



MINUTES
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
Presbyterian Church in Ireland

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MINUTES OF SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 13 April, 2010.....	i
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MINUTES
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Held at Belfast, April, 2010

Tuesday, 13th April, 2010

2.00 p.m.

Within Church House

The Right Rev Dr J Stafford Carson, B.Sc., M.A., M.A.R., M.Th., D.D., Moderator of the General Assembly, led in public worship and constituted the Assembly with prayer.

The Clerk of Assembly announced that the names of 609 ministers, being ex officio members, and 482 elders, on whose behalf commissions had been received, had been entered on the Roll of the Assembly together with Assembly Elders, Conveners and nominees of the Business Board. In addition people in the normal categories, not members of the court, had been invited to sit and deliberate.

The following Ministers and Ruling Elders were recorded as present at the Special Meeting of the General Assembly:

1. ARDS PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
H.D. McMorran.....	.....	Trinity, Bangor
D.G. Bailie.....	.....	West Church, Bangor
Dr. G.McK. Eagleson.....	.....	First Donaghadee
Dr. J. Ross.....	.....	High Street, Holywood
Dr. R. Sterritt.....	.....	Greenwell St., N'ards
N.J. Linkens.....	.....	Retired
D. Johnston.....	.....	First Newtownards
W.L. Haslett.....	.....	Ballyblack
Dr. W.P. Addley.....	.....	Theological Professor
W.A. Kennedy.....	.....	Trinity, Bangor
W.T. Corder.....	C. Browne.....	First Bangor
Dr. D.J. Watts.....	+Mrs. E.A. Warden.....	Clerk
Dr. D.R. Purce.....	I. Crawford.....	Groomsport
.....	S. McVea.....	Cloughy
.....	H. Anderson.....	Portaferry
Dr. R.A. Russell.....	D. Patton.....	Ballywalter
.....	+Mrs. J. Mann.....	Theological Professor
R.J. Montgomery.....	Miss P. Hassard.....	Trinity, Bangor
T.W.D. Johnston.....	T.R. Millar.....	Hamilton Rd., Bangor
R.A. Patton.....	A.J.D. Vance.....	Ballygilbert
S.A. Little.....	J. Cole.....	Shore Street, Donaghadee
C.W. Megaw.....	Mrs. E. McGucken.....	Helen's Bay
J. Campbell.....	D. Fallows.....	First Newtownards
N.W. McAuley.....	B. Duff.....	Greenwell St, Newtownards
Helen S. Boyd.....	T. Jenkins.....	Millisle & Ballycopeland
W.J. Carlisle.....	W. Graham.....	Movilla
C.J.C. McMullen.....	J.W. Russell.....	West Church, Bangor
W.G. Cameron.....	D. McKee.....	Glastry
-do-.....	Dr. W.M.C. Stevenson.....	Kirkcubbin
J.M. Wade.....	.....	Portavogie
R. Stirling.....	Mrs. E. Savage.....	Conlig
Averil Stevenson.....	.....	Kirkcubbin
Dr. W.J.A. Sleith.....	J. Crawford.....	Regent St., Newtownards
P.C. Lyle.....	Ms. H. Millar.....	Ballyholme
.....	+B.T. Knox.....	Mission Africa
A.M. Bates.....	J. Doherty.....	Scrabo
.....	J. Black.....	Strean, Newtownards
G. Aitcheson.....	Ms. K. Hinds.....	Kilcooley, Bangor
R.J. Stevenson.....	.....	Carrowdore & Ballyfrenis
G.J. Kennedy.....	J. McCormick.....	Ballygrainey
S.J. Castles.....	R. Carville.....	Lisnabreen
S. Henning.....	Ms. A. Rankin.....	Ballyblack
Dr. M.J. Welsh.....	R. Walker.....	Greyabbey
.....	+G. McCutcheon.....	Hamilton Road, Assoc.
D.M. Spratt.....	.....	First Bangor, Assoc.
.....	T. Ritchie.....	Second Newtownards
.....	A. Dalzell.....	First Donaghadee

2. ARMAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. J. Thompson .....	.....	The Mall, Armagh
T.A. Moore .....	.....	Hill Street, Lurgan
J. Gordon .....	.....	Second Keady
-do-	D. Hopps	Drumhillery
D.R. Byers	W. Porter	Cladymore
-do-	Ms. M. McGuinness	Tassagh
.....	J. Mason	Clare
Dr. J.S. Carson	G. Russell	First Portadown
.....	I. Kyle	First Armagh
Christina U.R. Bradley	I. Conner	Armagh Road, Portadown
R.I.A. Allely	A.D. Ince	Craigavon
-do-	J. Whittle	Vinecash
.....	O. Milligan	Richhill
B. Ann McDonald	L. Hadden	Caledon
-do-	Ms. M. Kirkland	Minterburn
J.W.P. McConnell .....	.....	Waringstown
E.P. Gamble	T.H. Savage	The Mall, Armagh
D.J. Hutchinson	A. Beacom	Moy
-do-	J.N. Pogue	Benburb
N.J. McCullough	K. Belshaw	Hill Street, Lurgan
S.D. Finlay	J. Megaw	Druminnis
-do-	W. Kelly	Redrock
.....	S. Graham	First Lurgan
P.L. McKelvey	J.F. Beggs	Loughgall
-do-	N. Cornett	Tartaraghan
A.J. Dunlop	+W. Ruddel	First Portadown Asst.
I. Thompson	C. Dickson	First Keady
-do-	W.J. Kennedy	Armaghbrague

3. BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J.B. Mooney .....	.....	Grange
Dr. R.E.H. Uprichard	H. Hamill	Trinity, Ahoghill
D.E. Jones .....	.....	Clough
Dr. J.M. Finlay .....	.....	Harryville, Ballymena
Dr. R.I. Birney .....	.....	High Kirk, Ballymena
.....	I. Johnston	Grange with Craigmore
N.A. Brown	R.J. Marshall	Wellington, Ballymena
Dr. T.C. Ballentine .....	.....	Grange
J.J. Andrews	S. Frew	Ballee
W.F. Dickey	F. McFarland	First Broughshane
A.A.P. Baxter	R. Caldwell	First Portglenone
.....	J. McCullough	Cloughwater
A.L. Kirk	R. McCord	First Ahoghill
J.A. Beattie	C. Ross	Second Broughshane
D.J. Kane	B. King	West Church, B'mena
W.B. Boyd	R. Carson	Kells
-do-	J. Todd	Es skylane

Dr. D.A. Murphy	D.A. Kennedy	Cunningham Mem., Cullybackey
K. McConnell	L. Cubitt	Clough
W. Sinclair	J.W. Gregg	First Ballymena
A.W.T. Brown	H. Armstrong	Churchtown
N.A.L. Cameron	J. McClean	High Kirk, Ballymena
S.W. Dickinson .....	.....	Glenarm
-do-	A. Knox	Cairnalbana
.....	W. Smyth	Buckna
R.M. Murray	D. Preston	Connor
.....	G. Cubitt	Rasharkin
W.J.A. Moody	W. Thompson	Brookside, Ahoghill
K.W.J. Hanna .....	.....	Glenwherry
.....	S. Linton	Killymurriss
D.B. McCorriston	W. Matthews	Ballyloughan
.....	+B. Black	High Kirk, B'mena Assoc.
.....	W. Frew	Ballykeel
.....	W.J. Kerr	Third Portglenone

4. NORTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J.W. Neilly .....	.....	Immanuel
J.S. Dallas .....	.....	Whiteabbey
R. Allen .....	.....	Rathcoole
Dr. J. Dunlop .....	.....	Rosemary
R. Harkness .....	.....	Sinclair Seamen's
J.P. Taylor	+G. Crooks	Theological Professor
T.V. Patterson	E. Beck	Immanuel
T.C. Wright	W.W. Lewis	Alexandra
J.N. Seawright	Ms. T. Coffey	Abbey, Monkstown
J.K. Doherty	E.J.B. McMurrin	Woodvale
R.S. Hetherington	+H. Orr	Director of Min Studies
G.F. McKeown	G. Lunn	Rathcoole
J.R. Dickinson	K. McKinney	Carnmoney
T.C. Morrison	J. Elder	Eglinton
D.W. Brice	M. Whittle	Glengormley
A.W. Boyd .....	.....	Ballyhenry
T.N. Hamilton	H. Groves	Ballysillan
I.D. Neish	G. Weatherall	Abbot's Cross
W.A. Abernethy	W. Chambers	Sinclair Seamen's
I.K. McDonald .....	.....	New Mossley
S. Elizabeth Hughes	A. Halligan	Whitehouse
J.S.B. Drennan	F. Ashe	Crumlin Road
Margaret L. Johnston .....	.....	Fortwilliam Park
P.G. McCrea	R. Eakin	Rosemary
.....	Ms. M. Torrens	Fortwilliam & Macrory
R.N. Agnew .....	.....	West Kirk
B. McMillen	W. McCreedy	Ballygomartin
D.H. Thompson	+J. Clarke	BMI Mission Dev. Officer
E.J. Hyndman	A. Gillespie	Seaview

.....	+Mrs. M. Myers.....	Chaplain U.U. J'stown & Belfast
A.V. Stewart.....	E.C. Keers.....	Whiteabbey
N.S.R. Lockhart.....	M. Lutton.....	Ballyhenry
D.J. McIlwaine.....	J. Lynass.....	Newington
.....	E. Crawford.....	Nelson Memorial

5. SOUTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. J.C. McCullough.....	.....	Theological Professor
Dr. K.N.E. Newell.....	.....	Fitzroy Avenue
J.A. Braithwaite.....	.....	Dunmurry
D.J. McKelvey.....	P. Little.....	Fisherwick
Dr. G.A. Grindle.....	.....	Kinghan Church
W.P.H. Erskine.....	Mrs. M. McFarlane.....	Windsor
D.J. Boden.....	Dr. C. Walker.....	Malone
W.J. Orr.....	Dr. J. McQuoid.....	Newtownbreda
Dr. M. Ruth Patterson.....	+Miss J.P. Gamble.....	Restoration Ministries
Dr. I. Hart.....	A. Rodgers.....	Gt. Victoria Street
W.I. Hull.....	.....	Ulsterville
A.R. Bill.....	J. Francey.....	Saintfield Road
J.T. Lamb.....	J. O'Neill.....	Townsend Street
Dr. R.M. Crooks.....	G. Anderson.....	Belvoir
B.R. Hughes.....	+Mrs. A. Stuart.....	Chaplain City Hospital
.....	+A. Luke.....	Chaplain R.V.H.
Dr. W.G. Campbell.....	+Mrs. R. Wilson.....	Theological Professor
R.S. Stockman.....	.....	Fitzroy Avenue
Dr. R.J. Greer.....	V. Garland.....	Richview
T.J. Wilson.....	G. Houston.....	Kilmakee
.....	+D. McCleery.....	Taughmonagh (Ch. Ext.)
J.R. Burnett.....	.....	Lowe Memorial (Finaghy)
J.A. Peacock.....	+Wm. Ferguson.....	Youth Link NI
.....	Mrs. R.E.C. Simpson.....	McCracken Memorial
C.H. Deering.....	M. Gowdy.....	Ballycairn
.....	D. Alexander.....	Dunmurry

6. EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J.M. Maddock.....	.....	Carryduff
R.D. Drysdale.....	.....	Belmont
Dr. J.R. Savage.....	.....	Stormont
.....	A.W. Hamilton.....	Knock
W. McKeown.....	.....	Ravenhill
W.J.R. Robinson.....	.....	McQuiston Memorial
.....	Ms. D. Caldwell.....	Orangefield
G. Moffett.....	.....	Tullycarnet
.....	+A. Shott.....	Theological Professor
J.N.I. McNeely.....	D. Logan.....	First Holywood
P.P. Campbell.....	R. Robinson.....	Belmont

Dr. D. Murphy.....	J. Wilson	First Ballymacarrett
R.D. Maxwell	K. Brown.....	St. Andrew's
.....	+M. Hampton.....	Chaplain Marie Curie
F.P. Sellar	T.C. Reid.....	Bloomfield
W.S. Marrs	+D. Harley	B.M.O. Secretary
J.H. McIntyre.....	T.D. Mahood.....	Cregagh
A.C. Rankin.....	R. Reid	Stormont
M.R. Burnside	A. McCann.....	Castlereagh
N.S. Harrison	H. Mitchell.....	High Street, Holywood
S.P. Moore.....	G. Kerr	Gilnahirk
R.J. Beggs.....	S. Quinn	McQuiston Mem.
J.R. Lambe.....	D.F. Kennedy.....	Mountpottinger
W.M. Brown.....	T. McCullough.....	Granshaw
D. Rankin	W. Cairns	Strand
M. Gibson.....	D. Chapman	Westbourne
P.G. McDowell.....	Miss. L. Wasson	Garnerville
C. Ebbinghaus	J. Campbell	Kirkpatrick Mem.
P.E. Linkens .....	.....	Tullycarnet
R.S.J. McIlhatton.....	T.J.R. Cooper	Christ Church
.....	+I.W. Brown	Knock Assoc.
.....	I. Jess.....	Ravenhill
.....	S. Miskelly.....	Dundonald

7. CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
D. Armstrong.....	.....	Greenisland
W.J. Johnstone.....	.....	Craigy Hill
R. Valley .....	.....	Ballylinney
M.S. Gault	Ms. O. Finlay	Downshire, Carrickfergus
T.J. Stothers.....	B. Smyth	Greenisland
R.J.A. Bell	N. Millar.....	Ballyclare
D. Chapman.....	C. Smith	Second Islandmagee
L.J. Addis	J. McKay.....	Woodlands
T.D. Gribben	+B. Evans.....	Deputy Clerk
.....	R. Weatherup	Loughmorne
.....	J. Hall	Woodburn
T.R. Graham.....	J. Bodles.....	Joymount
Dr. C.D. McClure.....	N. Carmichael	First Larne
G.W.M. Glasgow	D. Ross.....	Gardenmore
Anne E. Tolland	J. Robinson.....	Cairncastle
R.I. Carton	A.G. Graham.....	Whitehead
Dr. C.A. Grant.....	V. Hart	First Carrickfergus
J.W.D. Rogers	A. Crowe.....	Ballynure
J.E. McDowell.....	W. Dunlop.....	Ballylinney
Karen Campbell.....	Ms. J. Coyle	First Islandmagee
T.N. Bingham.....	.....	Magheramorene
-do- .....	.....	Raloo
.....	B. Clenaghan.....	Craigy Hill

8. COLERAINE & LIMAVADY PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. B. Kingsmore .....	.....	Evangelism Promoter
Dr. W.W. Porter .....	.....	Moneydig
Dr. D.H. Allen .....	.....	New Row, Coleraine
V. Whyte .....	.....	Macosquin
J. Clarke.....	.....	Balteagh; Bovevagh
A.McM. Kerr.....	.....	Aghadowey; Crossgar
T.V. Mawhinney .....	.....	Second Limavady; Myroe
S.J. Millar .....	.....	Hazelbank
W.J. Waring .....	.....	Ballyrashane
Dr. D. Clarke	T.J. Moore.....	Terrace Row, Coleraine
W.I. Hunter.....	R. Lyons	Ballywatt
T.S. Lindsay .....	.....	First Garvagh
D.S. Irwin .....	.....	Drumachose; Derramore
J.A. McCaughan	W.S. Jeffers.....	First Dunboe
T.J. McCormick.....	B. Irwin	First Kilrea
-do-	A. Gibson	Boveedy
J.A. Kirkpatrick .....	.....	Portrush
.....	N. Maxwell	First Coleraine
R. Kelly	A. Farlow	Main St., Garvagh
-do-	J. Morrow.....	Killaig
R.S. McMullan	G. McClay.....	New Row, Coleraine
M. Goudy	T. Dunlop.....	Macosquin
.....	J. Donaghy	Largy
T.D. Allen.....	D. Vance	Ballyrashane
Dr. R.A. Kane.....	J.B. Anderson.....	Aghadowey
-do-	R. McIlroy.....	Crossgar
J.A. Noble.....	.....	Balteagh
-do- .....	.....	Bovevagh
Dr. S.D.H. Williamson	Dr. B. Cummings	Ballywillan
J. Coulter	J. Doey	Ballysally & U.U. Chaplain
T.J. Lavery	K. McClure	Portstewart
C.J. Aitcheson	G. Munce	Castlerock
J.G. Jones.....	Mrs. E. McLaughlin.....	Second Limavady
-do-	M. Doyle	Myroe
R.D. Gregg	C. Lynn	Burnside
S.A. McCracken	C. Craig.....	Drumachose
-do-	F.J.R. Gillanders	Derramore
.....	J.A. McAleese.....	Moneydig
C.W.A. Martin.....	W. Millen	Second Dunboe
-do-	Ms. E. Smyth	Ringsend
M.E. Donald	S. McKee	First Garvagh
A. McConnell.....	D.O. Murphy.....	First Limavady
-do-	T.A. McCracken	Magilligan
.....	C. Hutchinson	Second Kilrea

9. DERRY & DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
S.J. Gray	Faughanvale; Gortnessy

J.M. Cathcart .....	.....	Waterside; Fahan
Dr. J. Fell .....	.....	Ebrington; Inch
J. Lamont .....	.....	Carrigart; Dunfanaghy
.....	W. Hoy	Magheramason
G.P. Young .....	.....	Moville
-do- .....	.....	Greenbank
.....	J. Reid	Second Derry (Strand & Buncrana)
.....	J. Buchanan	Burt
S.J. Hanna	R. Taylor	Glendermott
R.L. Craig	C. Kane	Kilfennan
Dr. D. Latimer .....	.....	First Derry & Claremont
-do- .....	.....	Monreagh
Dr. S.R. Jones	W. Smyth	Donemana
B. Brown	N. Witherow	Raphoe & Ballindrait
Dr. T.R. Buick	G. Barr	Carlisle Road
-do- .....	.....	Crossroads
.....	T. Evans	Faughanvale
A.J.A. Rosborough	R. Mitchell	Ballyarnett
-do-	R. Mackey	Knowhead
.....	B. Alexander	Letterkenny
S.J. Richmond	M. McDonald	Donegal
W.H. Higgins	W.J. Pollock	Cumber
-do-	J. McFarland	Upper Cumber
K.A. Jones	B. McIlwaine	Waterside
-do-	J. Lamberton	Fahan
A.C. Wilson	Mrs. D. Nicholl	Ballykelly
Amanda Best	A. Hunter	Ramelton
-do-	N. Rogers	Kilmacrennan
D.M. Shaw	J. Shiels	Strabane
R.A. Mulholland .....	.....	Donagheady
C.M. Wilson	G. Vance	Ballylennon
-do-	I. McCracken	St. Johnston
.....	A. Buchanan	Carnone
.....	P. Fulton	Leckpatrick
.....	Mrs. R. Millar	Ebrington
.....	Mrs. E. Montgomery	Dunfanaghy

10. DOWN PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
R.E. Boggs .....	.....	Downpatrick
R.G. Johnston .....	.....	First Saintfield
Dr. W.J. Patterson .....	.....	Killinchy
W.N. Duncan .....	.....	Missionary
S.R. Conkey .....	.....	Raffrey
T.I. Harte .....	.....	Trinity, Boardmills
D.S. McIlwrath .....	.....	First Killyleagh
T.W. Gordon	R. Horner	First Comber
.....	R. Copes	Second Saintfield
.....	Mrs. I. Cousins	Ardglass
R.McM. Mackay	G. Ball	Second Comber

A.S. Smyth	D. Burnett	Carryduff
B.A. Small	W. Morrow	Raffrey
A.F. Nel	J. McFerran	Killinchy
Mairisine Stanfield	Dr. T. Morrow	First Ballynahinch
Dr. B.C.G. Black	J. Hanna	Ballygowan
R.J. Hyndman	N. Jackson	First Saintfield
D.J. Hyndman	W. Keys	Spa
-do-	L. Broome	Magherahamlet
A.A. Cole	J. Brownlee	Kilmore
R.I. Abraham	S. Clements	Lissara
M.M. Stewart	W. McCall	Clough
-do-	B. Mitchell	Seaforde
S.A. Woodburn	B. Reid	Edengrove
.....	R. McMurray	Second Killyleagh
.....	C. McCormick	First Killyleagh

11. DROMORE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
K. Smyth.....	.....	Drumbo
Dr. H. Cromie.....	.....	Railway Street, Lisburn
W.H. Gray .....	.....	Harmony Hill, Lambeg
Dr. D.M. Scott.....	.....	St. Columba's, Lisburn
Dr. R.J.G. Gray .....	.....	First Lisburn
D. McConaghy .....	.....	Cargyreevy & Loughaghery
Dr. S. Hutchinson.....	.....	Clerk of Assembly
W.J. Keefe	K. Irvine	Sloan Street, Lisburn
Dr. R.S. Tosh.....	+A. Maxwell	B.B.C.
Dr. W.T.J. Richardson.....	.....	Hillhall
R. Lockhart.....	.....	Elmwood
D.C. Porter.....	.....	Second Dromara
.....	Mrs. A. Truesdale	Hillsborough
D.B. Knox	R. McCaughey	Harmony Hill, Lambeg
.....	Dr. C.H.S. Cameron.....	Railway St. Lisburn
J. Brackenridge.....	J. Lynn	First Lisburn
D.J. Bruce.....	+Miss E. McConnell.....	B.M.I. Secretary
A.S. Thompson.....	W. Clinghan	First Dromara
D.H. Gilpin	B. Lyness	Moirá
.....	A. Poots.....	First Dromore
J.G. Trueman	E. Andrews.....	Banbridge Road, Dromore
.....	S. Connery	Drumbo
W.J. Todd	Ms. M. Ferguson.....	St. Columba's, Lisburn
W.J. Henry.....	B.H. Adams.....	Maze
-do-	Sir John Pringle.....	Ballinderry
R.A. Liddle.....	R. McCullagh.....	Legacurry
R.D. Cameron.....	.....	Prison Chaplain
A.J. Thompson	M. Noble	Elmwood
.....	W. Anderson	Magheragall
P. Jamieson.....	J. Connor	Hillhall
L.A. Patterson.....	J. Crawford.....	Cargyreevy
-do-	D. Moore.....	Loughaghery

.....	J.A. Shannon	Drumlough
.....	O. Copes.....	Anahilt
.....	A. Marshall	Second Dromara

12. DUBLIN & MUNSTER PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
A.V. Martin .....	.....	Abbey
R. Cobain.....	.....	Galway & Ballinasloe
.....	A. White.....	St. Andrew's, Blackrock
.....	J. Gregg.....	Bray
Dr. T.W.J. Morrow.....	.....	Lucan
.....	G. Jeffery	Aghada
Katherine P. Meyer .....	.....	Christ Church, Sandymount
C. Mary Hunter	Ms. J. Cowle.....	Christ Church, Rathgar
.....	A. Moore.....	Adelaide Road
D.J. Montgomery.....	A. Foster.....	Greystones
.....	Ms. J. Binnie.....	Corboy

13. IVEAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
W.H. Sanderson.....	.....	Ballydown; Katesbridge
J. Briggs.....	.....	Scarva Street, Banbridge
I.J. Patterson	D. Kernaghan	Newcastle
W.L. Orr .....	.....	Glascar; Donaghmore
W.A. Watson .....	.....	Scarva St., Banbridge
H.S.W. Cubitt	S.I. McRoberts	Second & Third Rathfriland
M.G. McClelland.....	H. Smyth.....	Tandragee
R.A. Moffett	I. Williams	Donacloney
G.E. Best	E. McCleary	Newmills
Patricia A. McBride	G. Grattan.....	Loughbrickland
-do-	J. Patton.....	Scarva
D.S. Mackay	R. Boyd	Magherally
Dr. M.C.A. Gray	L. White	Bannside
W.B. Martin.....	V. Ervine.....	Garvagh
-do-	A. Radcliffe.....	Anaghlonge
P.D. Thompson.....	M. Annett	First Rathfriland
S. Newell	J. Hudson	Tullylish
-do-	W.S. Trimble.....	Gilford
M.N. Davidson	G. Macauley	Drumgooland
-do-	M. Cowan.....	Kilkinamurry
T.P. McCullough	S. Martin	Ballyroney
-do-	E. Truesdale	Drumlee
R. McKibbin.....	F. Little.....	Glascar
-do-	J. Malcomson	Donaghmore
J.L. Rutherford	S. Vage.....	Ballydown
.....	W. Cochrane	Katesbridge

14. MONAGHAN PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J. Mann .....	.....	Ballina; Killala; Ballymote
D. Nesbitt .....	.....	First Ballybay, Second Ballybay, Rockcorry, Drumkeen
Dr. R.B. Savage.....	.....	Kells
-do- .....	.....	Ervey
.....	A. McElwaine	Trinity, Bailieborough
G.A. Mitchell.....	.....	Sligo
-do- .....	.....	Boyle
.....	W. Carleton	Drum
.....	R.A. Sharpe	Cootehill
D. Reyes-Martin	S. Condell	Ballyalbany
-do-	Ms. N. Wallace	Glennan
.....	S.A. Cargill	Middletown
T. Morgan.....	W.J. Vance	Clones
-do-	E. Mackarel	Stonebridge
-do- .....	.....	Ballyhobridge
-do-	S. Crawford	Newbliss
.....	R. Hanna	First Ballybay
.....	C. Mills	Second Ballybay
.....	L. Forster.....	Rockcorry
.....	A. McAdoo	Drumkeen
R.S. Agnew	F. Fleming	First Monaghan
-do-	J. Bole	Smithborough
.....	Mrs. D. Holmes-Greer	First Castleblayney
.....	H. Hill	Frankford
.....	A. McAdam	Corvally

15. NEWRY PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
D.C. Scott .....	.....	Cremore; Tyrone's Ditches
Dr. D.J. McGaughey .....	.....	Mourne
D.J. Temple .....	.....	Warrenpoint
-do-	R. Prescott	Rostrevor
R.J. Mattison .....	.....	Cremore; Poyntzpass; Fourtowns
J. Nixon .....	.....	Fourtowns; Poyntzpass
Dr. M.A. Barry	Mrs. E. Chambers	First Newry
F.J. Gibson.....	.....	First Drumbanagher; J'pass
-do-	R. McCormick	Kingsmills
.....	W. Grills.....	Mourne
B.A.H. Wilson	J. Copeland.....	Second N'hamilton
-do-	C. Feely	Creggan
S.S. Johnston	J. Peacock.....	Kilkeel
R.K. Graham	M. McBride.....	Clarkesbridge & First Newtownhamilton
-do-	G. Smyth	Garmany's Grove
-do-	K. Dickson	McKelvey's Grove

J.K.A. McIntyre.....	.....	Bessbrook
-do- .....	.....	Tyrone's Ditches
B.D. Colvin	R. Copeland	Downshire Rd., Newry
D.B. Murphy	A. Groves	Brookvale
-do-	W. Mitchell	Ryans
D.J. Irvine.....	J. Hamilton.....	First, Second Markethill
N.J.E. Reid	S. Qua.....	Tullyallen
-do-	J. Kernaghan	Mountnorris
.....	R. Haire	Cremore
.....	B. Reaney.....	Poyntzpass
.....	N. Martin.....	Fourtowns

16. OMAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
R.S.K. Neill .....	.....	First Castlederg; Killeter
A. O'Neill.....	.....	Fintona; B'nahatty & Creevan
J.L. Casement .....	.....	Sixmilecross
Dr. J.W. Lockington.....	.....	Clogherney
J.F. Murdoch	D. Marshall	First Omagh
J.T. Williamson	T.S. Henderson	Urney
-do- .....	.....	Sion
N.R. McCormick .....	.....	Ballygawley; Ballyreagh
W.J. Kelly.....	.....	Clogher; Glenhoy
R. Herron	S. Knox	Trinity, Omagh
-do-	W. King.....	Gillygooley
W.D. Cupples	J. Phillips.....	Enniskillen
.....	Ms. A.E. Gordon.....	Badoney; Corrick
.....	T. Laird	Irvinestown
.....	H. Hamilton	Pettigo
.....	Mrs. C. Trimble	Tempo
I. McClean .....	.....	Ballygawley; Ballyreagh
J.H. Hanson	J. Virtue.....	Dromore
-do- .....	.....	Drumquin
H.J. Honeyford	A. Fletcher	Second Castlederg
-do- .....	.....	Alt
J.A. Gordon	W. Liggett	Fintona
-do- .....	.....	Ballynahatty & Creevan
D.W. Reid.....	M. Smyth	Ardstraw
-do-	R. Kee	Douglas
R.A. Campbell.....	A. Beatty	Clogher
-do-	R. Mulligan	Glenhoy
.....	Dr. C. McKibbin.....	Cavanaaleck
.....	J. Hogg	Aughtentaine
K. Nelson.....	.....	Mountjoy
-do- .....	.....	Drumlegagh
R.G. McElnea.....	D. Dunbar.....	Newtownstewart
-do- .....	.....	Gortin
R.N. Orr.....	M. Porter	First Castlederg
-do-	J.S. Young.....	Killeter
.....	A. Murphy.....	Lisbellaw

.....	Ms. I. Anderson	N't'nbutler
.....	G.W. Gibson	Sixmilecross
.....	N. Morrison.....	Seskinore
.....	R. Giboney	Edenderry
.....	D. Loane.....	Aughnacloy
.....	P. Coote.....	Ballygawley
.....	T. McDaniel.....	Ballyreagh
.....	T. Reid	Clogherney

17. ROUTE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. A.W.G. Brown .....	.....	Ballycastle
J.T. Magowan.....	D. Smyth	St. James's, Ballymoney
Dr. J.A. Thompson	J. Surgenor	Dervock
D.I.J. McNie	W.V. McLean	Trinity, Ballymoney
N. McClean	R. Patterson.....	First Kilraughts
D. Bannerman.....	J. Kane	Toberkeigh
.....	B. Blair.....	Drumreagh
.....	R. Humphrey.....	Dromore
S.T. Carson	C.H. Dobbin.....	Dunluce
K.D.W. Crowe.....	J.J. Wasson.....	Bushvale
N.E. Dorrans.....	C. Redmond	Ballycastle
-do-	H.A. McGugan.....	Croaghmore
R.J. Gilkinson.....	W. Campbell	Garryduff
-do- .....	.....	Dunloy
R.W. Gaston	Dr. R.E. Henderson.....	Finvoy
W.S. Smart	J. Michael.....	First Ballymoney
K. Henderson.....	R. McKane	Ballyweaney
Dr. M. Jones .....	.....	Roseyards
Dr. P.B. Wilson	R. Freeman.....	Bushmills
P. Turton.....	J. Cusick.....	Armoy
-do-	R. Getty	Ramoan
.....	M. Adams.....	Mosside
.....	J.D. McAlister.....	Toberdoney

18. TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
W.D. Weir .....	.....	Killead; Loanends
Dr. J.H. MacConnell .....	.....	First Ballyeaston
Dr. W.D. Patton.....	I.J. Campbell.....	Randalstown O.C.
B. Kennaway .....	.....	Crumlin
T.H. Wilson .....	.....	Templepatrick
G. Moore	L. Grant.....	Kilbride
.....	J. Creighton.....	High Street, Antrim
.....	+J. McClurg	Theological Professor
R.L. Brown.....	F. Hand.....	Second Randalstown
J.L. Tosh.....	T.J. Gawn	Second Donegore
P.T. Dalzell.....	R. Hendren	Hydepark
-do-	J. Smyth	Lylehill

J. Holmes	T. McFadden	First Randalstown
-do-	R. Arrell	Duneane
W.J. Murdock	W. Hyde	Killead
-do-	W. Coulter	Loanends
.....	G. Moore	Muckamore
S. Simpson	J. McCullagh	First Donegore
J.P. Moxen	J. Francey	Greystone Road, Antrim
.....	S. Waugh	First Ballyeaston
W.J.M. Parker	Mrs. N. McKnight	First Antrim
R.C. Kerr	H. McGregor	Templepatrick
C.M. Glover .....	.....	Second Ballyeaston
D.J. Steele	I. Calvert	Dundrod
C.W.A. Jones .....	.....	Muckamore, Assistant
.....	T.J. Livingstone	Crumlin

19. TYRONE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. A.R. Rodgers .....	.....	Dungannon
W.T. Coburn .....	.....	Molesworth, Cookstown
D.S. Graham .....	.....	First Magherafelt
I.F. Smith .....	.....	Orritor & Claggan
H. Ross .....	.....	Newmills; Carland
.....	W.R.S. Agnew	First Cookstown
J.W. Fleck	K. Sharkey	Upper Clonaneese
-do-	R. Cuddy	Lower Clonaneese
A.S. Thompson	N. McMullan	Dungannon
T.J. Conway	D. Clarke	Culnady
-do-	I.S. Bolton	Swatragh
J.H. Flaherty	*O. Gibson	Tobermore
-do-	J. Kenning	Draperstown
T.W.A. Greer	M. Stewart	Molesworth, Cookstown
Dr. K.O. Patterson	T. Ewart	Castledawson
-do-	G. Orr	Curran
J.J. Currie	T. Patterson	Union Road, M'felt
-do-	G. Johnston	Lecumpher
J.A. Curry	H. Duncan	First Magherafelt
S.J.M. Lindsay	A. Moore	Pomeroy
-do-	M. Davidson	Sandholes
D.H. Brown	R.D. Wells	Castlecaulfield
-do-	W.J. Long	Eglis
W.G. Hamilton	S. Black	Orritor
-do-	E. Davidson	Claggan
J.E. Sloan	H. Ferson	Bellaghy
-do- .....	.....	Knockloughrim
G.W.D. Stewart	W.J. Sufferin	Maghera
D.S. Brownlow	R. Wilkins	Newmills
-do-	R. McLean	Carland
J.D. Montgomery	E. McKee	First Moneymore
-do-	J. Atkinson	Second Moneymore
J.M. Gracey	H.H. Bownes	Coagh
-do- .....	.....	Ballygoney

-do-	M. Hyndman	Salterland
.....	R. Kee	Brigh
.....	Ms. C. Maneely.....	Albany

ELDERS IN SPECIAL WORK — CODE PAR 97(g)

J.R.W. Luke

TRUSTEES — CODE PAR 97(h)(iv)

D. Bell	W. Ervin	Sir Eric McDowell
J.O. Greer	G.W. Cosgrove	W.C. Henderson
L. Cubitt	J. Millar	W.H. Scott
	J. Suitters	

CLERKS OF PRESBYTERY — PAR 97(h)(iii)

D. Cowan

ELDERS OF ASSEMBLY CODE — PAR 97(i), 107 (a)

Mrs. C. Barkley

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY — PAR 127(2)(a)

A.J. Spence	R. Tweed	Mrs. I. Younge
	D. Poynton	

CONVENERS & SECRETARIES WHO ARE ELDERS — CODE PAR 97(h)(i)(ii)

J.H. Martin	D. Crowe	A.J. Rankin
Mrs. L. Wray	N. Eves	J. Hunter

**Notice
Convening
Special
Assembly**

The **NOTICE CONVENING THE ASSEMBLY**, which had been circulated to members in advance, was submitted by the Clerk as follows:

NOTICE CONVENING THE ASSEMBLY

“I, John Stafford Carson, B.Sc., M.A., M.A.R., M.Th., D.D., Moderator, hereby convene a special meeting of the General Assembly, to be held in Church House, Belfast, at 2 p.m., on Tuesday, 13 April, 2010. The Business of the meeting will be to consider the present situation for savers in the Presbyterian Mutual Society and to respond to a recent initiative of the Northern Ireland Executive.”

At Church House, Belfast
29 March, 2010

J. Stafford Carson
Moderator of the General Assembly

**Moderator’s
Advisory
Committee**

The Report of the **MODERATOR’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE**, which had been circulated to members in advance, was submitted by the Clerk as follows:

MODERATOR’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Moderator’s Advisory Committee met on Monday, 29 March, 2010 to consider a recommendation from the Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Stafford Carson, that a special meeting of the General Assembly be called to consider the present situation for savers in the Presbyterian Mutual Society and to respond to a recent initiative of the Northern Ireland Executive. The Committee agreed that a special Assembly be convened.

Resolutions

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the action of the Moderator in convening the General Assembly be sustained.

**BUSINESS
BOARD**

The Report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** was tabled by the Clerk, as follows:

The Business Board held a special meeting on Monday, 12 April 2010 to confirm the business of the special meeting of the General Assembly. The Arrangements Convener, Rev. Gordon Best, outlined the plans which had been made for access and confirmed that tellers and stewards have been contacted. Representatives of the St. John’s Ambulance and other first-aiders would be in place.

It was agreed that the Order of Business would be as circulated. The Trustees were appointed Business Board members of Assembly (Code Par 97 (j)). Invitations to sit and deliberate were issued to Sir George Quigley, Mr. Frank Cushnahan, Mr. Keith Jess, Mr. Billy Marshall and members of the Panel on the Financial Crisis who are not otherwise members.

The Business Board acknowledges the detailed work of many people in organising this Assembly at such short notice and are grateful to all the staff in Church House who co-operated so fully and especially those in the General

Secretary's Office — Mrs. Joyce Anderson, Mrs. Jenny McClure, Mrs. Michelle James and Miss Alicia Cotter.

Moved by the Rev. Dr. D.J. Watts, seconded by the Rev. G.E. Best and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the recommended Order of Business be adopted.
3. That the Clerk be given authority to attest the Minutes.

At the request of the Moderator, the Very Rev. Dr. J.M. Finlay took the Chair.

The Report of the **PANEL ON THE FINANCIAL CRISIS** which had been circulated to members in advance, along with a tabled **Supplementary Report**, were submitted by the Clerk as follows: **Financial Crisis**

PANEL ON THE FINANCIAL CRISIS REPORT

The Clerk reports:

The General Board Panel, appointed to consider issues arising from the financial crisis including the administration of the Presbyterian Mutual Society, met on seven occasions since the last General Assembly and reported twice to the General Board. The membership of the Panel is: Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Very Revs. Dr. John Dixon, Dr. Donald Patton; Revs. Bob Allely, Roy Valley; Alan Bridle, John Hunter, Clive Knox, Stephen Lynas, Hubert Martin, John Millar, Derek Wells and Avril McCammon.

The main role of the Panel is to advise those who are representing the General Assembly's concern for the plight of innocent savers who have found themselves with no access to their funds for the past eighteen months. Their situation is unprecedented in the United Kingdom and Ireland throughout this financial crisis and is in sharp contrast to the British Prime Minister's claim that "throughout this whole crisis everyone that has been saving in a UK institution has been protected". The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly continue to meet with savers and are acutely aware of the frustration and fears of many. The need to succeed in finding some resolution to the problem is ever more urgent.

At the time of the last Assembly the Prime Minister had announced his intention to meet with the First Minister and deputy First Minister — a development which was warmly welcomed. The Moderator led a deputation to meet with the First Minister on 16 June, 2009 to ensure that he understood the Church's commitment to finding a solution. The deputy First Minister was also represented at that meeting.

A similar deputation, led by the Very Rev. Dr. Donald Patton, met with the Secretary of State on 20 July, 2009. By then the Prime Minister's Working Group had been announced and the deputation asked for clarification on its timescale and terms of reference. While the Prime Minister had accepted some "moral" responsibility to find a solution it was clear from the discussion that significant legal questions had to be resolved. The Secretary of State did indicate that the Working Group would welcome a submission from the Presbyterian Church.

Some months earlier, the Very Rev. Dr. John Dunlop had brought together a small group of very committed people who had experience of working in or with the banking sector. They have immense knowledge and expertise, which they have been very willing to share with the General Board's Panel. Sir George Quigley, Mr. Frank Cushnahan C.B.E. and Mr. Ross Reed O.B.E. became known as the Panel's advisers. The General Assembly should be grateful for the endless amount of time and energy they have expended in trying to find a solution. While always independent of the Panel, their input was of enormous value, especially in formulating and following up a submission to the Prime Minister's Working Group. This lengthy and detailed submission was sent on 17 August, 2009 and has formed the basis of the Panel's argument ever since. One section summarises well the position as it was perceived at that time:

The announcement that the Prime Minister was willing to meet the First and Deputy First Minister on 17th June was warmly welcomed, as was the Secretary of State's statement in the House of Commons that he appreciated the gravity of the situation. He maintained his position that, under the law, those people who put money into the PMS did so not as savers, but as investors, and that the regulation of this body in Northern Ireland is the responsibility of devolved government in Northern Ireland, not of Whitehall. He went on, however, to indicate that he did not intend to say simply that because the matter is the responsibility of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment, he had no interest in seeing what he might be able to do to help and he was "prepared to break the bureaucracy" and work with others to help the investors.

Whether those who placed their money in the Presbyterian Mutual Society were investors with dividends or savers with interest is a matter to which we will return later in this submission.

It was important to get the date for the meeting between the Prime Minister and the First and Deputy First Minister, prior to the Presbyterian Church's General Assembly debate about the Presbyterian Mutual Society on 2nd June 2009. The members of the General Assembly and the people who have their savings in the Society were given some hope that there might be a resolution to their difficulties. We are now in a holding situation, which is marked by hope that, come September, there may be some good news.

Members were encouraged when the Prime Minister, speaking from Chile, re-assured savers with the Dunfermline Building Society: "The savers will be protected. It is important to recognise that throughout this whole crisis everyone that has been saving in a UK institution has been protected, whenever there has been a difficulty in that institution"

We believe that the fair and appropriate solution to the plight of those who put their money into the Presbyterian Mutual Society is for it to be subsumed into a much larger financial institution, with support from Government. Such an institution would be equipped to manage the portfolio and, over time, to divest the assets at maximum value when market conditions improve. This proposal is further developed in part 3 of this submission.

It is our submission that innocent savers in the Presbyterian Mutual Society, caught up in an international whirlwind, are not to be the only people in the UK to be abandoned.

Following detailed legal and moral argument for the government's responsibility to find a way forward, the submission then proposed a solution which is sometimes referred to as the "commercial" option:

PROPOSED SOLUTION

1. *The thrust of the proposed solution is to subsume the PMS operation, assets and liabilities, into a substantial financial institution so that PMS savers then enjoy exactly the same protection as any other depositor within that institution.*

2. *The question is whether this can be done on terms which are commercially attractive to the receiving institution and whether the transaction would require any support from Government.*

3. *Our advisers, viewing the matter from a banking perspective, have devised a business model which indicates that a commercially attractive proposal can be developed and that the relatively modest outlay likely to be required from Government should be ultimately recoverable.*

The submission concluded:

We hope that this submission will be found helpful by the Working Group and we will be happy to discuss it with the Group if it would find this to be useful. The problem created by the run on the PMS and the resultant need to enter Administration have been a cause of acute worry and anxiety to a close knit community. This is a traumatic time for everyone throughout the UK and there is agreement amongst all political parties that further tough times lie ahead. But throughout the UK, apart from savers in the PMS, people have been spared the additional worry of being denied access to their life savings at such a critical time, with the prospect of ultimate recovery at a significantly reduced value. This is troubling for the many in the evening of their lives, who are least able to cope with a disaster of this kind, but it is also a great concern for people at any time in their lives, not least for those bringing up families.

The Church therefore calls on the Government to bring those who in all good faith put their money into the PMS into the same position as UK savers generally, of whom, as a result of Government's very proactive response to the financial crisis, it has been possible to say, in words cited earlier, that "throughout this whole crisis, everyone that has been saving in a UK institution has been protected, whenever there has been a difficulty in that institution".

It is with a great sense of frustration that the Panel, and still more so the savers, still wait for some response from the Prime Minister's Working Group. During the intervening months representatives of the Church met with local Ministers and politicians, including with the First and deputy First Ministers to emphasise the importance of the Prime Minister and Treasury being involved in finding a solution. The First Minister and deputy First Minister were very supportive and assured the representatives that they were constantly lobbying the Prime Minister as well as Treasury Ministers and the Secretary of State. The Clerk of the General Assembly wrote a number of letters, including to the Secretary of State, urging real engagement by the government. The Moderator wrote to both the Prime Minister and the Treasury to emphasise the urgency of the case. It is the fact, however, that a Working Group supposed to report to the Prime Minister last September has to the best of our knowledge still not done so.

In January the Treasury Select Committee came to Belfast to take evidence. While not invited as a witness, a delegation from the Church met with the Chairman, Rt. Hon. John McFall, M.P. Its main submission was summarised as follows:

1. *The case for the PMS savers is very simple. They are the only savers in a distressed financial institution in the UK who, during the worst post World War II recession, have been denied access to their savings for nearly 15 months. It has been the Government's proud boast that "throughout this whole crisis, everyone that has been saving in a UK institution has been protected whenever there has been a difficulty in that institution". That has been so regardless of the culpability attaching to the institution for its failure.*

2. *If the other distressed institutions which the Government has bailed out, with their millions of savers, had been dealt with as the PMS has been, the country would simply have been ungovernable and the economy would have collapsed. It is a monstrous injustice that a small group of savers (some 10,000) in this part of the UK should be treated differently from the great mass of their peers.*

3. *For six months the Government took no interest in the matter. Under pressure, it conceded in June that a Working Group should be set up, to report to the Prime Minister in September. Seven months on, it has still not reported. The tardiness of the process is wholly unacceptable. PMS savers have displayed remarkable patience.*

4. *The delay also creates difficulties for the Administrator, who has recently made application to the courts for advice on various matters, including the basis on which he should make the initial distribution which he now proposes. This brings to the fore the issue of the status of loans and shares. Throughout the existence of the PMS, members' loan capital and share capital were treated equally, with no priority between them when the Society made distributions. A (presumably unintended) consequence of Administration under insolvency law was to introduce a hitherto unknown and artificial distinction between them. Any interim distribution or, still worse, any ultimate resolution of the PMS's difficulties which reversed the founding principle of mutuality and discriminated against the smaller savers would not only be a grossly unfair but also a hugely divisive outcome for Presbyterian congregations. The Church has made clear throughout to the Government the need for urgent resolution in order to pre-empt these problems. The Government has shown itself heedless of this issue.*

5. *The only solution which can produce (at least cost to Government) the same outcome as was achieved for other savers in the UK (and, indeed, the Republic of Ireland), is for the assets and liabilities of the PMS to be absorbed by a substantial existing financial institution. The Church made a proposal to this effect to the Working Group early in August.*

6. *The Government was extremely dilatory in adopting the proposal and then in pursuing it, bearing in mind the remarkable expedition with which it rescued the UK's biggest financial institutions. We would have expected Ministers to call in the Heads of appropriate financial institutions, to indicate to them their unequivocal desire to put PMS savers into the same position as their peers elsewhere in the UK, and to seek a partnership with one or more of the*

institutions for that purpose. Instead, the Working Group has instituted a process with the financial sector which has dragged on for months in a manner wholly out of keeping with the urgency of the situation. We have drawn our acute concerns about this to the attention of the Secretary of State in a letter just before Christmas. Anything the Committee can do to induce the Government to conclude with the utmost urgency an arrangement with a financial institution which achieves the outcome set out at 5. above would be greatly appreciated.

During February there were two developments which the Panel found disappointing. One was the judgement of Mr. Justice Deeny in the High Court that shareholder members of the Presbyterian Mutual Society are not creditors and therefore not entitled to receive interim payments from the administrator. While not questioning the legal judgement, this clearly indicates that in administration mutuality is not possible.

The other disappointment was a meeting at the Treasury, where the Moderator, accompanied by Sir George Quigley and Mr. Frank Cushnahan C.B.E., met with Dr. Ian Pearson M.P., Economic Secretary to the Treasury. The Church representatives were dismayed at what they perceived as a lack of urgency in finding a solution. They were surprised to be told that the Northern Ireland Executive were taking the lead, especially as when the Prime Minister's Working Group was set up it was understood to be chaired by the Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

On 8 March 2010, the Moderator and Clerk were invited to a meeting by the Minister for Finance and Personnel, Mr. Sammy Wilson, M.P., M.L.A. The First Minister, The Right Hon. Peter Robinson, M.P., M.L.A., and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment, Mrs. Arlene Foster M.L.A., were also present. At the meeting it was made clear that in the opinion of the Northern Ireland Ministers 'Plan A', i.e. the "commercial option" supported in the Church's submission, is unlikely to happen. This is despite the fact that the Northern Ireland Ministers and some senior Westminster Ministers have expressed the view that this approach is the best way forward and the only way to ensure that all savers have their savings returned.

The Executive Ministers outlined a 'Plan B' but indicated that it would need Treasury approval, as well as a contribution from the Presbyterian Church. The position that 'Plan A' is unlikely to be successful was publicly indicated in a statement from the First Minister and deputy First Minister on 29 March, 2010.

Mr. Robinson said:

"Decisions taken recently in the high court mean that small savers in the PMS cannot be treated as creditors and will therefore not benefit from the early distribution of monies. In light of this judgement, we are keen to bring forward an alternative solution as quickly as possible.

"The acquisition of the PMS by a financial institution had been our preferred option. We now however feel that this option has been fully exhausted given the absence of firm proposals from any financial institution after several months of investigation. We are therefore increasingly anxious to explore other options.

"The deputy First Minister and I have formulated alternative proposals and submitted them to the Prime Minister and the Treasury. These proposals will form the basis of our meeting."

Mr. McGuinness said:

“We are acutely aware that the circumstances surrounding the PMS have led to difficulty and hardship for a significant number of local people. We have mentioned in the past that remedies to the PMS situation are complex, but this is cold comfort to those dealing with the daily anxiety about their savings.

“Our proposals to resolve the problems of PMS will call for more direct intervention from government to provide conditions that will satisfy the demands of creditors of PMS and respond with practical help to deal with hardship experienced by small savers.

“We are determined to move forward quickly and with more clarity to avoid any further delays.”

At the time of writing the meeting with the Prime Minister does not seem to have taken place.

Following the meeting with the Executive Ministers, the Moderator and Clerk reported back to the General Board Panel. In the light of that discussion the Clerk of Assembly wrote to the First Minister indicating some questions which would need clarification before the Church could respond. He also indicated that for the Church to make any contribution to the “Hardship” Fund may need a special meeting of the General Assembly and gave the time-scale for calling such a meeting. With verbal feedback that the Executive Ministers’ meeting with the Prime Minister would go ahead, the Moderator, on the advice of the Moderator’s Advisory Committee, called a special meeting of the General Assembly.

The key questions raised in the Clerk’s letter were:

- (i) *The status of ‘Plan A’, i.e. the “commercial option”, and whether or not it is still being pursued by the Prime Minister’s Working Group.*
- (ii) *A full, written description of ‘Plan B’, especially identifying the roles and responsibilities of the various parties.*
- (iii) *A clear indication as to whether ‘Plan B’ is conditional on a contribution from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.*
- (iv) *The terms of the “Hardship” Fund and particularly their charitable status.*

Unfortunately at the time of writing these clarifications have not been received and while it is still hoped that some clarity will be available by the time of the Assembly, it will have to be reported with appropriate resolutions in a Supplementary Report on the day.

The Panel is deeply concerned for those savers who as time goes by are finding it increasingly difficult to meet their financial commitments. It recognises that there are others caught in the financial crisis for different reasons. The Panel representatives and its advisers are committed to working for a resolution, recognising the very difficult situation in which many savers now find themselves.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Since the circulated report was written a reply has been received from the First Minister and deputy First Minister clarifying some of the issues raised (see Appendices):

- (i) While agreeing *“that the best option would be for a bank to become involved and take over the PMS responsibilities,”* the Ministers express the view that *“as the weeks and months have passed, this looks to be becoming increasingly unlikely. In the absence of a clear and firm proposal from the banking sector, we have turned our attention to alternative options which now look to have greater chance of implementation. In our recent discussions we have outlined such a proposal to you and we intend to discuss this with the Prime Minister as soon as possible. It is our judgement that a commercial bank solution is increasingly less likely and we must turn our attention fully towards alternatives.”*
- (ii) *“Only after the Ministerial Working Group has considered this, (i.e. the proposal) will we be in a position to share a full written description of Plan B with you to outline the proposed roles and responsibilities of the various parties.”*
- (iii) *“As regards funding (of the “Hardship” element); in addition to a contribution from government, it was anticipated that a sum of at least £1 million would be forthcoming from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.”*
- (iv) The principle underlying the Hardship Scheme *“would be to finance a fund to provide financial relief to PMS members facing demonstrable personal hardship as a result of their savings being inaccessible during the period of PMS administration. This will be targeted mainly at those members with less than £20,000 in savings although exceptional circumstances will be considered for all PMS members. Consequently we are confident that the terms of the Fund would meet the test of use of funds for charitable purposes.”*

At the invitation of the Secretary of State the Moderator, accompanied by the Clerk of Assembly and Convener of Finance and Personnel, Mr. John Hunter CB., met with the Secretary of State on Monday, 12 April, 2010. He emphasised the continuing commitment of the Prime Minister to finding a solution, which the Prime Minister considers his moral duty. It was stated by the Secretary of State that the commercial solution is still the preferred option, but is dependent on an initiative from a financial institution, which may reflect an upturn in the economy. It was stressed that government is convinced that those who have shares in the PMS are investors who received dividends and not savers who received interest. The government maintains that there is a legal differentiation between savers and investors and this is the issue which prevents a simpler solution. The Panel has argued throughout that those who placed money in the PMS and received shares, which did not change in value, were savers in a thrift institution which paid interest on their savings. The later distinction between shareholders and creditors was introduced by insolvency law when the Society was put into administration.

The Secretary of State also assured the representatives that Northern Ireland Executive Ministers, especially the First and deputy First Minister, are actively and energetically seeking a way forward and any proposal which they bring will be considered sympathetically by Westminster.

APPENDIX A

Letter from the Clerk of Assembly following the March General Board
12 March, 2010

Dear First Minister,

Yesterday morning the Moderator chaired the regular meeting of the General Board of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. As on previous occasions, the General Board received a verbal report on the situation facing savers in the Presbyterian Mutual Society. Given the confidential nature of our recent discussions with you and your Ministerial colleagues, we did not divulge details of your Plan B. Instead, the discussion led to the following resolution, which was passed by the General Board.

That the General Board encourages the Moderator to write to the Prime Minister expressing deep concern that there has still not been any reply to the Church's submission to the Working Group in July and emphasising that the commercial option is the only way to ensure a complete return of savings to all savers.

The Moderator has written to the Prime Minister to advise him of this resolution, which reinforces the importance consistently attached by the Church to the full settlement of all savers' claims, whether "shareholders" or "creditors". This remains the goal of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. It is consistent with the Prime Minister's assertion that "everyone who has been saving in a UK institution has been protected".

Only if the commercial option is not possible would the Church be willing to give formal consideration to any alternative Plan B, such as described verbally by you and your colleagues at our meeting on Monday, 8 March. This formal consideration would require a full, written description of Plan B especially identifying the roles and responsibilities of the various parties, including an unambiguous statement of any conditionality attaching to the proposed final contribution from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland — at the meeting you had indicated that Plan B would not proceed without a "measurable" contribution from the Church to the proposed "Hardship Fund". It is understood that this will be a fund of some £50 m plus to be used to alleviate distress amongst "shareholders", on top of a loan of £175 m to meet the needs of "creditors". It is also understood that if, when all "shareholders" have been paid back in full, there is a surplus in the "Hardship Fund" it would be distributed first of all to the Church.

The description of Plan B would cover the issues in my e-mail of 9 March, 2010, i.e.

- (a) The Terms of the Hardship Fund, to be certain that charitable funds may be used;
- (b) Some indication of the amount that would be expected from the Church;
- (c) A formula agreed by lawyers to provide indemnity for the Church against any claim that to provide finance is to accept a degree of liability.

On receipt of this information I would then be in a position to convene an emergency meeting of the General Board, or of the General Assembly, to decide the Church's response. Which one has the authority to proceed will depend on

the nature and level of the Church's contribution and the terms of the Hardship Fund. For your information, to call a Special General Assembly will take a minimum of two weeks — under the constitution of PCI ten clear days notice of such a meeting needs to be given. However I am sure you will understand that a decision of the magnitude involved cannot be taken without the formal authority of the democratic decision making processes of the Church.

Yours sincerely,
Donald J. Watts

APPENDIX B

Reply from the First Minister and deputy First Minister



Stormont Castle
BELFAST
BT4 3TT

TEL: 028 9037 8158
FAX: 028 9037 8040
e-mail: ps.ministers@ofmdfmi.gov.uk

Rev Dr Donald J Watts
Clerk of the General Assembly and General Secretary
Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Church House
Belfast
BT1 6DW

Our Ref:COR 171/2010

8 April 2010

Dear 

Thank you for your letter of 12 March regarding the Presbyterian Mutual Society.

As you already know, we are very aware of the anxiety and distress caused to members of the Presbyterian Mutual Society by the prevailing uncertainties around their savings. We recognise the pressing need to secure a solution and have devoted significant personal time and effort over recent months to work towards achieving a satisfactory outcome for everyone who has invested with the Society

We note your preferred position for a bank takeover of the PMS. We agree that the best option would be for a bank to become involved and to take over the PMS responsibilities. However, as the weeks and months have passed, this looks to be becoming increasingly unlikely. In the absence of a clear and firm proposal from the banking sector, we have turned our attention to alternative options which now look to have greater chance of implementation. In our recent discussions we have outlined such a proposal to you and we intend to discuss this with the Prime Minister as soon as possible. It is our judgement that a commercial bank solution is increasingly less likely and we must turn our attention fully towards alternatives.

With regard to the Hardship Scheme, the principle would be to finance a fund to provide financial relief to PMS members facing demonstrable personal hardship as a result of their savings being inaccessible during the period of PMS administration. This will be targeted mainly at those members with less than £20,000 in savings although exceptional circumstances will be considered for all PMS members. Consequently we are confident that the terms of the Fund would meet the test of use of funds for charitable purposes. As regards funding, in addition to a contribution from government, it was anticipated that a sum of at least £1 million would be forthcoming from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. We anticipate that contributors to the fund would make their donations to hardship cases, as they are validated, on a pro-rata basis to meet the settlement of agreed cases. If in the end of the run down process, the Administrator's

plan generates residual funds these would revert to contributors to the fund. With regard to the liability accruing to donators to the Fund – Government would seek the same re-assurance that you have indicated the Church requires.

We recognise that a decision on the nature and level of the Presbyterian Church's contribution to the "Plan B" option involves the democratic decision making process of the Church.

However, only after the Ministerial Working Group has considered this, will we be in a position to share a full written description of Plan B with you to outline the proposed roles and responsibilities of the various parties.

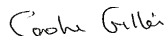
Nevertheless, we hope in this response that we not only have been able to give an indication where the solution to the PMS crisis now appears to be heading but also that we have been able to give some reassurance and comfort to you concerning the charitable nature of the Hardship Fund which is envisaged in "Plan B" and the size of the financial contribution we had anticipated from the Church.

We also hope that this response will allow you to convene an emergency meeting of the General board or General Assembly to decide the Church's response to "Plan B".

Yours sincerely



THE RT HON PETER D ROBINSON MP MLA
First Minister



MARTIN McGUINNESS MP MLA
deputy First Minister

APPROVED BY THE MINISTERS
AND SIGNED IN THEIR ABSENCE



Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rt Rev Dr JS Carson and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly call on all congregations and members to continue in prayer and to offer practical support where possible for everyone who has been affected by financial hardship, including those caught up in the situation of the PMS.
3. That the General Assembly are acutely aware of the continuing distress of many savers who have been unable to access their savings in PMS.
4. That the General Assembly welcome the commitment of the Prime Minister to seeking a resolution of the PMS crisis and his acknowledgement of a moral obligation to do so.
5. That the General Assembly regret the delay and reaffirm the importance of seeking urgently a solution which will, if at all possible, give a full settlement to all claims, whether from “shareholders” or “creditors” and welcome the assurance that the “commercial” solution is still an option.
6. That the General Assembly commend the efforts of the Northern Ireland Executive, led by the First Minister and deputy First Minister, and encourage all politicians to work vigorously for a successful solution.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rt Rev Dr JS Carson:

7. That in the event of the government failing to secure a “commercial” solution and the Northern Ireland Executive bringing forward a final and comprehensive proposal which includes a “Hardship” Fund element, the General Assembly agree in principle to contribute not less than £1m, while affirming their view that the members of the PMS are thrifty savers and not risk taking investors.

Moved as an amendment by the Very Rev Dr John Dunlop, seconded by the Rev Dr Roger Purce and agreed, that the phrase “not less than” be deleted.

On being put to the House, the substantive motion was declared passed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rt Rev Dr JS Carson and agreed:

8. That the General Assembly instruct the Panel on the Financial Crisis to consider ways in which the necessary finance may be raised for the above contribution and to report to the June Assembly.

The House expressed its warm and heartfelt thanks to the Rt Rev Dr Stafford Carson for all his work on behalf of PMS savers during his Moderatorial year.

CLOSE OF ASSEMBLY

Close of Assembly The Moderator, the Right Rev Dr JS Carson, resumed the Chair and conducted a closing act of worship.

Thereafter he declared the Special Assembly to be dissolved and pronounced the Benediction.

The sederunt came to a close at 3.43pm

Attested by
DONALD J WATTS
Clerk of Assembly

MINUTES
OF THE
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
Presbyterian Church in Ireland
Held at Belfast, June, 2010

FIRST SESSION

Monday, 7th June, 2010

7.00 p.m.

Within Church House

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

The Memorial Roll of Ministers deceased was submitted by the Rev Dr WTJ Richardson MBE, and the Assembly paid their customary tribute.

The Clerk announced that the names of 615 ministers being ex officio members and 484 elders on whose behalf commissions had been received, had been entered on the Roll of the Assembly, together with 60 Assembly Elders, Conveners and nominees of the Business Board. In addition 203 people in various categories, not members of the court, have been invited to sit and deliberate. There are also 15 Corresponding Members and Delegates from other Churches.

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

BELFAST ASSEMBLY

1. ARDS PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J.McC. Auld .....	.....	R.E. Teacher
D.G. Bailie .....	.....	West Church, Bangor
Dr. J. Ross .....	.....	High Street, Holywood
Dr. R. Sterritt .....	.....	Greenwell St., N'ards
N.J. Linkens.....	.....	Retired
D. Johnston.....	.....	First Newtownards
Dr. W.P. Addley.....	.....	Theological Professor
Dr. D.J. Watts.....	+Mrs. E.A. Warden.....	Clerk
.....	Miss E. Nixon	Groomsport
.....	J.T. McCullough	Cloughey
Dr. R.A. Russell	J. McCracken	Ballywalter
.....	+Mrs. J. Mann	Theological Professor
R.J. Montgomery	Miss P. Hassard	Trinity, Bangor
T.W.D. Johnston.....	G. Nesbit	Hamilton Rd., Bangor
R.A. Patton	J. Adamson.....	Ballygilbert
S.A. Little	J. Cole	Shore Street, Donaghadee
C.W. Megaw	Mrs. H. Hunter.....	Helen's Bay
.....	J. Neilly.....	First Newtownards
N.W. McAuley	R. McCormick	Greenwell St, Newtownards
.....	T. Jenkins	Millisle & Ballycopeland
W.J. Carlisle	R. Mayes	Movilla
D.M. Spratt.....	+W. Graham	First Bangor, Assoc.
C.J.C. McMullen	A. Ward.....	West Church, Bangor
W.G. Cameron.....	D. McKee.....	Glastry
-do- .....	.....	Kirkcubbin
J.M. Wade	S. Thompson	Portavogie
R. Stirling	Mrs. E. Savage.....	Conlig
Averil Stevenson .....	.....	Kirkcubbin
Dr. W.J.A. Sleith	D. Thompson	Regent St., Newtownards
P.C. Lyle.....	T. McAvoy.....	Ballyholme
.....	+B.T. Knox	Mission Africa
A.M. Bates.....	J. Doherty.....	Scрабо
A.W. Carson	J. Black.....	Strean, Newtownards
G. Aitcheson.....	Ms. K. Hinds.....	Kilcooley, Bangor
R.J. Stevenson .....	.....	Carrowdore & Ballyfrenis
G.J. Kennedy	J. McCormick.....	Ballygrainey
.....	Mrs. A. Rankin	Ballyblack
Dr. M.J. Welsh	R. Walker	Greyabbey
D.W. Leach	+S. Dalzell	Hamilton Road, Assoc.
M. Catney	L. Willoughby	St. Andrew's, Bangor
C.G. Anderson.....	Mrs. E. Burch.....	First Donaghadee
.....	D. McAllister	Second Newtownards

+ = Elders appointed by Presbytery

* = Representative Elder from another Congregation

2. ARMAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. W.M. Craig .....	.....	First Portadown
Dr. J. Thompson .....	.....	The Mall, Armagh
T.A. Moore .....	.....	Hill Street, Lurgan
J. Gordon .....	.....	Second Keady
-do-	D. Hopps	Drumhillery
D.R. Byers	W. Porter	Cladymore
-do-	Ms. M. McGuinness	Tassagh
C.G. Harris	Dr. J.M. Woolsey	Ahorey
-do-	N.H. Cully	Clare
Dr. J.S. Carson	G. Russell	First Portadown
A.D. Davidson	Mrs. S. Somerville	First Armagh
.....	Dr. D. Lowry	Armagh Road, Portadown
.....	A. Simms	Craigavon
.....	J. Whittle	Vinecash
B. Ann McDonald .....	.....	Caledon
-do- .....	.....	Minterburn
.....	J. McNeill	Waringstown
E.P. Gamble	G. Frazer	The Mall, Armagh
D.J. Hutchinson	D. Riddell	Moy
-do-	N. Pogue	Benburb
N.J. McCullough	K. Belshaw	Hill Street, Lurgan
S.D. Finlay	J. Megaw	Druminnis
-do-	W. Kelly	Redrock
.....	S. Graham	First Lurgan
P.L. McKelvey	J MacQueen	Loughgall
-do-	N. Cornett	Tartaraghan
A.J. Dunlop	+W. Ruddell	First Portadown Asst.
.....	G. Diffin	Knappagh

3. BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
W.J.A. Armstrong .....	.....	Second Broughshane
W.J. Hook .....	.....	Cuninghame Memorial
G.A. Preston .....	.....	Connor
Dr. R.E.H. Uprichard	H. Hamill	Trinity, Ahoghill
D. Knowles	J. McNeilly	Grange with Craigmore
.....	R. Keys	Wellington, Ballymena
J.J. Andrews	J.R. Pope	Ballee
W.F. Dickey	F. McFarland	First Broughshane
A.A.P. Baxter	R. Caldwell	First Portglenone
B. McManus	J. McCullough	Cloughwater
J.G. Johnston .....	.....	Carnlough/Cushendall
-do- .....	.....	Newtowncrommelin
A.L. Kirk	S. Small	First Ahoghill
J.A. Beattie	G. Lowry	Second Broughshane
D.J. Kane	R. Millar	West Church, B'mena
W.B. Boyd	R. Carson	Kells
-do-	J. Todd	Eskylane

Dr. D.A. Murphy	E. Douglas.....	Cunningham Memorial, Cullybackey
K. McConnell .....	.....	Clough
W. Sinclair.....	K. Dickey	First Ballymena
N.A.L. Cameron.....	T. Montgomery	High Kirk, Ballymena
N.G. McDowell .....	.....	Chaplain to Forces
S.W. Dickinson .....	.....	Glenarm
-do-	A. Knox.....	Cairnalbana
M.J.R. Neilly	T. McCurdy.....	Buckna
R.M. Murray.....	.....	Connor
J.C. Simms.....	.....	Rasharkin
W.J.A. Moody.....	W. Thompson.....	Brookside, Ahoghill
K.W.J. Hanna .....	.....	Glenwherry
C.K. McDowell .....	.....	Killymurris
.....	W. Matthews.....	Ballyloughan
.....	+B. Black	High Kirk, B'mena Assoc.
M.D. McNeely.....	W. Frew	Ballykeel
.....	W.J. Kerr.....	Third Portglenone

4. NORTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
R. Allen .....	.....	Rathcoole
Dr. J. Dunlop .....	.....	Rosemary
Dr. R.J.T. McMullan .....	.....	Overseas Board Sec.
R. Harkness .....	.....	Sinclair Seamen's
J.P. Taylor	+ G. Crooks.....	Theological Professor
T.V. Patterson.....	.....	Immanuel
J.N. Seawright	Ms. T. Coffey.....	Abbey, Monkstown
.....	E. McMurrin.....	Woodvale
R.S. Hetherington.....	+H. Orr.....	Director of Min Studies
G.F. McKeown	G. Lunn	Rathcoole
J.R. Dickinson	R. Manson	Carnmoney
T.C. Morrison.....	R. Johnston.....	Eglinton
D.W. Brice.....	B. Marshall.....	Glengormley
Dr. T.N. Hamilton	H. Groves	Ballysillan
I.D. Neish	G. Weatherall	Abbot's Cross
W.A. Abernethy	W. Chambers	Sinclair Seamen's
I.K. McDonald .....	.....	New Mosley
S. Elizabeth Hughes	A. McBride	Whitehouse
J.S.B. Drennan.....	F. Ashe.....	Crumlin Road
Margaret L. Johnston .....	.....	Fortwilliam Park
P.G. McCrea.....	Mrs. M. Thompson	Rosemary
.....	Miss M. Torrens.....	Fortwilliam & Macrory
R.N. Agnew .....	.....	West Kirk
B. McMillen .....	.....	Ballygomartin
D.H. Thompson	+J. Clarke	BMI Mission Dev. Officer
E.J. Hyndman.....	G. McCrory	Seaview
Cheryl A. Meban	+Mrs. M. Myers	Chaplain U.U. J'stown & Belfast
A.V. Stewart.....	E. Keers.....	Whiteabbey
N.S.R. Lockhart.....	M. Lutton	Ballyhenry

D.J. McIlwaine	T. Cadden	Newington
D. Leal	+L. Webster	Church Planter, (Cliftonville Road)
M. Russell	+B. Givens	Carnmoney Associate
D. Clawson	+Mrs. L. Whitcroft	Ballysillan Assistant
.....	E. Crawford	Nelson Memorial
.....	R.A. Thompson	West Kirk
.....	E. Beck	Immanuel

5. SOUTH BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. K.N.E. Newell .....	.....	Fitzroy Avenue
J.A. Braithwaite .....	.....	Dunmurry
Dr. D.J. McKelvey	Mrs. K. Lavery	Fisherwick
W.P.H. Erskine	Mrs. M. McFarlane	Windsor
D.J. Boden	Dr. C. Walker	Malone
W.J. Orr	Dr. J. McQuoid	Newtownbreda
Dr. M. Ruth Patterson	+Miss J.P. Gamble	Restoration Ministries
Dr. I. Hart	W. Elliott	Gt. Victoria Street
Dr W.I. Hull .....	.....	Ulsterville
.....	+O. McAuley	Belfast Bible Col. Lec.
A.R. Bill	J. Francey	Saintfield Road
J.T. Lamb	J. Campbell	Townsend Street
Dr. R.M. Crooks .....	.....	Belvoir
B.R. Hughes	+Mrs. M. Jackson	Chaplain City Hospital
J.H. Wilson .....	.....	Chaplain R.V.H.
Dr. W.G. Campbell	+Mrs. R. Wilson	Theological Professor
.....	D. Gough	Fitzroy Avenue
Dr. R.J. Greer	V. Garland	Richview
T.J. Wilson .....	.....	Kilmakee
R.W. Love	+D. McCleery	Taughmonagh (Ch. Ext.)
J.R. Burnett	W.R. Rowney	Lowe Memorial (Finaghy)
.....	+Wm. Ferguson	Youth Link NI
A.T. Wimberly	Mrs. D. Hughes	McCracken Memorial
.....	B. Clarke	Ballycairn
.....	A. Luke	Berry Street
.....	Mrs. C. Reynolds	Cooke Centenary
.....	A. Alexander	Dunmurry

6. EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J.M. Maddock .....	.....	Carryduff
Dr. S.J. Campbell .....	.....	Cooke Centenary
Dr. J.R. Savage .....	.....	Stormont
Dr. I.A. McKay .....	.....	Dundonald
Dr. H.A. Dunlop	W. Hamilton	Knock
W. McKeown .....	.....	Ravenhill
.....	J. Boyd	Orangefield
G. Moffett .....	.....	Tullycarnet

Dr. A. Gibson	+A. Shott	Theological Professor
J.N.I. McNeely	J. Robinson	First Holywood
P.P. Campbell	Ms. S. McCracken	Belmont
Dr. D. Murphy .....	.....	First Ballymacarrett
.....	+W. Cairns	Chaplain Marie Curie
F.P. Sellar	J. McKibbin	Bloomfield
W.S. Marrs	+M. Hampton	B.M.O. Secretary
J.H. McIntyre	D. Mahood	Cregagh
A.C. Rankin	S. Skillen	Stormont
R. Hornby .....	.....	Mersey Street
M.R. Burnside	W. Moore	Castlereagh
N.S. Harrison	H. Mitchell	High Street, Holywood
S.P. Moore	G. Kerr	Gilnahirk
R.J. Beggs	W.J. Gordon	McQuiston Mem.
.....	D.F. Kennedy	Mountpottinger
W.M. Brown	R. Simpson	Granshaw
D. Rankin	H. Black	Strand
M. Gibson .....	.....	Westbourne
C. Burcombe	Ms. M. Benson	Mersey Street
P.G. McDowell	Ms. L. Wasson	Garnerville
.....	D. McKibbin	Kirkpatrick Mem.
R.S.J. McIlhatton	T.J.R. Cooper	Christ Church
B.J. Walker .....	.....	Knock Assoc.
.....	J. Ringland	Ravenhill
.....	A. Davis	Dundonald

7. CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. R.V.A. Lynas .....	.....	Gardenmore
D. Armstrong .....	.....	Greenisland
R.W.C. Clements .....	.....	Joymount
W.J. Johnstone .....	.....	Craigy Hill
R. Vallely .....	.....	Ballylinney
.....	Ms. O. Finlay	Downshire, Carrickfergus
T.J. Stothers	B. Smyth	Greenisland
R.J.A. Bell	M. Fisher	Ballyclare
D. Chapman	N. Hughes	Second Islandmagee
T.D. Gribben	+B. Evans	Deputy Clerk
R.J. McCullough .....	.....	Loughmorne
-do-	R. Kennedy	Woodburn
T.R. Graham	J. Bodles	Joymount
Dr. C.D. McClure	N. Carmichael	First Larne
Gabrielle A.J. Farquhar	Mrs. A. Cowan	Ballycarr
G.W.M. Glasgow	S.T. Parker	Gardenmore
Anne E. Tolland	J. Robinson	Cairncastle
R.I. Carton	Mrs. C. Cubitt	Whitehead
Dr. C.A. Grant	R. Ross	First Carrickfergus
J.W.D. Rogers .....	.....	Ballynure
J.E. McDowell .....	.....	Ballylinney
Karen Campbell	R. Nelson	First Islandmagee
Heather M. Rendell .....	.....	Chaplain to Forces

T.N. Bingham.....	Ms. J. Paisley.....	Magheramorne
-do- .....	.....	Raloo
.....	A.R. Doole	Craigy Hill

8. COLERAINE & LIMAVADY PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. B. Kingsmore .....	.....	Evangelism Promoter
Dr. W.W. Porter .....	.....	Moneydig
Dr. D.H. Allen .....	.....	New Row, Coleraine
V. Whyte .....	.....	Macosquin
J. Clarke.....	.....	Balteagh; Bovevagh
A.McM. Kerr.....	.....	Aghadowey; Crossgar
T.V. Mawhinney .....	.....	Second Limavady; Myroe
W.J. Waring.....	.....	Ballyrashane
Dr. D. Clarke.....	J.A. Presha	Terrace Row, Coleraine
W.I. Hunter.....	.....	Ballywatt
T.S. Lindsay .....	.....	First Garvagh
D.S. Irwin.....	.....	Drumachose; Derramore
J.A. McCaughan.....	Miss J.M. Conn.....	First Dunboe
T.J. McCormick.....	.....	First Kilrea
-do- .....	.....	Boveedy
.....	A. Warke.....	Portrush
T.P. Fleming.....	J.A. Cassells.....	First Coleraine
R. Kelly	W. Campbell.....	Main St., Garvagh
-do- .....	.....	Killaig
R.S. McMullan	A. Cochrane	New Row, Coleraine
Dr. C. Glass .....	.....	Dungiven
-do- .....	.....	Largy
T.D. Allen.....	A. Stewart	Ballyrashane
Dr. R.A. Kane.....	.....	Aghadowey
-do- .....	.....	Crossgar
J.A. Noble.....	.....	Balteagh
-do- .....	.....	Bovevagh
Dr. S.D.H. Williamson .....	.....	Ballywillan
T.J. Laverty	J. Jack.....	Portstewart
C.J. Aitcheson	L. Morrell.....	Castlerock
J.G. Jones.....	Mrs. E. McLaughlin.....	Second Limavady
-do-	M. Doyle	Myroe
R.D. Gregg	J. Henderson.....	Burnside
S.A. McCracken .....	.....	Drumachose
-do-	A. McAleese	Derramore
.....	J. Topping	Moneydig
.....	I. Black.....	Ringsend
M.E. Donald	S. McKee	First Garvagh
.....	D. Hood.....	Banagher
.....	C. Hutchinson	Second Kilrea

9. DERRY & DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
S.J. Gray .....	.....	Faughanvale; Gortnessy
Dr. J. Fell .....	.....	Ebrington; Inch
.....	W. Hoy	Magheramason
G.P. Young .....	.....	Moville
-do- .....	.....	Greenbank
J.K. McCormick	J. Reid	Second Derry (Strand & Buncrana)
-do-	D. Canning	Burt
S.J. Hanna	W. McClay	Glendermott
R.L. Craig	Mrs. E. Scobie	Kilfennan
Dr. D. Latimer .....	.....	First Derry & Claremont
do- .....	.....	Monreagh
Dr. S.R. Jones	T. Allen	Donemana
B. Brown	N. Witherow	Raphoe & Ballindrait
Dr. T.R. Buick	G. Barr	Carlisle Road
-do- .....	.....	Crossroads
J.L. Blair	J. McClintock	Faughanvale
S. Stewart	+P. Davis	School Chaplain
A.J.A. Rosborough	K. McLean	Ballyarnett
-do-	Mrs. E. Wylie	Knowhead
.....	B. Alexander	Letterkenney
S.J. Richmond	M. McDonald	Donegal
W.H. Higgins	G. Wilson	Cumber
-do-	S. Nutt	Upper Cumber
K.A. Jones	C. Hamilton	Waterside
-do- .....	.....	Fahan
A.C. Wilson .....	.....	Ballykelly
Amanda Best	D. Armour	Ramelton
-do- .....	.....	Kilmacrennan
D.M. Shaw	W. Watson	Strabane
N.D. Craig	C. McElhinney	Ray
-do-	B. Houston	Newtowncunningham
C.M. Wilson .....	.....	Ballylennon
-do- .....	.....	St. Johnston
.....	E. Borland	Fannet
.....	R. Henderson	Stranorlar
.....	Mrs. J. Norris	Gortnessy
.....	Mrs. R. Millar	Ebrington
.....	Mrs. E. Montgomery	Dunfanaghy
.....	T. Campbell	Carndonagh
.....	Mrs. B. Smyth	Malin

10. DOWN PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. W.J. Patterson .....	.....	Killinchy
W.N. Duncan .....	.....	Missionary
S.R. Conkey .....	.....	Raffrey
T.I. Harte	H. Patterson	Trinity, Boardmills

T.W. Gordon	Mrs. M. Gordon	First Comber
.....	B. Redhead.....	Downpatrick
R.McM. Mackay	W. Anderson	Second Comber
A.S. Smyth	D. Burnett.....	Carryduff
B.A. Small	J. Martin.....	Raffrey
Mairisine Stanfield .....	.....	First Ballynahinch
Dr. B.C.G. Black	J. Hanna	Ballygowan
R.J. Hyndman.....	J. Meeke	First Saintfield
.....	L. Broome	Magherahamlet
A.A. Cole.....	.....	Kilmore
R.I. Abraham	M. Cuffey.....	Lissara
M.M. Stewart.....	.....	Clough
-do- .....	.....	Seaforde
S.A. Woodburn.....	R. Peake	Edengrove
L. Orban .....	.....	Special Ministry
.....	H. Marshall	Second Killyleagh
.....	C. McCormick	First Killyleagh

11. DROMORE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
K. Smyth.....	.....	Drumbo
Dr. D.M. Scott.....	.....	St. Columba's, Lisburn
Dr. R.J.G. Gray .....	.....	First Lisburn
D. McConaghy .....	.....	Cargyreevy & Loughaghery
Dr. S. Hutchinson.....	.....	Clerk of Assembly
.....	K. Irvine	Sloan Street, Lisburn
Dr. R.S. Tosh.....	+A. Maxwell	B.B.C.
Dr. W.T.J. Richardson.....	.....	Hillhall
R. Lockhart.....	.....	Elmwood
D.C. Porter.....	.....	Second Dromara
J.I. Davey.....	Mrs. A. Truesdale	Hillsborough
D.B. Knox	Mrs. J. Martin	Harmony Hill, Lambeg
G.B.S. Gibson.....	Dr. S. Cameron	Railway St. Lisburn
J. Brackenridge.....	T. Kinhead	First Lisburn
D.J. Bruce.....	+Miss E. McConnell.....	B.M.I. Secretary
A.S. Thompson.....	.....	First Dromara
D.H. Gilpin .....	.....	Moira
.....	C. Gamble	First Dromore
J.G. Trueman .....	.....	Banbridge Road, Dromore
R.A. McLernon	R. Glenn	Drumbo
W.J. Todd .....	.....	St. Columba's, Lisburn
W.J. Henry.....	.....	Maze
-do-	A. Addison	Ballinderry
R.A. Liddle.....	J. Sloan.....	Legacurry
R.D. Cameron.....	.....	Prison Chaplain
A.J. Thompson	G. McEvoy.....	Elmwood
Dr. S.P. Swinn.....	.....	Chaplain to Forces
P. Jamieson.....	J. Connor.....	Hillhall
L.A. Patterson.....	.....	Cargyreevy
-do- .....	.....	Loughaghery

.....	D. Gibson	Drumlough
.....	D. Easton.....	Second Dromara

12. DUBLIN & MUNSTER PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
A.V. Martin .....	.....	Abbey
C. McCurdy .....	.....	Drogheda & Ervey
R. Cobain .....	.....	Galway & Ballinasloe
G.D. Campbell.....	A. White.....	St. Andrew's, Blackrock
-do- .....	.....	Bray
Dr. T.W.J. Morrow	Ms. D. Shaw	Lucan
J.G. Faris	H. Moreland	Trinity, Cork
-do- .....	.....	Aghada
J.D. Woodside .....	.....	Drogheda
Katherine P. Meyer	S. Smyrl	Christ Church, Sandymount
C. Mary Hunter	Ms. J. Cowle	Christ Church, Rathgar
Dr. D.K. McCrory .....	.....	Maynooth
D.T. Moore .....	.....	Kilkenny
Dr. S. Mawhinney	G. McCullagh.....	Adelaide Road
Dr. J.G. Millar .....	.....	Howth & Malahide
D.J. Montgomery.....	A. Foster.....	Greystones
Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie.....	A. Finlay	Clontarf & Scots
C.J. Gamble .....	.....	Naas
S.J. Lockington.....	*Ms. J. Binnie	Corboy
-do- .....	.....	Mullingar
W.J. Hayes.....	.....	Mountmellick
-do- .....	.....	Tullamore
C.W.P. Kennedy.....	J. Gibson	Dun Laoghaire
A. Carroll.....	.....	(Church Planter) Donabate

13. IVEAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
A. Clarke .....	.....	Glascar; Donaghmore
Dr. S.A. Matthews.....	.....	Bannside
W.H. Sanderson.....	.....	Ballydown; Katesbridge
J. Briggs.....	.....	Scarva Street, Banbridge
I.J. Patterson	W.O. McCammon.....	Newcastle
W.L. Orr .....	.....	Glascar; Donaghmore
W.A. Watson	G. Radcliffe.....	Scarva St., Banbridge
H.S.W. Cubitt .....	.....	Second & Third Rathfriland
M.G. McClelland.....	.....	Tandragee
R.A. Moffett	I. Williams	Donacloney
G.E. Best .....	.....	Newmills
Patricia A. McBride	R. Cupples.....	Loughbrickland
-do-	Mrs. M. Moorhead.....	Scarva
D.S. Mackay .....	.....	Magherally
Dr. M.C.A. Gray	Dr. D. McLeod.....	Bannside
W.B. Martin.....	.....	Garvagh
-do- .....	.....	Anaghlonge

P.D. Thompson.....	M. Annett.....	First Rathfriland
S. Newell.....	.....	Tullylish
-do-.....	P. Cochrane.....	Gilford
M.N. Davidson.....	P. Fitzsimmons.....	Drumgooland
-do-.....	M. Cowan.....	Kilkinamurry
T.P. McCullough.....	S.C. Murphy.....	Ballyroney
-do-.....	.....	Drumlee
R. McKibbin.....	.....	Glascar
-do-.....	D. Cummins.....	Donaghmore
J.L. Rutherford.....	.....	Ballydown

14. MONAGHAN PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J. Mann.....	.....	Ballina; Killala; Ballymote
D. Nesbitt.....	.....	First Ballybay, Second
.....	.....	Ballybay, Rockcorry,
.....	.....	Drumkeen
Dr. R.B. Savage.....	.....	Kells
-do-.....	.....	Ervey
S.G. Anketell.....	Mrs. B. Lundie.....	First Bailieborough
-do-.....	Dr. A. Hunter.....	Corraneary
-do-.....	Mrs. I. Davidson.....	Trinity, Bailieborough
N.S. Millen.....	.....	Dundalk &
.....	.....	Castlebellingham
-do-.....	.....	Carlingford
Dr. G. Jean Mackarel.....	K. Fleming.....	Drumkeeran
-do-.....	.....	Killeshandra
-do-.....	.....	Cavan
-do-.....	J. Johnston.....	Bellasis
J. Rushton.....	W. McConkey.....	Drum
-do-.....	U. Gamble.....	Cootehill
-do-.....	.....	Kilmount
T.D. Hagan.....	T. Heatrick.....	Middletown
-do-.....	.....	Clontibret
T. Morgan.....	.....	Clones
-do-.....	E. Mackarel.....	Stonebridge
-do-.....	.....	Ballyhobridge
-do-.....	R.J. McConkey.....	Newbliss
.....	R. Hanna.....	First Ballybay
.....	L. Forster.....	Rockcorry
.....	A. McAdoo.....	Drumkeen
R.S. Agnew.....	F. Fleming.....	First Monaghan
-do-.....	.....	Smithborough
.....	Mrs. D. Holmes-Greer.....	First Castleblayney

15. NEWRY PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
D.C. Scott.....	Cremore; Tyrone's Ditches
Dr. D.J. McGaughey.....	Mourne

S.A. Finlay.....	W. McConnell.....	Annalong
Dr. M.A. Barry	S. Bond.....	First Newry
F.J. Gibson.....	.....	First Drumbanagher; J'pass
-do-	R. McCormick	Kingsmills
.....	W. Grills.....	Mourne
B.A.H. Wilson.....	J. Copeland.....	Second N'hamilton
-do- .....	.....	Creggan
S.S. Johnston	D. Orr.....	Kilkeel
R.K. Graham	D. Smyth.....	Clarquesbridge & First
.....	.....	N'hamilton
-do- .....	.....	Garmany's Grove
-do- .....	.....	McKelvey's Grove
J.K.A. McIntyre.....	.....	Bessbrook
-do- .....	.....	Tyrone's Ditches
B.D. Colvin .....	.....	Downshire Rd., Newry
D.B. Murphy .....	.....	Brookvale
-do-	U. Wright	Ryans
D.J. Irvine	T.J. Hamilton	First, Second Markethill
N.J.E. Reid	S. Greer	Tullyallen
-do-	S. Walker	Mountmorris
.....	B. Reaney.....	Poyntzpass
.....	N. Martin.....	Fourtowns

16. OMAGH PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
R.S.K. Neill .....	.....	First Castlederg; Killeter
J.L. Casement .....	.....	Sixmilecross
Dr. J.W. Lockington.....	.....	Clogherney
J.F. Murdoch	J.B. Wilson.....	First Omagh
J.T. Williamson .....	.....	Urney & Sion
W.J. Kelly.....	.....	Clogher; Glenhoy
R. Herron	J. McCandless	Trinity, Omagh
-do- .....	.....	Gillygooley
W.D. Cupples	J. Phillips.....	Enniskillen
R.B. Thompson .....	.....	Badoney; Corrick
-do- .....	.....	Glenelly
C.F.D. Clements	K. Hunter	Irvinestown
-do- .....	.....	Pettigo
-do- .....	.....	Tempo
I. McClean.....	.....	Ballygawley; Ballyreagh
J.H. Hanson .....	.....	Dromore
-do- .....	.....	Drumquin
H.J. Honeyford .....	.....	Second Castlederg
-do- .....	.....	Alt
J.A. Gordon	R. Beacom.....	Fintona
-do-	J. Nevin	Ballynahatty & Creevan
D.W. Reid.....	M. Smyth	Ardstraw
-do- .....	.....	Douglas
R.A. Campbell.....	D. Boyd.....	Clogher
-do-	R. Mulligan	Glenhoy
C.I. Dickson.....	Dr. C. McKibbin	Cavanaleck

-do-	J. Hogg	Aughtaine
K. Nelson.....	.....	Mountjoy
-do- .....	.....	Drumlegagh
C.W.A. Jones.....	J. Mitchell	Seskinore
-do-	R. Giboney	Edendery
R.G. McElnea .....	.....	Newtownstewart
-do- .....	.....	Gortin
R.N. Orr.....	R.C. Rutledge.....	First Castlederg
-do-	W. Andrews	Killeter
.....	Miss I. Anderson.....	N't'nbuter
.....	D. Beacom	Sixmilecross
.....	Dr. C. Givan.....	Aughnacloy
.....	D. Allen.....	Ballymagrane
.....	S. Wiggan.....	Ballygawley
.....	T. McDaniel	Ballyreagh
.....	K. Clements	Clogherney
.....	N. McMullan.....	Urney

17. ROUTE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
J. Hume.....	.....	Dunluce
Dr. A.W.G. Brown .....	.....	Ballycastle
Dr. R.F.S. Poots.....	.....	Deputy Clerk
J.T. Magowan.....	D. Smyth	St. James's, Ballymoney
.....	V. McLean	Trinity, Ballymoney
M. Barr .....	.....	Ballyweaney
N. McClean .....	.....	First Kilraughts
D. Bannerman.....	.....	Toberkeigh
H.W. Mullan.....	S. Scott	Drumreagh
-do- .....	.....	Dromore
S.T. Carson	C. Dobbin.....	Dunluce
K.D.W. Crowe.....	.....	Bushvale
N.E. Dorrans.....	I. Kane.....	Ballycastle
-do- .....	.....	Croaghmore
.....	R. Gault	Dunloy
R.W. Gaston	Dr. R.E. Henderson.....	Finvoy
W.S. Smart .....	.....	First Ballymoney
K. Henderson.....	R. McKane	Ballyweaney
Dr. M. Jones .....	.....	Roseyards
Dr. P.B. Wilson .....	.....	Bushmills
P. Turton.....	.....	Armoyn
-do- .....	.....	Ramoan
Wm. Harkness .....	.....	Mosside
-do- .....	.....	Toberdoney

18. TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
W.D. Weir	Killead; Loanends
Dr. J.H. MacConnell	First Ballyeaston

Dr. S.J. Dixon.....	.....	First Antrim
Dr. W.D. Patton.....	N. McFadden	Randalstown O.C.
B. Kennaway .....	.....	Crumlin
G. Moore	R.S. Stirling.....	Kilbride
.....	Mrs. D. Cochrane.....	High Street, Antrim
.....	+J.H. McClurg	Theological Professor
J.L. Tosh.....	T.J. Gawn.....	Second Donegore
.....	D. Robinson	Hydepark
.....	J. Smyth	Lylehill
.....	G. Patton	First Randalstown
W.J. Murdock.....	W. Hyde.....	Killead
-do-.....	N. Scott	Loanends
P.E. Dickinson.....	N. McQuillan	Muckamore
J.P. Moxen.....	J. Francey.....	Greystone Road, Antrim
E.S. McDowell.....	S. Waugh.....	First Ballyeaston
W.J.M. Parker.....	Mrs. N. McKnight.....	First Antrim
R.C. Kerr .....	.....	Templepatrick
D.J. Steele.....	.....	Dundrod

19. TYRONE PRESBYTERY

<i>Ministers</i>	<i>Ruling Elders</i>	<i>Congregations</i>
Dr. A.R. Rodgers.....	.....	Dungannon
W.T. Coburn.....	.....	Molesworth, Cookstown
I.F. Smith.....	.....	Orritor & Claggan
Dr. J.I. Thompson.....	W.R.S. Agnew	First Cookstown
J.W. Fleck.....	I. Duff.....	Upper Clonaneese
-do-.....	R. Cuddy.....	Lower Clonaneese
A.S. Thompson.....	.....	Dungannon
T.J. Conway.....	D. Clarke.....	Culnady
-do-.....	C. Bolton.....	Swatragh
J.H. Flaherty.....	O. Gibson.....	Tobermore
-do-.....	.....	Draperstown
T.W.A. Greer.....	S. Campbell.....	Molesworth, Cookstown
Dr. K.O. Patterson.....	T. Ewart	Castledawson
-do-.....	G. Orr.....	Curran
J.J. Currie.....	.....	Union Road, M'felt
-do-.....	G. Johnston	Lecumpher
J.A. Curry.....	H. Duncan	First Magherafelt
S.J.M. Lindsay.....	S. Watt	Pomeroy
-do-.....	.....	Sandholes
D.H. Brown.....	D. Wells	Castlecaulfield
-do-.....	I. Nelson.....	Eglish
W.G. Hamilton .....	.....	Orritor
-do-.....	S. Crooks.....	Claggan
J.E. Sloan.....	.....	Bellaghy
-do-.....	.....	Knockloughrim
G.W.D. Stewart.....	.....	Maghera
D.S. Brownlow.....	R. Wilkins	Newmills
-do-.....	.....	Carland
.....	Ms. B. Miller.....	First Moneymore

.....	Ms. S. McMenemy	Second Moneymore
J.M. Gracey	E. Howard	Coagh
-do- .....	.....	Ballygoney
-do-	M. Hyndman	Saltersland

ELDERS IN SPECIAL WORK – CODE PAR 97(g)

J.R.W. Luke

TRUSTEES NOMINATIONS – CODE PAR 97(h)(iv)

D. Bell, C.B.

Sir Eric McDowell

CLERK OF PRESBYTERY – CODE PAR 97(h)(iii)

C.W.L. Graham

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

Mrs. C. Barkley

R.N.C. Watts

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY – CODE PAR 127(2)(a)

A.J. Spence

R. Tweed

M.A. Morrow, Q.C.

Mrs. P. Gray

D. Poynton

Mrs. E. McLeod

**CONVENERS AND SECRETARIES WHO ARE ELDERS –
CODE PAR 97(h)(i)(ii)**

S. Lynas

Mrs. C. Poynton

L. Conway

D. Lamb

J.H. Martin

D.A. Crowe

A.J. Rankin

Mrs. L. Wray

N. Eves

J. Hunter, C.B.

BUSINESS BOARD NOMINATIONS – CODE PAR 97(j)

J.B. McClean

Miss M. Cromie

Miss D. Draffin

B. Milligan

Miss E. Whyte

W. Marshall

A.J. Giffen

N. Jackson

W.H. Scott

C. Beck

J. Gregg

T.J. Livingstone

A.T. Ross

D.H. McCormick

The following sat and deliberated with the Assembly:

RETIRED MISSIONARIES WHO ARE NOT ELDERS

Mrs. J. Duncan

Miss L. Wasson

**CONVENERS & SECRETARIES WHO ARE NOT ELDERS CODE
PAR 97(h)(i)(ii)**

Miss R. Stirling

C. Knox

CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

Mrs. K. Fisher

COLERAINE AND LIMAVADY PRESBYTERY

Mrs. M. Conn

Mrs. V. Millar

Mrs. N. Nixon

DERRY AND DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

Mrs. G. Hunter

Miss A. Moody

DOWN PRESBYTERY

Miss Z. McAllister

Mrs. M. Stringer

DROMORE PRESBYTERY

Mrs. R. Maxwell

DUBLIN AND MUNSTER PRESBYTERY

Miss E. Barnett

Mrs. M. White

MONAGHAN PRESBYTERY

Mrs. S. Rushton

Mrs. P. Martin

NEWRY PRESBYTERY

Mrs. M. Graham

OMAGH PRESBYTERY

Mrs. M. Good

Mrs. R. Honeyford

ROUTE PRESBYTERY

Mrs. M. McClean

Mrs. B. Robinson

TEMPLEPATRICK PRESBYTERY

Mrs. E. Nesbitt

Mrs. J. Robinson

TYRONE PRESBYTERY

Mrs. S. Fleck

Mrs. I. Reid

PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH

ARDS PRESBYTERY

A. Bell

BALLYMENA PRESBYTERY

S. Moore

M. Turtle

EAST BELFAST PRESBYTERY

R. Jemphrey

P. Brown

CARRICKFERGUS PRESBYTERY

S. Hawthorne

D. Penny

COLERAINE & LIMAVADY PRESBYTERY

A. Burke

DERRY AND DONEGAL PRESBYTERY

J. Cowan

B. Smyth

IVEAGH PRESBYTERY

Mrs. R. Elkin

NEWRY PRESBYTERY

D. Gordon

TYRONE PRESBYTERY

B. Preston

SPUD DELEGATES

N. Wilkinson

A. Power

Miss L. Hutcheson

Miss E. Morrow

Miss A. McNaugher

Miss N. Morrison

A. Downey

J. Conroy

Miss H. Cairns

Miss F. McNeill

M. McCracken

The Moderator welcomed, on behalf of the Assembly, the Lord Lieutenant of Belfast, the Lord Mayor, 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 Thomas Norman Hamilton, OBE, BA, BD	5 nominations
The Rev Norman William McAuley, BSc, BD	5 nominations
The Rev Derek John McKelvey, BA, BD	4 nominations
The Rev Ivan James Patterson, BA, MTh	4 nominations
The Rev Robert McMaster Mackay, BA, BD	1 nomination

Because of the tied vote Presbyteries voted again in March when the nominations were as follows:-

The Rev Thomas Norman Hamilton, OBE, BA, BD	11 nominations
The Rev Norman William McAuley, BSc, BD	8 nominations

On the motion of the Rev NW McAuley, seconded by the Rev Dr DJ McKelvey, the Rev Dr TN Hamilton was unanimously called to the Chair, welcomed by the retiring Moderator and commended to God in prayer.

The Right Rev Dr TN Hamilton then addressed the House.

The sederunt came to a close at 8.55pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

SECOND SESSION

Tuesday, 8th June, 2010

10.00 a.m.

The Assembly convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**BUSINESS
BOARD**

The Report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** (Reports pp 1-6) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, together with the following Supplementary Report:

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland (2010)

The Very Rev Dr W Donald Patton reports:

The Synod met in the beautiful and historic setting of Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, from Thursday 6 to Saturday 8 May, 2010. It is proposed that Synod will meet here every other year. The Archbishop of Armagh, the Most

Rev Alan Harper, chaired the proceedings flanked by the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Rev Dr John Neill, and the Diocesan Bishops. Archbishop Harper presided over the debates with efficiency and humour. I had expected that the Synod would be rather formal but was pleasantly surprised by the atmosphere of ordered informality. I was accompanied by Mr Denis Poynton, an elder in St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Blackrock. Along with other visiting delegates we were warmly welcomed and received generous hospitality.

Mirroring the concerns of wider society, much of the Synod's schedule was taken up with the economic challenges of the times. The Archbishop gave a masterly opening address reflecting on the issues facing church and society. He challenged the Church to be vigorous in its evangelism, to make a difference in lives and to relate the gospel to green issues, justice and pastoral work. He said "The role of the Church, in good times and in bad, is to stand alongside those who are finding it hardest to cope, whatever their circumstances; to exhibit in practical and personal ways the loving concern of God for all people, but especially for the vulnerable; and to be a beacon of hope to the living, for nothing is more spiritually, socially and physically restorative than love and hope."

He made some hard hitting comments about the banks and their pursuit of profit which has blighted many citizens' lives. He called for new structures with inbuilt social responsibility and subject to effective regulation. The Representative Church Body (being the central administration of the Church) reported that in 2006 the Church had net assets of £750 million, reducing to £448 million by 2009. There was a call for efficiency savings and for reductions in allocation of resources. Staff salaries have been frozen since 2008. Bishop Harold Miller spoke of the Church being in a 'constricted place', but that in adversity we should think positively and see the opportunity to give sacrificially for the sake of the mission of the Church. Pension Funds have been hit hard leaving a deficit of £43 million. The Synod has opted to keep the defined benefit pension scheme which will have subvention from the RCB until 2015 to maintain solvency. It is not proposed to raise the pensionable age though increases in contributions will be needed.

The new Institute of Theology is up and running. As an outworking of the covenant between the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Church in Ireland students will be educated here in line with the convergence in philosophy of ministry and training with a strong emphasis on training for leadership.

Canon John McKeagney spoke to the Education report for Northern Ireland and outlined our shared concerns about the threat to the role of transferors representation in State education under the proposed ESA structure, and the need to fight this in order to protect and promote Christian values in our schools. With reference to the South one speaker referred to disproportionate discrimination in the case of some central government grants between Protestant and Roman Catholic schools.

On Thursday evening a Service of Sung Eucharist was held in St Patrick's Cathedral. This was led by the two Archbishops at which the Most Rev Richard Clarke, Bishop of Meath and Kildare, preached.

While there were some printed reports about youth work, and mission overseas, these did not have the prominence they are given in our own annual Assembly since much of this work is dealt with at Diocesan level. Acts of worship were of shorter duration and there was no comparable gathering to the Moderator's Rally or the 'Presbyterians Talk' evenings.

I came away with an impression of the Synod's realistic assessment of the challenges facing the Churches and an awareness that Presbyterians are not alone in seeking ways to meet the challenge of communicating the Gospel to the modern day. In this we can learn from each other and promote co-operative fellowship strengthening the mission of Christ in twenty first century Ireland.

The Church of Scotland General Assembly (2010)

The Right Rev Dr J Stafford Carson reports:

The Church of Scotland General Assembly met this past week (20-26 May) at the Assembly Hall on The Mound in Edinburgh. It was a busy yet fascinating week for me and my two fellow representatives from PCI. I was accompanied by one of my chaplains, the Rev Philip McConnell, and by Mr George Russell, Session Clerk of First Portadown.

Regular attenders at the General Assembly considered this year's meeting to be down-beat, even a bit boring, after the controversy of last year. The 2011 Assembly will undoubtedly result in some more heated debate and discussion when it returns to the vexed and controversial issue of homosexuals in ministry.

One of the main items of business for this year's Assembly, and the one which led to the best debate, was the Kirk's discussion of the Third Article Declaratory. It reads:

"As a national Church representative of the Christian Faith of the Scottish people it acknowledges its distinctive call and duty to bring the ordinances of religion to the people in every parish of Scotland through a territorial ministry."

The Church of Scotland is constitutionally committed to providing a ministry of Word and Sacrament in every part of Scotland without exception. The Assembly affirmed this Third Article Declaratory, and accepted the commitment, as an integral part of its calling, to maintain worshipping, witnessing and serving congregations throughout Scotland.

In practice this means that congregations must be maintained, irrespective of their ability to support themselves, and that in turn means that other stronger congregations must take on the burden of support. In reality, 35% of the Kirk's congregations support the other 65%. The Assembly rejected what was described as a "supermarket" model of ministry which means that the Church only maintains a presence where there is a "customer base" which makes it economically viable to do so.

That debate was closely linked to another report from the Ministries Council of the Church concerning the Church's resources to carry out such a calling. The Church of Scotland is facing a deficit budget of £5.7 million, and hard decisions need to be taken to prune the amount of money spent on paid ministries. In the next four years, it is planned to cut the current 1,234 ministry

posts to 1,000, and Presbyteries face the harrowing task of making reductions in ministry positions and in re-aligning their work. It is envisaged that new patterns of ministry will emerge, and that there will be many more part-time ministries, with both non-stipendary and bi-vocational positions. Each Presbytery will be allocated a ministries budget which will allow it to determine the patterns of ministry which are best suited to serve all the communities for which it is responsible.

Allied to this shift is a major review of theological education and training so as to foster patterns of emerging ministries. The current proposals involve the development of three strands of training, at certificate, diploma and degree levels, which will train people to serve at local and national levels, in part-time and full-time positions. These proposals are being developed at a time when the number of ministry students at New College, following this year's graduation, will have dropped to single figures. Currently only 6.4% of ministers in the Church of Scotland are under the age of 40, while 25% are over sixty.

The strong ecumenical emphasis of the Church of Scotland was seen in the report of the Ecumenical Relations Committee which urged congregations to celebrate their common baptism with Roman Catholics for the first time by using a special joint liturgy for the reaffirmation of baptismal vows. The Church's press release stated that theologically both Churches believe baptism involves conversion, pardoning and cleansing and marks the beginning of a new life in Christ, characterised by growth.

On Sunday afternoon, the Assembly had a special two-hour session in which it reflected on the 450th anniversary of the Scottish Reformation. This involved some inspirational unaccompanied psalm singing, dramatised readings, and reflections on the Reformation. Significantly, one Scripture reading in this session was read by the Right Reverend Joseph Toal, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Argyll and the Isles.

Some of the "fringe" events of the Assembly were very helpful. In one event, arranged primarily for those from the Highlands, the Reverend Tommy MacNeill from Stornaway gave a wonderful account of the development of youth ministry in his congregation, and how the number of teenagers in his congregation had grown from three to almost fifty through a focused effort to address their needs, but not without the full support of the Kirk Session. Like our own denomination, the Church of Scotland is an aging denomination, a point made very eloquently and passionately by the outgoing Moderator, the Very Reverend Bill Hewitt, as he reviewed his year, and called attention to the fact that young people were conspicuous by their absence in many congregations.

In another meeting, the Scottish Bible Society launched "Biblefresh", an initiative aimed at encouraging greater use of the Bible by individuals and Churches, designed to coordinate with the 400th anniversary of publication of the King James Version. Elaine Storkey gave an insightful analysis of current culture and why the Bible continues to be an important factor in our lives and society.

The General Assembly had its own experience of cutbacks in that the traditional garden party at Holyrood Palace was cancelled this year due to

financial constraints in the Royal budget. Ironically, after enduring many wet and cold afternoons on that occasion, Edinburgh enjoyed the warmest day of the year on the Saturday when the garden party would normally be held.

Clearly our brothers and sisters in the Church of Scotland are undertaking some major reforms in the way they “do Church”, and their insights and experience in these areas will be useful to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. If this year’s Assembly had an internal focus, then next year’s meeting will capture the attention of the wider community as it wrestles with one of the major issues to afflict Christian Churches, namely, the place of homosexuals in the leadership and ministry of the Church. It is anticipated that whatever the external weather conditions, the temperature may rise in the Assembly during that debate.

- Resolutions** Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev GE Best and agreed:
1. That the Report be received.
 2. That the recommended Order of Business be adopted.
 3. That the General Assembly accept the outline of Opening Night in the Arrangements Committee report (Par 3) and ask the Business Board to trial these arrangements in 2011.
 4. That the General Assembly agree to the Memorial Roll being read at the Tuesday Communion Service from 2011.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev GE Best:

5. That the Assembly Rally should be held on the Thursday Evening from 2011 and include the closing of the Assembly.

On being put to the House, the resolution was declared lost.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev GE Best and agreed:

6. That the professional amplification controller and the visual display operator be admitted to the private session.
7. That a grant of £16,000 be made from the Incidental Fund to the Arrangements Committee.
8. That the Business Board, with its associated working Committee, be appointed in accordance with Par 275 of the Code for the ensuing year beginning 15 March, 2010.

- Presbyteries** The Reports of the **PRESBYTERIES** (Reports pp 7-13) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, together with the following Supplementary Report:

Addition:

Dromore Presbytery

Minister without Charge: Rev Kiran I Wimberly

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Corresponding Members were received from the Church of Scotland. These were the Right Rev John Christie, Moderator, Rev Alastair Cherry and Mr Charles McIntyre.

**Corresponding
Members**

The Moderator welcomed the Corresponding Members. The Right Rev John Christie replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Rev John Marsh, Moderator of the United Reformed Church of the United Kingdom. An apology was noted for the Rev Gwenda Richards, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Wales, who was unable to be present due to a family bereavement. The Rev John Marsh replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Rev AW Ferguson and Ms Patricia Donald, delegates from the Methodist Church in Ireland; the Right Rev MGStA Jackson and Mr LV Johnston, delegates from the Church of Ireland; and the Most Rev Richard Clarke from the Irish Council of Churches. The Rev AW Ferguson replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed other delegates from: the Presbyterian Church USA, the Rev Doug Baker; the Gereja Masehi Injili di Halmahera (GMIH), Indonesia: Rev Anton Piga, Rev Jerda Djawa, Rev Dermianus Ice; Eglise Réformée de France: the Rev. Didier Crouzet. It was hoped that the Rt Rev Vinod Malaviya, Church of North India, would be able to be present later in the Assembly. Rev Anton Piga replied, translated by Mr Mervyn McCullagh, and conveyed greetings.

The Report of the **BOARD OF COMMUNICATIONS** (Reports pp 258-263) was submitted by the Rev Dr RA Russell, along with the following Supplementary Report:

**COMMUNI-
CATIONS
BOARD**

COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

During the year the Communications Board decided that their work should largely be the responsibility of working groups and that therefore the Communications Development Committee is not necessary. An appropriate resolution is appended.

**Communi-
cations
Development**

Moved by the Rev Dr RA Russell, seconded by Mr Stephen Lynas and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That a grant of £1,000 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Church Architecture Committee.
3. That a grant of £15,750 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Presbyterian Historical Society.
4. That the Communications Development Committee be thanked for its work and discharged.
5. That the Board of Communications together with its associated Committees be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with paragraph 227 of the Code as follows:

**Church
Architecture
P.H.S.**

Rev Dr RA Russell, Convener**Stephen Lynas, Secretary**

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Editors of the Church Magazines; Board Convener and Secretary.
- (b) Rev DN Gray; Robert Poole — TH Savage, Mervyn Gilmore — Rev Brian McManus; Gareth Williams — Rev Dr TN Hamilton; FJA Ashe — Rev JT Lamb; Miss JP Gamble — Rev JR Lambe; Peter Buchanan — Revs TJ Stothers, MS Gault — Rev Dr James Frazer; Jim Donaghy — Rev SJ Gray; Mrs Valerie Stewart — Rev TI Harte; Roy Fleming — Rev AJ Thompson; Kenneth Irwin — Mrs Vicki Sandall, George McCullagh — Rev MN Davidson; Ivan Christie — Rev GA Mitchell; RA Sharpe — Rev DJ Temple; David Gordon — Rev Kenneth Nelson; Trevor McDaniel — Rev Dr AWG Brown; Mrs Michele McClean — Rev CM Glover; RJ Gowdy — Rev Dr JI Thompson; Maurice McNicholl.

A. COMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**Maurice McNicholl; Rev IF Smith, Co-Conveners**

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Communications and Press Secretary, Editor of Presbyterian Herald, Board Committee Conveners.
- (x) Revs Richard Gregg, CWP Kennedy; Graeme Thompson.
- (y) Rev Dr TN Hamilton; G McCullagh, David Gordon, K Irwin, Robert Poole, Roy Fleming, Mrs Michele McClean, Maurice McNicholl.

B. CHURCH ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE**Rev GD Simpson, Convener**

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Communications and Press Secretary, Representative of BMI.
- (x) Brian Knox, Kenneth Fleming, William Watt.
- (y) Revs JR Lambe, TI Harte; G McCullagh.

Intermission

Members of Assembly were joined by others to participate in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, conducted by the Moderator, assisted by the Very Rev Dr JS Carson and the Clerk.

The sederunt came to a close at 1.10pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

THIRD SESSION

Tuesday, 8th June, 2010

2.00 p.m.

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN** (Reports pp 197-201) was submitted by Mrs Phyllis Spence and Mrs Charlotte Stevenson.

**Presbyterian
Women**

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

The Report of the **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN TRAINING** (Reports pp 242-257) was submitted by the Rev George Moore together with the following Supplementary Report:

**CHRISTIAN
TRAINING
BOARD**

Qualifications Committee

The Convener, the Rev George Moore, reports:

1. The Qualifications Committee met once during the year to deal with enquiries from a small number of Ministers regarding formal recognition of certain qualifications. The Committee had before it the agreed General Assembly Guidelines (Reports 2006, pp 223-224).

2. The Committee confirmed its policy, as reported to the 2009 General Assembly, that in all such queries the onus is on the Minister concerned to demonstrate to the Committee's satisfaction that any qualification gained has met the criteria for recognition approved by the General Assembly.

The Moderator received Ministers recently licensed and those recently retired, who were presented respectively by the Rev RS Hetherington, Director of Ministerial Studies, and the Rev George Moore, Convener of the Board of Christian Training. The Moderator led in prayer.

Moved by the Rev George Moore, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.

2. That the following candidates, their nomination having been sustained by the Board of Christian Training, be accepted as students for the Ordained Ministry, and placed under the care of their Presbyteries:

Candidates

Name	Congregation	Presbytery
Gary Ball	Second Comber	Down

Philip Cleland	First Portadown	Armagh
Ross Collins	Belvoir	South Belfast
Chris Cordner	First Coleraine	Coleraine and Limavady
Nathan Duddy	First Dromore	Dromore
Russell Edgar	Druminnis	Armagh
Robert Hamilton	Trinity, Greyabbey	Ards
Mark Johnston	Muckamore	Templepatrick
Nigel Kane	Curran	Tyrone
Edward Kirwan	Trinity, Bangor	Ards
Ivan Linton	Castlerock	Coleraine and Limavady
Philip McClelland	Harryville	Ballymena
Reuben McCormick	Lucan	Dublin and Munster
Gordon McCracken	First Coleraine	Coleraine and Limavady
Stuart McCrea	Millisle	Ards
Alan Moore	Woodlands	Carrickfergus
Stephen Orr	Wellington	Ballymena
Matthew Simpson	Cloughwater	Ballymena
Roland Watt	Pomeroy	Tyrone

3. That the General Assembly agree that from 15 September 2011, applications to be received as Students for the Ministry should be accepted only from candidates who will not yet have attained the age of 55 years on the projected date of their eligibility for a call.

**Congregational
Leadership**

4. That the General Assembly warmly welcome the report “Towards Developing Congregational Leadership within PCI” and instruct the Board of Christian Training to develop further the issues within the report and bring to the General Assembly of 2011 proposals for a scheme for developing leadership at the congregational level based on its contents.

Pastoral Care

5. That the General Assembly warmly welcome the report “Towards Developing Pastoral Care within PCI” and instruct the Board of Christian Training to develop further the issues within the report and develop and promote, along with others as appropriate, a programme designed to further equip and resource those involved in pastoral care within congregations.

6. That the resignation of the Rev David Brice as Convener of the Union Theological College Management Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Very Rev Dr Alastair Dunlop be appointed in his place.

7. That the resignation of the Very Rev Dr Stafford Carson as Convener of the Training and Resources Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Dr Brian Savage be appointed in his place.

8. That the resignation of the Rev Noble McNeely as Convener of the Ministerial Studies and Development Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Bill Parker be appointed in his place.

9. That the resignation of the Rev George Moore as Convener of the Board of Christian Training be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Noble McNeely be appointed in his place.

10. That the rate of assessment for the Students Bursary Fund for 2010 be 5.25p in the £ stipend.

11. That the rate of assessment for the Ministerial Development Fund for 2010 be 0.25p in the £ stipend.

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

Rev Noble McNeely, Convener

Rev TD Gribben, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Board Convener and Secretary; Theological Professors; 2 student representatives; Director of Ministerial Studies; Christian Training Development Officer; Rev George Moore.
- (b) Revs Dr WJP Bailie, Robert Stirling — Revs NJ McCullough, Dr JS Carson — Revs JG Johnston, AAP Baxter — Rev JR Dickinson; Trevor Long — Revs Dr DJ McKelvey, TJ Wilson — Revs RD Maxwell, Colin Burcombe — Revs LJ Addis, RJ McCullough — Revs RS McMullan, JA Noble — Revs AC Wilson, RL Craig — Revs TW Gordon, BA Small — Rev JG Trueman; Dr C Reid — Revs DK McCrory, JG Faris — Revs IJ Patterson, WA Watson — Rev John Rushton; Eric Latimer — Revs FJ Gibson, BAH Wilson — Revs WD Cupples, DW Reid — Revs DIJ McNie, WS Smart — Revs Dr WD Patton, WJM Parker — Revs TWA Greer, JE Sloan.
- (g) Revs Karen Campbell, GE Best, Cheryl Meban, Mairisine Stanfield, DJ Montgomery, DH Thompson; Mrs M Myers, Mrs Isabel McAuley; WJ Cairns, Dr TD Alexander.

A. COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL STUDIES AND DEVELOPMENT

Rev WJM Parker, Convener

Director of Ministerial Studies, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Principal UTC, Students' Bursary Fund Convener, Director of Ministerial Studies, Professor of Practical Theology, Christian Training Development Officer.

- (x) Revs Adrian Moffett, William Sinclair, AV Stewart; Miss Anne Taylor, Mrs Rosemary Dunlop, Andrew Faulkner.
- (y) Revs IJ Patterson, Dr WJP Bailie, Colin Burcombe, JR Dickinson, WD Cupples, NJ McCullough.

B. COMMITTEE FOR TRAINING AND RESOURCES

Rev Dr RB Savage, Convener

Christian Training Development Officer, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Convener of Ministerial Studies and Development Committee, Professor of Practical Theology, Christian Training and Development Officer; Director of Ministerial Studies.
- (x) Revs AV Stewart, SJ Lockington, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie, David Johnston; Roy Thompson, Mrs J Gibson.
- (y) Revs WD Cupples, TWA Greer, TW Gordon, BAH Wilson, RL Craig, John Rushton.

C. UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Very Rev Dr Alastair Dunlop, Convener

Deputy Clerk, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener and Executive Secretary of the Board of Christian Training, Principal of Union Theological College, Convener of Ministerial Studies and Development Committee, one member of Faculty (on annual rotation), Convener of the Union Theological College Management Committee, Rev David Brice.
- (x) Revs Dr JS Carson, Dr Philip Wilson, WJ Orr; Dr Lena Morrow, Robert Martin, Uel McCrea, Trevor Bradford, Mrs Evelyn Shaw.

Intermission

**MISSION IN
IRELAND
BOARD**

The Report of the **BOARD OF MISSION IN IRELAND** (Reports pp 176-196) was submitted by the Rev RA Patton, together with the following Supplementary Report:

Research and Resources Committee**Research and
Resources**

The BMI Research and Resources Committee considered a request for the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to become involved in Biblefresh. A multi-agency initiative, Biblefresh aims to encourage and inspire Churches to make the most of the 400th anniversary of the publication of the Authorised Version of the Bible in 2011. The specific purpose of the initiative is to empower Christians to a deeper level of engagement with Scripture. It seeks to enable Churches in this task through the provision of ideas and resources to engage members with the Bible around four tracks

- Bible reading
- Bible training
- Bible translation
- Bible experiences

The Biblefresh Handbook, due for publication in summer 2010, will give further details of the initiative. A resolution to commend this initiative to Presbyteries and Congregations is appended.

The Committee further considered a continuation of the Awake initiative, run successfully in the last two years. A resolution is appended.

Moved by the Rev RA Patton, seconded by the Rev WJ Henry and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the report be received.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (see page 52)

The Report of the **UNION COMMISSION** (Reports pp 132-153) was submitted by the Rev Dr SA Matthews, together with the following Supplementary Report:

**UNION
COMMISSION****Correction to Paragraph 21**

Call figure for Knappagh, Stipend £12,500

Moved by the Rev Dr SA Matthews, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.

2. That the General Assembly direct the Union Commission to keep a register of the availability of retired ministers for continued ministry in supply preaching or in other appropriate roles and that information from this register be available to the Conveners of Vacancies and Clerks of Presbytery.

**Retired
Ministers**

3. That the General Assembly, continuing to recognise that for historical reasons there are more Church buildings, Congregations and Charges than are required in the present circumstances and that the worship and mission of the Church are hindered by this, instruct the Union Commission to continue in consultation with the Presbyteries and the Board of Mission in Ireland, actively to address this issue.

Redundant Buildings 4. The General Assembly direct the General Board to allocate to the appropriate Board or Committee the task of preparing practical guidance to Presbyteries on the disposal of redundant buildings, particularly where sensitive issues such as graveyards surrounding Churches are concerned.

5. That the General Assembly direct the Union Commission to prepare printed material setting out the issues contained in “Ministry, Finance and Mission” and that the Presbyteries oversee the discussion of this material by each Kirk Session.

6. That the General Assembly encourage Presbyteries to make use of the provisions of the Code [Par 190(1)(b)] which allow for the appointment of a Vacancy Convener and Commission before a Minister actually retires or demits the charge.

Additional Appointments 7. That the General Assembly instruct that any Additional Appointment made by a Presbytery comes under the auspices of the Union Commission, through the Additional Appointments Committee, and that Guidelines on Additional Appointments be amended appropriately.

First Ballymacarrett/Ravenhill 8. That the Congregation of First Ballymacarrett be amalgamated with the Congregation of Ravenhill on terms agreed by the Union Commission on 31 October 2010 or some other suitable date, under the name Ravenhill.

Second Derry/Carlisle Road 9. That the Congregation of Second Derry (Strand and Buncrana) Congregation be amalgamated with Carlisle Road Congregation on terms agreed by the Union Commission on 11 October 2010, or other suitable date as agreed by the Presbytery of Derry and Donegal.

CMF 10. That CMF be authorised to pay grants towards expenses incurred by Ministers in congregations, up to a limit of NI £5,752 or RI 8,841, within the terms of resolution 3, p 70 General Assembly Minutes, 1988.

11. That the Union Commission be appointed for the ensuring year in accordance with Par 128 of the Code as follows:

Rev Dr SA Matthews, Convener

Rev Dr I Hart, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Commission Convener and Secretary, Board of Mission in Ireland Secretary, Strategy for Mission Convener, Representative of Central Ministry Fund.
- (b) Rev Dr DR Purce; Miss Pearl Hassard — Rev EP Gamble; James Whittle — Rev Desmond Knowles; James Gregg — Rev PG McCrea; DH McCormick — Rev Dr Ian Hart; Brian Milligan — Rev William McKeown; WF McConnell — Rev Dr Cecil Grant; Norman Carmichael — Rev JG Jones; Colin Beck — Rev AJA Rosborough; Craig Henderson — Rev RI Abraham; Norman Jackson — Rev Dr WTJ Richardson; WEC Ford — Rev JG Faris; Keith Talbot — Rev TJ Hagan; JB McClean — Rev SG Anketell; George McConkey — Rev Dr MA Barry; Adam Barber — Rev CFD Clements; JB Wilson — Rev

Noel McClean; James Kane — Rev PT Dalzell; TJ Livingstone — Rev Dr KO Patterson; Dr Harold McNeill.

- (c) Revs Dr JW Lockington, Dr SDH Williamson, JH McIntyre, AE Tolland, DC Porter; Mrs Hilary Jess, AJ Giffen, Dr TJ Robinson.

The sederunt came to a close at 5.55pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

On Tuesday Evening, 8 June, 2010, at 7.45pm, a discussion was held in the Assembly Hall under the title “Presbyterians Talk : Policing and Justice”.

FOURTH SESSION

Wednesday, 9th June, 2010

9.30 a.m.

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **BOARD OF MISSION OVERSEAS** (Reports pp 158-175) was submitted by the Rev SJ Hanna.

**MISSION
OVERSEAS
BOARD
Resolutions**

Moved by the Rev SJ Hanna, seconded by the Rev WS Marrs, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly give thanks for the faithful service and dedicated witness of PCI's missionary personnel and their families serving overseas, and encourage BMO to continue in its established role of sending out missionary personnel in response to the Call of God and the invitation of PCI's partners.

Personnel

3. That the General Assembly give thanks for the witness of all who come from partner churches to study and serve in Ireland, and encourage all BMO Assembly Committees to foster a climate in which PCI's partners can make an increasing contribution to the denomination's thinking about, and practice of, mission today, both in Ireland and throughout the world.

**Partner
Churches**

4. That the General Assembly encourage congregations to equip their members for involvement in global mission and to avail themselves of the information, insight and training provided by BMO's resources and events.

5. That the General Assembly encourage congregations to seek opportunities for active involvement in leadership development projects, especially through engagement with, and support of, leaders in training from partner churches.

Church Planting 6. That the General Assembly acknowledge the guidelines on church planting and evangelism and affirm their continued commitment to encourage and assist partner churches in this work.

World Development 7. That the General Assembly give thanks that in difficult times support for the World Development Appeal is strengthening.

Appeals 8. That the General Assembly give thanks that, confronted with suffering and devastation caused by the earthquake in Haiti, Presbyterians in Ireland responded with generosity, bringing hope in the midst of destruction.

9. That the General Assembly give thanks for the support raised by the Board of Youth and Children's Ministry, the Junior Boys' Brigade, and Presbyterian Women for the mission of partners in Malawi, Kenya, Jamaica, Palestine and Nepal, and for every expression of 'extra mile' giving by the wider church; and recognise especially the very generous grant received from PW in 2009.

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

Rev SJ Hanna, Convener

Rev WS Marrs, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Convener and Secretary of the Board; Representative of Church Relations, Board of Mission in Ireland, Board of Youth and Children's Ministry, Personnel Officer (Overseas), Finance Officer (Overseas).
- (b) Revs NW McAuley, Dr WJP Bailie; Mrs OE Byers — Revs DR Byers, Philip McKelvey; Mrs Joan Thompson — Rev DB McCorrison; Nathaniel Rea, Mrs Joan Hamill — Revs JSB Drennan, IK McDonald; Mrs Renee Gifford — Revs IS McDowell, Prof WG Campbell; Mrs Margaret Jackson — Rev Joan Scott; Mrs Ruth Campbell, Miss Leonora Wasson — John McKay, Miss Denise Savage, Miss Marie Kane — Rev Dr Clive Glass; George McIntyre, Mrs Margaret Conn — Rev GP Young; Victor McKean, Miss Kathleen McConnell — Revs Mairisine Stanfield, Dr AF Nel, _____ — Rev RA McLernon; Norman McKinney, Mrs Elma Leeburn — Revs KP Meyer, DJ Montgomery; Heather Moore — Rev PD Thompson; Dr John Kyle, Mrs Judith McClelland — Rev Daniel Reyes-Martin; Eric Latimer, Mrs Patricia Martin — Revs RK Graham, BAH Wilson; Mrs Grace McCullough — Revs JH Hanson, CI Dickson; Mrs Rosemary Honeyford — Revs RW Gaston, KDW Crowe; Miss DE McCaughan

— Rev PE Dickinson; HH Meekin, Mrs Jean Duncan — Rev JA Curry; Dr Maureen Stevenson, Mrs Anne McGuckin.

- (p) President, Overseas Vice President and General Secretary of PW; Dr Jean Shannon, Mrs Moyra Stirling, Mrs Lynn Murray, Mrs Jean Donald, Mrs Edith Holmes.

A. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Rev Dr WG Campbell, Convener

Rev WS Marrs, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener; Mission Education Officer.
- (x) Revs BAH Wilson, NSR Lockhart, CA Meban, David Stanfield; Miss Deborah Ford, Mrs Isobel McAuley.
- (y) Revs Dr Clive Glass, JH Hanson, D Reyes-Martin; Mrs Margaret Jackson, Miss Marie Kane, Mrs Ruth Campbell, Mrs Moyra Stirling, Mrs Edna McIlwaine.

B. MISSION INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

Rev Dr MJ Welsh, Convener

CN Eves, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, Mission Education Officer, Personnel Officer (Overseas).
- (x) Revs DH Thompson, PG McDowell; Miss Sharon Creighton, Miss Deborah Ford, Stephen Lynas, Maurice McNicholl.
- (y) Revs PE Dickinson, JSB Drennan, KDW Crowe; Norman McKinney, HH Meekin, Mrs OE Byers, Mrs Jean Donald, Mrs Edith Holmes.

C. OUTREACH MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Rev SJ Richmond, Convener

Rev WS Marrs, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, Mission Education Officer, Convener of World Development.
- (x) Revs Gareth Aitchison, TP Fleming, NE Dorrans, RA Moffett; Mrs Valerie Tweedie, Dr Maureen Stevenson.
- (y) Revs CI Dickson, RA McLernon, PD Thompson; Mrs Patricia Martin, Miss Denise Savage, Mrs Lynn Murray, Mrs Edna McIlwaine.

D. WORLD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**Rev Dr MCA Gray, Convener****Rev WS Marrs, Secretary**

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, Mission Education Officer, Church Relations representative, Convener of Outreach Ministries Committee.
- (x) Revs Dr Samuel Hutchinson, JT Magowan; Alf McCreary, Mrs Shiela Phillips, Ralph Sheppard, Mrs Fiona Watts.
- (y) Revs Joan Scott, IS McDowell, KP Meyer, Dr AF Nel; George McIntyre, Miss Leonora Wasson, Dr Jean Shannon.

SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

The Report of the **2010 SPECIAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE** (Reports p 307) was submitted by the Rev TC Morrison.

Resolutions

Moved by the Rev TC Morrison, seconded by the Rev DH Thompson and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the ad hoc Committee for the Special Assembly be reappointed for a further year as follows:

Revs DH Thompson, TC Morrison, Co-Conveners

The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Committee Conveners.

Revs JA Beattie, AJ Boal, A Carroll, RL Craig, WD Cupples, MN Davidson, CWP Kennedy, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie, FP Sellar, SJ Hanna, Karen Campbell, DJ Bruce; S McDowell, S Lynas, Mrs M Patterson, Miss B McDade, D Thomson, Miss JP Gamble, R Thompson, Miss J Nelson, Harry Orr.

Intermission**GENERAL BOARD**

The Report of the **GENERAL BOARD** (Reports pp 14-113) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, along with the following Supplementary Report:

Conference**General Board Conference**

1. The General Board met in Conference mode in January 2010 to explore two areas which were identified as important for the life of the Church: 1) A Healthy Ministry 2) Resourcing Ministry and Mission.

Morning Session – A Healthy Ministry

2. The Clerk introduced the topic as a positive way of looking at how to support ministers who are experiencing some level of stress. A report to the General Assembly in 1997 was entitled – “Stress in the Christian Ministry – The

Human Cost of Caring”. It included a survey to which 123 ministers replied and showed: 22% experienced excessive stress levels; 9% had time off due to stress; 17% had considered leaving full-time ministry. While there has not been a more recent survey, anecdotally the problem is still a serious one.

3. Peter McBride, Northern Ireland Association for Mental Health, gave an interesting and informative talk on the causes of stress in ministry and how it may be more effectively managed.

4. For ministers and their families, most support is given and experienced informally through networks and friendships. More recently the Panel on Pastoral Care of Manse Families has offered a confidential service of pastoral support. Carecall has also been introduced and made available as a telephone listening service. It is too soon to assess how widely these services are being used.

5. The main question for the Conference was whether Church structures, particularly the “Courts” of the Church, help to promote and support a healthy ministry or whether at times they can add to the pressures. The Conference broke into three groups to discuss the role of a) the Kirk Session b) the Presbytery c) the General Assembly through its Boards and Committees. Some of the main points raised were:

6. **On the Kirk Session**, the need for further education in understanding of the role of the Kirk Session both as a leadership and pastoral body; the importance of the Code harmonising with good practice and of confidentiality; the question of elders serving for life.

7. **On the Presbytery**, the importance of recognising a pastoral as well as administrative role; the need for greater participation at meetings; a mentoring role with greater supervision of ministers; the need for accountability and for a better relationship between Presbytery and Kirk Session.

8. **On the General Assembly**, the need for strategic thinking; decision-making at an appropriate level – some more effectively carried out at Presbytery level; the size of Boards and Committees in order to create a dynamic that works; issues of culture, communication and relevant authority.

9. A resolution to encourage further thought on the role of the Church Courts, including Boards and Committees, is appended.

Afternoon Session – Resourcing Ministry and Mission

10. The Clerk gave an overview of how ministry and mission is presently financed through assessments and United Appeal. He also indicated recent work undertaken by the Union Commission, United Appeal Board and General Board to ensure accountability in central spending. The Very Rev Dr John Dunlop spoke passionately about the need to encourage greater and intentional giving through tithing. A resolution to initiate further thought on and encouragement of planned giving is being brought to the Assembly by the United Appeal Board.

Presbytery Bounds

When adjustments were made to Presbytery Bounds the Monaghan Presbytery was extended and now asks that its name be changed. An additional resolution in the name of the Presbytery Clerk is appended.

Recognised Ministries Committee

Par 6 add:

Dromore	Rev Kiran Wimberly	to be retained as a Minister without Charge
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Church and
Society

Church and Society Committee

Victims & Survivors

1. The debate about the definition of a victim and the hierarchy of victims remains contentious. At the same time the Commission for Victims and Survivors NI (CVSNI) continues in its efforts to address the needs of victims and survivors and bring cohesion and direction to the sector generally.

2. In order to further inform itself the Committee agreed to meet with representatives of victims groups, most of whom it had not met before. Over the autumn months the committee met with Reetha Hasson, Saver Naver, Mark Thompson, Claire O'Reilly and a number of other individuals connected with the umbrella group Relatives for Justice, Alan McBride, WAVE and Brendan McAllister, CVSNI. Some of those invited did not respond.

3. At the same time the Pilot Victims Forum was being put in place and will make recommendations about the future of the Forum in autumn 2010. The Committee felt that any position it might take publically on the definition or hierarchy issues would undermine the Forum process. Ultimately it is better if this difficult area is navigated by the sector itself. What the Committee has learned will inform the paper on Shared Future. In the meantime the Committee wishes the present Forum well as it comes towards the end of its business.

4. Again and again comment is made that the CVSNI has achieved very little, value for money is questioned and the number of Commissioners a matter for debate. However, it would seem that the Victims' Forum has had some success in moving towards finding a way through the conflict around the definition and hierarchy of victims. The Committee believes that moving forward in this conflicted area is necessary in order to more effectively deliver what is needed for victims, survivors and the wider society in a post-conflict situation. It therefore encourages both the Commission and the Forum in their work.

Future Work

5. The future work of the Northern Committee is largely focussed on three areas: the economy; shared future; sectarianism.

6. *The economy.* This issue is common to society North & South of the border. A conference is in the planning stages to give the Church the opportunity to consider how Christians view different types of economic arrangement and what challenge the Gospel brings to us as disciples of Jesus Christ. Further information will be available in the coming months and the Committee remains hopeful of significant involvement from those living and working in the Republic of Ireland.

7. *Shared Future.* A position paper is being prepared and it is hoped that a first draft will be available to the October General Board.

8. *Sectarianism.* Responses were received from eight Presbyteries for which the Committee would like to put its thanks on record. These responses will now be considered and a proposed way forward brought to next year's General Assembly.

Financial Crisis

PMS

1. Since the Special Assembly on 13 April, 2010 there has, of course, been a change of Government at Westminster. The Moderator immediately wrote to the Prime Minister asking for a meeting and outlining the Church's view that "the failure of the PMS was a local manifestation of the malaise which affected so much of the UK financial services sector" and calling on the Government to "respond in a way which would produce the same result for PMS savers as had been achieved for all the savers in failed institutions in the rest of that sector – namely that all their savings were protected".

2. The Panel commends the efforts of all who are working to this end. At this time of change in Government, it encourages concerned members to write to the Prime Minister and engage with political representatives to bring about an acceptable resolution without further delay. To assist with this a list of possible contacts is available at the Carrickfergus window.

3. The Clerk wrote similarly to the Secretary of State and this has resulted on a meeting with the Rt Hon Owen Paterson MP on Monday, 7 June, 2010. This will be reported on verbally at the General Assembly. A meeting with the First and deputy First Ministers has also been requested.

4. The Panel has considered how, if it is appropriate, the £1m agreed at the Special Assembly should be raised. This is not an endorsement of any particular Government plan but a sign of willingness on the part of the Church to contribute towards a solution. When the General Board indicates that the contribution is appropriate, the Panel recommends, in the first instance, that an appeal should be made to those individuals and congregations who wish to contribute as a sign of goodwill.

Judicial Appeals

Judicial
Appeal

1. The ad hoc Committee on Judicial Appeals held a further meeting on 13 May.

Minority Report

2. The Committee further considered the suggestion of a minority report from members of the Judicial Commission (see Annual Reports, p 66, par 5). The following questions were raised.

- (i) Would the provision for a minority report apply only to appeals or to all Judicial Commission business? If applying to some items but not to others, which items?
 - (ii) How could members of Assembly or General Board who had not seen the witnesses or heard the evidence make an informed decision?
 - (iii) In the event of a final decision made by the Assembly or the General Board being the subject of civil litigation, might all members be summoned to appear before a court or tribunal to explain how they had voted and why?
3. The Committee decided not to support the suggestion of a minority report.

Court of First Instance

4. The Committee considered the implications of the Judicial Commission acting as a court of first instance (see Annual Reports, p 66, par 6). That procedure precludes the possibility of an appeal. The following points were raised.

- (i) The importance of appointing assessors to assist Presbyteries dealing with judicial cases;
- (ii) The possibility of appointing a Committee of the Judicial Commission to act as a court of first instance for cases referred. Appeal could then lie to the remaining members of the Judicial Commission. Such a Committee should be a Standing Committee (like the Special Commission) rather than being selected and appointed for each case arising. This proposal would require an amendment to the Code.

Procedures after a decision

5. The Committee considered what further procedures are available to parties involved in a case after a decision is made by the Judicial Commission. There could be an informal discussion with office bearers of the Commission or, failing that, a Memorial to the Assembly.

Code Par 126(3)

6. It was agreed that the meaning of Code Par 126(3) (an allegation that a commission has exceeded its powers) should be clearly explained.

2011

7. The Committee proposes that it be re-appointed to continue its discussion on matters arising from this year's Reports and to bring proposals to the General Assembly in 2011.

Pensions and Assessments

Pensions and
Assessments

1. The Panel has met once since the Report was written. In order to understand more fully the reason for the recommended change in accrual rates the following note on Scheme Funding is provided.

Scheme Funding

- a. An actuarial valuation of the combined scheme was carried out at 31 December 2008 and revealed a deficit of £20m. The Church and Scheme Trustees agreed a recovery period of 14 years to remove the deficit which resulted in a deficit funding contribution of 10.9% of pensionable salaries, in addition to the Church's normal contribution of 16.5% and the members' contribution of 7%. The deficit funding contribution will be reviewed at the 31 December 2011 actuarial valuation.
- b. The funding position has improved since the valuation date and the deficit stood at approximately £9m at 31 December 2009. However it should be noted that the amount of the deficit will continue to be volatile due to ongoing volatility in the investment markets and the related impact on the value of the liabilities.
- c. The Scheme Trustees are in the process of reviewing the Scheme's investment strategy, in consultation with the Church. The intention is to reduce the level of volatility in the asset portfolio by investing increasingly in more stable assets such as UK government bonds. This should result in an increasingly stable long-term contribution rate.
- d. However, more stable assets usually produce lower long-term investment returns, and so to compensate for this, a higher level of contribution from the Church would be expected at the next actuarial valuation at 31 December 2011. This increase is likely to offset some of the reduction in the deficit funding contribution arising from the improved funding position referred to above.

2. The Panel is aware that the Government is introducing the National Employment Savings Trust (NEST) and this will affect employees, mostly under the Board of Social Witness, who are not currently in a pension scheme. It makes the following comment.

National Employment Savings Trust (NEST)

a. The Government first announced in 2006 that it intended to introduce a system of automatic pension scheme enrolment for all eligible employees. Enrolment can be made into the NEST scheme or an employer's own scheme if it meets certain requirements.

Employee	4% of Qualifying earnings
Employer	3% of Qualifying earnings
Tax Relief	1% of Qualifying earnings

This was to ensure that as many people as possible could look forward to an employer-sponsored pension to supplement the state pension on reaching retirement age.

Accordingly the Pensions Act 2008 implemented the framework for the “Personal Accounts” regime (now known as NEST) and during 2009 a number of consultations by the Government and the Delivery Authority, which will oversee the new scheme, have provided more detailed proposals.

b. The scheme is scheduled to start in 2012 and over the period 2012 to 2016, on a monthly basis (known as “staging dates”), employers in order of size will be required to enrol automatically into a scheme all workers, including part-timers, between the ages of 22 and the state pension age and earning over £5,700 pa (in estimated 2010/11 terms). The anticipated staging date for the Church would be around October 2013.

NEST is a defined contribution scheme from which an individual worker who has been auto-enrolled, can subsequently opt out by giving notice within a limited period, but there is provision for a process for re-enrolment every 3 years for such people.

c. The Panel has considered NEST in the context of those PCI employees for whom no pension provision is available and also those who may have opted not to avail themselves of membership despite their eligibility to join an available scheme.

d. The Panel has considered the comparative costs of extending membership of the PCI (2009) to all PCI employees, and alternatively, all those not in any scheme being directed to the Pensions Trust scheme, and it has looked at the inherent costs of putting all the non-pensioned into NEST. However, it is always possible that the new coalition Government may alter the Labour Government’s proposals and the Panel’s judgement was that until a clearer picture emerges it would be premature to make any specific recommendation.

3. The Panel is aware of concerns expressed by some of a conflict of interest when members of Assembly vote on pension benefits and other topics on which they have a personal interest. While it has not, in the timescale available, been possible to explore fully the legal implications this is an important discussion which the Panel would like to explore further with a view to a definite recommendation next year. An additional resolution is appended.

Peacemaking **Future of Peacemaking**

The application to the Special EU Programmes Body for an inter-Church Project is still being actively considered but a decision is not now expected until late July. If the response is positive the project will be taken forward by the General Board.

Memorial Record **Memorial Record**

The Rev Robert John Lester died on 14 March 2010 in the 84th year of his age and the 45th year of his ministry. He was brought up within the fellowship of St Enoch’s Congregation and was educated at the Boy’s Model

School, Cookstown Technical College, Pomona College California, San Jose State College and, what was then the Assembly's College, Belfast. Before entering the ministry he worked for British Rail and in the Travel Agents – Messrs McCalla and Co Ltd. The experience he gained in these establishments was to stand him in very good stead throughout his future life and ministry. For many years he toiled with the idea that God could be calling him into some form of full time Christian Work. When it became clear to him that this was indeed the case he allowed no challenge to stand in his way of following his Lord throughout a long period of study and subsequent ministry. On completion of his studies he was licensed by the North Belfast Presbytery in May 1965 and ordained and installed as Assistant Minister in Ballysillan Congregation in December of that same year. In November 1967 he was installed to his first Charge of First and Second Ramelton. During his time here he took on the additional responsibility of Kilmacrennan Congregation. In March 1976 he responded affirmatively to a call from Newington Congregation where he remained until 1983 when he moved to his final Charge of Ringsend. Here he remained until retirement in April 1992. In all his Congregations his pulpit ministry was deeply appreciated. However it was as a most caring pastor that he is most lovingly remembered. As a shepherd he knew his flock and as he loved them, they in turn loved him and continue to remember him with the utmost respect. Roy had many gifts and varied interests. He was throughout his life a strong supporter of the Boys Brigade. As he himself had received so much from this organisation he unstintingly gave much back and epitomised all that was best in BB. Having benefitted himself from the Ministry of Divine Healing during a serious life-threatening illness, he maintained a lively interest in this ministry thereafter and indeed was the Convener on the General Assembly's Divine Healing Committee from 1985 until 1992. In April 1967 he married Lorna Hunter and what an example of true Christian Marriage their union turned out to be! Their joy was to work hand in hand with the people God had called them to work amongst. Lorna and their daughter Sylvia can be assured that the sympathy of the General Assembly is with them in this time of sorrow and loss.

The Very Rev Professor John Thompson BA, BD, PhD, DD, died on 30 May 2010 in the 88th year of his age and the 58th of his ministry. From the Bushmills area, he was brought up within the fellowship of Toberkeigh Congregation and educated at Ballycastle High School, Magee University College, Trinity College, New College Edinburgh, Basel University Switzerland, Queens University and, what was then, Assembly's College. On completion of his studies for the ministry he was licensed by the Route Presbytery in 1947 and ordained and installed to his first Charge of Sandymount in 1952, having served his Assistantship in St Enoch's Congregation. He remained in Sandymount until 1961 when he was called to Fortwilliam Park. During his time in Fortwilliam Park he completed a Queens PhD on – Christology in the thinking and writings of Karl Barth – and from time to time he deputised for the late Professor JLM Haire – the then Professor of Systematic Theology and Apologetics – at Assembly's College. On the retirement of Professor Haire in 1976 he was appointed to this Chair where he remained until his own retirement in 1994. In addition to being Moderator of the General Assembly in the year 1986/7, he held several other General Assembly

appointments including Convener of the Jewish Mission and membership of the Irish and British Council of Churches. For several years he was joint editor of the journal – Biblical Theology. As those who remember John Thompson's pulpit ministry will confirm, he was no mean preacher. Careful thought and attention to detail shone through in a most convincing and challenging way. The same could be said of his pastoral ministry where he demonstrated genuine love and concern for the people among whom he was called to serve. However it is as an outstanding Systematic Theologian that he will be most remembered. Indeed his writings and translations of Karl Barth's – Church Dogmatics – and his book – "Christ in Perspective in the Theology of Karl Barth" – must be essential reading for any serious student of twentieth century theology. Fortunate indeed were those who sat under his lecturing ministry. They soon became convinced of the need for an accurate biblical understanding of doctrine and of how essential it is to have a sound grasp of the humanity and divinity of Christ. To him, this was the touchstone by which theologically everything else stands or falls and should always be at the core of theological discussion whether within or outside the pulpit. With his first wife Ann, who sadly died some years ago, he had a daughter and two sons Catherine, Jonathan and Michael. They, and his wife Dame Professor Ingrid Allen, can be assured that the sympathy and prayers of the General Assembly are with them at this time of sorrow and loss.

Resolutions Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof Drew Gibson and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Priorities **Priorities Committee**

2. That the General Assembly agree the procedure for prioritising the work of the Boards outlined in the Priorities Committee Report, par 1.

3. That the General Assembly agree the priority areas for new work (2011-2013) identified in the Priorities Committee Report, pars 3, 4.

4. That the General Assembly agree the remit and membership of the Priorities Committee, as outlined in the Priorities Committee Report, par 5.

5. That the General Assembly encourage the General Board to continue its thinking on how the Courts of the Church, including General Assembly Boards and Committees, may effectively support mission and ministry.

Conciliation **Moderator's Advisory Committee**

6. That the General Assembly encourage the provision of conciliation training at all levels in the Church and especially ask Presbytery Clerks to ensure that they have adequate understanding of the conciliation process.

7. That the Panel of Conciliators, co-ordinated by the Rev Doug Baker, be thanked for their work.

8. That the General Assembly appoint an ad-hoc Committee to consider the possibility of ruling elders serving on a Kirk Session for a set period of time.

Intermission

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted, at the invitation of the Moderator, by Rev Mark Shaw. The Moderator invited Rev Niall Lockhart to address the Assembly.

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

FIFTH SESSION

Wednesday, 9th June, 2010

2.00 p.m.

GENERAL
BOARD
(contd)
Resolutions

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr JS Carson and agreed:

Financial Crisis

PMS 9. That the General Assembly call on the new Westminster Government to consider the situation of PMS savers as a matter of utmost urgency and to ensure that, as for all other savers in the United Kingdom, their savings are returned in full.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr JS Carson:

10. That the General Assembly authorise the General Board, when and if appropriate, to issue an appeal or take whatever other steps are necessary to raise the promised contribution agreed at the Special Assembly.

Moved as an amendment by the Rev CJ Aitcheson, seconded by the Rev WJ Carlisle:

That the General Assembly authorise the General Board, when and if appropriate, first to ask ministers to contribute voluntarily from their Central Ministry Fund bonus what they judge they can afford for as long as necessary to raise the promised contribution agreed at the Special Assembly, and only then, if considered necessary to issue an appeal.

The amendment was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Moved as an amendment by the Rev AD Davidson, seconded by the Rev NAL Cameron:

That the General Assembly authorise the General Board, when and if appropriate, to ask ministers to contribute voluntarily what they judge they can afford to give a lead in raising the promised contribution agreed at the Special Assembly.

A card vote was taken, 274 votes were cast for and 164 votes were cast against. The amendment was declared passed.

On being put to the House, the substantive motion was declared passed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr JS Carson and agreed:

Judicial Church Courts

11. That where a case before the Judicial Commission substantially involves an interpretation of doctrine and the General Assembly has not recently issued on the subject, the Judicial Commission shall consult with the Doctrine Committee as outlined.

12. That the General Assembly encourage the Courts of the Church to ensure that in cases of difficulty conciliation is attempted, where possible, before a judicial process is begun.

13. That the ad hoc Committee on Church Courts be thanked and discharged.

Judicial Appeals

14. That the General Assembly encourage a Presbytery, where it is appropriate, to hear a case rather than refer it to the Judicial Commission and in order to assist in this process the Clerk of Assembly is asked, in consultation with others, to bring a Draft Guide on the Judicial Process to the next General Assembly for approval.

15. That the ad hoc Committee on Judicial Appeals be re-appointed for another year to consider matters arising from this year's Report and to bring proposals to the General Assembly in 2011.

SPUD

16. That the General Assembly encourage greater co-operation between the Mission Boards, in which young people may play a meaningful part, as our denomination seeks to respond to the challenge of holistic mission and actively engage with both our local and global communities.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by Mr DA Crowe and agreed:

Pensions and Assessments

**Pensions and
Assessments**

17. That the General Assembly agree the normal pensionable retirement age be kept in line with the male State Pensionable Age (N Ireland).

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by Mr DA Crowe:

18. That the General Assembly accept the recommendation of the Pensions and Assessments Panel to reduce the accrual rate from $\frac{1}{60}$ to $\frac{1}{70}$ of pensionable income for each year of future service from January 2011.

Moved as an amendment by the Rev WJ Henry, seconded by the Rev Dr MCA Gray:

That the Pension and Assessments Panel consider a change in the pension fund accrual rate from $\frac{1}{60}$ to $\frac{1}{70}$ only after the triennial valuation of the pension fund (31st December 2011).

On being put to the House, the amendment was declared lost.

The original resolution was declared passed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by Mr DA Crowe and agreed:

19. That the General Assembly adopt the recommendations of the Pensions and Assessments Panel on the Board of Trustees (Appendix I, 9.2).

20. That the General Assembly agree to consider that assessments be on an 'unrestricted income' basis and instruct the Panel to bring detailed proposals to the General Assembly in 2011.

21. That the General Assembly ask the Pensions and Assessments Panel to report fully to the General Assembly 2011 with a recommendation on how possible “conflict of interest” issues may be dealt with.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (see page 65)

Intermission

UNITED APPEAL BOARD Resolutions

The Report of the **UNITED APPEAL BOARD** (Reports pp 304-310) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Very Rev Dr John Dunlop, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the United Appeal for 2011 be as set out in Schedules (III) and (IV).
3. That the General Assembly support a Church-wide policy to encourage Presbyterians to plan their Christian generosity as a percentage of their income and appoint an ad-hoc Committee to plan how this policy may be encouraged throughout the Church.
4. That the General Assembly commend the DVDs on the work of the Boards and encourage Congregations to download them from the website.
5. That the United Appeal Board for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 287 of the Code as follows:-

Rev RIA Allely, Convener
The Clerk, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Board Convener.
- (b) Mrs EJ Mann — JN Greenlee — Rev NAL Cameron — Billy Elliot — Miss Hazel McMillen — Martin Hampton — Rev WJ Johnstone — Rev TJ Laverty — Stewart Ramsey — William Keown — James McDowell — Rev Mary Hunter — GR Macauley — Rev Dr RB Savage — Rev DJ Temple — Rev Ian McClean — Rev KDW Crowe — Rev Dr JH MacConnell — Rev WG Hamilton.
- (g) Revs Dr John Dunlop, TA McNeely; Miss DE McCaughan, D Alexander, Dr J Woolsey, B McCormack, N Adams, DA Crowe, Raymond Adams.

FINANCE AND PERSONNEL BOARD

The Report of the **BOARD OF FINANCE AND PERSONNEL** (Reports pp 272-303) was submitted by Mr John Hunter, CB, along with the following Supplementary Report:

1. The Board confirms that Ernst & Young, LLP has issued an unqualified audit report on the accounts of the General Assembly for the year

ended 31 December 2009. This follows compliance with Financial Reporting Standard No 17 "Retirement Benefits" and the disclosure of a pension liability of £30,423,000 on the Balance Sheet. This liability reflects not only the deficit in the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) of £11,093,000 but also a provision of £19,330,000 relating to other retirement benefits. These include the benefits paid through the Retired Ministers' Fund, Widows of Ministers' Fund, to Retired College Professors and Deaconesses as well as the payment to retired ministers from the Central Ministry Fund. Further details are provided in the accounts and note thereto.

2. The assumptions used by the actuary to calculate the FRS 17 liability in respect of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) are prescribed and are slightly different from those used for an actuarial valuation. As a result, the latest annual update on funding report prepared by the actuary indicates a lower deficit at 31 December 2009 of 8.6m. The size of the deficit in the scheme varies not only as investment values increase or decrease but also for changes in the valuation of the pension liabilities.

Property Management Committee

**Property
Management**

1. Tenders have now been received for the internal refurbishment of Church House as outlined in the Annual Report (p 284), including the provision of a new entrance from Fisherwick Place, a new reception area on the ground floor, the refurbishment of all offices on the third floor, the refurbishment of all offices on the second floor, and the upgrading of the Assembly Hall together with a new ground floor storage area, accessible from the Assembly Hall.

2. Six Contractors were invited to tender, and competent and complete tender documents were received from four Companies. The tender from Felix O'Hare & Co. Ltd. has been examined in detail by our professional consultants and they are of the opinion that the pricing of the Bill of Quantities is extremely keen, the tender is genuinely competitive and properly made up, and represents value for money. It is approximately £350,000 below a recent estimate prepared by the Quantity Surveyor. Pricing levels have been discussed with the prospective builders and they are satisfied that the total cost which they have submitted is adequate to enable them to satisfactorily carry out and complete this project.

3. It is recommended that the tender of Felix O'Hare & Co. Ltd. in the sum of £3,228,000 be accepted, making a total cost for the project of approximately £4,200,000 including professional fees, furniture and VAT at 17.5%. (Estimated at £4,700,000 in the Annual Reports, p 284, paragraph 4).

4. It is anticipated that the present contract for the external works to Church House will be completed substantially under the approved budget. Whilst final account details cannot yet be calculated, recent cost monitoring suggests a saving of over £200,000 on the approved costs. This saving would indicate that, at current interest rates, the external works will be paid off by 2013 (three years earlier than anticipated).

5. To finance this proposed internal refurbishment contract, it is suggested that there should be no increase in the current assessment of 3.5p per

£ of stipend and that this assessment should be allowed to continue until final payment is made (see Annual Reports, p284, paragraph 5). An assessment of 3.5p per £ of stipend currently generates approx £350,000 per annum. The date of the final payment is sensitive to interest rates and income from the Church House complex, and also, to a lesser extent, to the rate of VAT, but, if it is assumed that income and interest rates continue at the current level (of approx £100,000 and 2% respectively), the project should be paid off during 2022. However, due to the present commercial rental climate and the associated income from tenants, it may be prudent to assume a reduction in the net income to £75,000, and to suggest an average interest rate of 4.5% over the payment period. This would indicate that the final payment should be made in 2025. Continual assessment of payment balances should be made at regular intervals depending on the variables mentioned above.

- Resolutions** Moved by Mr John Hunter, CB, seconded by Mr Hubert Martin and agreed:
1. That the Report be received.
- Assessments**
2. That the rate of assessment for the Incidental Fund for 2010 be 5.00p in the £ of stipend.
 3. That the rate of assessment for the Central Ministry Fund for 2010 be 18.50p in the £ of stipend.
 4. That the rate of assessment for the Retired Ministers' Fund for 2010 be 2.75p in the £ of stipend.
 5. That the rate of assessment for the Widows of Ministers' Fund for 2010 be 4.50p in the £ of stipend.
 6. That the rate of assessment for the Prolonged Disability Fund for 2010 be 0.25p in the £ of stipend.
 7. That the rate of assessment for the Church House External Work for 2010 be 3.50p in the £ of stipend.
 8. That the rate of assessment for the Sick Supply Fund for 2010 be 0.25p in the £ of stipend.
- Tyrone Memorial Review**
9. That the General Assembly send the proposals set out in the Paper on the Review of the Tyrone Memorial to Presbyteries and Congregations for discussion and comment, with report to the Board Convener by 31 December 2010, and ask the Board to bring a report with appropriate Code changes to the 2011 General Assembly.
- Expenses**
10. That the General Assembly ask the Board of Finance and Personnel to undertake a review of ministerial expenses in conjunction with the Union Commission and bring a report to the 2011 General Assembly.
- Property Management**
11. That the contract work outlined in paragraph 1 of the Supplementary Report be approved and that the Tender of Felix O'Hare & Co Ltd in the sum of £3,228,000 be accepted, making a total cost for the project of approximately £4,200,000, and that this project be funded by continuing the existing rate of assessment of 3.5p per £ of stipend until final payment be made.
- Retirement**
12. That under the provisions of the Code Par 223(3), the Rev NE Dorrans be given permission to retire on or after his 64th birthday and that his pension

be in accordance with the Code and Rules of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009).

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

John Hunter, CB, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Financial Secretary, Convener of Union Commission.
- (b) Rev NJ Linkens; Mrs EJ Mann — Rev RIA Allely; AG Sleator — Rev Dr DA Murphy; Lyle Cubitt — Rev WA Abernethy; Alan Bridle — Rev Dr WI Hull; Michael Fitch — JD McKibbin, Martin Hampton — Rev RJA Bell; Ronnie Nelson — Rev Dr David Clarke; Basil McCorrison — Rev Brian Brown; Robin Young — Norman Jackson, Desmond Milligan — Rev John Brackenridge; R McCullagh — Alan Foster; James Gregg — Rev Dr SA Matthews; Herbert Smyth — Rev RS Agnew; Allan McAdoo — John Peacock, Mervyn Agnew — Alex Fletcher, RH Kidd — Rev Dr PB Wilson; Robert McKane — Alex Chestnutt, SJ Waugh — Rev JM Gracey; EM Carroll.

A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, LEGAL AND IT

Michael Fitch, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Financial Secretary.
- (x) Rodney Power, Tim McQuoid, Alan Meban.
- (y) Revs. Dr WI Hull; Alan Bridle, Martin Hampton.

B. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE David Lamb, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Board Convener, Committee Convener, Head of Personnel, Financial Secretary.
- (x) Brian Phillips, Ian Moore, Len Murray.
- (y) Revs NJ Linkens; Desmond Milligan, Herbert Smyth.

C. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Rev RA McLernon; JH Martin, Co-Conveners

Jonathan Kelly, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Conveners, Committee Secretary, Financial Secretary.
- (x) WJ Cairns, JDD O'Neill.
- (y) Rev Dr David Clarke; Mrs EJ Mann, Basil McCorrison.

D. PENSIONS AND ASSESSMENTS COMMITTEE**DA Crowe, Convener**

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Financial Secretary.
- (x) Revs R McIlhatton, DJ Irvine; Brian Topping, David Munster, David Clements.
- (y) Revs WA Abernethy, RIA Allely, RJA Bell; EM Carroll, Alan Bridle, Alex Fletcher.

Overtures The **Overtures anent Pars 124(1), 125(1) and 125(A) of the Code** (Reports p303) were submitted by Mr John Hunter, CB.

Moved by Mr John Hunter, CB, seconded by Mr Hubert Martin, and agreed:

That the overtures anent Pars 124(1), 125(1) and 125(A) of the Code, having lain on the books for one year, be enacted as the law of the Church.

MISSION IN IRELAND (contd) The Report of the **BOARD OF MISSION IN IRELAND** (Reports pp 176-195) - debate resumed (see page ____)

Resolutions Moved by the Rev RA Patton, seconded by the Rev WJ Henry and agreed:

Mission Development 2. That the General Assembly note the Board's strategy for future mission development (Appendix A) and direct that this paper be sent down to Presbyteries for consideration and comment by 31st December 2010, and ask the Board to bring a final report to the General Assembly in 2011.

3. That the General Assembly encourage Presbyteries to welcome the proposal in Appendix A, 7.2, that the BMI Mission Development Officer meets with Mission Development Committees from each Presbytery in the period September 2010 to May 2011 for the purposes outlined.

Public Worship 4. That the General Assembly ask the BMI Research and Resources Committee through its Panel on the Revision of the Book on Public Worship to prepare a Report and send it down to Presbyteries for consideration and response by 31st December 2010.

Nightlight 5. That the General Assembly commend the work of Nightlight under its Director, Mr John Luke, and encourage volunteers to offer themselves for service.

Bible Sunday 6. That the General Assembly encourage Congregations to set aside one Sunday in the year to celebrate our rich access to Scripture and in this regard, commend the online resources of the Bible Societies in Ireland to Ministers and Kirk Sessions.

Biblefresh 7. That the General Assembly commend the Biblefresh initiative which, in 2011, marks the 400th anniversary of the publication of the Authorised

Version of the Bible, and during the year encourage Presbyteries and Congregations to initiate or support mission projects and activities which promote Bible engagement at home and abroad.

8. That the General Assembly ask the BMI Research and Resources Committee, as the next part of the BMI Awake initiative, to produce a mission resource in 2011 promoting engagement with Scripture.

9. That the BMI Communications Committee, being a Committee of the General Assembly, becomes a Committee of the Board and that Mrs Cherry Poynton be thanked for her services in convening the General Assembly Committee.

10. 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:

Rev RA Patton, Convener

Rev DJ Bruce, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Representative Social Witness, Education, Christian Training, Youth and Children's Ministry and Mission Overseas Boards, Union Commission and Pensions and Assessments Committee, Conveners of BMI Finance, Personnel and Property Committees, two Deaconess representatives, Nightlight Director.
- (b) Revs SA Little, Douglas Bradley; Mrs Marbeth Russell — Revs DS Henry, AD Davidson; Miss Janice Allen — Revs MD McNeely, JG Johnston; Mrs Joy Carson — Revs ID Neish, DJ McIlwaine; Mrs AJ Henderson — Revs Dr RM Crooks, CH Deering; Mrs Jean Patton — Revs Mervyn Gibson, PE Linkens; Mrs Lynda Gibson — Rev RI Carton; Alan Doole, Mrs Jane McClure — Revs TJ McCormick, Raymond Kelly; Mrs Nan Nixon — Revs KA Jones, WA McCully; Mrs Olive Boreland — Revs DJ Hyndman, BA Small; Ms Jean Shields — Rev WJ Todd; James McDowell, Mrs Vera Mawhinney — Revs Dr Samuel Mawhinney, SJ Lockington, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie — Rev DJM Boyle, TJ Hagan; Mrs S Shilliday — Rev NS Millen; Uel Gamble, Mrs Pat Martin — Revs WT Bingham, BD Colvin; Mrs Ruth Johnston — Rev CI Dickson; TR Reid, Ms Valerie Reid — Revs RJ Gilkinson, Denis Bannerman; Mrs Betty Robinson — Revs Stephen Simpson, Dr WD Patton; Mrs Joan Simpson — Revs JJ Currie, DH Brown; Mrs Elsie Farr.
- (p) President, Home Vice President and General Secretary of PW; Mrs Georgina Hunter, Mrs Hazel Clarke, Mrs Gwen Carson, Mrs Ann Blue, Mrs Violet Miller.

A. STRATEGY FOR MISSION COMMITTEE

Rev W Henry, Convener

Rev DJ Bruce, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, PW Central President, PW Home Vice-President, Convener and Secretary of BMI Communications Committee, BMI Development Officer, BMI Support Officer.
- (x) Revs Dr WP Addley, BD Colvin, Johnstone Lambe, Dr Gary Millar, Dr TN Hamilton; DF Adair, Mrs Irene Younge.
- (y) Revs SJ Lockington, Stephen Simpson, AD Davidson, WA McCully, Dr Samuel Mawhinney, Dr WD Patton, Mervyn Gibson.

B. RESEARCH AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Rev CWP Kennedy, Convener

Rev DH Thompson, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Committee Convener, Mission Development Officer, Convener of Training and Resources Committee (BCT), Christian Training Development Officer (BCT), Communications Officer (BMI), Prof Practical Theology, Divine Healing Agent, one representative of Youth & Children's Ministry, Mission Overseas Board.
- (x) Revs GE Best, Dr RB Savage, DJ Hyndman, Denis Bannerman, JSB Drennan, Ben Walker.
- (y) Revs Dr WD Patton, BD Colvin, SA Little, DJM Boyle, Dr Rodger Crooks, Douglas Bradley.

Overtures The **Overture Anent Par 40(4) of the Code** (Reports p195) was submitted by the Rev DJ Bruce.

Moved by the Rev DJ Bruce, seconded by the Rev RA Patton, and agreed:

That the overture anent Par 40(4) of the Code, having lain on the books for one year, be enacted as the law of the Church.

The **Overtures anent Pars 280 (1), 300(4), 302(3)(a) of the Code** (Reports pp 195-196) were submitted by the Rev DJ Bruce.

Moved by the Rev DJ Bruce, seconded by the Rev RA Patton:

That the overtures anent Pars 280(1), 300(4), 302(3)(a) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, they be made the rule of the Church.

Moved as an amendment by Mr Harry Moreland and seconded by Mr Hubert Patterson:

That the overtures anent Pars 280(1), 300(4) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, they be made the rule of the Church.

On being put to the House, 80 voted in favour and 65 against. The amendment was declared passed.

On being put to the House, the substantive motion was declared passed.

The sederunt came to a close at 5.45pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

On Wednesday evening, 9 June, 2010, at 7.45pm, an Evening Rally was held in the Assembly Hall led by the Moderator.

SIXTH SESSION

Thursday, 10th June, 2010

9.30 a.m.

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

In Private

JUDICIAL
COMMISSION

The Report of the **JUDICIAL COMMISSION** (Reports pp 114-131) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, together with the following Supplementary Report:

Ahorey

1. Since the reports were written the Judicial Commission has considered and issued a finding on two further appeals.

Appeal of six Elders of Ahorey Congregation to the Judicial Commission against the decision of Armagh Presbytery following inquiry under paragraph 224 of The Code that the six Elders be removed from office and duties of the eldership in Ahorey Congregation

2. The Judicial Commission, having considered the record of the Armagh Presbytery in the case and the grounds of appeal from the decision of Presbytery dated 23 March 2010, met on 28 May 2010 to consider the written and the oral submissions of the Appellants and the oral submissions of the Presbytery concerning the inquiry by Presbytery under paragraph 224 of The Code following the public report by the Appellants that it was no longer possible for the minister of Ahorey Congregation satisfactorily to discharge the duties of his charge, and following the finding of the Judicial Commission (reported on pages 114 to 117 in Annual Reports, 2010) on the appeal of the same elders against the decisions of Armagh Presbytery following investigation under paragraph 161 of The Code in relation to complaints described as charges brought by the Appellants against their minister.

Having heard and considered the written and oral submissions and the record, the Judicial Commission thereafter considered the matter and finds:

- a. The Appellants had refused to accede to the requests of Presbytery to agree to attend worship, to attend Kirk Session meetings and to cooperate in the life of the Church and did not accept the way forward through reconciliation. The Appellants declined to confirm that in practice they would work together with the Minister in the oversight and government of the Congregation, for the upbuilding of God's people in spiritual fruitfulness and holy concord, and for the extension of Christ's kingdom among people, as is stated in paragraph 30(1) of The Code.
- b. The Minister had assured Presbytery, and Presbytery accepted, that he would strive to achieve reconciliation with the Appellants and had

identified with Presbytery the issues which he would address in connection with his ministry.

- c. The Appellants informed the Judicial Commission that they believe that the Minister is not meeting the Biblical standard and cannot fulfil the obligations of his calling, that the Minister is in a position where it is impossible for him satisfactorily to discharge the duties of his charge as stated in paragraph 224(1) of The Code, that they withdrew from worship in Ahorey on and since 13 December 2009 and that they would not worship and will not in conscience sit under his ministry. The Appellants refused to accede to the request of the Judicial Commission to act in accordance with paragraph 30(1) of the Code and to attempt reconciliation with the Minister.
- d. The usefulness of the Minister is seriously impaired by the refusal of the Appellants, who comprise 60% of the elders, to act in accordance with their duties as stated in paragraph 30(1) of The Code, by their refusal to attend worship and to sit under his ministry, and by their refusal to attempt to achieve reconciliation with the Minister.
- e. The appeal is dismissed and the decision of Presbytery affirmed.

The Judicial Commission commends the Minister and his family, the Appellants, the Kirk Session and the Congregation to the grace and peace of Almighty God and urges the Presbytery to provide ongoing pastoral care to them.

Appeal of Sarah McAllister, Joseph McAllister and Thomas McAllister to the Judicial Commission against the decision of the Carrickfergus Presbytery Commission made on 6 May 2010 under paragraph 161(1)(d) of The Code, that the facts do not call for further investigation and that the Presbytery should take no further action concerning the graves of members of the McAllister family at Loughmorne Presbyterian Church.

Loughmorne

3. The Judicial Commission, having considered the record of the Carrickfergus Presbytery in the case including extracts from the Minutes of Loughmorne Congregational Committee, met on 28 May 2010 to hear and consider the oral submissions of the Appellants and the written and oral submissions of representatives on behalf of the Congregational Committee and of the Presbytery, finds:

- a. In September/October 2007 the Appellants caused the erection of surrounds on ten graves and the permanent sealing of four graves of deceased members of their family in Loughmorne Church graveyard ("the alterations").
- b. The Appellants believe that the former, now deceased, Clerk of Session had given oral permission in 1996 for the McAllister family to replace old grave surrounds which were in disrepair.

- c. The approval of the Congregational Committee for the alterations to the McAllister graves in 2007, which comprised cement, stones and surrounds, had not been sought or obtained.
- d. Extracts from the minutes of the Congregational Committee concerning applications by and on behalf of other families disclose that: (1) in February 1992 a request for erection of surrounds was refused and it was recorded “Bye-laws prohibit the erection of surrounds”; (2) in September 1992 a request for replacement of existing surrounds was refused; (3) on 18 September 1996 the former, now deceased, Clerk of Session stated in response to a request for erection of edging “[permission] would not be allowed as surrounds are forbidden”.
- e. The Committee in 2000 required and obtained the removal of grave surrounds which had been erected by or on behalf of others without permission. In 2003 the Committee required and obtained removal of grave surrounds and covering which had been placed by others without permission. In 2009 covering on the grave by descendants of the deceased Clerk of Session without Committee approval was removed at the request of the Committee.
- f. Graveyard Rules dated 1 March 1997 include the rules “Plans for memorials must be approved by the church committee before work begins” and “Approval will not be given for surrounds”. A Graveyard Rules notice appended to the graveyard wall includes the same rules.
- g. Members of the congregation and others with burial rights in the graveyard in October 2007 complained to the Congregational Committee that surrounds on McAllister family graves had been erected and graves had been sealed.
- h. Between October 2007 and August 2009 numerous requests, written and oral, were made by and on behalf of the Committee to the Appellants seeking the removal of the alterations and reinstatement of the McAllister graves to an acceptable condition, to no avail. In August 2009 the Committee instructed a contractor to remove the alterations, the costs of which and of the grass re-seeding of affected areas were borne by the Committee.
- i. The Congregational Committee acted in accordance and conformity with the bye-laws and rules concerning the graveyard and in accordance with their long standing practice and procedures in its responses to the alterations to the McAllister family graves. To have acted otherwise and to have permitted the alterations would have discriminated unfairly in favour of the Appellants and against the other families who previously and subsequently had been refused permission to carry out similar works and alterations.
- j. The Judicial Commission is satisfied that the Congregational Committee and the Presbytery Commission were justified in reaching the conclusions and decisions which are the subject of the appeal. The

appeal is dismissed and the Presbytery Commission's decision is affirmed.

- k. The Judicial Commission directs pursuant to paragraph 161(1)(d) of The Code that further investigation by Presbytery or the Commission is neither appropriate nor required and that no further proceedings be taken.
1. The Judicial Commission is conscious of the time and energy spent by those involved in trying to resolve this matter, and commends the Appellants and their families, the Minister, Kirk Session and Congregation of Loughmorne to the grace and peace of Almighty God.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by Mr Robin Tweed and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by Mr Robin Tweed:

2. That the General Assembly approve the appointment of a Chairman of the Judicial Commission as at Appendix I, Par 2.

Moved as an amendment by the Very Rev Dr TWJ Morrow, seconded by the Very Rev Dr HA Dunlop:

That the General Assembly approve the appointment of the Chairman of the Judicial Commission following the model of the Union Commission, i.e. chaired by a senior minister of the Church.

On being put to the House, the amendment was declared lost.

On being put to the House, the original motion was declared passed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by Mr Robin Tweed and agreed:

3. That the General Assembly approve the definition of a "party in a case" as at Appendix I, Par 5.

The **MEMORIAL OF THE REV B A McDONALD** was submitted by the Rev EP Gamble.

**MEMORIAL:
Rev BA
McDonald**

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to meet in Belfast on 7th day of June, 2010.

The Memorial of the Rev Barbara Ann McDonald Respectfully Showeth:

That she was born on 23rd July, 1949 and ordained to the Christian ministry in Cregagh Congregation on 27th January, 1991;

That she was called and installed to the pastoral oversight of the Congregations of Caledon and Minterburn on 19th March, 1993, where she continues to minister;

That she is also the principal carer for her husband who has a progressive illness and requires an increasing amount of her time and attention;

That for this reason she wishes to demit the charges of Caledon and Minterburn and seeks to retire early under Code Par 223(3);

Memorialist, therefore, prays your Venerable Assembly to grant special leave to the Rev Barbara Ann McDonald to retire on 1st September, 2010, upon terms to be recommended by the Committee on Pensions and Assessments of the Board of Finance and Personnel.

And Memorialist, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ANN McDONALD

10 May 2010

Licensed by the Armagh Presbytery at its meeting on the 11th day of May, 2010 and transmitted with the strong recommendation that its prayer be granted.

EP GAMBLE, Moderator

JAMES GORDON, Clerk

Moved by the Rev EP Gamble, seconded by the Rev James Gordon, and agreed:

That the Memorial be received and its prayer granted.

In Public

TRUSTS COMMISSION

The Report of the **COMMISSION ON TRUSTS** (Reports p 311) was submitted by Mr AJ Rankin.

Resolutions

Moved by Mr AJ Rankin, seconded by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, 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:-

Moderator, Clerk, AJ Rankin (Convener); V Revs Dr D Clarke, Dr S Hutchinson; Rev WJ Orr; Sir Eric McDowell, Messrs D Bell, W Ervin, G McCullagh, J Millar, AT Ross.

TRUSTEES

The Report of the **TRUSTEES** (Reports pp 312-316) was submitted by Mr David Bell, CB.

Resolutions

Moved by Mr David Bell, CB, seconded by the Rev Wilfred Orr 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 recommendation regarding the Victor Morrow Trust be adopted.

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, Revs Dr DJ Watts, RJA Bell, WJ Orr; Mr Wilson Ervin, CBE, Sir Eric McDowell, Mr David Bell, CB, Mr AT Ross, Mr John Millar, OBE.

The Report of the **BOARD OF SOCIAL WITNESS** (Reports pp 202-227) was submitted by Mr Lindsay Conway, OBE.

SOCIAL WITNESS BOARD Resolutions

Moved by Mr Lindsay Conway, OBE, seconded by the Rev RA Liddle, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

2. That the General Assembly emphasise the need for adequate funding of Social Witness Board Projects by Central Government, the Health Trusts, Probation Board, the Justice Sector and Supporting People.

Funding

3. That the General Assembly celebrate the success of 60 years continued care of and Christian witness to older people in our communities since the opening of Adelaide House by the Presbyterian Residential Trust.

Residential Trust

4. That the resignation of the Rev John Noble as Convener of the Older Peoples Services Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev John Seawright be appointed in his place.

5. That the General Assembly instruct the Board of Social Witness with the Church and Society Committee to campaign and lobby government departments to ensure that services are not cut to unacceptable levels.

Service Cuts

6. That the General Assembly thank all those who volunteer within the activities of the Board of Social Witness and those who give freely of their time to supplement the work done and enhance the service provided by the Board.

Volunteers

7. 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 RA Liddle, Convener

L Conway, Secretary

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener and Secretary, Residential Services Manager.

- (b) Revs HS Boyd, Dr WJA Sleith; Laurence Willoughby — Revs WJI Thompson, PL McKelvey, BA McDonald — Revs CK McDowell, DB McCorrison; Mrs Phyllis Linton — Revs JK Doherty, JN Seawright; Mrs Sadie McCullough — Revs JA Braithwaite, BR Hughes; Miss Muriel Cromie — Rev RD Maxwell; Mrs Margaret Cromie, AJ Spence — Revs David Chapman, AE Tolland; Mrs Kay Fisher — Rev Dr RA Kane; Mrs Lorna Livingston, Miss Helen Lowry — Revs Amanda Best, RA Mulholland; Mrs Heather Buick — Rev RJ Hyndman; Barry Redhead, Mrs Joan Telford — Dr Diana Patterson, Brian Magowan, Mrs A Magowan — Revs SW Rea, DT Moore; Elizabeth Nicholson — Rev PD Thompson; Mrs Ruby Hamilton, Mrs Elsie Kinnear — Rev WJA Buchanan; Mrs Joyce Blackburn, Mr Wilfred Carleton — Rev NJE Reid; RE McWilliams, Mrs Esther Barry — Rev Kenneth Nelson; Mrs EM Patterson, Miss IM Anderson — Revs Dr Mark Jones, Denis Bannerman; Mrs Maeve Magowan — Rev JL Tosh; Neil Simpson, Mrs Jane Robinson — Rev SJM Lindsay; WR McKee, Mrs Eva Russell.
- (p) President, Home Vice President and General Secretary of PW; Mrs Anne Thompson, Mrs Winnie Moffett, Mrs Margaret Stevenson, Mrs Sandra Stokes, Mrs Lynda Stothers.

A. SPECIALIST MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

Very Rev Dr WD Patton, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Convener Kinghan Mission, Chaplains, Forces, Student Services Committees.
- (x) Rev AJA Rosborough; Miss Muriel Cromie, Mrs Carol Houston.
- (y) Rev SJM Lindsay; Mrs Kay Fisher, Mrs Winnie Moffett.

B. OLDER PEOPLE SERVICES COMMITTEE

Rev JN Seawright, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Residential Services Manager, Rev John Noble.
- (x) Local Support Committee Representatives.
- (y) Revs Amanda Best, JN Seawright, PD Thompson, CK McDowell; Mrs Margaret Stevenson, Mrs Winnie Moffett, Mrs Caroline Hawthorne, Mrs Lynda Stothers.

C. FAMILY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Rev Anne Tolland, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Conveners Taking Care, Disability.
- (x) Dr Paul Gray, Mrs Margaret McGuiggan, Mrs Sylvia McCracken.
- (y) Miss Muriel Cromie, Mrs Winnie Moffett, Mrs Maeve Magowan.

D. ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE

Rev CW Megaw, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Social Service, Conveners Addiction Services, Carlisle House and Thompson House, Residential Services Manager.
- (x) Dr Lesley Calderwood, David McAuley, John Luke.
- (y) Revs JK Doherty, Dr Mark Jones; Laurence Willoughby.

The **Overture anent Par 57 of the Code** (Reports pp153-154) was submitted by the Rev TD Gribben. **Overtures**

Moved by the Rev TD Gribben, seconded by the Rev Dr SA Matthews, and agreed:

1. That the overture anent Par 57 of the Code be received and placed on the books.
2. That the overture anent Par 57 of the Code be made an Interim Act.

The **Overtures anent Pars 106(g), 128(3), 128(5)(a), 128(5)(d), 128(6)(b) of the Code** (Reports pp153-157) were submitted by the Rev Dr SA Matthews.

Moved by the Rev Dr SA Matthews, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

1. That the overtures anent Pars 106(g), 128(3), 128(5)(a), 128(5)(d), 128(6)(b) of the Code be received and placed on the books.
2. That the overtures anent Pars 106(g), 128(3), 128(5)(a), 128(5)(d), 128(6)(b) of the Code be made Interim Acts.

The **Overtures anent Pars 190(2)(c), 238(1), 245(1), 245(2)(a), 274(4), 274(8), 274(10), 233(4), 260(f), 274(5)(c)(ii) and (iii), 274(7), 274(13), 274(5), 274(12) of the Code** (Reports pp154-157) were submitted by the Rev Dr SA Matthews

Moved by the Rev Dr SA Matthews, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

That the overtures anent Pars 190(2)(c), 238(1), 245(1), 245(2)(a), 274(4), 274(8), 274(10), 233(4), 260(f), 274(5)(c)(ii) and (iii), 274(7), 274(13), 274(5), 274(12) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, they be made the rule of the Church.

A corrected form of **Overture anent Par 274(6) of the Code** was submitted by the Rev TD Gribben as follows:

Anent Par 274(6) of the Code

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that Par 274(6) of the Code be deleted and the following substituted in its place:

274(6)(a) Where in the opinion of the Commission the pastorate of two or more congregations may be linked the Commission shall consult with the Kirk Sessions and Congregations involved (either directly or through the Presbytery), with the Presbytery itself and, in the case of Home Mission Congregations, with the Board of Mission in Ireland. The Commission shall endeavour to agree the terms with the Kirk Sessions involved. Where it proves impossible to obtain the agreement of one or more Kirk Sessions, but the Presbytery consents and in the case of Home Mission congregations the Board of Mission in Ireland consents, terms of linkage shall be fixed by the Commission, a date for its commencement set and such action reported in due course to the Assembly. These terms shall be binding on all the parties concerned. The same action may be taken to facilitate a porting. The Commission shall be the final authority as to the area of porting to be effected.

(b) No congregation shall be dissolved or amalgamated, with loss of its identity, except by authorisation from the Assembly. Where the Commission has been instructed by the General Assembly to agree terms, where one or more congregations are being amalgamated or dissolved by resolution of the Assembly, the Commission shall endeavour to agree the terms with the Kirk Sessions involved. Where it proves impossible to obtain the agreement of one or more Kirk Sessions, but the Presbytery consents, and in the case of Home Mission congregations the Board of Mission in Ireland consents, the terms shall be set by the Commission and shall be binding on all the parties concerned.

(c) When any congregation is considering a proposal for dissolution, amalgamation or linkage with another congregation, no arrangements regarding the sale of its properties and distribution of the proceeds or the income therefrom shall be made without first obtaining the agreement of the Commission.

(d) Where it is decided that within five years from the date of the leave to call the vacant congregation/s shall be linked with another congregation or congregations where there is still a minister in active duty (hereafter referred to as “the other congregation or congregations”), the Commission may issue leave to call to the vacant congregation/s on deferred linkage terms.

- (i) The Union Commission will have power to direct that in the choice of a Minister the vacant congregation or congregations and the other congregation or congregations shall act as one congregation and the Kirk Session as one Kirk Session.
- (ii) The rights and entitlements of the active minister/s in the other congregation or congregations shall not be adversely affected by this arrangement.
- (iii) When the minister/s in active duty retires or ceases to be minister/s of the other congregation or congregations in the deferred linkage the Union Commission shall agree final terms of linkage and the Presbytery arrange a service of installation in the other congregation or congregations.
- (iv) If the minister called to the original vacant congregation in the deferred linkage resigns his charge, the same procedure as above will be followed.

Moved by the Rev TD Gribben, seconded by the Rev Dr SA Matthews, and agreed:

That the overture anent Par 274(6) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

The Report of the **GENERAL BOARD** (Reports pp 14-113) - debate resumed (see page 48)

GENERAL BOARD
(contd)
Resolutions

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof Andrew Gibson:

Doctrine Committee

22. That the Report of the Doctrine Committee be sent down to Presbyteries for comment and report to the Convener by 31 December, 2010.

Doctrine

Moved as an amendment by Rev JA Curry, seconded by the Rev JH Flaherty:

That the report of the Doctrine Committee be sent down as an Interim Report to Presbyteries for comment and report to the Convener by 31st December 2010.

On being put to the House, the amendment was declared lost.

On being put to the House, the original motion was declared passed.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev Prof Andrew Gibson and agreed:

Global Concerns Committee

23. That the General Assembly note the work of the Global Concerns Committee and thank all those involved in the various Panels.

Global Concerns

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

Embrace (NI)	£5,000
Churches Asylum Network (ROI)	£500
Valeka Trust and Diakonia Council of Churches (SA)	£1,500

Church Relations **Church Relations Committee**

25. That the General Assembly welcome the merger of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Reformed Ecumenical Council into the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

26. That the Rev Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie replace the Rev Dr Allen Sleith as a delegate to the Uniting General Council Meeting of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

27. That the General Assembly appoint the following:

To the Irish Council of Churches Executive: the Revs John Brackenridge, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie, Dr Donald Watts.

To the Irish Inter-Church Committee: the Revs Gabrielle Farquhar, Dr Donald Watts.

28. That the following grants be made available from the Incidental Fund:

Irish Council of Churches	£19,000
Irish Inter-Church Meeting	£10,000
Conference of European Churches	£5,000
Community of Protestant Churches in Europe	£3,000
Church and Society Commission (Brussels)	£2,000
World Communion of Reformed Churches	£13,000

Recognised Ministries **Recognised Ministries Committee**

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

30. That the Recognised Ministries Committee be thanked for its work and discharged, with any residual responsibility being passed to the Reception of Ministers and Licentiatees Committee.

Church and Society **Church and Society Committee**

31. That the General Assembly adopt "Human Rights Position Paper – A Church Perspective" (Appendix 1) as guidance for the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

32. That the General Assembly note the General Board's submission to the consultation paper: "A Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland : Next Steps".

33. That the General Assembly believe that the administration of funding from the Dormant Accounts Scheme by the Big Lottery is only helpful if a way can be found to show that the monies received are not raised by gambling.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (see page 71)

Intermission

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator, who invited Mrs Joyce Anderson to read and the Rev Dr Donald Watts to address the Assembly.

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

SEVENTH SESSION

Thursday, 10th June, 2010

2.00 p.m.

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

EDUCATION
BOARD

The Report of the **BOARD OF EDUCATION** (Reports pp 264-271) was submitted by the Rev Robert Herron, together with the following Supplementary Report:

Mr Brian Duffy

Brian Duffy has served as Director of Secondary Education in the Republic of Ireland since 1993. Due to his increasing workload as a Principal of a school in the Republic he has had to review his external voluntary commitments and in May 2010 informed the Board that he was standing down. During the past 17 years, Brian has served on the Board of Education, the State Education Committee and the Secondary Education Committee. In his succinct annual report to the General Assembly and regular contributions to the Board of Education he kept the Church apprised of developments in Secondary Education in the Republic of Ireland. The Board thanks him for his commitment, valuable insights and professional expertise which have enabled the Church to make an informed contribution to secondary education in the Republic of Ireland.

Moved by the Rev Robert Herron, seconded by the Rev Dr CD McClure and agreed:

Resolutions

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly unreservedly support the Transferor Representatives' Council (TRC) in seeking the continuation of rights given to the Church of Ireland, Presbyterian Church in Ireland and Methodist Church in Ireland, on the transfer of their schools to the State, namely the legal right to appoint governors to those transferred schools and their successors and the right

Transferors'
Rights

to membership of the regional ownership and decision making bodies for those schools and their successors.

**Proposed
Merger**

3. That the General Assembly, recognising that the Controlled Sector has had from its outset a Christian ethos which reflects its church-related character and origin, call upon the Minister for Employment and Learning and the Northern Ireland Assembly to ensure, with regard to any proposed merger between Stanmillis University College and the Queen's University of Belfast, that:

- part of the training of teachers for this sector will both make them aware of the sector's distinctive ethos and also equip and prepare them to teach within it;
- teachers will be adequately prepared to teach the Religious Education syllabus within Controlled schools, with its distinctly Christian and Biblical basis.

**Priority of
Education**

4. That the General Assembly, aware of the difficult economic circumstances both in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, call upon the government in each jurisdiction to ensure that the education of children and young people remains a priority.

5. That the resignation of the Rev Dr Colin McClure as Convener of the State Education Committee be accepted and that he be thanked for his services.

6. That the members of the State Education Committee be thanked for their services and that the Committee be discharged.

7. That the resignation of the Rev Robert Herron as Convener of the Board of Education be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Dr Colin McClure be appointed in his place.

8. 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 Dr CD McClure, Convener

Rev TD Gribben, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Principal UTC, Full-time University Chaplains, Transferors' Representatives on Area Boards, Directors of Primary & Secondary Education in the Republic of Ireland, Rev Robert Herron.
- (b) Revs WG Cameron, RJ Montgomery — Revs John Hutchinson, TA McNeely — Rev KWJ Hanna; William McCartney — Rev Brian McMillen; William McDowell — Rev AT Wimberley; CWL Graham — Miss J Williams, Mrs Hilary Gourley — Rev Karen Campbell; Richard Wallace — Revs TV Mawhinney; ME Donald — Rev Dr SR Jones; Alan Rowan — Rev AA Cole; Gary McCreery — J Wilkinson, AJ Cochrane — Rev GD Campbell; Mrs Eleanor Petrie — Rev MN Davidson; Mervyn Patton — Rev TD Hagan; Ronnie Gillanders — Revs BD Colvin, DJ Irvine — Revs RA Campbell, Miss C Trimble —

Rev JT Magowan; Mrs Mildred Poots — Mrs IK Nesbitt, DMcC Humphries — Rev GWD Stewart; Robert Stewart.

- (g) Revs Dr TR Buick, PE Dickinson; John Shivers, Mrs M Robinson, Dr M Hollinger, Mrs J Bell.

The Report of the **BOARD OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY** (Reports pp 228-241) was submitted by the Rev JP Moxen.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BOARD Resolutions

Moved by the Rev JP Moxen, seconded by the Rev Christoph Ebbinghaus, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly direct Presbyteries to appoint a panel, including at least two people under 25, to examine the SPUD report on 'Young People and the Church', to consider the appended questions and to report back to the SPUD Working Group through the Board of Youth and Children's Ministry by the end of December 2010. SPUD Report
3. That the General Assembly ask the Business Board to take the appropriate steps to ensure that those under 25 years of age are represented within General Assembly structures.
4. That the General Assembly approve the Youth and Children's Project to support the work of SAT-7 Kids television channel in the Middle East. Project
5. That the resignation of the Rev Steve Stockman as Convener of the Research and Education Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Lynda Gould be appointed in his place.
6. That a grant of £9,545 be paid from the Incidental Fund to Youth Link: NI. Youth Link
7. That the Board of Youth and Children's Ministry, with its associated working Committees for the ensuing year, be appointed as follows:

Rev JP Moxen, Convener
Miss R Stirling, Secretary

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Director of Programmes, Conveners of Research and Resources (BMI), Training and Resources (BCT) Committees, Full-time University Chaplains.
- (b) Revs RJ Montgomery, GJ Kennedy — Rev SD Finlay; Noel McKee — Rev MJR Neilly; WE Chestnutt — Miss Doreen Draffin, Michael Wylie — Rev JA Peacock; Johnny Bell — Andrew McCann, Mrs JM Noteman — Stuart Hawthorne, Andrew Howard — Rev CWA Martin; WBM Willis — Revs ND Craig, DM Shaw — Miss Michelle McCauley, Mrs Claire Woodward — _____, _____ — Rev MRJ Anderson; Mrs Glenda McCormick — Revs Raymond McKibbin; Philip McCullough, — Rev Troy

Morgan, Miss Pamela Patton — Ronald Annett, Andrew Mullan — Revs CFD Clements, RA Campbell — Revs Peter Turton, Kenneth Henderson — GA Barkley, RWH Hill — Revs DS Brownlow, JD Montgomery.

- (g) Rev Amanda Best; Mrs C Murray, Mrs J Craig, Mrs J Robinson, Mrs S Campbell, Mrs G Ditty, Mrs F Cromie, Mrs G Graham, Mrs L Keys, Mrs C McQuigg, P McKinstry, A Ditty, T McAllister, G MacLean, A Brown, Mark Beattie, Miss S Moore, Miss N Bradley, Miss Alison Armstrong, Jocelyn Brown.

A. TRAINING COMMITTEE

Rev Christoph Ebbinghaus, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Youth Development Officer, Children's Development Officer, Regional Youth and Support Worker, Director of Programmes, Young Adults' Development Officer.
- (x) Paul Brown, Mrs Jenny Robinson, Dr Alistair McCracken.
- (y) Rev Kenneth Henderson; Miss Michelle McCauley, Michael Wylie.

B. RESEARCH AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Ms Lynda Gould, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Rev RS Stockman.
- (x) Glenn Jordan, Mrs Sonia Mawhinney, Chris Hunter, Philip Scott.
- (y) Revs SD Finlay, Troy Morgan, RJ Montgomery; Stuart Hawthorne.

C. RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Rev GJ Kennedy, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Children's Development Officer, Youth Development Officer, Regional Youth and Support Workers, Director of Programmes, Young Adults' Development Officer.
- (x) Revs RL Brown, JA Peacock; Mrs Ruth Elkin.
- (y) Rev DS Brownlow; Miss Michelle McCauley, Miss Pamela Patton, Jonathan Bell.

D. MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES COMMITTEE**Rev JH Flaherty, Convener**

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Representative Board of Mission Overseas and Board of Mission in Ireland, Director of Programmes, Young Adults' Development Officer.
- (x) Revs Dr MJ Welsh, JA Curry; David McCullagh, Mark Moorhead, Mrs Karen Martin.
- (y) Revs CWA Martin, JD Montgomery, RA Campbell, ND Craig; Andrew Mullan.

E. MINISTRY EVENTS COMMITTEE**Rev AJ Thompson, Convener**

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Board Convener, Committee Convener, Director of Youth and Children's Ministry, Director of Programmes.
- (x) Michael Wylie, Alan Meban, Robert Penney, Nick Cooper, Mark Moorehead.
- (y) Rev MRJ Anderson; Andy McCann, Andrew Howard, Rick Hill, Jonathan Bell.

Intermission

The Minutes were taken and corrected.

The Report of the **GENERAL BOARD** (Reports pp 14-113) - debate resumed (see page 66)

GENERAL BOARD
(contd)

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Mr DA Crowe and agreed:

Resolutions

34. That the General Assembly continue in prayer for victims and survivors of the conflict and offers encouragement to the Pilot Victims' Forum and the CVSNI for their work, particularly as CVSNI moves to deliver better services to meet the needs of victims and survivors.

Panel on Ministries

Ministries

- 35. That the General Assembly adopt the Scheme for Part-Time Ministry.
- 36. That the General Board adopt the Scheme for an Auxiliary Ministry.
- 37. That the General Board adopt the scheme for the Appointment and Training of Evangelists.
- 38. That the General Assembly adopt the recommendations in the Report on Salary Scales, Terms and Conditions of Additional Pastoral Personnel,

effective for all new posts, and extensions of existing posts, from September 2010 onwards.

Resignations

39. That the resignation of the Rev Prof Laurence Kirkpatrick as Principal of Union Theological College be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Prof Patton Taylor be appointed in his place.

40. That the resignation of the Rev Charles McMullen as Convener of the Global Concerns Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Rev Dr Annes Nel be appointed in his place.

41. That the resignation of the Rev Dr Allen Sleith as Convener of the Church Relations Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that Rev Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie be appointed in his place.

42. That the resignation of the Rev Dr Jack Richardson as Convener of the Memorial Record be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Very Rev Dr Donald Patton be appointed in his place.

General

43. That the General Assembly approve the following budget from the Incidental Fund:

General work of the General Board	£6,000
Peace and Peacemaking	£9,000
Environmental Issues	£2,000
Pastoral Care	£2,000

44. 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, Clerk of Assembly, preceding three Moderators and former Clerks of Assembly, Assembly Conveners and Secretaries of Commissions and Boards.
- (b) Revs Dr RA Russell, Dr WP Addley; Alan Boyd, Peter Davison — Revs CG Harris, AD Davidson; JG MacQueen, JLA McIlwaine — Revs JJ Andrews, WB Boyd; Nathaniel Rea, Samuel Wallace — Revs TC Morrison, DW Brice; HA Groves, Richard Doggart — CWL Graham; Revs DJ Boden, WJ Orr; Miss Mary Angus — DC Cowan; Rev FP Sellar; CM Young, John McKibbin — Revs MS Gault, GAJ Farquhar; Edwin Boal, James Armstrong — Revs WI Hunter, Noel Ward; Cecil Lynn, George McIntyre — Revs Stanley Stewart, Dr David Latimer; Mrs Ruby Millar, Ian McCracken — Revs Dr BCG Black, AS Smyth; John Hanna, William Poole — Revs JI Davey, Paul Jamieson; Norman Mawhinney, Miss Evelyn Whyte — Revs CJ Gamble, AJ Boal; Ms Joan Cowle, AW Finlay — Revs IJ Patterson,

RA Moffett; JB McClean, Dr TJ Robinson — Revs SG Anketell, GJ Mackarel; J Fairbairn, Wilson McConkey — Revs SA Finlay, WT Bingham; James Chestnutt, Samuel Walker — Revs Robert Herron, RB Thompson; TJG Wilson, JA Patterson — Revs Noel McClean, HW Mullan; MW Morrison, EC Redmond — Revs WJ Murdock, Brian Kennaway; J Johnston, Mrs Adrienne Bowden — Revs TJ Conway, AS Thompson; Orr Gibson, WGN Johnston.

- (g) Revs Dr RI Birney, DH Thompson, IF Smith, RA McLernon; Mrs Zoe Vallely, Mrs Caroline Hawthorne, Mrs Deborah Webster, Mrs Hilary Jess, Mrs Maeve Magowan, Mrs Sarah Harding, Mrs Avril Heenan, Mrs Pauline Kennedy, Miss Barbara McDade, Miss Muriel Cromie, D Bell, JH Martin, WJ Cairns.

A. CHURCH AND SOCIETY COMMITTEE

Revs Dr LE Carroll; AJ Boal, Co-Conveners

- (a) The Moderator, preceding Moderator, Clerk, former Clerks, and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Moderator-Designate, Global Concerns Convener, Church and Society Conveners, Communications Secretary.
- (x) Revs Dr David Clarke, Alan Wilson, JA Kirkpatrick, CA Meban; R McCarter.
- (y) Revs WT Bingham, JJ Andrews, Brian Kennaway; JA Patterson, I McCracken.

B. GLOBAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Rev Dr AF Nel, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Committee Convener, Conveners of Environment, Peace and Peacemaking, Race Relations Panels, Representative of Board of Mission Overseas, Church Relations, Rev CJC McMullen.
- (x) Rev CM Hunter; Mrs F Watts, Dr J Gillespie.
- (y) Revs Dr WP Addley, Dr RA Russell, AD Davidson; A Boyd.

C. CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Rev L Kennedy-Ritchie, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Committee Convener, Prof of Systematic Theology, Representative of Youth and Children's Ministry, Board of Mission in Ireland, Board of Mission Overseas and Global Concerns, Rev Dr WJA Sleith.
- (x) Revs John Brackenridge, KDW Crowe, Dr JC McCullough, TJ Wilson, DB Knox, Simon Henning.

- (y) Revs WB Boyd, GAJ Farquhar, SG Anketell; CM Young, Dr TJ Robinson, _____.

D. DOCTRINE COMMITTEE

Principal UTC, Convener

- (a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, General Assembly's Theological Professors.
- (x) Revs CA Meban, GJ Kennedy, SD Finlay; Dr Michael McClenahan, R Thompson, Miss D Ford.
- (y) Revs AD Davidson, GJ Mackarel, Dr RA Russell, SA Finlay, AJ Boal, IJ Patterson.

E. PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

The Clerk, Convener

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Board Secretaries.
- (x) Conveners of: Union Commission; Communications; Mission Overseas; Mission in Ireland; Social Witness; Youth and Children's Ministry; Christian Training, Finance and Personnel; United Appeal Boards.
- (y) Revs TJ Conway, Dr RA Russell, RA Moffett, GAJ Farquhar, AD Davidson; Mrs Adrienne Bowden, DC Cowan, JLA McIlwaine, CWL Graham.

F. MODERATOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Clerk, Convener

- (a) The Moderator, preceding three Moderators, Clerk, former Clerks, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Communications and Press Secretary.
- (x) Rev DR Baker; Mrs Rosemary Dunlop, Norman Chambers, Lindsay Conway, MA Morrow QC.
- (y) Revs JJ Andrews, TJ Conway, SG Anketell; Mrs Adrienne Bowden, Mrs Ruby Millar.

G. RECEPTION OF MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES COMMITTEE

Rev IJ Patterson, Convener

- (a) The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Committee Convener, Convener of Board of Christian Training, Convener and Director of Ministerial Studies, Convener Church Relations, Principal UTC, Secretary of Board of Mission in Ireland.

- (x) Revs KWJ Hanna, SD Finlay, SS Johnston, Lorraine Kennedy-Ritchie; David McMullan, Miss Anne Taylor.
- (y) Revs SA Finlay, WJ Murdock, CG Harris, GAJ Farquhar; Miss Mary Angus, Alan Boyd.

The **Overtures Anent Pars 62 and 98 of the Code** (Reports p112) were submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts. Overtures

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

That the overtures anent Par 62 and 98 of the Code, having lain on the books for one year, be enacted as the law of the Church.

The **Overtures Anent Par 25 and 48 of the Code** were submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, as follows:

Anent Par 25

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 25 of the Code an additional sub-paragraph (3) be added:

(3) Remunerated employees of the congregation may be members of the Kirk Session but shall not sit and deliberate with the Session when matters affecting their employment, and that of other remunerated employees, are under discussion.

Anent Par 48

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 48 of the Code an additional sub-paragraph (5) be added:

(5) Remunerated employees of the congregation may be members of the Committee but shall not sit and deliberate with the Committee when matters affecting their employment, and that of other remunerated employees, are under discussion.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

1. That the overtures anent Pars 25 and 48 of the Code be received and placed on the books.
2. That the overtures anent Pars 25 and 48 of the Code be made Interim Acts.

The **Overture anent Par 33 of the Code** (Reports p 113) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

1. That the overture anent Par 33 of the Code be received and placed on the books.

2. That the overture anent Par 33 of the Code be made an Interim Act.

The **Overture anent Par 81 of the Code** (Reports p 113) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr JW Lockington.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr JW Lockington, seconded by the Very Rev Dr David Clarke, and agreed:

1. That the overture anent Par 81 of the Code be received and placed on the books.

2. That the overture anent Par 81 of the Code of the Code be made an Interim Act.

The **Overture Anent Par 272(4) of the Code** (Reports p113) was submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts.

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

That the overture anent Par 272(4) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

The **Overtures Anent Pars 277, 280, 281, 283, 284** of the Code were submitted by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, as follows:

Anent Par 277

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 277 of the Code sub-paragraph 277(5) be deleted.

Anent Par 280

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 280 of the Code, sub-paragraph 280(5) be deleted and the following substituted in its place:

“(5) The Board may call ministers appointed to serve the Board in full-time administration.”

Anent Par 281

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 281 of the Code, at sub-paragraph 281(3)(a) the words “universities or colleges” be deleted and the words “universities, colleges or schools” substituted in their place and that sub-paragraph 281(4) be deleted and the following substituted in its place:

“(4) The Board may call ministers appointed to serve the Board in full-time administration.”

Anent Par 283

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 283 of the Code, at sub-paragraph 283(3)(b) the words “in Youth service work” be deleted and the words “in youth and children’s work” substituted in their place.

Anent Par 284

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 284 of the Code sub-paragraph 284(3) be deleted and the following substituted in its place:

“(3) The Board may call ministers to serve as teachers in day schools, together with Advisers on R.E., who are at least two thirds of the school week engaged in specialist religious teaching, on the condition that, in the event of such work occupying less than two thirds of their time, they shall be deemed to have resigned from the work to which they were called; provided that ministers who are 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.”

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben, and agreed:

That the overtures anent Pars 277, 280, 281, 283, 284 of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, they be made the rule of the Church.

The final report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** was submitted by the Clerk, the Rev Dr DJ Watts, as follows:

**BUSINESS
BOARD
Final Report**

The Business Board met to consider the content of the resolutions below. The reason for the date in resolution 9 is that there will be public holidays in the UK on Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 June, 2012.

The Business Board submits the following resolutions:

Moved by the Rev Dr DJ Watts, seconded by the Rev TD Gribben and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly express appreciation of the important contribution of the SPUD delegates which has greatly enhanced the work of the Assembly.
3. That the Finance and Personnel Board be authorised to appoint Employer Nominated Trustees to the PCI Pension Scheme.
4. That the General Board be authorised to appoint:
 - (a) An ad-hoc Committee on elders serving on Kirk Session for a fixed term.
 - (b) An ad-hoc Committee on encouraging planned giving.

5. That the following corresponding members be appointed:
To the Church of Scotland 2011
The Right Rev Dr T Norman Hamilton
Chaplain
Elder
6. That the delegates to the Presbyterian Church of Wales 2011, the General Synod of the Church of Ireland 2011 and the Methodist Conference 2011 be appointed by the Business Board.
7. That the Clerk be given authority to make corrections to the Daily Minutes as and when required.
8. That the next General Assembly be held in Belfast on Monday, 6 June, 2011.
9. That the General Assembly in 2012 shall provisionally begin on Monday, 28 May, 2012.

CLOSE OF ASSEMBLY

The Moderator conducted a closing act of worship and thanked: the Clerk of Assembly and the Deputy Clerk; Mrs Joyce Anderson and the staff of the General Secretary's Office; his Chaplains; Mr Stephen Lynas, the audio visual and IT teams and the media; the Church House staff, including Mr Harry Orr; the Rev GE Best, Mrs Maureen Patterson; the caterers, McKees and the ladies from Helen's Bay; Mrs Pat Crossley; the organists and musicians; those who acted as stewards from Belfast City Mission and others and the time-keepers.

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, 6th June, 2011.

The Moderator pronounced the Benediction.

The sederunt came to a close at 5.55pm

Attested by
DONALD J WATTS
Clerk of Assembly

CHANGES IN THE CODE

2009

CHURCH HOUSE,
BELFAST, BT1 6DW
AUGUST, 2009

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

Donald J. Watts
Clerk of Assembly

Par 25

Add the following sub-paragraph:

“(3) Remunerated employees of the congregation may be members of the Kirk Session but shall not sit and deliberate with the Session when matters affecting their employment, and that of other remunerated employees, are under discussion.” (IA 2010)

Par 33

Add the following sub-paragraph:

“(3) A ruling elder who has reached the age of 65, or is in special circumstances, may retire from their duties in a congregation with the consent of the Presbytery, who may if it so wishes, in consultation with the Kirk Session, deem the elder to be an ‘elder-emeritus’ of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.” and re-number the subsequent sub-paragraphs. (IA 2010)

Par 40(4)

Delete Par 40(4) and substitute the following:

“(4) The Session shall record attendance of communicants at the Lord’s Supper and may do so by the use of tokens or other appropriate method approved by Presbytery.” (IA confirmed 2010)

Par 48

Add the following sub-paragraph:

“(5) Remunerated employees of the congregation may be members of the Committee but shall not sit and deliberate with the Committee when matters affecting their employment, and that of other remunerated employees, are under discussion.” (IA 2010)

Par 57

Delete Par 57 and substitute the following:

“57(1) **Subject to sub-paragraph (3) below, it shall be the duty of congregational trustees** to carry out the lawful directions given to them on

behalf of the congregation by the Congregational Committee and, in giving such directions and in administering the property of the congregation, the Committee shall be bound by the subsequent provisions of this paragraph.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3) below, transactions creating, transferring or affecting any estate or interest in congregational property shall not be entered into without the authorisation of the congregation and the sanction of the Presbytery being first obtained; save that the Kirk Session may, subject to this Code and to rules, authorise what meetings shall be held in or on congregational property.

(3) When deciding upon the terms of any amalgamation or dissolution the Union Commission shall have power to determine the future ownership or dispersal of property and assets belonging to both or either congregation and congregational trustees shall carry out such directions given to them on behalf of the Commission.

(4) All leases, declarations of trust or other assurances relating to the acquisition, disposal or use of congregational property shall before being executed be submitted to the Presbytery and shall not be executed without the prior approval of the Presbytery. It shall be the responsibility of the minister and the representative elder to ensure that this submission is made.

(5) The site and plans of all new buildings proposed to be erected on congregational property and of all proposed demolition, structural alterations of or structural additions to existing buildings thereon (including all proposals and designs for memorials, windows, artificial lighting and for seating and furnishings requisite for public worship) shall be submitted for the approval of the Committee on Church Architecture and of the Presbytery and, without such approval, and without the approval of the congregation, no such erection or alteration shall be undertaken or made.

(6) In all situations where augmentation or incremental grant is being paid to the minister of a congregation the Presbytery shall consult with the Union Commission and obtain the Commission's consent before authorising any project under section (5) above.

(7) Notice of the convening of a meeting of the congregation for the purpose of giving an approval required under sub-paragraphs (2) or (5) or paragraph 46(f) shall be given from the pulpit on the two Sundays immediately preceding the date of the meeting." (IA 2010)

Par 62

In Par 62 delete the words "but without a vote." and substitute the words "but without a vote, and shall invite ministers without charge under their care to do so." (IA confirmed 2010)

Par 81

Add the following sub-paragraph::

"(6) The minister emeritus of a congregation shall not exercise any pastoral role or conduct any services in connection with the congregation without the

specific prior permission of the minister of the congregation, or in a vacancy, the convener of the Vacancy Commission.” (IA 2010)

Par 98

In Par 98 delete the words “but without a vote.” and substitute the words “but without a vote, and shall invite ministers without charge under the care of Presbyteries to do so.” (IA confirmed 2010)

Par 106(g)

In Par 106(g) delete the word “unite” and substitute the word “link”, and delete the word “unions” and substitute the word “linkages”. (IA 2010)

Par 124(1)

In Par 124(1) delete the words “Ministers’ Pension Fund (1978)” and substitute the words “Pension Scheme (2009)”. (IA confirmed 2010)

Par 125(1)

In Par 125(1) delete the words “Ministers’ Pension Fund (1978)” and substitute the words “Pension Scheme (2009)”. (IA confirmed 2010)

Par 125(A)

In Par 125(A) delete the words “The object of the **1978 Ministers’ Pension Scheme Fund** shall be to provide the appropriate Funds for the contribution to be made to the Ministers’ Pension Scheme 1978” and substitute the words “The object of the **Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009) Fund** shall be to provide the appropriate funds for the contribution to be made to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pension Scheme (2009).” (IA confirmed 2010)

Pars 128(3), 128(5)(d)

In Pars 128(3), 128(5)(d) delete the word “united” and substitute the word “linked”. (IA 2010)

Par 128(5)(a)

In Par 128(5)(a) delete the word “union” and substitute the word “linkage”, and delete the word “unions” and substitute the word “linkages”. (IA 2010)

Par 128(6)(b)

In Par 128(6)(b) delete the word “union” and substitute the word “linkage”. (IA 2010)

Pars 190(2)(c), 238(1), 245(1), 245(2)(a), 274(4), 274(8), 274(10)

In Pars 190(2)(c), 238(1), 245(1), 245(2)(a), 274(4), 274(8), 274(10), delete the word “union” and substitute the word “linkage”. (2010)

Par 233(4)

In Par 233(4) delete the word “unions” and substitute the word “linkages”. (2010)

Pars 260(f), 274(5)(c)(ii) and (iii), 274(7), 274(13)

In Pars 260(f), 274(5)(c)(ii) and (iii), 274(7), 274(13) delete the word “united” and substitute the word “linked”. (2010)

Par 272(4)

Delete Par 272(4)(d) and substitute the following:

“prioritising the work of the Boards of the General Assembly”. (2010)

Par 274(5)

In Par 274(5) delete the word “unite” and substitute the word “link”. (2010)

Par 274(6)

Delete Par 274(6) and substitute the following:

“274(6)(a) Where in the opinion of the Commission the pastorate of two or more congregations may be linked the Commission shall consult with the Kirk Sessions and Congregations involved (either directly or through the Presbytery), with the Presbytery itself and, in the case of Home Mission Congregations, with the Board of Mission in Ireland. The Commission shall endeavour to agree the terms with the Kirk Sessions involved. Where it proves impossible to obtain the agreement of one or more Kirk Sessions, but the Presbytery consents and in the case of Home Mission congregations the Board of Mission in Ireland consents, terms of linkage shall be fixed by the Commission, a date for its commencement set and such action reported in due course to the Assembly. These terms shall be binding on all the parties concerned. The same action may be taken to facilitate a porting. The Commission shall be the final authority as to the area of porting to be effected.

(b) No congregation shall be dissolved or amalgamated, with loss of its identity, except by authorisation from the Assembly. Where the Commission has been instructed by the General Assembly to agree terms, where one or more congregations are being amalgamated or dissolved by resolution of the Assembly, the Commission shall endeavour to agree the terms with the Kirk Sessions involved. Where it proves impossible to obtain the agreement of one or more Kirk Sessions, but the Presbytery consents, and in the case of Home Mission congregations the Board of Mission in Ireland consents, the terms shall be set by the Commission and shall be binding on all the parties concerned.

(c) When any congregation is considering a proposal for dissolution, amalgamation or linkage with another congregation, no arrangements regarding the sale of its properties and distribution of the proceeds or the income therefrom shall be made without first obtaining the agreement of the Commission.

(d) Where it is decided that within five years from the date of the leave to call the vacant congregation/s shall be linked with another congregation or congregations where there is still a minister in active duty (hereafter referred to as “the other congregation or congregations”), the Commission may issue leave to call to the vacant congregation/s on deferred linkage terms.

(i) The Union Commission will have power to direct that in the choice of a Minister the vacant congregation or congregations and the other congregation or congregations shall act as one congregation and the Kirk Session as one Kirk Session.

(ii) The rights and entitlements of the active minister/s in the other congregation or congregations shall not be adversely affected by this arrangement.

(iii) When the minister/s in active duty retires or ceases to be minister/s of the other congregation or congregations in the deferred linkage the Union Commission shall agree final terms of linkage and the Presbytery arrange a service of installation in the other congregation or congregations.

(iv) If the minister called to the original vacant congregation in the deferred linkage resigns his charge, the same procedure as above will be followed.” (2010)

Par 274(12)

In Par 274(12) delete the word “union” and substitute the word “linkage”, and delete the word “unite” and substitute the word “link”. (2010)

Par 277

Delete Par 277 of the Code sub-paragraph 277(5). (2010)

Par 280

Delete sub-paragraph 280(5) and substitute the following:

“(5) The Board may call ministers appointed to serve the Board in full-time administration.” (2010)

Par 280(1)

In Par 280(1) delete the words “the Irish Mission Superintendent” and “the Presbyterian Mutual Society Agent” also delete the words “Youth and Inter-Church Relations” and substitute the words “and Youth and Children’s Ministry” and delete the words “Youth Board” and substitute the words “Youth and Children’s Ministry Board”. (2010)

Par 281

In Par 281, at sub-paragraph 281(3)(a) delete the words “universities or colleges” and the words “universities, colleges or schools” and delete sub-paragraph 281(4) and substitute the following:

“(4) The Board may call ministers appointed to serve the Board in full-time administration.” (2010)

Par 283

In sub-paragraph 283(3)(b) delete the words “in Youth service work” and substitute the words “in youth and children’s work”. (2010)

Par 284

Delete sub-paragraph 284(3) and substitute the following:

“(3) The Board may call ministers to serve as teachers in day schools, together with Advisers on R.E., who are at least two thirds of the school week engaged in specialist religious teaching, on the condition that, in the event of such work occupying less than two thirds of their time, they shall be deemed to have resigned from the work to which they were called; provided that ministers who are 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.” (2010)

Par 300(4)

In Par 300(4) delete the words “a Home Mission Repairs Fund account from which” and substitute the words “the Board of Mission in Ireland so that” and delete the words “towards the acquisition or repair or improvement of Church or manse property held in connection with any congregations or charges under the Board”. (2010)

