership in Ministerial Remuneration as its method of financing the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund with effect from January 1st 1981.

An amendment, proposed by the Revd A.Wells, seconded by the Revd (Miss) A Savage, that section 9.5 be amended by the addition of the words 'where requested by the Province concerned' after the word 'shall' in line 1 was sustained.

A further amendment was proposed by the Revd A.Wells, seconded by the Revd A Savage, that 'the Committee be asked to give further consideration to section 5 and to report to next Assembly any proposals for its revision'. After discussion the amendment was defeated. The original resolution, when put to the Assembly, was then adopted in the following form:

2. Assembly adopts the Plan for Partnership in Ministerial Remuneration as its method of financing the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund with effect from January 1st, 1981 subject to the inclusion in section 9.5 of the Plan of the words 'where requested by the Province concerned' after the word 'shall' in line.

It was further moved that:

3. Assembly gives approval to the Maintenance of the Ministry Budget for 1981 noting that it allows for an increase of 15% in ministers' stipends payable from July 1st, 1981.

The resolution was carried.

Introducing items relevant to ministerial stipends Mr Tinsley proposed:

4. (a) Assembly resolves that ministerial basic stipends shall be increased by 20% effective from July 1st, 1980.

This will result in the following annual stipends for ministers in whole-time scope:

£3,208 for the first ten years of service
£3,274 for the next ten years of service
£3,340 after twenty years of service.

For part-time ministers, the maximum part-time stipend is amended to £1,925 to £2,310.

- (b) Assembly resolves that with effect from July 1st, 1980:
- (i) the grant payable to ministers upon ordination shall be increased from £100 to £150.
 - (ii) the disturbance allowance shall be increased from £100 to £150.
 - (iii) the maximum grant payable to a minister upon retirement towards meeting the cost of removal shall be increased from £150 to £200.

After extended discussion the resolution was agreed.

The debate on the Committee Report was adjourned temporarily while the Clerk invited the Assembly to bid God-speed to the Revd Bernard Thorogood as he leaves to lead the British delegation in Melbourne, a message which was conveyed to him.

A further resolution was proposed by the Revd B. Nuttall, seconded by the Revd B. Holroyd, as follows:

Assembly resolves that any increases in stipends after 1981 be made from January 1st each year in line with the timing of assessment changes, and that transitional arrangements be made so that ministers are not adversely affected by the change.

The resolution was defeated.

Mr Tinsley further proposed and it was agreed:

5. Assembly, for the assurance of ministers who may have extended periods of illness, resolves that ministers who are unable to work because of illness shall be paid full stipend (less National Insurance Sickness Benefit and Industrial Injury Benefit) for a period of six months during any period of twelve months. Approximately three months after the beginning of any illness, the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee shall take steps to determine, in consultation with the Provincial Moderator, what further help should be given when the entitlement to full stipend comes to an end.
6. Assembly agrees that with effect from July 1st, 1980 deaconesses shall be paid on the same stipend scale as ministers.

The Committee were warmly thanked for all the work they had done on behalf of Assembly during the past year.

PENSION FUND

The Moderator invited Mr Herbert Fisher to introduce the Report of the Pension Fund. On his motion amendments were accepted to the resolution set out in the Book of Reports and the Assembly discussed the amended resolution which, on being put to the vote, was accepted as follows:

7. The Assembly resolves that the United Reformed Church do constitute a pension scheme and do execute an interim Trust Deed and approve the draft rules (to be respectively in the form of the drafts produced to the Assembly amended in respect of Rule 23a by the deletion in line 7 of the words 'was entitled at the date of death' and the insertion of 'becomes entitled at retirement whether or not he then avails himself of rule 26; and in respect of rule 41 b i by the deletion in line 3 of the word 'Union' and the insertion of 'Committee' and initialled by the Moderator) and that the trustees be authorised to execute the same and take all steps incidental to carrying the same into effect.

CHURCH BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

The Moderator invited the Revd R.G.Walker to introduce the report of the Church Buildings Committee, and on his motion it was received. He drew the attention of the Assembly particularly to the Church Buildings Committee Property Report. Discussion ensued and various suggestions were made to the Committee.

The Revd R.G.Walker moved:

8. Assembly commends the Property Report to all those concerned with property matters in the URC.
9. Assembly recommends each Province to ensure that it has a committee able to advise local churches and districts in dealing with matters of maintenance insurance, adaptation, development and disposal of property.

These resolutions were carried.

RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSING SOCIETY LIMITED WELFARE AND EMERGENCIES COMMITTEE (Reports p.85)

The Chairman, Mr F.H.Brooman, referred to the Reports of the Retired Ministers' Housing Society Limited and the Welfare and Emergencies Committee. The Assembly took note of these Reports.

This concluded the business of the Finance and Administration Department.

BUDGET (Reports p.85)

The Budget for the Central Activities of the Church for 1981 which had been circulated with the accounts, was withdrawn, and a revised budget which had been included in the Order Paper was brought before Assembly.

The Treasurer moved:

Assembly approves the Central Activities Budget for 1981 which provides for expenditure of £978,000.

The resolution was carried.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (Reports p.4)

The Chairman of the Nominations Committee, the Revd N.W.Bainbridge, reported the appointment of Tellers for the election of Moderator 1981/82 as follows:

Mr R.A.Heritage (Chairman)
Miss E.Paterson
Mr J.E.Morris

On Mr Bainbridge's motion the Nominations Committee Report was received and the following resolutions were adopted:

1. The Assembly appoints the Revd R.F.Taylor as Chairman of the Church Life Department to serve until the Assembly 1986.
2. The Assembly appoints Chairmen of other Committees as set out in paragraph 1(c) of the Report.
3. The Assembly appoints committees and representatives of the Church for the year 1980-81 as set out in the Appendix to the Report.

During the Assembly the following matters arose and were dealt with:

COMMISSIONING OF ASSEMBLY OFFICERS

In an act of Worship the Assembly commissioned and inducted to office the Revd Bernard George Thorogood as General Secretary of the URC, and the Revd Michael Graham Dunford as Secretary of the Church Life Department, each to serve for seven years in the first instance.

THANKS TO RETIRING MODERATOR

The Revd John Young addressed the Assembly in giving thanks to the retiring Moderator Revd R.O.Latham, for his ministry to the URC during his year of office. Mr.Latham responded.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR OF ASSEMBLY FOR 1981

The result of the ballot for Moderator of the General Assembly of 1981 was declared by Mr R.A.Heritage on behalf of the Tellers. 504 ballot papers had been returned and the Revd Principal Martin H.Cressey declared to be elected.

The Moderator received the Moderator-Elect amid the acclaim of the Assembly and Principal Cressey responded.

WORSHIP

Worship during the Assembly was led by the Moderator's Chaplain, the Revd John Parry, assisted by Miss Vivienne Ross, Mr Alan Lee, Mr A.C.Dhamaraj and Revd Maitland Evans. The organ was played by Mr R.W.Longden, Mr E.Tindall and Revd Keith Forecast.

THANKS

The business of the Assembly having been completed the Revd Ian White proposed that:

The Assembly records its thanks to all who had contributed to its work. It expressed particular thanks to the Minister and the Church Council of the Victoria Hall, the Minister and Elders of Central URC, to those who had provided hospitality for members of the Assembly, to the local arrangements committee, those who catered for the Assembly's refreshment and comfort.

The Assembly further thanked the office staff for the arrangements made to assist its work, the organists and staff of Victoria Hall and Central URC, and the Moderator and his chaplain, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk, the Chairman and Secretary of the Business Committee for the manner in which they had discharged their duties.

This was received with warm applause.

CLOSURE

The Clerk submitted the minutes of the days proceedings and declared that the Assembly having in the good providence of God brought its proceedings to a close should dissolve to meet again in the Pavilion Bournemouth on Monday April 27th, 1981 at 3 p.m. or at such other time and place as may be duly determined.

The Moderator conducted a final act of worship and dismissed the Assembly of 1980 with the Blessing.

COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

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: The Revd R.F. Taylor - 1986
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Provincial Representatives

I	Revd D.A. Welbrock	VII	Mrs M. Bason
II	Revd R.W. Courtney	VIII	Revd G. Bobbett
III	Mrs M.E. Starr	IX	Revd F.G. Wilson Dennett
IV	Revd E. Allen	X	Miss S. Fairbairn
V	Mr W.C. Jones	XI	Revd M.D. Whitehorn
VI	Revd W.J. Jones	XII	Mrs N. Morgans

together with the Chairmen of the Committees within the Department and the Revd C.C. Franks

Members under 25: Miss L. Carruthers, Mr A. Pickles

MINISTERIAL TRAINING

Chairman: Rt Revd Bishop Lesslie Newbigin - 1982
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

Dr C. Binfield	Revd R.J. Hall	Revd R.J. Way
Revd Dr E.C. Blackman	Revd P.C. Jupp	Revd Dr S.H. Mayor
Mr R.S. Buzzing	Revd D.G. Stewart	Revd Janet Sowerbutts
Revd Kate Compston	Revd A.S. Dunstone	

together with the Principals of the recognised Colleges in Aberystwyth, Bangor, Cambridge, Manchester and Oxford

Panel for Assessment Conferences

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

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

Nominations to Teaching Staff (Westminster College)

Chairman: Rt Revd Bishop Lesslie Newbigin
Secretary: Secretary of Ministerial Training Committee

Principal, Westminster College Dr D.A. Sykes
Professor John Ferguson Revd J.E. Young
Revd Kathleen M. Hendry

SUPPLEMENTARY MINISTRIES

Chairman: Dr R.D. Jurd - 1985
Secretary: Secretary for Stewardship and Supplementary Ministries

Miss M.A. Bodey	Mrs S. Owen	Mrs E. Stewart
Dr R.J.M. Evans	Revd P.F. Parrish	Revd B.D. Treharne
Revd M.G. Hanson	Mrs O. Russell	Revd R.G. Walker

DOCTRINE AND WORSHIP

Chairman: Revd Dr B. Johanson - 1986
Secretary: Revd D. McIlhagga - 1981

Revd J.C. Brock	Revd Principal P. Davies	
Revd F.G. Wilson Dennett	Revd D.F. Jones	Dr A.K. Waters
Revd Dr I. Fraser	Miss A. Phillips	Revd D. Thompson
Revd A. Gaunt	Revd Dr A.P.F. Sell	Revd J.W.P. Williamson
Revd Dr C. Gunton	Dr D.A. Sykes	

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chairman: Revd Margaret T. Taylor - 1985
Secretary: The Christian Education Secretary

Revd T. Glanville Jones	Revd A. McLellan	Mrs M. Strange
Mr A. Haywood	Miss C. Parker	Revd S.M. Thornton
Mrs Jeanne Jones	Revd J. Robinson	Mr B. Worrall

YOUTH WORK

Chairman: The Revd D. Wilson - 1986
Secretary: The Youth Secretary

Mrs S. Ackroyd	Revd A. Forsyth	Revd G.J. Spicer
Miss R. Campbell	Mr R.D. Hall	2 vacancies
Revd R. Diffey	Revd D. Newman	
Revd A.F.T. Evans	Mrs S. Quilter	

Members under 25:

Mr S. Brown	Mrs D. Jones	Mr G. Rodgers
Mr B. Dinnewell	Mr H. McCallam	Miss V. Ross
Mr M. Faulkner	Miss H. Paton	Mr G. Sweeney
Mr J. Hardaker	Miss S. Raggett	Mr S. Walker

CHILDREN'S WORK

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

Miss Lesley Beale	Mr P. Lovett	Mrs R. Scarrow
Revd G.R. Chapman	Mrs G. Page	Revd Pamela Ward
Revd B.A. Holroyd	Mrs J. Palmer	1 vacancy

MINISTRY OF HEALING

Chairman: Revd D. Dale - 1984
Secretary: Secretary for Stewardship and Supplementary Ministries

Miss Ruth Archer	Revd D.M. Main	Mrs G. Swain
Dr W.S. Campbell	Revd P.R. Page	Dr E. Welford
Revd R.L. Gordon	Revd Dr J. Parry	Revd K.J. Hibberd
Revd Dr T.E. Grant	Revd F.A. Shield	

CHAPLAINS AND STUDENTS

Chairman: Revd Dr L.C. Green - 1984
Secretary: Revd P.C. Jupp - 1985

Miss Bethan Davies	Revd B. Moss	Revd B.K. Tettey
Revd Chong Kah Gey	Miss Barbara Moyser	Revd Dr C.P. Thompson
Miss A. Jones	Revd D. Paterson	Revd A.D. Tucker
Miss J. Kendall	Prof. R.L.E. Schwarzenberger	1 vacancy
Revd T.C. Mickleth		

WORLD CHURCH AND MISSION DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Revd Principal M.H. Cressey - 1983
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

**Provincial Representatives*

I Revd J.M. Marsh	VII Revd S. Smith
II Revd P.S. Killick	VIII Revd T.E. Girling
III Revd D. Batchelor	IX Revd A.J. Spring
IV Revd A.C. Gardiner	X Revd Barbara Meachin
V Revd D.H. Cummins	XI Revd J.G. Weller
VI Revd V.N.J. Lewis	XII Mrs E.M. Steel

together with the Chairmen of Committees within the Department and the Revds G.E. Beck, Dr S.K. Coe, Dr F.H. Kaan, Mr J.E.M. Gilbey and Miss Susan Stevenson.

MISSIONARY AND ECUMENICAL WORK AT HOME

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

Revd R. Andrews	Mrs A. Hart	Revd N.L. Shephard
Dr P. Clarke	Revd Dr J. Huxtable	Revd C.L. Taylor
Revd E.M. Gooding	Mrs J. Parker	Revd D. Bale
Revd H. Gordon	Mrs S. Parkinson	

Liaison Groups with other Churches which report to Assembly through the Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home Committee

Churches of Christ # URC Liaison Committee

Revds Gillian Bobbett, C.C. Franks, Dr J. Huxtable, R.O. Latham, J.E. Mather, Mrs R.M. Smith

URC # Methodist Liaison Committee

Revds G.E. Beck, C.C. Franks, J. Hollyman, D. Marsden, D.R. Peel, B.G. Thorogood, A.J.G. Walker

MISSIONARY AND ECUMENICAL WORK ABROAD COMMITTEE

Chairman: Revd R.D.C. Cole - 1985
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

Revd E.S. Allen	Mrs R. Cowhig	Miss M. McQuitty
Revd D. Batchelor	Mrs D. Beale	Revd B. Tetley
Revd R.A.H. Bocking	Revd J. Humphreys	1 vacancy
Miss D.J. Biggs	Revd A. Lock	

MISSION AND OTHER FAITHS

Chairman: Dr D.A. Kerr - 1983
Secretary: The Personnel Secretary

Revd Dr H.D. Beeby	Revd D. Elliott	Revd J. Parry
Mr R.V. Buddle	Mrs M. Marsden	Miss P. Robinson
Revd P. Chave	Rt Revd Bishop Lesslie Newbigin	1 vacancy

PERSONNEL

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

Revd Stella Beare	Revd J.M. Lloyd	Prof.R. Schwarzenberger
Revd G.P. Breeze	Revd D.C. Morgan	Dr E.J. Welford
Revd A.S. Dunstone	Mrs M. MacLeod	Revd S. Wilton

CHURCH AND SOCIETY DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Mr R.T. Clarke - 1985
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Provincial Representatives

I	Revd Dr T.E. Grant	VII	Mr C. George
II	Revd J. Salsbury	VIII	Revd A.A. Baillie
III	Revd R. Andrews	IX	Revd A.G. Jones
IV	Revd D. Miller	X	Revd G.J. Tate
V	Revd F.T. Snape	XI	Revd R.C. Christopher
VI	Revd B. O'Neill	XII	Mr I.G. Williams

together with Mrs S. Acty, Revd A.J. Addy, Revd P. Brain, Mr A.J. Curry, Dr Mary Ede, Mrs Jean Sylvan Evans, Mrs R. Goodfellow, Revd M.F. Hubbard, Mr H.O. Packer

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Chairman: Mr F.H. Brooman - 1986
Secretary: The Departmental Secretary

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Provincial Representatives

I	Revd Dr A.R. Ritchie	VII	Mr J. Henderson
II	Mr W. Glenfield	VIII	Mr P. Hamblin
III	Mr M.B.S. Emlyn	IX	Mr J.E. Richardson
IV	Mr J.E.M. Gilbey	X	Mr C. Beety
V	Mr M. Bond	XI	Mr A.S. Chapman
VI	Mr H.E. Greening	XII	Mr H. Morris

together with the Chairmen of the Committees within the Department, Mr H.F. Fisher and the Revd J.D. Waller

TREASURERSHIP

Chairman: Mr R.S. Martin - 1984
Secretary: The Chief Accountant

Mr F.H. Brooman	Mr K.M. Kirby	Mr A.J.M. Olsen
Mr J. Bryan	Mr I.W. Macdonald	Mr D. Turner
Mr J.A. Cumming	Mr L. Macro	Revd J. White
Mr G. Hearne		

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY

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

I	Mr K.R. Hounsome	VII	Revd P.E. Wadey
II	Mr J. Morris	VIII	Mr K.G. Hales
III	Mr W. Whitlow	IX	Dr D.A. Page
IV	Mr J.E.M. Gilbey	X	Revd G. Satchell
V	Revd J. White	XI	
VI	Revd M.J. Husselbee	XII	Mr G.J. Gregory

together with a Provincial Moderator (the Revd M.J. Davies), Mr H.F. Fisher and two additional members to be appointed through the Nominations Committee.

WELFARE AND EMERGENCIES

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

Mrs J. Armour	Revd M.B. Stolton
Mr H.J. Eatwell	Mrs M. Weedon
Revd L.A. Stringer	

CHURCH BUILDINGS

Chairman: The Revd M.J. Husselbee - 1986
Secretary: Mr D.F. Banwell

Mr C. Bacon	Revd M.F. Hubbard	Mr M. Foster Taylor
Mr E. Checkland	Mrs M. Herbert	(Property Consultant)
Revd K. Graham	Mr P. Pedlar	Revd A.D. Trinder
Mr W.C. Hammond	Revd C. Smith-Draper	Mr C. Webb

URC RETIRED MINISTERS HOUSING LIMITED

Chairman: Mr H. Greening - 1981
Secretary: Mr F.A.W. Lodde

Revd M.J. Davies	Mr J.E.M. Gilbey	Mr F.H. Brooman
Mr F.H. Bennett	Mr W. Hammond	Revd D.L. Skidmore
Revd N. Birnie	Revd A.L. Macarthur	Mr M. Foster Taylor
Mr C.M. Frank	Mr J. Banks	Revd John White

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, Nominations, Stewardship, Deployment, Budget and Publications and Publicity Committees, the Secretary of the Nominations and Business Committees.

Budget

Chairman: The General Secretary
Secretary: The Chief Accountant

The Chairmen and Secretaries of the four Departments, the Chairman and Secretary of Treasurership, Maintenance of the Ministry and Publications and Publicity Committees, the Chairman of the Stewardship Committee, the Administrative Secretary, two Provincial Moderators and three persons appointed by the Executive Committee (currently the Revd J.D.Waller, Mr H.F.Fisher and Mr E.G.Hall).

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 Chairman of the four Departments and one representative from each Synod

NOMINATIONS

Chairman: Revd N.W.Bainbridge - 1985
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 - 1982
Secretary: The General Secretary

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

PUBLICATIONS

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

Revd S.A.Bidmead	Mrs Margaret Evans	Revd T.C. Micklem
Mr K.S.Davies	Mr P.W.Giddy	Revd C.E.C.Richards
Mr N.Davis	Revd Dorothy Havergal-Shaw	Revd E.P. Schofield
Revd J. Dey	Mr R.S.Martin	

Editorial Advisory Board

Revd J.H.Taylor (Chairman) and Mrs N.Matanle - 1981
Revds P. Nash and P.C. Jupp - 1982
two vacancies

CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP

Chairman: Revd J.B.Simpson - 1984
Secretary: Secretary for Stewardship and Supplementary Ministries

Revd G.F.Barrow	Mr D.Faragher	Mr A.Ogilvie
Mr F.H.Brooman	Mrs P.Hubbard	Revd M.Westerman
Revd E.Carless	Mr W.B.Johnson	Revd C.Wilton
Revd M.J.Davies	Revd K.L.Lee	Revd J.T.Yates

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 J.Slow	Revd B.G.Thorogood
Revd R.O.Latham	Revd C.L.Taylor	Mr P.A.Wade
		Revd J.White

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH ON OTHER BODIES

1. CHURCH BODIES

British Council of Churches

Dr C.Binfield, the Revd Principal M.G.Cressey, Mrs R.Goodfellow, the Revd A.L. Macarthur, the Revd J.P.Reardon, Miss S.Stevenson
Consultative Committee for Local Ecumenical Projects in England: Revd P.S. Chesney
Revd B.G.Thorogood
Churches Consortium on Industrial Mission: Revds J.P. Reardon, R.F. Taylor
British Churches Housing Trust: Mr M.Foster Taylor, Mr.C.Bacon
Consultative Group on Ministry among 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
Youth Unit Reference Group: Revd John Oldershaw

(Appointed by the British Council of Churches New triennium from 1981)

Divisions:

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

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, D.Marsden, L.A.Stringer and R.Whitehead

Chaplaincy Board: Revds D.R.Beamon, L.A.Stringer
Education Committee: Revds Aubrey D.Lewis, J.Robinson, M.D.Whitehorn, Miss Rita Davis
Funerals, Cremations and Crematoria: Revd R.L.Richards
Joint Education Policy Committee: Revd M.D.Whitehorn

Churches Council for Covenanting in England

Revd G.J.Cook	Mrs S.Parkinson
Revd Professor M.H.Creasey	Revd B.G. Thorogood
Rt Revd Bishop Lesslie Newbigin	

2. OTHER COMMITTEES AND NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Aged and Infirm Ministers Fund: Revds P.C. Clarke R.L.Richards, Mr.L.Macro (Honorary Treasurer), Revd G.Satchell
British Lessons Council: Revd C.K.Forecast
Christian Education Movement Council: Revd R.Tomes
Bible Reading Fellowship: Revd M.D.Whitehorn
Church Hymnary Trust: Revd H.S.Ross
Churches Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drugs: Dr D Acres, Mr P.Bunker, Revd Dr T.E.Grant, Dr A.Latham, Revds J.P.Reardon, M.D.Whitehorn
Churches' Main Committee: Mr N.A.Pooler, Mr M.Foster Taylor, Mr C.M.Frank
Churches' Advisory Panel of the Boys Brigade: Revd C.K.Forecast
Churches' Council for Health and Healing: Revds D.Dale and C.K.Meachin
Boys Brigade Council of the URC Companies: Revds J. Oldershaw and J.M. Rees
Guides' Religious Advisory Panel: Revd Gillian Bobbett
Inter-Church Drama Consultative Group - Radius: Miss S.Fairburn

International Consultation on English Texts: Revd D. McIlhagga
Joint Committee on 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. McIlhagga and C. Thompson
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): Revd J. Oldershaw
Society for the Ministry of Women in the Church: Revd Barbara Meachin
Union of Welsh Independents Council: The Revd J.H. Lewis
United Navy, Army and Air Force Board: Revds E.P. Schofield, R.O. Latham,
 R. Royston-Bishop, B.G. Thorogood
United Reformed Church History Society: Revds P.C. Jupp, A.L. Macarthur,
 Mrs K. Davies, Mrs S.M. Tull
Wharton Trust: Mr A.G. Esslemont, Revd C.K. Forecast
Widows Fund of the Three Denominations: Revds P.C. Clarke, L.A. Stringer, Mr L.
 Macro, Revd G.W. Satchell, Revd M.J. Davies
Women's World Day of Prayer Committee: Mrs A. Whillis
Churches Advisory Committee on Local Broadcasting: Revd D.J. Netherwood

3. COLLEGE AND SCHOOL GOVERNORS AND COUNCILS

Aberystwyth (Memorial College): Revd C.H. Grant, Mrs J.T. Morgan
Bala-Bangor Revd E.M. Jeremiah
Bishop's Stortford College: Mr D.A. Lundie
Cambridge Federation of Theological Colleges: Revd M.G. Dunford
Caterham School, Board of Governors: Revd T. Perry, Mr G.R. Mallett (Hon. Treasurer)
Cheshunt Foundation: Revd M.G. Dunford, Mr S.H. Burns
Congregational College, Manchester: Revds M.G. Dunford, 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, Revd R.E. Taylor, Dr R. Watson
Mansfield College, Oxford: Revd-M.G. Dunford, Revd J.P. Lee-Woolf, Mr P. Spicer

Milton Mount Foundation, Governors: Revd D.G. Evans, Mrs H.S. Stanley, Miss Ruth
 Thompson, Mr J.F. Ford, Revd R.E. Taylor

St Andrew's Hall, Selly Oak: Revds E.E.B. Cruchley, 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, Revd M.F. Hubbard , R.W.H. Jones
Taunton School: Revd M.F. Hubbard
Tettenhall College, Governors: Mr F.H. Bennett, Revd J.C. Campbell, Mr R.J. Whild
 Mr A. Stephens
Wentworth Milton Mount, Governor: Revd P.S. Chesney
Westhill College of Education Council: Mr J. Payne (Governor and Trustee), 1 vacancy

4. COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION

Revd B. Anderson Revd Dr F.H. Kaan
 Mr A.J. Curry Miss Ruth Archer

5. MEMORIAL HALL TRUST

Mr F.H. Brooman	Revd A.L. Macarthur	Revd G.W. Satchell
Revd M.J. Davies	Mr R.S. Martin	Revd D.L. Skidmore
Mr K.M. Kirby	Mr L.R. Palmer	Revd J.H. Taylor
Mr F.A.W. Lodde	Mr F. Riceman	Revd J. White

DATES OF TEAM VISIT - April 18 - 30, 1980

AREAS FOR THE VISIT - South Wales, Bristol, West Midlands

TEAM MEMBERS - A.C. DHARMARAJ (Church of North India)
 MAITLAND EVANS (United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman)
 LEE CHING CHEE (Church of Christ in China, Hong Kong Council)
 ANTHON VOS (Reformed Churches in the Netherlands)

INTRODUCTION

The main objectives of the Team Visit were -

- A. To get to know the way in which the URC is organised and to meet church people in a particular geographical area.
- B. In that area to see how human society is shaping and changing.
- C. To join in worship and share church activities including, if possible, a District meeting and ecumenical gatherings.
- D. To bring a fresh judgement on the way that part of the URC is responding to the challenge of the Gospel in its own life and in its outreach to society.
- E. To help extend and deepen awareness of the world church.

Impressions of the church derived from such a brief visit are in no way meant to be judgemental but merely to share some insights and raise some concerns of the Team.

I. GENERAL IMPRESSION

1. The URC plays an important role in the life of the British churches.
2. It is open to ecumenical co-operation.
3. It is less clergy-centred than other main-line churches.
4. The local congregation is given fundamental importance in the URC structures.
5. Excellent experiments are being attempted in ecumenical relationship and projects, notable examples seen by the Team being Swindon and Redditch.
6. The Report on Priorities and Resources suggests a forward looking church preparing itself for the decade of the '80s.
7. The quality of leadership is excellent.
8. The acceptance of ordained ministry from other traditions to serve the local united churches shows open-mindedness.
9. The URC has shown willingness to share the use of church property with the new religious minorities like Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs (e.g. in South Aston). This points to the fact that the URC is ready to identify new boundaries to be crossed in witnessing to Christ in today's world.

II. UNION FOR MISSION: STRUCTURES FOR MISSION

1. URC AND OTHER TRADITIONS:- Commitment to union together with a penitent confession of the failure and weakness of a divided church is spelt out most vigorously in paragraphs 7 and 8 of the Scheme of Union under item 7 (URC Manual pages 21-22). The Term recognises that this commitment encounters structural as well as theological obstacles against its fulfilment in its relationship with the other traditions especially the Church of England.
2. THE URC AND THE LOCAL UNITED CHURCH:- The attempt to accommodate Baptists and Methodists as a local United Church within the life of URC has introduced certain financial and administrative complexities which have disheartened some Provinces.
3. LOCAL ECUMENICAL PROJECTS:- The attempt to experiment with L.E.P.s is made in spite of the fact that certain ecclesiastical structures operating in other traditions hinder a more open and intimate ecumenical involvement as equals in the sight of God and man. In so far as other traditions refuse to face the issue of

mutual recognition of ministries and consequently of eucharistic fellowship they become stumbling blocks to unity.

4. BUREAUCRACY: The Team feels that even within the domestic life of the URC the pyramidal structure centralises the several levels of organisation through a hierarchical type of operation with a top-heavy departmental system; this has tended by its bureaucratic mechanics to reduce the scope of local initiative to take decisions to meet the changing local needs. A rigid system of stipulations of membership of committees etc. tends to keep out the laity from their rightful participatory ministry.
5. PURPOSE OF UNION:- The basis of union gives primary importance to worship, fellowship and outgoing ministry in paragraph 11 of item 7 (URC Manual page 22) and to receiving and expressing the renewing life of the Holy Spirit in each place and in its total fellowship. The Priorities and Resources Group Report underlines and reaffirms the importance of these things. The team raises the question whether URC continues to keep these purposes in the forefront of its life, work and witness to the Holy Spirit.

III. INTERNAL RELATIONSHIP

A number of gaps in the URC structure require some scrutiny.

1. THE COMMUNICATION GAP - Although the URC has produced from time to time several documents sharing insights and thinking on important matters, the communication does not seem to get through to the local congregations. There seems to be too much of a 'one way traffic', and the local congregations are not provided with opportunities for participation in shaping the agenda.
2. THE GAP BETWEEN LEADERS AND LOCAL CONGREGATIONS - Excellent experiments are taking place on worship and house groups. But the initiative seems to come from and remain with the ministers and lay leaders not the local congregations. In fact, the Team finds that there is much ignorance among the members of the local congregations regarding ecumenical efforts, chaplaincy work, Industrial Urban Mission, past-offenders homes etc.
3. GAPS AMONG LOCAL CONGREGATIONS - The local congregations, according to the size of membership, the language they speak (e.g. in Wales) and even the 'class' they belong to (e.g. haves and have-nots, professions and working class) seem to be separated, and have little to do with each other; they certainly do not know what is going on in the other congregations. This inward-looking attitude which hinders the members looking out and seeing what God is doing there is the cause of the gloomy and depressing atmosphere observed by the Team.
4. THE GAP WITHIN THE CONGREGATION - The local congregation does not seem to live up to the 'family image' of the church. No family would divide its members into 'departments' (E.G. the Sunday School, B.B. (Boys' Brigade), G.G. (Girl Guides), the Women's Guild and Fellowship, the elders and the choir).

IV. THE TOTAL MINISTRY OF URC

1. Although URC appears to be less clergy-centred than other main-line churches in the UK, there seems to be an over-emphasis on an ordained elite. This gives the impression that the essential parts of the whole work can only be done by the ordained and the minor parts may be done by 'ordinary people'.
2. The Team noted the absence of the 25-40 age group in the ministry of the URC. The Team gratefully learned that some young ministers from Third World countries are in theological training in URC-related colleges.
3. The work done by special ministries (e.g. chaplaincy to industry, universities and also the study centre for relations with Muslims) is essential for the whole Church and should be its responsibility.
4. In several local churches the Team missed the age group of 20-40. The team suggests a response to this lack, which should seek primarily to be responsive to the peculiar needs and circumstances of this age group rather than seeking their

immediate utilisation in the ministry of the local congregation.

5. 'Laity' is the ministering centre of the church. So, more attention should be paid to an education geared towards Christian living and leadership.
 6. The team emphasizes the need for continuous re-thinking of theological training, so that it reflects the total ministry of the Church in the life of today and a balance between academic excellence and practical application.
 7. Stewardship is an expression of the total spiritual life of the Church, and monetary giving is an important part of it along with the giving of time and talents. The Team learns that on average church members contribute less than 1% of their net income (income from all resources less income tax). Resolution 10 of the Report of Priorities and Resources recommends 2% as a standard for personal giving. Is there a need to examine that guideline in the light of the Biblical principle of 10%?
- V. CARING AND OUTREACH

The United Reformed Church in its Scheme of Union (page 12) outlined in the following terms the principles by which its ministry in caring and outreach would be guided -

"To live out in joyful and sacrificial service to all men in all the variety of their physical and spiritual needs, that ministry of caring, forgiving and healing love which Jesus Christ brought to all whom He met; to bear witness to the Lordship of Christ over the nations in all the variety of their organised life."

1. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE IDEAL AND THE ACTUAL - As the Team walked through the selected provinces it saw much evidence that the URC has not been able to keep faith with the missionary ideals identified above.
2. AN INWARD LOOKING CHURCH - In most of the areas visited the Team saw an inward looking church - there were many attractive examples of the "gathered church", diligent in worship, prayer and Bible study - but there was little evidence that these Christians were being equally prepared to be the "scattered church", dispersed in Christian service in a society wrestling with the problems of injustice, poverty, unemployment, housing, industrial tensions, international trade, various forms of displacement and loneliness.
3. SACRIFICED IDENTITY - The Team feels that the URC has sacrificed to the Welfare State its identity as a caring community. It is desirable for URC to be naturally sensitive to opportunities to care, even after the easy and the obvious do not any longer shame and motivate action. There is a need for the church to be vocal in challenging certain of the assumptions and value judgements of the technocrats of the welfare state.

A church which cannot be identified in the community as the source and centre of a "ministry of caring and sacrificial love" deserves to bear that stamp of irrelevance the Team heard so much about from ordinary persons in local communities.

The Team was deeply disturbed by the thought of many persons in the community, some of whom were practising Christians, that "the church is the last place I would take my problem, they just wouldn't understand".

4. 'LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP' PANIC - The team feels that the panic and anxiety regarding the loss of membership is serving to create an atmosphere of defeatism within the URC. We recognise that the intensity of the panic does vary in its application across the provinces; however, it represents a growing trend which serves largely to divert the church from concentrating available energies on simply being the church. The general impression is that in circumstances where congregations were busy strategising to be the church in its faith, hope and love, there were signs of a heightened sense of mission among the members as well as meaningful impact on the community. Resolution 5 - Report on Priorities and Resources (page 20) summarises the overall sense of panic.

The Team asks, Is this not a misconceived priority?

5. EVANGELISM AND NUMERICAL GROWTH? - The Team does not accept the view prevalent throughout the provinces visited, that the purpose of Evangelism is to provide numerical growth for the church.

The Team questions the validity of the following thoughts of the Provincial Moderators included in the report to the General Assembly.

"Churches are starting to thinking again of growth and how to make it possible and the efforts of GEAR, NIE and other renewal groups at the local level are beginning to speak to this need."

The Team feels that Evangelism on God's terms leaves the church no choice but continuously to discover relevant ways of sharing the "good news" in a world oppressed by "bad news".

6. FUNDAMENTALIST - LIBERAL DICHOTOMY - Is it possible that the mission of the moment is for the URC to draw upon the extensive gifts and spiritual insights available by God's grace to the church and go beyond the unending fundamentalist-liberal debate and analysis and bear "witness to the Lordship of Christ over the nations in all the variety of their organised life"?
7. MISSED OPPORTUNITIES - (a) WORKING CLASS PEOPLE AND THEIR STRUGGLES
The Trade Union representatives in one of the areas visited shared with deep feeling the conviction that 1926 (the General Strike) was symbolic of the church deserting the workers in their struggle for survival. The accuracy of the feeling is quite irrelevant - that there is the feeling is sufficient motivation to search for an answer.

(b) INTEGRATION WITHOUT DECULTURALISATION

The Team felt genuine uncertainty regarding the church's commitment to be engaged in ministry which acknowledges the presence of and therefore strategies for ethnic minorities. If there is to be mutual enrichment, there has to be mutual respect and acceptance. The church needs to decide whether the suggestion that the answer is in "separate development" will become standard practice by default.

SOME URGENT CONCERNS -

1. To continue the reviewing of structures at all levels with a view to making it possible for the local churches to fulfil the three objectives of the URC highlighted in the Report on Priorities and Resources as mentioned under 5 on p. 2 (II)
2. To make efforts to reduce the communication gap and to ensure the effective use of the Information Service pack at the local level.(III)
3. To encourage sharing of experiences among congregations, Districts and Provinces. (III)
4. To recapture the significance of the total ministry of the whole people of the URC. (IV)
5. To help the congregations to understand and get involved in the frontier, sp specialist, and team ministries. (IV)
6. To reorient the theological education curriculum to reflect the balance between academic excellence and practical application. (IV)
7. To consider whether the suggested standard of 2% for personal giving is a fair response to God's gift in Christ. (IV)
8. To enable more effectively Christian involvement and service in issues which go beyond internal concerns. (V)
9. To ensure that the identity of the church as a caring community does not become obscured by the advances of the Welfare State. (V)
10. To re-examine the connection between numerical growth and evangelistic outreach. (V)
11. To develop an implementable strategy of outreach to the working class and ethnic minorities. (V)

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1979

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APPROVAL OF THE ACCOUNTS

We confirm on behalf of the Treasurership Committee our approval of the accounts as set out on pages 41 to 61.

F.H.Brooman
Treasurer

R.S.Martin
Chairman

28th March 1980

REPORT OF AUDITORS TO THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

The accounts of the United Reformed Church together with the notes thereon on pages 41 to 61 have been prepared under the historical cost convention. As explained in Accounting policies 3 (i) on page 47, no provision for depreciation is made on freehold or leasehold buildings. This does not accord with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice 12.

Save for this departure from Standard Accounting Practice, in our opinion these accounts give under the historical cost convention a true and fair view of the state of the funds at 31st December 1979 and of the source and application of current assets and income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

The accounts of The United Reformed Church Retired Ministers' Housing Society Limited on page 60 and of the Congregational Ministers' Friendly Society on page 61 are extracts from the full accounts of those societies. The reports on those full accounts confirm that they show a true and fair view of the state of affairs and income and expenditure of those societies and comply with the Friendly and Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1968 and the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965.

ROBSON RHODES
Chartered Accountants

186 City Road,
London EC1V 2NU

28th March 1980

CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1979

	Note	1979		1978	
		£	£	£	£
THE CENTRAL FUNDS OF THE CHURCH					
Capital Funds	2		1,527,139		1,449,746
Unexpended Income Funds	3		<u>2,109,388</u>		<u>1,900,369</u>
			<u>£3,636,527</u>		<u>£3,350,115</u>
REPRESENTED BY					
Fixed Assets					
Property	4	721,158		659,139	
Cars, furniture and equipment	4	<u>47,959</u>	769,117	<u>43,310</u>	702,449
Investments	5		2,201,308		2,141,057
Loans and Advances	6		174,274		120,643
Current Assets					
Stock			39,342		40,784
Debtors			322,560		318,972
Cash	7		<u>470,208</u>		<u>363,456</u>
			832,110		723,212
Current Liabilities					
Creditors			<u>340,282</u>		<u>337,246</u>
Net current Assets			<u>491,828</u>		<u>385,966</u>
			<u>£3,636,527</u>		<u>£3,350,115</u>

CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

Income and Expenditure Account for the year
ended 31st December 1979

		1979	1978
	£	£	£
INCOME			
Proceeds of Unified Appeal		688,415	658,121
Other Income			
Dividends on investments	42,077		31,845
Interest	34,990		35,450
Tavistock Bookshop profit	159		2,551
Reform Magazine gross profit	3,267		4,190
URC Insurance Co.Ltd.	4,196		2,718
Sundry income	<u>3,962</u>		<u>1,383</u>
		<u>88,651</u>	
Total Income		777,066	<u>736,258</u>
DEPARTMENTAL COSTS			
	Costs	Income	Net
	£	£	£
Central Secretariat	19,261	-	19,261
General Church costs	10,200	-	10,200
Assembly	17,496	-	17,496
Grants	12,841	-	12,841
Moderators	91,200	-	91,200
Church Life	71,790	909	70,881
World Church & Mission	152,001	20,300	131,701
Church & Society	13,878	-	13,878
Finance & Administration	68,208	7,669	60,539
Professional Fees	13,800	-	13,800
Publications & Printing	24,995	7,365	17,630
Information Service	1,760	164	1,596
Central Office costs	<u>52,357</u>	<u>2,301</u>	<u>50,056</u>
	<u>549,787</u>	<u>38,708</u>	<u>511,079</u>
			436,188
Maintenance of Ministry Fund			
Contributions to Ministerial staff salaries			<u>64,756</u>
			<u>56,738</u>
			446,323
			379,450
COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION		259,418	257,752
GENERAL ALLOCATIONS			
Church Extension		4,000	4,000
Theological Training		35,000	60,000
Retired Ministers' Aid and Widows Supplementary Funds		5,000	5,000
Welfare		<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>759,741</u>	<u>716,202</u>
Net surplus in year carried to General Purposes			
Unexpended Income Fund (Page 50)		<u>£17,325</u>	<u>£20,056</u>

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year
ended 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Contributions from local Churches	2,972,610		2,294,972	
Dividends	38,579		39,659	
Donations	<u>5,662</u>		<u>2,935</u>	
		3,016,851		2,337,566
EXPENDITURE				
Total stipends paid to ministers (Including childrens' allowances employers' contributions to superannuation and national insurance etc).	2,895,609		2,483,141	
Grants paid from fund	29,507		19,507	
Allocation to Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	<u>12,500</u>		<u>12,500</u>	
		<u>2,937,616</u>		<u>2,515,148</u>
Net Surplus (Deficit) for year carried to Maintenance of the Ministry Unexpended Income Fund (Page 51)		<u>£79,235</u>		<u>£(177,582)</u>

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

Income and Expenditure Account for the year
ended 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Student fees.	26,946		24,547	
Conference fees	9,901		7,588	
Federation fees	<u>6,951</u>		<u>6,171</u>	
		43,798		38,306
Net flat rents	3,088		2,593	
Donations & sundry income	718		212	
Legacies	<u>350</u>		<u>-</u>	
		4,156		2,805
Endowment income	9,266		7,842	
* Grant from Cheshunt Foundation	<u>2,750</u>		<u>2,450</u>	
		<u>12,016</u>		<u>10,292</u>
Total Income		<u>59,970</u>		<u>51,403</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Professors' stipends	17,105		14,731	
Professors' Accommodation	3,788		3,183	
Chair endowments	(5,351)		(4,512)	
Allocation from the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	<u>(12,956)</u>		<u>(11,001)</u>	
		2,586		2,401
Staff salaries	19,917		20,086	
Household expenses	16,815		13,170	
Rates, light, heat and insurance	14,144		12,176	
Maintenance	<u>5,037</u>		<u>5,335</u>	
		55,913		50,767
University fees	33		95	
Board of Studies	150		150	
Library	<u>200</u>		<u>200</u>	
		383		445
Office costs	1,149		591	
Sundry expenses	<u>1,359</u>		<u>1,046</u>	
		<u>2,508</u>		<u>1,637</u>
Total Expenditure		<u>61,390</u>		<u>55,250</u>
NET DEFICIT IN YEAR funded by allocation from Theological Training Fund				
		<u>£1,420</u>		<u>£3,847</u>

*In addition to this grant the Cheshunt Foundation also support the College by maintaining one Professor, contributing to office costs, and by giving Bursaries to students.

FEN PLACE

Income and Expenditure Account for the year
ended 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Rents and visitors' fees	10,125		30,787	
Donations	<u>40</u>		<u>1,367</u>	
		10,165		32,154
EXPENDITURE				
Staff salaries	6,473		16,007	
Household expenses	2,239		8,003	
Rates, light, heat and insurance	2,886		8,052	
Maintenance	125		9,909	
Sundry expenses	<u>547</u>		<u>1,566</u>	
		<u>12,270</u>		<u>43,537</u>
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME		2,105		11,383
GRANTS RECEIVABLE				
Allocation from Harrison Longhurst Will Trust		<u>-</u>		<u>2,000</u>
NET DEFICIT IN YEAR CARRIED TO HOMES FOR RETIRED MINISTERS FUND		<u>£2,105</u>		<u>£9,383</u>

NOTE Fen Place was sold in May 1979

The above account covers transactions relating to the operation of the Home prior to its sale.

TAVISTOCK BOOKSHOP

Trading and Profit and Loss Account for the year
ended 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
SALES		86,247		91,261
COST OF SALES		<u>59,370</u>		<u>61,614</u>
GROSS MARGIN		26,877		29,647
Less Salaries and wages	17,413		17,179	
Carriage and postage	4,101		4,338	
Other expenses	<u>5,204</u>		<u>5,579</u>	
		<u>26,718</u>		<u>27,096</u>
NET PROFIT IN YEAR CARRIED TO CENTRAL ACTIVITIES INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		<u>£159</u>		<u>£2,551</u>

CENTRAL ACTIVITIES

Source and Application of Current Assets - Year ended 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
Source of Current Assets				
Total Funds at 31st December 1979		3,636,527		3,350,115
Total Funds at 1st January 1979		<u>3,350,115</u>		<u>3,178,904</u>
Increase in funds as detailed in notes 2 & 3		286,412		171,211
Adjustment for items not involving movement in current assets				
Investment received in kind	4,335		76,431	
Surplus on sale of assets	55,625		64,532	
Depreciation and interest	<u>(10,520)</u>		<u>(8,974)</u>	
		<u>(49,440)</u>		<u>(131,989)</u>
		236,972		39,222
Increase in Current Assets arising from				
Sale of property	109,293		67,610	
Sale of investments	47,941		200,876	
Sale of Other Fixed Assets	6,854		4,564	
Loans and Advances repaid	<u>88,779</u>		<u>29,332</u>	
		<u>252,867</u>		<u>302,382</u>
		489,839		341,604
Decrease in current assets arising from				
Purchase of property	122,885		102,867	
Purchase of investments	96,659		160,715	
Purchase of Other Fixed Assets	25,941		24,278	
Loans and Advances made	<u>138,492</u>		<u>47,418</u>	
		<u>383,977</u>		<u>335,278</u>
Net increase in Current Assets		<u>£105,862</u>		<u>£6,326</u>
Movement in Current Assets				
Increase in Cash	106,752		2,918	
Increase in Debtors	3,588		94,935	
Decrease in Stock	(1,442)		11,490	
Increase in Creditors	<u>(3,036)</u>		<u>(103,017)</u>	
		<u>£105,862</u>		<u>£6,326</u>

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Contributions to Unified Appeal and Maintenance of the Ministry Fund.

Contributions are brought into account on a receipts basis, with the inclusion of receipts in the early part of 1980 relating to 1979.

2. Legacies.

Legacies are credited on a receipts basis to the fund designated by the donor or to the General Purposes Fund if no fund is designated.

3. Depreciation.

(i) Property.

No provision for depreciation is made on freehold or leasehold buildings. The Treasurership Committee consider that the requirements of the Statement of Standard Accounting Practice 12 that freehold and leasehold buildings should be depreciated is not appropriate for the Church. Had depreciation been provided it would have amounted to £10,000 in 1979. Buildings shown in the Balance Sheet at £721,158 are insured for £1.8 million.

(ii) Cars, furniture and equipment.

Depreciation is provided on cars, furniture and equipment so as to write off the relevant assets over their expected useful lives at the following rates per annum:-

Cars purchased before 1st January 1977	20% on cost
Cars purchased since 1st January 1977	33% on written down value
Furniture and equipment	15% on written down value
Bookshop furniture fittings and equipment	10% on written down value

4. Investments.

Investments are stated at cost. No account is taken of the excess of unrealised gains over unrealised losses in specific investments, having regard to the long term purpose of investment funds.

Units held by investing funds in the Common Investment Fund and the Investment Pool are stated at the cost of the units to the investing funds, based on quarterly market valuations of the underlying listed investments.

5. Stock.

Stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

6. Westminster College.

The buildings and contents of Westminster College are not included in the Central Funds balance sheet since the College was originally a gift to the Church, the value of which cannot readily be ascertained. The college buildings are insured for £2 million.

NOTE 1 - INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

	The Funds of the Church		Total	Invested in				Current Assets
	Capital Funds	Unexpended Income Fund		Property	Investments	Loans	Other Fixed Assets	
	£	£	£	£	£		£	£
Central General Purposes	263,684	708,974	972,658	384,009	435,319		45,555	107,775
Maintenance of the Ministry	288,381	207,947	496,328		362,108	14,753		119,467
Theological Training	45,115	114,826	159,941		89,411			70,530
Church Extension	182,414	445,233	627,647	15,439	453,581	121,783		36,844
Homes for Retired Ministers	354,668	58,861	413,529	321,437	1,292	33,000		57,800
Welfare	6,054	25,078	31,132		31,826			(694)
Retired Ministers Aid	37,158	110,944	148,102		142,286			5,816
World Church & Mission	46,464	150,896	197,360	273	167,117			29,970
Westminster College	168,967	50,304	219,271		208,896			10,375
Other Funds	134,234	236,325	370,559		309,472	4,738	2,404	53,945
	<u>£1,527,139</u>	<u>2,109,388</u>	<u>3,636,527</u>	<u>721,158</u>	<u>2,201,308</u>	<u>174,274</u>	<u>47,959</u>	<u>491,828</u>

NOTE 2 - CAPITAL FUNDS

Movement in Capital Funds for the year ended 31st December 1979

	Transactions in year	Transfers Between Funds	Balance 1.1.79	Balance 31.12.79
	£	£	£	£
Central Administration				
Sum raised for Lending for Life	11,198		252,486	263,684
Maintenance of the Ministry Hope Chapel Trust	63		288,318	288,381
Theological Training		58	45,057	45,115
Church Extension				
Bowler Fund	164			
Hope Chapel Trust	9,285	57	172,908	182,414
Homes for Retired Ministers				
Profit on sales of investments and Fen Place	51,527		303,141	354,668
Welfare				
Capital of Miss Goodfellow Trust	18		6,036	6,054
Retired Ministers Aid		1,793	35,365	37,158
World Church and Mission			46,464	46,464
Westminster College				
Sundry Donation	46		168,921	168,967
Other Funds - Capital Donations	<u>3,184</u>		<u>131,050</u>	<u>134,234</u>
	<u>£75,485</u>	<u>£1,908</u>	<u>£1,449,746</u>	<u>£1,527,139</u>

NOTE 3 UNEXPENDED INCOME FUNDS

	Income				Expenditure		Net Increase/ (Decrease)	Transfers between funds	Legacies	Unexpended Income 1.1.79	Unexpended Income 31.12.79
	Donations	Dividends	Central I & E Account	Other Income	Grants	Other Expenditure					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Central General Purposes			17,325				17,325	143	7,280	684,226	708,974
Maintenance of the Ministry				92,620			92,620		5,064	110,263	207,947
Theological Training	18,880	9,994	35,000	12,000	52,836		23,038	(22,118)	5,914	107,992	114,826
Church Extension	15	46,554	4,000	10,922	47,816		13,675		6,264	425,294	445,233
Homes for Retired Ministers	40	7,213		664		2,105	5,812		12,484	40,565	58,861
Welfare	459	3,680	10,000	840	15,848		(869)			25,947	25,078
Retired Ministers Aid	57	15,313	4,000	4,729	2,292	17,500	4,307		15,606	91,031	110,944
World Church and Mission	201	17,465	(17,000)		1,550		(884)	1,600	6,551	143,629	150,896
Westminster College		24,588		2,440	51,343		(24,315)	20,325	350	53,944	50,304
Other Funds	60	35,659	2,200	175	17,758		20,336	(1,858)	369	217,478	236,325
	<u>£19,712</u>	<u>160,466</u>	<u>55,525</u>	<u>124,390</u>	<u>189,443</u>	<u>19,605</u>	<u>151,045</u>	<u>(1,908)</u>	<u>59,882</u>	<u>1,900,369</u>	<u>2,109,388</u>

NOTE 3 UNEXPENDED INCOME FUNDS - DETAILS OF OTHER
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	Income £	Expenditure £
Maintenance of the Ministry		
Net surplus for year (page 43)	79,235	
Income of Cardigan Hope Chapel Trust	130	
Income relating to prior years	<u>13,255</u>	
	<u>£92,620</u>	
Theological Training		
Grant from Memorial Hall Trust	<u>£12,000</u>	
Church Extension		
Grant from Dunn Trust	1,200	
Ground rents	5,276	
Interest on loans	<u>4,446</u>	
	<u>£10,922</u>	
Homes for Retired Ministers		
Net rents	<u>£664</u>	
Deficit on Fen Place (page 45)		<u>£2,105</u>
Welfare		
Funds of Nathaniel Bromley Charity	<u>£840</u>	
Retired Ministers Aid		
Grant from Dunn Trust	800	
Profit on sale of investments	3,929	
Allocation to Ministers' Widows' & Orphans' Pension Fund	<u> </u>	<u>17,500</u>
	<u>£4,729</u>	<u>£17,500</u>
Westminster College		
Grant from Dunn Trust	1,200	
Sundry income	<u>1,240</u>	
	<u>£2,440</u>	
Other Funds		
Profit on sale of investments	170	
Sundry income	<u>5</u>	
	<u>£175</u>	
TOTAL	<u>£124,390</u>	<u>£19,605</u>

NOTES 4,5 FIXED ASSETS AND INVESTMENTS

4. Fixed Assets

(i) Property

	Freehold		Leasehold Houses	Freehold Ground Rents	Total
	Church House	Houses			
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 1979	68,529	542,521	32,650	15,439	659,139
Additions at cost	778	109,456	12,250		122,484
	69,307	651,977	44,900	15,439	781,623
Less Disposals at cost		60,465			60,465
Balance at 31st December 1979	£69,307	591,512	44,900	15,439	721,158

(ii) Cars, Furniture and equipment

	Motor Cars		Furniture & Equipment		Total
	Cost	Depreciation	Cost	Depreciation	
	£	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1st January 1979	47,584		31,424		
		18,434		18,524	
Adjustment for assets of Tavistock Bookshop (Note 9)			3,112		
				1,852	
	47,584		34,536		82,120
		18,434		20,376	38,810
Net Book Value at 1st January 1979					43,310
Additions	21,882		4,060		
Disposals	(10,000)		(5,966)		
Depreciation charged		11,988		2,451	
Adjustment on sales		(4,112)		(5,000)	
	£59,466		32,630		92,096
		£26,310		17,827	44,137
Net Book Value at 31st December 1979					£47,959

5. Investments.

	1979		1978	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
	£	£	£	£
Common Investment Fund	1,058,921	1,107,354	1,093,754	1,178,509
Investment Pool	1,072,972	1,150,395	1,014,151	1,115,258
Other listed investments	35,699	36,046	30,652	37,434
	2,167,592	£2,293,795	2,138,557	£2,331,201
Unlisted investments at cost	33,716		2,500	
	£2,201,308		£2,141,057	

NOTES 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 - LOANS AND ADVANCES, CASH AT BANK
ACTUARIAL REPORT AND CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

6. Loans and Advances

	1979	1978
To Churches	126,346	111,169
To the URC Retired Ministers' Housing Society Limited	33,000	-
To Ministers	<u>14,928</u>	<u>9,474</u>
	<u>£174,274</u>	<u>£120,643</u>

7. Cash at Bank

Cash at Bank, on call and short term deposit	1,522,095	1,091,815
<u>Less</u> Sums held for Funds shown on pages 54-61	<u>571,167</u>	<u>332,699</u>
	950,928	759,116
<u>Less</u> Sums held for Provinces and Congregations	<u>480,720</u>	<u>395,660</u>
Sums held for Central Activities	<u>£470,208</u>	<u>£363,456</u>

8. Actuarial Report

The Actuaries of the Church have reported on the funds of the Congregational Ministers' Pension Fund and the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund, based on the situation as at 31st December 1977. At that time the funds showed an actuarial deficit of £1.44m. The contributing members of the fund are not contracted out of the State Pension Scheme.

The Actuaries recommend that capital sums be put aside to meet this deficit for 15 years from 1st January 1980. From this date at least £250,000 will be put aside annually as an additional contribution from the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund for pensions. The accounts of these funds are shown on pages 56 & 57.

9. The accounts of the Retired Ministers Aid Fund, and the Widows Supplementary Fund have been included in the classification of Capital and Unexpended Income Funds with effect from 1st January 1979.

No separate balance sheet is published for the Tavistock Bookshop, but the Bookshop's assets and liabilities are incorporated in the General Assets and Liabilities of the Church.

These changes in presentation have necessitated changes in the comparative figures shown for 1978.

10. Capital Commitments

Outstanding commitments under contracts for housing property purchase not completed at 31st December 1979 were:-

	1979	1978
	£	£
Central Activities	15,750	nil
URC Retired Ministers' Housing Society Ltd.	15,100	nil

COMMON INVESTMENT FUND

Balance Sheet at 31st December 1979	1979		1978	
	Units	£	Units	£
CAPITAL				
Units in issue				
at 1st January 1979	2,001,553	2,105,873	1,912,353	1,975,513
Units issued in year	85,072	96,778	165,200	181,331
Units cancelled in year	(38,590)	(40,934)	(76,000)	(84,300)
Profit (Loss) on sale of investments		(59,671)		33,329
		<u>2,048,035</u>	<u>2,001,553</u>	<u>2,105,873</u>
At 31st December 1979		2,102,046		2,105,873
Special Reserve Fund				
	£		£	
At 1st January 1979	16,999		16,713	
Underwriting commission received	—		286	
At 31st December 1979		<u>16,999</u>		<u>16,999</u>
		<u>£2,119,045</u>		<u>£2,122,872</u>

REPRESENTED BY

	Market Value		Market Value	
Investments at cost	<u>£2,056,684</u>	2,003,277	<u>£2,180,436</u>	2,119,027
Cash funds held		<u>115,768</u>		<u>3,845</u>
		<u>£2,119,045</u>		<u>£2,122,872</u>

Based on the underlying market value of investments and uninvested cash, the value of each unit in issue was

<u>£1.0608</u>	<u>£1.09129</u>
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Distribution of income for the year ended 31st December 1979

Distributions in respect of investment income in the year were made as follows:-

		Rate per Unit	£	Rate per Unit	£
3 months ended	31st March	£0.015537	31,364	£0.015688	30,001
	30th June	£0.030302	61,320	£0.026927	53,721
	30th September	£0.020881	42,370	£0.016138	32,736
	31st December	<u>£0.042767</u>	<u>88,426</u>	<u>£0.031675</u>	<u>63,399</u>
		<u>£0.109487</u>	<u>£223,480</u>	<u>£0.090428</u>	<u>£179,857</u>

INVESTMENT POOL

	1979		1978	
	Units	£	Units	£
Balance Sheet at 31st December 1979				
CAPITAL				
Units in issue				
at 1st January 1979	977,630	1,163,966	946,238	1,139,162
Units issued in year	108,955	144,279	122,149	157,548
Units cancelled in year	(790)	(1,007)	(90,757)	(116,577)
Profit (Loss) on sale of investments		53,532		(16,167)
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
At 31st December 1979	<u>1,085,795</u>	1,360,770	<u>977,630</u>	1,163,966
	£		£	
Special Reserve Fund				
At 1st January 1979	158		158	
Underwriting commission received	<u>406</u>		-	
At 31st December 1979		<u>564</u>		<u>158</u>
		<u>£1,361,334</u>		<u>£1,164,124</u>

REPRESENTED BY

	Market Value		Market Value	
Investments at cost	<u>£1,212,382</u>	1,217,797	<u>£1,181,587</u>	1,099,444
Cash funds held		<u>143,537</u>		<u>64,680</u>
		<u>£1,361,334</u>		<u>£1,164,124</u>

Based on the underlying market value of investments and uninvested cash, the value of each unit in issue was

	<u>£1.24878</u>	<u>£1.27478</u>
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Distribution of income for the year ended 31st December 1979

Distributions in respect of investment income in the year were made as follows:-

	Rate per Unit	£	Rate per Unit	£
3 months ended 31st March	£0.024539	24,521	£0.019135	18,220
30th June	£0.028289	28,281	£0.024614	24,646
30th September	£0.030816	30,905	£0.028264	27,194
31st December	<u>£0.033768</u>	<u>35,314</u>	<u>£0.027310</u>	<u>26,699</u>
Total income distributed	<u>£0.117412</u>	<u>£119,021</u>	<u>£0.099323</u>	<u>£96,759</u>

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS' PENSION FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
ACCUMULATED FUND				
At 1st January 1979	1,014,811		852,095	
Profit on sale of investments	28,374		14,300	
Net Surplus in year	<u>160,973</u>		<u>148,416</u>	
At 31st December 1979		<u>£1,204,158</u>		<u>£1,014,811</u>
 REPRESENTED BY				
	Market Value		Market Value	
Investments at cost	<u>£1,123,401</u>	1,106,901	<u>£1,033,807</u>	968,232
Cash funds held		<u>97,257</u>		<u>46,579</u>
		<u>£1,204,158</u>		<u>£1,014,811</u>
 Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1979				
INCOME				
Investment income	103,292		77,451	
Contributions from Ministers and Central Funds	151,689		155,605	
Received from Staff Superannuation Fund	<u>—</u>		<u>14,395</u>	
		254,981		247,451
 EXPENDITURE				
Pensions paid	86,673		77,184	
Death in service benefits	3,187		19,942	
Contributions refunded to members upon withdrawal	507		1,309	
Transfer values paid upon withdrawal	<u>959</u>		<u>—</u>	
	91,326		98,435	
Management expenses	<u>2,682</u>		<u>600</u>	
		<u>94,008</u>		<u>99,035</u>
NET SURPLUS IN YEAR		<u>£160,973</u>		<u>£148,416</u>

See note 8 on page 53.

MINISTERS' WIDOWS' & ORPHANS' PENSION FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
ACCUMULATED FUND				
At 1st January 1979			1,021,219	
Legacies received	1,127,687		163	
Profit on sale of investments		19,765	26,998	
Net Surplus in year	<u>81,519</u>		<u>79,307</u>	
At 31st December 1979		1,246,307		1,127,687
ENDOWMENT FUND				
		<u>3,114</u>		<u>3,114</u>
		<u>£1,249,421</u>		<u>£1,130,801</u>
REPRESENTED BY				
		Market Value		Market Value
Investments at cost	<u>£1,270,687</u>	1,192,595	<u>£1,214,965</u>	1,095,275
Cash funds held		<u>56,826</u>		<u>35,526</u>
		<u>£1,249,421</u>		<u>£1,130,801</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1979

INCOME				
Investment income	104,302		92,558	
Donations	1,165		-	
Contributions from Ministers and Central Funds	85,251		85,396	
Allocation from the Maintenance of the Ministry Fund	12,500		12,500	
Allocation from Retired Ministers Aid Fund	<u>17,500</u>		<u>14,000</u>	
		220,718		204,454
EXPENDITURE				
Pensions paid	134,641		122,647	
Death in service benefits	<u>550</u>		<u>-</u>	
	135,191		122,647	
Management expenses	<u>4,008</u>		<u>2,500</u>	
		<u>139,199</u>		<u>125,147</u>
NET SURPLUS IN YEAR		<u>£81,519</u>		<u>£79,307</u>

See note 8 on page 53.

PASTORS' SUPERANNUATION FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		291,478		291,478
ACCUMULATED FUND				
At 1st January 1979	64,968		53,902	
Net surplus in year	<u>18,844</u>		<u>11,066</u>	
At 31st December 1979		<u>83,812</u>		<u>64,968</u>
		<u>£375,290</u>		<u>£356,446</u>
REPRESENTED BY				
	Market Value		Market Value	
Investments at cost	<u>£402,327</u>	364,560	<u>£392,928</u>	343,051
Cash funds held		<u>10,730</u>		<u>13,395</u>
		<u>£375,290</u>		<u>£356,446</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1979

INCOME				
Investment income	39,838		32,419	
Allocation from Harrison Longhurst				
Will Trust	4,359		3,161	
Sundry income	<u>1,288</u>		<u>369</u>	
		45,485		35,949
EXPENDITURE				
Grants paid		<u>26,641</u>		<u>24,883</u>
NET SURPLUS IN YEAR		<u>£18,844</u>		<u>£11,066</u>

PASTORS' WIDOWS FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
CAPITAL ACCOUNT		158,302		158,302
ACCUMULATED FUND				
At 1st January 1979	57,595		52,450	
Legacies received	1,005		-	
Net surplus in year	<u>12,856</u>		<u>5,145</u>	
At 31st December 1979		<u>71,456</u>		<u>57,595</u>
		<u>£229,758</u>		<u>£215,897</u>
REPRESENTED BY				
	Market Value		Market Value	
Investments at cost	<u>£248,880</u>	224,917	<u>£238,415</u>	207,018
Cash funds held		<u>4,841</u>		<u>8,879</u>
		<u>£229,758</u>		<u>£215,897</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1979

INCOME				
Investment income	24,205		19,713	
Allocation from Harrison Longhurst				
Will Trust	4,359		3,161	
Sundry income	<u>1,321</u>		<u>224</u>	
		29,885		23,098
EXPENDITURE				
Grants paid		<u>17,029</u>		<u>17,953</u>
NET SURPLUS IN YEAR		<u>£12,856</u>		<u>£5,145</u>

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSING SOCIETY LIMITED

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Property at cost or valuation		574,629		452,181
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash funds held	4,092		18,729	
<u>Less Sundry creditors</u>	<u>3,904</u>		<u>16,014</u>	
		<u>188</u>		<u>2,715</u>
		<u>£574,817</u>		<u>£454,896</u>
FINANCED BY				
Housing Property Finance				
Property Equity Account	539,629		450,181	
Loans	<u>35,000</u>		<u>2,000</u>	
		574,629		452,181
Share Capital	17		17	
Reserves	<u>171</u>		<u>2,698</u>	
		<u>188</u>		<u>2,715</u>
		<u>£574,817</u>		<u>£454,896</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1979

PROPERTY REVENUE			
Rents received		8,131	7,611
<u>Less Insurance</u>	620		438
Maintenance and repairs	5,256		4,403
Rates not recovered	248		176
Sundry costs	<u>40</u>		<u>28</u>
		<u>6,164</u>	<u>5,045</u>
Net income from property		1,967	2,566
<u>Less Administration costs</u>		<u>2,019</u>	<u>1,290</u>
		(52)	1,276
Other income			
Interest received		<u>1,033</u>	<u>84</u>
Net surplus in year		<u>£981</u>	<u>£1,360</u>

Movement in Reserves	Property Equity	Reserves	Property Equity	Reserves
Balance at 1st January 1979	450,181	2,698	330,615	1,477
Legacies received		55,787		58,143
Donations		28,221		31,862
Surplus on property disposals		1,932		29,422
Surplus of income over expenditure		981		1,360
Transfer to property equity account	<u>89,448</u>	<u>(89,448)</u>	<u>119,566</u>	<u>(119,566)</u>
Balance at 31st December 1979	<u>£539,629</u>	<u>£171</u>	<u>£450,181</u>	<u>£2,698</u>

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1979

	1979		1978	
	£	£	£	£
ACCUMULATED FUND				
At 1st January 1979		137,553		145,240
Net deficit in year		<u>2,262</u>		<u>7,687</u>
At 31st December 1979		135,291		137,553
REVENUE RESERVE				
Management fund		<u>2,500</u>		<u>2,500</u>
		<u>£137,791</u>		<u>£140,053</u>
REPRESENTED BY				
Cash funds held		138,116		140,328
Sundry creditors		<u>325</u>		<u>275</u>
		<u>£137,791</u>		<u>£140,053</u>

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December 1979

INCOME				
Investment income		17,187		11,468
EXPENDITURE				
Annuities paid and premiums refunded	17,384		19,155	
Charge for management	<u>2,065</u>		<u>-</u>	
		<u>19,449</u>		<u>19,155</u>
NET DEFICIT IN YEAR		<u>£2,262</u>		<u>£7,687</u>

CENTRAL ACTIVITIES BUDGET 1980 AND 1981

	Actual 1979 £1,000	Budget 1979 £1,000	Budget 1980 £1,000	Budget 1981 £1,000
INCOME - Unified Appeal	688	700	770	898
Other income	<u>89</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>80</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>777</u>	<u>761</u>	<u>838</u>	<u>978</u>
 DEPARTMENTAL COSTS				
Central Secretariat	19	17	21	30
General Church costs	10	8	9	15
Assembly	17	16	16	18
Grants	13	14	15	17
Moderators	91	80	98	118
Church Life	71	69	79	88
World Church and Mission	132	89	132	166
Church and Society	14	13	17	24
Finance and Administration	60	68	77	93
Professional Fees	14	16	18	25
Publications and Printing	18	21	24	28
Information Service	2	3	3	3
Central Office costs	<u>50</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>68</u>
	511	467	566	693
<u>Less Maintenance of the Ministry Fund</u> contributions to Ministerial Staff salaries	<u>65</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>88</u>
	446	397	494	605
Council for World Mission	260	300	290	310
 GENERAL ALLOCATIONS				
Church Extension	4	4	4	-
Theological Training	35	35	40	46
Retired Ministers Aid and Widows' Superannuation Fund	5	5	5	5
Welfare	10	10	10	12
Contingency	<u>-</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>760</u>	<u>761</u>	<u>843</u>	<u>978</u>
 Surplus (Deficit)	 17	 -	 (5)	 -

NOTE This Budget replaces the one circulated to members of the Assembly in the Accounts booklet.

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY FUND BUDGET 1980 AND 1981

	Actual 1979 £1,000	Budget 1979 £1,000	Budget 1980 £1,000	Budget 1981 £1,000
EXPENDITURE				
Cost of Ministers' stipends	2,273	2,370	2,670	3,134
Childrens' allowances	99	102	117	100
Employers' contributions to national insurance and superannuation schemes	<u>391</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>560</u>
	2,763	2,894	3,262	3,794
Stipends of Staff Secretaries, etc.	78	82	93	106
Pulpit Supply fees	55	45	50	70
Grants	29	25	27	36
Grants to Ministers Superannuation Fund	13	12	250	306
Other costs	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69</u>
	<u>2,938</u>	<u>3,058</u>	<u>3,682</u>	<u>4,381</u>
INCOME				
Contributions from Churches	2,973	3,015	3,725	4,441
Dividends and donations	44	-	-	40
	<u>3,017</u>	<u>3,015</u>	<u>3,725</u>	<u>4,481</u>
Surplus (Deficit)	<u>79</u>	<u>(43)</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>100</u>

LEGACIES RECEIVED IN YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1979

1. URC GENERAL PURPOSES

The late F.L.Burns	520	
" " E.W.Collier	3,086	
" " V.Dicks	500	
" " W.Gunton	100	
" " J.E.Hooper	2,582	
" " J.A.Lamb	4,444	
" " H.C.Mather	1,119	
" " M.A.Oddie	1,277	
" " J.J.Ritchie	476	
" " B.M.Smith	100	
" " R.B.Smith	2,466	
" " D.Starke	<u>6,000</u>	

22,670

<u>Less</u> Legacies received in 1978 now applied to other funds		
J.M.Duncan (for WCM)	5,188	
M.G.Harrison (for HRM)	5,115	
E.Roberts (for local Church)	<u>5,087</u>	<u>15,390</u>

£7,280

2. MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY FUND

The late D.C.Eades	350	
" " T.Hughes	5,761	
<u>Less</u> paid to Non-uniting Churches	<u>1,047</u>	<u>4,714</u>

£5,064

3. THEOLOGICAL TRAINING FUND

The late D.C.Eades	<u>£5,914</u>	
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4. CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

The late D.C.Eades	<u>£6,264</u>	
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5. HOMES FOR RETIRED MINISTERS FUND

The late F.T.Hayward	7,369	
<u>Plus</u> transferred from General Purposes Fund		
M.G.Harrison	<u>5,115</u>	

£12,484

6. RETIRED MINISTERS AID

The late D.C.Eades	11,829	
" " W.T.Johnstone	369	
" " M.G.T.Martin	3,158	
" " J.T.Mitchell	<u>250</u>	

£15,606

7. WORLD CHURCH & MISSION FUND

The late H.F.Brown	500	
" " G.M.Cushing	50	
" " D.C.Eades	350	
" " W.T.Johnstone	369	
" " M.C.Moody	<u>94</u>	

1,363

<u>Plus</u> transfer from General Purposes Fund		
J.M.Duncan	<u>5,188</u>	

£6,551

8. WESTMINSTER COLLEGE

The late D.C.Eades	<u>£350</u>	
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9. CHRISTIAN APPROACH TO JEWS FUND

The late W.T.Johnstone	<u>£369</u>	
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10. MINISTERS' WIDOWS' & ORPHANS' PENSION FUND

The late D.C.Eades	12,178	
" " A.Lessey	20	
" " W.G.McMullen	<u>5,138</u>	

£17,336

11. PASTORS' WIDOWS' FUND

The late N.Bancroft	5	
" " L.G.Burton	<u>1,000</u>	

£1,005

12. UNITED REFORMED CHURCH RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSING SOCIETY LIMITED

The late D.C.Eades	11,829	
" " B.E.Lillett	18,654	
" " K.M.Thompson	<u>25,304</u>	

£55,787

TOTAL LEGACIES £134,010

I N D E X

	REPORTS	RECORD
ACCOUNTS	82	22, 39
Adult Groups / Education	49	
Applications Committee	32	13
Appointments	4	25
Assembly		
Business Committee	--	
Representatives	3, 78	
Next Assembly	3	26
Officers, Commissioning of	--	25
Pre-Assembly Business	3	
Standing Orders	101	
Auxiliary Ministers / Ministry	55	15
BASIS OF UNION	--	9, 15, 20
BBC World Service	5	
BCC - South Africa	5, 70	
Book of Services	43	14
Brandt Commission		19
British Nuclear Deterrent	70	19
British Lessons Council	49	
Budget / Committee	85	24
CENTRAL ACTIVITIES	82, 90	
Chaplains		
and Students Committee	47	
to the Forces	63	
Children's Work Committee	48	
Christian Education	48	
Christian Stewardship	31	13
Church and Society Department	66	18, 19
Church Buildings Committee	84	24
Church Related Community Workers	52	15
Churches' Council for Covenanting	74	20
Churches of Christ	5, 73	20, 21
Church Life Department	39	14
College Reports	59	
Statistics	63	
Communication/Publicity (WCM)	77	
Communications Secretary	3	
Congregational College, Manchester	60	
Conscientious Objection to Military Service		19
Council for World Mission	75, 78	
in Britain	73	
Visitors		10, 11, 20, 36
Corresponding Members		7
DEACONESSES	52	
Deployment Committee	6	10
District Council Representation		9
Doctrine and Worship Committee	43	
ECUMENICAL CO-OPERATION	66	
Projects	73	
Ecology	70	
Education, Religious	69	19
Europe	74	
Executive Committee / Report	3	9
FAITH, SCIENCE, FUTURE	70	18
Finance and Administration Department	82	22

	REPORTS	RECORD
GENERAL SECRETARY	5	10
HISTORY SOCIETY	100	
Hymn Book, Proposed new	4, 34, 44	13
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF DISABLED PEOPLE	71	
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Latham, Robert	63	
Liaison Committees	73	
Local Churches' Finances	82, 88, 89	
Local Pastors	52	
Loyal Address	--	6
MACARTHUR, Arthur	5	10
Maintenance of the Ministry / Committee	4, 82, 87	23
New Plan	82, 83	22
Mansfield College /Visitation	56, 61	15, 16
Medical Officer	75	
Memorial College, Aberystwyth	62	
Methodist/Ecumenical Handbook	4,34, 44	
Methodist/URC Liaison Committee	73	
Ministerial Jubilees	--	8
Ministerial Training / Committee / Fund	55	14
Ministers' Stipends	91	23
Ministry of Healing	54	14
Mission and Other Faiths	77	20
Missionaries	76	3
URC as Sending / Receiving Church	74	
Missionary and Ecumenical Work Abroad	72	
Missionary and Ecumenical Work at Home		25
Moderator 1981		14
Moderators' Report		
Morgan, Philip	5	
NATIONWIDE INITIATIVE IN EVANGELISM	73	
Newly appointed Missionaries		9
Newly Ordained Ministers		8
Nuclear Energy Resources		19
Nuclear Deterrent		19
Nature, Faith and Order of the URC	44	14, 17
Nominations Committee	4	25, 27 - 34
North America	75	
OBITUARIES	--	1
One Per Cent	70	
Overseas Visitors	--	8
PALMER, Leslie	4	22
Part-time Ministries	6	
Pension Funds	4, 84	24
Personnel / Committee	75	
Pilots' Panel	50	
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Presbyterian Church in Taiwan	--	21
Presidency at the Lord's Supper	39	16
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Publications and Publicity Committee	34	13
Public Relations and Publicity	35	

	REPORTS	RECORD
QUOTAS	6	
RACISM	66, 67	18
Religious Education	69	18
Retired Ministers Housing / Society Limited	85	24
Robert Raikes	49	
Roll of Assembly		2-6
Rural Consultant / Work	3, 73	
SCHEDULE 'D'	44	14, 17
Seceding Churches	5	
Sickness Benefit	5	23
Slack, Kenneth	64	16
South Africa	5, 70	
Special Ministries	6, 91	
Stipends	82	23
Supplementary Ministries Committee	51	
Swindon	73	
TAIWAN		21
Tavistock Bookshop	35	
Thanks		16,17,22,25,26
'Time for God'	46	
'Together'	48	
Treasurer	4	
Treasurership Committee		
Trust Bodies	5	9,10
UNIFIED APPEAL	82, 90	22
Uniformed Organisations	46	
URC RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSING Society Limited	85	24
WELFARE AND EMERGENCIES COMMITTEE	85	24
Westminster College	59	
World Church and Mission Department	72	20
World Development	69	19
World of Work	68	
YOUTH		
Committee	45	
Leadership Training Officers		17
Representation	--	9

