

MINUTES

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Held at Belfast, June, 2000

FIRST SESSION

Monday, 5th June, 2000

Seven o'clock. Evening

Within Church House

The Right Rev. Dr. J.W. Lockington, Moderator of the General Assembly, led in the exercise of public worship and addressed those present before constituting the Assembly with prayer.

The Memorial Roll of Ministers deceased was submitted by the Rev. J.F. Murdoch and the Assembly paid their customary tribute.

The Clerk announced that the names of 618 ministers being ex officio members and 533 elders on whose behalf commissions had been received, had been entered on the Roll of the Assembly together with 59 Assembly Elders, Conveners and nominees of the Business Board. There were also 17 Corresponding Members and Delegates from other Churches. He stated that 28 Deaconesses had been invited to sit and deliberate in accordance with the Resolution of Assembly of 1969 and 1 Woman Worker in accordance with the Assembly Resolution of 1991. He stated that 11 Irish Mission Workers, 63 Women's representatives and 36 Youth representatives together with 25 Licentiates, 1 Stated Supply and 4 Conveners and Missionaries who are not members of the court had also been invited to sit and deliberate.

BELFAST ASSEMBLY

1. ARDS PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
A.S. Cromie .....	.....	Lisnabreen, Bangor
Dr. C. Presho .....	.....	Bible Society, Director
H.D. McMorran .....	.....	Trinity, Bangor
J.McC. Auld .....	.....	R.E. Teacher
Dr. T.S. Reid .....	.....	Theol. Prof. Emer.
Dr. John Ross	D.F. Adair	High Street, Holywood
Dr. Rodney Sterritt .....	.....	Greenwell St., N'ards
N.J. Linkens .....	.....	Retired
David Johnston .....	.....	First Newtownards
W.L. Haslett	Mrs. Elizabeth Warden	Ballyblack
Dr. W.P. Addley	+ A.J. Boal	Theological Professor
.....	Miss Helen Moreland	Trinity, Bangor
W.T. Cordner	Mrs. Gladys Brown	First Bangor
J. Gordon .....	.....	First Donaghadee
J.T. Williamson	Samuel Warnock	Glastry
Dr. D.J. Watts	Ian McFarland	Ballyholme
J.H. Robinson	+ R. Johnston	Dir. of Min. Students
W.J. Parkes	R.G. Beers	St. Andrew's, Bangor
Dr. D.R. Purce	W. Corry	Groomsport
D.C. Porter	+ W. Graham	Movilla (Ch. Ext.)
Dr. R.A. Russell	John McCracken	Ballywalter
.....	+ W.J. Moorhead	Theological Professor
G.F. McKeown	D. Glover	Second Newtownards
A. Gibson	+ J. McIntyre	Lect. Belfast
.....	.....	Bible Coll.
R.A. Patton	Jim McCullough	Ballygilbert
T.W.D. Johnston	Derek Cummings	Hamilton Rd., Bangor
S.J. Hanna	+ D. Johnston	Ballyholme Associate
J.N.I. McNeely	Robin Galway	First Holywood
Dr. S.R. Jones .....	.....	Kilcooley
S.A. Little	F.P. Quiery	Shore St., Donaghadee
C.W. Megaw	D.G. Lygo	Helen's Bay
J. Campbell	Sam Oliver	First Newtownards
Helen S. Boyd	Miss Mary Startin	Millisle & B'copeland
S. Eliz. Hughes	+ N. Eves	First Bangor Assoc.
C.J.C. McMullen	Mrs. Jane Richardson	West Church, Bangor
Averil Stevenson	Dr. W.M.C. Stevenson	Kirkcubbin
-do- .....	.....	Portaferry
W.J.A. Sleith	Norman Armstrong	Regent St., N'ards
W. Sinclair	Paul Jamieson	Stream, Newtownards
W.J. Murdock	Herbert Carson	Greyabbey
N.J. McCullough .....	.....	Ballygrainey
A. Bates	Ian Hanna	Scrabo
R.J. Stevenson .....	.....	Carrowdore & B'frenis
.....	Wm. McDowell	Cloughey
.....	Robert Poole	Conlig
.....	Edwin Shaw	Greenwell St., N'ards

2. ARMAGH PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. W.M. Craig .....	.....	First Portadown
J.H. Harrison .....	.....	Craigavon; Vinecash
Dr. J. Thompson	J. Allen Kerr	The Mall, Armagh
Samuel McMillan .....	.....	Caledon & Minterburn
F.A.C. Wilson	G. Swann	Armagh Rd., P'down
Desmond Knowles	John Crozier	First Portadown
Stephan van Os	J.N. McCleary	First Lurgan
A.D. Davidson	Ms. B. Breakey	First Armagh
C.G. Harris	Arthur Miskelly	Ahorey
-do-	N.H. Cully	Clare
R.B. Thompson .....	.....	Cladymore
B.A. Small	James MacQueen	Loughgall
-do- .....	.....	Tartaraghan
D.H. Gilpin .....	.....	Druminnis
-do-	William Kelly	Redrock
W.G. Cameron .....	.....	First Keady
-do-	W.J. Kennedy	Armaghbrague
T.A. McNeely	David Parr	Richhill
B. Ann McDonald	Billy Hadden	Caledon
-do- .....	.....	Minterburn
L.W.H. Hilditch	David Riddell	Moy
-do- .....	.....	Benburb
J.W.P. McConnell .....	.....	Waringstown
.....	Robert McCullagh	Second Keady
.....	David Hopps	Drumhillery
A.J. Thompson .....	.....	Craigavon
-do-	James Whittle	Vinecash
M. Stewart	Wm. Morton	Lislooney
-do- .....	.....	Knappagh
-do-	T. Heatrick	Middletown
.....	Robert V. Russell	Bellville

3. BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. A.M. Adams .....	.....	Third Portglenone
David Alderdice .....	.....	Wellington St., B'mena
Dr. E.P. Gardner .....	.....	First Ballymena
R.S. Ross .....	.....	C'lough & Cushendall
W.J. Lamont .....	.....	Killymurriss
W.J.A. Armstrong .....	.....	Second Broughshane
W.J. Hook .....	.....	Cuningham Memorial
J.B. Mooney .....	.....	Grange
G.A. Preston	Dr. G. Allen	Connor
Dr. R.E.H. Uprichard	W. Steele	Trinity, Ahoghill
D.E. Jones	R. Humphrey	Clough
R.B. Savage	Robert Gibson	Ballykeel
J.M. Finlay .....	.....	Harryville, Ballymena
Dr. R.I. Birney	Robert Strange	High Kirk, Ballymena
Dr. D.G. McMeekin	Robert Logan	First Ahoghill
.....	W.J. Caves	Wellington St., B'mena
.....	D. Montgomery	Grange
J.J. Andrews	W.G. McDowell	Ballee

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
D.W. Brice	Joe Black	Ballyloughan
W.F. Dickey	Robert Wilson	First Broughshane
A.A.P. Baxter .....	.....	First Portglenone
Brian McManus	Robert Simpson	Cloughwater
J.A. Beattie	Clifford Ross	Second Broughshane
W.B. Boyd	Jonathan Reid	Kells
-do-	John Todd	Eskylane
.....	Charles McBride	Buckna
W.S. Marrs .....	.....	Missionary
D.A. Murphy	Samuel Marcus	C'ham Mem. C'backey
.....	Bill Kirkpatrick	Rasharkin
K.A. Drury	John Millar	Third Portglenone
A.W.T. Brown .....	.....	Churchtown
R.J. Hyndman .....	.....	Glenwherry
N.G. McDowell .....	.....	Chaplain to Forces
W.J. Todd	John Calderwood	Killymurriss
J.D. McGaughy	Leslie Cromie	Brookside, Ahoghill
S.W. Dickinson .....	.....	Glenarm
-do- .....	.....	Cairnalbana
D.J. Kane	Edwin Donaghy	West Church, B'mena

4. NORTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
S.E.M. Brown .....	.....	Abbey, Monkstown
J.C. Buick .....	.....	Prison Chaplain
Dr. W.E. Davison .....	.....	R.E. Adviser
James McAllister .....	.....	Fortwilliam Park
J.A. Fullerton .....	.....	Carmoney
Dr. W.D. Boyd .....	.....	Eglinton
J.S. Dallas .....	.....	Whiteabbey
Robert Allen	Miss Doreen Draffin	Rathcoole
Dr. John Dunlop	Mrs. Isabel Love	Rosemary
R.J.T. McMullan	+ A.W. Marshall	Overseas Board Sec.
T.I. Harte	J. Coleman	Crumlin Road
J.P. Taylor	+ G. Crooks	Theological Professor
D.S. McIlwrath .....	.....	Carmoney Assoc.
Robert Harkness .....	.....	Sinclair Seamen's
.....	+ Miss G. Henderson	Prison Chaplain
J.N. Seawright	John Walker	Abbey, Monkstown
T.C. Wright	Gavin Dykes	Alexandra
T.V. Patterson	Eric Beck	Immanuel
.....	Raymond McKeown	Woodvale
J.R. Dickinson	Thomas Wilson	Seaview
R.S. Hetherington	William Davidson	Glengormley
T.C. Morrison	D.A. Crowe	Eglinton
T.N. Hamilton	Ernest Stirling	Ballysillan
J.S. Carson	Robert Bonar	Carmoney
A.W. Boyd	Robert Greer	Ballyhenry
I.D. Neish	William McKnight	Abbot's Cross
I.K. McDonald	+ R. Daggart	New Mossley (Ch.Ext.)
Margaret L. Johnston .....	.....	Fortwilliam Park

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
T.D. Gribben	Miss Margaret Neill	Whiteabbey
D. Stanfield	+ D. Nesbitt	University Chaplain
.....	Ms. Anne Grant	Duncairn/St. Enoch's
W.G. Stewart	Wesley McCreedy	Ballygomartin
T.W.A. Greer	Mrs. Ada Heaney	Macrory Memorial
-do-	Terry Cadden	Newington
-do-	A. McClelland	Sinclair Seamen's
Lesley Carroll	Mrs. Jean Larmour	Fortwilliam Park
P. Thompson .....	.....	Whiteabbey Assoc.
.....	William Flaherty	Oldpark
.....	J.K. Snowball	Whitehouse

5. SOUTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. W.M. Boland .....	.....	Malone
Dr. A.J. Weir .....	.....	Clerk of Assem. Emer.
K.D. Harvey .....	.....	McCracken Memorial
W.D.F. Marshall .....	.....	Windsor
Dr. John Thompson .....	.....	Professor Emer.
W.C. Lynas .....	.....	Dunmurry
J.V. Craig .....	.....	Townsend Street
Dr. J.B. Moore	Cecil Kane	West Kirk
I.S. McDowell .....	.....	Christian Aid Secretary
Dr. J.W. Morrow .....	.....	Lect. Irish School Ecum. Emer.
Dr. R.N. Brown	+ E. Jackson	Stranmillis Lecturer
Dr. D.C. Irwin	Mrs. R. Simpson	McCracken Memorial
Dr. J.C. McCullough	+ W. Hanna	Theological Professor
K.N.E. Newell	Miss Mollie Duncan	Fitzroy Avenue
.....	+ Sir Eric McDowell	Dean of Res. Q.U.B.
D.J. McKelvey .....	.....	Fisherwick
W.D. Moore	+ David McCleery	Taughmonagh (Ch.Ext.)
.....	+ Oswald McAuley	Kinghan Church
Dr. G.A. Grindle	Mrs. D. McMullen	Dunmurry
J.A. Braithwaite	Eric A. Mairs	Malone
D.J. Boden	Miss D. Pinkerton	Shankill Road Mission
W.McB. Campbell	Jack Norton	Richview
R.T. Anderson	Dr. R.M. Nicholl	Windsor
W.P.H. Erskine	William Clarke	Ballycairn
.....	.....	Lowe Mem. (Finaghy)
Dr. W.D. Patton	Stephen White	Ulsterville
W.I. Hull .....	.....	Gt. Victoria Street
Dr. Ian Hart .....	.....	Restoration Ministries
M. Ruth Patterson	+ Mrs. Olive Marshall	Townsend Street
J.T. Lamb	James Moore	Belfast Bible Col. Lec.
J.D. Maxwell .....	.....	Dean of Res. D'volgie
S. Stockman	+ Wm. Halliday	May Street
J.F. Barnes .....	.....	Chaplain City Hospital
B.R. Hughes	+ V. Elliott	Nelson Memorial
.....	James Gault .....	.....

6. EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Samuel Eaton .....	.....	W.J. McQuiston Mem
Dr. V.H. Ryan .....	.....	1st Ballymacarrett
J.M. Maddock .....	.....	Carryduff
Dr. R.F.G. Holmes .....	.....	Theol. Prof. Emer
Dr. A.A. Sleith	W.F. McConnell	Cregagh
Dr. R.J. Magee .....	.....	Dundonald
D.R. Whitley	Miss E. Hetherington	Kirkpatrick Memorial
.....	Mrs. Betty Robinson	Belmont
S.J. Campbell	Mrs. Ann Wilson	Cooke Centenary
Dr. J.R. Savage .....	.....	Stormont
Harold Boyce .....	.....	Evangelism Director
I.A. McKay	John Fitzsimmins	Dundonald
H.A. Dunlop	B.S. Morrow	Knock
J. McVeigh	Will Hamill	Gilnahirk
W.J. Orr	Mrs. B. Gordon	Newtownbreda
.....	John Gray	First Ballymacarrett
W. McKeown	Cecil Holley	Ravenhill
W.J.R. Robinson	John Gordon	McQuiston Memorial
D.R. Baker	+ Alan Spence	Mediation Network
G. Connor .....	.....	Bloomfield
Joan Scott	Miss V.J. Wilson	Garnerville
K.A. McBride	J. Chestnutt	Orangefield
George Moffett	W.F.A. Charlton	Tullycarnet
A.R. Bill	Mrs. Ethel Scott	Saintfield Road
H.E. Lewis	+ J. Sloan	Bloomfield Assoc.
Dr. R.M. Crooks	Brian Dunwoody	Belvoir
H.R. Quinn	Dr. Raymond Cooper	Christ Ch., D'donald
I.T. McKee	+ Robert Tinney	Sec. for Ed/S.S. Org.
R.D. Maxwell	Miss Eileen Warnock	St. Andrew's
Margaret E. Taylor	+ Mrs. Hilary Simpson	Cooke Cent. Asst.
A.S. Smyth	Morrell Murphy	Carryduff
J.H. McIntyre .....	.....	Castlereagh
R. Hornby	Norman McKenna	Mersey Street
M. Brown	Roy Simpson	Granshaw
J. Lambe	David F. Kennedy	Mountpottinger
.....	+ John Gordon	Newtownbreda Assoc.
C.M. Glover	+ Noel Valentine	Stormont Assoc.
D.J. Montgomery	+ J. Gourley	Knock Assoc.
.....	John Lyons	Westbourne
.....	James H. Black	Strand

7. CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. R.V.A. Lynas .....	.....	Gardenmore
Dr. R.G. Craig .....	.....	First Carrickfergus
J.A. McFall .....	.....	W'burn; Loughmorne
J.W. McAuley .....	.....	Whitehead
Douglas Armstrong .....	.....	Greenisland
R.W.C. Clements .....	.....	Joymount
G.L. McAdoo	Norman Carmichael	First Larne
S.S. McFarland	Miss F. Smyth	First Carrickfergus
Dr. J.W. Lockington	Roy Thompson	Gardenmore
W.J. Johnstone	J.B. McClean	Craig Hill

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
R. Valley	Wilson Dunlop	Ballylinney
M.S. Gault	Ms. Marion McIlhatton	Downshire, C'fergus
T.J. Stothers	Brian P. Smyth	Greenisland
R.J.A. Bell	Maurice Fisher	Ballyclare
D. Chapman	Ernest Crawford	Second Islandmagee
F.A. Bradley	Jack Crooks	Whitehead
R.J. Montgomery	+ Robert Bell	First C'fergus Assoc.
Dr. D. Murphy	Irvine Bashford	Magheramorne
R.J. McCullough .....	.....	Loughmorne
-do- .....	.....	Woodburn
T.R. Graham	Edwin Boal	Joymount
R. Hill	J.B. Robinson	Cairncastle
S.P. Moore	Ronald Nelson	First Islandmagee
G.A.J. Ellis-Farquhar	Miss Betty Mitchell	Ballycarray
R.J. Beggs .....	.....	Raloo
J. Moxen	Miss Molly Hunter	Ballynure
J.C. Simms	+ Ivan McFarlane	Gardenmore Assistant
Anne Tolland	+ Miss Doreen Irwin	1 st Larne Assoc.
.....	Robert J. McDowell	Woodlands

8. COLERAINE PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
J.E.P. Boyd .....	.....	Terrace Row, C'raine
Dr. B. Kingsmore .....	.....	Evangelism Promoter
R.J. Wilson .....	.....	Portstewart
Dr. W.W. Porter .....	.....	Moneydig
Dr. D.H. Allen .....	.....	New Row, Coleraine
F. Russell .....	.....	Castlerock
J. Frazer	John Boyd	Ballywillan
A.E. Armstrong .....	.....	Retired
V. Whyte .....	.....	Macosquin
.....	Wm. Anderson	Aghadowey
.....	W.W. Reid	Crossgar
S.J. Millar	Wavel Moore	Hazelbank
W.J. Waring .....	.....	Ballyrashane
D. Clarke	Dr. William Gilmore	Terrace Row, C'raine
T.S. Lindsay	John Moody	First Garvagh
J.A. McCaughan	Noel Dobbin	First Dunboe
T.J. McCormick	William Dempsie	First Killea
J.A. Kirkpatrick	Philip McGonigle	Portrush
T.P. Fleming .....	.....	First Coleraine
Raymond Kelly .....	.....	Main St., Garvagh
-do- .....	.....	Killaig
R.S. McMullan .....	.....	New Row, Coleraine
M. Goudy	William Cochrane	Macosquin
P.C. Lyle	Ivan Kelly	Second Dunboe
-do- .....	.....	Ringsend & UU Chap.
D.S. Mackay .....	.....	Boveedy
-do-	Derick Woods	Second Killea
A.J.McL. Smith	+ Samuel Robinson	Ballywillan Assoc.
John Coulter	+ George McIntyre	Ballysally (Ch. Ext.)
R.D. Gregg	Eddie Bleakley	Burnside
C. Aitcheson	Howard Andrews	Castlerock
T.J. Lavery	R.H. McRoberts	Portstewart
.....	Desmond Lyons	Ballyrashane

9. DERRY & STRABANE PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
M. McSparran .....	.....	Monreagh
R.S.K. Neill .....	.....	First C'derg; Killeter
Maurice Bolton .....	.....	Second Derry (Strand); Buncrana
Dr. John Lappin .....	.....	Carndonagh; Malin
J.M. Cathcart	Walter Duddy	Waterside
-do-	David Lamberton	Fahan
Dr. Joseph Fell	Alastair Craig	Ebrington
-do- .....	.....	Inch
D. Hillen	Douglas Caldwell	Magheramason
G.P. Young .....	.....	Moville
-do- .....	.....	Greenbank
.....	George Doherty	First L'derry & C'mont
R.L. Craig .....	.....	Kilfennan
R. Stirling	Norman McMullan	Urney
-do-	Noel Gailey	Sion
Dr. R.A. Kane	Eric Crawford	Badoney; Corrick
-do- .....	.....	Glenelly
Dr. S.D.H. Williamson	P.H. Robinson	Strabane
G.R. Stockdale .....	.....	Newtownstewart
-do-	Andrew Cooke	Gortin
D.J. Hutchinson .....	.....	Leckpatrick
.....	David McCarter	Carlisle Road
R.K. Graham	James A. Emery	First Castlederg
-do- .....	.....	Killeter
R.W. Gaston	David Thompson	Second Castlederg
-do-	William Long	Alt
A.J.A. Rosborough	James Magee	Ballyarnett
-do-	J. Dinsmore	Knowhead
.....	A. Smyth	Ardstraw
.....	Tom Campbell	Carndonagh
.....	Ms. Barbara Smyth	Malin

10. DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
K.J.C. McConnell .....	.....	Carrigart; Dunfanaghy
James Lamont .....	.....	Carrigart
-do-	Mrs. Ethel Montgomery	Dunfanaghy
Brian Brown .....	.....	Ballindrait
-do-	Norman Witherow	Raphoe
C.F.D. Clements	Cyril Leckey	Ramelton
-do-	Keith Stewart	Kilmacrennan
S.W. Rea .....	.....	Fannet
-do- .....	.....	Milford
-do- .....	.....	Rathmullan
W.A. Watson	* R.W. Vaughan	Ballyshannon
-do- .....	.....	Donegal
N.E. Dorrans .....	.....	First Ray
-do- .....	.....	Second Ray
-do- .....	.....	Newtowncunningham
Patricia A. McBride .....	.....	School Chaplain
A. Carson .....	.....	Donoughmore

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
-do-	Mrs. Muriel Whyte	Stranorlar
M.C.A. Gray .....	.....	Carnone
-do- .....	.....	Convoy
J.G. Jones	Mervyn McKean	Ballylennon
-do-	Matthew Graham	St. Johnston

11. DOWN PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
C.D. Adams .....	.....	Spa; Magherahamlet
Desmond McBride	Dr. Scott Laidlaw	Second Saintfield
James Harper	Denis Porter	Ballygowan
R.E. Boggs	Mrs. S. Ritchie	Downpatrick
-do-	Norman McMordie	Ardglass
-do- .....	.....	Strangford
R.G. Johnston .....	.....	First Saintfield
Dr. W.J. Patterson	Thomas Gibson	Killinchy
W.N. Duncan .....	.....	Missionary
S.R. Conkey	R.J. Martin	Raffrey
Samuel Armstrong	Miss Thora Kennedy	Lissara
R.McM. Mackay	Robert Murdoch	Second Comber
W.A. Abernethy .....	.....	Kilmore
J.L. Keenan .....	.....	Spa
-do- .....	.....	Magherahamlet
K. McConnell .....	.....	First Boardmills
-do- .....	.....	Second Boardmills
-do- .....	.....	Killaney
Mairisine Stanfield .....	.....	First Ballynahinch
N.A.L. Cameron	Maitland Eves	Second Killyleagh
R.A. Moffett	John Macauley	Clough
-do-	Robert Strain	Seaforde
T.W. Gordon	Mrs. Jean Shields	First Comber
.....	Samuel D. Connolly	First Saintfield
.....	Charles McCormick	First Killyleagh
.....	Dr. Winston Shaw	Edengrove

12. DROMORE PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. William Boyd	First Lisburn
T.A.N. Parker	Maze
A.P. McComb	First Dromara
John McCaughan	Legacurry
Dr. J.B. Irvine	Hillsborough
Kenneth Smyth	Drumbo
R.D. Larmour	Magheragall
Dr. H. Cromie	Railway Street, Lisburn
W.H. Gray	Harmony Hill, Lambeg
J. Scott Martin	Drumlough; Anahilt
Dr. D.M. Scott	St. Columba's, Lisburn

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. R.J.G. Gray	Douglas Anderson	First Lisburn
David McConaghy	George A. Bell	Cargycreevy
-do-	Robert Graham	Loughaghey
Dr. S. Hutchinson	+ J.O. Greer	Clerk of Assembly
J.F. Crawford .....	.....	Moira
-do- .....	.....	Ballinderry
Dr. R.S. Tosh	+ B.H. Menown	B.B.C.
Robert Lockhart	S.J. Nelson Gray	Elmwood
W.T.J. Richardson	Ronnie Crawford	Hillhall
D.J. Temple .....	.....	Irish Mission Supt.
.....	Mrs. R. Cochrane	Hillsborough
D.B. Knox	Jeffrey Whitford	Harmony Hill, Lambeg
G.B.S. Gibson	Mrs. Gladys Brown	Railway St. Lisburn
D.J. Bruce	+ Miss E. McConnell	Gen Dir Scrip Union NI
H.W. Mullan .....	.....	Drumbo
A. Shaw Thompson .....	.....	First Dromara
J. Honeyford .....	.....	St. Columba's, Lisburn
J.G. Trueman .....	.....	Banbridge Rd, D'more
S.W.W. Neilly	+ R. Gibson	M'berry/Maze Prison
M.G. McClelland	William Anderson	Magheragall
W.J. Henry .....	.....	Maze
G.W.M. Glasgow .....	.....	Drumlough
-do- .....	.....	Anahilt
A.K. Duddy .....	.....	First Dromore
R. Liddle .....	.....	Legacurry
.....	Alan Marshall	Second Dromara

13. DUBLIN & MUNSTER PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
A.V. Martin .....	.....	Abbey
J. Carson	Alan Bell	Greystones
-do-	* H.L. Todd	Arklow
J. Mann	George Petrie	Ballina
-do- .....	.....	Killala
-do-	* W. Ervin	Ballymote
C. McCurdy	William McIlreavy	Drogheda
-do- .....	.....	Ervey
Dr. R.W.J. MacDermott .....	.....	Christ Church, S'mount
T.P. McCaughey .....	.....	Retired
R. Cobain	* Brian Knox	Galway
-do- .....	.....	Ballinasloe
James Brogan .....	.....	Clontarf
-do-	Ken Jackson	Ormond Quay & Scots
S.G. Anketell .....	.....	Gorey
-do- .....	.....	Enniscorthy
-do-	* J. Wilson	Wexford
G.D. Campbell	Ian Cochrane	St. Andrew's, Blackrock
-do- .....	.....	Bray
G.A. Mitchell .....	.....	Sligo
-do- .....	.....	Boyle
Dr. T.W.J. Morrow	Ian Scott	Lucan
J.G. Faris .....	.....	Trinity, Cork
-do- .....	.....	Aghada
J.D. Woodside .....	.....	Kilkenny

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
F.P. Sellar	John Thompson	Adelaide Road, Donore
Mary Hunter	Ms. Jean Binnie	Christ Church, Rathgar
Katherine P. Meyer .....	.....	Dublin Chaplaincy
S.S. Johnston	* T.R. Reid	H.M. Develop.; Carlow
D.K. McCrory .....	.....	Lucan Assistant
Dr. S. Mawhinney .....	.....	Fermoy
-do- .....	.....	Cahir
S. Simpson .....	.....	Mountmellick
-do- .....	.....	Tullamore
A.J. Boal .....	.....	Abbey Church
Dr. J.G. Millar .....	.....	Howth & Malahide
.....	Ms. Jean Webster	Christ Church, Limerick
.....	* Ms. Joan Cowle	Corboy
.....	Neville Whisker	Dun Laoghaire

14. FOYLE PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
D.J.H. Browne .....	.....	Ballykelly
S.J. Gray	G. Connell	Faughanvale
-do- .....	.....	Gortnessy
John McWhirter .....	.....	Glendermott
Norman Hunter .....	.....	Banagher
James Clarke .....	.....	Balteagh; Bovevagh
T. V. Mawhinney .....	.....	Second Limavady
-do- .....	.....	Myroe
G.D. Simpson	Conly George	First Limavady
-do-	Lexie McCracken	Magilligan
.....	Richard Pollock	Drumachose
.....	Cyril Boyd	Derramore
Dr. W.J.H. McKee	Stanley Nutt	Cumber
-do- .....	.....	Upper Cumber
J. McGregor	John Rankin	Donemana
K.G. Patterson	William McClay	Glendermott
Dr. C. Glass	Forgrave Cochrane	Largy
-do- .....	.....	Dungiven
D.J. Paul	Mrs. D. Nicholl	Ballykelly
S. Stewart	Mrs. Harriet Lindsay	Donagheady
-do-	+ William Taylor	Strathfoyle (Ch. Ext.)
N. Ward	Stanley G. Warnock	Banagher
.....	S.W.J. McCrea	Bovevagh

15. IVEAGH PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
W.C. Lockhart .....	.....	Magherally
Arthur Clarke .....	.....	Glascar; Donaghmore
T.J. Hagan	Richard Fleming	Donacloney
S.A. Matthews	Gavin Henry	Bannside
W.H. Sanderson	R.A. McCracken	Ballydown
-do- .....	.....	Katesbridge

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
James Briggs	Jack Croy	Scarva St., Banbridge
I.J. Patterson	William Hamilton	Newcastle
D.M. Rodgers	Raymond Adams	Magherally
A.S. Thompson .....	.....	Castlewellan
-do-	Drew Harte	Leitrim
C.D. McClure	W.J. Porter	Loughbrickland
-do-	Robert Jordan	Scarva
R.J. Greer	D.L. Badger	Tandragee
H.S.W. Cubitt	Robert Henning	Second Rathfriland
-do-	David McKee	Third Rathfriland
John Holmes .....	.....	Drumgooland
-do- .....	.....	Kilkinamurphy
G.E. Best	Gordon Forsythe	Newmills
A. Johnston .....	.....	Tullylish
-do- .....	.....	Gilford
M.J.R. Neilly .....	.....	First Rathfriland
R.M. Murray	Cecil Brown	Clonduff
-do-	W.J. Johnston	Hilltown
.....	Brian Corbett	Garvagh
.....	Victor Morrison	Ballyroney
.....	R.J. Truesdale	Drumlee
.....	W.J. Waddell	Glascar
.....	Robert Murdock	Donaghmore

16. MONAGHAN PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Walter Herron .....	.....	First Monaghan
David Nesbitt	Thomas Fuller	First Ballybay
-do-	William McAdoo	Drumkeen
G. Jean Mackarel	Jim Mills	Drumkeeran
-do-	John Neill	Killyshandra
-do-	Thomas Anderson	Cavan
-do-	S.C. Byers	Bellasis
J.S.B. Drennan .....	.....	Clontibret
-do- .....	.....	Smithborough
T.D. Allen	Wm. Vance	Clones
-do-	Eric Mackarel	Stonebridge
-do- .....	.....	Ballyhobridge
-do-	George McConkey	Newbliss
B.C.G. Black	Fred Fleming	First Monaghan
.....	Jimmy Stewart	First Bailieborough
.....	Alan Hunter	Corraneary
.....	Ronald Clarke	Trinity, Bailieborough
M.R. Burnside	Mrs. Ruth Moffett	Ballyalbany
-do-	Mrs. Nancy Wallace	Glennan
Nancy Cubbitt	Mrs. D. Holmes-Greer	First Castleblayney
-do-	Harold Hill	Frankford
D.T. Moore .....	.....	Drum
-do- .....	.....	Cootehill
-do-	William D. Vogan	Kilmount
.....	Leslie Forster	Rockcorry

17. NEWRY PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. D.J. McGaughey	William Grills	Mourne
R.A. Knox	S. Qua	Tullyallen
-do-	Mervyn Agnew	Mountnorris
S.A. Finlay	Stanley McConnell	Annalong
N.S. Millen	Roy Truesdale	Dundalk & C'bellingham
-do- .....	.....	Carlingford
Dr. M.A. Barry	Mrs. Susan Knight	First Newry
A.L. Kirk	John Peacock	Kilkeel
F.J. Gibson	H. Henning	First D'banagher; J'pass
-do- .....	.....	Kingsmills
W.J. Carlisle	Herbert Murphy	Downshire Rd., Newry
J.M. Wade .....	.....	Second N'hamilton
-do- .....	.....	Creggan
B. McMillen .....	.....	Warrenpoint
-do-	Caradoc Williams	Rostrevor
J.A. Noble .....	.....	Brookvale
-do- .....	.....	Ryans
D. Rankin	Edwin McWilliams	First, Second Markethill
E.P. Gamble	James Mills	Clarksbridge & First
-do- .....	.....	Newtownhamilton
-do- .....	.....	Garmany's Grove
J.K.A. McIntyre	Samuel Paul	McKelvey's Grove
-do- .....	.....	Bessbrook
.....	William J. Flack	Tyrone's Ditches
.....	.....	Cremore

18. OMAGH PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
Dr. J.A. Matthews .....	.....	Sixmilecross
Arthur O'Neill .....	.....	Fintona
-do- .....	.....	B'nahatty & Creevan
J.L. Casement	R.H. Kidd	Sixmilecross
J.F. Murdoch	H. Alexander	First Omagh
N.R. McCormick .....	.....	Ballygawley
-do- .....	.....	Ballyreagh
B.A. Hunt	Kenneth Hunter	Irvinestown
-do-	Wilfred Steele	Pettigo
-do- .....	.....	Tempo
W.J. Kelly .....	.....	Clogher; Glenhoy
R. Herron	Samuel Gallagher	Trinity, Omagh
-do-	Harold Moore	Gillygooley
W.D. Cupples .....	.....	Enniskillen
J.I. Mairs .....	.....	Mountjoy
-do- .....	.....	Drumlegagh
D.P. Kirkwood .....	.....	Lisbellaw, Lisnaskea,
.....	.....	Maguiresbridge, N'butler
N.S. Harrison	Miss Ruth Kerr	Clogherney
J.J. Currie .....	.....	Aughnacloy
-do- .....	.....	Ballymagrane
J.L. Blair .....	.....	Clogher

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
-do-	Rowland Mulligan	Glenhoy
J. Burnett	John Dunlop	Seskinore
-do-	Roy Giboney	Edenderry
R.I. Abraham	James Cochrane	Cavanaleck
-do-	John McCrory	Aughtaine
G. Aitcheson .....	.....	Dromore
-do- .....	.....	Drumquin
.....	T.A. Murphy	Lisbellaw
.....	Cecil E.L. Knox	Maguiresbridge
.....	Miss Isobel Anderson	N't'nbutler

19. ROUTE PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
J.H. Brown .....	.....	Dunloy
John Hume .....	.....	Dunluce
H.B. Wallace	Raymond Freeman	Bushmills
R.McC. Bell .....	.....	First Kilraughts
Dr. A.W.G. Brown	E.C. Redmond	Ballycastle
R.F.S. Poots	+ John Surgenor	Deputy Clerk of Assembly
J.T. McCullough	James D. McAlister	Toberdoney
-do- .....	.....	Croaghmore
J.T. Magowan	Mervyn Morrison	St. James's, Ballymoney
G. Cunningham .....	.....	Armoy
-do-	Thomas Taggart	Ramoan
T. Luke	William J. Blair	Drumreagh
-do- .....	.....	Dromore
Sidney McCartney .....	.....	Finvoy
J.A. Thompson .....	.....	Dervock
Maurice Barr .....	.....	Ballyweaney
D.I.J. McNie	Robert Workman	Trinity, Ballymoney
Ian McClean	William Sharkey	Toberkeigh
S.T. Carson	Cecil Dobbin	Dunluce
K.D.W. Crowe .....	.....	Bushvale
R.J. Gilkinson .....	.....	Garryduff
-do-	Lyle Dunlop	Dunloy
D.H. Thompson .....	.....	First Kilraughts
E.J. Hyndman .....	.....	Roseyards
A.C. Rankin .....	.....	First Ballymoney
W.R.B. Martin	Harry Sloan	Finvoy

20. TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
W.D. Weir .....	.....	Killead
-do-	Peter W. Leitch	Loanends
J. Tolland	Michael McKinstry	First Donegore
J.H. MacConnell	S.A. McCrea	First Ballyeaston
S.W. McClintock .....	.....	Kilbride
Dr. S.J. Dixon	Hugh Matchett	First Antrim
W.J. Sleith	Mrs. E. Miskelly	High Street, Antrim

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
T. Pollock	George Patton	First Randalstown
-do- .....	.....	Duneane
B. Kennaway	James Livingstone	Crumlin
T.H. Wilson .....	.....	Templepatrick
G. Moore	William Hoy	Kilbride
Dr. L.S. Kirkpatrick .....	.....	Theological Professor
P.P. Campbell	Mrs. Meta McIlwaine	Second Ballyeaston
N. McClean	Ron Horn	Randalstown O.C.
D. Bannerman	Mrs. Ann Henderson	Greystone Rd., Antrim
J. Brackenridge .....	.....	Dundrod
J.L. Tosh	Samuel Gawn	Second Donegore
P.T. Dalzell	Robert Coulter	Hydepark
-do-	Brice Fleming	Lylehill
P.E. Dickinson	Campbell Younger	Muckamore
R.L. Brown	James McIlroy	Second Randalstown

21. TYRONE PRESBYTERY

MINISTERS	RULING ELDERS	CONGREGATIONS
J.E. Barr .....	.....	Sandholes
Dr. A.R. Rodgers .....	.....	Dungannon
W.T. Coburn .....	.....	Molesworth, C'town
D.S. Graham	Jack Dawson	First Magherafelt
J.B. McCormick	Samuel McKinney	First Moneymore
-do-	* Miss Beatrice Miller	Second Moneymore
I.F. Smith	John Black	Orritor
-do-	Eric Davidson	Claggan
J.I. Thompson	Robert Hamilton	First Cookstown
.....	Harry Russell	Newmills
N.W. McAuley .....	.....	Union Road, M'felt
-do- .....	.....	Lecumpher
W.L. Orr .....	.....	Coagh
-do-	Mrs. Essie Hessin	Ballygoney
-do-	Andrew Johnston	Salterland
J.W. Fleck .....	.....	Upper Clonaneese
-do-	Kenneth Lee	Lower Clonaneese
Philip G. McCrea	Martin Shields	Maghera
R.I.A. Allely .....	.....	Dungannon
R.N. Agnew	W.J. Bruce	Bellaghy
-do- .....	.....	Knockloughrim
Dr. T.R. Buick .....	.....	First Stewartstown
-do-	Archie Bowden	Brigh
-do-	Mrs. Carol Maneely	Albany
W.T. Bingham	Leonard McIvor	Sandholes
-do-	Gerry Archibald	Pomeroy
T.J. Conway	Vernon Arbuthnot	Culnady
-do-	John Williamson	Swatragh
Dr. K.O. Patterson	David Fulton	Castledawson
-do-	John Fulton	Curran
J.H. Flaherty	T.G. Campbell	Tobermore
-do- .....	.....	Draperstown
R.A. McLernon	William Gilchrist	Castlecaulfield
-do-	Ivan Nelson	Eglish

ELDERS IN SPECIAL WORK CODE PAR. 97 (g)

J.R.W. Luke

TRUSTEES NOMINATIONS CODE PAR. 97 (h) (iii)

J. Millar

ELDERS OF ASSEMBLY CODE PAR. 97 (i) 107 (a)

Mrs. C. Barkley R.N.C. Watts Prof. H.F. Nicholl

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY (Par. 127, 2a)

M.A. Morrow, Q.C. J.S. Tweed J.W. Russell

ASSEMBLY ELDERS AND CONVENERS

G. McCullagh	S. Lynas	D.J. Campbell
H. Taggart	N. Chambers	D.C. Cowan
Dr. D. Alexander	A.J. Rankin	D. Lamb
M.H. Stewart	W. Alexander	W.H. Henry
T.H. Cochrane		

BUSINESS BOARD NOMINATIONS – CODE PARAGRAPH 97(j)

R. Forbes	Miss C. Cathcart	A. Maxwell
Miss J. Gwyn	Miss E. White	M. Spence
L. Cubitt	R.J. Davidson	J. Hutcheson
W. Caswell	C. Robinson	H.W. Templeton
M. McQuillan	W.H. Scott	E. Crozier
M. Fitch	Mrs. K. Mawhinney	R. McClung

RETIRED MISSIONARIES WHO ARE ELDERS

Miss D. Shannon

CONVENERS WHO ARE NOT ELDERS

Miss R. Stirling Mrs. H. McCall

DEACONESSES WHO ARE NOT ELDERS AND WOMAN WORKERS

Miss J. Clegg, Ballycrochan, Bangor	Miss M. Cromie, Belfast City Hospital
Mrs. R. Henry, South Belfast Friendship House	Mrs. H. McCracken, Alexandra
Mrs. G. Martin, Woodvale	Mrs. J. O'Neill, Joymount, Carrickfergus
Miss P. Shirley, Greystone Road, Antrim	Miss K. Spence, New Mossley

RETIRED DEACONESSES WHO ARE NOT ELDERS

Miss N. McAllister Miss J. Orr

LICENTIATES

C. Burcombe	Dr. W.H.G. Crawley	M.N. Davidson
C.J. Gamble	M. Gibson	A.A. McCullough
E.S. McDowell	D.W. Reid	

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Mrs. M. Lygo	ARDS PRESBYTERY _____	_____
Mrs. M. Dowds	ARMAGH PRESBYTERY Mrs. L. McMullan	Mrs. I. Millar
Mrs. S. Dickinson	BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY Mrs. A. Erwin	_____
_____	NORTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY _____	Mrs. B. Brennan
Mrs. J. Clarke	SOUTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY Mrs. L. Dennison	Mrs. M. Jackson
_____	EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY _____	Miss R. Taylor
Mrs. Z. Valley	CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY Mrs. J. Hunter	_____
_____	COLERAINE PRESBYTERY Mrs. M. Knipe	_____
_____	DERRY AND STRABANE PRESBYTERY Mrs. A. Hillen	_____
_____	DONEGAL PRESBYTERY Mrs. J. McKean	Mrs. A. Lamont
Mrs. I. Keenan	DOWN PRESBYTERY Miss J. Robinson	_____
_____	DROMORE PRESBYTERY _____	_____
Miss E. Barnett	DUBLIN PRESBYTERY Mrs. D. Beattie	Mrs. B. Jackson
Mrs. M. Docherty	FOYLE PRESBYTERY _____	_____
_____	IVEAGH PRESBYTERY _____	Mrs. J. McClure
Ms. A. Elliott	MONAGHAN PRESBYTERY _____	_____
Mrs. H. Henning	NEWRY PRESBYTERY _____	_____
Miss M. Guy	OMAGH PRESBYTERY Miss J. Patterson	_____
Mrs. B. McMullan	ROUTE PRESBYTERY Mrs. A. Burns	Mrs. J. Chestnutt
Mrs. M. Beattie	TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY Mrs. E. Ramsey	Mrs. M. McClean
_____	TYRONE PRESBYTERY Mrs. I. Reid	Mrs. M. McCreedy

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH MOVEMENT

ARDS PRESBYTERY

ARMAGH PRESBYTERY

BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

Mrs. L. Woods

C. Hofstra

NORTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

Miss L. McIlrath

SOUTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

Miss Heather Murray

EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

Nicola McGhee

COLERAINE PRESBYTERY

DERRY & STRABANE PRESBYTERY

DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

DOWN PRESBYTERY

DROMORE PRESBYTERY

E. Poots

Miss H. McConaghy

S. MacFarlane

DUBLIN & MUNSTER PRESBYTERY

FOYLE PRESBYTERY

Dr. Mark Henderson

John Martin

IVEAGH PRESBYTERY

MONAGHAN PRESBYTERY

NEWRY PRESBYTERY

OMAGH PRESBYTERY

ROUTE PRESBYTERY

M. Adams

TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY

TYRONE PRESBYTERY

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS AND DELEGATES

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Right Rev. Andrew McLellan
Mr. Campbell Snoddy

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. Peter McIntosh
Rev. Kenneth Lynch

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WALES

Rev. Glyn Tudwal Jones

CHURCH OF IRELAND

Rev. Rev. Dr. Ian Ellis
Mr. H. W. Young

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND

Rev. David J. Kerr
Rev. Dr. S. Wesley Blair
Dr. S. Elizabeth Lemon
Mrs. Sharon Grey

EGLISE REFORMEE DE FRANCE

Pasteur Axel Van der Linden

REFORMED CHURCH OF ROMANIA

Rt. Rev. Laszlo Tokes

PRESBYTERIAN REFORMED CHURCH IN CUBA

Rev. Dr. Carlos Emilio Ham Stanard

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE SUDAN

Rev. Michael Chot Lul

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Rev. Jan Henzel

IRISH COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Dr. D. Stevens

The following Ministers and Ruling Elders were present at the Annual Meeting:-

The Moderator welcomed, on behalf of the Assembly, representatives of sister Churches, of Universities and Community Organisations, and other special guests present.

The Moderator, having expressed thanks for the help he had received during the past year of office, asked the Assembly to proceed to the election and appointment of a successor to him in office for the ensuing year.

The Clerk submitted the nominations of Presbyteries for the Moderatorship as follows:-

The Rev. T.W.J. Morrow, M.A., B.D., M.Th., Ph.D.	10 votes
The Rev. H.A. Dunlop, B.A., B.D.	8 votes
The Rev. R.J.T. McMullan, B.A.	2 votes
The Rev. S.J. Campbell, B.A., Dip.Ed., M.Div.	1 votes

On the motion of the Rev. H.A. Dunlop, seconded by the Rev. R.J.T. McMullan, the Rev. Dr. T.W.J. Morrow was unanimously called to the Chair, welcomed by the retiring Moderator and commended to God in prayer.

The Right Rev. Dr. T.W.J. Morrow then addressed the House.

The sederunt came to a close at 9.05 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

SECOND SESSION

Tuesday, 6th June, 2000 Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon

Within May Street Church

The members of Assembly, and other members of the Church, met and participated in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the Moderator conducting the Service, assisted by the Very Rev. Dr. J.W. Lockington and the Clerk.

Intermission

Within Church House

The Assembly afterwards convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** (Reports pp. 102-109) was submitted by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson, together with the following Supplementary Reports.

**Supplementary Report A
DELEGATES TO OTHER CHURCHES**

The Church of Scotland General Assembly (2000)

The Right Rev. Dr. J.W. Lockington reports:

The Church of Scotland met in the refurbished Assembly Hall, Edinburgh from 20-26 May, in the presence of the Lord High Commissioner, Prince Charles, Prince of Wales.

The corresponding members from our church were the Rt. Rev, Dr. J. Lockington, Rev. L Casement and Mr. R Beedham.

Rev. Andrew R. McLellan, minister of St. Andrew's and St. George's, Edinburgh was installed as Moderator and he guided the Assembly through a long list of business with cheerful skill.

Under the Church and Nation Report the Assembly debated issues which included farming, minimum income, public life in Scotland, reform of the House of Lords, nuclear weapons and Kosovo.

The Church of Scotland is also facing a decline in the number of students for the ministry but resisted a move to increase the upper age limits both for accepting students and for retirement and confirmed the retiring age for ministers at 65.

The Assembly, by a slender majority, agreed to continue to be involved in the discussions presently taking place between the main Protestant churches of Scotland towards a united church.

After a serious and sympathetic debate, the Assembly, accepting that Section 28 will be repealed, decided to urge the Scottish Executive to "have regard to the value of marriage, parental commitment and family relationships in a child's development".

A Youth Assembly was held a few weeks earlier and several motions were presented at the General Assembly by young people who played a very active part in many of the debates. Is there a lesson for our own Assembly to learn?

I had the opportunity to address the Assembly on Tuesday on the current situation in Ireland

Looking to the future, the Church, through the Assembly Council, is seeking to assess the changes, needs, challenges, responsibilities and priorities affecting the Church in the 21st Century.

Improvements had been made to the Assembly Hall to accommodate the Scottish Parliamentary Assembly, and these proved very helpful in the smooth conduct of the business. Additional microphones throughout the hall enabled people to speak from the area in which they were sitting. Electronic voting facilities were also available as well as Power Point and three large television screens. The "Blue Book" has also been redesigned and its new format made it much more user friendly. Perhaps our church might take note!

As usual our delegation received a warm welcome and enjoyed the generous hospitality of Scottish friends, including two receptions at Holyrood Palace.

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland (2000)

The Very Rev. Dr. S. John Dixon reports:

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland took place in The Waterfront Hall, Belfast from 15-17 May. This was the first visit of the Synod to this venue and their third visit to the City of Belfast. The delegates from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland were Very Rev. Dr. S. John Dixon and Mr. Eric Bowness (Antrim). They were welcomed graciously and treated hospitably.

The Synod was addressed by the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, The Most Rev. Dr. Robin Eames. His address was comprehensive and issued a call to the Church to rise to the relevant challenges of the 21st century. He, together with the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Rev. Walter Empey, chaired the proceedings with efficiency and humour.

A considerable amount of legislation came before the Synod from the Liturgical Advisory Committee; the Parliamentary language of Bills and First, Second and Third Readings was but one noticeable difference between Synod and our General Assembly.

It was possible to sense that a heated debate had been going on around the issue of Theological Education within the Church of Ireland over the past year. There was a warm welcome for the establishment of a Theological College Council and a great sense of moving forward to look realistically at Models of Ministry appropriate to the needs of today and corresponding changes in the training and education of ordinands.

An attempt was made to reduce the size of the General Synod. This was seen as a matter of theology - because it is about koinonia - community and justice, because it is about restoring the representative equilibrium within the Church of Ireland, guaranteeing the involvement of smaller local units and affording to all the opportunity to attend and to participate. The radical nature of the proposals ensured that further debate and discussion is expected next year.

The Archbishop of Dublin proposed, with passion, a resolution on debt in the world's most highly indebted poor countries. Synod agreed to call on the GS Summit at Okinawa in July 2000 to continue the process of debt cancellation.

After six years work, the Fifth Edition of the Revised Church Hymnal is nearing completion. Containing 719 hymns, it has striven to retain old favourites and introduce new material already gaining acceptance in many churches. Pam Rhodes from the BBC's 'Songs of Praise' will take part in a special service to launch it in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin on 9th September 2000.

On the Monday evening of Synod, a very impressive service was held in St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast. The Bishop of Down and Dromore, the Rt. Rev. Harold Miller, preached a challenging sermon on the choices that must be made in both church and community.

It was a very enlightening and interesting experience to share the Synod and we came away having learned much and made new friends.

BUSINESS BOARD - Supplementary Report B

The Business Board welcomes the appointment of Mr. Clive Knox as Financial Secretary Designate. As he is not eligible to be a full member of the General Assembly, the Business Board recommends that he be invited to sit and

deliberate at the General Assembly (including the private session) and at meetings of its Boards and Committees in accordance with Par. 269(2)(e) and Par. 269(8) of the Code.

Moved by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev. R. Vallely, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the recommended Order of Business be adopted.
3. That the professional amplification controller and the visual display operator be admitted to the private session.
4. That the Financial Secretary Designate, Mr. Clive Knox, be invited to sit and deliberate at meetings of the General Assembly (including the private session) and at meetings of its Boards and Committees in accordance with Par. 269(2)(e) and Par. 269(8) of the Code.
5. That a grant of £9,500 be made from the Incidental Fund to the Arrangements Committee.
6. That a grant of £3,500 to cover the cost of the Moderator's accommodation be made from the Incidental Fund to the Arrangements Committee.
7. That the Business Board, with its associated working committee, for the ensuing year beginning 15 March, 2001, be appointed in accordance with Par 275 of the Code.

Moved by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev. R.F.S. Poots, and agreed:

That Notice of Motion be received that, in view of his service to the Church, especially as an Opening Night Steward and as time-keeper at Business Sessions of the General Assembly, Mr. Herbert W. Templeton be made a member of Assembly under Par. 97(i) and Par. 107(a) of the Code.

**Mr. H.W.
Templeton**

The Report of the **Ad hoc Committee on the Memorial of the Dublin and Munster Presbytery** (Reports p.318) was submitted by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson.

**Dublin &
Munster
Memorial
Committee**

Moved by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev. J. McVeigh, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Guidelines in Par 4 of the Report be approved.
3. That the ad hoc Committee on the Memorial of the Dublin and Munster Presbytery be thanked and discharged.

The Report of the **Synods and Presbyteries** (Reports pp.92-101) was submitted by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson.

**Synods &
Presbyteries**

Moved by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev. R.F.S. Poots, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

**Corresponding
Members**

The **Corresponding Members** were received from the Church of Scotland. These were Right Rev. Andrew McLellan and Mr. Campbell Snoddy.

The Moderator welcomed the Corresponding Members. The Right Rev. Andrew McLellan replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed Rev. Peter McIntosh and Rev. Kenneth Lynch, Corresponding Members of the United Reformed Church of the United Kingdom, and Rev. Glyn Tudwal Jones, a delegate from the Presbyterian Church of Wales. Rev. Peter McIntosh replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed Rev. Dr. Ian Ellis and Mr. H.W. Young, delegates from the Church of Ireland; Rev. D.J. Kerr, Rev. Dr. S.W. Blair, Dr. S. Elizabeth Lemon, Mrs. Sharon Grey, delegates from the Methodist Church in Ireland and Dr. David Stevens from the Irish Council of Churches. Rev. Dr. Ian Ellis replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed other delegates. These were: Reformed Church of Romania: Rt. Rev. Laszlo Tokes. Presbyterian Reformed Church in Cuba: Rev. Dr. Carlos Emilio Ham Stanard. Presbyterian Church of Sudan: Rev. Michael Chot Lul. Eglise Réformée de France: Pasteur Axel Van der Linden. Church of the Brethren, Slovak Republic: Rev. Jan Henzel. Rt. Rev. Laszlo Tokes replied and conveyed greetings.

**UNION
COMMISSION**

The Report of the **UNION COMMISSION** (Reports pp. 74-91) was submitted by the Rev. W.J. Orr, together with the following Supplementary Report.

UNION COMMISSION - Supplementary Report

For the avoidance of doubt certain entries in the report in the Blue Book are reprinted below in clearer form.

LEAVE TO CALL MINISTERS

Congregation	Stipend	Expenses	Fraction
2nd Randalstown			
(1999 & 2000)	£17,500	£5,000	Suspended, review after three full years of ministry.
(2001)	£18,000		
(2002)	£18,600		
Knowhead	Stipend:	IR£6,250 + 20% of income from Manse Fund, Fraction 37.5%	
	Expenses:	IR£2,200 + 20% of income from Manse Fund	
Portstewart			
(2000)	£24,000	£5,000	No fraction until a review when figures become available following the third year of ministry, and in the interim stipend as follows:
(2001)	£24,700		
(2002)	£25,500		
(2003)	£26,250		

Greenwell Street, Newtownards

(2000)	£27,500	£6,000	No fraction to be set, and the situation
(2001)	£28,000		to be reviewed in 2003 when the figures
(2002)	£28,500		for 2002 become available.

Leave to Call Under Home Mission Development Scheme

Congregation	Stipend	Fraction
Lisbellaw	£4,600	37.5%
Lisnaskea	£2,300	37.5%
Maguiresbridge	£2,250	37.5%
Newtownbutler	£1,600	37.5%

Ministerial Expenses (Total £3,500) and Shared Expenses in the following proportions; Lisbellaw 40%; Maguiresbridge 22.5%; Lisnaskea 22.5% and Newtownbutler 15%

(This supersedes the details given for the Lisnaskea group on pages 75 and 77 of the Blue Book.)

Associate Ministers

Congregation	Salary	Expenses	Housing Allowance
Gilnahirk	£15,600	£3,000	£1,500
Stormont	£15,600	£3,000	£1,500
Ballyclare	£17,000	£4,250	£1,500

Eligibility of Assistants

In 1992 the General Assembly approved guidelines on practice and procedure for Assistants prior to eligibility for Call (Reports p.175; Mins. p.29). These guidelines are reprinted below (substituting the current date of eligibility for most licentiates, 15 May, for the date originally laid down).

In fairness to all concerned these guidelines should be strictly observed, and Presbyteries are asked to see that this is done.

Guidelines

(i) Public worship is open to all, so visitors from vacant congregations cannot be excluded because a soon-to-be-eligible assistant is preaching, but such a visit cannot be regarded as a formal 'hearing' of the candidate.

(ii) Similarly, assistants are free to drive past vacant churches and manses, but it is inappropriate to enter into negotiations about possible repairs etc. at this preliminary stage.

(iii) It is reasonable for assistants to say that, when the time comes, they might be interested in a particular vacancy, among others, or that they will not be interested in it, but no commitments should be entered into, particularly of an exclusive nature.

(iv) Kirk Sessions for their part should not give the impression that they are committed to any one candidate before the list closes. It follows that any preliminary contacts should be brief, informal and limited to the question of whether an application may be forthcoming or not.

(v) Applications may be submitted on or after 15th May, but it is good practice for Kirk Sessions to allow a few days for applications to arrive before closing their list. Where possible they should present the congregation (or hearing committee) with a reasonable selection of names.

Moved by the Rev. W.J. Orr, seconded by the Rev. R.J.A. Bell, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the congregation of Glasleck be amalgamated with the congregation of First Bailieborough (Corglass) from the 1st July, 2000, or other suitable date, on terms to be agreed with the Union Commission.
3. That the CMF be authorised to pay grants towards expenses incurred by ministers in congregations, up to a limit of £4,900 for ministers residing in N Ireland, and IR£5,500 for ministers residing in the Republic of Ireland, within the terms of resolution 3, page 70 General Assembly Minutes 1988.
4. That the proposals re the Supply Fee (Personnel/Planning Committee Report Par 6) be approved.
5. That the scheme for the payment of Vacancy Conveners (Personnel/Planning Committee Report Par 7) be recommended to all Presbyteries.
6. That Presbyteries and their Vacancy Commissions ensure that the General Assembly's Guidelines on the eligibility of Licentiatees for Call are strictly observed.

Moved by the Rev. W.J. Orr, seconded by the Rev. R.F.S. Poots, and agreed:

7. That the resignation of the Rev Robert J A Bell as Convener of the Personnel/Planning Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev Colin D McClure be appointed in his place.

Moved by the Rev. W.J. Orr, seconded by the Rev. R.J.A. Bell, and agreed:

8. That the Union Commission, with its associated working committee, be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 128 of the Code as follows:

Rev. W.J. Orr, Convener

Rev. S.A. Matthews, Secretary

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener and Secretary of H.M. Committee, Superintendent of the Irish Mission, Conveners of Church Extension, and C.M.F. Committees, Convener of Ministry and Pensions Board, Revs. S.A. Matthews, W.J. Orr.

(b*) Revs. R.E. Boggs, S.A. Matthews; A.G. Sleator, Albert Maxwell, Wm. Grills, Mervyn Spence.

(c*) Revs. Dr. R.I. Birney, I. McClean, T.R. Graham; H.L. Todd, Eric Crozier, J.W. Petrie.

(d*) Revs. T.V. Patterson, Dr. I. Hart, W.J.R. Robinson; J. Wilson, R. McClung, A.M. Kelly.

(e*) Revs. T.J. Conway, G.D. Simpson, Dr. J. Fell; Miss L. Thompson, R. Forbes, T.R. Reid.

(f*) Revs. G.J. Mackarel, K.J.C. McConnell, Charles McCurdy; Eric Latimer, Miss J. Binnie, John Eaton.

(g) Revs. C.D. McClure, James Gordon, J.I. Mairs, J.N.I. McNeely, P. Dalzell, Douglas Armstrong, D.C. Porter; Lyle Cubitt, R.J. Davidson.

A. PERSONNEL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE (5)**Rev. C.D. McClure, Convener**

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. W.J. Orr, Professor of Practical Theology, H.M. representatives, P.W.A. representatives, Church Extension representatives, Rev. J. McVeigh; W. Alexander; Revs. C.D. McClure, R.J.A. Bell; Chairman of Union Commission.**
- (x) **Rev. T.J. McCormick; H. Smyth, Miss D. Shannon, Jack Hutcheson.**
- (y) **Revs. T.V. Patterson, Dr. Ian Hart, G.J. Mackarel, Dr. J. Fell, T.J. Conway, S.A. Matthews; R. McClung, John Eaton.**

The **Overture anent Par 128 (1)** of the Code (Reports p.91) was submitted by the Rev. W.J. Orr. **Overture anent Par 128(1)**

Moved by the Rev. W.J. Orr, seconded by the Rev. R.J.A. Bell, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the law of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par 238(3) and (4)** of the Code (Reports. p.91) was submitted by the Rev. W.J. Orr. **Overture anent Par 238**

Moved by the Rev. W.J. Orr, seconded by the Rev. R.J.A. Bell, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par. 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

The Report of the **Ad hoc Committee on the Tyrone Memorial** (Reports pp.312-317) was submitted by the Rev. R. Kelly. **Tyrone Memorial Committee**

Moved by the Rev. R. Kelly, seconded by the Rev. J.B. McCormick, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Scheme proposed in this Report be adopted.
3. That legislation to permit the implementation of the Scheme be prepared for submission to the General Assembly of 2001.
4. That the ad hoc Committee on the Tyrone Memorial be reappointed for a further year as follows:

Rev. R. Kelly, Convener

The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Union Commission, Convener of the Board of Ministry and Pensions, Clerk of the Synod of Derry and Omagh; Revs. James Lamont, M.G. McClelland, Dr. Ian Hart, Raymond Kelly, Dr. S. Williamson, T.P. Fleming, Dr. W.J. Patterson, J.I. Davey, Dr. I.J. Wilson, I.J. Patterson, M.R. Burnside, J.A. Noble, T.W.A. Greer, K.D.W. Crowe, R.I.A. Allely, R.B. Savage; J. Clarke, H. McRoberts, N.C. Patterson, Ian Kelly, R.W. Vaughan.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.00 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

THIRD SESSION**Tuesday, 6th June, 2000****Two o'clock. Afternoon**

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**NOMINATION
BOARD**

The Report of the **NOMINATION BOARD** (Reports pp.138-149) was submitted by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson, seconded by Mrs. K. Mawhinney, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That Mrs Margaret Myers be appointed as Executive Secretary of the Presbyterian Women's Association.

The Moderator informed Mrs. Margaret Myers of her election and declared her appointed after which she thanked the Moderator and members of the Assembly.

The Moderator, leading in prayer, commended Mrs. Margaret Myers to the care and guidance of God.

Moved by the Very Rev. Dr. S. Hutchinson, seconded by Mrs. K. Mawhinney, and agreed:

3. That the General Assembly take note of the opinion of Mr. Nicholas Hanna, Q.C., printed in Appendix B.
4. That, as an experiment, the Nomination Board follow the procedures set out in Par. 8 of the Report when dealing with applications for the post of Secretary of the Overseas Board, and report thereon to next Assembly.
5. That the Nomination Board be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par. 276 of the Code as follows:

The Clerk, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly.**

(b*) **Revs. J.A. Noble, D.J. Temple, H.S. Boyd; H. Plester, Maitland Eves, H. Morrow.**

(c*) **Revs. P.P. Campbell, D.E. Jones, S.S. McFarland; Dr. R.McC. McMillan, Leslie Morrell, R.I. Bashford.**

(d*) **Revs. A. Boyd, D.R. Whitley, B. Hughes; H. McRoberts, Mrs Edna Murray, R. McKeown.**

(e*) **Revs. James Clarke, J.B. McCormick, John F. Murdoch; Mrs. Rhona Ferguson, A.D. McClay, D.M. McCurry.**

(f*) **Revs. S.W. Rea, D. Nesbitt, G.A. Mitchell; John Ellis, Samuel Anderson, R.A. McAdoo.**

(g) **Rev. J.A. Fullerton; Mrs. Kathleen Mawhinney - Rev. Dr. D.H. Allen; Prof. H.F. Nicholl - Rev. R.F.S. Poots; D.F. Adair.**

Together with four "specialists" variously nominated for particular appointments.

The Report of the **BOARD OF COMMUNICATIONS** (Reports pp.110-137) was submitted by the Mr. S. Lynas, together with the following Supplementary Report.

BOARD OF COMMUNICATIONS - Supplementary Report

Media Committee

The Independent Television Commission has begun a major review of the code of advertising standards and practice. A consultation paper about possible changes of the rules that govern television advertising was published on 8th May 2000. Responses from interested individuals and organisations are invited by 7th July.

The consultation document proposes removing or liberalising the rules for some previously prohibited areas of television advertising. Many of the changes will be brought into effect in October 2000. These have been made necessary because the European convention of Human Rights (Human Rights Act 1998) will become law in October (See appendix).

Television is a rapidly changing medium and market place. We welcome the consultation paper and understand that there is a need to consider necessary changes to the codes of practice. Many of the proposed amendments and changes are positive and welcome, however we note a number of concerns in the following areas:

The Occult

We have serious reservations about permitting “occult” advertising.

Pornography

We are pleased to note that there is no plan to alter the exclusion on advertising of pornography. We are concerned that ITC is consulting about the possibility of allowing advertising “top shelf” magazines after the watershed, and during “adult” programmes.

Escort Agencies

The ITC recommends that the current prohibition should be lifted.

- We believe that a ban should remain in place.

Pregnancy Testing Services

- We have no objection to pregnancy testing services but we would be concerned lest they be associated with abortion clinics.
- As a Christian Church we are opposed to abortion on demand.

Religious Groups

The ITC recommends that the rules should be amended to say: “Statements of doctrine are permitted provided they are clearly and unambiguously presented as a matter of belief rather than as fact. Such statements must be presented in a restrained way and may not include exhortations to viewers to change their beliefs or religious behaviour”

- These suggested changes would allow very limited freedom for Christians and other religious groups wishing to advertise on TV.

Conclusions

We believe that there is a distinction between television as a medium and other media and that there is a need for a clear code of advertising standards and practice. The Code of practice should take account of regional and cultural variations in the UK like Northern Ireland. In many of the areas where we have expressed concern, boundaries that protect morality have been modified. It should be borne in mind that while the European Convention on Human Rights protects freedom of thought, conscience and religion (Article 9) and freedom of expression (Article 10) it also allows for protection of public order, health or morals (Article 9.2).

This report will form the basis of the submission to the ITC.

Memorial Record - Supplementary Report

The Rev. William Erskine, MA, Senior Minister of Ballyholme, died on 25th March, 2000 in the 88th year of his age and the 60th of his ministry.

Born in Ballyclare on 25th January, 1913, he was brought up in the former congregation of Crescent, Belfast. He attended the Royal Belfast Academical Institution, graduated in Arts from Trinity College, Dublin in 1937, and was awarded an MA in 1940. His theological education was undertaken at Assembly's College, Belfast.

He served an assistantship in Cliftonville, Belfast, and was licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast on 25th May, 1939. It was as a licentiate that he went to the new cause which had been established at Ballyholme, there that he was ordained on 23rd January, 1941, and there that he spent his entire ministry, until retirement in 1978.

From small beginnings, he saw a congregation grow on the outskirts of Bangor, a town which itself was to grow and develop far beyond the boundaries which he recognised in the early years of his ministry. It was his policy to call on anyone who came to reside within his own parish area, and the transition in 1961 from the hall in which he began his work to the fine church building in which its results are seen today was in no small measure due to the faithful and consistent visiting of one who was a careful and a caring pastor.

Faithfulness characterised also his work as chaplain to Bangor Hospital, and he was regular in his attendance at the courts of the Church. His was a quiet sincerity which sought no prominence, nor any honour for himself, as he endeavoured to commend his Lord and bring honour to Him alone.

An enthusiast for the golf course in recreation hours, it fell to him for many years to organise an annual outing for the clerical golfers of the area.

Following the death of his wife, Jean, a fellow-labourer with him in the gospel, he went to reside in River House, Newcastle, one of the homes established under the auspices of the Presbyterian Residential Trust, where his final years were spent very happily. Here in retirement he found a satisfying sense of usefulness in an extension to his ministry as unofficial chaplain to residents and staff, and his regular contributions at times of shared worship were much appreciated.

Mr. Erskine is survived by three sons, one of them currently minister of Windsor, Belfast.

The Rev. Charles Wesley McKinney, BA, Senior Minister of Ramoan, died on 18th April, 2000, in the 75th year of his age and the 48th of his ministry.

Though born in Canada, he was brought up in Garvagh, where he received his early schooling. From Coleraine Academical Institution he proceeded to Magee College, and graduated from Trinity College, Dublin in 1949. His theological education was received at New College, Edinburgh and at Assembly's College, Belfast.

He was licensed by the Presbytery of Coleraine on 10th June, 1951 and ordained to the Christian ministry on 22nd January, 1953. Installed in Knowhead and Greenbank in County Donegal, he remained there in his first charge for just over six years, when he accepted the call of the congregation of Killinchy, Co. Down. It was here that he was to spend the longest period of his ministerial service, but after some 24 years he accepted the light duty charge of Ramoan, where he remained until retirement in March 1991.

A faithful minister, whose warm and ready friendship was freely extended to all and came to be appreciated by so many of those with whom he came in contact, he was active within the Church on a number of Boards and Committees and, outside it, was involved at local and Battalion level in Boys' Brigade, and in 1967 was elected chairman of the N.I. Divisional Board of Girls' Brigade.

He found recreation in bee-keeping, gardening, golf and fishing and, after retirement, developed an interest in woodturning.

He died after a period of illness and is survived by his widow, Kay, and by a son and a daughter.

The Rev. William Robert Brown, MA, Senior Minister of First Comber, died on 1st May, 2000 in the 79th year of his age and the 53rd of his ministry.

A native of Larne whose home congregation was Gardenmore, it was in that town that he received his early education, and there too that he began work in a local office. He pursued a course of further education which took him via Magee University College, Londonderry to Trinity College, Dublin. Gaining a BA in 1944, he was subsequently awarded a Master's degree in 1947.

Licensed by the Carrick Presbytery on 2nd June, 1946, after a period of assistantship in First Carrickfergus and Seaview, Belfast, he was ordained in Draperstown on 18th March, 1948. Just over a year later he moved to Carnlough and Cushendall, where he served the congregations there for some eight years. On 19th February, 1957 he began in First Comber a ministry which was to last almost thirty years. He retired on 31st December 1986.

To First Comber and its people he gave himself wholly and wholeheartedly, developing bonds of love and trust and respect within what was a large and growing congregation, yet where each person was known and recorded. He kept himself abreast of all that was taking place in the congregation and of all that was happening in its organisational life. His preaching was Biblical, relevant and challenging and, like all else, it was meticulously prepared. Respecting the traditions in which he was brought up and which he had come to admire, he was nevertheless open to new ideas, as he sought faithfully to commend the Saviour he loved to the people He had called him to serve.

Sociable by nature, his was a gentle sense of humour. One who was counted a friend by many, he was one who would have been a friend to all. Dedicated to his calling, he found time to enjoy music and drama by way of recreation.

He is survived by his widow Jean, who gave herself to the work of the kingdom as generously as he did, and by their sons, one of whom is currently minister of Ballindrait and Raphoe, Donegal.

The Rev. Richard Campbell Graham, MA, Senior Minister of Carlisle Road, Derry and Crossroads, died on 11th May, 2000 in the 69th year of his age and the 42nd of his ministry.

Born in Belfast and brought up in the congregation of Richview, he left school to work first in an office of Harland and Wolff and then in the linen trade. Committed to Christ from an early age, he felt himself directed towards the Christian ministry. At Magee University College, in a city which was to become in a sense his own, he applied himself to learning both in the lecture-room and on the football pitch and subsequently graduated in Arts from Trinity College, Dublin. Upon completion of his theological studies at Assembly's College, he was licensed by the Presbytery of Belfast on 24th February, 1957.

He served as assistant in the Shankill Road Mission congregation before ordination and his first charge, in Orritor and Claggan, where he remained from 1958-1965. On 11th February, 1965, he was installed in Carlisle Road, Derry, where he was to spend the remainder of his ministry, becoming responsible also in 1989 for Crossroads when congregations close to the Derry border in Co. Donegal were re-grouped. He retired on 28th February, 1997.

A busy minister, conscientious as pastor and enthusiastic as preacher, he served well the people of his own congregations and those in the wider community. Hospital chaplaincy, marriage guidance, temperance work and the Committee of Londonderry Presbyterian City Mission all secured his interest and benefited by his efforts. Active also in his support of schools in the area, he taught RE in Templemore High School. In 1973 he became Clerk of the Derry Presbytery, as it then was, and it was a tribute to his expertise and efficiency that he was elected to that same office at the formation of the new Presbytery of Derry and Strabane in 1989. He served as Moderator of Synod in 1990 and for many years was a valued member of the Union Commission.

Throughout the difficult years of 'the Troubles' Mr. Graham laboured unstintingly for the congregation, the city, the Church and the Saviour he loved, using the gifts of good humour, high courage and sound sense which were his in abundance to mediate the gospel and proclaim the Way of Life.

The onset of illness, which was distressing to him, was a cause of sadness to the many who were impressed by his personality, captivated by his sense of fun, and blessed by his labours.

He is survived by his widow, Marie, by his son Ker, himself a minister of our Church, and by his daughter, Karen.

The Rev. Robert Houston, B.A. Senior Minister of First Holywood, died on 14th May, 2000 in the 95th year of his age and the 67th of his ministry.

A farmer's son, he was born at Ballyboley, Ballynure, and was introduced to the Church through the congregation of First Ballyeaston. From Larne Grammar School, he went to Queen's University, Belfast and attended Assembly's College thereafter.

He was licensed on 22nd May 1932 by the Presbytery of Carrickfergus and ordained to ministry on 24th October, 1933 in the congregation of Raffrey. In the early months of the second World War he responded to a call from First Holywood, his sphere of labour from November 1939 until retirement in April, 1972.

He led the people of Holywood through the difficult years of the war and combined his parish duties with those of an Officiating Chaplain at Palace Barracks, serving also at a time as chaplain to the Hospital Authority at Cultra. In the later years of his ministry he witnessed the beginnings of the town's considerable growth into a dormitory area for the city of Belfast.

A gentle man and a gentleman, who was not driven by personal ambition nor given to any form of self-assertiveness, he proved himself as a warmhearted pastor and a good friend, whose prayers, especially in time of bereavement, brought near to others the God with whom he walked himself. His conduct of public worship showed him to be diligent in preparation and a good preacher. His respected name is preserved in the congregation's present suite of halls, built during his years of service among them.

A keen golfer and an amiable golfing companion, he was also recognised as an enthusiastic bee-keeper.

The loss of his wife, Jeannie in 1987 left him seriously diminished, and he was to outlive most of his contemporaries. He is survived by two daughters, Sally and Roberta.

The Rev. John Llewellyn Wynne, Senior Minister of Clontarf, Dublin, and Ormond Quay and Scots, died on 2nd May, 2000 in the 82nd year of his age and the 51st year of his ministry.

A native of Birmingham, upon completion of his education he embarked upon a business career which was cut short by war service. He served throughout World War Two in Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Greece and Italy, with the First and the Sixth Airborne Divisions, but in the capacity of stretcherbearer, in deference to the pacifism which he passionately espoused all his life. As a result of his contacts during the war years he was to retain an interest in the language and people of Italy and in its Waldensian Church. He was an active supporter also of the Slav Christian Fellowship.

A Methodist by upbringing, he was ordained as a minister of that Church in 1949 and, after pastorates in Eastbourne and Wolverhampton, was received by the General Assembly as minister without charge in 1958. A year's assistantship in First Bangor was followed by installation in Ballysillan on 3rd September, 1959, where he remained for over thirteen years, exhibiting the qualities of a faithful preacher and a warmhearted pastor, and showing himself to be a man of integrity and vocation. A call to Clontarf came in 1972, with the additional responsibility of Ormond Quay and Scots in 1973. He served for ten years as

Director of Primary Education in Eire and was elected Moderator of the Synod of Dublin in 1981. An interest in the Churches' Ministry of Healing and in the charismatic revival resulted in the publication of two booklets.

Returning to England upon retirement in 1986, he settled in Oxfordshire, becoming associated with Trinity Church, Abingdon, and he preached widely and with acceptance on the Methodist/URC Circuit. A stroke some three years ago brought physical limitations, but no hindrance to the intellectual stimulation of one who was widely read and who loved conversation with family and friends, maintaining close links with those he had made in Ireland. He and his wife Aileen celebrated fifty years of marriage just a fortnight or so before his death.

He is survived by her and by their two children.

Moved by Mr. S. Lynas, seconded by the Rev. W.T.J. Richardson, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly note the growth in use of e-mail with over half of ministers now on-line, and agree that it can now be considered a recognised means of communication within the Church.
3. That the General Assembly thank Mr Clifford Boyd for the inspiring contribution he made as Chairman of the Board of Familybooks and wish him good health in his retirement.
4. The General Assembly welcome the opportunity to make submissions to the Independent Television Commission regarding proposed changes in the their code of advertising standards and practice.
5. The General Assembly are concerned about changes that are outlined in the report, which should form the basis of a submission to the Independent Television Commission.
6. That the General Assembly express appreciation to those Boards and Agencies of the Church which involve the Communications Department in the design and production of materials and encourage the wider church to use the expertise available within the department to promote corporate identity.

Communications Administration

Moved by Mr. S. Lynas, seconded by the Rev. W.T.J. Richardson:

7. That the General Assembly authorise the Public Worship Committee to produce a new Irish Presbyterian Book of Praise.

Public Worship

Moved, as an amendment, by the Rev. G. Moore, seconded by the Rev. T.W.D. Johnston:

That the General Assembly defer decision on the production of a new Irish Presbyterian Hymnbook pending a report from the Public Worship Committee to the 2001 Assembly on the adoption of the 'PRAISE' hymnbook as the core hymnbook of the Church.

On being put, the amendment was declared passed.

Voting: For 250 votes

Against 215 votes

Moved as an amendment, by the Rev. J.G. Faris, seconded by the Rev. H.B. Wallace:

That the General Assembly refer the decision on a new Irish Presbyterian Hymnbook to the General Board meeting in October 2000 and authorise the General Board to make the decision in the light of a report from the Public Worship Committee on the adoption of the 'PRAISE' hymnbook as the core hymnbook of the Church.

On being put, the amendment was declared lost.

The first amendment, on being put as substantive motion, was passed.

By permission of the Assembly, Resolutions 6 and 7, as printed in the Assembly Reports, were withdrawn.

Moved by Mr. S. Lynas, seconded by the Rev. W.T.J. Richardson, and agreed:

8. That a grant of £13,700 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Historical Society. **Historical Society**

9. That a grant of £1,000 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Church Architecture Committee. **Church Architecture**

10. That the General Assembly encourage congregations to implement, as soon as is possible, current legislation regarding disabled access to all public buildings.

11. That the Board of Communications, together with its associated working Committees, be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 277 of the Code as follows: **General**

Rev. I.F. Smith, Convener
Stephen Lynas, Secretary

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev. I.F. Smith; Editors of the Church Magazines, S. Lynas.**

(b) **Rev. W.A. Kennedy; D. Lusk - Rev. L.W.H. Hilditch; V. Riddell - Revs. M. Brown, T. Steele - Rev. D.J. Bruce; A. Robinson - Revs. W.H. Sanderson; H. Morrow - Rev. D. Rankin; Mrs. P. Qua.**

(c) **Rev. N.A. Brown; T. Montgomery - Rev. T.R. Graham; Miss B. Mitchell - Rev. J.A. McCaughan; Ian Smyth - Rev. R.McC. Bell; K. McAuley - Rev. B. Kennaway; S.J. Waugh.**

(d) **Rev. J.K. Doherty; R. Daggart - Rev. Dr. G. Grindle; J. Gault - Rev. A.S. Smyth; T. Busby.**

(e) **Rev. R. Stirling; F.L. Hood - Rev. G.D. Simpson; Mrs. J. Norris - Miss Margaret Guy, J.A. Patterson - Rev. I.W. Fleck; Mrs. M. Crooks.**

(f) **Rev. W.A. Watson; N. Watt - Rev. Robert Cobain; Val Fitzgerald - Rev. G.J. Mackarel; J. Jenkins.**

A. COMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (5)

Rev. W.J. Carlisle, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Information Officer, Editors of "Herald", "Christian Irishman", "Wider World", Representative of**

Familybooks, F.M. and P.W.A. Representatives - Revs. I.F. Smith, W.J. Carlisle; S. Lynas.

- (x) Revs. Dr. Joseph Thompson, Dr. W.E. Davison; Maurice O'Neill, Mrs. G. Morrow
- (y) Revs. W.H. Sanderson, R.McC. Bell, J.A. McCaughan, D. Rankin, A.S. Smyth; Mrs. P. Qua, Mrs. M. Crooks, Ian Smyth.

B. MEDIA COMMITTEE (5) Rev. R. Hill, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Information Officer, Magee Director, Revs. R. Hill, I.F. Smith, Dr. R.S. Tosh, Professor of Practical Theology, Rel. Advisers Downtown Radio, R.T.E., U.T.V, S. Lynas.
- (x) Rev. C. Glover; Maurice O'Neill, Jonathan Wylie, Mrs. W.D.F. Marshall.
- (y) Revs. R.McC. Bell, Dr. G. Grindle, L.W.H. Hilditch, W.A. Kennedy, G.J. Mackarel, J.A. McCaughan, B. Kennaway; D. Lusk.

C. PUBLIC WORSHIP COMMITTEE (5) Rev. W.T.J. Richardson, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. I.F. Smith, J.F. Murdoch, H.B. Wallace, W.T.J. Richardson; Professor of Practical Theology, S. Lynas.
- (x) Revs. J.H. McIntyre, W.J. Murdock, D. Stanfield; Mrs. M. Boden.
- (y) Revs. B. Kennaway, W.H. Sanderson, W.A. Kennedy, T.R. Graham, Dr. G. Grindle, J.A. McCaughan; H. Morrow, Mrs. M. Crooks.

D. CHURCH ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE (5) Rev. L.W.H. Hilditch, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. I.F. Smith, L.W.H. Hilditch; S. Lynas.
- (x) B. McClean, W. Boyce, Mrs. J. Hamilton.
- (y) Revs. R.McC. Bell, G.D. Simpson, R. Cobain, J.K. Doherty; J. Gault, T. Montgomery.

E. HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE (5) Rev. Dr. W.J.H. McKee, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. Prof. L.S. Kirkpatrick, Dr. H. Cromie, I.F. Smith, J.F. Murdoch, Dr. W.J.H. McKee; S. Lynas.
- (x) Rev. K. Smyth; George Gillespie, Derek Alexander, Mrs. D. McKee.
- (y) Revs. R.McC. Bell, J.A. McCaughan, B. Kennaway, R. Stirling, L.W.H. Hilditch, J.K. Doherty; Mrs. M. Crooks, T. Busby.

Intermission

BOARD OF EDUCATION - Supplementary Report.**University Education Committee**

The University Education Committee has been in discussion with the Methodist Church regarding operating a joint chaplaincy arrangement for the Dublin Higher Education Institutions. The model being investigated would provide for full-time chaplains in Trinity College, University College, Dublin City University and Dublin Institute of Technology. At this point in time it is believed that each of the Institutions will cover the salaries of the chaplains. PCI would be expected to finance housing allowances for two of the appointments.

Rev. Alan Martin has been representing PCI in detailed discussions with the Colleges with a view to determining salary arrangements, role of chaplain etc. The discussions so far suggest that the scheme could be in place by September 2001.

The Committee asks the Assembly's approval of the negotiations so far, and to allow the Education Board to proceed with making appointments as and when negotiations are finalised.

State Education Committee

1. The Secondary Education Committee is comprised of representatives of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches, the Church of Ireland and the Religious Society of Friends and takes its authority from the governing bodies of each of these denominations.

2. It is best known for its equitable distribution of a means-tested grant to assist families in the Republic to enrol their children in a school whose culture and ethos or characteristic spirit is that of the religious affiliation of the family concerned, or at least of one parent.

3. The Committee is resourced by a block grant from the Department of Education and Science and, currently, handles an annual turnover of IR£3,000,000.

4. The Committee is concerned that, in this litigious age, members might have a liability in the event of an applicant, successfully, claiming that procedures had been wrongly applied or were structured incorrectly.

5. When approaches were made, the Department of Education and Science and the Churches declined to indemnify the members. Professional advice was taken, including the opinion of the Assembly's Solicitor, which was that the formation of a company limited by guarantee would be an appropriate step. While this will protect the individual members and assist in obtaining appropriate insurances, it will not change the structure or method of appointment of the Secondary Education Committee. Furthermore, the Committee will continue to report to the parent Church Bodies.

6. The General Assembly, together with the three other Churches, is being asked to approve this course of action. Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the said company have been approved by the Assembly's Solicitor and are available for inspection. A resolution is appended.

Moved by the Rev. J. McAllister, seconded by Rev. I.T. McKee, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

2. That the General Assembly encourage the University Education Committee to pursue the negotiations with the Methodist Church about Chaplaincy arrangements in Dublin, and authorise the Committee to advertise and appoint a Chaplain as and when appropriate.

3. That, as recommended by the Secondary Education Committee, the General Assembly approve the incorporation of the Secondary Education Committee Limited, a company limited by guarantee, and approve the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the said Company.

4. That the Board of Education with its associated working committees, for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 284 of the Code as follows:

Rev. J. McAllister, Convener
Deputy Clerk, Secretary

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, the Principal U.T.C., University Chaplains, Sunday School Organiser, Conveners of R.E. in Day Schools, Representative on Stranmillis Management, Transferors' Representatives on the N.I. Area Boards, Deputy Clerk, Rev. J. McAllister.**

(b) **Rev. R.A. Patton; R. Davidson - Revs. W.G. Cameron, J. Curry - Rev. J.L. Keenan; W.A. Wilson - Dr. J. Davis; J. Wilkinson - Rev. S.A. Matthews; George Beattie - Revs. W.J. Carlisle, J.M. Wade.**

(c) **Rev. M. Dunn; W. Cairns - Rev. G. Ellis-Farquhar; G.L. Gillespie - Rev. M. Goudy; Mrs. S. Blair - Rev. B. Martin; J.L. Snodgrass - Rev. J. Tolland; T. Nicholl.**

(d) **Rev. W.G. Stewart; R. Young - Rev. Prof. J.C. McCullough; D. Todd - Rev. K.A. McBride; W.H. Hawe.**

(e) **Revs. R. Stirling, J. McCormick - Rev. S. Stewart; R.E. Wright - James Cochrane, Mrs. M. Patterson - Rev. Dr. T.R. Buick; Mrs. E. Farr.**

(f) **Rev. N.E. Dorrans; E.J. Wallace - Rev. Mary Hunter; Dr. Mary Carson - Rev. Nancy Cubitt; Mrs. D. Holmes-Greer.**

(g) **Rev. Dr. John Thompson; N. Morrison, Mrs. S. Lewis, Mrs. R. Clements, Mrs. L. Gibson, Mrs. D. McKee, Alan S. Kennedy, T.G.J. Moag, D. McClurg.**

A. CHURCH EDUCATION COMMITTEE (5) Rev. I.T. McKee, Convener

(a) **Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Deputy Clerk, Revs. I.T. McKee, J. McAllister.**

(x) **Rev. Dr. S.R. Jones; Miss R. Stirling, Mrs. E. Pollock, W.R. Quinn.**

(y) **Revs. R. Stirling, K.A. McBride, R.A. Patton, W.J. Carlisle, W.G. Stewart, M. Goudy; Mrs. S. Blair, Mrs. J.A. Campbell.**

B. STATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (5) Deputy Clerk, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. J.S.B. Drennan, W.T.J. Richardson, I.T. McKee, J. McAllister, Deputy Clerk; J. McBride, B.T. Duffy, Prof. R.H. Mitchell.**

(x) **John Magowan, W.J. Caves, D.G. Andrews; Rev. J.H. McIntyre.**

(y) **Revs. G.A.J. Ellis-Farquhar, Dr. T.R. Buick, J.A. Curry, S.A. Matthews, Nancy Cubitt; R.E. Wright, J.L. Snodgrass J. Wilkinson.**

C. UNIVERSITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE (5)**Prof. R.H. Mitchell, Convener**

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. I.T. McKee, J. McAllister; Youth Officer; Deputy Clerk; Prof. R.H. Mitchell, Convener of War Memorial Hostel Committee, Secretary Board of Social Witness.**
- (x) **Rev. Prof. W.P. Addley; Austin Hewitt, T.G.J. Moag, N. Todd.**
- (y) **Revs. R.A. Patton, W.J. Carlisle, K.A. McBride, Nancy Cubitt, Dr. T.R. Buick, Mary Hunter; Mrs. M. Patterson, Dr. Mary Carson.**

The Report of the **UNITED APPEAL BOARD** (Reports pp.288-293) was submitted by Mr. H. Stewart.

**UNITED
APPEAL
BOARD**

Moved by Mr. H. Stewart, seconded by Rev. T.D. Gribben, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the United Appeal Board be given permission to include an amount for contingencies of £200,000 for the year 2001.
3. That the United Appeal for 2001 be as set out in Schedules III and IV.
4. That the United Appeal Board for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 287 of the Code as follows:

**M.H. Stewart, Convener
The Clerk, Secretary**

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; M.H. Stewart.**
- (b*) **Revs. R. Lockhart, B. McMillen, W.A. Abernethy; B. McClean.**
- (c*) **Rev. G.A. Preston; R.W. Vaughan, R.J. Owens, M.H. Stewart.**
- (d*) **Revs. Lesley Carroll, V. Sinclair, I.A. McKay; J. McKibben.**
- (e*) **Revs. P.G. McCrea, Dr. S.D.H. Williamson, T.V. Mawhinney; J.A. Patterson.**
- (f*) **Revs. T.D. Allen, J.G. Jones, A. Boal; Wm. Alexander.**
- (g) **Revs. D. Clarke, T.D. Gribben, J. Lamont, Rev. G. McClelland; Mrs. O. Marshall, J. Clarke.**

The Report of the **BOARD OF MINISTRY AND PENSIONS** (Reports pp.294-299) was submitted by the Rev. D.S. Graham together with the following Supplementary Report.

**BOARD OF
MINISTRY
& PENSIONS**

**BOARD OF MINISTRY AND PENSIONS - Supplementary Report.
Committee on Retirements and Pensions**

The Committee on Retirements and Pensions granted leave to retire on or after 16 May, 2000 (Code Par. 222(3)) to Rev. W.M. Gray (Lisnabreen).

The Committee also received two further applications for leave to retire under the present "65" rule. Resolution 6 has been revised accordingly.

Moved by the Rev. D.S. Graham, seconded by the Rev. J.L. Casement, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

- Central Ministry Fund** 2. That Retired Ministers be paid in the current year a special grant (Code Par 315(5) of £15 per month from Central Ministry Fund.
3. That the rate of assessment for CMF in 2000 be 25p in £ stipend.
- Ministers Pension Scheme (1978)** 4. That the rate of Assessment for 2000 for MPS 1978 remain at 16.25p in the £ of Stipend as shown in the column “Stipend paid to the Minister” or as fixed by the Union Commission in the case of a vacancy.
- Retired Ministers’ Fund** 5. That the rate of Assessment for RMF for 2000 be increased from 11.5p in the £ of Stipend to 12p in the £ of Stipend.
6. That permission be given to the following to retire on or after their 65th birthday: Rev Robert Cobain (Galway), Rev Richard Neville Gordon (Overseas Board), Rev James Boyd McCormick (1st and 2nd Moneymore), Rev Robert Allen (Rathcoole), Rev W E R Barton (Mosside), Rev Jas Briggs (Scarva Street), Rev J T McCullough (Toberdoney and Croaghmore), Rev Dr R N Brown (Stranmillis College).
- Widow of Ministers Fund** 7. That the rate of Assessment for WMF for 2000 remain at 6.75p in the £ of Stipend.
- General** 8. That the resignation of Mr Robert Kerr as Co-Convener of the Retirements and Pensions Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Mr John Millar, OBE be appointed in his place.
9. That Mr William Alexander be continued as Co-Convener of the Central Ministry Fund Committee for one further year.
10. That under the provisions of Code Par 223(3), as now amended, the following be given permission to retire on or after their 64th birthday: Rev James Harper (Ballygowan), Rev James Barnes (May St), their pension to be in accordance with the provisions of the Code and the rules of the Ministers’ Pension Scheme (1978).
11. That the Board of Ministry and Pensions, with its associated working Committees, for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 288 of the Code as follows:

Rev. D.S. Graham, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Union Commission, Convener and Secretary Home Mission Committee; Revs. D.S. Graham, D.J. Boden, J. McVeigh, J.L. Casement; W. Alexander, J. Millar, N. McLaughlin.**
- (b) **Rev. D.C. Porter; W.J. Moorhead - Rev. T.A. McNeely; N. Greenlee - Rev. W.D. McBride; S. Cunningham - C. Stanfield, J. Magee - Revs. A. Thompson, J. Briggs - Rev. J.A. Noble; D. Orr.**
- (c) **Rev. G.A. Preston; H. Coulter - Rev. Douglas Armstrong; J.B. Robinson - Rev. R. Kelly; L. Montgomery - Revs. M. Barr, A.C. Rankin - Rev. J.H. MacConnell; W. Hoy.**
- (d) **Rev. J.S. Dallas; B. Gordon - Rev. Dr. Ian Hart; John McKeown - Rev. R.D. Maxwell; H. McRoberts.**
- (e) **Rev. D. Latimer; F. Arbuckle - Rev. S. Stewart; R.W. Alcorn - Rev. N.R. McCormick; W.C. Henderson - Rev. D.S. Graham; E.M. Carroll.**
- (f) **Rev. J. Carson; J. Hodgins - Rev. M.R. Burnside; J. Jenkins - Rev. S.W. Rea; O. Perry.**

- A. CENTRAL MINISTRY FUND COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev. J. McVeigh; W. Alexander, Conveners
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev. J. McVeigh; W. Alexander; Rev. D.S. Graham; J. Millar; Revs. D.J. Boden, R.L. Craig, W.J. Orr, Deputy Clerk.**
- (x) **Revs. D. Nesbitt, Robert Bell; D.J. Clements, Adrian Patterson.**
- (y) **Revs. D.C. Porter, M.R. Burnside, J.H. MacConnell, D. Armstrong, S.W. Rea; W.J. Moorhead, E.M. Carroll, O. Perry.**
- B. COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENTS AND PENSIONS (5)**
Rev. D.J. Boden; J. Millar, Conveners
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. R.I.A. Allely, D.S. Graham, D.J. Boden, J. McVeigh; W. Alexander, J. Millar.**
- (x) **Sir Eric McDowell, R.W. Jess, John McKeown.**
- (y) **Revs. M.R. Burnside, D. Armstrong, J.A. Noble, Alan S. Thompson, W.D. McBride, J.H. MacConnell; E.M. Carroll, H. McRoberts.**
- C. RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSE FUND (5)**
Rev. J.L. Casement; N. McLaughlin, Co-Conveners
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs. J.L. Casement, D.S. Graham; N. McLaughlin, Financial Secretary.**
- (x) **Rev. James Clarke; D. Carson, E.A. Jackson.**
- (y) **Revs. J. Briggs, J.S. Dallas, G.A. Preston, D.C. Porter; J. Hodgins, J.B. Robinson.**

The **Overture anent Par 221(2)** of the Code (Reports p.299) was submitted by the Rev. D.S. Graham. **Overture anent Par 221(2)**

Moved by the Rev. D.S. Graham, seconded by the Rev. J.L. Casement, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par 223** of the Code (Reports p.299) was submitted by the Rev. D.S. Graham. **Overture anent Par 223**

Moved by the Rev. D.S. Graham, seconded by the Rev. J.L. Casement, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par 321(3)** of the Code (Reports p.300) was submitted by the Rev. D.S. Graham. **Overture anent Par 321(3)**

Moved by the Rev. D.S. Graham, seconded by the Rev. J.L. Casement, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

**Overture anent
Par 321(5)**

The **Overture anent Par 321(5)** of the Code (Reports p.300) was submitted by the Rev. D.S. Graham.

Moved by the Rev. D.S. Graham, seconded by the Rev. J.L. Casement:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

Moved as an amendment by the Rev. D.J. Boden, seconded by Mr. R. Kerr:

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that Par 321(5) of the Code be deleted, and that the following be substituted in its place:

(5) A minister demitting his charge after at least two years' ordained service in this Church may, upon application to the Board, be granted a pension equal to one fortieth of the full retirement pension for each year served in this Church, completed before 1 April, 1978, beginning at age 65 or on his date of retirement, if later, or on becoming permanently incapacitated for duty. No back payments shall be made for more than one year from the date of application.

On being put, the amendment was declared passed.

On being put as substantive motion, was passed.

**Overture anent
Par 321(6)**

The **Overture anent Par 321(6)** of the Code (Reports p.301) was submitted by the Rev. D.S. Graham.

Moved by the Rev. D.S. Graham, seconded by the Rev. J.L. Casement, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

**Overture anent
Par 315(2)**

The **Overture anent Par 315(2)** of the Code (Reports p.301) was submitted by the Rev. D.S. Graham.

Moved by the Rev. D.S. Graham, seconded by the Rev. J.L. Casement, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par. 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

The sederunt came to a close at 5.00 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

FOURTH SESSION**Wednesday, 7th June, 2000 Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon**

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **Church and Government Committee** (Reports pp.46-67) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr J Dunlop, together with the following Supplementary Report.

**Church &
Government
Committee**

Church and Government Committee - Supplementary Report.

1. Two meetings have taken place of the Church Consortium which has the responsibility of recommending people to serve on the Civic Forum. As reported to last year's General Assembly the Northern Ireland Assembly decided that "the churches should be invited to form a consortium for the purpose of nominating 5 individuals representing a broad spread of religious belief within the community". As with all other nominating bodies the consortium will have to adhere to the following guidelines:

- a gender balance;
- a community background balance;
- a geographic spread across Northern Ireland; and
- a balanced age profile to include young people and older people.

2. The Secretary of State reinstated the Northern Ireland Assembly, the Executive and the associated bodies at midnight on the 29th May 2000. It is obvious that the political process is fraught with enormous difficulties. While the recent undertakings given by the IRA that they will "completely and verifiably put IRA arms beyond use" are welcome, it is regrettable that actual decommissioning could not have happened before the suspension of the Assembly in February and been completed by 22nd May 2000.

3 The question of the name and the symbols of the new police service remain a matter of contention. It is regrettable that the suggestion of the Church and Government Committee that a compromise be reached in which the names of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and that of the Police Service for Northern Ireland both be used may not prove acceptable. We look for a police service capable of attracting and sustaining support from the community as a whole so that we can, together, embrace a new future in policing.

4. It is the hope of the Committee that the relationships within and between both parts of Ireland and between Ireland and the rest of these islands will continue to edge forward into a new situation marked by peaceful co-operation. Having travelled separate and often mutually harmful ways for centuries, and having lived in the pain and anguish of the last 32 years, the opportunity exists for the diverse parts of this island community to move forward together into the future in mutually helpful ways, but this can only be done if we are sensitive to the legitimate concerns and anxieties of each other and do all we can to meet them.

5. The Committee has considered the European Union's proposed Directive establishing a General Framework for Equal Treatment in Employment and Occupation. There is a need to ensure that any legislation is compatible with the legitimate requirements for the individual and corporate free expression of belief, thought and conscience conferred by Article 9 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

6. The articles of the proposed Directive “do not extend to institutions and organisations providing social services and health care. In a number of instances, members of religious bodies and even members of the general public may wish to choose to have those services provided in a particular ethos afforded by a religious or other institution or organisation and those bodies should have the possibility of employing staff who can assure that particular ethos. The draft directive does not explicitly refer to worship, pastoral care and counselling which are essential activities of many religious bodies and again the religious affiliation of employees is an essential qualification for such employment or occupation. The articles should be drafted in such a way that there is clarity on these points.” (Conference of European Churches).

7. In co-operation with other European Churches we are urging the European Parliament to look carefully at these points.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr J Dunlop, seconded by Mr G McCullagh, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly, believing that since God has loved us far beyond our deserving and has commanded us to demonstrate our faith by loving our neighbours and our enemies:
 - (a) encourage Presbyterians to continue to pray and be diligent in the pursuit of peace in their own localities;
 - (b) thank elected politicians for the work they have done in the interests of the citizens of both parts of Ireland;
 - (c) request both Governments and elected politicians to persevere in the slow and demanding task of seeking an inclusive and just society free of the threat of violence, being aware of the needs of others as well as of their own;
 - (d) in accordance with the overwhelming desire of the people in both parts of this Island to have a violence free society, encourage all paramilitary groups to have finished with terrorism in all its forms for ever.
3. The General Assembly, whilst welcoming the reinstatement of devolved powers to the Northern Ireland Assembly, call upon paramilitary groups to disarm and call upon Members of the Northern Ireland Assembly and Ministers in the Executive to promote the well being of all of the people and by word and action help to heal the deep divisions in our society.
4. That the General Assembly, aware that 302 police officers have been murdered and thousands have been injured, take this opportunity to record their appreciation of the service and sacrifice of members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and their families and warmly congratulate the Royal Ulster Constabulary on the award of the George Cross which honours the courage and dedication of police officers and their families in Northern Ireland.
5. The General Assembly, while welcoming many aspects of the Report of the Independent Commission on Policing for Northern Ireland, and while looking for a police service capable of attracting and sustaining support from the community as a whole, regret that the suggestion of the Church and Government Committee that a compromise be reached in which the names of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and that of the Northern Ireland Police Service both be used may not prove acceptable.

6. That the General Assembly encourage people from all religious backgrounds to apply to serve the whole community as police officers.

7. That the General Assembly, conscious of the continuing suffering and loss of victims and their relatives, request the British and Irish Governments and the Northern Ireland Assembly to develop further a programme for addressing that suffering and to put in place sufficient funding over a period of years to meet their needs.

8. That the General Assembly assure the farming community of their continued concern during this time of prolonged crisis and offer their pastoral support and care in the name of Christ and call upon the Government to respond in practical ways with both short-term assistance and a long-term strategy.

9. That a grant of £4,655 be paid to the Church and Government Committee from the Incidental Fund.

Intermission

The **Overture anent Par. 114(1)(c)** of the Code (Reports p.42) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson. **Overtures (various)**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the law of the Church.

The **Overtures anent Pars 227, 229(1), (1)(b), 230(1) and (2), and (3)(b), 230(5)(a), 231(1), 232(1) and (2) and (3)(c), 234(1) and (4), 268(4)(b), 274(8)(b)(i), 274(9), 301(1) and (3), 303(3) and (4)(c), 304(3), 305(1), (2), (4), (5) (twice), (6), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), 307(1), (2) and (3)** of the Code, (Reports p.42) were submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overtures, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rules of the Church.

The **Overtures anent Pars 214(1), (3), (4), (5), (7), 215(1), (2)(c), (3), (5), (6)(a)(b), 216, 216(7), 217(1)(a)(i), 217(1)(a)(ii) (twice), 217(1)(b)(iii), 217(1)(b)(iv), 217(2)(b)(i), 217(2)(b)(ii)I, 217(4), 217(6)(a), 217(7)(a), 217(c)(ii), 217(8)(d)(i) (twice), 218(1)(b), 309(1)** of the Code, (Reports p.42) were submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overtures, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rules of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par. 285** of the Code (Reports p.42) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

The **Overtures anent Pars. 297 and 281** of the Code (Reports p.42) were submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overtures, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rules of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par. 280** of the Code (Reports p.43) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

The **Overtures anent Pars. 281(2), 285(2), 282, 302(2)(c) and (4)(a), 285(3), 198(1) and 218(2)(a)**, of the Code (Reports pp.44-45) were submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overtures, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rules of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par. 303(4)(d)** of the Code (Reports p.45) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the rule of the Church.

**GENERAL
BOARD**

The Report of the **GENERAL BOARD** (Reports pp.5-41) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, together with the following Supplementary Report.

GENERAL BOARD - Supplementary Report

Correction - Conciliation Panel

Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk (Convener), Very Rev Dr John Dunlop, Revs Dr D C Irwin, S A Finlay, Dr D M Scott, D Baker, Princ J C McCullough, Dr D J Watts; J Campbell, G Strong, Mrs E Armstrong.

Assembly Conference

The 1998 Assembly received a final report from the Mission Assembly (1997) Committee, which arranged the 2020 Vision gathering at Coleraine in August 1997.

The Assembly also resolved:

“That consideration be given to holding an Assembly Conference as a regular event every 3-5 years, and that the General Board be instructed to report, with recommendations, to the 2000 AD Assembly” (Mins. 1998, p.26).

It was decided that, in the light of the largely positive reaction to 2020 Vision, there should be another Assembly Conference, and that the format should be broadly the same. Due to the amount of work involved in organising such an event, it was felt that summer 2003 would be the preferable date.

Church House Staff

The Committee on Church House Appointments met in Church House at 12.00 noon on Friday, 2nd June 2000. It was agreed that the Committee as set up by the General Board last year, updated due to some changes in office bearers, should be added to by the co-option of Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

The Committee agreed that comments on the last Job Description for the Clerk of Assembly, as finally approved by the Assembly (Reports 1989, pp 326-330; Mins p.29 res. 3) be sought and that they be forwarded to the Committee Convener, Very Rev Dr D H Allen, by 15 September, 2000 and that the General Assembly be asked to give the General Board authority to finalise the new Job Description on its behalf at the October meeting of the Board.

Photocopies of the 1989 Job Description will be available upon request to the Clerk.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev S W van Os, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (See p.55)

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator, assisted by the Rev Dr R I Birney and the Rev F P Sellar.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev Dr Leighton Ford addressed the Assembly.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.15 p.m., the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

FIFTH SESSION**Wednesday, 7th June, 2000****Two o'clock. Afternoon**

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Minutes were taken and corrected.

**BOARD
OF SOCIAL
WITNESS**

The Report of the **BOARD OF SOCIAL WITNESS** (Reports pp 215-228) was submitted by the Rev J M Cathcart together with the following Supplementary Report.

BOARD OF SOCIAL WITNESS - Supplementary Report**Marriage and the Family Committee**

The Committee on Marriage and the Family transfers to the Board of Social Witness at this Assembly. The Board of Evangelism and Christian Training are reporting that Rev Trevor Steele, having accepted a Call to the USA, and having resigned from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland with effect from 31st May, has ceased to be convener of the Committee on Marriage and the Family. A tribute to Mr Steele's work will be submitted by the Board of Evangelism and Christian Training, but a resolution appointing Mrs Rosemary Simpson as the new convener of the Committee is appended.

Kinghan Mission Committee

The process of looking for a successor to Rev Dr George Grindle continues, but it seems probable that a person will have to be appointed who is not already fully qualified in all respects.

If the selected candidate should be a minister not experienced in the use of sign language, he/she will be required to obtain a qualification at level 2 within 2 years of appointment. If such qualification is not gained within 2 years of appointment, the Board of Social Witness will review the situation and the appointment may be terminated.

If the selected candidate should not be a minister, a Memorial will be submitted to the Assembly in 2001 specifying the course of studies to be undertaken, and any other relevant terms and conditions to be met, before the candidate is certified to his/her Presbytery for licence.

Child Protection

1. The General Assembly will be aware that as part of the vetting procedure for candidates for the ministry the candidates have to make a declaration regarding any past and 'spent' convictions similar to that contained in the standard Application Form for a prospective Youth Leader.

2. The Child Protection Monitoring Group have felt that for consistency of practice, and having taken advice from the Assembly Solicitor, it would be appropriate to place a duty upon the Ministers to declare to the Clerk of Assembly or other suitable person, in confidence, any future summons, arrest or conviction for a serious or indictable offence.

3. This requirement not only relates to child protection matters but, of course, to the general integrity and conduct of ministers in performing their duties.

4. It is intended that legislation to amend the Code accordingly will be brought to the General Assembly in 2001.

5. The Assembly should also be aware that according to the Child Protection Guidelines a Pre-Employment Consultancy Check (i.e. a Police Check of records) regarding an applicant is only mandatory if a congregation is employing a full time Youth Worker (p.24 Guidelines). Again, for consistency of practice, it seems appropriate that such a Police Check should in the future be carried out on all candidates for the ministry as most ministers have at some stage unsupervised regular access to children and young people.

6. The Monitoring Group will be consulting with the Board of Studies with a view to putting the necessary procedures in place for such checks to operate.

Moved by the Rev J M Cathcart, seconded by the Rev W B Boyd, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly approve the proposals of the Kinghan Mission Committee as set out in the Supplementary Report for dealing with applicants for the post of Superintendent of the Kinghan Mission who may not yet be fully qualified.
3. That the General Assembly endorse the work of the Alcohol and Drug Education Committee and urge all churches to consider the findings of the survey of attitudes of young people to the use of alcohol and drugs for their ministry and teaching.
4. That the General Assembly commend the joint working of the ADE and Carlisle House Committees respectively and agree that the two committees be combined to form one new committee to be known as the Addiction and Education Services Committee.

Moved by the Rev J M Cathcart, seconded by Mr N Chambers, and agreed:

5. That the resignation of Rev W B Boyd as Convener of the Alcohol and Drug Education Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Rev R Love and Rev J A Beattie be appointed as Co-Conveners of the new Addiction and Education Services Committee.

Moved by the Rev J M Cathcart, seconded by the Rev W B Boyd, and agreed:

6. That Mrs Rosemary Simpson be appointed as Convener of the Committee on Marriage and the Family.
7. That the General Assembly note the setting up by the Board of Social Witness of a Learning Disabled Committee under the Convenership of Rev J Waring and commend the Board's work in this area.
8. That the General Assembly welcome the Board's attempts to develop greater partnership with the other Boards and the Irish Mission, particularly in the context of the Republic of Ireland.
9. That the General Assembly commend the work of the PCI Enterprises Committee in promoting opportunities for volunteering as a means of assisting congregations and church agencies in the development of their ministries.

10. That the General Assembly commend the initiative to provide supported housing, known as Gray's Court, for men and women who are recovering from addictions.

11. That the General Assembly commend the video "May We Come In" for use by Kirk Sessions, congregational committees and other church committees and organisations.

12. That the General Assembly believe that all churches should consider how people who suffer from disabilities can be assisted in more actively participating in the life of their congregation and how access to buildings and other church resources can be improved.

13. That the customary grant made by the Social Issues and Resources Committee up to a total of £1,500 be met from the Incidental Fund.

14. That congregations continue to implement the Child Protection Guidelines and continue to offer relevant training to leaders and other personnel.

15. That the General Assembly note with concern the continuing problem of domestic violence in our society and commend the booklet "Ending the Pain and Healing the Hurt" to Ministers and Kirk Sessions for their use.

16. That the Board of Social Witness, with its associated working committees for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 281 of the Code as follows:

Rev J M Cathcart, Convener
Director of Social Service, Secretary

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs W McB Campbell, Dr G Grindle, J M Cathcart; Residential Services Manager, Director of Social Service.**

(b) **Rev W J Murdock; Miss D Shannon, Mrs A Sinclair - Rev A J Thompson; J Smart, Mrs D Foster - Rev K McConnell; W Keown, Mrs J Davidson - Rev A S Thompson; R McCleary, Mrs M Patterson - Rev R J Greer; Mrs M Hewitson, Mrs E Robinson - Rev J A Noble; J Chestnutt, Mrs E Barry.**

(c) **Rev J A Beattie; J Todd, Mrs W Bristow - Rev M S Gault; A T Henderson, Mrs Z Valley - Rev J Coulter; George McIntyre, Mrs H Hull - Rev R J Gilkinson; J Chestnutt, Mrs K Fulton - Rev W J Sleith; R J Coulter, Mrs W Dickey.**

(d) **Rev R W Love; Mrs B Brennan, Mrs J McAlpine - Rev J Braithwaite; J Furphy, Mrs A Gowdy - Rev Dr R M Crooks; E C Witherspoon, Mrs B Stewart.**

(e) **Rev J C Teeney; Mrs M McCloskey, Mrs M Thompson - Revs D S Irwin, K G Patterson; Mrs V Miller - Rev W D Cupples; H Alexander, Mrs M Good - Rev T Coburn; Mrs A Allingham, Mrs E Ross.**

(f) **Rev W A Watson; Mrs E Montgomery, Mrs G Patterson - Rev Dr S Mawhinney; D Boyd, Ms Linda Milligan - Revs G J Mackarel, J S B Drennan; W McConkey.**

(p) **Mrs Zoe Valley, Mrs Pat Orr, Mrs Christine Finlay, Mrs Mary Boggs, Mrs Gillian Drennan, Mrs Helen Murdock, Mrs Pearl Johnston.**

A. SOCIAL ISSUES AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (5)

Rev N A L Cameron, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs N A L Cameron, J M Cathcart; Director of Social Service.**

(x) **Revs Dr R A Russell, Dr G Millar; Mrs M Anderson, Dr K Moyna Bill.**

- (y) **Revs R W Love, J A Braithwaite, K McConnell, R J Gilkinson; Mrs P Orr, E C Witherspoon, Mrs A Gowdy, Miss D Shannon.**
- B. ADDICTION AND EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE (5)**
Revs J A Beattie, R Love, Co-Conveners
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs J M Cathcart, W B Boyd; Director of Social Service, Committee Conveners, 1 Rep. Duncairn & St Enoch's Church.**
- (x) **Revs I K McDonald, Ian McClean, J C Buick; W J Cairns.**
- (y) **Revs K G Patterson, J S B Drennan, K McConnell, C Teeney; Mrs Z Vallely, G McIntyre, J Todd, Mrs Wendy Bristow.**
- C. WAR MEMORIAL HOSTEL COMMITTEE (5) J H Martin, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev J M Cathcart; Director of Social Service, J H Martin, Financial Secretary, Convener and Secretary of the Board of Education, Convener of the University Education Committee.**
- (x) **Miss R Stirling, J D McMullan, Austin Treacy; Rev T Coburn.**
- (y) **Revs M S Gault, D S Irwin, Dr R M Crooks, R W Love, A Watson; A Henderson, Mrs Helen Murdoch, Mrs E Barry.**
- D. KINGHAN MISSION COMMITTEE (5) Dr Jean McClune, Convener**
Rev Dr G A Grindle, Superintendent
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr G A Grindle, J M Cathcart; Director of Social Service, Kinghan Mission Convener.**
- (x) **Miss F Wright, Mrs A Rodgers, Mrs Christine Houston.**
- (y) **Revs Dr R M Crooks, J Braithwaite, T Coburn, D S Irwin; Mrs H Hull, Mrs Amy Allingham.**
- E. PRESBYTERIAN RESIDENTIAL TRUST COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev T J McCormick, Convener
Mrs Linda Wray, Secretary
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs J M Cathcart, T J McCormick; Director of Social Service, Residential Services Manager.**
- (x) **S McCartney, Mrs J Campbell, G Ferguson.**
- (y) **Revs M S Gault, W J Sleith, J A Noble; Mrs P Johnston, Mrs Z Vallely, Mrs A Allingham.**
- F. MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY COMMITTEE (5)**
Mrs R Simpson, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Convener of the Board, Secretary of the Board, Youth Secretary, Rev Dr R M Crooks, Director of Social Service, Professor of Practical Theology.**
- (x) **Mrs Irene Millar, Mrs Christine Finlay, Paul Gray.**
Revs Maurice Wade, J W McAuley; Mrs L Smyth.
- (y) **Revs J I Mairs, L E Carroll, N A L Cameron, John Noble, Jean Mackarel; Mrs Mary Boggs.**

**SHANKILL
ROAD
MISSION**

The Report of the **SHANKILL ROAD MISSION COMMISSION** (Reports pp302-303) was submitted by the Rev J S Dallas.

Moved by the Rev J S Dallas, seconded by the Rev W McB Campbell, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That Mr Albert Lofthouse and Mr John Kennedy be commended to the prayers of the General Assembly in the difficult roles they undertake as Mission Worker and Hostel Manager.
3. That Shankill Road Mission Commission be appointed, for the ensuing year, in accordance with Par 129 of the Code as follows:

**Rev J S Dallas, Convener
Rev W McB Campbell, Superintendent**

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs J M Cathcart, W McB Campbell, J S Dallas; Moderator and Clerk of Belfast South Presbytery, Clerk of Session of Shankill Road Mission Congregation.**

(x) **Revs Dr I Hart, E D Smyth, N M Williamson, G Moffett, K McConnell, G F McKeown, A W Boyd; W Caswell, Miss D Pinkerton.**

**Overture anent
Par 268(4)(c)**

The **Overture anent Par 268(4)(c)** of the Code (Reports p 46) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

**Overture anent
Par 272(5)(b)**

The **Overture anent Par 272(5)(b)** of the Code (Reports p 46) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par. 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

**Overture anent
Par 272(5)(c)**

The **Overture anent Par 272(5)(c)** of the Code was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson as follows:

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that Par 272(5)(c) of the Code be deleted and that the following be substituted in its place:

(c) to nominate to the appropriate authorities ministers recommended by their Presbyteries as part-time chaplains with the Armed Services or Cadet Forces, prisons, hospitals, hospices or public institutions (except educational establishments or as otherwise provided).

And that a new sub-paragraph (6) be added as follows:

(6) Ministers called or nominated under the foregoing sub-paragraph (5) shall report as follows:

(i) full-time chaplains shall report in writing on their work to the Board, or its appropriate Committee, annually, or as may be required,

(ii) part-time chaplains shall report similarly to their Presbyteries for transmission to the Board or appropriate Committee: and

(iii) the Board shall report briefly upon all such chaplaincies to the General Assembly annually.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par. 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

Intermission

The Report of the **HOME BOARD** (Reports pp189-205) was submitted by the Rev Dr J B Moore. **HOME BOARD**

Moved by the Rev Dr J B Moore, seconded by the Rev G Moffett, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly congratulate the Directors of the Presbyterian Mutual Society Limited for the success of the Society and encourage them to continue expressing the care of the Church through the financial support provided for individuals, congregations and others. **Presbyterian Mutual Society Limited**
3. That the General Assembly authorise the Union Commission to sanction the porting of St Patrick's Church, Waterford, as appropriate, in accordance with Par 106(f) and any other relevant paragraphs of the Code. **Home Mission Committee**
4. That the General Assembly appoint the Home Board Convener, the Home Mission Convener, the Home Mission Secretary, Rev Dr R W J MacDermott and Mrs C Poynton to the Alternating Ministries Scheme Committee.
5. That the General Assembly commend the Deaconess Bursary Fund to the whole Church.
6. That the General Assembly remind the Courts and Agencies of the Church that "deaconesses shall be invited to sit and deliberate at meetings of Assembly, Synod, Presbytery and Kirk Session and, as appropriate be invited to sit and deliberate at meetings of the Congregational Committee or Assembly Boards or Committees relating to their work" in accordance with Par 306(3) of the Code and request them to ensure that appropriate invitations are extended.
7. That the resignation of Mr Hubert Taggart, OBE, as Co-Convener of the Church Extension Committee, be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Mr Brian Knox be appointed in his place. **Church Extension**
8. That the Home Board be thanked for its services and discharged. **General**
9. That the Board of Mission in Ireland, with its associated working Committees, for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 280 of the Code as follows:

**Revs Dr D H Allen, Dr J B Moore, Conveners
Deputy Clerk, Rev D J Temple; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries**

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, President, Home Vice-President, and Executive Secretary of PWA, Irish Mission Superintendent, Convener and

Secretary of the Social Witness Board, the Conveners of the Education, Studies and Christian Training, Youth and Inter-Church Relations Board and the Union Commission and the Central Ministry Fund Committee, the Presbyterian Mutual Society Agent, two Young Women's Group representatives, two Youth Board representatives, two deaconess representatives, the Conveners and Secretaries of the Board.

(b) Rev C W Megaw; R G Beers, Mrs J Richardson - Revs B A McDonald, B A Small; Mrs M Dowds - Revs S Armstrong, N A L Cameron; Mrs L Moore - Rev W J Henry; I McCullagh, Mrs H Jess - Revs M Neilly, J Hagan; Mrs J McClure - Revs Dr D J McCaughey, F J Gibson; Mrs J Kirk.

(c) Rev S W Dickinson; J McWhirter, Miss H Nicholl - Revs R J McCullough, T J Stothers; Mrs I Wallace - Rev Mark Goudy; Dr J H Gillespie, Miss E Smyth - Rev S T Carson; R H McIvor, Mrs M Gault - Revs N McClean, T Pollock; Mrs H W Montgomery.

(d) Revs I D Neish, R S Hetherington; Miss A Kirkwood - Rev D J McKelvey; G Houston, Miss S Swindle - Rev R Hornby; A Spence, Mrs Hazel Park.

(e) Revs Dr R Kane, R K Graham; Mrs M McCloskey - Rev J McGregor, D J Paul; Mrs M Docherty - Rev R I Abraham; J A Patterson, Mrs E Currie - Revs Dr K O Patterson, P G McCrea; Mrs I Jamieson-Ewing.

(f) Rev J Lamont; S Anderson, Mrs M Dorrans - Revs John Woodside, S S Johnston; Mrs C Poynton - Revs N Cubitt, J S B Drennan; R J McConkey.

(p) Mrs Jane McClure, Mrs E Greenlee, Mrs Hilary Jess, Mrs Amanda Blair, Mrs Lois Robinson, Mrs Margaret Clarke, Mrs Michelle McClean.

A. HOME MISSION (7) Rev R L Craig, Convener
Deputy Clerk, Secretary

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; PWA President, Home Vice President, PWA Home Treasurer, PWA Executive Secretary, HM Treasurer, Irish Mission Superintendent; PMS Representative; Revs R L Craig, Dr J B Moore, Dr D H Allen, D J Temple; Mrs C Poynton, Deputy Clerk.

(x) Revs J D Woodside, J G Faris, W A Watson; T Stewart.

(y) Revs I D Neish, N McClean, S W Rea, W J Parkes, T D Allen; Mrs M Bailey, Mrs M McCloskey, J A Patterson.

B. CHURCH EXTENSION COMMITTEE (7) Rev G Moffett; Brian Knox, Conveners
Deputy Clerk, Secretary

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; PWA President, Home Vice President, PWA Executive Secretary; Revs Dr J B Moore, Dr D H Allen, D J Temple, G Moffett, Deputy Clerk; Hubert Taggart, Brian Knox.

(x) J H Martin, J D McCaughey, Mrs Rosemary Thompson, Cyril Cowan.

(y) Revs C D McClure, W J Parkes, R W C Clements, M Goudy, N R McCormick; Prof H F Nicholl, R H McIvor, Mrs H Jess.

C. COMMITTEE ON EVANGELISM (5) Rev W J Parkes, Convener

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Conveners, Board Secretaries, Convener of Committee on Christian Training, Superintendent of City Mission; Rev W J Parkes, Director of Evangelism, Rev Dr B Kingsmore.

- (x) **Revs A W Boyd, A S Smyth, H E Lewis; C Matthews.**
- (y) **Revs W J Henry, RS Hetherington, R J McCullough, R N Agnew, D J Hutchinson, Dr D J McGaughey; Mrs J Kirk, Dr J H Gillespie.**
- D. IRISH MISSION (5) D C Cowan, Convener**
Rev D J Temple, Superintendent
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr D H Allen, Dr J B Moore, Board Secretaries, Conveners Home Mission, Christian Training, Evangelism, Secretaries, Home Mission, PWA, Youth, City Mission, D C Cowan.**
- (x) **Revs A S Smyth, G Connor; D F Adair, J S Mills.**
- (y) **Revs J Curry, S S Johnston, D H Gilpin, N McClean, W J Henry, R J McCullough, RS Hetherington; Mrs M Dorrans.**
- E. DIVINE HEALING COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev Dr S D H Williamson, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr D H Allen, Dr J B Moore, Dr S D H Williamson; Director of Social Service, Board Secretaries.**
- (x) **Revs Ruth Patterson; Dr Margaret A F Wallace, Mrs A J Giffen.**
- (y) **Revs J I Mairs, J S B Drennan, T Pollock, Nancy Cubitt; Mrs P Sterling, Mrs M Dorrans.**

The Memorial of the Interim Kirk Session of Movilla Church Extension Charge (Reports p205) was submitted by the Rev D C Porter. Movilla Memorial

Moved by the Rev D C Porter, seconded by the Rev Dr D J Watts, and agreed:

That the Memorial be received and its prayer granted.

GENERAL BOARD - Debate Resumed (See p.47)

GENERAL BOARD

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev S W van Os, and agreed:

2. That the General Assembly express their pleasure at the appointment of the Rev Terry Maze as Principal Chaplain (CSFC) Navy and send him greetings as he begins this new dimension in his ministry. Forces Committee

3. That the General Assembly wish the Rev Dr Victor Dobbin well on his retirement from the office of Chaplain General and assure him of their prayers for his future ministry and work.

4. That the General Assembly recommend the customary observance of Battle of Britain Sunday and Remembrance Sunday in our congregations and that the appropriate offerings taken up on those days be given to the Royal Air Force "Wings Appeal" and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

5. That the General Assembly recommend that congregations continue to support the work of the UDR/Royal Irish Regiment Benevolent Fund by taking up an offering on the last Sunday in April or some other appropriate Sunday.

6. That legislation be prepared for next Assembly to permit a ruling elder or minister without charge who is appointed as Clerk of Presbytery to be an ex officio member of Presbytery while holding office. 1999 Remits

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev S W van Os:

7. That the General Assembly agree that provision should be made for the voluntary retirement of ruling elders from the active duties of their office.

On being put, the resolution was declared lost.

Voting: For 57 votes

Against 81 votes

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev S W van Os, and agreed:

8. That the report on Returns received from Boards and Presbyteries in response to the Assembly's Remit on Statistics be referred to the Board of Mission in Ireland.

9. That any comments on the Job Description for the next Clerk of Assembly be submitted in writing to Very Rev Dr D H Allen, by 15th September, 2000.

10. That the General Board be given authority to finalise the Job Description for the next Clerk of Assembly at its October meeting.

11. That the General Assembly adopt the recommendations of the Recognised Ministries Committee on Ministers and Licentiates without Charge.

**Recognised
Ministries
Committee**
**Peace and
Peacekeeping
Committee**

12. That the General Assembly encourage the work of Peace Agents in Presbyteries and Congregations.

13. That a grant of up to £2,500 be made available from the Incidental Fund to the Peace and Peacemaking Committee.

**Assembly
Conference**

14. That an Assembly Conference be held in the summer of 2003.

15. That the following be appointed as an ad hoc Committee to organise the Assembly Conference.

Rev T D Gribben (Convener)

Rev J H Robinson (Secretary)

The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly

Revs Dr M A Barry, M R Burnside, G Connor, R L Craig, T W Gordon, T D Gribben, R Hill, K A McBride, S W Rea, J H Robinson, A J McL Smith, I F Smith;

Dr Desmond Alexander, Mrs Adrienne Campbell, Mrs Ruth Craig, Miss Ann Houston, Mr Stanley McDowell, Mrs Margaret Myers, Miss Cheryl Reid, Mr David Thomson.

16. That the ad hoc Committee present to the 2001 Assembly a proposed structure and programme for the conference including a budget and proposals for financing.

17. That the College and Training Review Committee be thanked and discharged.

**College and
Training Review
Committee**
General

18. That the General Board, with its associated working committees for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 272 of the Code as follows:

The Clerk, Convener

(a) **Moderator, and Clerk of Assembly, preceding three Moderators and former Clerks of Assembly, Clerks of Synods and Assembly Conveners of Commissions and Boards.**

- (b) Revs Dr D J Watts, J Gordon; W J McClelland, J McIntyre - Revs Dr J Thompson, F A C Wilson; T H Savage, W H Scott - Revs James Harper, K McConnell; D H Browne, Mrs I McBride - Revs J I Davey, R Lockhart; R D T Gibson, Miss E McConnell - Revs I J Patterson, J Holmes; R A McCracken, J Hudson - Revs S A Finlay, Dr D J McGaughey; E McWilliams, H McGaffin.
- (c) Revs J J Andrews, W F Dickey; J Petrie, Mrs A Erwin - Revs W J Johnstone, Dr J W Lockington; Mrs E Love, R McCreary - Revs Ivan Hunter, T P Fleming; I Smyth, P McGonigle - Revs H B Wallace, S McCartney; R H Gault, R D McConaghie - Revs W D Weir, B Kennaway; L.J. Liddle, Mrs A B Wilson.
- (d) Revs J R Dickinson, T I Harte; M Whittle, J H McDowell - Revs R T Anderson, W P H Erskine; L Holly, Miss J P Gamble - Revs John McVeigh, H A Dunlop; A J Morrow, Miss V J Wilson.
- (e) Revs Dr J Fell, Dr R Kane; J A Emery, A Craig -Revs S Stewart, J Clarke; B Douglas, Wm Taylor - Revs J F Murdoch, N S Harrison; W C Henderson, T R Reid - Revs J B McCormick, N W McAuley; R Stewart, E M Carroll.
- (f) Revs Brian Brown, W A McCully; A O Buchanan, Mervyn McKean - Revs J Faris, F Sellar; Joan Cowle, Wm Harper - Revs David Allen, B.C.G. Black; G McConkey, A McAdoo.
- (g) Revs R McM Mackay, Dr R F G Holmes, Dr D R Purce, C J C McMullen; Miss A Burrows, Mrs K Mawhinney, Mrs Maureen Patterson, Miss E Drysdale, Mrs M Thompson, H S McCullough, J D Boyd, Aubrey McMurtry, S McKinney, Mrs Alison Harbison, Mrs C Poynton, Mrs Lois Robinson, Mrs H Jess, Mrs A W Boyd, Mrs P Sleith; D McCleery.

A. CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE (5)

Rev Dr John Dunlop; George McCullagh, Conveners

- (a) The Moderator, preceding Moderator, Clerk, former Clerks, and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Moderator-Designate, Forces Convener, Peace and Peacemaking Convener, Rev Dr J Dunlop; G McCullagh.
- (x) Rev Lesley E Carroll; Philip Mateer, Mrs S Blair.
- (y) Revs Ivan Patterson, Dr Joseph Fell, B Kennaway, Dr D J Watts, J R Dickinson; Mrs A Erwin, T R Reid, G McConkey.

B. MODERATOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (5) The Clerk, Convener

- (a) The Moderator, preceding three Moderators, Clerk, former Clerks, and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Clerks of Synods.
- (x) Revs Dr D H Allen, Dr G McK Eagleson, Dr J Dunlop; V R Arnold.
- (y) Revs Dr D J Watts, J R Dickinson, Dr Joseph Thompson, I J Patterson, Dr Joseph Fell, W D Weir; R H Gault, R A McCracken.

C. DOCTRINE COMMITTEE (5) Principal, U.T.C., Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, the General Assembly's Theological Professors.
- (x) Revs D. Bradley, Prof R F G Holmes; Dr R J Rodgers, Dr N Smith.
- (y) Revs N W McAuley, T P Fleming, Dr Joseph Thompson, Dr J W Lockington, J G Faris, F Sellar, John McVeigh, I J Patterson.

- D. FORCES COMMITTEE (5) Rev S W van Os, Convener**
- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev S van Os.
 - (x) Revs RA Knox, P P Campbell, Prof J P Taylor; S Agnew.
 - (y) Revs Dr J Fell, JJ Andrews, R T Anderson, B Kennaway, B C G Black, W D Weir; Mrs E Love, W H Scott.
- E. CHAPLAINS COMMITTEE (5) J A Scott, Convener**
- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Conveners of Church and Government Committee, Convener of Social Issues and Resources Committee; J A Scott.
 - (x) Rev J A Thompson; R D T Gibson, Miss M Angus.
 - (y) Revs R T Anderson, J Gordon, W P H Erskine, Dr J Fell; Mrs A Erwin, J Petrie.
- F. RECOGNISED MINISTRIES COMMITTEE (5) The Clerk, Convener**
- (a) The Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Doctrine Committee, Convener of Union Commission.
 - (x) Revs I T McKee, R F S Poots, R B Savage; S Agnew.
 - (y) Revs W J Johnstone, W D Weir, J I Davey, Dr J Fell, W P H Erskine, Dr Joseph Thompson, J J Andrews; Miss V J Wilson.
- G. PEACE & PEACEMAKING COMMITTEE (5) Rev D R Baker, Convener**
- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Rev D R Baker.
 - (x) Revs J I Thompson, D Murphy; Mrs B Reid, Wm Brown.
 - (y) Revs T I Harte, J Gordon, N S Harrison; T R Reid, G McConkey, R Gibson, Miss V J Wilson, Mrs A Erwin.

The sederunt came to a close at 5.00pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

On Wednesday evening, 7th June 2000, a Rally, conducted by the Moderator, took place at 7.45. After worship the Moderator welcomed Licentiates and expressed thanks to recently retired Ministers.

At the request of the Moderator, Rev Dr Leighton Ford addressed the Assembly.

The sederunt came to a close at 9.45 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

SIXTH SESSION

Thursday, 8th June, 2000 Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **TRUSTEES** (Reports pp 304-311) was submitted by **TRUSTEES** Mr J Millar, OBE, together with the following Supplementary Report.

TRUSTEES - Supplementary Report

The Trustees welcome the appointment of Mr Clive Knox as Financial Secretary Designate. They recommend that he be authorised to substitute when necessary for the present Financial Secretary until his retirement, particularly in signing cheques and signing and sealing documents under the provisions of the Trustees Byelaws XIII and XIV (Code Appendix 15).

Moved by Mr J Millar, OBE, seconded by Mr D J Bell, CB, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the recommendation regarding the Mrs A M Davidson Trust be adopted.
3. That the recommendation regarding the Sir Wm V McCleery Trust be adopted.
4. That the recommendation regarding the Miss Irene Scott Trust be adopted.
5. That the recommendation regarding the Miss Ida Mary McGeown Trust be adopted.

6. That the General Assembly welcome the report on Ethical Investment and, in particular, the conclusions set out in paragraph 15.

7. That in accordance with the Will of the late John Getty the following be constituted as the Committee for the “direction and management of the application” of the income from the Getty Bequest:

Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, Very Rev Dr A J Weir, Very Rev Dr T J Simpson, Revs J McAllister, OBE, W D F Marshall, R J A Bell; Mr Wilson Ervin, Sir Eric McDowell, Mr David Bell, CB, Mr A T Ross, Mr John Millar, OBE, Mr J I Bill, OBE.

8. That the Financial Secretary Designate, Mr Clive Knox, be authorised to substitute when necessary for the present Financial Secretary until his retirement, particularly in signing cheques and signing and sealing documents under the provisions of the Trustees Byelaws XIII and XIV (Code Appendix 15).

**COMMISSION
ON TRUSTS**

The Report of the **COMMISSION ON TRUSTS** (Reports p 273) was submitted by Mr A J Rankin.

Moved by Mr A J Rankin, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Commission on Trusts for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 130 of the Code as follows:

A J Rankin, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk; A J Rankin.**

(g) **Revs D Clarke, Dr T J Simpson, R J A Bell, Deputy Clerk, R J T McMullan; T H Cochrane, J W Russell, W H Henry, M McQuillan, Mrs W D F Marshall.**

PWA

The Report of the **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION** (Reports pp 207-213) was submitted by Mrs Marbeth Russell. Mrs Margaret Thompson, PWA President, also addressed the Assembly.

Moved by the Rev R F S Poots, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

**Overture anent
Par 308**

The **Overture anent Par 308** of the Code (Reports pp 213-214) was submitted by the Rev R F S Poots.

Moved by the Rev R F S Poots, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

The Minutes were taken and corrected.

Intermission

The Report of the **OVERSEAS BOARD** (Reports pp 162-188) was submitted by the Rev S J Campbell. **OVERSEAS BOARD**

Moved by the Rev S J Campbell, seconded by the Rev R J T McMullan, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for the faithful and dedicated witness and service of our missionary personnel and their families in many different and challenging cultural situations, and encourage the whole Church to pray for and support them and their national colleagues as they proclaim the Gospel in a rapidly changing world.
3. That the General Assembly welcome the participation of the Presbyterian Women's Association in the total work of the Overseas Board and encourage further co-operation in the coming days.
4. That the General Assembly welcome the growing fellowship with partner Churches in Europe, with the prayer that these relationships will develop and mature as the Gospel is proclaimed to the people of our own continent.
5. That the General Assembly give thanks for the life, witness and service of our partner Churches in Kenya, Malawi, Sudan, Togo and Zambia, encourage them to take up the challenge of presenting the Gospel to Moslems and those who adhere to traditional religions, and support them as they seek to cope with the AIDS epidemic, which is destroying family life and creating thousands of orphans.
6. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for the growth of the Church in Sudan despite the devastating effect of the forty years of civil war, ethnic conflict, drought, floods and famine, and pray that the Presbyterian Church will experience a growing unity among its people from different ethnic backgrounds in the coming years.
7. That the General Assembly pray for God's blessing upon the life and witness of our partner Churches in Brazil and Jamaica as they minister to their peoples in urban and rural areas and to the marginalised in their societies.
8. That the General Assembly give thanks for the living faith of Arab and Jewish believers in the Middle East, support their continued witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and their desire for unity among Christians, and pray that a just and settled peace will soon be established in the region.
9. That the General Assembly praise God for the courageous witness to the Gospel by our partner Churches in Asia in the midst of growing religious intolerance and persecution, and pray that God will richly bless their efforts to establish and build up the Church of Jesus Christ.
10. That the General Assembly request the Overseas Board to continue its work of educating the Church for mission in today's world, with a relevant and focused emphasis upon the younger generation, and to seek new and challenging ways of encouraging our church family to share in the mission of Christ.

Moved by the Rev R F S Poots, seconded by the Rev R J T McMullan, and agreed:

11. That the resignation of the Rev S J Campbell as Convener of the Overseas Board be accepted, that he be thanked for his valuable contribution to the work of the Board for the past seventeen years and that the Very Rev Dr John Dixon be appointed in his place.

Moved by the Rev S J Campbell, seconded by the Rev R J T McMullan, and agreed:

12. That the resignation of the Very Rev Dr John Dixon as Convener of the Asia Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his valuable contribution to the work of the Board for the past fifteen years and that Dr Max Watson be appointed in his place.

13. That the resignation of the Rev Principal Cecil McCullough as Convener of the Europe and Middle East Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his valuable contribution to the work of the Board and that Mrs Maureen Patterson be appointed in his place.

14. That the Overseas Board, with its associated working committees, be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 279 of the Code as follows:

Rev Dr S J Dixon, Convener

Rev R J T McMullan; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, President and Overseas Vice-President of the PWA, Convener and Secretaries of the Board, Convener of the Inter-Church Relations Board, Sunday School Organiser, two Young Women's Group representatives, Youth Board representative, Rev SJ Campbell.**

(b) **Rev G F McKeown; J Warnock, Mrs A Murdock - Rev L W H Hilditch; Miss J Allen, Mrs E McIlwaine - Rev S R Conkey, R A Moffett; Miss M McCombe - Rev G B S Gibson; Dr Alistair Crockard, Miss W Norwood - Rev G Best; S Murphy, Mrs T Johnston - Rev N S Millen; R Harper, Mrs D Rea.**

(c) **Rev N A Brown; W Steele, Mrs T Boyd - Rev D Murphy; R I Bashford, Mrs J Gaston - Rev P Lyle; G Henderson, Mrs M McCormick - Rev K D W Crowe; J Michael, Mrs M Binnie - Rev P P Campbell; E Bell, Mrs A Reid.**

(d) **Rev T W D Greer; Mrs D Smyth, Mrs M Boyd - Rev W D Moore; W Hanna, Mrs E Jackson - Rev H R Quinn; W H Hawe, Miss R Taylor.**

(e) **Rev D Hillen; E Lavery, Dr H Williamson - Revs K G Patterson, Noel Ward; Mrs F Hamilton - Rev G Aitcheson; Dr C McKibbin, Mrs M McKibbin - Rev W L Orr; N Johnston, Mrs M McCreedy.**

(f) **Rev N E Dorrans; A Speer, Mrs F Armour - Revs S Anketell, John Mann; Mrs D Mitchell - Rev F J Taylor; L Foster, E Martin.**

(p) **Mrs Doreen McMullen, Mrs Margaret Binnie, Mrs Rosemary Cowan, Mrs Annie Erwin, Mrs Sheila Fell, Mrs Pat Colvin, Mrs Valerie Stewart.**

**A. ASIA COMMITTEE (7) Dr Max Watson, Convener
Rev R J T McMullan; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries**

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev Dr S J Dixon; Mrs M Thompson, Mrs M Patterson, Mrs G Irwin; Rev R J T McMullan; P W A Executive Secretary, C N Eves, Dr Max Watson.**

- (x) **Revs S J Hanna, P G Lyle; Mrs M Lygo, Dr J Shannon.**
 - (y) **Revs W D Moore, G E Best, D Murphy; E Bell, R I Bashford, Mrs S Fell, Mrs E McIlwaine, Mrs F Armour.**
- B. EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST COMMITTEE (7)**
- Mrs Maureen Patterson, Convener**
Rev R J T McMullan; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev Dr S J Dixon, Prof J C McCullough, J A Kirkpatrick, J N Seawright; Mrs M Thompson, Mrs M Patterson, Mrs G Irwin; Rev R J T McMullan; P W A Executive Secretary.**
 - (x) **Revs Dr R I Birney, I J Patterson, J I Thompson, Prof W P Adley.**
 - (y) **Revs D Hillen, L W H Hilditch, K D W Crowe; N Johnston, Mrs M Boyd, G Henderson, Mrs J Gaston, Mrs D Rea.**
- C. AFRICA, CARIBBEAN & LATIN AMERICA COMMITTEE (7)**
- Rev H R Quinn, Convener**
Rev R J T McMullan; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs S J Dixon, H R Quinn; World Development Committee Convener, Mrs M Thompson, Mrs M Patterson, Mrs G Irwin; Rev R J T McMullan; P W A Executive Secretary.**
 - (x) **Revs W S Marrs, T W Gordon, W J Waring; T A Macpherson.**
 - (y) **Revs G F McKeown, N E Dorrans, S R Conkey; E Laverty, W H Hawe, Mrs D McMullen, Mrs M Binnie, Mrs D Mitchell.**

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator, assisted by Mrs Thelma Campbell, the Rev A D Davidson and the Rev J D Woodside.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev Dr Leighton Ford addressed the Assembly.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.20 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction

SEVENTH SESSION

Thursday, 8th June, 2000

Half past two o'clock. Afternoon

In Private

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **COMMITTEE ON RECEPTION OF MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES** (Reports p 272) was submitted by the Rev R G Johnston.

Moved by the Rev R G Johnston, seconded by the Very Rev Dr A W G Brown, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Moved by the Rev R F S Poots, seconded by the Very Rev Dr A W G Brown, and agreed:

2. That the General Assembly accept the resignation of the Rev R G Johnston as Convener of the Reception of Ministers and Licentiates Committee, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev R B Savage be appointed in his place.

The **Memorial of the Rev Dr J W Cheshire** was submitted by the Very Rev Dr D H Allen as follows:

**Memorial of
Rev Dr J W
Cheshire**

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, to meet at Belfast, on the 5th day of June 2000.

The Memorial of the Rev. James Wilson Cheshire Respectfully Showeth:

That he is 49 years of age, that he is married with 3 children, that he is in good health, that he was regularly ordained to the Christian Ministry by the Evangelical Free Church in the United States of America, that he is a minister in good and regular standing with his church body and that he is in full accord with the doctrinal standards of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

That he served his internship in Faith Evangelical Free Church, Leesburg, FL; that he was Senior Pastor in Desert Evangelical Free Church, Palm Desert, CA. (April 1976-December 1979), that he was Senior Pastor in Sunrise Community Evangelical Free Church, Atlantic Beach, FL. (January 1980-September 1995), that he was involved with a D.Min project (September 1995-April 1997), that he has been Executive Director and Pastor Care Co-ordinator at Tuscacora Resource Centre, Mt. Bethel, PA (May 1997-present)

That he holds the following earned degrees: B.Sc. (Univ. of Florida); M.Div. (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, IL.); D.Min. (Reformed Theol. Seminary, Orlando, FL.); M.Soc. Work. (Marywood Univ. Scranton, PA.) and that, having had close contact with the Presbyterian Church in Ireland on a number of occasions in recent years and especially during a year of D.Min. research study (1995-96) when he lived and worshipped in the Presbytery of Coleraine, he would be desirous of being accepted as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

That he has applied to the Committee on the Reception of Ministers and that, if accepted, he will undertake any additional studies required by the Board of Studies and will serve the Church for at least one year as an Assistant Minister as required by Par. 193(1)(d) of the Code.

Memorialist therefore prays your Venerable Assembly to receive him as a Minister Without Charge and to place him under the care of the Presbytery of Coleraine.

And Memorialist as in duty bound will ever pray.

JAMES WILSON CHESHIRE

Licensed by the Presbytery of Coleraine and transmitted with the recommendation that its prayer be granted.

Dated this 2nd Day of May 2000 at Coleraine.

GEORGE JOHNSTON, Moderator
IVAN HUNTER, Clerk

Moved by the Very Rev Dr D H Allen, seconded by the Rev R B Savage, and agreed:

That the Memorial be received and its prayer granted.

The Report of the **JUDICIAL COMMISSION** (Reports pp 68-69) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson. **JUDICIAL COMMISSION**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That Rev Dr Joseph Fell be appointed to the Judicial Commission in place of Rev J B McCormick (resigned).

The **Overtures anent Par 9 and Par 30(1)** of the Code (Reports p 70) were submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson. **Overtures anent Pars 9 & 30(1)**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

That the Overtures, having lain on the books for one year, be made the law of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par 132(4)** of the Code (Reports p 70) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson. **Overture anent Par 132(4)**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

That the Overture, having lain on the books for one year, be made the law of the Church.

The **Overture anent Par 19(4)** of the Code (Reports p 70) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson. **Overture anent Par 19(4)**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and placed on the books.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

That the Overture be made an Interim Act.

The **Overture anent Par 172** of the Code (Reports p 70) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson. **Overture anent Par 172**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

**Overture anent
Par 185(4)**

The **Overture anent Par 185(4)** of the Code (Reports p 71) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

**SPECIAL
COMMISSION**

The Report of the **SPECIAL COMMISSION** (Reports pp 72-73) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by Mr M A Morrow, QC, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the ad hoc Commission be thanked and discharged.

Intermission**In Public****YOUTH BOARD**

The Report of the **YOUTH BOARD** (Reports pp 238-247) was submitted by the Rev D J Kane.

Moved by the Rev D J Kane, seconded by the Rev R J Hyndman, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Revs R J Hyndman, David Stanfield, Dr William Crawley and Mr Trevor Long be appointed as representatives on the Youth Link NI Council and the Board of Management of the Churches Youth Service Council.
3. That in accordance with the recommendation of the Panel on the Overview of Funding, the Youth Development Officer for Northern Ireland be continued in post for a further year.

4. That the following grants be paid from the Incidental Fund:

Youth Link NI - £6,500

PCI Family Holiday - £6,000

Moved by the Rev R F S Poots, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson and agreed:

5. That the resignation of the Rev D J Kane as Convener of the Youth Board be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Rev R J Hyndman continue as sole Convener.

Moved by the Rev D J Kane, seconded by the Rev R J Hyndman, and agreed:

6. That the resignation of the Rev M G McClelland as Convener of the Youth Home Mission Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev D J Paul be appointed in his place.

7. That the Youth Board with its associated working committees, for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 283 of the Code as follows:

Rev R J Hyndman, Convener
Miss R Stirling, Secretary

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Evangelism and Christian Training Committees, Education Board Secretary, Sunday School Organiser, University Chaplains, Revs D J Kane, R J Hyndman, Youth Officer.**
- (b) **Revs Dr S R Jones, W Sinclair - Rev J W P McConnell; Allen Foster - Rev M Stanfield; Nathan Conkey - S Macfarlane, E Poots - Brian Todd, Miss Diane Johnston - M Peacock, Miss J Chambers.**
- (c) **Revs J A Beattie, KA Drury - Rev R J Beggs; Jonie Graham - Revs A J McL Smith, J G Johnston - Rev E J Hyndman; S Tweed - Rev P E Dickinson; Miss L McMahon.**
- (d) **Rev P Thompson; I Carton - Dr Wm. Crawley, Miss H Murray - Rev J Peacock; G Hamilton.**
- (e) **Rev G Stockdale; K McCrossan - Rev Dr C Glass; Wm Semple - Revs J J Currie, J R Burnett - Revs J H Flaherty, R A McLernon.**
- (f) **Rev A Carson; Andrew Speer - Revs S Simpson, Keith McCrory - Rev David Moore; Clive Reed.**
- (g) **Miss G Kennedy, Miss Elaine Johnston, Miss Pauline Wilson, Mrs. Margaret McCreedy, Mrs R McKnight, Miss Anne Houston, Mrs Maureen Blake, Mrs Heather Carey, Mrs Marie-Ann Trueman, Miss Gillian Kerr, Mrs Karen Black, Mrs Ellen Wilmont, Ivan Ferris, Reuben McCormick, Gareth Dunlop, David Laney, Christian Hofstra, David Pattison, T Bruce; Rev R S Stockman.**

A YOUTH EVENTS COMMITTEE (5) Rev J W P McConnell, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Rev R J Hyndman, J W P McConnell; Youth Officer, Sunday School Organiser.**
- (x) **Rev A M Bates; Miss Gail Neill, Mrs. Gillian Topping, Tim Garrett.**
- (y) **Revs K A Drury, A J McL Smith, E J Hyndman, J Burnett; Ian Carton, Allen Foster, Clive Reed, Stephen Macfarlane.**

B YOUTH TRAINING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (5)

Rev David Stanfield, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs R J Hyndman, David Stanfield; Youth Officer, Youth Development Officers.**
- (x) **Rev D Montgomery, Mrs Heather Carey, Paul Bowman, Trevor Long.**
- (y) **Revs Dr C Glass, Dr S R Jones, M Stanfield, J Peacock, K McCrory, Dr Wm Crawley; Jonie Graham, Lorna McMahon.**

C YOUTH HOME MISSION COMMITTEE (5) Rev D J Paul, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs R J Hyndman, George McClelland, D J Paul; Youth Officer, Youth Development Officers, Evangelism Promoter.**
- (x) **Revs Andrew Thompson, Mark Henderson; Miss Anne Morrow, Miss Judith Mackay.**
- (y) **Revs Wm Sinclair, J H Flaherty, R J Beggs, P E Dickinson, Philip Thompson, Jonathan Currie, David Moore; Nathan Conkey.**

- D YOUTH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE (5) Rev P C Lyle, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs R J Hyndman, P C Lyle; Youth Officer, Overseas Board Representative.**
- (x) **Rev A Gibson; Peter McDowell, Miss Cheryl Reid.**
- (y) **Revs R A McLernon, A Carson, E J Hyndman, A J McL Smith, Graeme Stockdale; Keith McCrossan.**
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- E YOUTH CENTRES COMMITTEE (5) Rev D I J McNie, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs R J Hyndman, D I J McNie; Youth Officer, Centre Director, Convener Youth Training and Resources Committee, Youth Board Development Officer.**
- (x) **Revs T D Gribben, B McMillen; C Graham, Mrs S Maginnis.**
- (y) **Revs J G Johnston; M Peacock, Brian Todd, Stephen Tweed, Andrew Speer, Miss H Murray, E Poots, Miss J Chambers.**

The sederunt came to a close at 4.50 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

EIGHTH SESSION

Friday, 9th June, 2000

Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**INTER-CHURCH
RELATIONS
BOARD**

The Report of the **INTER-CHURCH RELATIONS BOARD** (Reports pp 150-161) was submitted by the Rev R Herron.

Moved by the Rev R Herron, seconded by the Rev S J Millar, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

2. That the following appointments be made:

To the Irish Council of Churches - Revs C J Aitcheson, W T Bingham, S J Campbell, Mr N Chambers, Mrs P Crossley; Revs A D Davidson, G A J Ellis-Farquhar; Miss D Gilmour; Revs Dr R J G Gray, R Herron, Dr S Hutchinson; Mrs M Irwin; Revs J G Johnston, D B Knox, C D McClure, D Nesbitt; Mr J A Patterson, Mr I Scott; Mrs E Sheppard; Mr D Whitcroft.

To the Irish Inter-Church Meeting - Revs Dr W P Addley, H Boyce; Mr N J Chambers; Revs A D Davidson, Dr J Dunlop, R Herron, Dr S Hutchinson; Mrs M Irwin; Rev Dr T W J Morrow.

To the Irish Inter-Church Committee - Revs A D Davidson, Dr T W J Morrow.

3. That the General Assembly encourage local congregations to extend friendship towards members of ethnic minority communities living in their areas, to be alert to threats or instances of racial intimidation, and to report these to the Race Relations Committee.

4. That Sunday, 9th September, 2001 be recognised as Race Relations Sunday.

5. That Rev D J Campbell be appointed to serve for the next three years as the PCI representative on the Ecumenical Committee of the URC and as a voting delegate at the URC General Assembly.

6. That the General Assembly welcome the debt relief announced so far and support the Jubilee 2000 Coalition in its call for the total and immediate cancellation of the remaining unpayable debts of the world's poorest countries.

7. That the General Assembly call for a day of prayer on the final day of the G8 Summit on Sunday, 23rd July 2000.

8. That the following grants be made from the Incidental Fund:

Irish Council of Churches	£25,600
Irish Inter-Church Meeting	£4,000
Conference of European Churches	£3,253
Leuenberg Consultation	£500
World Alliance of Reformed Churches	£9,500

Race Relations Grants:

(i) Multi-Cultural Resource Centre, Bryson House, Belfast	£750
(ii) Diakonia Council of Churches, Durban, South Africa	£1,500
(iii) Churches Council for Racial Justice (Refugees and Asylum Seekers UK)	£375
(iv) Millennium Appeal of the Irish Refugee Council	£375

General Work of the Board	£5,000
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9. That the Inter-Church Relations Board, with its associated working Committees, be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 278 of the Code as follows:

Rev R Herron, Convener

(a) The Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, Rev R Herron, Conveners and Secretaries of the Home Mission Committee and Overseas Board, Professor of

Systematic Theology at the Union Theological College, Superintendent of the Irish Mission, Overseas Board Representative, the Youth Officer.

(b) **Revs W T Cordner, S E Hughes - Revs A D Davidson, D H Gilpin - Rev Dr W J Patterson; I Adair - Revs D J Bruce, Dr R J G Gray - Rev C D McClure; H Plester - Revs J M Wade, A L Kirk.**

(c) **Rev J M Finlay; S Davison - Revs G A J Ellis-Farquhar, F A Bradley - Revs J G Johnston, F Russell - Revs D H Thompson, J T Magowan - Rev D Bannerman; R J Coulter.**

(d) **Rev D S McIlwrath; W Crawford - Rev Dr D C Irwin; D McCleery - Rev Joan Scott; A J Kilgore.**

(e) **Revs David Latimer, G P Young - Revs S J Gray, D S Irwin - Rev N S Harrison; Mrs C A Trimble - Rev W T Bingham; Miss B Miller.**

(f) **Rev C F D Clements; G Vance - Revs A V Martin, Denis Campbell - Rev David Nesbitt; W McConkey.**

(g) **Revs K P Meyer, N W McAuley, S J Millar, D B Knox; Dr D Stevens, Mrs P Crossley.**

A. WORLD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (5) Mrs H McCall, Convener

(a) **Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, Rev R Herron; PWA Executive Secretary, Mrs H McCall; Overseas Board Representative.**

(x) **Revs M C A Gray, Dr DJ Watts; J Doherty, Mrs Sheila Phillips.**

(y) **Revs Dr W J Patterson, W T Cordner, C D McClure, D Nesbitt, J T Magowan, D S Irwin, D J Bruce, Denis Campbell.**

B. IRISH CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (5)

Rev A D Davidson, Convener

(a) **Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs R Herron, A D Davidson.**

(x) **Revs D J McCarthy, M Hunter; D Montgomery, Miss D Gilmour.**

(y) **Revs D. Bannerman, G P Young, C D McClure, J M Finlay, W T Bingham, Dr D C Irwin, N S Harrison, J G Johnston.**

C. WORLD CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (5)

Rev D J Campbell, Convener

(a) **Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs R Herron, D J Campbell, Overseas Board Representative.**

(x) **Revs Prof J C McCullough, W J A Sleith; Mrs M Irwin, Miss A Taylor.**

(y) **Revs F A Bradley, G A J Ellis-Farquhar, D Bannerman, C D McClure, Denis Campbell, A D Davidson, S E Hughes; H Plester.**

D. RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (5) Rev Dr R J G Gray, Convener

(a) **Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Overseas Board Secretaries, Revs R Herron, Dr R J G Gray.**

(x) **D Boyd, Ms Fee Ching Leong, Mrs E Greer.**

(y) **Revs C F D Clements, Joan Scott, F Russell, G A J Ellis-Farquhar, Denis Campbell; W Crawford.**

Intermission

The Report of the **BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND CHRISTIAN TRAINING** (Reports pp 229-237) was submitted by Very Rev Dr D H Allen together with the following Supplementary Report.

**BOARD OF
EVANGELISM
& CHRISTIAN
TRAINING**

Marriage and the Family Committee

Rev Trevor Steele commenced his Convenership of the Marriage and Family Committee in 1997. He brought to the task a great vision and zeal for the work of the Committee.

The development and success of the Marriage Counselling service owes much to his personal enthusiasm and his awareness of the extent of the need. This service is now providing vital help to families that are hurting and going through difficult times.

It is with regret that the Board has learned that Mr Steele is retiring from this post, having received a call to minister in the United States. We shall miss his expertise and wisdom, particularly at a time when the Committee is moving to another Board.

However, we thank him most sincerely for all his effort in the past three years and we wish him and his family God's richest blessing as they serve the Lord in another place.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr D H Allen, seconded by the Rev H Boyce, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly authorise the Board to recruit and appoint a suitably qualified person to undertake the duties set out in par 3 of the report of the Marriage and the Family Committee.
3. That the resignation of Rev Trevor Steele, as Convener of the Committee on Marriage and the Family, be noted and that he be thanked for his services.
4. That the General Assembly welcome the appointment of Rev Harold Boyce as Director of Evangelism and encourage ministers and Kirk Sessions to continue to make evangelism a priority within the life of each congregation.
5. That the General Assembly encourage congregations to support Bible Sunday on 10 December 2000, and commend the Bible Society and Scripture Union on the "Luke the Book" project in primary schools.
6. That the Board of Evangelism and Christian Training be thanked and discharged.

**Marriage and
the Family
Committee**

**Evangelism
Committee**

General

The Report of the **BOARD OF STUDIES FOR THE MINISTRY** (Reports pp 262-271) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr A W G Brown together with the following Supplementary Report.

**BOARD OF
STUDIES**

Committee on Studies

The Committee on Studies is sorry to report the resignation of its Convener, the Rev. Stafford Carson, who has been appointed Vice-President for Academic

Affairs at Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia. Mr Carson's vision for theological education, his experience in the recent ad hoc review process, his feel for the needs of our own Church students and his warm and gracious personality mean that his departure will be a great loss to our Church.

The General Assembly congratulate him on this important appointment and thank him most warmly for all that his convenership has meant not only to the Committee he served, but in the wider work of the Board of Studies.

Students Bursary Fund Committee

The Bursary Fund Committee periodically reviews the level of grant to Students for the Ordained Ministry, bearing in mind both the increased costs of living and the finite resources of our Church.

In a recent review, the Committee was made aware of the introduction in 2000/2001 of the Learning Covenants recommended by the ad hoc Committee on Review of Theological Education (1993-6). Their introduction will entail, among other things, that students will have to undertake over the summer months some form of approved and assessed ministry experience. That is, students will no longer be free to supplement their grant with lucrative summer employment. In the light of this, the Student's Bursary Fund Committee intends that the Bursary Fund grant should in future be calculated as follows:

Basic Grant: 30% of the ministerial minimum paid over nine months.

For married students the marriage allowance is presently calculated in the following terms: If the spouse earns less than £2000 the full grant is paid; if the spouse earns between £2000 and £4000 then £5 is deducted for every £8 earned.

It is intended that in future the marriage allowance should be 10% of the ministerial minimum, and that it be calculated as follows: If the spouse earns less than 30% of the ministerial minimum the allowance be paid in full; if the spouse earns 50% or over he/she does not qualify; if the spouse earns between 30% and 50% he/she loses 1% of Ministerial minimum for every 2% earned.

Family grants will continue to be paid at the CMF rate.

Union Theological College Management Committee

The ad hoc College Training and Review Committee, having found that no alternative suitable site was available, reported this to the Management Committee. A lot of preparatory work had already been done in relation to the possible refurbishment.

A smaller group, consisting largely of staff, continued to develop that work along with the architect, Mr Arthur Acheson. The current plans as outlined were discussed at a joint meeting of Union College Management Committee and Magee Fund Scheme Committee and have been tabled and supported at the Board of Studies. These should not be taken as the final blueprint, as some issues are not yet resolved.

There are some principles behind our progress thus far:

- 1) The provision of a healthy, forward looking teaching and learning environment for Christians of all ages.
- 2) A suite of buildings which will help develop a good college community.
- 3) Protection of the historical integrity of the building but provision of a contemporary "feel".

- 4) Provision of quality residential accommodation for students, ministers and visitors, from Ireland and beyond.
- 5) A coming together of the core work done in the past by UTC and CTC under a single integrated structure.
- 6) A genuine attempt to make the complex more welcoming and accessible to the wider church and community.
- 7) The desire to leave room for the expansion and development of new courses for church members in a changing environment.
- 8) Provision will be made for 21st century technology, including distance learning.
- 9) The desire to provide a resource for the whole church.

The estimated costs of such a plan are at present in the region of £2.8 - £3 million.

We are currently examining ways in which this can be funded, knowing that a commitment was given to not make a Church-wide appeal for funds. In round figures, currently we have £600,000 available from College Funds. We believe that we can resource £1.1 million from the realisation of 2 major College Bequests. The advice we have been given is that, when the refurbished and developed building is fully functional, it will give us a greater return of these monies than currently enjoyed. After further negotiations we hope to receive £400,000 from the Magee Fund Scheme. This leaves a shortfall of £900,000. We have been advised that if we sell the rear car park, along with the area known as the Principal's house, for apartment development, we should realise the capital we need. We are therefore asking for permission to proceed with this when necessary.

These figures are all provisional and depend on the availability of the funds for our use.

In this scheme we are asking for the realisation of capital currently invested elsewhere to invest in ourselves. The ad hoc committee discovered that the more we invest in this way the greater percentage return we can make on our investment. The plan includes a build up of return which means at no time should the wider church be appealed to for monies for this scheme, now or in the future.

The new scheme provides for 6 blocks within the single site.

- a) Teaching block. Providing two modern lecture rooms and 2 seminar rooms fully supported with relevant technology.
- b) Conference block. A new conference area with state of the art technology, informal areas and smaller group rooms.
- c) Central spine. An entirely new development of an informal area in the courtyard, providing the community core of our building at two levels.
- d) Administration block and staff offices. On the first floor of the building above the dining room. Up to date office accommodation and room for teaching staffs studies and informal meeting rooms.
- e) Library and resource centre. Occupying the entire front of the first floor of the college and above on either side. A much larger library, more efficiently accessed and a modern resource centre for the whole church.

f) Accommodation block. Top of the range rooms for students and visitors, with individual shower and toilet facilities and snack making facilities. At present only 17 are provided, but we are looking at the use of the attic and our premises at College Green.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr A W G Brown, seconded by the Rev G Connor, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly approve the outline proposals for the refurbishment and development of the College site as described in Daily Minutes.
3. That the General Assembly grant permission to the College Management Committee to sell, if it deemed necessary or advisable, part of the Union Theological College site.
4. That the Committee structure set out in the Appendix to the Report of the ad hoc Committee be approved.
5. That the General Assembly accept the resignation of the Rev C J C McMullen, as Convener of the Magee Fund Scheme Committee, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Graham Connor be appointed in his place.
6. That the General Assembly accept the resignation of the Rev J S Carson, as Convener of the Committee on Studies, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev S P Moore be appointed in his place.

Debate adjourned on Standing Orders (see p.77)

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator, assisted by the Rev Dr R I Birney, Mrs Thelma Campbell and Rev F P Sellar.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev Dr Leighton Ford addressed the Assembly.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.00 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

NINTH SESSION**Friday, 9th June, 2000****Two o'clock. Afternoon**

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Minutes were taken and corrected.

The Report of the **BOARD OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION** (Reports pp 274-287) was submitted by Mr D F Adair together with the following Supplementary Report. **BOARD OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

The payment of travelling expenses to the General Assembly, its Boards and Committees and any related costs, is governed by Pars 271(2) and 286(4)(b)(i) of the Code.

These matters are currently under review by the Board of Finance and Administration, which hopes to reach a conclusion in the near future. The Board requests the approval of the Assembly for proceeding to implement new rates for travel and related expenses in the course of the coming year.

Moved by Mr D F Adair, seconded by Mr J D McCleery, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That Ernst and Young be appointed as auditors for all the Committees, Boards, Trusts, Commissions and Agencies of the General Assembly for the year 2000.
3. That the assessment for the Incidental Fund for 2000 be 4.5p in the £ of stipend.
4. That the General Assembly authorise the Board of Finance and Administration to approve and adopt new rates for travel to the General Assembly, its Boards and Committees, and any related expenses, in the course of the coming year.

Moved by Mr D F Adair, seconded by Mr D W Lamb, and agreed:

5. That the resignation of Mr J D McCleery as Convener of the Incidental Fund Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Mr Michael Fitch be appointed in his place.

Moved by Mr D F Adair, seconded by Mr J D McCleery, and agreed:

6. That the retirement of Mr Hilton Henry from the post of Financial Secretary be noted and that he be thanked for his dedicated work in the whole field of Finance and Administration.

7. That the Board of Finance and Administration, with its associated working committees for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 286 of the Code as follows:

D F Adair, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; D F Adair.**
- (b) **Rev J T Williamson; D Johnston - Rev T A McNeely; N Greenlee - Rev J Harper; R Courtenay - B H Menown, J Lockhart - Revs J Holmes, A Thompson - Revs D C Scott, E P Gamble.**
- (c) **Rev W F Dickey; W Alexander - D Tomb, F Picton - Rev R Kelly; H Stewart - Rev K D W Crowe; R McIvor - Rev J H MacConnell; C R A Davis.**

- (d) **Rev M L Johnston; J Clarke - Rev W I Hull; M Fitch - M Cairnduff, N Valentine.**
- (e) **Rev Dr S D H Williamson; S Clyde - Rev D S Irwin; Samuel Kelly - Wilfrid Steele, Norman Morrison - Rev Dr T R Buick; R J McLean.**
- (f) **Rev W A Watson; Alan Speer - Arthur Jordan, Ian Kelly - Rev B C G Black; J A Jenkins.**
- (g) **Mrs Maureen Patterson, Mrs Rosemary Thompson, Mrs G Irwin; J Petrie.**
- A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND STAFFING (5) D Lamb, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Personnel Officer; D Lamb, D F Adair.**
- (x) **S McDowell, Mrs E Armstrong, J F McMahan, A Treacy.**
- (y) **Revs J T Williamson, Alan S Thompson, J Harper, J H MacConnell, K D W Crowe; N Valentine, B H Menown, M Fitch.**
- B. INCIDENTAL FUND COMMITTEE (5) M Fitch, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Financial Secretary, M Fitch, J D McCleery, D F Adair.**
- (x) **Rev R I A Allely; B McClean, R B Lyons, T G Swan.**
- (y) **Revs R Kelly, K D W Crowe, B C G Black, J Harper, Dr S D H Williamson; M Cairnduff, B Menown, J Clarke.**
- C. ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS COMMITTEE (5) Rev R I A Allely, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Arrangements Committee Convener, Board Convener, T H Cochrane; Rev R I A Allely.**
- (x) **Rev H J Honeyford; Mrs J Moran, Mrs P Williamson, B Smyth.**
- (y) **Revs T A McNeely, J H MacConnell, R Kelly, Alan Thompson; J Lockhart, R J McLean, H Stewart, J Clarke.**

**Overture anent
Par 137**

The **Overture anent Par 137** of the Code (Reports p 287) was submitted by Mr D W Lamb as follows:

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 137 of the Code after the words “under Chapter VII” there be added the additional words “audit” and “auditors”, when used in relation to a congregation, mean respectively the independent inspection of the accounts and financial statements, and the persons appointed to carry out such an inspection;

Moved by Mr D W Lamb, seconded by Mr M Fitch, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and placed on the books.

Moved by Mr D W Lamb, seconded by Mr M Fitch:

That the Overture be made an Interim Act.

On being put, the motion was declared lost.

Voting: For 50 votes

Against 52 votes

Moved by Mr D F Adair, seconded by Mr D W Lamb, and agreed:

That in view of his service to the Church, especially as honorary Personnel Officer, **Mr Charles Robinson** be made a member of Assembly under Par 97(i) and Par 107(a) of the Code. **Mr C Robinson**

BOARD OF STUDIES FOR THE MINISTRY - Debate Resumed (See p.74) **BOARD OF STUDIES**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr A W G Brown, seconded by the Rev G Connor, and agreed:

7. That the ad hoc Committee be thanked and discharged.

8. That the General Assembly encourage the Christian Training Centre to develop strategies that will lead to the spiritual growth of all Church members.

9. That the following grants be paid from the Incidental Fund:

June Residential Course and Interview	£890
Pre-Term College Retreat	£850
Applicants' Overnight Course	£250
Licentiate Courses	£750
Meetings for students and spouses	£300
Honoraria for Extern Examiners	£295
Communication Skills for students outside Ireland	£85

TOTAL £3,420

10. That the assessment for the Ministerial Development Programme be 1.75p per £ of stipend.

11. That the following candidates, their nominations having been sustained by the Board of Studies, be accepted as students for the Ministry and placed under the care of their Presbyteries:

William George Hamilton	Ballyhenry	North Belfast
David James Irvine	Cavanaleck	Omagh
Paul Jamieson	Stream	Ards
Sidney Joseph Mervyn Lindsay	1st Portadown	Armagh
Darren Basil McCorriston	1st Coleraine	Coleraine
Samuel Newell	2nd Comber	Down

12. That the General Assembly note that, as from the academic year 2000/2001, the Bursary Fund grant will be paid at 30% of the Ministerial Minimum, with a full Marriage Allowance of 10% of the Ministerial Minimum.

13. That the Board of Studies and Christian Training, together with the appropriate working committees for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 285 of the Code as follows:

Rev Dr A W G Brown, Convener

Rev J H Robinson, Director of Ministerial Students

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Professors in U.T.C., and two student representatives, University Chaplains, Secretary of the H.M. Committee, Revs J H Robinson, Dr A W G Brown.**

- (b) Revs J N I McNeely, T W D Johnston - Revs C G Harris, J W P McConnell - Revs R A Moffett, W A Abernethy - Rev G B S Gibson; J N C Walsh, - Revs C D McClure, D M Rodgers - Revs B McMillen, Dr M A Barry.
- (c) Revs J D McGaughey, D Murphy - Rev S P Moore; Dr N H Smith - Rev D S Mackay; Dr J H Gillespie - Revs S T Carson, J T McCullough - Revs J Brackenridge, W J Sleith.
- (d) Rev T D Gribben; Mrs H Murdock - Revs V Sinclair, Dr W D Patton - Rev W McKeown; W F McConnell.
- (e) Revs Dr J Fell, J Hutchinson - Revs Dr W J H McKee, James Clarke - Rev R I Abraham; Miss M Guy - Revs N W McAuley, T Conway.
- (f) Revs A Carson, P A McBride - Revs Dr G Millar, F Sellar, - Revs Nancy Cubitt, B C G Black.
- (g) Mrs M Robinson; Revs J H McIntyre, G A J Ellis-Farquhar, A T F Johnston, Dr S D H Williamson, M L Johnston, G E Best, D T Moore, R S McMullan.

A COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL STUDIES (5)

Rev S P Moore, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Principal U.T.C., Education Secretary, Convener of Reception of Ministers and Licentiates Committee, Rev J H Robinson; Convener of Student's Bursary Fund Committee, Revs Dr A W G Brown, S P Moore, J S Carson, Committee Convener.
- (x) Revs G R Stockdale, A J McL Smith, Prof W P Addley, Prof L S Kirkpatrick.
- (y) Revs C D McClure, R A Moffett, S T Carson, D S Mackay, J W P McConnell, T W D Johnston; N W McAuley; Dr J H Gillespie.

B. COLLEGE AND MAGEE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (4)

Rev Graham Connor, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, the Principal U.T.C.
- (fac) Revs Prof J P Taylor, Prof S N Williams, Prof L S Kirkpatrick, W D F Marshall.
- (x) Dr T D Alexander, D Clements; Revs L E Carroll, S P Moore, Graham Connor, Dr A W G Brown.

C COMMITTEE ON RESOURCING CHRISTIANS FOR MINISTRY (5)

Rev Dr R M Crooks, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Education Secretary, Youth Secretary, Professor of Practical Theology, Sunday School Organiser, Director of Christian Training, Superintendent Irish Mission, Convener of Evangelism Committee, Director of Social Service, Revs W J Johnstone, Dr R M Crooks, Board Convener.
- (x) Revs I A McKay, G Aitcheson, J Coulter; Miss S Sutter.
- (y) Revs W J Henry, W McCully, J N I McNeely, W A Abernethy, B McMillen, D J Hutchinson, Dr G Millar; Dr J Gillespie.

D. STUDENT'S BURSARY FUND COMMITTEE (5)

Rev G Moore, Convener
Assignment Convener, Secretary

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Principal U.T.C., Convener of the Board of Studies, Convener of the Committee on Studies, H M Secretaries, Assignment Convener, Revs G Moore, J H Robinson.**
- (x) **Rev J Campbell; D J Thompson, D Clements, E S McDowell.**
- (y) **Revs Dr J Fell, D S Mackay, J N I McNeely, T J Conway, John Brackenridge, T D Gribben, D M Rodgers; Mrs H Murdock.**

E. RECEPTION OF MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES COMMITTEE (5)

Rev R B Savage, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Deputy Clerk, Principal U.T.C., Revs R Herron, Dr A W G Brown, R B Savage, R G Johnston, J H Robinson, Convener of the Committee on Studies.**
- (x) **Revs Dr D H Allen, W T J Richardson, Dr J B Moore, D S McIlwrath.**
- (y) **Revs Dr J Fell, J Brackenridge, James Clarke, T D Gribben, W McKeown, T W D Johnston, N W McAuley, D M Rodgers.**

The Final Report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** was submitted by the Clerk, the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, as follows: **BUSINESS BOARD**

As there was no business to transact, the Business Board did not meet during the Assembly.

At its meeting on Friday, 2 June, the resolutions appended were approved for submission at the close of Assembly.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev R F S Poots, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the following corresponding members be appointed:

To the Church of Scotland 2001

Right Rev Dr T W J Morrow
Rev F P Sellar
Mr Ian Scott

To the United Reformed Church of the United Kingdom 2001

Right Rev Dr T W J Morrow

3. That the delegates to the Presbyterian Church of Wales 2001, the 2001 General Synod of the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Conference be appointed by the Business Board.

4. That the Clerk be given authority to make corrections to the Daily Minutes as and when required.

5. That the next General Assembly be held in Church House, Belfast on Monday, 4th June, 2001.

CLOSE OF ASSEMBLY

After a brief adjournment the Moderator conducted a closing act of worship assisted by the Rev F P Sellar and the Rev Dr R I Birney.

The Moderator thanked the Clerk of the Assembly and the Deputy Clerk, his chaplains, Mrs Jean Hanna and staff of the General Office, Mr Stephen Lynas and the Church House staff including Mr Harry Orr, the Rev R Vallely, the ex-moderators who deputised, the organist and musicians, the Rev J Barnes and May Street Kirk Session, those who acted as stewards, the time-keepers, the media, the R.U.C. and others.

Thereafter he declared the Assembly to be dissolved and convened the next Stated General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to meet in Church House, Belfast, on Monday, 4th June, 2001 at seven o'clock in the evening.

The Moderator pronounced the Benediction.

The sederunt came to a close at 3.35 p.m.

Attested by
SAMUEL HUTCHINSON
Clerk of Assembly

GENERAL SYNOD OF ULSTER

BELFAST, 2000

Wednesday, 7th June, 2000**Five o'clock. Afternoon.**

The Rev S J Gray presided and opened the Synod with prayer.

The Rev Very Rev Dr D H Allen was unanimously constituted Moderator of the Synod for the ensuing twelve months.

The following brethren were named and appointed the Synod's Fixed Committee for the ensuing twelve months: –

Armagh	Revs S W van Os and C G Harris
Ballymena	Revs Dr E P Gardner and J B Mooney
Bangor	Revs W A Kennedy and W J Parkes
Belfast	Revs Dr Wm Boyd and S J Campbell
Cavan	Revs J A Fulton and D Nesbitt
Clogher	Revs J F Murdoch and A O'Neill
Coleraine	Revs T S Lindsay and Dr D H Allen
Connaught	Rev T C Davis
Connor	Revs M G Evans and G A Preston
Derry	Revs J Kilgore and J D Young
Down	Revs R G Johnston and T W Gordon
Dromore	Revs Dr J B Irvine and K Smyth
Dublin	Revs Dr W O'Neill and Dr G B G McConnell
Glendermott	Revs Jn McWhirter and D J Hutchinson
Letterkenny	Revs K McConnell and W McCully
Magherafelt	Revs J McCormick and D S Graham
Monaghan	Revs W Herron and D Nesbitt
Newry	Revs R Nixon and H S W Cubitt
Newtownlimavady	Revs D J H Brown and D S Irwin
Raphoe	Revs W A Watson and B Brown
Route	Revs Dr A W G Brown and H B Wallace
Strabane	Revs D A G Milligan and J Davison
Templepatrick	Revs Dr R G Craig and W D Weir
Tyrone	Revs H C Conn and Dr A R Rodgers

Instructions were given that these brethren, each with a representative Elder from his Congregation, shall meet in Belfast when called by the Moderator, to take charge of any case of the Synod requiring immediate attention; and they shall have power, if they see reason, to call the Synod at any time during the year — seven to form a quorum, of whom five must be Ministers.

The meeting of Synod was closed with the Benediction.

Attested by

SAMUEL HUTCHINSON, Clerk of Synod

SECESSION SYNOD

BELFAST, 2000

Thursday, 8th June, 2000**Five o'clock. Afternoon.**

The Very Rev Dr J W Lockington presided, and opened the Synod with prayer.

The Rt Rev Dr T W J Morrow was then constituted Moderator of the Synod for the ensuing year.

The following constitute the Synod's Fixed Committee for the year: –

Ahoghill Presbytery ..	Rev Dr R E H Uprichard.
Ards	Rev Dr R Sterritt
Armagh	Rev B A Small
Belfast	Rev K N E Newell
Coleraine	Rev W I Hunter
Donegal	Rev M Bolton
Down	Rev W D McBride
Dublin	Rev A V Martin
Markethill	Rev D C Scott
Monaghan	Rev M R Burnside
Tyrone	Rev W T Coburn

Instructions were given that these brethren, each with a representative Elder from his Congregation, shall meet in Belfast when called by the Moderator, to take charge of any case of the Synod requiring immediate attention; and they shall have power, if they see reason, to call the Synod at any time during the year — five to form a quorum, of whom three must be Ministers.

The Synod was closed with prayer.

Attested by

SAMUEL HUTCHINSON, Clerk of Synod

DEPUTATIONS — 2001

- I.— CORRESPONDING MEMBERS TO THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 Right Rev Dr T W J Morrow, Moderator
 Rev F P Sellar
 Mr Ian Scott

- II.— CORRESPONDING MEMBER
 TO THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
 Right Rev Dr T W J Morrow, Moderator

- III.— DELEGATE TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WALES
 To be appointed by the Business Board.

- IV.— DELEGATES TO THE CHURCH OF IRELAND GENERAL SYNOD
 To be appointed by the Business Board.

- V.— DELEGATES TO THE METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND CONFERENCE
 To be appointed by the Business Board.

ECCLESIASTICAL CHANGES, ETC.

	Reported by Presbyteries in —	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Licensures		15	11	12	17	13	13	15
Ordinations		15	9	1	1	12	16	13
Installations		32	29	36	36	24	26	41
Resignation of Ministers		37	28	36	34	28	13	28
Retirements of Ministers		7	8	10	4	13	11	14
Deaths of Ministers		12	10	13	10	15	3	10
Students		59	84	53	51	44	39	26
Ministers under care of Assembly		24	24	24	23	26	26	21
Licentiates		13	13	20	35	41	33	34

FORM OF BEQUEST TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

I hereby give and bequeath to the General Secretary for the time being of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, whose receipt for the same shall be a sufficient discharge, the sum of £..... upon trust to be applied by such General Secretary toward the (here state the Mission, Central Ministry, or other Fund, to be benefited) of the General Assembly; and I direct that the said legacy be paid out of my pure personal estate; and free from any deduction on account of any legacy duty, or other tax whatever.

CHANGES IN THE CODE 2000

CHURCH HOUSE,
BELFAST, BT1 6DW
AUGUST, 2000.

The following changes have been made in the 1997 edition of the Code, which should be corrected accordingly.

SAMUEL HUTCHINSON
Clerk of Assembly.

Note: I.A. Interim Act

Par. 9

Delete the words “all men” and substitute the words “all people”. (2000).

Par 19 (4)

Delete the words “the following sub-paragraph” and insert “sub-paragraph 6”. (I.A. 2000).

Par. 30 (1)

Delete the word “men” and substitute the words “all people”. (2000).

Par. 128 (1)

Delete the words “the Strategy for Mission Committee” (2000).

Par. 132(4)

Delete Par. 132(4) and substitute the following:

“(4)(a) An offence alleged to have been committed more than five years previously shall not be made a ground of discipline unless:

- (i) the offender thereafter withdrew from the discipline of the Church; or
- (ii) the offence is alleged to have been revived by the offender’s later conduct which requires investigation; or
- (iii) the offence is of a very grave nature.

(b) A court shall not re-open investigation of an offence that had previously been investigated by it except in the case of discovery of new evidence that is considered by the court to be of importance for the possible exculpation of the offender.” (2000).

Par. 172

Insert a new sub-paragraph (3) as follows:

(3) “Every matter referred to a superior court by a Presbytery or Synod for directions or determination or advice shall go directly to the Judicial Commission, which is empowered to proceed forthwith to hear and determine the matter. However, should any party directly concerned, within 14 days of the referral, request, in writing, that the matter be referred to the General Assembly, the Judicial Commission shall, without adjudicating thereon, immediately transmit the reference to the General Assembly with a report and recommendation on whether the matter shall be heard and decided upon directly by the Assembly or referred to a commission”. (2000).

Par. 185 (4)

Delete and substitute:

(4) On two successive Sundays the congregation shall be informed that an election of qualified persons for the Congregational Committee is to take place and voting members are invited to propose, in writing, for the consideration of the Kirk Session any qualified member or members. The Kirk Session, having considered the proposals received, and having obtained the consent of those selected, shall read the list of those selected to the congregation on two successive Sundays. On a subsequent day fixed by the Kirk Session there shall be held an official meeting of the congregation to confirm the appointment of the new members of the Congregational Committee. The names of those selected shall be presented individually to the meeting. A poll of the voters shall be taken and if two-thirds who vote be in favour he shall be declared elected. (2000).

Par. 221 (2)

Delete and substitute:

(2) grant leave to a minister to retire early, nor transmit the request of a minister for leave to retire early from the active duties of his office, without affording the congregation, at a meeting duly convened for the purpose, an opportunity of expressing their views on the subject. (2000).

Par. 223

Delete and substitute:

223 (1) A minister who reaches 65 years of age is entitled to retire from the active duties of the ministry, with the emoluments accruing to a retired minister from the funds of the Church, if:

(a) when applying to retire, he is a minister in good standing,
and

(b) the congregation affected by his proposed retirement engage to pay to the Central Ministry Fund according to the rules applicable to his case.

(2) The Presbytery shall have power, in the name of the General Assembly, to grant leave to retire to a minister who has reached 65 years of age.

(3) Other ministers in congregations, including those who have reached 64 years of age, may be granted special leave to retire by the General Assembly, upon terms to be determined by the Assembly after recommendation to the Board of Ministry and Pensions by the Committee on Retirements and Pensions.

(4) Ministers retiring from special work shall do so in accordance with the terms of their appointment, and with the consent of their Presbytery and the appropriate Assembly Board. Such retirement shall not entitle the minister to emoluments accruing to a retired minister from the funds of the Church, apart from such arrangements as may specifically have been made under the terms of his appointment.

(5) In any event a minister shall retire not later than his 70th birthday. (2000).

Par. 238 (3) (4)

Delete and substitute:

238 (3) The rate for the Supply Fee shall be £2 for each £500 or part thereof of the basic minimum ministerial income, or as may be determined from time to time by the Union Commission. Where only a single service is supplied in one congregation, the fee shall be at the rate of 2/3 of the full fee.

Sub-paragraph (5) is renumbered as (4). (2000).

Par. 268 (4) (c)

Delete the words “Board of Studies for the Ministry” and substitute “Board of Studies and Christian Training”.

Delete the words “Board of Evangelism and Christian Training”. (2000).

Par. 272 (5) (b)

Delete the words “hospitals or prisons” and substitute “hospitals, hospices or prisons”. (2000).

Par. 272 (5) (c)

Delete and substitute:

- (c) to nominate to the appropriate authorities ministers recommended by their Presbyteries as part-time chaplains with the Armed Services or Cadet Forces, prisons, hospitals, hospices or public institutions (except educational establishments or as otherwise provided).

A new sub-paragraph (6) is added as follows:

(6) Ministers called or nominated under the foregoing sub-paragraph (5) shall report as follows:

(i) full-time chaplains shall report in writing on their work to the Board, or its appropriate Committee annually, or as many be required;

(ii) part-time chaplains shall report similarly to their Presbyteries for transmission to the Board or appropriate Committee; and

(iii) the Board shall report briefly upon all such chaplaincies to the General Assembly annually. (2000).

Par 308

Delete and substitute:

308 (1) Name: The name of the organisation shall be “ The Presbyterian Women’s Association of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland,” concisely known as the PWA, incorporating the former Presbyterian Women’s Union, the former Women’s Missionary Association (sometimes called the Zenana Mission), the former Women’s Home Mission, and the Young Women’s Groups, and hereinafter referred to as the Association.

(2) **Purpose:** The purpose of the Association shall be:

(a) to unite the women of the Church in the dedication of their lives to Jesus Christ and His service in the home, the workplace, the community and the Church;

(b) to share in the mission of the Church at home and overseas through thought, prayer, and financial support; and

(c) to provide a link with the women of other Churches in Ireland and thought the world.

(3) **Branches:** Where possible a branch shall be formed in each congregation, to encourage fellowship, to interest the women in the purpose of the Association and to work towards its fulfilment. Stated meetings shall be held and membership shall be open to all women who accept the purpose of the Association. Where desirable, a Young Women’s Group may also be formed.

(4) **Young Women’s Groups:**

(a) **Name:** The name shall be the Young Women’s Groups of the Presbyterian Women’s Association.

(b) **Aim:** The aim of the Young Women’s Groups shall be to unite their members in friendship and service within the congregation

and community, and to encourage Christian living. Through balanced programme planning, members should be encouraged to take an interest in the wider outreach of the Church.

- (c) **Membership:** Young Women's Groups shall be formed where the need for a group within a congregation exists. Membership of such a group shall be open to all young women.
- (5) **Presbyterial Committees:** There shall be in each Presbytery a PWA Committee known as the Presbyterial Committee, consisting of:
 - (a) three representatives from each branch or congregation, and one representative from the Young Women's Groups in the Presbytery; and
 - (b) members of the Executive Committee in the Presbytery.
- (6) **General Committee:** There shall be a General Committee of the Association consisting of:
 - (a) the Chairman, the Secretary and the Treasurer of each Presbyterial Committee;
 - (b) two other representatives elected by each Presbyterial Committee from its membership to serve for three years; these representatives shall not be eligible for immediate re-election;
 - (c) the members of the PWA Executive Committee;
 - (d) the office-bearers of the Young Women's Groups Central Committee and four representatives of the Deaconess Association.
- (7) **Executive Committee:** There shall be an Executive Committee of the Association consisting of:
 - (a) the Central President, the Home Vice-President, the Overseas Vice-President, the Home Treasurer, the Overseas Treasurer and the PWA Executive Secretary; and
 - (b) one representative nominated by each of the twenty-one Presbyterial Committees, preferably an existing representative on General Committee; and
 - (c) a representative of the Young Women's Groups Central Committee.

The Editor of "Wider World" and the wife of the Moderator shall be invited to sit and deliberate.

In exceptional circumstances the Executive Committee shall have the power to co-opt up to three additional members to serve for a maximum period of two years, to be reviewed annually.

(8) **Finance:** The financial year of the Association shall end on 31st December. The report and statement of accounts shall be submitted for approval to the Annual Meeting each year. A report shall be submitted annually to the General Assembly and as may be required to the Board of Mission in Ireland and the Overseas Board.

(9) **Bye-Laws:** The General Committee may make Bye-Laws regulating the procedure of the Association and, subject to this Constitution, regulating the constitution and procedure of its Branches, Groups or Committees. (2000).

Par 315 (2)

After the words "£4,300" add "or as may be fixed from time to time by the supervising Board." (2000).

Par 321 (3)

Delete and substitute:

(3) Ministers who have reached 65 years of age who are granted leave to retire, shall, on the recommendation of the Board, receive a pension equal to one thirty-fifth of the full pension for each year's service in this Church prior to 1st April, 1978, on condition that the sum thus calculated shall not exceed the full retirement pension. (2000).

Par 321 (5)

Delete and substitute:

(5) A minister demitting his charge after at least two years ordained service in this Church may, upon application to the Board, be granted a pension equal to one fortieth of the full retirement pension for each year served in this Church, completed before 1 April, 1978, beginning at age 65 or on his date of retirement, if later, on becoming permanently incapacitated for duty. No back payments shall be made for more than one year from the date of application. (2000).

Par 321 (6)

Delete and substitute:

(6) A minister retired under special arrangements, other than for reasons of health, shall not be entitled to any benefit from the Fund until he has reached 65 years of age, save as permitted by Par 223 (3); but the Assembly shall have power, on the recommendation of the Board, to authorise ex gratia payments in cases of particular hardship. (2000).

Pars 114 (1) (c), 227, 229(1), (1)(b), 230(1) and (2), and (3)(b), 230(5)(a), 231(1), 232(1) and (2) and (3)(c), 234(1) and (4), 268(4)(b), 274(8)(b)(i), 274(9), 301(1) and (3), 303(3) and (4)(c), 304(3), 305(1), (2), (4), (5) (twice), (6), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), 307(1), (2) and (3).

Delete the words "Home Board" and substitute "Board of Mission in Ireland". (2000).

Pars 214(1), (3), (4), (5), (7), 215(1), (2)(c), (3), (5), (6)(a)(b), 216, 216(7), 217(1)(a)(i), 217(1)(a)(ii) (twice), 217(1)(b)(iii), 217(1)(b)(iv), 217(2)(b)(i), 217(2)(b)(ii)I, 217(4), 217(6)(a), 217(7)(a), 217(c)(ii), 217(8)(d)(i) (twice), 218(1)(b), 309(1).

Delete the words "Board of Studies" and substitute the words "Board of Studies and Christian Training." (2000).

Par 285

Delete the words "Studies for the Ministry Board" and substitute "Board of Studies and Christian Training." (2000).

Pars 279 and 281

Delete the words "one minister, one elder and one woman (after consultation with the Presbyterian Women's Association) nominated by each Presbytery" and substitute "three persons, including at least one woman, nominated by each Presbytery, and seven representative members of the PWA Executive Committee." (2000).

Par 280

Delete and substitute:

280 Board of Mission in Ireland

(1) This Board shall consist of the Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, the President, one Vice-President and Secretary of the Presbyterian Women's Association, the Irish Mission Superintendent, the Convener and Secretary of the Board of Social Witness, the Conveners of the Education, Studies and Christian Training, Youth and Inter-Church Relations Boards and the Union Commission and the Central Ministry Fund Committee, the Presbyterian Mutual Society Agent, two Young Women's Group representatives, two Youth Board representatives, two deaconess representatives, three persons, including at least one woman, nominated by each Presbytery, together with seven representative members of the PWA Executive Committee, the Convener and Secretaries of the Board, and the Conveners and members of working committees under the supervision of the Board.

- (2) The Board shall, directly or indirectly,
 - (a) supervise the work of the Home Mission, PWA Home Department and Church Extension;
 - (b) call ministers under the Home Mission Development Scheme, elders, deaconesses or lay agents to recognised Church work and allocate to them their sphere of labour; and
 - (c) in association with the Presbytery under whose jurisdiction they are, exercise a general supervision over their life and work in accordance with Mission rules.
- (3) The Board shall, directly or indirectly,
 - (a) take means to secure such financial support from the Church as a whole, as may be requisite from time to time, for the work of Church Extension and other Home Missions entrusted to it by the Assembly;
 - (b) have prepared estimates for the various Home Missions for the appropriate financial year and authorise their submission to the United Appeal Board and/or Finance Committee of the PWA;
 - (c) authorise expenditure of the funds received from congregations and the Presbyterians Women's Association and other monies accruing;
 - (d) make grants to congregations or other Churches and Societies for the encouragement of Church work and missionary purposes in Ireland; and
 - (e) maintain, from funds received, deaconesses and lay agents, defray their expenses and pay their retiring allowances and assist in paying salaries and expenses of ministers in Church Extension and Home Mission charges.
- (4) The Board shall
 - (a) seek to provide for the work of evangelism, including evangelistic missions and literature sponsored by the Church, and with power to make grants to other Churches or Societies for similar work;
 - (b) supervise the work of the Irish Mission in promoting the circulation of the Scriptures, and in evangelism, Christian training and education, including the employment of agents, or other workers;
 - (c) report annually on the state of religion in the Church;
 - (d) provide for the Church's ministry in Divine Healing.
- (5) The Board may call ministers appointed to positions in evangelistic work to be ministers in recognised service to the Church in such full-

time appointments, provided that those who become members of Church courts in virtue of such call and appointment report on their work to the Board as may be required, not less than annually.

(6) The Board shall provide information, arrange conferences and deputations, and seek generally to promote the work entrusted to it by the Assembly. (2000).

Par 281 (2)

Add a new sub-paragraph (h) as follows:

(h) seek to uphold the Christian standards of Marriage and the Family, and provide advice in cases of difficulty involving marriage and divorce. The Business Board is empowered to nominate an additional four women to the membership of any working committee dealing with these matters. (2000).

Par 285 (2)

Add a new sub-paragraph (f) as follows;

(f) develop the training of church members for more effective work and witness. (2000).

Par 305 (8) and (11)

Delete the words “PWA/Home Board” and substitute “PWA/Board of Mission in Ireland.” (2000).

Par 282

Delete (2000).

Par 302 (2)(c) and (4)(a)

Delete the words “Board of Evangelism and Christian Training” and substitute the words “Board of Mission in Ireland.” (2000).

Par 285 (3)

Add new sub-paragraph (3) as follows:

- (3) shall supervise the assignment of persons as assistants during their College studies, and as licentiates
 - (a) operating through a committee for assignments;
 - (b) acting in consultation with the assistants and ministers directly concerned; and
 - (c) bearing in mind the claims of different areas of Church work.

Par 285 (3) re-numbered as Par 285 (4). (2000).

Par 198 (1)

Delete the words “Home Board” and substitute “Board of Studies and Christian Training.” (2000).

Par 218 (2)(a)

Delete the words “Home Board” and substitute the words “Board of Studies and Christian Training.” (2000).

Par 303 (4)(d)

After the word “Board” add “in consultation with the Board of Studies and Christian Training.” (2000).