

MINUTES

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

Presbyterian Church in Ireland

Held at Belfast, June, 2002

FIRST SESSION

Monday, 10th June, 2002

Seven o'clock. Evening

Within Church House

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

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

The Clerk announced that the names of 628 ministers being ex officio members and 531 elders on whose behalf commissions had been received, had been entered on the Roll of the Assembly together with 62 Assembly Elders, Conveners and nominees of the Business Board. 28 Deaconesses, 1 Woman Worker, 10 Irish Mission Workers, 61 Women's representatives and 35 Youth representatives together with 24 Conveners and Missionaries who are not members of the court had been invited to sit and deliberate along with 11 Licentiates. There were also 15 Corresponding Members and Delegates from other Churches.

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

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

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

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

The Rev R I Birney, BA, BD, DMin	17 votes
The Rev J L Casement, BA, BD,	3 votes
The Rev W T J Richardson, BA, BD	1 vote

On the motion of the Rev J L Casement, seconded by the Rev W T J Richardson, the Rev Dr R I Birney was unanimously called to the Chair, welcomed by the retiring Moderator and commended to God in prayer.

The Right Rev Dr R I Birney then addressed the House.

The sederunt came to a close at 8.42pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

SECOND SESSION

Tuesday, 11th June, 2002

Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon

Within Church House

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

Intermission

The Assembly afterwards convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **BUSINESS BOARD** (Reports pp 94-103) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, together with the following Supplementary Reports.

**BUSINESS
BOARD**

Supplementary Report A

DELEGATES TO OTHER CHURCHES

The Church of Scotland General Assembly (2002)

The Right Rev Dr H A Dunlop reports:

The Church of Scotland General Assembly met from 25-31 May. The corresponding members from our Church were Rt Rev Dr H A Dunlop, Rev I A McKay and Mr John McKay.

As is customary, your corresponding members were given a warm welcome, lavish hospitality, and an honoured place in the proceedings. We wish to place on record our deep appreciation of the care and attention extended to us.

The Assembly began with the election as Moderator of the Rev Dr Finlay A J Macdonald, Principal Clerk of the General Assembly. During his year of office the Rev Marjory MacLean will undertake the duties of the Principal Clerk.

The Assembly was honoured to be addressed by The Queen who attended the opening session with The Duke of Edinburgh, as part of her Golden Jubilee visit to Scotland. During the rest of the Assembly the Queen was represented by The Lord High Commissioner, The Right Honourable Viscount Younger of Leckie.

An impressive Service was held in St. Giles Cathedral on Sunday 26 May, Trinity Sunday, when, in the presence of The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, the Moderator underlined the priority of the worship of the sovereign God, the Holy One, and drawing attention to worship as the context of the Great Commission.

Monday 27 May began with an Assembly Communion service, and other days began with worship marked by hearty singing led either by organ accompaniment or by an enthusiastic precentor. Reflections by the Moderator were based on the "I am" sayings in St John's Gospel.

A notable feature of the Assembly was the excellent attendance each day, with almost all commissioners in their seats for worship at 9.30am, and very many of them remaining until the conclusion of the day's business - and this despite no formal tea or coffee breaks, the only break being an hour for lunch.

Business was marked by a high standard of debate, competence in answering sometimes detailed questions, a good mix of seriousness and humour, and a considerable number of interventions from visiting delegates. Other interesting features included electronic voting and simultaneous broadcasting via the Church of Scotland web-site, made possible through facilities installed for the Scottish Parliament which currently meets in the Assembly Hall.

The Church and Nation Committee remit covered subjects such as Sectarianism, Land Reform, Foot & Mouth Disease, Compensation Culture, Asylum, Nuclear Submarines, Europe Whole And Free, the Terrorist Attacks on the USA and the War on Afghanistan, Iraq, National Missile Defence, and Israel-Palestine. The debate proved quieter than expected, an indication of convergence in views, and I had the opportunity to contribute to the discussion on Sectarianism.

The Board of World Mission debate led to the Assembly affirming five strategic commitments for the years to 2010: evangelism, reconciliation, ministry to the poor, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, local involvement in global mission. The report also included a section about the pastoral care of overseas staff.

The Assembly received the report of the Committee to Revise The Hymnary, including the draft of the new hymnbook, and authorised its use throughout the Church subject to such alteration as may be agreed by the Committee. This represents the fruit of much hard work over a number of years. It is hoped that the book may be published sometime in 2003.

Last year's "Church Without Walls" report continues to impact the thinking of the Church as Boards and Presbyteries seek to respond to the changing nature of both society and the Church. Projected ministerial retirements (211 from 2000-2004 and a further 220 from 2005-2009) and the number of candidates in training for the ministry (96 for 2000-2004) add urgency to the task.

Much of this resonates with the challenges facing PCI. We have much to learn from each other. Mutual encouragement, support and prayer can only serve to strengthen both of us in the outworking of Christ's mission.

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland (2002)

The Rev A V Martin reports:

The General Synod of the Church of Ireland met in the Stillorgan Park Hotel, Dublin from Tuesday 14 to Thursday 16 May, 2002.

The Presbyterian representatives were Rev Alan Martin and Dr John Kirker.

Archbishop Robin Eames presided at the opening session and welcomed visitors from the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church in Ireland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the Religious Society of Friends, the Moravian Church, the Non Subscribing Presbyterian Church in Britain and Ireland, the Church of England and the Old Catholic Churches of the Union of Utrecht.

The Rev Harold Good, President of the Methodist Church, was invited to speak. He referred to the covenant relationship into which the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Church in Ireland were about to enter. The close relationship between the two churches was appropriately reflected on this occasion by the friendship which he and Archbishop Robin Eames had enjoyed since school days. He presented the Archbishop with one of two branches he had cut from a tree associated with John Wesley at Harmony Hill. This was to symbolise two branches of the one universal Church.

The Synod then proceeded to vote in favour of the new covenant relationship, which everyone hoped would later be ratified at the Methodist Conference. The wording of the covenant includes the following clauses:- "1 We acknowledge one another's churches as belonging to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ and as truly participating in the apostolic mission of the whole people of God. 2 We acknowledge that in each of our churches the Word of God is authentically preached and the sacraments of baptism and holy communion authentically administered according to the command of Christ. 5 We acknowledge each other's ordained ministries as given by God and as instruments of his grace by which our churches are served and built up. As pilgrims together, we look forward to the time when our ministries can be fully interchangeable and our churches visibly united. Therefore:-

We believe that God is calling our two churches to a fuller relationship in which we commit ourselves to share a common life and mission to grow together so that unity may be visibly realised. As the next steps towards that goal, we agree: to encourage united Methodist/Church of Ireland congregations (i) where there are joint church schemes, (ii) where new churches are to be planted, (iii) where local congregations wish to move in this direction.”

The Church of Ireland is producing an amended version of the Book of Common Prayer to be published in 2004. A number of liturgical resolutions were passed. A short debate took place on the use of the word “obey” in the marriage vows and it was eventually decided to keep this form of marriage vow as an alternative for a minority who still wanted to use it.

On Tuesday evening the Synod Service, a service of Holy Communion, was held in Christ Church Cathedral. The preacher was Rt Rev WP Colton, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross.

On the second day a good debate took place on the subject of sectarianism. Speakers said that the eradication of sectarianism was necessary, not only for society but also for the spiritual health of Christians, and that sectarianism cripples our mission as a church and makes us incompetent witnesses to the word of Christ.

All of us who were visitors were warmly received at the Synod and given generous hospitality.

Eglise Réformée de France: National Synod (2002)

The Rev W S Marris reports:

This year the National Synod of the French Reformed Church took place in Nîmes. In his brief opening address the Moderator exhorted those present to be living stones, each taking their place in the life of the Church. He pointed out that the purpose of Synod was to seek the cement to hold the stones together.

Monsieur Marcel Manoël, the President of the National Council, chose the theme of “Sanctification” for his address. He pointed out that his purpose in choosing this traditional theme was to encourage Christians to be living parables displaying a simple message, to live out their commitment in wise, relevant and concrete ways, and to be prepared to tackle ethical dilemmas.

The Synod devoted two sessions of business to reflection on their theme for the Millennium which had been ‘Débat 2000’. This had launched the Church into a period of contemporary witness through debating the most relevant issues of the day with society. Over the past two years this theme received a mixed reception. Some congregations engaged enthusiastically in inter-religious dialogue and found they became more accessible to inquirers, others were more eager to debate convictions within the Church prior to entering into debate with society at large. In general Débat 2000 helped the Church to remember it was located in the world, and provided it with a fresh focus on encounter.

Monsieur Marc Richalot, the outgoing General Secretary of the National Council, highlighted in his report the need for more Christian Education in the life of the Church. Some three-quarters of the population of France have no Bible and 44% of those who do have one do not read it.

He confirmed that the theme at next year's Synod would be "What does it mean to be part of the Universal Church?" It was agreed that a dossier be put together for a debate on the subject of homosexuality at the Synod of 2005.

This Synod was taking place at a time when the ERF, like much of France, was still in a state of shock because extreme right wing political views had fared so well in the national elections. This proved to be a delicate issue in that while the Synod sought to encourage discussion on this matter it did not wish to tell people how to vote, or condemn any political party.

A balanced and sensitive approach was adopted when drawing up resolutions on the question of Israel – Palestine. The Synod was eager that the ERF might be peacemakers in this particular situation.

The report of the Commission on Ministers indicated that the number of new ministers being trained and entering the ERF is in decline, and falls short of the number of posts to be filled.

The Church's theological colleges in Paris and Montpellier have been moving forward in the areas of distance education and in-service training.

The Synod released a closing statement to the congregations, highlighting that the ERF is a Church which "debates, encounters and witnesses".

BUSINESS BOARD - Supplementary Report B

Arrangements Committee

As there are two main addresses on the opening night of the Assembly (one each by the outgoing and the incoming Moderator), as well as a speech of thanks and concluding remarks by the outgoing Moderator, it was felt that guidelines on length would be useful. Suggested timings are as follows:

outgoing Moderator's sermon – 12 minutes
outgoing Moderator's thanks – 7 minutes
incoming Moderator's address – 12-15 minutes.

It is further suggested that there be five items of praise accompanied by the organ, and also by additional musicians (if the incoming Moderator so wishes and the Business Board approves). The Opening Night service should last about 1 hour 45 minutes.

To ensure that, as far as possible, the Wednesday Evening Rally and the Daily Prayers reflect the Moderator's theme the choice of speakers for these events should normally be a matter for the Moderator in consultation with the Business Board. However, the Board may on certain occasions invite a speaker for the Wednesday Evening Rally on its own initiative, especially if it is considered advisable to make a decision before February.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev T C Morrison:

1. That the Report be received.

Moved, as an amendment, by the Rev J J Andrews, seconded by the Rev J D McGaughey:

That the General Assembly regret and are sorry for the deep hurt felt by members of the Church by the official attendance of a Sinn Fein councillor at their Opening Night.

On being put, the amendment was declared lost.

Moved, as an amendment, by the Very Rev Dr J Dunlop, seconded by the Very Rev Dr H A Dunlop:

That the General Assembly, understanding the deep hurt felt by some members of the Church occasioned by the attendance of a Sinn Fein councillor at the Opening Night of the Assembly express to them their love and understanding.

On being put, the amendment was declared passed.

On being put as substantive motion, was passed.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev T C Morrison, and agreed:

2. That the recommended Order of Business be adopted.

3. That plans for Daily Prayers and the Wednesday Evening Rally should normally be made by the incoming Moderator in consultation with the Business Board, but the Board shall have the right to invite a speaker for the Wednesday Evening Rally before the Moderator is nominated.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev T C Morrison:

4. That on the Opening Night there should normally be five items of praise, the accompanying organist to be chosen by the Business Board. The Board may also approve additional competent musicians, if requested by the incoming Moderator.

On being put, resolution 4 was declared lost.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev T C Morrison, and agreed:

5. That the professional amplification controller and the visual display operator be admitted to the private session.

6. That a grant of £15,000 be made from the Incidental Fund to the Arrangements Committee.

7. That the Business Board, with its associated working committee, for the ensuing year beginning 15 March, 2003 be appointed in accordance with Par 275 of the Code.

The Report of the **Synods and Presbyteries** (Reports pp 83-93) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

**Synods &
Presbyteries**

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

1. That the Report be received.

The **Corresponding Members** were received from the Church of Scotland. These were the Right Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald, Rev Rolf Billies and Mrs Helen McLeod.

**Corresponding
Members**

The Moderator welcomed the Corresponding Members. The Right Rev Dr Finlay Macdonald replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Rev Elizabeth Welch and Dr Andrew Bradstock, Corresponding Members from the United Reformed Church of the United Kingdom, and Dr Brinley F Roberts, a delegate from the Presbyterian Church of Wales. The Rev Elizabeth Welch replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed the Right Rev Alan E T Harper and the Rev Canon Walter A Lewis, delegates from the Church of Ireland; and the Rev S Kenneth Todd, the Rev Dr James Williamson and Mrs Margaret Taggart, delegates from the Methodist Church in Ireland. The Right Rev Alan E T Harper replied and conveyed greetings.

The Moderator welcomed other delegates from: the Church of the Brethren, Slovakia, the Rev Tibor Mahrik; the Presbyterian Church of Australia, the Rev Dr Paul G Logan; the Uniting Church in Australia, the Rev Prof James Haire and the Rev Mary Haire; the United Church of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands, the Rev Dr Gordon Evans; the Church of the Brethren in the Czech Republic, the Rev Daniel Heczko.

The Rev Dr Gordon Evans replied and conveyed greetings.

The sederunt came to a close at 12.50 pm the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

THIRD SESSION

Tuesday, 11th June, 2002

Two o'clock. Afternoon

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

PWA The Report of the **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION** (Reports pp 184-187) was submitted by Mrs Maureen Patterson.

Moved by the Rev Dr D J Watts, seconded by Mrs Helen Murdoch, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

**NOMINATION
BOARD**

The Report of the **NOMINATION BOARD** (Reports pp 117 - 118) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, together with the following Supplementary Report.

NOMINATION BOARD - Supplementary Report

The Interviewing Committee appointed by the Nomination Board compiled a job description and personnel specification for the post of Director of Social Service and Secretary of the Board of Social Witness, prepared referees' forms, drew up short-listing criteria and made all necessary preparations for the interviewing of candidates.

Three applications were received. A specialist from the Board of Social Witness withdrew, as he recognised one application as being from a member of his own congregation. The applications were examined; two of them met all the essential criteria, and accordingly these two persons were invited for interview on 24 May, when they each gave a prepared Presentation and answered questions. It was decided to eliminate one candidate and to recommend a second interview for the other.

The full Nomination Board met later that day, received a report from the Interviewing Committee and authorised it to re-interview the remaining candidate and either nominate directly to the General Assembly or else re-advertise the post.

The Interviewing Committee re-interviewed the remaining candidate on 29 May and, being fully satisfied, decided to submit his name to the General Assembly as sole nominee for this post. Further details are given in the Appendix below. The Committee records its thanks to Professor David Bamford, the external assessor, whose expert advice and guidance proved invaluable.

The Nomination Board also received and approved the recommendation of the Faculty of Union Theological College that the Rev Professor J Patton Taylor be nominated as the next Principal. An appropriate resolution is appended.

It is a weakness in the present system that, if a specialist withdraws for any reason there is no provision for appointing another, yet such withdrawal could be a serious loss to the process. It is therefore recommended that Boards appointing specialists to the Nomination Board be empowered to appoint reserves, who should attend all relevant meetings so that they could competently interview and vote if required.

APPENDIX

Nominee for the position of Director of Social Service and Secretary of the Board of Social Witness

Mr Lindsay Conway OBE
14 Rutherglen Gardens
Bangor West BT19 1DY.

Born 1953

Educated at Ashfield Secondary 1964 -1969; Belfast College of Business Studies 1970 - 1972; Queen's University (part-time) 1975 - 1978; Ulster Polytechnic 1978 - 1980.

Currently Director of Custodial Development Services, Juvenile Justice Board (NI). Formerly Director Juvenile Justice Services, Juvenile Justice Board (NI) 1996-2001.

Previously, successively, Social Worker (1980-1982), Senior Social Worker (1982-1987) and Principal Social Worker (1987-1996), Rathgael & Whiteabbey Management Board.

Certificate in Social Welfare Studies 1978; Diploma in Social Work 1980; Certificate Qualification in Social Work 1980.

Involved with YMCA for 25 years, serving at local, national and international levels. Was elected as Chairman of the National Council of YMCA's at 27 years of age. Was Chairman and President of YMCA Ireland and Vice-President of the European Alliance; Chairman of the YMCA Parents and Kids Together programme.

Very involved in the British Association of Social Workers, and served on a number of committees. Was Northern Ireland Chair and U K Chair in 1997.

Board member of the Simon Community for a number of years and Chairman for the past five years.

Home Congregation was Megain Memorial, Belfast. Now an active member, with his family, of West Church, Bangor, being ordained as an elder in 1979. For many years looked after both the Youth Club and the Youth Fellowship. A member of a number of sub-committees and advises on all aspects of Child Protection.

Awarded the OBE for services to Social Work.

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

1. That the Report be received.
2. That Mr Lindsay Conway OBE be appointed Director of Social Service and Secretary of the Board of Social Witness.

The Moderator informed Mr Lindsay Conway, OBE, of his election and, having subscribed the Westminster Confession of Faith, he was declared appointed, after which he thanked the Moderator and the members of Assembly.

SUBSCRIPTION in terms of the General Assembly's Formula.

I believe the Westminster Confession of Faith as described in the Code, Chapter I, paragraphs 12-14, to be founded on and agreeable to the word of God, and as such I subscribe it as the Confession of my faith.

LINDSAY CONWAY
Certified by SAMUEL HUTCHINSON
Clerk of Assembly
11 June 2002

Union College
Principal

3. That the resignation of the Rev Professor J C McCullough as Principal of Union Theological College be accepted, and that the Rev Professor J Patton Taylor be appointed Principal in his place.

4. That Boards appointing specialists to the Nomination Board be empowered to appoint reserves.

5. That the Nomination Board be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 276 of the Code as follows:

The Clerk, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly.**
- (b*) **Revs AL Kirk, NAL Cameron, D Knowles; H Plester, R McCleary, H Lennon.**
- (c*) **Revs JH MacConnell, JA Beattie, SS McFarland; Dr RMcC McMillan, Leslie Morrell, Elvin Martin.**
- (d*) **Revs A Boyd, DR Whitley, B Hughes; H McRoberts, Mrs Edna Murray, J McKaig.**
- (e*) **Revs John McWhirter, JB McCormick, John F Murdoch; Mrs Rhona Ferguson, G Sproule, DM McCurry.**
- (f*) **Revs SW Rea, D Nesbitt, GA Mitchell; John Ellis, Samuel Anderson, Mrs D Holmes-Greer.**
- (g) **The Clerk-Designate; Mrs Kathleen Mawhinney — Rev Dr DH Allen; Prof HF Nicholl — Rev Dr RFS Poots; DF Adair.**
- Together with four “specialists” variously nominated for particular appointments.**

The Report of the **BOARD OF COMMUNICATIONS** (Reports pp 104-116) was submitted by the Rev I F Smith, together with the following Supplementary Report.

**BOARD OF
COMMUNICATIONS**

BOARD OF COMMUNICATIONS - Supplementary Report**Memorial Record**

Rev Matthew George Evans, BA, senior minister of West Church, Ballymena, died on 25 April, 2002, in the 84th year of his age and the 55th of his ministry.

Matt Evans was born in Bellaghy, Co Londonderry, and was educated at Rainey Endowed School, Magherafelt, from where he followed the path of many of his contemporaries in the ministry via Magee College to Trinity College, Dublin, graduating in Arts, and then to Assembly’s College, Belfast.

Assistantships were served in Dunmurry and Mountpottinger, and for a period towards the end of the war he worked under the auspices of the YMCA among troops in Germany. Having accepted the call of Second Limavady, he was ordained there on 12 February, 1948 and exercised a characteristic ministry for thirteen years in that community, to which he introduced his wife Dorothy, and where their four children were born.

In 1961 he moved to succeed the Rev Dr R S Craig in West Church, Ballymena, where for the next 23 years he proved himself an assiduous worker and a faithful pastor, whose kindness was evident as much in the pulpit as in the homes of his people and in the life of the wider community. Broad in his sympathies and never controversial, he respected others and was himself respected, establishing good relationships with other Christian denominations in the town. Friendly and sociable by nature, he was good company, and he enjoyed the company of others, be they ministers or Masons, encountered in Genevan circles or on the golf course.

A good Presbyterian, he served on many committees and commissions, his advice sought, his opinion valued, his conciliatory demeanour appreciated. He

developed a particular interest in ministry to the deaf and served on the committee of the Kinghan Mission with diligence and acceptance. A lifelong interest in sport was coupled with an appreciation of classical music, and he inherited from his father the skills of carpentry and an eye for interior design.

Strong in faith, he was strong also in physique. Attractive in his own personality, he presented an attractive picture of the person of Christ. Active to the end of his life, he was present in Church the morning before he was taken ill, but was not to recover.

Predeceased by his wife in 1996, he is survived by a daughter and three sons.

Rev John Cecil Parke, MA, Senior Minister of New Row Coleraine, died on 29th May, 2002 in the 88th year of his age and the 64th of his ministry.

He was born on 25th July, 1914 in Ballykelly Manse, Co Londonderry where his father, the Rev Arthur Parke, was minister. When his father died, as the result of a motorcycle accident while returning from preaching in Co Donegal, his mother took the young family of four to live at Crilly, Aughnacloy.

He was a boarder at the Royal School, Dungannon from 1925-1931. He took both Junior and Senior Certificate. Unable to accept a scholarship to Queen's University Belfast, he entered Magee College, Londonderry on the Wm Fullerton Scholarship and studied there from 1931 until 1935, graduating from Trinity College Dublin in 1935 with a BA Honours in Ancient History and Political Science.

Answering a call to the ministry, he attended Assembly's College Belfast from 1935-1937, gaining the Magill Bursary in 1937.

He was Assistant minister in Fitzroy Avenue Church from 1936-1938. He was licensed by the Clogher Presbytery in May 1937 and on, receiving a call from Clogher, was ordained there on 7th July, 1938. He received his MA from TCD in 1944.

He was called to New Row Coleraine and installed on 8th April, 1949, remaining there until his retirement on 30th September, 1978. He was Clerk of the Clogher Presbytery from 1945-1949, Moderator of the Synod of Ballymena and Coleraine in 1954, Convener of the Board of Evangelism and Christian Training from 1966-1976 and Convener of the Committee on National and International Problems from 1980-1987. He was a worthy servant of our church in different areas.

During his ministry in Coleraine a new Church Hall and a new Manse were built and a number of young men entered the ministry of our church.

He was a faithful pastor, a challenging preacher with a heart for evangelism and a great encourager of others.

He is survived by his wife, Maureen, and their son, Arthur, who serves with SIM in Africa.

Intermission

Moved by the Rev I F Smith, seconded by the Rev R Hill, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Moved by Mr S Lynas, seconded by the Rev R Hill, and agreed:

2. That the resignation of the Rev I F Smith as Convener of the Board of Communications be received, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev W A Kennedy be appointed in his place.

Moved by the Rev I F Smith, seconded by the Rev R Hill, and agreed:

3. That the resignation of the Rev W J Carlisle as Convener of the Communications Administration Committee be received, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev Dr R A Russell be appointed in his place.

Moved by the Rev I F Smith, seconded by Mr S Lynas, and agreed:

4. That the resignation of the Rev R Hill as Convener of the Media Committee be received, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev C Glover be appointed in his place.

Moved by the Rev I F Smith, seconded by the Rev R Hill, and agreed:

5. That the General Assembly express appreciation to the Board of Directors and staff of Familybooks and to the editor and production team of the Herald for the excellent service they provide, and encourage the church to support the bookshop as it operates in an increasingly competitive commercial climate and to promote readership of the Herald among its congregations. **Communications Administration**

6. That a grant of £800 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Public Worship Committee. **Public Worship**

7. That the General Assembly agree that the origination costs of the new hymnal, estimated at £24,050, be paid from the sum accruing from the Church Hymnary Trust.

8. That the General Assembly retain the balance of the amount accruing from the Church Hymnary Trust for the following purposes:

- (i) The production of the new hymnary in electronic format.
- (ii) Costs incurred in the launch of the new hymnary.
- (iii) Costs incurred in the provision of the proposed resource centre.
- (iv) Likely revision of the psalter.
- (v) Possible supplements to the new hymnary.
- (vi) Such other purposes in connection with public worship as the Assembly may approve.

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

10. That a grant of £500 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Church Architecture Committee. **Church Architecture**

General

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

Rev WA Kennedy, Convener
Stephen Lynas, Secretary

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs IF Smith, WA Kennedy; Editors of the Church Magazines, S Lynas.**
- (b) **Rev WA Kennedy; D Lusk — J MacQueen, V Riddell — Revs WD McBride, RE Boggs — Rev DJ Bruce; A Robinson — Revs WH Sanderson; H Morrow — Rev DC Scott; Mrs P Qua.**
- (c) **Rev NA Brown; T Montgomery — R Nelson, Mrs H Graham — Rev JA McCaughan; Ian Smyth — Rev RD McDowell; K McAuley — Rev RL Brown; SJ Waugh.**
- (d) **Rev TC Wright; R Daggart — Rev Henry Wilson; Mrs Olive Marshall — Rev WM Brown; T Busby.**
- (e) **Rev TD Hagan; FL Hood — Rev GD Simpson; Mrs J Norris — Miss Margaret Guy, JA Patterson — Rev Noel Agnew; Mrs M Crooks.**
- (f) **Rev AW Carson; Alan Speer — Rev Robert Cobain; Val Fitzgerald — Rev GJ Mackarel; J Jenkins.**

A. COMMUNICATIONS ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (5)

Rev Dr. R.A. Russell, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Information Officer, Editors of Church Magazines, Representative of Familybooks, two Overseas Board and two PWA Representatives, Revs WA Kennedy, WJ Carlisle, Dr. RA Russell.**
- (x) **Rev Dr WE Davison; R. Patton, M O'Neill, R Nelson.**
- (y) **Revs WH Sanderson, DJ Bruce, JA McCaughan, R Cobain; Mrs P Qua, Mrs M Crooks, Ian Smyth, T Busby.**

B. MEDIA COMMITTEE (5)

Rev C Glover, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Information Officer, Magee Director, Revs R Hill, C Glover, WA Kennedy, Dr RS Tosh, Professor of Practical Theology, Rel Advisers Downtown Radio, RTE, UTV.**
- (x) **Revs Anne Tolland, J Wylie, Cheryl Reid; M O'Neill.**
- (y) **Revs RD McDowell, GJ Mackarel, JA McCaughan; D Lusk, T Busby, Mrs M Crooks, Mrs J Norris, Mrs. WDF Marshall.**

C. PUBLIC WORSHIP COMMITTEE (5)

Rev WTJ Richardson, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs WA Kennedy, WTJ Richardson; Professor of Practical Theology, Information Officer.**
- (x) **Revs JH McIntyre, WJ Murdock, M Spratt.**
- (y) **Revs WH Sanderson, RD McDowell, JA McCaughan; H Morrow, Mrs M Crooks, Miss M Guy.**

- D. CHURCH ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev LWH Hilditch, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs WA Kennedy, LWH Hilditch; Information Officer.**
- (x) **M Shaw, W Boyce, Mrs J Hamilton.**
- (y) **Revs AW Carson, GD Simpson, R Cobain, JA McCaughan; JA Patterson, T Montgomery.**
- E. HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev Dr WJH McKee, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Prof LS Kirkpatrick, Dr H Cromie, WA Kennedy, JF Murdoch, Dr WJH McKee; Information Officer.**
- (x) **Rev K Smyth; George Gillespie, Derek Alexander, Mrs D McKee.**
- (y) **Revs Robert Cobain, JA McCaughan, G.D. Simpson, WA Kennedy, WD McBride; Mrs M Crooks, T Busby, Mrs. O. Marshall.**

The Report of the **BOARD OF EDUCATION** (Reports pp 229-247) was submitted by the Rev J McAllister, together with the following Supplementary Report. **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

BOARD OF EDUCATION - Supplementary Report

State Education Committee

After the Reports went to press the Transferor Representatives' Council finalised its Response to "Education for the 21st Century" - the Report by the Post-Primary Review Body. This was following consultation with the three Church Education Boards and transferors serving on the five Education and Library Boards. The final form of the TRC Response is as follows:-

TRANSFEROR REPRESENTATIVES' COUNCIL

Response to the Report by the Post-Primary Review Body [October 2001]

INTRODUCTION

The TRC believes strongly that there is a duty to ensure that all pupils are catered for fully and that this report on 'Education for the 21st Century' can be the catalyst for reform that is long overdue.

- We welcome the recommendation that the present system of selection should be abolished. Whilst this system has enabled a minority of pupils to achieve high standards of academic excellence, it has been at the expense of a huge loss of the self-esteem of a greater number of pupils who have felt the stigma of being considered 'failures'. The present system also makes little allowance for the range of levels and stages of maturation of pupils, and gives little thought to their full variety of talents, aptitudes and learning abilities.
- We acknowledge that across the province, there are unequal opportunities for admission to Grammar schools - some fill their places with pupils graded C and D, whereas, in another area, only a grade A is accepted.
- We whole-heartedly support the guiding principles, especially that it is of paramount importance that each child should be valued equally. It is also important that each child is facilitated to find the most appropriate educational

pathway, and that there should be adequate provision and opportunity for pupils to change pathways.

- We agree strongly that there should be parity of esteem of vocational and academic opportunities. There is an ongoing need for children to be equipped with the values, skills and training to meet the needs of a rapidly changing society, in which the use of information technology and associated skills are constantly developing.

Education has the difficult task of preparing young people for the anticipated needs of society while at the same time encouraging the development of an all-rounded person, including the intellectual, spiritual, moral, cultural, social, physical, emotional and creative aspects of the individual.

We wish to make comments in particular, on the three main proposals outlined in the report, followed by concluding comments and recommendations.

1. Use of a pupil profile
2. Abolition of transfer tests and academic selection and the priority placed on parental choice.
3. The collegiate system.

1. Use of a Pupil Profile

We consider that carefully-devised profiles should offer a fairer way forward and will hopefully be more tailored to individual needs and strengths. However we have the following concerns:

1.1 It would be vital for profiles to be composed in a uniform way across all primary schools, and for teachers to be provided with appropriate training in their construction.

1.2 It would be essential to have a process of moderation of profiles to ensure that there is parity of value and reliability of information included. Meaningful pupil profiles must also have some elements of objective assessment.

1.3 Resources should be provided to ensure that primary schools enable pupils to correct deficiencies in their profiles which could lead to underachievement continuing at post-primary level. It is therefore essential that, as early as possible in a pupil's education, areas of weakness and deficiency are properly and expertly diagnosed and that there is then immediate and adequate provision of professional help and resources.

1.4 This priority, highlighted in (1.3), is further supported by the 'Northern Ireland Audit Report' which found that 10% of pupils in the Belfast Board and 6% of pupils across the province are leaving without any GCSE qualifications. Also at Key Stage 3 the Department of Education's stated target is that 72% of pupils should be working at level five or above in English and Mathematics. However, in 1999/2000 only 53% of pupils in Northern Ireland were found to be at level five or above in English and only 50% in Maths.

1.5 We are concerned that while the intention of Pupil Profiles may be to help parents, pupils and teachers, they may result in Parent/Teacher conflict and disagreement over what is considered to be in the pupil's best interests.

1.6 We are concerned about the extra workload the new process will place upon Primary Principals.

1.7 We believe that the actual Pupil Profile should be professionally compiled by the school without parental influence.

1.8 We draw attention to 8.23 of the report and the use of pupil profiles in connection with 'the educational provision within Collegiates which would match well with the parents' aspirations and the child's preferred learning and career pathways.' For this to be effective, there would need to be impartial, honest and effective information about the types and nature of the educational/vocational provision that is available and an effective means by which such information can be shared.

1.9 We believe that parents would value the advice of an experienced post-primary school principal in considering an appropriate pathway for their child. In order for a more fully informed choice to be made, we suggest that a means is found for the pupil profile to be shared with the proposed receiving schools without being used as a criterion for selection.

1.10 We refer to 8.26 where there is recognition that 'as a child matures, his/her ability to engage in self-review strengthens.' We are concerned that very often at the age of 11 this ability is not sufficiently developed and so it is important that the post-primary educational pathway into which the pupil enters is such that during and at the end of KS3, the curriculum enables the pupil to transfer to a school that is better suited to his/her strengths and abilities without jeopardising his/her opportunities. In short, all choices should be kept open as long as possible although we recognise that, for some pupils, certain pathways may be unrealistic. We suggest that a common-core curriculum should be delivered in all post primary schools until the end of KS3, when decisions regarding the appropriate pathway could be made.

2. Abolition of Transfer tests and academic selection and the priority placed on parental choice.

2.1 The assumption that parental choice should be the dominant criterion in the admission of children to schools is challenged. Parental choice is one of a number of factors which should be considered at transfer. A new way forward might be to devise a system whereby a range of suitably weighted factors and evaluations would be brought together in a points system to determine an appropriate outcome for transfer at the end of KS3.

2.2 We note that the report acknowledges in 9.25 that 'it is a natural feature of the Open Enrolment system that some schools will be more or less popular than others..' Perceived 'successful' schools will receive many more first preference choices than can ever be accommodated. We are concerned that the application of the proposed admissions criteria will quickly result in admission mainly by proximity to the school. This and the proposed collegiate system will rule out the traditional large catchment areas of many schools in the urban areas and elsewhere.

2.3 With reference to 9.25 we quote 'It is a natural feature of the Open Enrolment system that some schools will be more or less popular than others ...' In the light of this we believe that strenuous efforts need to be made to ensure parity of esteem among schools, including a curriculum provision which recognises the differing needs of children.

2.4 In order to provide a good range of vocational and technological education, it is important that schools, especially from the end of KS3, are adequately resourced in terms of finance, staff and facilities.

2.5 Closely allied to these points is the urgent need to put adequate resources into schools whose pupils demonstrate educational deprivation. This should not be done by the inequitable method of previous TSN schemes. It is important that the funding provided should be additional.

2.6 Regarding the criteria set out in 9.30 we express concern that the principle 'that each young person should be valued equally' appears to be set aside by the criterion 'that children of staff at the school' be given preference over other children.

2.7 We envisage transport problems arising particularly on boundary areas where parents choose a school in a collegiate, which is not in their grouping. Careful local consultation will be necessary to establish that the groupings reflect traditional feeder routes.

2.8 While acknowledging that the process is driven by parental choice, we are concerned that in reality, given the groupings, geography, and community divisions, there is likely to be little choice for many parents

2.9 The grounds and procedures for any process of appeal should be clearly set out. This is particularly important for pupils deprived of a place at the school of their parents' preference through not living near enough to the school.

3. The Collegiate System

3.1 We welcome the concept of co-operation and co-ordination as against competition, but express concern at the practicalities of delivering these objectives. We consider that the collegiate system as proposed would be impractical. Smaller clusters of schools, co-operating on a voluntary basis, would be more realistic.

3.2 We refer to para 48 (page 22): 'We are convinced that a collegial system of post-primary education would provide the structure and opportunity for schools to co-exist and work together to best serve the educational needs and abilities of all their pupils.' We consider that to facilitate such levels of co-operation, funding of schools should no longer be based chiefly on pupil numbers but on pupil need.

3.3 The planning, management and support systems proposed appear unnecessarily complicated and seem to be creating layer upon layer of bureaucracy. We would be concerned that resources, which should be targeted at improving the delivery of education in the classroom, will be spent on administration.

3.4 We would envisage principals being presented with frequent and impossible dilemmas within the Board of Principals regarding what is best for their school and the demands of collegiate policy.

3.5 We are of the view that centres of learning excellence are engendered, not manufactured.

3.6 Given the proposal to share resources between schools in a collegiate, we are concerned at the safety of pupils moving around between schools. Who will have ownership of these children and be responsible for their protection, safety, pastoral care etc?

3.7 We foresee difficulties arising regarding contracts of staff members who may be relocated to other schools and issues regarding discipline and management of staff.

3.8 We have concerns regarding the responsibility of Boards of Governors who at present have a vital role in the management of schools. In any new proposals the rights and interests of parents, teachers and transferors must be protected.

3.9 We are not clear about the role of Area Boards in the collegiate system particularly in the provision of curriculum support. We believe that the established systems are of great value.

3.10 There are also considerable financial implications, so we question if there will be sufficient positive outcomes to merit all the angst generated in managing a collegial system. We, therefore, express concern as to the benefits and effectiveness of a collegiate system in practice.

3.11 We believe that schools are living communities which generate loyalties and promote a sense of ownership among parents and pupils. This may well be lost in a Collegiate.

3.12 There is a concern, that, in implementing the collegiate system, education is not reduced to 'a screen and a keyboard' and the ethos of schools dissipated.

Concluding Comments

While welcoming the intention to abolish the present method of selection we are very concerned that all possible steps are taken to ensure that the process of change is introduced in a manner that will obtain the maximum possible community support and confidence. Incremental change is therefore important.

- We express deep concern that the proposed criteria for admissions will not, in practice, achieve the objectives as stated in 9.25: 'It is essential that these criteria should be equitable and designed to provide equality of opportunity in support of the best interests of the pupil.'
- In our considered view, there are great difficulties surrounding the effective working of a collegiate system that would need to be resolved before such a proposal could be given a greater measure of support.
- We are also aware of the danger of introducing a system that changes what is already good and care must be taken to encourage and maintain excellence.
- While we have welcomed the intention to abolish the present method of selection, we are very concerned that the proposed replacement should have the maximum possible support from both the general community and those directly involved in education. We consider the proposed changes highly risky given that the proposals are untried and do not follow the customary piloting procedure.
- We are concerned about the short time scale for the proposals to be implemented and are of the view that it is more important to get it right than to get it soon.

Recommendations

- We consider that the end of KS3 is a more appropriate age for informed decisions to be made about the future of educational pathways for a child. (cf Report, 8.26)
- We consider the continuing development of the pupil profile throughout KS3 to be important to facilitate the choice of the most suitable pathway for each pupil. During or at the end of KS3 the pupil should be enabled to transfer to the pathway that is best suited to his/her strengths, abilities and gifts.
- To enable this to function more smoothly we suggest that a common-core curriculum be delivered in all post-primary schools until the end of KS3.
- We believe that, with all urgency, every effort should be made to improve and enhance the ethos and standing of schools that are perceived to be 'less successful' within the system.

Moved by the Rev J McAllister, seconded by the Rev Dr R F S Poots:

1. That the Report be received.

Moved, as an amendment, by the Rev M J R Neilly, seconded by the Rev R Murray:

That the Report be received and that it be sent back to the Board of Education with the request that pars 4 and 5 of the University Education Report, referring to the post of Chaplain of Derryvolgie Halls and Queen's University, be reconsidered.

Moved by the Rev R B Savage, seconded by the Very Rev Dr J W Lockington, and agreed:

That resolution 1 and any amendments be adjourned to the Private Session.

Moved by the Rev J McAllister, seconded by the Rev Dr R F S Poots, and agreed:

2. That the General Board be authorised to act on behalf of the General Assembly in taking any decisions related to the review of the R E Core Syllabus.

3. That the Response of the Transferor Representatives' Council to the Report by the Post-Primary Review Body be approved

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

4. That the Rev Dr R F S Poots continue as Convener of the State Education Committee.

Moved by the Rev J McAllister, seconded by the Rev Dr R F S Poots, and agreed:

5. That the General Assembly thank Sunday Schools and Youth Groups for their generous support for the current Building Hope Project 2002 and commend the new Project providing transport for church workers overseas and the refurbishment of the Rostrevor Youth Centre.

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

Rev J McAllister, Convener
Deputy Clerk, Secretary

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, the Principal UTC, University Chaplains, Sunday School Organiser, Conveners of RE in Day Schools, Representative on Stranmillis Management, Transferors' Representatives on the NI Area Boards, Deputy Clerk, Revs J McAllister, Dr RFS Poots.**

(b) **Rev RA Patton; R Davidson — Revs RB Thompson, J Curry — Rev JL Keenan; WA Wilson — Dr J Davis; J Wilkinson — Rev H Cubitt; George Beattie — Revs EP Gamble, JKA McIntyre.**

(c) **Rev M Dunn; W Cairns — Rev G Farquhar; GL Gillespie — Rev M Goudy; N Lyttle — Rev B Martin; JL Snodgrass — Rev J Tolland; T Nicholl.**

(d) **Rev JN Seawright; R Manson — Revs Prof JC McCullough, NM Williamson — Rev ME Taylor; WH Hawe.**

(e) **Rev DW Reid; WA McIlwaine — Rev S Stewart; RE Wright — James Cochrane, Mrs M Patterson — Rev AS Thompson; Mrs E Farr.**

(f) **Ian McCracken, AO Buchanan — Rev Denis Campbell; Dr Mary Carson — Rev Nancy Cubitt; Mrs D Holmes-Greer.**

(g) **Rev Dr John Thompson; TJ Shaw, Mrs S Lewis, Mrs R Clements, Mrs L Gibson, Mrs D McKee, Alan S Kennedy, David McClurg.**

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

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

(x) **Revs Dr SR Jones, WJ Carlisle; Mrs E Pollock, WR Quinn.**

(y) **Revs ME Taylor, JN Seawright, RA Patton, JA Curry, M Dunn, N Cubitt, M Goudy, B Martin.**

B. STATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE (5) Rev Dr RFS Poots, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr RFS Poots, JSB Drennan, IT McKee, J McAllister, Dr TR Buick, Deputy Clerk; J McBride, BT Duffy.**

(x) **John Magowan, WJ Caves, W Steele, Mrs J Campbell.**

(y) **Revs GAJ Farquhar, JA Curry, S Stewart, Nancy Cubitt; RE Wright, JL Snodgrass J Wilkinson, Mrs M Patterson.**

C. UNIVERSITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE (5)

Rev Dr TR Buick, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs IT McKee, J McAllister, TR Buick; Youth Officer, Deputy Clerk, Convener of War Memorial Hostel Committee, Secretary Board of Social Witness.**

(x) **Rev Prof WP Addley; TJ Shaw, N Todd, Mrs CM Poots.**

(y) **Revs RA Patton, Alan S. Thompson, Prof JC McCullough, NM Williamson; Mrs M Patterson, Dr Mary Carson, N Lyttle, Mrs E Farr.**

**UNION
COMMISSION**

The Report of the **UNION COMMISSION** (Reports pp 67-82) was submitted by the Rev W J Orr.

Moved by the Rev W J Orr, seconded by the Rev C D McClure, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

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

2. That the resignation of the Rev W J Orr as Convener of the Union Commission be accepted, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev T J Stothers be appointed for 5 years in his place.

Moved by the Rev W J Orr, seconded by the Rev C D McClure, and agreed:

3. That the congregations of First Boardmills, Second Boardmills and Killaney be amalgamated on terms agreed with the Union Commission on 1st July 2002, or other suitable date.

4. That the congregations of First Ray and Second Ray be amalgamated on terms agreed with the Union Commission on 1st July, 2002 or other suitable date.

5. That the Protracted Illness Guidelines be approved and implemented.

6. That the CMF be authorised to pay grants towards expenses incurred by ministers in congregations, up to a limit of £4,900 for ministers residing in Northern Ireland, and €7,200 for ministers residing in the Republic of Ireland, within the terms of resolution 3, p 70 General Assembly Minutes 1988.

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

Rev TJ Stothers, Convener
Rev SA Matthews, Secretary

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener and Secretary of Home Mission Committee, Superintendent of the Irish Mission, Conveners of Church Extension, and CMF Committees, Convener of Ministry and Pensions Board, Revs SA Matthews, WJ Orr, TJ Stothers.**

(b*) **Revs SA Matthews, TA McNeely; Albert Maxwell, Wm Grills, Mervyn Spence, Dr Chris Girvan.**

(c*) **Revs Dr RI Birney, I McClean, TR Graham, WI Hunter; HL Todd, JW Petrie.**

(d*) **Revs TV Patterson, Dr I Hart, WJR Robinson; J Wilson, R McClung, L Hully.**

(e*) **Revs TJ Conway, GD Simpson, Dr J Fell; Mrs L Thompson, R Forbes, TR Reid.**

(f*) **Revs GJ Mackarel, KJC McConnell, Charles McCurdy, B Brown; Eric Latimer, Miss J Binnie.**

(g) **Revs James Gordon, JI Mairs, JNI McNeely, P Dalzell, DC Porter; Lyle Cubitt, RJ Davidson, W Alexander.**

**Protracted Illness
Guidelines
Personnel and
Planning**

General

- A. PERSONNEL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev CD McClure, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev TJ Stothers, Professor of Practical Theology, HM Convener and Secretary, two PWA Representatives, Church Extension representatives, CMF Conveners, Rev CD McClure; Chairman of Union Commission.**
- (x) **Revs TJ McCormick, PT Dalzell; H Smyth, Miss D Shannon.**
- (y) **Revs TV Patterson, Dr Ian Hart, GJ Mackarel, Dr J Fell, TJ Conway, SA Matthews; R McClung, A Maxwell.**

The Report of the **BOARD OF MINISTRY AND PENSIONS** (Reports pp 289-294) was submitted by the Rev D S Graham, together with the following Supplementary Report.

**BOARD OF
MINISTRY
& PENSIONS**

BOARD OF MINISTRY AND PENSIONS - Supplementary Report

The Board's Report to the General Assembly refers to the ongoing efforts of the working party currently investigating options for dealing with early retirement on health grounds and with long-term illness.

The working party recognises the need for practical and affordable arrangements to provide support for Ministers afflicted by serious ill-health and is striving to have proposals for consideration before the next General Assembly. In the event of proposals being formulated, the Board believes that it would be beneficial if these could be considered as soon as possible.

Moved by the Rev D S Graham, seconded by Mr J Millar:

1. That the Report be received.

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

That resolution 1 and any amendments or additional resolutions be adjourned to the Private Session.

Moved by the Rev D S Graham, seconded by Mr J Millar, and agreed:

2. That the General Board be authorised to act for the General Assembly, during the coming year, in relation to the introduction of any proposed scheme or arrangement to provide financial benefits for Ministers forced to retire early or to be on prolonged absence due to ill-health.

3. That Retired Ministers with pre-1978 service be paid in the current year a special grant, Code Par 315 (5), of £15 per month from Central Ministry Fund.

4. That the rate of assessment for CMF in 2002 be 21p in the £ of Stipend.

5. That the rate of Assessment for RMF in 2002 be 11p in the £ of Stipend.

6. That the rate of Assessment for WMF in 2002 be 7.75p in the £ of Stipend.

7. That, under the provisions of Code Par 223 (3), Rev T V Mawhinney (Second Limavady and Myroe) and Rev A McM Kerr (Aghadowey and Crossgar) be given permission to retire on or after their 64th birthdays and their pensions to be in accordance with the Code and the Rules of the Ministers' Pension Scheme.

**Central
Ministry Fund**

**Retired
Ministers' Fund**

**Widows of
Ministers' Fund**

**Ministers'
Pension Scheme**

8. That the rate of Assessment for the Ministers' Pension Scheme (1978) for 2002 remain at 18.75p in the £ of Stipend as shown in the column 'Stipend paid to the Minister' or as fixed by the Union Commission in the case of a vacancy.

General

9. That the retirement of the Rev John McVeigh as Co-Convener of Central Ministry Fund Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev Robert J A Bell be appointed in his place.

10. That the Board of Ministry and Pensions, with its associated working committees, for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 288 of the Code as follows:

Rev DS Graham, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Union Commission, Convener and Secretary Home Mission Committee; Revs DS Graham, DJ Boden, RJA Bell, JL Casement; J Hutcheson, J Millar, N McLaughlin.**

(b) **Rev JT Williamson; WJ Moorhead — A Sleator, N Greenlee — Rev WD McBride; McL Gibson — C Stanfield, J Magee — Revs J Holmes, J Briggs — Rev D Rankin; D Orr.**

(c) **Rev GA Preston; H Coulter — Rev Douglas Armstrong; JB Robinson — Rev R Kelly; L Montgomery — Revs JA Thompson, G Cunningham — FJ Hand, W Hoy.**

(d) **Rev JS Dallas; B Gordon — Rev DJ Boden; William Dale — N Valentine, H McRoberts.**

(e) **Rev D Latimer; F Arbuckle — Rev S Stewart; J Boggs — Rev K Henderson; WC Henderson — Rev DS Graham; Noel Johnston.**

(f) **Rev J Carson; J Hodgins — Rev MR Burnside; T Semple — Rev SW Rea; WC Patterson.**

A. CENTRAL MINISTRY FUND COMMITTEE (5)

Rev RJA Bell; J Hutcheson, Conveners

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs J McVeigh, RJA Bell; J Hutcheson; Rev DS Graham; J Millar; Revs DJ Boden, RL Craig, WJ Orr, Deputy Clerk.**

(x) **Revs D Nesbitt, G Preston; DJ Clements, Adrian Patterson.**

(y) **Revs J Briggs, MR Burnside, S Stewart, D Armstrong, SW Rea, D Latimer; WJ Moorhead, W Dale.**

B. COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENTS AND PENSIONS (5)

Rev DJ Boden; J Millar, Conveners

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs DS Graham, DJ Boden, RJA Bell; J Hutcheson, J Millar, Clerk-Designate.**

(x) **Sir Eric McDowell, DA Crowe, John McKeown.**

(y) **Revs MR Burnside, D Armstrong, J Dallas, JT Williamson, WD McBride, R Kelly; N Johnston, H McRoberts.**

C. RETIRED MINISTERS' HOUSE FUND (5)

Rev JL Casement; N McLaughlin, Conveners

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs JL Casement, DS Graham; N McLaughlin, Financial Secretary**

- (x) **Rev James Clarke; D Carson, EA Jackson.**
 (y) **Revs J Briggs, JS Dallas, GA Preston; N Johnston, J Hodgins, JB Robinson.**

The **Overtures anent Pars 326 (1) (b) and 326 (1) (c)** of the Code (Reports p 294) were submitted by the Rev D S Graham. **Overtures anent Pars. 326(1)(b) & 326(1)(c)**

Moved by the Rev D S Graham, seconded by Mr J Millar, and agreed:

That the Overtures anent Pars 326 (1) (b) and 326(1)(c) of the Code be received and placed on the books.

The Report of the **Ad Hoc Committee on the Tyrone Memorial** (Reports p 301) was submitted by the Rev R Kelly. **Ad Hoc Committee on the Tyrone Memorial**

Moved by the Rev R Kelly, seconded by the Rev P T Dalzell, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the ad hoc Committee on the Tyrone Memorial be reappointed for a further year as follows:

Rev R Kelly, Convener

The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Union Commission, Convener of the Board of Ministry and Pensions, Clerk of the Synod of Derry and Omagh; Revs James Lamont, MG McClelland, Dr Ian Hart, Raymond Kelly, Dr SDH Williamson, TP Fleming, Dr WJ Patterson, JI Davey, Dr IJ Wilson, IJ Patterson, MR Burnside, JA Noble, TWA Greer, KDW Crowe, RIA Allely, RB Savage; J Clarke, H McRoberts, NC Patterson, Ian Kelly, RW Vaughan.

The sederunt came to a close at 6.20 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

FOURTH SESSION

Wednesday, 12th June, 2002 Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **Church and Government Committee** (Reports pp 39-65) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr J Dunlop, together with the following Supplementary Report. **Church and Government Committee**

CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE - Supplementary Report

The Committee notes that over the last few months whereas there have been very serious riots in North Belfast, these have been separated by periods of comparative tranquillity. Parades in various places have also been held without serious disorder, as people have accepted the decisions of the Parades Commission, even when they have not necessarily agreed with the determinations. This indicates that people are quite capable of tolerating their neighbours with whom they may have disagreements, even if they find it difficult to love them. As there are many situations in Northern Ireland with the potential for both compromise and generosity, as well as for serious disorder, it is important that people with influence at all levels of society speak, act and give leadership in ways which are conciliatory and constructive.

Since the Committee has said repeatedly that the building of trust is an important element in the consolidation of the political accommodation represented by the Belfast Agreement, it is a matter of concern that paramilitary groups are engaged in bombings, shootings and assaults, including those on children, and that Republican paramilitary groups appear to be associated with the activities of terrorist groups in Spain and Colombia. This tends to undermine the fragile trust which exists in Ireland.

The “Celtic Tiger” economy has transformed parts of Ireland but it has not improved the economic conditions of everyone. The exclusion of a proportion of the population ought not to be overlooked by the complacency and confidence of the many. The debate which will take place before the second referendum on the Nice Treaty ought to occasion serious debate about the place of Ireland in the European Union.

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

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly convey their congratulations to Her Majesty the Queen on the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of her accession to the throne and give thanks to God for the service given by her to the United Kingdom and to the Commonwealth.
3. That the General Assembly urge that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone; for the Queen and the President and all those in authority, that we may live our lives in peace and quietness with reverence towards God and proper conduct.
4. That the General Assembly, conscious of the enormous cost paid since 1922 in the murders 336 officers, the injuries sustained by thousands of other officers and the burden borne by their families and the civilian support staff, pay tribute to the service given to the community by the members of the Royal Ulster Constabulary.
5. That the General Assembly convey their good wishes to the Police Service of Northern Ireland and urge all members of the community to give it their warm hearted support and co-operation.
6. That the General Assembly view with concern the partisan way in which the allegations concerning members of the security forces are being investigated

and the calls for associated enquiries, while a blind eye is apparently turned to the activities of people who have been or still are associated with terrorist organisations. The General Assembly do not believe that such one sided activity serves the building of trust, nor do they believe that the time is right for a South African style Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

7. That the General Assembly, understanding that we are called to do all that we can to live peaceably with everyone, urge Presbyterians to do all in their power to resolve community tensions at a local level, whether they be caused by interface violence or by disputes associated with parades and protests.

8. That the General Assembly, believing that public life offers an important arena for Christian service, urge members of the Church to consider service to the community as community leaders, local councillors, Dail Deputies, Members of the Legislative Assembly or of Parliament at Westminster.

9. That the General Assembly, aware of the chill factor felt by many minorities, but believing that normal social interaction and engagement among people from different religious, social and political backgrounds serves the well being of the wider community, encourage Presbyterians to reverse the trend to leave mixed areas of housing, which tends to create homogeneous communities of prejudice.

10. That the General Assembly, affirming that everyone is made in the image of God and the consequent importance of respect for human rights as well as our duties to God and to one another, call upon the Human Rights Commissions in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to give equal weight to Human Rights and our duties to one another.

11. That the General Assembly, affirming that everyone is made in the image of God and that the worth of every human being derives from this fact, welcome the increasing awareness of the importance of equality but ask the Equality Commission to have regard to the importance of diversity and the distinctive contribution which faith communities make to society and to recognise that faith communities are entitled to maintain their ethos and identity.

12. That the General Assembly encourage the Church and Government Committee to continue to relate to the bodies associated with the European Union.

13. That a grant of up to £4,000 be paid from the Incidental Fund to the Church and Government Committee.

Intermission

The Report of the **GENERAL BOARD** (Reports pp 5-36) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson. **GENERAL BOARD**

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev D R Baker, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly accept the retirement of the Rev Dr R F S Poots from the position of Deputy Clerk and Assistant General Secretary with effect from 31 August, 2002. **Deputy Clerk**
3. That the Rev Dr R F S Poots be thanked for his services as Deputy Clerk of Assembly and Assistant General Secretary 1990-2002.

4. That the Job Description for the next Deputy Clerk and Assistant General Secretary be approved.

5. That during the year 2002 - 2003 the duties of Deputy Clerk be undertaken by the Rev Dr Donald Watts.

Synods 6. That the two historic Synods be advised that it is no longer necessary to continue their formal annual meetings.

7. That those regular Synods that wish be permitted to hold their annual stated meetings during the General Assembly.

8. That, with effect from 2003, the Assembly's Order of Business be altered to allow reasonable time for Synod meetings.

Doctrine Committee 9. That the General Assembly encourage discussion throughout the Church of the issues raised by the Doctrine Committee Report on "Ministry", and welcome comments to the Convener by 31 December, 2002.

10. That the Doctrine Committee continue its work on "Ministry Today", including a study of Ordination.

Forces Committee 11. That the General Assembly recommend the customary observance of Battle of Britain Sunday and Remembrance Sunday in our congregations, and that the appropriate offerings taken up on those days be given to the Royal Air Force "Wings Appeal" and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (See page 53).

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator, assisted by Mrs T Campbell and the Rev R S Hetherington.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev Prof James Haire addressed the Assembly.

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

FIFTH SESSION

Wednesday, 12th June, 2002

Two o'clock. Afternoon

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Minutes were taken and corrected.

The Report of the **SHANKILL ROAD MISSION COMMISSION** (Reports pp 218-220) was submitted by the Rev W McB Campbell.

**SHANKILL
ROAD
MISSION
COMMISSION**

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

1. That the Report be received.
2. That Mr Albert Lofthouse be commended to the prayers of the General Assembly as he continues to work in the lower Shankill.
3. That Mr Ivor Spence be commended to the prayers of the General Assembly as he undertakes the role of Honorary Treasurer.
4. That the Shankill Road Mission Commission be appointed for the ensuing year in accordance with Par 129 of the Code as follows:

Rev JS Dallas, Convener

Rev WMcB Campbell, Superintendent

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener Board of Social Witness, Revs WMcB Campbell, JS Dallas; Moderator and Clerk of Belfast South Presbytery, Clerk of Session of Shankill Road Mission Congregation.**

(x) **Revs Dr I Hart, ED Smyth, J T Lamb, K McConnell, GF McKeown, AW Boyd; W Caswell, Miss D Pinkerton.**

Moved by the Rev Dr R F S Poots, seconded by the Rev W McB Campbell, and agreed:

That Notice of Motion be received to rescind the decision of 1998 to appoint, as Trustees of the Shankill Road Mission, the following office-holders provided that such office-holders are for the time being members in full communion of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland:-

The Superintendent of the Shankill Road Mission for the time being;

The Honorary Treasurer of the Shankill Road Mission for the time being;

The Conveners of Commission of the Shankill Road Mission for the time being;

The Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland for the time being;

The Financial Secretary of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland for the time being;

The General Assembly's Solicitor of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland for the time being.

The Report of the **BOARD OF SOCIAL WITNESS** (Reports pp 188-216) was submitted by the Rev R Vallely, together with the following Supplementary Report.

**BOARD
OF SOCIAL
WITNESS**

Child Protection Monitoring Group

The Child Protection Monitoring Group is seeking at this year's General Assembly to have in place a Designated Person at Church House/General Assembly level. It is also bringing an overture anent Par 132 of the Code to require ministers and others in posts of mission or ministry in the Church to disclose to the Clerk of the General Assembly any police investigation, summons or conviction for any serious offence.

In the course of preparing the above resolutions for the Assembly it has become clear that a number of issues surrounding Child Protection, and other sensitive matters, need to be addressed by the Church. Matters needing to be addressed include the availability of good advice to Presbyteries and the Clerk of the General Assembly; the policy and procedures of the Church in dealing with alleged offences committed by persons in posts of ministry or mission; the tension of Presbytery being a court of the church and supplying pastoral care; practical and financial arrangements; support for alleged victims where they are also members of the church; the question of confidentiality.

Further reflection and work is needed in these and other related areas. It is anticipated that a more detailed report and recommendations will be brought to a subsequent Assembly.

Kinghan Mission

1. On 14 September, 2001 Simon Henning was ordained and appointed Assistant and Successor to the present Superintendent. This was a memorable service in Fitzroy Presbyterian Church and was attended by over 400 people including members and friends of the Kinghan Church. So ended our long search to find the person God wanted to take the Church forward when the present Superintendent retires in 2003.

2. Members of the Kinghan Church have been quick to welcome him into their midst and already he is taking part in all the activities of the Church. A major task for him is to learn sign language. Already he has passed level one and hopes to complete level two by this summer.

3. One of his remits during his period of training is to make contact with deaf young people in the 20-30 age group. Few in this age group attend any church. This is a vital part of our mission work. He has been re-establishing links with the deaf department in Jordanstown School and this will provide him an inroad to young deaf people who have no formal church link. He will be involved in deputation on behalf of the Kinghan Church and the Board of Social Witness.

4. Attendance at our Sunday service has been increasing. This may be partly due to a Sunday school being held twice a month alongside the crèche. Mrs Anne Rodgers, Lay Assistant, is responsible for this work and it is good to see numbers increasing as parents and grandparents bring children along to Sunday School and crèche. The monthly Family Fun Night and Family Service attract church members and those with no church connection from a wide catchment area.

5. Once again we would express our thanks to God for His guidance and the many blessings we are experiencing. Thanks too to the Committee who have had a very busy time during the last years as we were searching for someone to continue the work, and now as we are going through this period of change. We thank the United Appeal Board, and numerous Churches and Church groups for their financial support. Without this generous giving and the prayers of God's people we would not be able to continue and expand this vital part of the Church's work.

6. There are still many deaf people who have no personal relationship with Jesus and the main aim of this Mission, as it was when founded in 1857, is to bring deaf people to Him.

Intermission

Moved by the Rev R Vallely, seconded by the Rev T J McCormick, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the retirement of Mr Norman Chambers as Director of Social Service and Secretary of the Board of Social Witness be accepted as from 31 August, 2002, and that the best thanks of the Assembly be given to Mr Chambers for his faithful service.
3. That the resignation of the Rev Robert Love as Co-Convener of the Addiction and Education Services Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Ian McDonald be appointed in his place.
4. That the Report of the Review of the Panel on Remarriage be sent to Presbyteries for study, comments on its recommendations to be sent to the Secretary of the Board of Social Witness by 31 December, 2002.
5. That the General Assembly oppose the deliberate creation of genetically identical human beings.
6. That the General Assembly believe that reproductive cloning runs counter to the principle that children should be the direct result of the genetic inheritance of both a man and a woman.
7. That the General Assembly are not against therapeutic cloning in principle but oppose the practice of embryos being created to provide stem cells. However, the Assembly encourage further research to harvest stem cells from bone marrow, living human tissue or other adult stem cells.
8. That the resignation of the Rev Norman Cameron as Convener of the Social Issues and Resources Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev R A Liddle be appointed in his place.
9. That Mr Norman Chambers be appointed as the Designated Person for Child Protection at Church House and General Assembly level.
10. That the Child Protection Monitoring Group be given the status of a Working Committee under the Board of Social Witness, the membership to be appointed annually by the Board.
11. That the customary grant made by the Social Issues and Resources Committee, up to a total of £3,000, be met from the Incidental Fund.
12. 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 R Vallely, Convener
Director of Social Service, Secretary

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs WMcB Campbell, Dr G Grindle, R Vallely; N Chambers, Residential Services Manager, Director of Social Service.

(b) Rev WJ Murdock; Miss D Shannon, Mrs A Sinclair — Rev AJ Thompson; J Smart, Mrs D Foster — Rev JR Hyndman; W Keown, Mrs J Davidson — Dr D Patterson, R McCleary, Mrs M Mullan — Rev Dr RJ Greer; Mrs M Hewitson, Mrs E Robinson — Rev J Mattison; J Chestnutt, Mrs E Barry.

(c) Rev DW Brice; J Todd, Mrs W Bristow — Rev MS Gault; AT Henderson, Mrs Z Valley — Rev J Coulter; George McIntyre, Mrs I Cairns — Rev M Barr; J Chestnut, Mrs K Fulton — Rev WJ Sleith; RJ Coulter, Mrs W Dickey.

(d) Revs RW Love, TN Hamilton; Mrs B Brennan, — Rev J Braithwaite; J Furphy, Miss JP Gamble — Revs Dr RM Crooks, D Maxwell; Mrs B Stewart.

(e) Revs AJA Rosborough, JK McCormick; Mrs M Thompson — Revs DS Irwin, KG Patterson; Mrs V Miller — Rev GD Allen; H Alexander, Mrs M Good — Rev T Coburn; Mrs A Allingham, Mrs E Ross.

(f) Rev PA McBride; Mrs E Montgomery, Mrs G Patterson — Rev Dr S Mawhinney; D Boyd, Ms Linda Milligan — Rev GJ Mackarel; Miss F Fleming, W McConkey.

(p) Mrs Zoe Valley, Miss Elizabeth Smyth, Mrs J. Kirk, Mrs Mary Boggs, Mrs Gillian Drennan, Mrs Helen Murdock, Mrs Pearl Johnston.

A. SOCIAL ISSUES AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (5)

Rev RA Liddle, Convener

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs NAL Cameron, Committee Convener, R Valley; Director of Social Service.

(x) Revs Dr RA Russell; Mrs M Anderson, Dr K Moyna Bill.

(y) Revs D Brice, JA Braithwaite, WJ Murdock; Miss E Smyth, Dr D Patterson, Miss D Shannon.

B. ADDICTION AND EDUCATION SERVICES COMMITTEE (5)

Revs JA Beattie, IK McDonald, Co-Conveners

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs R Valley, Director of Social Service, Committee Conveners, 1 Rep Duncairn & St Enoch's Church.

(x) Revs Ian McClean, JC Buick; WJ Cairns, Dr L Calderwood.

(y) Revs KG Patterson, GD Allen, AJA Rosborough, AJ Thompson; Mrs Z Valley, G McIntyre, J Todd, Mrs Wenda Bristow.

C. WAR MEMORIAL HOSTEL COMMITTEE (5) JH Martin, Convener

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev R Valley; Director of Social Service, Committee Convener, Financial Secretary, Convener and Secretary of the Board of Education, Convener of the University Education Committee, Youth Officer.

(x) NJ Chambers, Austin Treacy; Revs T Coburn, RA Patton.

(y) Revs MS Gault, DS Irwin, Dr RM Crooks, WJ Sleith, Miss JP Gamble; A Henderson, Mrs Helen Murdock, Mrs G Drennan.

D. KINGHAN MISSION COMMITTEE (5) Dr Jean McClune, Convener Rev Dr GA Grindle, Superintendent

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr GA Grindle, R Valley, S Henning; Director of Social Service, Kinghan Mission Convener.

(x) Miss F Wright, A Shaw, Mrs Christine Houston.

(y) Revs Dr RM Crooks, J Braithwaite, T Coburn, DS Irwin, M Barr; Mrs Amy Allingham.

- E. PRESBYTERIAN RESIDENTIAL TRUST COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev TJ McCormick, Convener
Mrs Linda Wray, Secretary
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs R Vallely, TJ McCormick; Director of Social Service, Residential Services Manager.**
- (x) **Rev J Noble; Miss H McMillen, J Nelson.**
- (y) **Rev MS Gault; Mrs E Barry, Miss F Fleming, Mrs P Johnston, Mrs Z Vallely, Mrs A Allingham.**
- F. MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY COMMITTEE (5)**
Mrs R Simpson, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator, Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Convener of the Board, Secretary of the Board, Youth Secretary, Rev Dr RM Crooks, Director of Social Service, Professor of Practical Theology.**
- (x) **Mrs Irene Millar, Mrs Christine Finlay, Dr Paul Gray. Revs Maurice Wade, JW McAuley; Mrs G Compton.**
- (y) **Revs J Braithwaite, DS Irwin, Jean Mackarel; Mrs Mary Boggs, Mrs E Montgomery, Mrs E Barry.**

The **Overture anent Par 132(4)** of the Code (Reports p 217) was submitted by the Rev N A L Cameron. **Overture anent Par. 132(4)**

Moved by the Rev N A L Cameron, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, and agreed:

That the Overture be received and placed on the books.

Moved by the Rev N A L Cameron, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson and agreed:

That the Overture be made an Interim Act.

The Report of the **YOUTHBOARD** (Reports pp 221-228) was submitted by the Rev R J Hyndman, together with the following Supplementary Report. **YOUTH BOARD**

The Rev Ian McNie completes seven years as Convener of the Youth Centres Committee. The Youth Board records its sincere gratitude to him for his hard work, wisdom and commitment to the development of buildings and ministry of the centres.

Moved by the Rev R J Hyndman, seconded by the Rev J P Moxen, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Revs R J Hyndman, Dr William Crawley, John Peacock and Mr Trevor Long be appointed as representatives on the Youth Link NI Council and the Board of Management of the Churches Youth Service Council.
3. That the following grant be paid from the Incidental Fund:
 - Youth Link NI - £6500

4. That the resignation of the Rev Philip McConnell as Convener of the Youth Events Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev E J Hyndman be appointed in his place.

5. That the resignation of the Rev Ian McNie as Convener of the Youth Centres Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev Robin L Brown be appointed in his place.

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

Rev RJ Hyndman, Convener
Miss R Stirling, Secretary

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Evangelism and Resourcing Christians for Ministry Committees, Education Board Secretary, Sunday School Organiser, University Chaplains, Rev RJ Hyndman, Youth Officer.**

(b) **Revs AM Bates, GJ Kennedy — Rev JWP McConnell; Allen Foster — Rev. M Stanfield; Nathan Conkey — S Macfarlane, E Poots — Rev I Harbinson; Miss Diane Johnston — M Peacock, Miss E Wallace.**

(c) **Revs AWT Brown, MJR Neilly — M Wylie, R Logan — Revs CJ Aitcheson, JG Johnston — Rev EJ Hyndman; S Tweed — Rev PE Dickinson; Mrs L Dunlop.**

(d) **Rev IK McDonald; Miss J Nelson — Rev T Wilson; Miss H Murray — Rev J Peacock; G Hamilton.**

(e) **Rev D Hagan; K McCrossan — Rev Dr C Glass; Wm Semple — Rev JR Burnett; Miss M Guy — Revs JH Flaherty, RA McLernon.**

(f) **Revs A Carson, JG Jones — Revs Andrew Smith, Keith McCrory — Kieran Kelly, Miss P Patton.**

(g) **Miss A Morrow, Mrs Elaine Hamill, Mrs Pauline McCorrison, Mrs Margaret McCreedy, Mrs R McKnight, Miss Anne Houston, Mrs Maureen Blake, Mrs Heather Carey, Miss Fiona Livingstone, Mrs Gillian Graham, Mrs Karen Black, Mrs Ellen Wilmont, Ivan Ferris, Reuben McCormick, Trevor Long, William Burnison, Christiaan Hofstra, David Pattison, T Bruce; Rev RS Stockman.**

A. YOUTH EVENTS COMMITTEE (5) Rev EJ Hyndman, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs RJ Hyndman, EJ Hyndman, JWP McConnell; Youth Officer, Sunday School Organiser.**

(x) **Alan Meban, Shane Tucker, Martin Hull.**

(y) **Revs AM Bates, AJMcL Smith, J Burnett; Michael Wylie, Stephen Macfarlane, Kieran Kelly.**

B. YOUTH TRAINING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (5)

Rev Jonathan Moxen, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs RJ Hyndman, David Stanfield, Jonathan Moxen; Youth Officer, Youth Development Officers.**

(x) **Revs D Montgomery, Dr William Crawley; Paul Bowman, Paul Brown.**

(y) **Revs Dr C Glass, M Stanfield, J Peacock, K McCrory, JG Jones; Miss P Patton, Miss D Johnston, Mrs Lorna Dunlop.**

- C. YOUTH HOME MISSION COMMITTEE (5) Rev DJ Paul, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs RJ Hyndman, DJ Paul; Youth Officer, Youth Development Officers, Evangelism Promoter.**
- (x) **Rev W Sinclair, Miss Louise McDowell, David Laney.**
- (y) **Revs GJ Kennedy, JH Flaherty, TD Hagan, PE Dickinson, MJR Neilly; Nathan Conkey.**
- D. YOUTH OVERSEAS COMMITTEE (5) Rev PC Lyle, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs RJ Hyndman, PC Lyle; Youth Officer, Overseas Board Representative.**
- (x) **Revs Cheryl Reid, D Rankin; Mrs M Trueman, Mark Welsh.**
- (y) **Revs RA McLernon, A Carson, AJMcL Smith; TJ Wilson, IK McDonald, JWP McConnell; Keith McCrossan, Pamela Patton.**
- E. YOUTH CENTRES COMMITTEE (5) Rev RL Brown, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs RJ Hyndman, RL Brown, DIJ McNie; Youth Officer, Centre Director, Convener Youth Training and Resources Committee, Youth Board Development Officer.**
- (x) **Rev B McMillen; C Graham, Mrs S Maginnis, Miss Jacqui Stronge.**
- (y) **Revs JG Johnston, AWT Brown, CJ Aitcheson, I Harbinson; M Peacock, Stephen Tweed, Miss H Murray, E Poots.**

GENERAL BOARD - Debate Resumed (See page46)

GENERAL BOARD

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev D R Baker, and agreed:

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

13. That the greetings of the General Assembly be sent to our chaplains serving with the Regular Forces.

14. That the General Assembly note the various openings becoming available for chaplaincy work in the Regular Forces and commend these opportunities for service to our younger ministers.

15. That the General Assembly commend the work done by our part time chaplains in the Territorial Army, the Army Cadet Force and by Officiating Chaplains to our Garrisons and Stations.

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

Peace and Peacemaking Committee

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

18. That a grant of up to £3,000 be made available from the Incidental Fund to the Conciliation Panel.

Conciliation

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

Recognised Ministries Committee

- Visitations** 20. That the sub-committee on Visitations be thanked and discharged.
21. That the General Board initiate a review process on an ongoing basis and report to the General Assembly within three years, after which overtures to amend the Code should be prepared.

- General** 22. That the General Board, with its associated working committees for the ensuing year, be appointed in accordance with Par 272 of the Code as follows:

The Clerk, Convener

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

(b) **Revs Dr RA Russell, J Gordon; WJ McClelland, J McIntyre — Revs Dr J Thompson, FAC Wilson; WJ Hamilton, WH Scott — Revs Dr James Harper, RE Boggs; DH Browne, Mrs I McBride — Revs JI Davey, R Lockhart; RDT Gibson, Miss E McConnell — Revs IJ Patterson, J Holmes; RA McCracken, J Hudson — Revs SA Finlay, Dr DJ McGaughey; E McWilliams, H McGaffin.**

(c) **Revs JJ Andrews, B McManus; J Petrie, Mrs A Erwin — Revs WJ Johnstone, Dr JW Lockington; Mrs E Love, RJ McDowell — Revs Ivan Hunter, TP Fleming; I Smyth, P McGonigle — Revs HB Wallace, N McClean; RH Gault, RD McConaghie — Revs WD Weir, B Kennaway; IJ Liddle, Mrs AB Wilson.**

(d) **Revs TC Morrison, JR Dickinson; M Whittle, JH McDowell — Revs RT Anderson, WPH Erskine; Dr RM Nicholl, Miss Mary Angus — Revs John McVeigh, Dr R Savage; AJ Morrow, Miss VJ Wilson.**

(e) **Revs Dr J Fell, Dr SDH Williamson; JA Emery, A Craig — Revs S Stewart, J Clarke; B Douglas, Wm Taylor — Revs JF Murdoch, JR Burnett; WC Henderson, TR Reid — Revs JB McCormick, NW McAuley; R Stewart, EM Carroll.**

(f) **Revs Brian Brown, NE Dorrans; AO Buchanan, Mervyn McKean — Revs JG Faris, FP Sellar; Joan Cowle, Wm Harper — Revs David Moore, A McCullough; G McConkey, A McAdoo.**

(g) **Revs RMcM Mackay, Dr DR Purce, CJC McMullen; Mrs G Irwin, Mrs K Mawhinney, Mrs Maureen Patterson, Mrs Z Vallely, Mrs R Cowan, Miss E Drysdale, Mrs M Thompson, HS McCullough, Aubrey McMurtry, S McKinney, Mrs Alison Harbison, Mrs C Poynton, Mrs H Jess, D McCleery, WH Henry.**

A. CHURCH AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE (5)

Rev Dr John Dunlop; George McCullagh, Conveners

- (a) **The Moderator, preceding Moderator, Clerk, former Clerks, and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Moderator-Designate, Forces Convener, Peace and Peacemaking Convener, Rev Dr John Dunlop; George McCullagh.**

(x) **Rev Lesley E Carroll, Colin Gamble; Miss Heather Morrow, Mrs Serena Blair.**

(y) **Revs James Gordon, Dr Joseph Fell, Brian Kennaway, Joseph Andrews, John R Dickinson; James A Emery, Tom R Reid, George McConkey.**

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

- (a) **The Moderator, preceding three Moderators, Clerk, former Clerks, and Deputy Clerk of Assembly, Clerks of Synods, Conveners of Church and Government Committee, Head of Personnel, Information Officer.**

(x) **Revs Dr DH Allen, Dr GMcK Eagleson; MA Morrow, QC, N Chambers.**

- (y) **Revs JJ Andrews, JR Dickinson, Dr Joseph Thompson, IJ Patterson, Dr J Fell, WD Weir; RDT Gibson, RA McCracken.**
- C. DOCTRINE COMMITTEE (5) Principal, UTC, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, the General Assembly's Theological Professors.**
- (x) **Revs D Bradley, Prof RFG Holmes; Dr RJ Rodgers, Dr N Smith.**
- (y) **Revs NW McAuley, TP Fleming, Dr Joseph Thompson, Dr JW Lockington, JG Faris, FP Sellar, John McVeigh, IJ Patterson.**
- D. FORCES COMMITTEE (5) Rev S van Os, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Rev S van Os.**
- (x) **Revs. PP Campbell, Prof JP Taylor; S Agnew.**
- (y) **Revs Dr J Fell, JJ Andrews, RT Anderson, B Kennaway, WD Weir; WH Scott.**
- E. CHAPLAINS COMMITTEE (5) Dr RJ Rodgers, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Conveners of Church and Government Committee, Convener of Social Issues and Resources Committee; Dr RJ Rodgers.**
- (x) **Revs BCG Black, Dr RFS Poots; RDT Gibson, Miss M. Cromie.**
- (y) **Revs RT Anderson, J Gordon, WPH Erskine, Dr J Fell, B. Kennaway, SA Finlay; Mrs A Erwin, J Petrie.**
- F. RECOGNISED MINISTRIES COMMITTEE (5) The Clerk, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, Convener of Doctrine Committee, Convener of Union Commission, Clerk Designate.**
- (x) **Revs IT McKee, Dr RFS Poots, RB Savage; S Agnew.**
- (y) **Revs WJ Johnstone, WD Weir, JI Davey, Dr J Fell, WPH Erskine, Dr Joseph Thompson, JJ Andrews; Miss VJ Wilson.**
- G. PEACE & PEACEMAKING COMMITTEE (5) Rev DR Baker, Convener**
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Rev DR Baker, Youth for Peace Programme Officer.**
- (x) **Revs JI Thompson, D Murphy; Mrs B Reid, Wm Brown.**
- (y) **Revs J Burnett, J Gordon; TR Reid, G McConkey, R Gibson, Miss VJ Wilson, Mrs A Erwin, M Whittle.**

The **Overtures anent Pars 65(2) and 97 (h)** of the Code (Reports p 37) were submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

**Overtures anent
Pars 65(2)
and 97(h)**

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

That the Overture anent Par 65 (2) of the Code, having lain on the books for one year, be enacted as the law of the Church.

Moved as an amendment by the Rev Dr D J Watts, seconded by Mr A J Rankin:

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that in Par 65 (2) of the Code the words “from among its members” be deleted, and that the words “from among the ministers or ruling elders under its jurisdiction” be substituted in their place.

On being put, the amendment was declared passed.

On being put as substantive motion, was passed.

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

That the Overture anent Par 97 (h) of the Code, having lain on the books for one year, be enacted as the law of the Church.

Moved as an amendment by the Rev Dr D J Watts, seconded by Mr A J Rankin:

It is hereby overtured to the General Assembly to enact that a new sub-paragraph (iii) be inserted in Par 97(h) of the Code as follows: “(iii) Clerks of Presbytery or Synod, being ministers without charge or ruling elders;

And that the present sub-paragraph (iii) be re-numbered as (iv).

On being put, the amendment was declared passed.

On being put as substantive motion, was passed.

**Overtures anent
Pars 90(1)
and 95(d)**

The **Overtures anent Pars 90(1) and 95(d)** of the Code (Reports p 37) were submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev Dr D J Watts, and agreed:

That the Overtures anent Pars 90(1) and 95(d) of the Code be received and placed on the books.

**Overture anent
Par 193(1)(c)**

The **Overture anent Par 193(1)(c)** of the Code (Reports p 37) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, seconded by the Rev Dr D J Watts, and agreed:

That the Overture anent Par 193(1)(c) of the Code be received and that, under Par 111 of the Code, it be made the rule of the Church.

Moved by the Rev S J Millar, seconded by the Rev P P Campbell and agreed:

Memorials

That the **Memorial of the Presbytery of Templepatrick** (Reports p 38) and the **Memorial of the Presbytery of Dublin and Munster** (Reports pp 38-39) be taken as items 27(a) and 27(b). (See page 65)

The sederunt came to a close at 5.35 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

On Wednesday evening, 12th June 2002, a Rally, conducted by the Moderator, took place at 7.45 pm. After worship the Moderator welcomed Licentiates and expressed thanks to recently retired Ministers.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev Prof James Haire addressed the Assembly.

The sederunt came to a close at 9.30 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

SIXTH SESSION

Thursday, 13th June, 2002 Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

The Report of the **BOARD OF STUDIES AND CHRISTIAN TRAINING** (Reports pp 248-262) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr A W G Brown.

**BOARD OF
STUDIES &
CHRISTIAN
TRAINING**

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

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the thanks of the General Assembly be extended to the Rev Professor J C McCullough for his services as Principal of Union Theological College 1998 - 2002.
3. That the General Assembly note with pleasure and gratitude the recent upturn in numbers of those making application for ordained ministry, and encourage ministers and Kirk Sessions to identify suitably-gifted members so that this welcome increase may be sustained.
4. That the following candidates, their nominations having been sustained by the Board of Studies and Christian Training, be accepted as students for the Ordained Ministry and placed under the care of their Presbyteries:

Michael R J Anderson	Drumbo	Dromore
Nigel D Craig	1st Newtownards	Ards
Colin I Dickson	Shore Street	Ards
William J Knox	Wellington Street	Ballymena
J Emerson McDowell	Hazelbank	Coleraine
Colin McKibbin	Hillsborough	Dromore
Leslie A Patterson	Edengrove	Down
Nigel J E Reid	Sion Mills	Derry & Strabane
Heather M Rendell	Ballycarry	Carrickfergus
Mark J Welsh	Knock	East Belfast

5. That the General Assembly approve the revised Job Description of the Director of Ministerial Students and commend the Rev Harry Robinson to the prayers of the Church as he undertakes this role.

6. That the assessment for the Ministerial Development Programme in 2002 be 0.75p per £ of stipend.

7. That the General Assembly accept the resignation of the Rev George Moore as Joint Convener of the Students' Bursary Fund, and that he be thanked for his services.

8. That the General Assembly encourage the use of the new literature, including the new Gift Aid envelope, drawn up by the Students' Bursary Fund Committee for use at services of installation, ordination etc within Northern Ireland.

9. That the Students' Bursary Fund Committee become, with immediate effect, a Committee of the Board of Studies and Christian Training, appointed annually by it and reporting directly to it.

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

June Summer School & Phase I Interview	£1,200
Pre-Term College Retreat	£1,355
Applicants' Study Day	£260
Licentiate Courses	£650
Meetings for students and spouses	£400
Honoraria for External Examiners	£300
Teaching Communication Skills for students outside Ireland	£85
TOTAL	£4,250

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

Rev Dr AWG Brown, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Professors in UTC, and two student representatives, University Chaplains, Secretary of the HM Committee, Revs JH Robinson, Dr AWG Brown.**

(b) **Revs JNI McNeely, TWD Johnston — Revs CG Harris, JWP McConnell — Revs RA Moffett, WA Abernethy — Rev GBS Gibson; JNC Walsh, — Revs CD McClure, DM Rodgers — Revs B McMillen, Dr MA Barry.**

(c) **Revs JD McGaughey, D Murphy — Rev SP Moore; Dr NH Smith — Rev DS Mackay; Dr JH Gillespie — Revs DIJ McNie, RJ Gilkinson — Revs J Brackenridge, WJ Sleith.**

(d) **Rev TD Gribben; Mrs H Murdock — Rev Dr WD Patton; O McAuley — Rev W McKeown; WF McConnell.**

(e) **Revs RW Gaston, J Hutchinson — Revs Dr WJH McKee, James Clarke — Rev RI Abraham; Miss M Guy — Revs NW McAuley, T Conway.**

(f) **Revs J Lamont, PA McBride — Revs Dr G Millar, F Sellar, — Revs Nancy Cubitt, A McCullough.**

(g) **Mrs M Robinson; Revs JH McIntyre, JG Kennedy, GAJ Farquhar, ATF Johnston, Dr SDH Williamson, ML Johnston, GE Best, DT Moore.**

- A. COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL STUDIES (5)**
Rev SP Moore, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Principal UTC, Education Secretary, Convener of Reception of Ministers and Licentiates Committee, Rev JH Robinson; Convener of Students' Bursary Fund Committee, Rev Dr AWG Brown, Committee Convener.**
 - (x) **Revs GR Stockdale, AJMcL Smith, Prof WP Addley, Prof LS Kirkpatrick.**
 - (y) **Revs CD McClure, RA Moffett, JNI McNeely, DS Mackay, JWP McConnell, TWD Johnston; NW McAuley; Dr JH Gillespie.**
- B. COLLEGE AND MAGEE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (4)**
Rev Graham Connor, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, the Principal UTC.**
 - (fac) **Revs Prof JC McCullough, Prof SN Williams, Prof LS Kirkpatrick, WDF Marshall.**
 - (x) **Dr TD Alexander, D Clements; Revs GBS Gibson, SP Moore, Graham Connor, Dr AWG Brown.**
- C. COMMITTEE ON RESOURCING CHRISTIANS FOR MINISTRY (5)**
Rev Dr RM Crooks, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Education Secretary, Youth Secretary, Professor of Practical Theology, Sunday School Organiser, Director of Christian Training, Superintendent Irish Mission, Convener of Evangelism Committee, Director of Social Service, Rev Dr RM Crooks, Board Convener, Director of Ministerial Students.**
 - (x) **Revs IA McKay, G Aitcheson, J Coulter; Colin Millar.**
 - (y) **Revs JD McGaughy, RJ Gilkinson, JNI McNeely, WA Abernethy, B McMillen, DJ Hutchinson, A.A. McCullough; Dr J Gillespie.**
- D. RECEPTION OF MINISTERS AND LICENTIATES COMMITTEE (5)**
Rev RB Savage, Convener
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Deputy Clerk, Principal UTC, Revs R Herron, Dr AWG Brown, RB Savage, JH Robinson, Convener of the Committee on Studies.**
 - (x) **Revs Dr DH Allen, WTJ Richardson, Dr JB Moore, DS McIlwrath.**
 - (y) **Revs J Brackenridge, James Clarke, TD Gribben, W McKeown, TWD Johnston, NW McAuley, DM Rodgers, Mrs H Murdock.**

The Report of the **UNITED APPEAL BOARD** (Reports pp 282-288) was submitted by Mr H Stewart.

**UNITED
APPEAL
BOARD**

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

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the United Appeal Board be given permission to include an amount for contingencies of £160,000 for the year 2003.
3. That the United Appeal for 2003 be as set out in Schedules III and IV.

4. That the United Appeal Board for the ensuing year be appointed in accordance with Par 287 of the Code as follows:

MH Stewart, Convener
The Clerk, Secretary

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; MH Stewart.**
- (b*) **Revs B McMillen, WL Haslett; B McClean, Noel Greenlee.**
- (c*) **Rev GA Preston; RW Vaughan, MH Stewart, V McLean.**
- (d*) **Revs SE Hughes, V Sinclair, JR Lambe; J McKibben.**
- (e*) **Revs PG McCrea, Dr SDH Williamson, TV Mawhinney; JA Patterson.**
- (f*) **Revs J Drennan, JG Jones, A Boal; Norman Watt.**
- (g) **Revs D Clarke, TD Gribben, J Lamont, Rev G McClelland; Mrs O Marshall, J Clarke.**

Intermission

The Minutes were taken and corrected.

OVERSEAS BOARD

The Report of the **OVERSEAS BOARD** (Reports pp 132-158) was submitted by the Rev Dr R J T McMullan.

Moved by the Rev Dr R J T McMullan, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S J Dixon, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Moved by the Very Rev Dr J Ross, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S J Dixon, and agreed:

2. That the retirement of the Rev Dr R J T McMullan as Secretary to the Overseas Board be accepted as from 31 August, 2002 and that the best thanks of the General Assembly be given to Dr McMullan for his outstandingly notable service.

Moved by the Rev Dr R J T McMullan, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S J Dixon, and agreed:

3. That the report on Globalisation, Mission and the Kingdom of God in Paras 10-17, together with additional material and questions, be sent down to Presbyteries for discussion and report to the Overseas Board Secretary by 31 December 2002, and that the General Assembly encourage the Overseas Board to examine the implications of the globalisation phenomena for the mission of Jesus Christ so that the priorities of our Church in World Mission into the 21st Century will be clearly set out.

4. That the General Assembly request the Board to examine the consequences of religious conflict for communities of people in its partner Church areas, and to provide spiritual and material support for communities affected by such religious conflict.

5. That the General Assembly call upon our people to pray for our partner Churches in Indonesia, India and Pakistan as they seek to fulfil their calling in mission and evangelism in situations of community tension and conflict, and as they work for peace and reconciliation among their people.

6. That the General Assembly pray for a peaceful solution to the civil strife and conflict in Nepal, and for the United Mission to Nepal as it prepares for a radical change in its mode of service to the people of Nepal in the name and spirit of Jesus Christ.

7. That the General Assembly encourage our partner Churches in Europe and the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to seek appropriate ways to present the Good News of Jesus Christ to people who live in our post-Christian, post-modern and post-Communist societies.

8. That the General Assembly rejoice at the growth of the Churches in Kenya, Malawi, Sudan and Zambia, encourage prayer for the people of these lands who live in times of political uncertainty, economic hardship, social problems and in some cases civil war, and for the Church as it seeks to minister to the needs of its people in the name of Jesus Christ.

9. That the General Assembly call upon all our people to pray with the people in the Middle East, that a just and lasting settlement of the continuing conflict may be reached and that righteousness, peace and healing may abound in a desperate situation.

Business lapsed on Standing Orders (See page 71).

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator, assisted by Mrs T Campbell and the Rev C J C McMullen.

At the request of the Moderator, the Rev Prof James Haire addressed the Assembly.

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

SEVENTH SESSION

Thursday, 13th June, 2002

Two o'clock. Afternoon

In Private

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**Committee on
the Reception
of Ministers
and Licentiatees**

The Report of the **Committee on the Reception of Ministers and Licentiatees** (Reports p 263) was submitted by the Rev R B Savage.

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

1. That the Report be received.

**Memorial of the
Rev Dr Paul Swinn**

The **Memorial of the Rev Dr Paul Swinn** (Reports p 264) was submitted by the Rev R B Savage.

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

That the Memorial be received and its prayer granted on condition that he be ineligible to receive a Call to a congregation for a period of five years without having first served a one year assistantship.

**JUDICIAL
COMMISSION**

The Report of the **JUDICIAL COMMISSION** (Reports p 66) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson.

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

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly accept the retirement of Mr Victor Arnold from the Judicial Commission, and that Mr Noel Valentine be appointed in his place.

**BOARD OF
MINISTRY
AND PENSIONS**

BOARD OF MINISTRY AND PENSIONS - Debate Resumed (See page 41)

Moved by the Rev D S Graham, seconded by Mr J Millar and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.

Moved by Mr J Millar, seconded by the Rev S A Matthews and agreed:

2a. That the General Board be authorised to act on behalf of the General Assembly during the coming year in any matter arising from an application from the Rev F A C Wilson under Par 222 (3) of the Code.

**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

BOARD OF EDUCATION - Debate Resumed (See page 38)

Moved by the Rev J McAllister, seconded by the Rev Dr R F S Poots:

1. That the Report be received.

Moved, as an amendment, by the Rev M J R Neilly, seconded by the Rev R Murray:

That the Report be received and that it be sent back to the Board of Education with the request that pars 4 and 5 of the University Education Report, referring to the post of Chaplain of Derryvolgie Halls and Queen's University, be reconsidered.

On being put, the amendment was declared lost.

The original resolution, being put, was passed.

Intermission**In Public**

The Report of the **BOARD OF MISSION IN IRELAND** (Reports pp 159-183) was submitted by the Very Rev Dr D H Allen.

BOARD OF MISSION IN IRELAND

Moved by the Very Rev Dr D H Allen, seconded by the Rev Dr R F S Poots, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly permit the Board of Mission in Ireland to make grants to communicant members of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland working in non-Presbyterian situations and seeking help under the terms of the Tentmaking Ministries Scheme. **Irish Mission Committee**
3. That the resignation of Mr Douglas Cowan as Convener of the Irish Mission Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev R A Patton be appointed in his place.
4. That the General Assembly commend the work of the Director of Evangelism and encourage Ministers, Kirk Sessions and congregations to make use of this gifted service. **Evangelism Committee**
5. That the General Assembly encourage congregations to support Bible Sunday on 8 December, 2002.
6. That the General Assembly congratulate the Directors of the Presbyterian Mutual Society Limited for the success of the Society and urge congregations and individuals to make use of the lending facilities offered through the Society. **Presbyterian Mutual Society**
7. That the General Assembly appoint the Conveners of the Board of Mission in Ireland, the Home Mission Convener, the Rev Dr D J Watts, Mrs C Poynton and the Rev S G Anketell to the Alternating Ministries Scheme Committee. **Home Mission Committee**
8. That the General Assembly approve an extension of ministry in Alternating Ministry Schemes at the discretion of the Board of Mission in Ireland.
9. That the Board of Mission in Ireland be authorised to set up an Historic Churches Advisory Committee as set out in the report.
10. That the report on the Status of Deaconesses in the Courts of the Church be sent down to Presbyteries for consideration and report to Rev Dr D J Watts by 31 December, 2002.
11. That the Rev George Moffett continue as Co-Convener of the Church Extension Committee for one further year. **Church Extension Committee**
12. 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: **General**

**Revs Dr DH Allen, Dr JB Moore, Conveners
Deputy Clerk, Rev DJ Temple; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries**

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, President, Home Vice-President, and Executive Secretary of PWA, Irish Mission Superintendent, Convener and Secretary of the Social Witness Board, the Conveners of the Education, Studies and

Christian Training, Youth and Inter-Church Relations Board and the Union Commission and the Central Ministry Fund Committee, the Presbyterian Mutual Society Agent, two Young Women's Group representatives, two Youth Board representatives, two deaconess representatives, the Conveners and Secretaries of the Board, Rev Dr RFS Poots.

(b) Rev CW Megaw; RG Beers, Mrs J Richardson — Revs BA McDonald, BA Small; Mrs M Dowds — Revs S Armstrong, TW Gordon; Mrs L Moore — Rev WJ Henry; I McCullagh, Mrs H Jess — Revs AA Cole, J Hagan; Mrs A Harbinson — Revs Dr DJ McGaughey, FJ Gibson; Mrs J Kirk.

(c) Rev SW Dickinson; J McWhirter, Miss H Nicholl — Revs RJ McCullough, TJ Stothers; Mrs I Wallace — Rev Mark Goudy; Dr JH Gillespie, Mrs M Quinn — Rev ST Carson; RH McIvor, Mrs M Gault — Revs G Moore, T Pollock; Mrs HW Montgomery.

(d) Revs ID Neish, RS Hetherington; Miss J Gwyn — Rev DJ McKelvey; G Houston, Miss Mary Angus — Rev R Beggs; A Spence, Mrs Irene Younge.

(e) Revs Dr R Kane, DJ. Hutchinson; Mrs M McCloskey — Rev J McGregor, DJ Paul; Mrs M Docherty — Rev RI Abraham; JA Patterson, Miss J Patterson — Revs Dr KO Patterson, PG McCrea; Mrs Pearl Ewing.

(f) Revs J Lamont, W.A. McCully; Mrs M Dorrans — Revs John Woodside, SS Johnston; Mrs C Poynton — Rev N Cubitt; Mrs G Oliver; RJ McConkey.

(p) Mrs Jane McClure, Mrs E Greenlee, Mrs Hilary Jess, Mrs Amanda Blair, Mrs B Thompson, Mrs Margaret Clarke, Mrs M Weir.

**A. HOME MISSION (7) Rev RL Craig, Convener
Deputy Clerk, Secretary**

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; PWA President, Home Vice President, PWA Home Treasurer, PWA Executive Secretary, HM Treasurer, Irish Mission Superintendent; PMS Representative; Revs RL Craig, Dr JB Moore, Dr DH Allen, Dr RFS Poots; Mrs C Poynton, Deputy Clerk.

(x) Revs JD Woodside, JG Faris, WA Watson, N McClean.

(y) Revs ID Neish, PG McCrea, RS Hetherington, WJ Henry, SS Johnston; Miss J Gwyn, Mrs M McCloskey, JA Patterson.

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

(a) The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; PWA President, Home Vice President, PWA Executive Secretary; Revs Dr JB Moore, Dr DH Allen, DJ Temple, G Moffett, Dr RFS Poots, Deputy Clerk; Brian Knox.

(x) JH Martin, J Sloan, Mrs Rosemary Thompson, Cyril Cavan.

(y) Revs Dr R Kane, TJ Stothers, J Lamont, M Goudy; J McWhirter, Mrs B Thompson, RH McIvor, Mrs H Jess.

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

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

(x) Revs AW Boyd, HE Lewis; John McKibben, C Matthews.

(y) **Revs WJ Henry, RS Hetherington, RJ McCullough, DJ Paul, PG McCrea, Dr DJ McGaughey; Mrs J Kirk, Dr JH Gillespie.**

**D. IRISH MISSION (5) Rev RA Patton, Convener
Rev DJ Temple, Superintendent**

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs RA Patton, Dr DH Allen, Dr JB Moore, Board Secretaries, Conveners Home Mission, Evangelism, Secretaries, Home Mission, PWA, Youth, City Mission, DC Cowan.**

(x) **Revs RIA Allely, G Trueman; DF Adair, JS Mills.**

(y) **Revs J Woodside, SS Johnston, G Moore, WJ Henry, RJ McCullough, RS Hetherington; Mrs M Dorrans, Mrs Irene Younge.**

E. DIVINE HEALING COMMITTEE (5) Rev Dr SDH Williamson, Convener

(a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr DH Allen, Dr JB Moore, Dr SDH Williamson; Director of Social Service, Board Secretaries.**

(x) **Revs Dr Ruth Patterson; Dr Margaret AF Wallace, Mrs AJ Giffen.**

(y) **Revs C Megaw, Dr R Kane, T Pollock, Nancy Cubitt; Mrs M McCloskey, Mrs M Dorrans.**

The **Memorial of the Presbytery of Templepatrick** (Reports p 38) was submitted by the Rev P P Campbell.

Memorial of the Presbytery of Templepatrick

Moved by the Rev P P Campbell, seconded by the Rev S J Millar, and agreed:

That the Memorial be received and its prayer granted, and that the matter also be referred to Dail Eireann.

Moved by the Rev W T Bingham, seconded by the Rev T D Gribben, and passed:

That the debate on the **Memorial of the Presbytery of Dublin and Munster** (Reports p 38-39) be adjourned to Friday.

Memorial of the Presbytery of Dublin and Munster

Voting: For 41
Against 36
(See page 74)

The sederunt came to a close at 6.10 pm, the Moderator pronouncing the Benediction.

EIGHTH SESSION**Friday, 14th June, 2002****Half past nine o'clock. Forenoon**

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

TRUSTEES The Report of the **TRUSTEES** (Reports pp295-300) was submitted by Mr W Ervin, CBE.

Moved by Mr W Ervin, CBE, seconded by Mr J Millar, OBE, 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 in accordance with the Will of the late John Getty the following be constituted as the Committee for the "direction and management of the application" of the income from the Getty Bequest:
 Very Rev Dr S Hutchinson, Very Rev Dr T J Simpson, Revs J McAllister, OBE, W D F Marshall, R J A Bell, W J Orr; Mr Wilson Ervin, CBE, Sir Eric McDowell, Mr David Bell, CB, Mr A T Ross, Mr John Millar, OBE, Mr J I Bill, OBE.
7. That, as soon as practicable, the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland cease to be Trustees of The Ministers' Pension Scheme (1978), The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pensions and Life Assurance Plan and The Overseas/Irish Mission/PWA Pension Scheme.
8. That the Executive Committee of the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland be authorised to act for the General Assembly in the appointment and removal of 'Employer' Nominated Trustees of The Ministers' Pension Scheme (1978), The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pensions and Life Assurance Plan and The Overseas/Irish Mission/PWA Pension Scheme.
9. That the Trustees of each of The Ministers' Pension Scheme (1978), The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pensions and Life Assurance Plan and The Overseas/Irish Mission/PWA Pension Scheme consist of 5 'Employer' Nominated Trustees, the Convener or other nominee of the appropriate Board and, when appropriate, 3 Member Nominated Trustees.
10. That the Trustees of each of The Ministers' Pension Scheme (1978), The Presbyterian Church in Ireland Pensions and Life Assurance Plan and The Overseas/Irish Mission/PWA Pension Scheme liaise with the appropriate Boards to introduce Member Nominated Trustees when the Regulations require.

The Assembly proceeded to consider the appointment of a new Trustee.

A nomination having been received from the Trustees Executive Committee, it was moved by Mr W Ervin, CBE, seconded by Mr J Millar, OBE, and unanimously resolved:

That Rev Dr Donald Watts be, and is hereby nominated and appointed by the General Assembly as a Trustee of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in room of Very Rev Dr A J Weir, deceased, and of the due appointment of Rev Dr Donald Watts as a said Trustee attestation is made by the signature of the Moderator of the General Assembly and of the Clerk of the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of the Irish Presbyterian Church Act, 1871.

RUSSELL I BIRNEY

Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

SAMUEL HUTCHINSON

Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland

14 June, 2002

The Report of the **COMMISSION ON TRUSTS** (Reports p 265) was submitted by Mr A J Rankin.

**COMMISSION
ON TRUSTS**

Moved by Mr A J Rankin, seconded by the Rev Dr R F S Poots, 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:-

AJ Rankin, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk; AJ Rankin.**
- (g) **Revs D Clarke, Dr TJ Simpson, RJA Bell, Dr RFS Poots, WS Marrs, Deputy Clerk, JW Russell, WH Henry, Mrs O Marshall.**

The Report of the **BOARD OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION** (Reports pp 266-281) was submitted by Mr D F Adair.

**BOARD OF
FINANCE AND
ADMIN-
ISTRATION**

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

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Board of Finance and Administration continue to consult with the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and that the Board be hereby requested and authorised to
 - (i) introduce guidance notes and provide training, where appropriate, to Board and Committee members to make them aware of their responsibilities in entering into contracts;
 - (ii) obtain suitable indemnity cover for Board and Committee members;
 - (iii) investigate, and if thought appropriate after consultation with the Trustees, create a Company Limited by Guarantee under the name "Presbyterian Church in Ireland" to execute particular contracts on behalf of the Church.
3. That the retirement of Mr T H Cochrane, JP, as Deputy Financial Secretary, be noted and that he be thanked for his services.
4. That Ernst and Young LLP be appointed as auditors for all Committees, Boards, Trusts, Commissions and Agencies of the General Assembly for the year 2002.

5. That the assessment for the Incidental Fund for 2002 be 5.00p in the £ of stipend.

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

DF Adair, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; DF Adair.**
- (b) **Rev JT Williamson; D Johnston — Rev TA McNeely; N Greenlee — Rev Dr J Harper; R Courtenay — Rev MG McClelland; M McMaster — Revs IJ Patterson, SA Matthews — Revs D Rankin, EP Gamble.**
- (c) **Rev WF Dickey; W Alexander — D Tomb, F Picton — Rev R Kelly; H Stewart — Rev KDW Crowe; J McMullan — Rev JH MacConnell; CRA Davis.**
- (d) **Rev ML Johnston; J Clarke — Rev WI Hull; M Fitch — M Cairnduff, N Valentine.**
- (e) **Rev Dr SDH Williamson; S Clyde — Rev DS Irwin; Samuel Kelly — Wilfrid Steele, Norman Morrison — Rev Dr AN Kerr; E Carroll.**
- (f) **Rev WA McCully; Alan Speer — Arthur Jordan, J Gregg — W Carleton, T Semple.**
- (g) **Mrs Maureen Patterson, Mrs G Irwin, J Petrie.**

A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND STAFFING (5) D Lamb, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Head of Personnel; D Lamb, DF Adair.**
- (x) **Rev Dr J Fell; Mrs E Armstrong, JF McMahon, A Treacy.**
- (y) **Revs JT Williamson, W. Steele, Dr J Harper, JH MacConnell, KDW Crowe; N Valentine, D Tomb, M Fitch.**

B. INCIDENTAL FUND COMMITTEE (5) M Fitch, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Financial Secretary, M Fitch, DF Adair.**
- (x) **Rev RIA Allely; B McClean, RB Lyons, TG Swan.**
- (y) **Revs R Kelly, KDW Crowe, W Alexander, Dr J Harper, Dr SDH Williamson, D Rankin; M Cairnduff, J Clarke.**

C. ASSEMBLY BUILDINGS COMMITTEE (5) Rev RIA Allely, Convener

- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Arrangements Committee Convener, Board Convener, J Kelly; Rev RIA Allely.**
- (x) **Rev HJ Honeyford; Mrs J Moran, WJ Cairns, B Smyth.**
- (y) **Revs TA McNeely, JH MacConnell, R Kelly, JT Williamson, MG McClelland, AN Kerr; CRA Davis, J Clarke.**

Moved by the Rev R Herron, seconded by the Rev Dr R J G Gray, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received and that par 3, p 121 (Irish Church Relations Committee) be referred back so that the Assembly may be made aware of the basis on which the ICC accepted the Church of the Cherubim and Seraphim into membership.

2. That the following appointments be made:

Irish Church Relations

To the Irish Council of Churches - Revs S Anketell, S J Campbell, L E Carroll, R Cobain; Mrs P Crossley; Revs A D Davidson, G A J Farquhar; Miss D Gilmour; Revs Dr R J G Gray, R Herron, Dr S Hutchinson; Mrs M Irwin; Revs D B Knox, C D McClure, D Nesbitt; Mr J A Patterson; Rev H Robinson; Mr I Scott, Mrs E Sheppard; Rev Dr D J Watts.

To the Irish Inter-Church Committee - Revs A D Davidson, Dr D J Watts.

3. That the resignation of the Rev A D Davidson as Convener of the Irish Church Relations Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev L E Carroll be appointed in his place.

4. That the Rev G Farquhar and the Rev K Crowe be appointed as delegates to the European Area Council of WARC to be held in Oradea, Romania, 18-23 August 2002.

World Church Relations

5. That the Revs Dr D J Watts, Prof J C McCullough and Miss Heather Morrow be appointed to attend the 12th Assembly of CEC to be held in Trondheim, Norway, 25 June - 2 July 2003.

6. That the Rt Rev Dr R I Birney, Revs A D Davidson, S E Hughes, and Miss Louise Matthews be appointed to attend the 24th General Council of WARC to be held in Accra, Ghana, 30 July - 13 August 2004.

7. That the General Assembly encourage the use of fairly traded products within the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and advocate the use of fairly traded tea, coffee, and other products within Church House and also at presbytery and congregational events.

World Development

8. That the General Assembly urge all congregations to be aware of and offer hospitality to refugees and asylum-seekers resident in their areas.

Race Relations

9. That Sunday, 8 September 2002 be recognised as Racial Justice Sunday.

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

General

Irish Council of Churches	£16,400
Irish Inter-Church Meeting	£8,000
Conference of European Churches	£3,434
Leuenberg Consultation	£1,000
World Alliance of Reformed Churches	£10,030
World Alliance of Reformed Churches' General Council Fund	£1,000
Race Relations Grants:	
(i) Diakonia Council of Churches, Durban, South Africa (Vuleka Trust)	£1,500
(ii) Churches Council for Racial Justice	£400
(iii) Multi-Cultural Resource Centre, Belfast	£350
(iv) Northern Ireland Council for Ethnic Minorities	£350
(v) Irish Refugee Council	£400
Environmental Panel	£150
General Work of the Board	£5,000

Moved by the Rev Dr D J Watts, seconded by the Rev Dr R J G Gray, and agreed:

11. That the resignation of the Rev Robert Herron as Convener of the Inter-Church Relations Board be accepted, that he be thanked for his services, and that the Rev A D Davidson be appointed in his place.

Moved by the Rev R Herron, seconded by the Rev Dr R J G Gray, and agreed:

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

Rev AD Davidson, Convener

(a) **The Moderator, Clerk of Assembly, Revs R Herron, AD Davidson, Conveners and Secretaries of the Home Mission Committee and Overseas Board, Professor of Systematic Theology at the Union Theological College, Superintendent of the Irish Mission, Overseas Board Representative, the Youth Officer.**

(b) **Rev WT Cordner; Mrs FM Watts — Revs AD Davidson, JA Curry — Rev Dr WJ Patterson; I Adair — Revs DJ Bruce, Dr RJG Gray — Revs CD McClure, R Murray — Revs JM Wade, AL Kirk.**

(c) **Rev WB Boyd; S Davison — Revs GAJ Farquhar, FA Bradley — Revs JG Johnston, F Russell — Revs AC Rankin, JT Magowan — Rev D Bannerman; RJ Coulter.**

(d) **Rev JK Doherty; W Crawford — Revs Dr DC Irwin, KNE Newell — J McVeigh; AJ Kilgore.**

(e) **Revs David Latimer, GP Young — Revs SJ Gray, DS Irwin — Rev ES McDowell; Mrs CA Trimble — Rev TWA Greer; Miss B Miller.**

(f) **Rev MCA Gray; G Vance — Revs AV Martin, Denis Campbell — Rev David Nesbitt; W McConkey.**

(g) **Revs J Gordon, SJ Millar, DB Knox, N McAuley; Mrs P Crossley, D Hewitt.**

A. WORLD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (5)

Mrs H McCall, Convener

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

(x) **Rev MCA Gray; J Doherty, A. McCreary, Mrs Sheila Phillips.**

(y) **Revs Dr WJ Patterson, WT Cordner, CD McClure, D Nesbitt, JT Magowan, DS Irwin, Denis Campbell; Mrs. FM Watts.**

B. IRISH CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (5)

Rev Lesley Carroll, Convener

(a) **Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs AD Davidson, Lesley Carroll.**

(x) **Revs J Brackenridge, AR Bill; M Hunter, Miss D Gilmour.**

(y) **Revs D Bannerman, GP Young, CD McClure, Dr DC Irwin, TWA Greer, KNE Newell, R Murray, J McVeigh.**

C. WORLD CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE (5)**Rev GAJ Farquhar, Convener**

- (a) **Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs AD Davidson, GAJ Farquhar, Overseas Board Representative.**
- (x) **Revs SE Hughes, WJA Sleith; Mrs M Irwin, Miss A Taylor.**
- (y) **Revs FA Bradley, AC Rankin, D Bannerman, CD McClure, Denis Campbell, AD Davidson, WB Boyd; A Kilgore.**

D. RACE RELATIONS COMMITTEE (5)**Rev Dr RJG Gray, Convener**

- (a) **Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Overseas Board Secretaries, Revs AD Davidson, Dr RJG Gray.**
- (x) **D Boyd, Ms Fee Ching Leong; Revs A Boal, K Meyer.**
- (y) **Revs D. Latimer, FA Bradley, F Russell, GAJ Farquhar, Denis Campbell; W Crawford, AJ Kilgore, RJ Coulter.**

The Report of the **Assembly Conference Committee** (Reports pp 302-303) was submitted by the Rev T D Gribben.

**Assembly
Conference
Committee**

Moved by the Rev T D Gribben, seconded by the Rev J H Robinson, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the General Assembly approve the holding of the Residential Assembly Conference in August 2004, rather than in August 2003.
3. That the Rev JH Robinson be appointed Co-Convener of the Residential Assembly Conference Committee.
4. That the ad hoc Committee for the Residential Assembly Conference be reappointed for a further year as follows :

Revs TD Gribben, JH Robinson, Co-Conveners**The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly; Revs TD Gribben, JH Robinson.**

Revs Dr MA Barry, H Boyce, MR Burnside, G Connor, R Hill, RJ Hyndman, KA McBride, Dr JG Millar, DJ Montgomery, SW Rea, AJMcL Smith, IF Smith; Dr D Alexander, Mrs R Craig, Miss A Houston, S Lynas, S McDowell, Mrs M Myers, Miss C Reid, D Thomson.

OVERSEAS BOARD - Debate Resumed (See page 61)

**OVERSEAS
BOARD**

Moved by the Rev Dr R J T McMullan, seconded by the Very Rev Dr S J Dixon, and agreed:

10. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for our partnerships in Mission with the Presbyterian Churches in Brazil and our involvement in their national mission, with the prayer that God will richly bless their witness and service throughout the nation in the coming days.

11. That the General Assembly encourage the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands as it continues to witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ, to minister to urban and rural communities and to serve the needy and disadvantaged in the name of Jesus Christ.

12. That the General Assembly give thanks to God for the faithful witness and service of our missionary personnel and their colleagues in our partner Churches and Missions in many different and often difficult and dangerous situations, and commend them and their families to our Church for prayer and practical support as they continue to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

13. That the General Assembly encourage the Board to complete its work on its recruitment, training and preparation for service procedures and on the development of a pastoral care model for missionaries throughout their period of service.

14. That the General Assembly give thanks for the continued growth in prayer and support for our missionaries and our partner Churches in which they serve, and encourage the Board to take new initiatives in communicating the challenges and opportunities in world mission to all our people.

15. That the General Assembly thank congregations, the Presbyterian Women's Association, the Young Women's Groups, other organisations and individuals for their valued support for the Mission of Jesus Christ in prayer and by their giving, and further thank all who have given freely of their time and talents to enable our Church to fulfil its missionary calling.

16. That the resignation of Dr Max Watson as Convener of the Asia Committee be accepted, that he be thanked for his services and that the Rev S J Hanna be appointed in his place.

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

Rev Dr SJ Dixon, Convener

Rev WS Marrs; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries

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

(b) **Rev NJ McCullough; J Warnock, Mrs A Murdock — Rev MM Stewart; Miss J Allen, Mrs E McIlwaine — Revs SR Conkey, RA Moffett; Miss M McCombe — Rev GBS Gibson; Dr Alistair Crockard, Miss W Norwood — Rev G Best; S Murphy, Mrs T Johnston — Rev NS Millen; R Harper, Mrs D Rea.**

(c) **Rev NA Brown; W Steele, Mrs T Boyd — Rev LJ Addis; RI Bashford, Mrs J Gaston — Rev PC Lyle; G Henderson, Mrs M McCormick — Rev JA Thompson; Mrs N Moore, Mrs M Binnie — Rev PP Campbell; D Robinson, Mrs A Reid.**

(d) **Revs Dr W Crawley, GF McKeown; Mrs D Smyth, — Revs Dr I Hart, BR Hughes; Mrs E Jackson— Rev Dr D Murphy; WH Hawe, Miss R Taylor.**

(e) **Rev D Hillen; E Laverty, Dr H Williamson — Revs KG Patterson, N Ward; Mrs E Alexander — Rev G Aitcheson; Dr C McKibbin, Mrs M McKibbin — Rev JW Fleck; R Wallace, Mrs M McCreedy.**

(f) **Rev NE Dorrans; A Speer, Mrs F Armour — Revs S Anketell, John Mann; Mrs D Mitchell — Mrs E Moore, L Foster, E Martin.**

(p) **Mrs Doreen McMullen, Mrs Sandra Fleck, Mrs Gwen Irwin, Mrs Lorna Brown, Mrs Sheila Fell, Mrs Pat Colvin, Mrs Valerie Stewart.**

- A. ASIA COMMITTEE (7)** **Rev SJ Hanna, Convener**
Rev WS Marrs; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr SJ Dixon, SJ Hanna; Mrs M Patterson, Mrs R Cowan, Mrs D McMullen; Revs WS Marrs, Dr RJT McMullan; Mrs M Myers, CN Eves, Dr MS Watson.**
- (x) **Revs SJ Hanna, MCA Gray, CJC McMullen; Mrs M Lygo.**
- (y) **Revs PC Lyle, LJ Addis, BR Hughes, G Aitcheson; Miss M McCombe, RI Bashford, Mrs S Fell, Mrs E McIlwaine.**
- B. EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST COMMITTEE (7)** **Mrs Maureen Patterson, Convener**
Rev WS Marrs; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs Dr SJ Dixon, JA Kirkpatrick, JN Seawright; Mrs M Patterson, Mrs R Cowan, Mrs D McMullen; Revs WS Marrs, Dr RJT McMullan; Mrs M Myers.**
- (x) **Revs Dr RI Birney, IJ Patterson, JI Thompson; Dr G Moles.**
- (y) **Revs D Hillen, NJ McCullough, GF McKeown, RA Moffett; Mrs A Reid, G Henderson, Mrs J Gaston, Mrs D Rea.**
- C. AFRICA, CARIBBEAN & LATIN AMERICA COMMITTEE (7)** **Rev HR Quinn, Convener**
Rev WS Marrs; Mrs M Myers, Secretaries
- (a) **The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Revs SJ Dixon, HR Quinn; World Development Committee Convener, Mrs M Patterson, Mrs R Cowan, Mrs D McMullen; Revs WS Marrs, Dr RJT McMullan; Mrs M Myers.**
- (x) **Revs WJ Waring, WP Addley; TA Macpherson, R Kerr.**
- (y) **Revs J Mann, NE Dorrans, SR Conkey, GBS Gibson; E Laverty, Miss R Taylor, Mrs M Binnie, Mrs D Mitchell.**

The Minutes were taken and corrected.

The Assembly engaged in worship conducted by the Moderator, assisted by Mrs T Campbell and the Rev W J Waring. At the request of the Moderator, the Rev Prof James Haire addressed the Assembly.

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

NINTH SESSION

Friday, 14th June, 2002

Two o'clock. Afternoon

The Assembly again convened, the Moderator leading in prayer.

**Memorial
of the Presbytery
of Dublin
and Munster**

The **Memorial of the Presbytery of Dublin and Munster** (Reports p 38-39) was submitted by the Rev J G Faris.

Moved by the Rev J G Faris, seconded by the Rev Dr J G Millar:

That the Memorial be received and its prayer granted.

Moved, as an amendment, by the Rev W T Bingham, seconded by the Rev Dr R E H Uprichard:

That the Memorial be received and its prayer be not granted.

On being put, the amendment was declared lost.

Voting: For 42

Against 60

Moved, as an amendment, by the Rev Dr R F S Poots, seconded by the Very Rev Dr J W Lockington:

That the Memorial be received and its prayer granted and that it be referred to the General Board to refer it to an appropriate body, on the understanding that it will deal with matters other than inter-faith worship.

On being put, the amendment was declared passed.

On being put as substantive motion, was passed.

**Ad Hoc
Committee on
Priorities**

The Report of the **Ad Hoc Committee on Priorities** (Reports pp 304-310) was submitted by the Rev T D Gribben.

Moved by the Rev T D Gribben, seconded by Mr D F Adair, and agreed:

1. That the Report be received.
2. That the Ad Hoc Committee on Priorities be encouraged to develop the principles and points outlined in Appendix 1, and report further to the General Assembly in June 2003.
3. That the Ad Hoc Committee on Priorities take the lead on bringing proposals to the General Assembly with regard to central structures that will better facilitate the work that has to be done at central level.
4. (a) That, as an interim measure, the General Assembly approve a moratorium on all new posts and projects, unless these can be funded from within the existing resources of an individual Board or from outside sources.
- (b) That, as an interim measure, the General Board, on the recommendation of its Panel on the Overview of Funding, be authorised to lift this moratorium on the conditions outlined in Appendix 2, or as it sees fit in exceptional circumstances.
5. That, as an interim measure, the General Board, on the recommendation of its Panel on the Overview of Funding, approve all new significant expenditure that is planned by Boards or Agencies, even when that expenditure is funded from within existing resources or from outside sources.

6. That, as an interim measure, the outcome of all internal Board reviews of current staff posts should be submitted to the General Board, through its Panel on the Overview of Funding, for consideration of the wider issues, prior to the outcome of the review being implemented.

7. That up to £500 be made available from the Incidental Fund for use by the Ad Hoc Committee on Priorities.

8. That the Ad Hoc Committee on Priorities be reappointed for a further year as follows :

Rev TD Gribben, Convener

The Moderator and Clerk of Assembly, Clerk Designate, Financial Secretary, Rev TD Gribben.

Revs RJA Bell, JR Dickinson, Dr. HA Dunlop, ES Hughes, R Lockhart, Dr. JW Lockington, Dr G Millar, G Moore, Dr TWJ Morrow; D.F. Adair, D Lamb, J Millar, D Thomson.

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

The Business Board met once during the week to licence an additional resolution.

At its meeting on Friday, 7 June the resolutions appended were approved for submission at the close of Assembly.

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

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

To the Church of Scotland 2003

Right Rev Dr R I Birney
Rev R S Hetherington
Mr William Henry

To the United Reformed Church of the United Kingdom 2003

Right Rev Dr R I Birney

3. That the delegates to the Presbyterian Church of Wales 2003, the 2003 General Synod of the Church of Ireland and the Methodist Conference be appointed by the Business Board.

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

5. That the next General Assembly be held in Church House, Belfast on Monday, 2nd June, 2003.

CLOSE OF ASSEMBLY

After a brief adjournment the Moderator conducted a closing act of worship assisted by the Revs R S Hetherington and C J C McMullen.

**Ministers'
Pension Scheme
(1978)**

The Moderator thanked the Clerk of the Assembly, the Deputy Clerk and the Clerk-Designate, his chaplains, Mrs Jean Hanna and staff of the General Secretary's Office, Mr Stephen Lynas and the Church House staff including Mr Harry Orr, the Rev T C Morrison, the organists and musicians and those who acted as stewards, the time-keepers, the media, the PSNI and others.

Thereafter he declared the Assembly to be dissolved and convened the next Stated General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland to meet in Church House, Belfast, on Monday, 2nd June, 2003 at seven o'clock in the evening.

The Moderator pronounced the Benediction.

The sederunt came to a close at 4.05 pm.

Attested by
SAMUEL HUTCHINSON
Clerk of Assembly

GENERAL SYNOD OF ULSTER

BELFAST, 2002

Wednesday, 12th June, 2002**Five o'clock. Afternoon.**

The Very Rev Dr A W G Brown presided and opened the Synod with prayer.

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

The following brethren were named and appointed the Synod's Fixed Committee: –

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

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

The meeting of Synod was closed with the Benediction.

Attested by

SAMUEL HUTCHINSON, Clerk of Synod

SECESSION SYNOD

BELFAST, 2002

Thursday, 13th June, 2002**Five o'clock. Afternoon.**

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

The Very Rev Dr J W Lockington was then constituted Moderator of the Synod for the ensuing year.

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

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

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

The Synod was closed with prayer.

Attested by

SAMUEL HUTCHINSON, Clerk of Synod

DEPUTATIONS — 2003

- I.— CORRESPONDING MEMBERS TO THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 Right Rev Dr R I Birney, Moderator
 Rev R S Hetherington
 An Elder to be appointed by the Business Board

- II.— CORRESPONDING MEMBER
 TO THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH OF THE UNITED KINGDOM
 Right Rev Dr R I Birney, Moderator

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

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

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

ECCLESIASTICAL CHANGES, ETC.

	Reported by Presbyteries in —	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Licensures		12	17	13	13	15	8	4
Ordinations		1	1	12	16	13	14	14
Installations		36	36	24	26	41	36	32
Resignation of Ministers		36	34	28	13	28	26	27
Retirements of Ministers		10	4	13	11	14	16	13
Deaths of Ministers		13	10	15	3	10	14	6
Students		53	51	44	39	26	22	25
Ministers under care of Assembly		24	23	26	26	21	22	22
Licentiatees		20	35	41	33	34	18	12

FORM OF BEQUEST TO THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

CHANGES IN THE CODE 2002

CHURCH HOUSE,
BELFAST, BT1 6DW
AUGUST, 2002.

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

SAMUEL HUTCHINSON
Clerk of Assembly.

Note: I.A. Interim Act

Par 65(2)

Delete the words “from among its members” and substitute the words “from among the ministers or ruling elders under its jurisdiction.” (2002).

Par 97(h)

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

“Clerks of Presbytery or Synod, being ministers without charge or ruling elders;” (2002).

Par 132 (I.A.)

Insert a new sub-paragraph (4) as follows:

“(4) Ministers, licentiates, accepted students for the ministry, deaconesses and all appointed to, or training for, posts of ministry or mission shall disclose promptly to the Clerk of the General Assembly, in confidence, any police investigation, summons, or conviction for offences against children, offences involving dishonesty, sexual misconduct, indecency, violence, alcohol or drugs, or any other serious offence.”

Renumber sub-paragraphs (4), (5), (6) and (7) as (5) (6) (7) and (8). (I.A. 2002).

Par 193(1)(c)

Delete the words “Board of Studies”. (2002).