

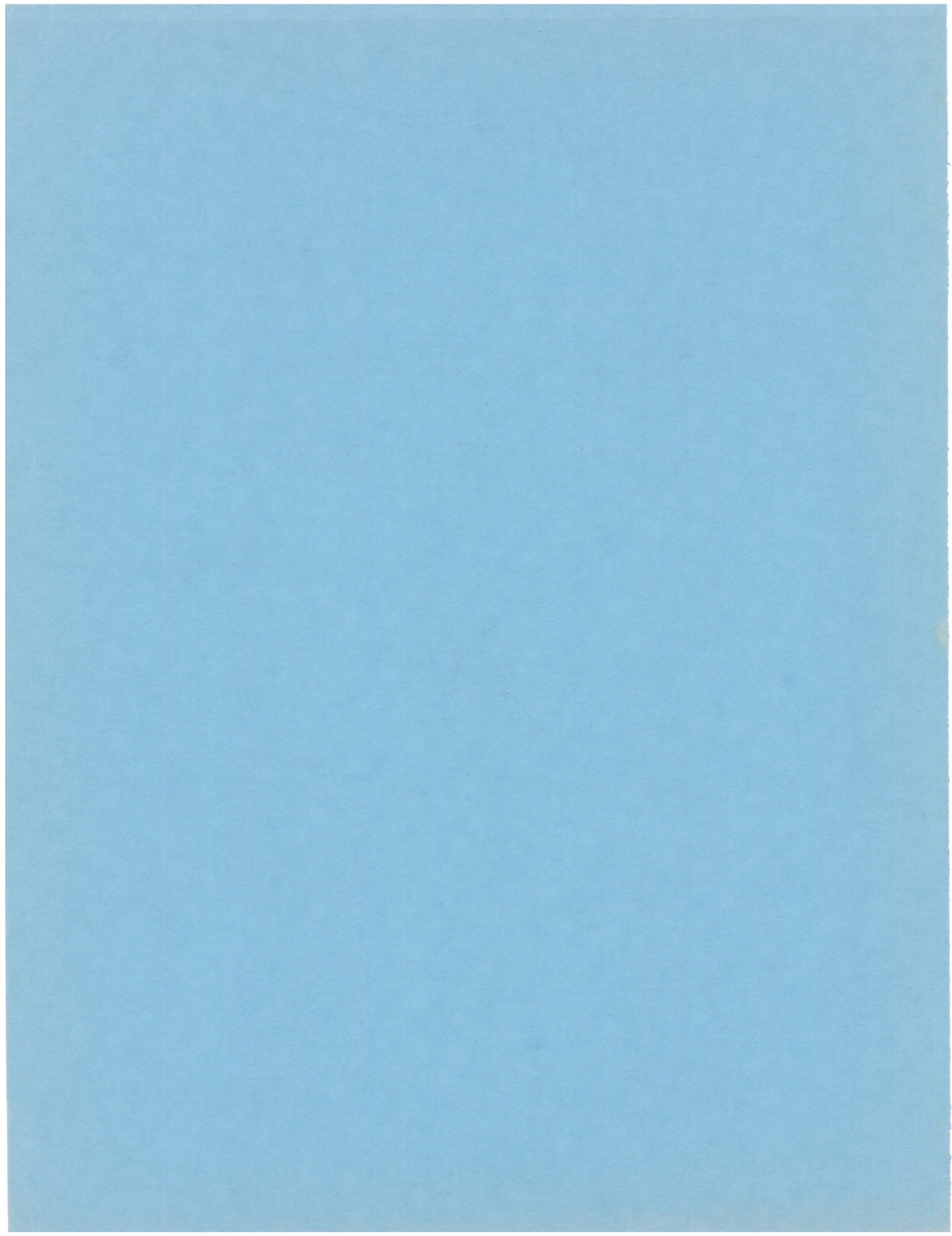
MINUTES
OF
PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THIRTY-SEVENTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
Presbyterian Church of Australia



HELD IN MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER, 1979

Melbourne:

Brown Prior Anderson Pty Ltd, Presbyterian Church Printers
5 Evans Street, Burwood 3125



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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
THIRTY-SEVENTH
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MODERATORS
of the
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA

Rev. John Meiklejohn, D.D.*	1901
Rev. Alexander Hay, D. D.*	1902
Rev. David Bruce, D.D. 1	1903
Rev. P. J. Murdoch, M. A. d	1905
Rev. T. E. Cloutonk, DD.*	1906
Rev. Peter Robertson*	1907
Rev. John Ferguson*	1909
Rev. W. S. Rolland*	1910
Rev. J. Laurence Rentoul, M.A., D.D.*	1912
Rev. George Davidson, M.A., D.D.*	1914
Rev. Ronald G. Macintyre, C.B.E., C.M.G., M.A., D.D.*	1916
Rev. John Walker, D. D. d	1919
Rev. James Gibson, M.A.*	1920
Rev. John Matthew, M. DA., D.D.	1922
Rev. James Crookston*	1914
Rev. R. Scott-West, D.D.*	1926
Rev. Alexander Crrn *	1928
Rev. Donald A. Cameron, M. D.*	1930
Rev. G. R. S. Reid, M. DA., D. D. *	1936
Rev. John Flynn, O. B. E., D. D. *	1936
Rev. R. Wilson Macauley, B.A., D.D.*	1942
Rev. Alexander C. Gieve, B.A.*	1945
Rev. Julian R. Blanchard, C.B.E., B.A., D.D.	1948
Rev. Richard Bardon, B.A.*	1951
Rev. Sir Francis W. Rolland, O.B.E., M.C., M.A.*	1954
Rev. David J. Flockhart, M.A.*	1957
Rev. Alan C. Watson, M. AA., D.D.*	1959
Rev. Hector Harrison, O. BAE., M.A., B.D.*	1962
Rev. William Young, B'.A.*	1964
Rev. Norman Faichney, B.A.	1967
Rev. James Frederick McKay, C.M.G., O. B. E., M.A., B.D.	1970) 1971)
Rev. Gillam Albert McConnel Wood, B.A.	1973
Rev. Neil MacLeod, M. AA., D. DD.	1974
Rev. Kenneth Joseph Gardner, O. D. A.	1977
Rev. James Mullan, B. DA. Dip. R. D.	1979

* Deceased

OFFICERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Right Reverend the Moderator:

REVEREND JAMES MULLAN, B.A., Dip. R.E.
G.P.O. Box 100, Sydney 2001.

Clerk of Assembly:

REVEREND EDWARD R. PEARSONS
156 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000.

Deputy Clerk:

RAYMOND P.W. JELL, Esq., A.R.E.I., A.I.C.M., J.P.
P.O. Box 291, Brisbane North Quay 4000.

Business Convener:

REVEREND NORMAN MONSEN
G.P.O. Box 100, Sydney 2001.

Procurator:

F. MAXWELL BRADSHAW, Esq., M.A. LL.M.
472 Bourke Street, Melbourne 3000.

Law Agent:

LINDSAY J. MOORE, Esq., LL.B.
P.O. Box 122, West Wyalong 2671.

Treasurer:

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (N.S.W.) PROPERTY TRUST
G.P.O. Box 100, Sydney 2001.

ROLL.

NEW-SOUTH WALES

(Elected by the State Assembly)

Ministers:

Rt. Rev. C.E.J. Egan
Rev. C.R. Thomas
Rev. Prof. Crawford Miller
Rev. R.A. Caldwell
Rev. M.M. Yee
Rev. P.E. Boase
Rev. S.J. Clements
Rev. G.R. Fullerton
Rev. D.F. Murray

Elders:

Dr. P.E. Lush
Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane
Mr. L.J. Moore
Mr. P.D. Kahl
Mr. G. Hustwit
Mr. J.G. Menzies
Mr. C.R. Brierley
Mr. J.C. Mackillop
Mr. J.D. McFarlane

BATHURST

Rev. E.J. Noble

Mr. J. Ridley

CANBERRA

Rev. J.T. Mercer

Mr. K.D. Crawford

DUBBO

Rev. R.J. Lee

Mr. B. Henderson

HASTINGS

Rev. D.C.K. Tsai
" D.C. Geddes

Rev. P.E. Lucock
Mr. T.S. Fenton

HAWKESBURY

Rev. J.J. Knapp
" D.L. Ferrington
" D.K. Robson

Mr. A. Shepherd
" R. Daley
" R. Stevens

HUNTER

Rev. J. Baillie
" A.R. Ewin
" H. Boer

Mr. K.D. Green
" G.B. Oliver
" A. Parish

ILLAWARRA

Rev. I. Cox
" D.E. Hawkins

Mr. C. Gordon
" H. Ross

KU-RING-GAI

Rev. P.G. Logan
" J. Reid

Mr. A. Duff
" R.A. Dunstan

MOREE

Rev. C.R. Pass
" R.A. Osborn

Mr. G. Brooks
" R.J. Uebergang

MURRUMBIDGEE

Rev. P.F. Cooper

Mr. H. Scarfe

NEW ENGLAND

Rev. M.V. Skalicky

Mr. H. Cameron

NORTH SYDNEY

Right Rev. J. Mullan

Mr. P.J. Graham

Rev. B.K. Burton

i A.K. Dunlop

NORTHERN RIVERS

Rev. G.L. Weber

Mr. R.C. Frame

" W.H. Stott

" W. Walmsley

ORANGE

Rev. G.A. Morrow

Mr. R.J. Horsburgh

SYDNEY

Rev. A.A. Dougan

Mr. D.M. Wilson

" P.S.K. Fong

" J. Van Werren

SYDNEY SOUTH

Rev. Dr. J.G. Miller

Mr. G. Goswell

m B.H. Christian

i N. Hewes

i K.D. Allen

" E.B. Dandie

SYDNEY WEST

Rev. N. Monsen

Mr. D.R. Brierley

i A.G. Ingram

i J. Haldane

WAGGA WAGGA

Rev. I.G. Stewart

Mr. K. Swan

YOUNG

Rev. G.R. George

Mr . E.A. Penfold

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Rev. A.W. McAuliffe

Mr. D.A. Conway

TASMANIA

(Elected by the State Assembly)

Rev. M.J.K. Ramage

Mr. H.O. Ives

TASMANIA

Rev. T.S. Fishwick

Mr. R.J. Gardam

QUEENSLAND

(Elected by the State Assembly)

Very Rev. K.J. Gardner O.B.E.	Mr. R.P.W. Jell
Rev. N.T. Barker	" D.F.L. Skerman
" R.C. Clark	Dr. A.D.A. Mayes C.B.F.
" J.J.T. Campbell	Mr. S.G. Craig

BRISBANE

Rev. Dr. H.J. Whitney	Mr. C. Vernon
" D.J. Durham	" R.H. Crowther
m G.C. Lake	" B. Layt

DARLING DOWNS

Rev. E.F. Taylor	Mr. A.L. Golder
" L.E. Timms	" S. Marshall
" F.B. Watkins	" H. Curtis

MOWBRAY

Rev. F.W.F. White	Mr. D.T. Gallagher
" K.N.R. Innes	" G.R.E. Nelson
m R.I. Richards	" F.H. Bailey

ROCKHAMPTON

Right Rev. P.L. Gordon	Mr. A. Mostert
Rev. E.B. Hosking	" A.C. Shepherdson O.B.E.

NORTH QUEENSLAND

Rev. H.J. Gallagher	Mr. W.H. Miller
---------------------	-----------------

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

(Elected by the State Assembly)

Rev. J.I. Williamson	Mr. A.G. Matheson
----------------------	-------------------

PENOLA

Rev. G.F. McDonald	Mr. B. Burgess
--------------------	----------------

TORRENS

Rev. J.C. Harris	Mr. R.W. Arstall
------------------	------------------

ONKAPARINGA

Rev. G.W. Wilson	Mr. G.W.H. Gosling
------------------	--------------------

VICTORIA

(Elected by the State Assembly)

Right Rev. H.L. Dunn	Mr. F.M. Bradshaw
Rev. E.R. Pearsons	" B.D. Bayston
" A.J.W. McAllister	" C.H. Fraser
Rev. Principle R. Swanton	" J. Pettifer
" C.A. Harrison	Mrs M. Bull

BALLARAT

Rev. A.E. Grylls

Mr. F. Newall

BENALLA

Rev. D.V. Morey

Mr. J.B. Stewart

BENDIGO

Rev. F. Graham

Mr. A. Scott

FLINDERS

Rev. K.J. Gibson
" D.R. Winter

Mr. D.R. Jeeves
!> W.G. Michelson

GEELONG

Rev. C.C. Flavel

Mr. D.F. Wallace

KILNOORAT

Rev. C. Cameron
" C. Abel

Mr. D.L. Fleming
ll R.M. Clegg

LATROBE VALLEY

Rev. T. Hanson

Mr. B. Brans

MELBOURNE EAST

Rev. R.C. Russell
" F.A. Hoad

Mr. J. McDougall
Mrs V. Hardie

MELBOURNE NORTH

Rev. W.A. Loftus
" J. Price

Mr. H. Boer
ll A.C. Neil

MELBOURNE WEST

Rev. G.F. Lyman
>1 R.W. Traill

Mr. W.N. Gilmour
" E.J. Guy

JUDICAL COMMISSION

New South Wales

Rev. N. Monsen
Rev. J. Perkins
Rev. H.G. Durbin
Mr. P.J. Graham
Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane
Mr. A. Duff
Mr. J.G. Menzies
Mr. D.R. Brierley

Queensland

Very Rev. K.J. Gardner
Rev. A.W. Laurie
Rev. N.R. Innes
Mr. R.P.W. Jell

Victoria

Rt. Rev. H.L. Dunn
Rev. W.A. Loftus
Rev. C.A. Harrison
Rev. D.V. Morey
Rev. E.R. Pearsons
Rev. R.C. Russell
Mr. B.D. Bayston
Mr. F.M. Bradshaw

South Australia

Mr. R.W. Arstall
Mr. A.G. Matheson

Tasmania

Rev. T.S. Fishwick
Rev. M.J.R. Ramage

Assembly Representatives

Rev. N.T. Barker (Q)
Rev. G.C. Lake (Q)
Mr. C.H. Fraser (V)
Mr. W.R. Hobbs (V)
Mr. F. Newall (V)
Mr. I. Nixon (V)

Rt. Rev. J. Mullan (NSW) (Chairman)
Rev. P. Logan (NSW)
Rev. P. Boase (NSW)
Rev. A.G. Ingram (NSW)
Rev. J.J.T. Campbell (Q)
Mr. H.O. Ives (Tas)

COMMITTEES

CODE COMMITTEE

Rev. E.R. Pearsons (Convener)
Rev. A.W. Laurie
Mr. B.D. Bayston
Mr. R.P.W. Jell

Rev., T.S. Fishwick
Rt. Rev. J. Mullan
Mr. F.M. Bradshaw
Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane

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Rev. T.S. Fishwick
Rev. K.T. Martin
Rev. D.V. Morey
Mr. R. Seivers

Rev. R.C. Clark
Rev. M.S. Grieve
Dr. J.G. Miller
Mr. G. Hustwit

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Mr. J.G. Menzies
Mr. A.G. Spalding

Rev. N. Monsen
Mrs. J.C. Mackillop
Mr. G. Newby
Mr. J.E. Sticpewich

Corresponding Members only

Mr. H.O. Ives
Mr. A.G. Matheson

Mr. R.J. Kent

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Very Rev. K.J. Gardner	Rev. W.A. Loftus
Rev. D.F. Murray	Rev. M.J.K. Ramage
Rev. J. Reid	Rev. C.R. Thomas
Mr. C.R. Brierley	Mr. R. Smart

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Rev. R.P.F. Benn	Rev. T.S. Fishwick
Rev. M.M.Y. Kim	Rev. R.T. Missendon
Rev. E.J. Norton	Deaconess N. Smith
Mrs K.J. Gardner	Mr. D.J. Burnett
Mr. V.M. Houseman	

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Rev. W.F. Gilmour	Rev. P.L. Gordon
Rev. E.J. Hale	Rev. J. Reid
Rev. R.C. Russell	Rev. A.C. Stubs

Corresponding Member only

Rev. J.K. Ramage

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Rev. G. Fairservice	Rev. R.S. Miller
Rev. N. Paxton	Rev. E.R. Pearsons
Rev. M.J.K. Ramage	Mrs J.E. Stipewich
Mr. C.H. Fraser	Mr. R.P.W. Jell
Mr. R.J. Kent	Mr. A.G. Matheson

RECEPTION OF MINISTERS COMMITTEE

Rev. N. Monsen (Convener)	Rev. R.A. Caldwell
Rev. H.G. Durbin	Rev. G.R. Fullerton
Very Rev. K.J. Gardner	Rev. R.S. Miller
Rev. E.R. Pearsons	Mr. D.R. Brierley
Mr. J.C. Mackillop	

PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION

Rev. N. Monsen (Convener)	Rev. B.F. Bray
Rev. R.C. Clark	Rev. D.B. Fraser
Rev. J.C. Harris	Rev. J.J. Knapp
Rev. G.C. Lake	Rev. R. Williams
Mr. D. Macdonald	Mr. G. Newby
Mr. A. Spalding	

RELATIONS WITH OTHER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

Very Rev. K.J. Gardner (Convener)	Rev. N.T. Barker
Rev. J.J.T. Campbell	Rev. J.M. Wilson
Mr. F.M. Bradshaw	Mr. R.P.W. Jell
Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane	Mr. G. Rutherford

Corresponding Members only

Rev. B. Fraser
Rev. M. Ramage

Rev. G.F. McDonald

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane (Convener)
Mr. P.J. Graham
Rev. N. Monsen (Executive)
Mr. W.R. Hobbs
Mr. R.W. Pilkington

Mr. D.R. Brierley
Mr. J.G. Menzies
Mr. A.G. Spalding
Mr. H.O. Ives

The last three named being members of the full committee only.

MODERATOR'S COMMITTEE

Rt. Rev. J. Mullan (Convener)
Rev. D.F. Murray
Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane

Rev. P.E. Boase
Mr. D.R. Brierley

CHURCH & NATION COMMITTEE

Rt. Rev. C. Egan (Convener)
Professor Crawford Miller
Dr. A. Robertson
Mrs M. Grant

Rev. D.E. Hawkins
Rev. E.N. Paton
Dr. K. Swan

Corresponding Members only

Rev. J.J.T. Campbell
Rev. W.A. Loftus

Rev. G. Chipps
Mr. A.G. Matheson

BENEFICIARY FUND

Rev. P.E. Boase (Convener)
Rev. G.C. Lakes
Mr. D. Conway
Mr. R.G. Kretchmer
Mr. J. Stirling

Rev. F. Avent
Rev. F.A. Hoad
Mr. P.J. Graham
Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE

Mr. D.R. Brierley (Convener)
Rev. H.G. Durbin
Mr. R.S. Mackenzie

Rev. R.A. Caldwell
Rev. R.E. Spring
Mr. J.C. Mackillop

COLLEGE COMMITTEE

Rev. Principal R. Swanton (Convener)
Rev. J.F. Boyall
Rev. S.J. Clements
Rev. W.A. Loftus
Rev. E.R. Pearsons
Mr. F.M. Bradshaw

Rev. N.T. Barker
Rev. J.J.T. Campbell
Rev. G.K. Ketniss
Rev. Prof. Crawford Miller
Principal H.J. Whitney

Executive

Victoria members
Rev. J.F. Boyall
Rev. G.K. Ketniss

Rev. N.T. Barker
Rev. S.J. Clements

Corresponding Members only

Rev. M. Grieve

Rev. G. Wilson

AD HOC COMMITTEE RE. DECLARATORY STATEMENT

Rev. Prof. R.S. Miller (Convener)

Rev. J.J.T. Campbell

Rev. B. Christian

Rev. W.A. Loftus

Rev. A. McAuliffe

Mr. B.D. Bayston

Mr. F.M. Bradshaw

Mr. L.J. Moore.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
THE THIRTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FZt t Secte imt

*AX MeZbou ne and tthtn Xke A 4e.mbZv Hatt, 156 Cotttn SX eeZ, on
Tuesday, 11th September, 1979 at 10.00 a.m.*

1. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia convened. Public Worship was conducted by the Right Reverend the Moderator-General, the Rev. Kenneth Joseph Gardner, O.B.E., assisted by his Chaplain the Rev. J.J. Knapp. Thereafter the Assembly was constituted with prayer.
- Roll of Assembly 2. The Clerk laid on the table the Roll of Assembly, intimated changes since the printing of the White Book and moved that it be given interim authority and presented for final confirmation at the third sederunt. The motion was seconded and approved.
- Apologies 3. The Clerk submitted apologies for non-attendance from Rev. D.V. Morey and A.J.W. McAllister, and moved that they be sustained. The motion was seconded and approved.
- Moderator Elected 4. The Clerk intimated that the Board of Nominators had unanimously agreed to nominate to the House the Reverend James Mullan, B.A., Dip.R.E. as Moderator of this Assembly.
5. The Clerk moved that the Assembly accept the nomination and elect the Rev. James Mullan, B.A., Dip.R.E., minister of Beecroft, as Moderator of this Assembly. The motion was seconded by the Deputy Clerk and approved with acclamation.
- Induction of Moderator 6. The Rev. James Mullan was conducted to the Chair, welcomed and inducted with prayer by the retiring Moderator. Thereafter he delivered a suitable address on the subject "The Design of the Church".
- Loyal Address 7. The Clerk moved that the Assembly request the Right Reverend the Moderator to transmit through the Governor General of Australia the following address to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth:-
To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.
May it please your Majesty,
We, your faithful subjects ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, convened in General Assembly at Melbourne, Victoria, on the eleventh day of September 1979, take leave to assure your Majesty of our loyalty to your Person and to the Throne.

Petitioners at the discretion of the House.

Speeches extendible on the motion duly moved, seconded and agreed.

3. Appoint the Business Committee as follows:

The Business Committee of the State in which the General Assembly is appointed to meet, the Clerks of the G.A.A., the Business Convener of the G.A.A. (as the Convener of the Committee). The Executive to act during the Assembly to be the Business Convener (Chairman), the Clerks, members of the Committee who are members of the Assembly.

4. a. Appoint Rev. C.A. Harrison to assist the Clerks.

b. Appoint Mr P Graham as Assembly Officer.

5. Direct Notices of Motion to be in duplicate.

6. Approve the numerical strength and structure of Assembly Committees to continue on the present basis and that the appointment of members be a clause in each Committee's Deliverance for the approval of the Assembly.

7. Approve the Order of Business as follows:

FIRST SEDERUNT - Tuesday as from 2.00 p.m.

Report of immediate past Moderator
Code
Remits
Finance
The Trustees (N.S.W. - Federal)
Notices of Motion

SECOND SEDERUNT - Tuesday as from 7.00 p.m.

Church and Nation
Order of the Day - Sir Billy Snedden - 7.30 p.m.
Church and Nation - Continues
National Journal
Notices of Motion

8. Approve generally the Order of Business as follows:

THIRD SEDERUNT - Wednesday as from 10.00 a.m.

Holy Communion
Christian Education - 11.30 a.m.
Stewardship and Promotion
Public Worship and Aids to Devotion
Notice of Motion

FOURTH SEDERUNT - Wednesday as from 7.00 p.m.

Deputations - P.W.A. and others
Overseas Missions
Defence Forces
Notices of Motion

FIFTH SEDERUNT - Thursday as from 10.00 a.m.

Reception of Ministers (in private)
Overtures and Petitions
College Committee
Ballot - Order of the Day - 12 noon
(if necessary)
Beneficiary
Relation with other Churches
Notices of Motion

SIXTH SEDERUNT - Thursday as from 7.00 p.m.

Australian Inland Mission
Immigration
Maintenance of the Ministry
Remanets
Commission of Assembly appointment
CLOSE

9. Appoint the Committee to Scrutinize the Minutes as follows:
Rev. P.G. Logan (Convener), F.B. Watkins and D.V. Morey.
10. Appoint the Selection Committee as follows:
N.S.W. - Rev. R.A. Caldwell
Q.L.D. - Rev. R.C. Clark
S.A. - Mr. A. Matheson
VIC. - Rev. W.A. Loftus
TAS. - Rev. T.S. Fishwick
CONV. - Rev. W.A. Loftus
11. Appoint the Ballot Committee as follows:
Rev. D.V. Morey, Mrs. M. Bull, Rev. H.L. Dunn (Convener).
11. Notices of Motion 1-14 and Assembly Papers 1-7 were laid on the table.
12. The Moderator called for the report of the Code Committee which was laid on the table by the Business Convener and received.
The Deliverance was taken clause by clause.
The Clerk moved clause 1.
The motion was seconded.
Rev. Stuart Clements moved the motion of which he had given notice, that the Assembly, omit all words after 'Assembly' in order to insert other words namely -
"Declares that the Westminster Confession does not preclude the ordination of women to the ministry."
The motion was seconded.
13. The debate was adjourned (Min. 14).
Notices of Motion 15 - 19 were read and tabled.
14. The debate anent the Report and Deliverance of the Code Committee was resumed (Min. 13).
The Notice of Motion was disapproved on a show of hands.

Notices of Motion
Assembly Papers

Code

Debate
Adjourned

Debate
Resumed

15. A Division with names recorded was called for in accordance with Standing Orders.

The Division was taken.

The Moderator intimated the result of the Division as follows:

For - 53

Against - 103

and declared that clause 1 be disapproved.

FOR.

Ministers - Rev. J.J.T Campbell, Rev. B. Christian, Rev. R. Clark, Rev. D. Durham, Rev. T.S. Fishwick, Rev. K.J. Gibson, Rev. F. Graham, Rev. C.A. Harrison, Rev. F.A. Hoad, Rev. H. Gallagher, Rev. J.J. Knapp, Rev. C.C. Lake, Rev. R.J. Lee, Rev. W.A. Loftus, Rev. G.F. Lyman, Rev. W.A. Miller, Rev. A. McAuliffe, Rev. E.R. Pearsons, Rev. J.H. Price, Rev. R.C. Russell, Rev. L. Timms, Rev. R. Traill, Rev. Prof. R. Swanton, Rev. J. Williamson, Rev. G. Wilson.
Elders - Mr. B.D. Bayston, Mr. F.M. Bradshaw, Mrs M. Bull, Mr. A. Cameron, Mr. D.A. Conway, Mr. S. Craig, Mr. R.H. Crowther, Mr. R.C. Frame, Mr. C.H. Fraser, Mr. R.J. Gardham, Mr. W.N. Gilmour, Mr. G.W.H. Gosling, Mrs V. Hardie, Mr. B. Henderson, Mr. N. Hewes, Mr. G. Hustwit, Mr. D.F. Jeeves, Mr. B. Layt, Mr. S.L. Marshall, Dr. A. Mayes, Mr. W. Mickelson, Mr. A.C. Neil, Mr. G.R. Nelson, Mr. F. Newall, Mr. A. Scott, Mr. H.J. Scarfe, Mr. D. Skerman, Mr. D. Wallace.

AGAINST.

Ministers - Rev. C. Abel, Rev. K.D. Allen, Rev. J. Baillie, Rev. N.T. Barker, Rev. P. Boase, Rev. H. Boer, Rev. B.K. Burton, Rev. C. Cameron, Rev. S.J. Clements, Rev. P.F. Cooper, Rev. I. Cox, Rev. A. Dougan, Rt. Rev. H.L. Dunn, Rt. Rev. Campbell Egan, Rev. A.R. Ewin, Rev. D.L. Ferrington, Rev. C.C. Flavel, Rev. G. Fullerton, Very Rev. K.J. Gardner, Rev. D.C. Geddes, Rev. G.R. George, Rt. Rev. P.L. Gordon, Rev. Hanson, Rev. J.C. Harris, Rev. D.E. Hawkins, Rev. E.B. Hosking, Rev. A.G. Ingram, Rev. K.N.R. Innes, Rev. P.G. Logan, Rev. Prof. C. Miller, Rev. J.G. Miller, Rev. N. Monsen, Rev. G.A. Morrow, Rev. D.R. Murray, Rev. G.F. McDonald, Rev. E.L. Noble, Rev. R.A. Osborn, Rev. C.R. Pass, Rev. M. Ramage, Rev. J. Reid, Rev. R.I. Richards, Rev. D.K. Robson, Rev. I.G. Stewart, Rev. W.H. Stott, Rev. E. F. Taylor, Rev. C.R. Thomas, Rev. F.B. Watkins, Rev. G.L. Weber, Rev. F. W.F. White, Rev. H.J. Whitney, Rev. D.R. Winter, Rev. M. Yee.
Elders - Mr. R.W. Arstell, Mr. F.H. Bailey, Mr. P.S. Bigg, Mr. B. Brans, Mr. C.R. Brierley, Mr. D. Brierley, Mr. B. Brooks, Mr. B. Burgess, Mr. K. Buthurst, R. v. R.A. Caldwell, Mr. R.M. Clegg, Mr. K.D. Crawford, Mr. H.D. Curtis, Mr. R.C. Daley, Mr. E.B. Dandie, Mr. A. Duff, Mr. Dunlop, Mr. R.A. Dunstan, Mr. T.S. Fenton, Mr. A.J. Golder, Mr. C.W. Gordon, Mr. G. Goswell, Mr. P.J. Graham, Mr. K. Green, Mr. E.J. Guy, Mr. J. Haldane, Mr. R.J. Horsburgh, Mr. H.O. Ives, Mr. R. Jell, Mr. J. Vanwerven, Mr. P.D. Kahl, Rev. P. Lucock, Mr. L. Moore, Mr. Matheson, Mr. J.T. Mercer, Mr. J.S. McDougall, Mr. H.I. MacFarlane, Mr. J.D. McFarlane, Mr. J.C. Mackillop, Mr. J.G. Menzies, Mr. G.B. Oliver, Mr. A.J. Parish, Mr. J. Pettifer, Mr. G.A. Penfold, Mr. H.W. Ross, Mr. R.G. Stevens, Mr. K.J. Swan, Mr. R.J. Uebergang, C. Vernon, W. Walmsley, Mr. D.M. Wilson.

16. Clause 2 was disapproved.

Clauses 3 and 4 were approved.

Rev. N. Monsen moved the motion of which he had given notice, that the Assembly:

Approve, notwithstanding Rule 201; the following in respect to the nomination of the Moderator for the next Assembly and refer the proposal to the Code Committee to consider in respect to the proposed revision of the Code.

The General Assembly shall appoint a Committee to be called the Moderator Nomination Committee and shall comprise the Moderator, the Clerk and two members from each of N.S.W., Victoria, Queensland and one each from South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania; the Clerk to be Convener, to be appointed (by their respective Assemblies .)

The Convener shall circularise members no later than 31st October preceeding the Assembly asking for nominations to the office of Moderator; such nominations to be in the hands of the Convener no later than 31st December. All nominations must have the written consent of the minister nominated and forwarded to the Convener with the nomination. The Convener then circularises the nominations to members no later than 31st January for members to vote thereupon; such votes to be returned to the Convener no later than 28th February. The nomination receiving the majority of votes shall be declared Moderator Nominate. Should no nomination receive a majority of votes the Convener shall submit the two names having the highest number of votes to members no later than 30th April. Should this procedure fail to provide a single nomination the Convener, the Moderator and Committee members from N.S.W., Victoria and Queensland shall meet to resolve the matter no later than 31st May. The Assembly Finance Committee shall make provision to meet the costs of travel and, where necessary, accommodation of members.

The Convener shall inform the minister concerned of his nomination to the office of Moderator Nominate immediately following a decision being made by the Committee where appropriate to the procedures above."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Code Deliverance

17. The amended Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

1. Repeal the following Articles of Agreement.

(a)	Articles	of Agreement	vii	anent	BOEMAR	
(b)	"	" "	ix	"	Board of Christian	Education-
(c)	"	" "	xvi	"	Australian Capital	Territory

2. Direct the Committee in carrying out the direction of the last General Assembly to bring up to date the published constitution and law of the Church, to have regard, in consultation with the Business Convener and committees concerned, to the committee structure of this Assembly and the regulations in relation thereto, with the object of saving expense and increasing efficiency.

3. Notwithstanding Rule 201, approve the following in respect to the nomination of the Moderator for the next Assembly and refer the proposal to the Code Committee to consider in respect to the proposed revision of the Code.

The General Assembly shall appoint a Committee to be called the Moderator Nomination Committee and shall comprise the Moderator, the Clerk and two members from each of N.S.W., Victoria, Queensland and one each from South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania; the Clerk to be Convener, to be appointed by their respective Assemblies.

The Convener shall circularise members no later than 31st October preceeding the Assembly asking for nominations to the office of Moderator; such nominations to be in the hands of the Convener no later than 31st December. All nominations must have the written consent of the minister nominated and forwarded to the Convener with the nomination. The Convener then circularises the nominations to members no later than 31st January for members to vote thereupon; such votes to be returned to the Convener no later than 28th February. The nomination receiving the majority of votes shall be declared Moderator Nominate. Should no nomination receive a majority of votes the Convener shall submit the two names having the highest number of votes to members no later than 31st March; such votes to be returned no later than 30th April. Should this procedure fail to provide a single nomination the Convener, the Moderator and Committee members from N.S.W., Victoria and Queensland shall meet to resolve the matter no later than 31st May. The Assembly Finance Committee shall make provision to meet the costs of travel and, where necessary, accommodation of members.

The Convener shall inform the minister concerned of his nomination to the office of Moderator Nominate immediately following a decision being made by the Committee where appropriate to the procedures above.

4. Appoint the Committee as follows:

Rt. Rev. J. Mullan, Rev. A.W. Laurie, Rev. E.R. Pearsons, Rev. T.S. Fishwick, Messrs. B.D. Bayston, F.M. Bradshaw, L. Moore, H.I.M. MacFarlane, R.P. W. Jell. Rev. E.R. Pearsons - Convener.

18. The Very Reverend K.J. Gardner, O.B.E., submitted the Report of the Past Moderator.

The Clerk moved that the Assembly:

1. Record gratefully their appreciation of the two years of dedicated service to the Church by the retiring Moderator, the Very Rev. K.J. Gardner, O.B.E.
2. Thank him for his gracious handling of the Assembly, and for his brotherliness to all, in the Assembly, Presbyteries, Parishes and Mission fields where he visited.
3. Express our thanks to Mrs Gardner for her loyal support to her husband during these demanding two years.

The motion was seconded and approved.

19. The Business Convener laid on the table the report of the Finance Committee which was received. Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane moved the deliverance. The deliverance was seconded.

Past
Moderator

Finance

Clause 1 was approved.

Clause 2 was approved.

Clause 3 as amended was approved.

Clause 4 was moved and seconded.

Rev. C.R. Thomas moved his notice of motion that the Assembly amend the clause by deleting:

"(a) (ii) 'An allowance required' and renumbering (iii) as (ii) and (iv) as (iii)."

The motion was, seconded and disapproved.

Rev. C.R. Thomas moved his notice of motion that the Assembly amend clause 4 by deleting in (c) the words:

"at least".

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Clause 4 was approved.

Clause 5 was approved.

Clause 6 was approved.

Clause 7 was moved and seconded.

Debate Adjourned

20. The Debate anent Finance Committee was adjourned (Min. 22).

Trustees

21. The Report of the Trustees was laid on the table and received.

Mr. J.G. Menzies moved the Deliverance. The Deliverance was seconded.

Clauses 1-4 were approved.

Clause 5 was approved.

Debate Adjourned

The Debate was adjourned (Min. 90).

Finance Resumed

22. The Debate anent the report and deliverance of Finance Committee was resumed (Min. 20).

23. The Rev. B.K. Burton moved his notice of motion:

(a) "That consideration of this clause be deferred until after the report of the National Journal Committee has been dealt with."

The motion was seconded and approved.

24. Rt. Rev. C. Egan moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Authorize the Finance Committee to advance an additional \$1,000 over the triennium 1980 - 1982 to the Church and Nation Committee for the purpose of publishing a further study booklet for use in congregations, along the lines of CHRISTIANITY...ONE WAY OR ONE OF MANY? and THE CHRISTIAN AS CITIZEN, on the understanding that the Committee will keep costs to a minimum and endeavour to recover the costs through the sale of such publications."

The motion was seconded.

The competency of the motion was challenged.

The Moderator ruled the motion to be incompetent.

Moderator's
Ruling Challenged

25. Rt. Rev. C. Egan moved disagreement with the Moderator's ruling.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

26. Clause 8 was approved.
Clause 9 was moved and seconded.

The Mr. A.G. Matheson moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Request the Finance Committee to make funds available so that the Moderator General or his nominee be able to attend the next two meetings of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, so that the Assembly might become more aware of both the existence and the progress of the Presbyterian Church throughout Australia."

The motion was seconded and disapproved.
Clause 9 was approved.

Debate Adjourned

27. The Debate was adjourned (Min. 46).

Notices of Motion

Notices of Motion 20 - 24, Assembly Paper 8 were laid on the table.

Adjournment

28. The House adjourned to meet at 7.00 p.m. which having been duly intimated by the Moderator the sederunt was closed with the Benediction.

E.R. PEARSONS
R.P.W. JELL

Clerks.

Second Sederunt

At MMou -ne, and w+ihthn tho, hMemby Hatt, 156 CoVttn St Q t, on Tuesday, 11th Se,ptejnbe > 1979 at 7.00 p.m.

The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer.

29. The report of the Church and Nation Committee was laid on the table and received.

Clauses 1-9 were moved and seconded.

The Debate was adjourned (Min. 31).

Order of the Day

30. The Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden, K.C.M.G., Q.C., M.P. Speaker of the House of Representatives was welcomed by the Moderator and addressed the House.

Rt. Rev. C. Egan moved that the Assembly:

"Express sincere thanks to the Right Honourable Sir Billy Snedden, K.C.M.G., Q.C., M.P., for his address to the Assembly and assure him of the Assembly's prayers for all who participate in the government of the Nation.**"

The motion was seconded and approved with acclamation.

Church and Nation Resumed

31. The Debate anent the Report and Deliverance of the Church and Nation Committee was resumed (Min. 29).

Arising out of the Debate the Rev. M. Ramage moved that the Assembly:

"Insert the words 'to continue' after the word church in line one of clause eight."

The motion was seconded and approved and the clause amended.
Clauses 1 - 9 as amended were approved.

Mr. J.C. Mackillop moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Refer the paper in the Report titled 'The Eldership Today' to Presbyteries with the request that they, in consultation with Elders' Associations (or their equivalent) in each State, organize regional conferences on the theme of the Eldership today."

The motion was seconded and approved.
Clauses 11 - 13 were approved.

Debate Adjourned

32. The Debate was adjourned (Min. 96).

National Journal

33. The report of the National Journal Committee was laid on the table and received.
Clauses 1 and 2 were moved, seconded and approved.
Clause 3 was moved and seconded. The competency of the motion was questioned.
The Moderator ruled the motion to be competent.

Debate Adjourned

34. The Debate was adjourned (Min. 44).

Adjournment

35. The House adjourned to meet on Wednesday, 12th September, 1979, at 10.00 a.m. in the Scots Church for the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper which having been duly intimated the Sederunt was closed with the Benediction.

E.R. PEARSONS
R.P.W. JELL

Clerks

Tluit Se,de ant

Met, bou ne, and tthtn the, S>o,ott> Chul c,h (o the, Sac ,ame,nt o the, Lo d Suppe on Wednesday, 12th Se,ptewbe , 1979 at 10.00 a.m.

Constitution

36. Thereafter the Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer in the Assembly Hall at 11.30 a.m.

Roll of
Assembly

37. The Clerk moved that the amended roll be declared the roll of this General Assembly.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Christian
Education

38. The Report of the Christian Education Committee was laid on the table and received.

Rev. C.R. Thomas moved the Deliverance as amended.

Clause 1 was seconded and approved.

Clauses 2 and 3 were seconded and approved.

Clauses 4 to 6 were seconded and approved.

Christian
Education
Deliverance

39. The amended Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Note with satisfaction the Christian Education Committee's publications and commend the same for use throughout the Church.
2. Repeal the Regulations Division E, 194, anent Board of Christian Education.

3. Send down to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for Consideration and Report the following proposed Regulations Division, E, 194, anent Board of Christian Education as follows:
- (a) The Board shall consist of sixteen member, Ministers and Elders, ten of whom shall be appointed on the nomination of the State Assemblies, four by New South Wales, two by Victoria, two by Queensland, one by Tasmania, one by South Australia, together with the Convener of the Christian Education Committee or its equivalent of each State Assembly or his deputy and the Convener of the Christian Education Committee of the Presbytery of Western Australia or his deputy. Should a State Assembly fail to nominate, the General Assembly shall appoint in its stead.
 - (b) The members from New South Wales shall constitute the executive.
 - (c) The Convener shall be appointed by the General Assembly from among the members of the executive and, in the absence an executive officer, shall be responsible for giving effect to the decisions of the Board.
 - (d) The Christian Education Committee or its equivalent of each State Assembly shall stimulate interest in and supervise Christian Education activity within the state and shall forward copies of the minutes of their meetings to the Board, together with information of new developments and items of interest in the work of Christian Education.
 - (e) The Board shall take into consideration the views of the State Committees and shall co-operate with them in every possible way in seeking to further the work of Christian Education throughout the Commonwealth.
 - (f) The Board shall particularly be responsible for issuing materials and publications, but without prejudice to State Assemblies, Presbyteries and Sessions issuing publications within their jurisdictions .
 - (g) The Finance Committee of the General Assembly is authorized to make funds available to the Board for administrative purposes.
 - (h) The Board shall report to each General Assembly.
4. Appoint the ad hoc Committee on Christian Education as follows:
- | | |
|--------|---|
| N.S.W. | Rev. C.R. Thomas (Convener)
Rev. K.T. Martin
Rev. Dr. J.G. Miller
Mr. G. Hustwit |
| VIC. | Rev. D. Morey
Mr. R. Seivers |
| Q.L.D. | Rev. R. Clark |
| TAS. | Rev. T. Fishwick |
| S.A. | Rev. M. Grieve |

Together with the Convener of the Christian Education Committee, or its equivalent, of each State Assembly or his deputy and the Convener of the Christian Education Committee of the Presbytery of Western Australia or his deputy.

5. Authorize State Christian Education Committees to appoint substitute members if necessary.
6. Authorize the executive to appoint a substitute convener if necessary.

Stewardship and
Promotion

40. The report of Stewardship and Promotion Committee was laid on the table and received.

Rev. D.F. Murray moved the Deliverance.

Clause 1 was seconded and approved.

Rev. D.F. Murray moved his notice of motion.

Clause 2 was seconded and approved.

Clause 3 was seconded and approved.

Clause 4 was seconded and approved.

Clauses 5 and 6 were seconded.

41. The competency of the motion was questioned.

The Moderator ruled the motion to be competent.

The Moderator's ruling was challenged.

The Moderator's ruling was upheld.

Clauses 5 and 6 were approved.

Moderator's
Ruling Upheld

Stewardship and
Promotion
Deliverance

42. The amended Deliverance was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Appoint the Stewardship and Promotion Committee as follows:
Rev. D.F. Murray, Mr. J.C. Mackillop, Rev. N. Monsen, Mr. J.E. Sticpewich, Mr. J.G. Menzies, Mr. A.G. Spalding (N.S.W.), Mr. G. Newby (Vic.), Rev. G.L. Stewart (Qld.), and corresponding members Mr. R.J. Kent (W.A.), Mr. H.O. Ives (Tas), and Mr. A.G. Matheson (S.A.), with Rev. D.F. Murray as Convener.
2. Acknowledge and strongly affirm the Church's dependance upon the Holy Spirit to lead, guide, direct, and inspire the Church in these present times.
3. Pledge itself to the task of doubling the communicant membership of the Church within the next five (5) years.
4. Request State Assemblies and Presbyteries to urge and encourage all congregations within their respective bounds to extend the spiritual and social outreach of the Church by accepting and fulfilling the tasks of Evangelism and Mission both within and outside the local congregation.
5. Request all Presbyteries to institute and promote new congregations within their respective bounds to ensure that the witness of the Church should be properly maintained and extended.
6. Request the Moderator to send a pastoral letter to each State Assem-

bly (including all appropriate committees), Presbyteries and Sessions and to all congregations and organizations of the Church, calling the whole Church to deeper commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ and to prayer.

Public Worship and
Aids to Devotion

43. The report of the Public Worship and Aids to Devotion Committee was laid on the table and received.
The Rev. A.A. Dougan moved the Deliverance as a whole which was seconded and approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Defer a decision about a suitable hymn book until next Assembly and request the committee to examine further the suitability of the Church Hymnary (Third Edition) with included Psalter and The Australian Hymn Book either with included Psalter or with a separate Psalter.
2. Confirm the appointment of the Rev. Alan Dougan to membership of the Australian Hymn Book Editorial Committee as a representative of the Presbyterian Church.
3. Request the Committee to begin a revision of the Book of Common Order of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, first published in 1920 and revised in 1929, and to make available in draft form, services produced from time to time.
4. Appoint the Committee as follows:
The Rev. Alan Dougan, Convener, J. Bruce, Very Rev. K.J. Gardner, O.B.E., W.A. Loftus, O.B.E., D.F. Murray, M.J. Ramage, J. Reid, C.R. Thomas and Messrs R. Smart and C.R. Brierley, elders. The New South Wales members to be the executive.

National
Journal
Resumed

44. The debate anent the report and deliverance of the National Journal Committee was resumed (Clause 3) (min. 34).
Clause 3 was disapproved.
Mr. A.G. Matheson moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"authorize the National Journal Committee to consult with the Finance Committee on ways and means of arranging minimum finance to permit the A.P.L. to be published pending further consideration of the financial position of the National Journal Committee by the next General Assembly."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Debate Adjourned

45. The Debate was adjourned (Min. 63).

Finance

46. The Debate anent the report and Deliverance of the Finance Committee was resumed (Clause 7a) (Min. 27).

Resumed

Rev. C.R. Thomas moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Amend the clause by deleting all figures shown and substituting the following:

<u>Committee</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Beneficiary Fund	200	220	240
Business	100	110	120
Christian Education	1,750	1,925	2,110
Church and Nation	500	550	600
Code	500	550	600
College	1,650	2,400	2,600
Defence Forces	500	550	600
Finance	500	550	600
Immigration	50	55	60
Public Worship and Aids to Devotion	100	110	120
Reception of Ministers	200	220	240
Relations with Other Presbyterian Churches	100	110	120
	<u>\$6,150</u>	<u>\$7,350</u>	<u>\$8,010</u>

Code - subsidy for re-print of Code	2,000
Reception of Ministers - Re-printing of Regulations	50
Year Book Subsidy	500
Subscription to World Alliance of Reformed Churches	<u>3,000</u>
	<u>\$5,550</u>

The motion was seconded.
The competency of the motion was questioned.
The Moderator ruled the motion to be competent.

Moderator's
Ruling Challenged

47. Mr. D.R. Brierley moved disagreement with the Moderator's ruling.

Ruling Upheld

The motion was seconded and disapproved on a show of hands and the Moderator's ruling upheld.

The notice of motion was disapproved.

Rev. Principal R. Swanton moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Vary the allocation to the College Committee from 1980 of \$1,500,
1981 of \$1,500, 1982 of \$1,500 to 1980 of \$1,650, 1981 of \$2,400,
1982 of \$2,600."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Finance Debate
Adjourned

48. The Debate was adjourned (Min. 94).

Notices of
Motion

49. The Business Convener laid on the table Notices of Motion 25 - 42.

Minutes

50. The Clerk laid on the table the minutes of the first and second seditments intimated their corrections and moved that they be confirmed. The motion was seconded and approved.

51. The House adjourned to meet at 7.00 p.m., which having been duly intimated the seditment was closed with the Benediction.

E.R. PEARSONS

R.P.W. JELL

Clerks

VouJth Sdde ant

*t Mdtbow/md and ithtn thd fa>Admbty Hatt, 156 Cottnt> S&iddt, on
^ddneAday, 12th Sdptdmbe , 1979 at 7.00 p.m,*

52. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer.

Communication

53. Communications 2 and 4 from the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia were laid on the table and received.

Delegation
P.W.A.

54. The President Mrs Rae Fraser, Immediate Past President, Mrs R.J. Gardam, Acting Secretary Mrs Betty McAuliffe and the Treasurer Mrs Pearl Allan of the Federal Executive of the Presbyterian Women's Association were presented to the Moderator who welcomed them and expressed the appreciation of the whole Church for the work and witness of the Association. Mrs Fraser addressed the House.

55. The Clerk moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Approve the change in the Constitution of the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia in clause 5 as follows -

In line 5 delete the words 'in the proportion' in order to insert the words 'as follows' and in line 6 delete the words 'Victoria 5'."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Overseas
Mission

56. The report of the Overseas Missions Committee was laid on the table and received.

57. The Very Reverend K.J. Gardner introduced to the Moderator, the Reverend Murdo McLeod and John Graham, ministers of the Free Church of Scotland.

Welcome Rev.
John Graham
and Murdo McLeod

The Moderator welcomed them to the House and invited them to speak.

Messrs. McLeod and Graham addressed the House.

58. The Reverend Dr. Graham Miller introduced to the Moderator the Reverend Dr. Titus Path, his wife and daughter from the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides.

Welcome Rev. Dr.
Titus Path

The Moderator welcomed them to the House and invited Dr. Path to speak.

Dr. Path addressed the House.

59. The Very Reverend K.J. Gardner moved clauses 1 to 6.
The motion was seconded and approved.

Rev. K.D. Allen moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Request the Moderator to convey to the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides our deep and prayerful sympathy with them in the death of Pastor Sale Rua, a senior pastor and a past Moderator of that Church."

The motion was seconded and approved.

The Very Rev. K.J. Gardner moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Appoint the Committee as follows:

The Very Rev. K.J. Gardner (Convener), Rev. R.T. Missenden, M.M.Y. Kim, R.P.F. Benn, E.J. Norton, K. Allen, T.S. Fishwick, Deaconess N. Smith, Mrs K.J. Gardner and Messrs. V.M. Houseman, D.J. Burnett."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Overseas
Missions
Deliverance

60. The amended Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Convey to the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides our whole-hearted desire that their recognition of our Australian Church as a partner-church be continued.
2. Request the Moderator to convey the thanks of this Assembly to the Missionaries of the Church of the vital work they are doing on behalf of the whole church and to assure them of our prayers for the success of this work of which we are all a part.
3. Note with appreciation the valuable support given to this committee by State Committees, other interested people and some generous bequests.
4. Note with pleasure the enthusiastic reception of our Dual-membership policy by our member-missionaries serving with independent missionary agencies.
5. Request the Committee to pursue its negotiations whereby it seeks to establish fraternal links between our Church and other overseas churches of like convictions.
6. Note with praise and gratitude the publication of the book entitled "LIVE" - "A History of Church Planting in the New Hebrides to 1880", by Rev. Dr. Graham Miller.
7. Request the Moderator to convey to the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides our deep and prayerful sympathy with them in the death of Pastor Sale Rua, a senior pastor and a past Moderator of that Church.

8. Appoint the Committee as follows:

The Very Rev. K.J. Gardner (Convener), Rev. R.T. Missenden, M.M.Y. Kim, R.P.F. Benn, E.J. Norton, K. Allen, T.S. Fishwick, Deaconess N. Smith, Mrs K.J. Gardner and Messrs. V.M. Houseman, D.J. Burnett.

Defence Forces
Chaplaincy

61. The Report of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee was laid on the table and received.
The Rev. R.C. Russell O.B.E. introduced to the Moderator Chaplain-General the Reverend K.J. Gibson and Principal Air Chaplain the Rev. J. Reid. The Moderator welcomed them, congratulated them on their appointments and invited them to speak.
Chaplain-General Gibson and Principal Air Chaplain Reid addressed the House.

Defence Forces
Chaplaincy
Deliverance

62. The Rev. R.C. Russell, O.B.E., moved the Deliverance as a whole. The motion was seconded
The Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Ratify the approval in principle given by the Committee of a Religious Advisory Committee to the Department of Defence.
2. Congratulate the Rev. K.J. Gibson upon his appointment as the Chaplain General (Presbyterian) and the Rev. J. Reid as the Principal Air Chaplain (Presbyterian).
3. Convey to Senior Chaplain A. Stubs the thanks of the Church for his loyal and conscientious services.
4. Convey to the Rev. R.C. Russell, the gratitude of the Church for his record service of over twenty-two years as Convener of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee and for his outstanding leadership .
5. Note with satisfaction the names of all ministers serving as Chaplains and assure them of the Church's prayerful support and encouragement .
6. Appoint the Rev. R.C. Russell, C. Egan, P.L. Gordon, J. Reid, A. Stubs, W. Gilmour, E. Hale, and K. Gibson (Convener). The Rev. J.K. Ramage as Corresponding member, to the above Committee.
7. Express its thanks to the Rev. A.J. McAllister for his devoted work as Convener of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee for the past 15 months.

National Journal
Debate Resumed

63. The Debate anent the report and Deliverance of the National Journal Committee was resumed (Min. 45).
Clause 4 was moved, seconded and approved.
Clause 5 was moved and seconded.
Rev. J.J.T. Campbell moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Amend clause 5 by the addition, after the word 'Committee' (where first appearing) of the words:

'with additional statistical information about charges, addresses of home missionaries and deaconesses, a listing of candidates for the ministry and information concerning other Presbyterian Churches.'

The motion was seconded and approved.
The amended clause 5 was approved.

Mr. D. Conway moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Direct the Committee to review the editorial policy, format and content of 'Australian Presbyterian Life' in the light of criticisms made."

The motion was seconded.
Arising out of the Debate the Rev. M. Ramage moved, the the Assembly:

"Delete the words 'in light of criticisms made'" in the Notice of Motion.

The motion was seconded and approved and the clause amended.
Clause 6 was moved seconded and approved.

National Journal
Deliverance

64. The Deliverance as a whole as amended was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Commend 'Australian Presbyterian Life' to the full support of all ministers, elders, congregations and members of the Church.
2. Urge all Presbyteries, Sessions and Boards of Management to take active steps to promote the National Journal within their respective areas, and to help it to find a place in every Presbyterian home.
3. Authorize the National Journal Committee to consult with the Finance Committee on ways and means of arranging minimum finance to permit the A.P.L. to be published pending further consideration of the financial position of the National Journal Committee by the next General Assembly.
4. Commend the 1979 Year Book to the support of the whole Church.
5. Authorize the continued production of an Annual Year Book by the National Journal Committee with additional statistical information about charges, addresses of home missionaries and deaconesses, a listing of candidates for the ministry and information concerning other Presbyterian Church and authorize the G.A.A. Finance Committee to meet any deficit incurred in such production.
6. Direct the Committee to review the editorial policy, format and content of 'Australian Presbyterian Life*.
7. Appoint the Committee:

Rev. B.K. Burton, K.W. Burton, G. Fairservice, Prof. R.S. Miller, N. Paxton, E.R. Pearsons, M.J.K. Ramage, Mrs J.C. Sticpewich, Messrs. C.H. Fraser, R.P.W. Jell, R.J. Kent, and Mr. A.G. Matheson. Convener - Rev. K.W. Burton.

- Notice of Motion 65. Notices of Motion 43 - 48 were read and laid on the table.
- Adjournment 66. The House adjourned to meet at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 13th September, 1979, which having been duly intimated the sederunt was closed with the Benediction.

E.R. PEARSONS
R.P.W. JELL

Clerks

Fifth Sederunt

*AZ MeZbou/tne and dthtn tho. >Ae,mby HcM, 156 Co LLm SZ' eeZ, o yi
Thu/iAday, 13th. Se,ptunbe , 7979 at 10,00 a,m,*

- Constitution 67. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer.
- Business 68. The Business Convener submitted the Report of the Business Committee which was received.
- Assembly Paper 69. The Clerk laid Assembly Paper No. 9 on the table.
- Reception of Ministers 70. The Report and addendum of the Committee on Reception of Ministers was laid on the table and received.
Clause 1 was moved, seconded and approved.
Clause 2 was moved and seconded.
Rev. A. Dougan moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:
"delete the word 'or' in the section 195(b) in order to insert the words 'but excluding'."
The motion was seconded and disapproved.
Rev. Professor Crawford Miller moved arising out of the debate, that the Assembly:
"Refer clause 2 back to the committee for additional consideration".
The motion was seconded and approved.
Leave was given to fall from clause 3.
- In Private 71. The House sat in private.
- Reception of Ministers Deliverance 72. The Reverend Norman Monsen moved the Deliverance.
The motion was seconded and the deliverance amended and approved as follows:
That the Assembly:
1. Instruct Presbytery Clerks to observe the Regulations when dealing with Calls to ministers of other churches and confer there-aneant with the Committee.
2. (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Rev. Peter A. Davidson.
(b) Receive Rev. Peter A. Davidson as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia under jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
- Rev. P.A. Davidson

- Rev. R.T. Missenden 3, den
- (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Reverend Robert T. Missenden.
- (b) Receive the Rev. Robert T. Missenden as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia subject to his completion of work in Presbyterian Theology and Polity to the satisfaction of the Queensland Faculty and the College Committee.
- Rev. J.C.A. Paterson 4.
- (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Reverend John C.A. Paterson.
- (b) Receive Rev. John C.A. Paterson as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia subject to attendance at a Theological Hall for 1 year with studies in Presbyterian polity, doctrine and history and 2 exit theses to the satisfaction of the Faculty and the College Committee.
- Rev. P.W. Swinn 5.
- (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Reverend Peter W. Swinn.
- (b) Receive Rev. Peter W. Swinn as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia subject to attendance at a Theological Hall for 1 year with studies in Presbyterian doctrine, polity and history and 2 exit theses to the satisfaction of the Faculty and the College Committee.
- Rev. G.A. Adams 6.
- (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Reverend Graham A. Adams.
- (b) Receive Rev. Graham A. Adams as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Orange.
- Mr. J.D. Ottway 7.
- (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of Mr. John D. Ottway.
- (b) Acknowledge Mr. John D. Ottway as a candidate for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia subject to attendance at a Theological Hall, being graded 6th year and requiring to do the study therein to the satisfaction of the Faculty and the College Committee and subject thereupon to receive an Exit Certificate to qualify Mr. Ottway for the status of Licentiate of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
- Rev. A.R. Harvey 8.
- (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Reverend Albert R. Harvey.
- (b) Receive Rev. Albert R. Harvey as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia subject to him being required to undertake by external studies a course on Presbyterian Polity and the Sacraments to be completed to the satisfaction of the Faculty and the College Committee.
- Rev. H.G. Weir 9.
- (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Reverend Harold G. Weir.
- (b) Receive Rev. Harold G. Weir as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia subject to attendance at a Theological Hall for 1 year with studies in Presbyterian doctrine, polity and history and 2 exit theses to the satisfaction of the Faculty and the College Committee.

Rev. Kwan Pyo Hong 10. (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition of the Rev. Kwan Pyo Hong.
(b) Receive Rev. Kwan Pyo Hong as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia under the jurisdiction of the Sydney West Presbytery, N.S.W.

Rev. G.D. Bouma 11. (a) Grant the Prayer of the Petition the Rev. Gary D. Bouma.
(b) Receive Rev. Gary Donald Bouma as a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Melbourne East (Victoria).

Rev. D.W.Edmonds 12. Dismiss the Petition of Rev. D.W. Edmonds.
13. Instruct the Clerk to hold in retentis the confidential papers.
14. Appoint the Committee as follows:
Rev. N. Monsen, H.G. Durbin, R.A. Caldwell, G.R. Fullerton, Messrs D.R. Brierley, J.C. Mackillop (NSW), Rev. R.S. Miller, E.R. Pearsons (Vic), Very Rev. K.J. Gardner (Qld).
Convener - Rev. N. Monsen.

Petition 1. 73. Petition 1. of Peter William Playsted anent trials for license was laid on the table and received.
The Petitioner was called to the bar of the House.
Mr. Playsted stated the Petition.
Questions were called for -
The Petitioner was removed from the bar.

74. The Rev. Principal R. Swanton moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Grant the Prayer of the Petition."

The motion was seconded and approved.

75. The Rev. Principal R. Swanton moved, that the Assembly:

"Require Mr. Playsted to complete the fifth and sixth years at a Theological Hall."

The motion was seconded.

Mr. H.O. Ives moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Request the Presbytery of Tasmania to take Mr. Playsted on trials for license subject to his completion of a course on Presbyterian Polity and the Sacraments to be undertaken by external studies as set and directed by the College Committee."

The motion was seconded.

76. Rev. M. Ramage moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Request the Presbytery of Tasmania to take Mr. Playsted on trials for license subject to the petitioner being required to submit to a

course of study in Presbyterian Polity and present two theses for examination by the Faculty of a Theological Hall of this Church.

This amendment was seconded and approved.
The amendment as amended was seconded.

Division

77. A Division was called for in accordance with Standing Orders. The Division was taken.
The Moderator intimated the result of the Division as follows:

FOR - 71
AGAINST - 78

and declared the amended amendment disapproved.

78. Arising out of the debate Mr. J.D. MacFarlane moved, that the Assembly add the words:

"Provided that the course of study be taken by external studies directed by the College Committee."

The motion was seconded and approved, and the words added.

79. The motion as amended was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

"Require Mr. Playsted to complete the fifth and sixth years at a Theological Hall provided the course of study be taken by external studies directed by the College Committee."

The Petitioner was called to the Bar and advised of the decision of the House thereanent.

The Petitioner was removed from the bar.

Petition 2.

80. Petition 2. of the Presbytery of Orange anent Deaconess Valerie Sylva being taken on trials for license was laid on the table and received.

The Petitioners were called to the bar.

The Rev. G.A. Morrow stated the petition on behalf of the Presbytery.

Questions were called for -

The Rev. G.A. Morrow moved his notice of motion which was taken clause by clause.

Clause 1 was seconded and approved -

That the Assembly:

"Grant the prayer of the Petition."

Clause 2 was seconded.

Rev. Principal R. Swanton moved his notice of motion as an amendment.

That the Assembly:

"add the words - 'subject to Deaconess Sylva completing two ninths of a degree or equivalent, plus a second thesis as part of the Theological Course.'"

The amendment was seconded and approved.
Clause 2 was approved as amended as follows:

"Direct the College Committee to issue an exit certificate to Deaconess V. Sylva, subject to her completing two ninths of a degree or equivalent, plus a second exit thesis as part of the Theological Course."

The Petitioners were advised of the decision of the House and removed from the bar.

- Public 81. The House resumed in Public.
- Privilege 82. The Rev. W. Stott raised a question of privilege. The Moderator ruled that the privileges of members of the House had not been infringed. Rev. W. Stott moved disagreement with the Moderator's ruling. The motion was seconded and disapproved.
- Notices of Motion 83. Notice of Motion 49 - 51 were read and laid on the table.
- Adjournment 84. The House adjourned to meet at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday, 13th September, 1979, which having been duly intimated the sederunt was closed with the Benediction.

E.R. PEARSONS
R.P.W. JELL
Clerks

Stxth. Sede unt

kt Metboa/ine. and tthtn the. kAAe,mbty HcM, 156 CotttnA Stie.et, on Thu Aday, 13th Se.pte.mbeA, 1979 at 7.00 p.m.

85. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer.

Minutes 86. The Clerk laid on the table the minutes of the third and fourth sederunts and moved that they be confirmed. The motion was seconded and approved.

Business 87. The report of the Business Committee was laid on the table and approved.

Australian Inland Mission 88. The report and supplementary report of the Australian Inland Mission Committee was laid on the table and received. Rev. N. Monsen moved the Deliverance which was amended, seconded and approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Endorse the action taken by the Committee to safeguard the interests of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in respect to the determinations of the General Assembly of Australia Property Commission and the Uniting Church in Australia litigation in so far as these matters effected the Australian Inland Mission.

2. Express thanks to those who worked unstintingly in the interests of the A.I.M. since church union; especially the following:

Negotiators, Messrs. D.R. Brierley, L. Moore, Dr. P. Lush;
Law Officers, Messrs. F.M. Bradshaw, A. Duff, L. Moore;
Commissioners on the Property Commission representing the Presbyterian Church of Australia, Messrs H. MacFarlane, F.M. Bradshaw, D.R. Brierley; Mr. J.G. Menzies, Chairman of N.S.W. Trustees .
3. Endorse the policy of establishing patrol ministries as a priority and note with satisfaction the establishment of the Port Augusta/Whyalla Patrol Ministry in South Australia.
4. Commend the work of the Committee to the earnest prayers of the members of the Church and request their financial support by personal and group donations and also in the form of legacies, bequests, etc.
5. Approve the proposal to alter the name of the Australian Inland Mission of the Presbyterian Church to the Presbyterian Inland Mission as enunciated in the Heads of Agreement document with agreement to the clauses therein - subject to a copy of the Statement and Heads of Agreement document being signed by the authorities of the Uniting Church in Australia and received therefrom by the Committee.
6. Authorize the Committee in consultation with the Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust and the Uniting Church in Australia authorities to arrange for the establishment of the committee to determine the proper beneficiaries of legacies, bequests etc. referred to in Section 3 of the Heads of Agreement.
7. Authorize the Committee in consultation with the Uniting Church in Australia authorities to arrange for the establishment of a committee in terms of the Section 'Implementation of Agreement' and for the purpose as set out therein.
8. Repeal A.I.M. Regulations and enact the following:

THE PRESBYTERIAN INLAND MISSION COMMITTEE.

202.

- (a) There shall be a Special Committee of the General Assembly of Australia called the Presbyterian Inland Mission Committee responsible to account to the General Assembly for its work.
- (b) The work shall be related to the religious welfare of people who live in the sparsely populated areas of Australia and usually carried out in the form of patrol ministries with the concurrence of the relevant State Assembly authorities; such ministries may be conducted under the sole administration of the Committee or jointly with the relevant State Assembly authorities or simply to subsidise such work already undertaken or to be undertaken by the State Assembly authority.

- (c) The Committee shall consist of eleven (11) members appointed by the General Assembly of Australia of whom six (6) shall come from N.S.W. (including the Convener appointed by the G.A.A.), two (2) from Queensland, and one (1) each from Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. The Committee shall meet from time to time as determined by the Executive. The N.S.W. members shall constitute the Executive and shall meet at least quarterly. The Executive shall have power to fill vacancies between Assembly meetings.
- (d) The Executive shall administer the funds of the Presbyterian Inland Mission, the accounting of such shall be done in the General Office of the New South Wales Presbyterian Church, expenditures thereto shall be on the authority of the Convener or other person as authorized by the Executive, all funds (and Property) shall be held by the Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust.
- (e) Authorize the Committee to appoint an Executive Officer, if necessary, with title, terms and conditions approved by the Committee, such appointment, if made ,be reported to the G.A.A. following the appointment.

9. Appoint the membership of the Committee as follows:

New South Wales - Rev. Norman Monsen, B.F. Bray, R. Williams,
J. Knapp and Messrs A. Spalding, D. Macdonald.

Queensland - Rev. R.C. Clark, G.C. Lake.

Victoria - Mr. G. Newby

South Australia - Rev. J.C. Harris

West. Australia - Rev. D.B. Fraser

Convener - Rev. N. Monsen

10. Thank and discharge the ad hoc Committee, and express appreciation to the Convener, the Rev. Norman Monsen, who has worked unstintingly in the interests of the A.I.M. and other activities of the Church.

Dissent

89. Mr. A. Duff made a personal explanation anent his dissent.

Trustees
Resumed

90. The Debate anent the report and deliverance of the Trustees was resumed. (Min. 21).

Clause 6 was seconded and approved.

The Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Appoint the Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust as Trustee for the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
2. Authorize the Trustee to call in, collect and become vested of all property real and personal wherever situated, being property that is subject to a trust whether by dedication, consecration, trust instrument or otherwise for or for the use benefit or purposes of the Presbyterian Church of Australia or any activity service or interest of the Church.

3. Declare that -
- (a) Subject to any express trust affecting property to which clause 2 applies any land or property whatsoever which vests in or is acquired by the Trustee shall be so vested acquired managed and controlled or otherwise dealt with pursuant to such similar provisions powers functions and discretions, for the time being mutatis mutandis, with which the Trust established by the Presbyterian Church Trust Property Ordinance, 1971, acquires holds manages controls or otherwise deals with property of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the Australia Capital Territory, but if any such provision, power function or discretion conflicts with the law of the Commonwealth or of any State or Territory in respect of which any particular property is held such provision power function or discretion so far as it affects such property shall to the extent of that conflict be void either throughout the Commonwealth or in that State or Territory in which such property is situated.
 - (b) The Trustee may arrange for its representation in different States or parts of the Commonwealth or in any other country where the interest of the Trustees so require or where for any other sufficient reason it is in the opinion of the Trustees expedient so to do.

4. Declare that -

Nothing in clauses 1, 2 and 3 shall affect any interest in property held by or in trust for some, or all of the purposes of any State Presbyterian Church, as defined in The Presbyterian Church of Australia Act 1971 (N.S.W.), or any General Assembly thereof or any presbytery, session board or committee, council, board or fund in connection with any such State Presbyterian Church.

5. Note that in terms of G.A.A. Property Commission determinations and under indemnity from The Uniting Church, proceeds of certain A.I.M. and BOEMAR property have been passed over to the Uniting Church, and concur in the Trustees having done so.
6. Authorize the Trustees, when formalities of the proposed agreement with the Uniting Church concerning the revision of the name Australian Inland Mission in both the Presbyterian and the Uniting Church are completed satisfactorily, to vest all remaining assets of a federal character falling to the Uniting Church under determinations of the G.A.A. Property Commission in the Uniting Church in Australia.

Communication 3.

91. Communication 3 from the Queensland Assembly re. The Council of Churches was laid on the table and received.

Relations with
Other Presbyterian
Churches

92. The report of the Committee on relations with other Presbyterian Churches was laid on the table and received.
The Very Rev. K.J. Gardner moved the deliverance.
Clause 1 was amended, seconded and approved.
Clause 2 was seconded and approved.

Clause 3 was seconded and approved.
Clause 4 was seconded and approved.
Clause 5 was seconded and approved.
Clause 6 was seconded and approved.

Relations with
Other Presbyterian
Churches
Deliverance

93. The Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Approve the withdrawal of the Presbyterian Church of Australia from membership of the World Council of Churches and the Australian Council of Churches.
2. Instruct the Committee to research and publish the doctrinal standards and requirements of membership in the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Reformed Ecumenical Synod for study and report by the Courts of the Church to the Convener by the 31st December, 1981.
3. Authorize the committee to initiate consultations with representatives of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, the Reformed Churches of Australia, the Reformed Presbyterian Church, the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Westminster Presbyterian Church, with a view to foster greater fellowship and fraternal relations.
4. Encourage Kirk Sessions and congregations situated where there are congregations of these sister denominations to establish closer contact and co-operation with them.
5. Request the editorial committee of the National Journal (A.P.L.) to include from time to time articles and news items of interest in connection with the life and work of these sister denominations.
6. Appoint the Committee as follows:
Very Rev. K.J. Gardner (Convener), Rev. N.T. Barker, J.J.T. Campbell, J.M. Wilson, and Messrs R.P.W. Jell, G. Rutherford, F.M. Bradshaw, H.I.M. MacFarlane.
Corresponding members only - Rev. M. Ramage (Tas.), Rev. B. Fraser (W.A.), Rev. G.F. McDonald (S.A.).

Finance Debate
Resumed

94. The Debate anent the report and deliverance of the Finance Committee was resumed (Min. 48).

Rt. Rev. C. Egan moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Request the Finance Committee to ask State Finance Committees to make available up to \$1,000 over the next three years (1980 - 1982) to the Church and Nation Committee for the purpose of making publications available to the Church."

Clause 11 was seconded.

Rev. Principal R. Swanton moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Insert the words - 'except the College Committee' after the word 'Australia' in line 1."

The motion was seconded and approved.

Clause 11 as amended was approved.

Clauses 12 and 13 were seconded and approved.

95. The amended Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Approve the Powers and Functions of the Finance Committee:-

FINANCE COMMITTEE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

Standing Order 98
Article (xiii) Regulation 160
Regulation 179
Regulation 181
Regulation 181A
Regulation 185
Regulation 230 and 231
Regulation 240 and 241

There shall be a Standing Committee of the General Assembly of Australia named "FINANCE COMMITTEE".

The Finance Committee shall consist of fifteen members of which the State Assemblies shall nominate their proportion as follows:

New South Wales - five (one from Western Australia)
Victoria - two
Queensland - two
South Australia - one
Tasmania - one

Upon the General Assembly of Western Australia coming into operation the representative shall be appointed by that General Assembly.

The remaining four members are elected by the General Assembly by ballot after nomination in writing without reference to the State Assembly to which they belong.

Members of State Assemblies, not being members of the General Assembly of Australia, may be nominated as members and Convener of the Finance Committee.

The Convener of the Finance Committee shall be elected by the General Assembly.

The Executive of the Finance Committee shall consist of the members resident in the city in which the Convener resides.

The Executive of the Finance Committee shall exercise the powers of the Finance Committee in dealing with such financial matters as may arise between meetings of the General Assembly with the proviso that all members of the Finance Committee will be provided with copies of all minutes of the Executive of the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee shall meet, if practicable, immediately prior to each session of the General Assembly of Australia at a time and place to be decided by the Executive or at any other time when six members of the Finance Committee request the Convener to call such a meeting, the time and place of such meeting being decided by the Executive.

In terms of Standing Order 98 three members of the Finance Committee or of its Executive shall form a quorum.

The Finance Committee shall supervise the general funds of the General Assembly of Australia and shall cause the books of account to be audited annually by the Official Auditor appointed by the New South Wales State Assembly. Details of accounts shall be reported to the General Assembly.

The General Assembly of the Finance Committee may authorize other committees of the General Assembly to maintain separate books of account and to conduct banking accounts to provide for the general business of the committee. No capital investment shall be undertaken by committees other than through the Finance Committee and Trustees duly appointed by the General Assembly of Australia. Such books of account as may be kept by other committees shall be audited annually by qualified Accountants approved by the Finance Committee and by the Official Auditor appointed by the New South Wales State Assembly. Balance Sheets and Revenue Statements, duly audited, shall be forwarded promptly to the Convener, Finance Committee, and shall be reported to the General Assembly.

The Finance Committee shall manage the fund referred to in Article (xiii) Regulation 160 & 185 and shall report thereon and recommend to the General Assembly the proportions to be contributed by State Assemblies to that fund.

The Finance Committee shall perform the functions assigned to it by the General Assembly in terms of Regulation 181A. The Standing and other committees of the General Assembly of Australia whose work requires meetings which involve State representatives in travelling expenses for which no other financial arrangements are made and those responsible for the Assembly's involvement in work and interest beyond the Assembly's jurisdiction shall submit to the Convener of the Finance Committee one month prior to the date deadline for the material and commitments per annum for the ensuing three years.

The Finance Committee shall appoint an acting Procurator or an acting Law Agent should such be necessary.

The Finance Committee shall undertake any other duties that the General Assembly may from time to time determine.

2. (a) Appoint the Finance Committee to act until the next General Assembly of Australia as follows:

Messrs. H.I. MacFarlane (Convener), D.R. Brierley, P.J. Graham, J.G. Menzies, A.G. Spalding, Rev. N. Monsen (all being from New South Wales to form the Executive) with Messrs. R.W. Pilkington (Queensland), W.R. Hobbs (Victoria), and H.O. Ives (Tasmania), the last three being corresponding members with the Executive but full members of the Finance Committee.

- (b) Authorize the Executive of the Finance Committee to appoint replacement members to the committee should vacancies take place before the next General Assembly of Australia.
3. Until such time as the General Assembly determines otherwise approve payment of honoraria as follows:
- | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|------------------|
| Moderator | \$500 | p.a. | | |
| Clerk of Assembly | \$400 | for | each | General Assembly |
| Deputy Clerk | \$200 | for | each | General Assembly |
| Business Convener | \$200 | for | each | General Assembly |
4. Approve the following provisions for the Moderator assuming office in September, 1979, and for succeeding Moderators - the Finance Committee to review the said provisions prior to each General Assembly of Australia and, if considered necessary, to bring such recommendations as it may consider appropriate before the General Assembly for approval.
- (a) (i) An allowance up to \$2,500 per annum to cover travel, accommodation, telephone, postage, stationery, secretarial expenses for the period of office ... such amount not expendable for each year of office but available for the total period of office.
- (ii) An allowance sufficient to cover the cost of moderatorial dress (court), if and where required.
- (iii) Costs of pulpit supply for his absence on moderatorial duty.
- (iv) An honorarium of \$500 per annum as approved in 3 above.
- (b) (i) Approve the appointment of a Moderator's Committee to assist the Moderator when requested; such Committee to number five (5) from within the State in which the Moderator resides; the Moderator Convener.
- (ii) Appoint the following members to the Moderator's Committee
- The Rt. Rev. J. Mullan (Convener), Rev. D.F. Murray, P.E. Boase, Messrs D.R. Brierley and H.I.M. MacFarland with power to the Moderator's committee to fill any vacancies.
- (c) Request the Moderator to visit each State Assembly and the Presbytery of Western Australia at least once during his term of office.
- (d) Declare that where the Moderator is invited to special congregational and institutional functions the parties concerned should as a general rule meet all relevant moderatorial expenses.
5. Receive and note the Balance Sheets and statements of income and expenditure as at 30th June, 1977, and as at 30th June, 1979.
6. Determine that, as from 1st July, 1979, and until determined otherwise by the General Assembly, expenditure of the General Assembly

of Australia be allocated between states in proportion to the actual membership thereof coming from each state as recorded in the Roll of Assembly; expenditure in connection with the G.A.A. Property Commission being allocated in the same proportions as previously applied as outlined in the Report and approved by the Property Commission.

7. (a) Approve the following amounts as maximum allocations to the committees listed for the calendar years 1980, 1981 and 1982 the unused amounts to be cumulative within the triennium but not after 31st December, 1982.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Beneficiary Fund	200	200	200
Business	100	100	100
Christian Education	1,000	1,000	1,000
Church and Nation	1,000	1,000	1,000
Code	500	500	500
College	1,650	2,400	2,600
Defence Forces	500	500	500
Finance	500	500	500
Immigration	50	50	50
Public Worship and Aids to Devotion	100	100	100
Reception of Ministers	200	200	200
Relations with Other Presbyterian Churches	100	100	100
	<u>5,900</u>	<u>6,650</u>	<u>6,850</u>
Code - subsidy for re-print to the Code			2,000
Reception of Ministers - re-printing Regulations			500
Year Book Subsidy			3,000
Subscription to World Alliance of Reformed Churches			3,000
			<u>\$8,500</u>

- (b) Request State Assemblies to contribute towards the approved expenditure when requested by the Finance Committee.
- (c) Request conveners of G.A.A. Committees to authenticate to the Convener, Finance committee, all relevant expenditure including the travelling expenses of members to committee meetings.
8. Authorize the Finance committee, in the event of a General Council of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches being called before the next General Assembly and the committee on Relations with other Presbyterian Churches selecting a representative, to seek contributions from state Assemblies to finance travelling expenses.
9. Authorize the Finance committee to negotiate with any committee of the General Assembly experiencing undue financial problems with a view to alleviating any difficulties.

10. Request the Finance Committee to ask State Finance Committees to make available up to \$1,000 over the next three years (1980 - 1982) to the Church and Nation Committee for the purpose of making publications available to the Church.
11. Instruct all committees of the General Assembly of Australia except the College Committee to appoint those members of the committee who reside in the same city as the Convener as the Executive to exercise the powers of the committee in dealing with such matters as may arise between meetings of the General Assembly with the proviso that all members of the committee, the Moderator and Clerk of Assembly will be provided with copies of all minutes of meetings of the Executive and also that one third plus one of the members of any Committee may request the Convener to call a meeting of the full Committee which shall be held at the time and place decided by the Executive.
12. Request State Assemblies to re-imburse the Finance committee without delay for expenditure in connection with the 1979 General Assembly when called upon to do so in the proportion approved by the General Assembly.
13. Authorize the Finance committee, after examination of probable costs and comparison with costs likely to be incurred under the existing authority for payment, to approve re-imbursement of travelling expenses to the next General Assembly on the basis of economy class air fares taking advantage of any cost saving schemes provided by airlines at that time.
14. Resolve to convene in Scots Church, Sydney, on the second Tuesday in September, 1982, at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon and appoint a commission consisting of the Moderator, Clerks, Business Convener, Procurator, Law Agent, Chairman of Trustees, Convener Finance Committee with the Moderator as Chairman, of whom five members shall be a quorum, to appoint another time, place or date of meeting should it become impracticable or inexpedient for the General Assembly to discharge its functions at the time or place or on the date appointed.

Church and
Nation Resumed

96. The debate anent the report and deliverance of the Church and Nation Committee was resumed (Min. 32).

Clause 14 was moved, seconded and approved.

Rt. Rev. C. Egan moved his notice of motion.

The Moderator was asked to rule on the competency of the motion.

The Moderator ruled the motion to be competent.

The motion was seconded and approved.

That the Assembly:

"Request the Moderator General to consult with the national Heads of other Christian Churches with a view of issuing a statement of concern to the people of Australia, calling on all citizens to moderate the greed, selfishness and materialism rampant in the nation today; to cultivate a true regard for the common good; and to call the Christian community in this land to a Day of Prayer for the nation, or some similar united and national initiative."

Rt. Rev. C. Egan by leave of the House moved, that the Assembly:

"Request the Moderator General to initiate an appeal to all Presbyterians for relief of famine and its attendant medical problems in Kampuchea - Cambodia, and request Federal Government to investigate the possibility of sending a medical team to assist in that country."

Clause 17 was seconded and approved.

Church and
Nation Deliver-
ance.

97. The deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Affirm that it is ordained by God that all who are able, should contribute to the common good through work.
2. Express deep concern to Australian citizens unable to obtain work.
3. Urge the Commonwealth and the State Governments to ensure that those citizens genuinely seeking work but unable to find it, are properly supported by society during the period of their unemployment.
4. Urge members of congregations, individually and/or by group action to seek means of creating employment and of sharing existing work.
5. Encourage congregations to seek out individuals and families affected by unemployment, in order to express particularly God's love and the support and interest of the Church.
6. Request the Commonwealth Government to convene a national conference consisting of leaders of governments (national, state and local levels) the ACTU, commerce, primary and secondary industries, to strive urgently and compassionately for a reduction of the present levels of unemployment.
7. Send copies of the section of the report entitled "UNEMPLOYMENT" and resolutions derived therefrom to the following - The Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the National Country Party, Government and Opposition Leaders in the Senate, State Premiers, the ACTU, the Federation of Australian Council of Employers, and the Metal Trades Industry Association of Australia.
8. Urge courts and congregations of the Church to continue to recognize and employ the spiritual gifts of women, as well as those of men, in the service of Christ.
9. Request Presbyteries and Sessions to study that section of the report entitled "THE ELDERSHIP TODAY".
10. Refer the paper in the Report titled "THE ELDERSHIP TODAY" to Presbyteries with the request that they, in consultation with Elders' Associations (or their equivalent) in each State, organize regional conferences on the theme of the Eldership today."

11. Encourage men and women of the Church to serve the community by becoming involved in public life.
12. Commend the publication THE CHRISTIAN AS A CITIZEN to Assemblies, Presbyteries, Sessions and congregations for study.
13. Request Presbyteries to study and comment on the section of the report entitled "WHITHER AUSTRALIA?" and ask that such comments be returned to the Convener of the Church and Nation Committee by 31st December, 1980.
14.
 - (a) Affirm the desirability of the G.A.A. contributing to the public debate on moral, social and political issues that affect the life of the nation.
 - (b) express the opinion that a Church and Nation Committee should report to, and prepare a deliverance for resolution at the General Assembly, as well as preparing from time to time study papers and booklets for use within the Church on issues concerning Christian social witness within the life of the Australian nation.
 - (c) accordingly requests the Clerk of the General Assembly in consultation with the Code Committee to initiate procedures whereby a Church and Nation Committee is assured of its legal standing within the structures of the General Assembly and able validly to draw modest help from the G.A.A.'s Finance Committee, and to bring ne-essary recommendations to the next G.A.A.
 - (d) authorize the Finance Committee to allocate finance to the Church and Nation Committee on the present basis until the next G.A.A.
15. Request the Moderator General to consult with the national Heads of other Christian Churches with a view of issuing a statement of concern to the people of Australia, calling on all citizens to moderate greed, selfishness and materialism rampant in the nation today; to cultivate a true regard for the common good; and to call the Christian community in this land to a Day of Prayer for the nation, or some similar united and national initiative.
16. Request the Moderator General to initiate an appeal to all Presbyterians for relief of famine and it's attendant medical problems in Kampuchea, and request Federal Government to investigate possibility of sending a medical team to assist in that country.
17. Appoint the Committee as follows:

Rt. Rev. C. Egan (Convener) (NSW), Rev. Prof. C. Miller (NSW), Rev. D.E. Hawkins (NSW), Rev. E.N. Paxton (NSW), Mr. K. Swan (NSW) Dr. A. Robertson (NSW), Mrs M. Grant (NSW), and as corresponding members Rev. J.J.T. Campbell (Qld), Rev. W.A. Loftus (Vic), Rev. G. Chipps (W.A.), Mr. A.G. Matheson (S.A.).

Beneficiary
Fund

98. The report of the Beneficiary Fund Committee was laid on the table and received.

The Rev. P.E. Boase moved the deliverance as a whole which was seconded and approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Approve the establishment of a Beneficiary Fund of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to incorporate the principles named in the Report and Addendum as far as is actuarilly and financially possible.
2. Authorize the Beneficiary Fund Committee to have drawn up Draft Regulations and/or by-Laws as may be found necessary for submission to State Beneficiary Fund Committees.
3. Authorize the Beneficiary Fund Committee to expend reasonable professional costs, therefore such to be re-imbursed from the fund.
4. Authorize a Commission of the General Assembly of Australia -
 - (a) to adopt the Regulations and/or by-Laws provided that the General Assemblies of at least Victoria and New South Wales approve the Regulations and/or by-Laws and agree to the merging of their Funds with the Beneficiary Fund.
 - (b) to fix the date for the commencement of the Fund.
 - (c) to provide suitable arrangements to enable ministers and/or existing Funds in other States to join the Fund.
5. Appoint the Beneficiary Fund Committee as follows -

Rev. P.E. Boase (Convener), F.A. Hoad, G.C. Lake, F. Avent,
P.J. Graham, R.G. Kretchmer, J. Stirling, H.I.M. MacFarlane,
D. Conway.
6. Appoint the Commission as follows -

Moderator (Chairman), Clerk, Deputy Clerk, Business Convener,
Conveners of State Beneficiary Committees with a quorum of five.

Maintenance of the
Ministry

99. The report of the Maintenance of the Ministry committee was laid on the table and received.

Rev. R.A. Caldwell moved the Deliverance as a whole which was seconded and approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Request State Assemblies to each appoint one corresponding representative to the Committee.
2. Appoint the Committee as follows:

The Rev. R.A. Caldwell, H.G. Durbin, R.E. Spring, Messrs. R.S. Mackenzie, J. Mackillop and D.R. Brierley. Mr. D.R. Brierley (Convener).
3. Request the Committee to meet and initiate correspondence with the various State Committees and report to the next General Assembly of Australia.

- Australian Presbyterian Congress
100. The report of the Australian Presbyterian Congress Committee was laid on the table and received.
Mr. J.C. Mackillop moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:
- "Commend the Australian Presbyterian Congress for active support by the State Assemblies, Presbyteries, Sessions and Congregations as a national Presbyterian witness and an inspiration to the Church as a whole."
- The motion was seconded and approved.
- Petitions Reception of Ministers
101. The Clerk moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:
- "Declare that petitions from ministers of other Churches seeking admission to the Ministry of this Church, when dealt with by the Reception of Ministers Committee be transmitted to the Clerk of Assembly so that they may be dealt with in the same way as other petitions and in accordance with standing orders 89, 90 and 91."
- The motion was seconded and disapproved.
- Listing of Moderators
102. Rev. N. Monsen moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:
- (a) Delete the reference to the names of Rev. G.A. McC. Wood and Rev. N. McLeod and the dates thereof in the listing of Moderators in the Assembly's official Blue Book of the 1977 General Assembly of Australia in order to insert the following:
- Rev. Gillam Albert McConnell Wood, B.A..... 1973 - 1977
Rev. Neil McLeod, M.A., B.D..... 1974 - 1977
- (b) Note that -
- Mr. Wood and Mr. McLeod for the relevant period above were Moderators of different sections of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia, which situation was derivative from the Assembly's decision in 1973 to unite with the Methodist and Congregational Churches.
- The motion was seconded.
- Previous Question
103. Mr. A. Duff moved the previous question which was seconded and approved.
- Petition Mr. P.W. Playsted
104. Rev. P.G. Logan moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:
- "Convey to Mr. P.W. Playsted, through the College Committee, its reasons for requiring him to undertake two years further theological study."
- The motion was seconded and approved.
- Vary Order of Business
105. Mr. J.D. MacFarlane moved for a variation of the Order of Business to extend the sitting of the House until the remaining business of the House has been completed.
- The motion was seconded and approved on a show of hands.
- Notices of Motion
106. Notices of Motion 52 - 53 were read and laid on the table.

- College 107. The report of the College Committee was laid on the table and received.
Rev. Principal R. Swanton moved the Deliverance.
The Debate was adjourned (Min. 111).
- Overture 1. 108. The Overture 1., from the Presbytery of Ku-ring-gai anent "The Rightful subjects of Baptism" was laid on the table and received.
- Debate Adjourned The Debate was adjourned (Min.119).
- Adjournment 109. The House adjourned to meet on Friday, 14th September at 10.00 a.m. which having been duly intimated the sederunt was closed with the Benediction.

E.R. PEARSONS
R.P.W. JELL

Clerks

Seventh SedeAant

kt MetbouAne and ttht,n the k Aejnbtty Hatt, 156 Cotttn StAeet, on H tday, 14th September, 1979 at 10.00 a.m.

110. The Assembly met pursuant to adjournment and was constituted with prayer.

- Debate Resumed College 111. The Debate anent the report and deliverance of the College Committee was resumed (Min. 107).
Rev. Principal Swanton moved the Deliverance.
Clause 1 was taken sub-clause by sub-clause.
Clause 1 (1) and (2) was seconded.
Dr. P. Lush moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Renumber clause 2(c) of the proposed new regulation 2(c) (i) and a new provision numbered 2(c) (ii) be added namely -

'satisfy the College Committee that the candidate is academically equipped to enter on the alternative Preparatory Course.'"

The motion was seconded and approved and the clause amended.

Clause 1 (3), (4), (5) was seconded

Rev. D.K. Robson moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Insert in clause 1 of the Deliverance under section 4 of the Regulations after the words -

'Theological Education' in the seventh line, the addition of words ' and the Presbytery. '"

The motion was seconded and approved and clause 1 (3), (4), (5) amended and approved.

112. Rev. N.T. Barker moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Amend the heading of Reg. 6 by addition of the words 'For those under 30 years of age'."

The motion was seconded and the amended clause approved.

Rev. N.T. Barker moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Amend Reg. 6.

- (a) by the addition of the words in 6(a) after 'University' of the words 'College of Advanced. Education'.
- (b) by the addition after 'equivalent, and' of the words, 'have passed examinations set by the State Committee responsible for the Theological Education in English Bible, Catechism, Hebrew and Greek.'
- (c) by the omission in Reg. 6(b) of the words 'Expression (English and informal logic)' and 'English Literature' and the insertion there for the words 'English Literature and Expression', and the omission of the words 'within Western civilization.'
- (d) The addition of the words '(a) and' after 'exemptions in.'

The motion was seconded.

Dr. P. Lush moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

"Delete all words in the proposed new regulation 6(b) from 'Expression (English and down to Western Civilization."

The motion was seconded and approved.

The amended amendment was seconded and approved and Regulation 6 amended as follows:

Reg. 6.

- (a) by the addition of the words in 6(a) after 'University' of the words 'College of Advanced Education'.
- (b) by the addition after 'equivalent, and' of the words, 'have passed examinations set by the State Committee responsible for the Theological Education in English Bible, Catechism, Hebrew and Greek.'
- (c) The addition of the words '(a) and' after 'exemptions in.'

Rev. N.T. Barker moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Amend Reg. 6 by the addition of a new paragraph -

"The State Committee responsible for Theological Education shall have the right, in consultation with the College Committee, to exempt a candidate from one of the languages in special circumstances . "

The motion was seconded and approved and the paragraph added.

113. Dr. K.J. Swan moved that the Assembly:

- (a) Send back the Deliverance to the College Committee, together with all amendments passed and proposed, for further consideration .
- (b) Direct the College Committee to consult with a Committee of Educators - comprised of Dr. P.G. Lush, Mr. J.D. McFarlane, Emeritus Dean K.J. Swan, Prof. J. Burton, Dr. G.S. Harman, Dr. A.G. Robertson and Dr. J. Scott.
- (c) Report to the next General Assembly after its consideration and consultation.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

The Rev. Prof. Crawford Miller arising out of the debate moved, that the Assembly:

Send down -

"The whole matter of the proposed revised regulations of the College Committee to be referred to State Assemblies and Presbyteries for consideration and report replies to be in the hands of the Clerk of Assembly by 31st December, 1980."

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Rev. N.T. Barker moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Insert a new clause 7 as follows:

P zpa ato y Co u q ~~4~~ *ot* candidates ove 30 ye, al s o ago,.

- (a) There shall be a scheme for the reduction of the period of training for candidates over 30 years of age who have been communicant members of the Presbyterian Church for at least two years.
- (b) Candidates shall be classified as follows:
 - i. Those who, in the judgement of the College Committee, have acquired a training which can be accepted as an alternative to the whole Preparatory Course of Training. An alternative to the Preparatory Course shall be - either ten years in full-time Christian service; or suitable experience of not less than ten years in employment (or self-employment) where the candidate has had some measure of responsibility; or a suitable Technical College qualification or a suitable qualification from a professional association.
 - ii. Those who can produce evidence that they are, in the opinion of the College Committee, on the evidence of the Faculty (Senatus) concerned, equipped to undertake tertiary studies.
 - iii. Candidates within the two categories shall be accepted and admitted by the usual procedure as in Regulation 1 and 2.

The motion was seconded and approved.
Clause 7 was seconded and approved.

114. Clauses 8 and 9 were seconded.

Rev. N.T. Barker moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Add the word in 9 after the first paragraph:

"Candidates over 30 years of age will normally be expected to do at least one language. Candidates over 40 years of age may be exempted from both languages."

Principle Swanton questioned the competency of the motion.
The Moderator ruled the motion out of order.

Dr. P. Lush moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Delete all words in clause 1 after '..... extension courses'
in Regulation 9.

The motion was seconded.

Rev. Principal Swanton questioned the competency of the motion.

The Moderator ruled the motion out of order.

Dr. P. Lush moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Add the words in the proposed new Regulation 9:

'The Faculty may exempt candidates from Hebrew after the first
year of their Theological Hall Course, reporting such exemption
to the College Committee' after the words 'exercises and theses'
in the 10th line of the Regulation.

The motion was seconded and approved.

115. Mr. R.P.W. Jell moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

(a) Insert after clause 9 of the proposed new regulations the following
provisions -

10. Notwithstanding the regulations hereinbefore appearing candidates
over forty (40) years of age who have been elders of the Presbyte-
rian Church for at least ten (10) years shall be admitted to the
Theological Hall Course when:

(a) They have passed examinations set by the College Committee in -

English Bible
Catechism
English Expression
English Literature
History

or

(b) They possess qualifications or training which can be accepted
either in part or in whole satisfaction of the examinations
delineated in (a) above.

11. Candidates admitted to the Theological Hall Course pursuant to the
provisions of Regulation (10) shall be required to complete two (2)
years in the Theological Hall without Greek or Hebrew.

(b) Renumber Regulations 10, 11 and 12 as printed, as 12, 13 and 14.

(c) Insert the name of the Rev. Professor N.T. Barker as a Queensland member
of the Committee in clause 5.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.

Clause 1 (10) was seconded and approved.

Rev. N.T. Barker moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Amend Regulation 10 (b) by the omission of the words:

"An external examiner appointed by the College Committee" and the
insertion in their place of the words - ' to oe examined by an
external examiner appointed by the College Committee and the
Faculty concerned.'

The motion was seconded and approved.
Clauses 1 (ll) and (12) were seconded and approved.

116. Clause 1 (Regulations 1 to 13) as amended was approved.
Clause 2 was seconded.

Dr. K.J. Swan moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Amend Clause 2 by adding the following words:

'After consultation on admission and curriculum with the following committee of educators - Dr. P.G. Lush, Mr. J.D. McFarland, Emeritus Dean K.J. Swan, Prof. J. Burton, Dr. G.S. Harman, Dr. A.G. Robertson and Dr. J. Scott.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.
Clause 2 was disapproved.
Clauses 3 and 4 were seconded and approved.
Clause 5 was seconded.

Mr. G.W. Gosling, according to notice, moved that the Assembly:

Appoint Rev. M. Grieve and Rev. G. Wilson of South Australia corresponding members of the College Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.
Rev. M. Ramage moved his notice of motion that the Assembly:

Delete the words 'Victorian members' in Clause 5 in order to insert the words 'Principal R. Swanton and Rev. E.R. Pearsons.'

The motion was seconded and disapproved.
Mr. A. Duff moved his notice of motion, that the Assembly:

Add the names of Rev. Professor Crawford Miller, M.A., B.D., and Rev. Hugh Cairns, M.A., B.D., Ph.D., to the names of the members forming the Executive of the College Committee.

The motion was seconded and disapproved.
Clause 5 as amended was approved.

College Deliverance

117. The amended Deliverance as a whole was approved as follows:

That the Assembly:

1. Repeal the Regulations as set out in the report and enact the following regulations:

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(1) The College Committee shall admit to the Course of Training for the Ministry applicants who:

- (a) Have been accepted by a Presbytery as 'Candidates for the Ministry*' and are recommended by the Presbytery and the State Committee responsible for Theological Education for admission to the Course of Training.
- (b) Submit adequate evidence that they have met the requirements specified in 2(c).

- (2) The State Committee shall require an applicant for candidature for the ministry to:
- (a) Have been a member of this Church in full communion for at least six months prior to the date of application.
 - (b) Produce a certificate from the Presbytery within whose bounds the candidate resides, stating that, after careful inquiry, the Presbytery is convinced that the candidate's personal and spiritual gifts are such as to fit the candidate for the work of the ministry.
 - (c)
 - i. Produce evidence that the candidate has met the academic requirements for entry to a faculty of an Australian University or College of Advance Education, or
 - ii. satisfy the College Committee that the candidate is academically equipped to enter on the alternative Preparatory Course.

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- (3) The Course of Training shall include a Preparatory Course, and a Theological Hall Course. Both the Preparatory Course and the Theological Hall Course may, for sufficient reason, be part-time, provided the studies covered on a part-time basis are the same as those covered on a full-time basis. Candidates seeking to study on a part-time basis must secure the permission of the Faculty.
- (4) The Faculty shall be responsible for assessing the progress of students in both Preparatory and Theological Hall Courses, and shall make annual reports to the College Committee on the progress of the student. The College Committee may remove a candidate from the Course of Training at any state of his course, after consultation on the matter with the State Committee responsible for Theological Education and the Presbytery. If the Presbytery determines that a man shall cease to be a candidate for the ministry, after consultation with the State Committee, they shall notify the College Committee, who shall removed his name from the list of those doing the course.
- (5) The Faculty (Senatus) shall direct candidates in their course of training.

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- (6) Entrance to the Theological Hall Course shall be granted only to candidates who have:
 - (a) Completed two years at a University, College of Advanced Education or the equivalent and have passed examinations set by the State Committee responsible for Theological Education in English Bible, Catechism, Hebrew and Greek, or
 - (b) Passed examinations set by the College Committee in:

English Bible
Catechism
Hebrew
Greek

Exemptions in (a) and (b) will be granted when evidence is provi-

ded that an examination of an equivalent nature and standard has been passed by the candidate.

The State Committee responsible for Theological Education shall have the right, in consultation with the College Committee, to exempt a candidate from one of the languages in special circumstances.

Preparatory Course, of candidates over 30 years of age

- (7) (a) There shall be a scheme for the reduction of the period of training for candidates over 30 years of age who have been communicant members of the Presbyterian Church for at least two years.
- (b) Candidates shall be classified as follows:
- i. Those who, in the judgement of the College Committee, have acquired a training which can be accepted as an alternative to the whole Preparatory Course of Training. An alternative to the Preparatory Course shall be - either ten years in full-time Christian service; or suitable experience of not less than ten years in employment (or self-employment) where the candidate has had some measure of responsibility; or a suitable Technical College qualification or a suitable qualification from a professional association.
 - ii. Those who can produce evidence that they are, in the opinion of the College Committee, on the evidence of the Faculty (Senatus) concerned, equipped to undertake tertiary studies.
 - iii. Candidates within the two categories shall be accepted and admitted by the usual procedure as in Regulation 1 and 2.
- (8) Candidates will be encouraged to complete a degree as the normal requirement.

Theological Hall Course,

- (9) The Theological Hall Course shall extend over three academic years. The College Committee shall be empowered on the recommendation of the Faculty to give appropriate credit towards this three years' requirement for previous studies pursued by candidates in other centres, provided that satisfactory evidence is forthcoming that such studies were of a nature and at a standard consistent with studies at the Theological Hall.
- (10) The Faculty shall include in the Course of Training the basic subjects listed in Article viii (4) of the Deed of Union, namely, 'Hebrew and O.T. Exegesis; N.T. Greek and Exegesis; Apologetic; Church History; Systematic Theology; and Pastoral Theology and Training' (including Presbyterian Polity).

The Faculty shall prepare syllabi in these subjects and submit them to the College Committee for approval.

The Faculty shall test candidates in these subjects at appropriate stages in their training by such means as examinations, critical exercises and theses.

The Faculty may exempt candidates from Hebrew after the first year of their Theological Hall Course, reporting such exemption to the College Committee.

The College Committee is empowered to give approval to extension courses but not to correspondence courses.

Exit Regattoni

- (11) The College Committee shall issue an Exit Certificate to a candidate when:
- (a) The candidate has been certified by the Faculty as having completed the whole course of training to the satisfaction of the Faculty.
 - (b) The candidate has submitted two theses during the third year of the Theological Hall Course (although they may be prepared in the first, second or third years of this course), one a subject in Biblical Studies and one in Systematic Theology, Pastoral Theology or Church History, to be approved by the appropriate teacher in the Theological Hall and to be examined by an external examiner appointed by the College Committee and the Faculty concerned.

Spectat Co aq a

- (12) The Executive of the College Committee is empowered to deal with special cases as they arise from time to time. If it departs from prescribed procedure in doing so, it shall report to the full Committee.

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- (13) The College Committee shall arrange regular visitation to Theological Halls by visitors whom it appoints.
- 2. Appoint the Rev. J.F. Boyall, upon implementation of the amended regulations, to the position of Secretary, at an honorarium to be fixed in consultation with the Finance Committee.
 - 3. Instruct the Executive to give consideration to the possible revision of the Articles of Agreement, as related to Theological Education, for report to the next General Assembly.
 - 4. Appoint the Committee and Executive as follows:
 - N.S.W. - Rev. J.F. Boyall, S.J. Clements, Professor Crawford Miller, M. Yee.
 - Q.L.D. - Rev. J.J.T. Campbell, N.T. Barker, G.K. Kettmiss, Principal Dr. H.J. Whitney.
 - VIC. - Rev. W.A. Loftus, E.R. Pearsons, Principal R. Swanton (Convener), Mr. F.M. Bradshaw.
 - S.A. - Rev. M. Grieve and G. Wilson (Corresponding members).
- Executive - Victorian members, with Revs. J.F. Boyall and S.J. Clements (N.S.W.); Revs. N.T. Barker and G.K. Kettmiss (Q.L.D.).

Overture 1.

119. The Debate anent Overture 1 was resumed (Min. 108).
Rev. C.D. Balzer, a member of the Presbytery of Ku-ring-gai, was called to the Bar of the House and stated the Overture.
Questions were called for.
The Overturist was removed from the Bar of the House.
Rev. M. Skalicky moved and it was seconded and approved.

That the Assembly:

1. Sustain the Overture
2. Repeal the Declaration of the Assembly regarding 'Rightful Subjects of Baptism' (G.A.A. 1967, Min. 120, 3.).
3. Restore as Regulation 203 in 'Constitution, Procedure and Practice' Division J., 'Rightful Subjects of Baptism', the rule passed by the General Assembly of Australia dated 1906 (i.e. the one printed on p. 54-55 of the 1950 edition of 'Constitution, Procedure and Parctice').

Overture 4.

120. Overture 4 from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland anent the length of Theological Hall Course was laid on the table and received.
The Queensland General Assembly was called to the Bar of the House and the Rev. J.J.T. Campbell, a member of the said Assembly, stated the Overture.
Questions were called for.
The Overturist was removed from the Bar of the House.
The Clerk moved and it was seconded and approved.

That the Assembly:

Dismiss the Overture.

Overture 2.

121. Overture 2 from the Presbytery of Western Australia anent the Declaratory Statement was laid on the table and received.
The Presbytery of Western Australia was called to the Bar of the House and the Rev. A.W. McAuliffe a member of the said Presbytery stated the Overture.
Questions were called for.
The Overturist was removed from the Bar of the House.
Rev. A.W. McAuliffe moved and it was seconded and approved.

That the Assembly:

1. Sustain the Overture.
2. Appoint an ad hoc committee consisting of Rev. W.A. Loftus, Rev. R. Miller, Mr. M. Bradshaw, Mr. L.J. Moore and Mr. B. Bayston with Rev. J. Campbell (Qld), Rev. B. Christian (NSW) and Rev. A. McAuliffe (WA), as corresponding members with Rev. R. Miller as Convener, to deal with this matter and bring forward a statement for approval of the next General Assembly of Australia.
3. Authorize the Committee to forward papers to presbyteries for comment and return to the Committee before 30th June, 1981.

Immigration

122. The report of the Immigration Committee was laid on the table and received.
The Deliverance as a whole was approved:-

That the Assembly:

Appoint the New South Wales Social Service Committee (the New South Wales Immigration Committee) to be the General Assembly of Australia Immigration Committee, with the Rev. Ray Walder as Convener.

Judicial
Commission

123. The Clerk moved that the Assembly:

Appoint to the membership of the Judicial Commission as follows:

New South Wales

Rev. N. Monsen
Rev. J. Perkins
Rev. H.G. Durbin
Mr. P.J. Graham
Mr. H.I.M. MacFarlane
Mr. A. Duff
Mr. J.G. Menzies
Mr. D.R. Brierley

Queensland

Very Rev. K.J. Gardner
Rev. A.W. Laurie
Rev. N.R. Innes
Mr. R.P.W. Jell

Victoria

Rt. Rev. H.L. Dunn
Rev. W.A. Loftus
Rev. C.A. Harrison
Rev. D.V. Morey
Rev. E.R. Pearsons
Rev. R.C. Russell
Mr. B.D. Bayston
Mr. F.M. Bradshaw

South Australia

Mr. R.W. Arstall
Mr. A.G. Matheson

Tasmania

Rev. T.S. Fishwick
Rev. M.J.R. Ramage

Assembly Representatives.

Rev. N.T. Barker (Q)
Rev. G.C. Lake (Q)
Mr. C.H. Fraser (V)
Mr. W.R. Hobbs (V)
Mr. F. Newall (V)
Mr. I. Nixon (V)

Rt. Rev. J. Mullan (NSW)
Rev. P. Logan (NSW)
Rev. P. Boase (NSW)
Rev. A.G. Ingram (NSW)
Rev. J.J.T. Campbell (Q)
Mr. H.O. Ives (Tas)

The motion was seconded and approved.

Committees
Discharged

124. The Deputy Clerk moved, that the Assembly:

Thank and discharge the Committee to Scrutinize the Minutes, the Ballot Committee and the Selection Committee.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Thanks

125. The Business Convener moved, that the Assembly:

Thank -

- (a) The Hospitality Committee, members of the P.W.A. for fine hospitality extended to members and their wives in the luncheons.
- (b) The staff of the Assembly Office for their assistance.
- (c) Mr. Peter Graham, the Assembly Officer, who gave unobtrusive but invaluable service to the House by distributing the Assembly papers day by day.
- (d) The Rev. C.A. Harrison for his invaluable assistance to the Clerks.

Commission

126. The Clerk moved, that the Assembly:

Commission the Right Reverend James Mullan to represent this Assembly to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in May, 1980 - 1982.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Commission to confirm Minutes

127. The Clerk moved, that the Assembly:

Appoint the Moderator and Clerks a Commission to correct and confirm the minutes of the 5th to 7th sederunts.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Commission of Assembly

128. The Clerk moved, that the Assembly:

Appoint a Commission of the General Assembly which it hereby does appoint, consisting of the Moderator (Chairman), Past Moderators, Clerks, Business Convener, Procurator and Law Agent of the General Assembly, together with members from the States in the following proportions, viz. : six from New South Wales, six from Victoria, four from Queensland, and two each from South Australia, Western Australia (if applicable) and Tasmania (any vacancy occurring to be filled by the General Assembly of the State affected), sixteen of whom representing at least two of the States shall form a quorum, whereof eight shall be ministers, and such Commission of Assembly -

- (a) shall be empowered to enter into and determine as they shall cause every matter referred to them by or in virtue of any decision or order of the General Assembly, and to do everything contained in the instructions given to the Commission of General Assembly.
- (b) is charged to advert to the interest of the Church on every occasion, that the Church does not suffer or sustain any prejudice which it can prevent, as it will be answerable, and to this end the General Assembly empowers the Commission to consider and determine such emergent matters as are deemed urgent and in need of executive or judicial action.
- (c) is strictly enjoined in all its actings to proceed according to the rules and constitution of the Church and to do nothing contrary thereto or to the prejudice of the same, declaring that in and for all its actings it shall be accountable to and censurable by the Assembly as they shall see cause.
- (d) is further restrained from enacting, amending or repealing any rules or regulations of the General Assembly or from entering into the consideration of any overture or motion proposing legislation or from meddling with any matter which has not been referred to the Commission by the General Assembly or which is not of the nature set out in Clause (b) of this appointment.
- (e) is directed to submit its minutes duly confirmed, and relevant papers to the next General Assembly through the Clerk.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Appointment of
next Assembly

129. The Clerk moved, that the Assembly:

Resolve to convene in Scots Church, Margaret Street, Sydney, on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of September, 1982, at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon and appoint a commission consisting of the Moderator, Clerks, Business Convener, Procurator and Law Agent, with the Moderator as Chairman, or whom three members shall be a quorum, to appoint another time, place or date of meeting should it become impracticable for the Assembly to discharge its functions at the time or place or on the date appointed.

The motion was seconded and approved.

Dissolution

130. The Business of the Assembly having been completed the Moderator, after briefly addressing the House, intimated that the Assembly would next convene in terms of Minute 129 and dissolved the Assembly with praise, prayer and the pronouncing of the Benediction.

E.R. PEARSONS
R.P.W. JELL

Clerks

CERTIFICATE

The Minutes of the fifth, sixth and seventh sederunts having been carefully corrected are confirmed as authorized in terms of Minute 127 thereof.

JAMES MULLAN

Moderator

BUSINESS COMMITTEE.

(min 9)

The Committee met on two occasions - 4th May, 1979 and 1st August, 1979 - to arrange matters relative to the conduct of Assembly Business.

The following is the Order of Business for the opening of the General Assembly:

Tuesday, 11th September, 1979.

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 10.00 a.m. | Opening of Assembly
Public worship conducted by the Right Rev. K.J. Gardner
Assembly constituted with prayer
Roll of Assembly
Apologies
Communications and acknowledgements
Election of Moderator
Induction of Moderator
Moderator's Address
Loyal Address
Associates and Commissions
Report of the Business Committee
Notices of Motion |
| 12.30 p.m. | Adjournment for lunch |
| 2.00 p.m. | Resume for business |

Norman Monsen,
CONVENER.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION.

(min 88)

The Committee - Upon the advent of church union on 22nd June, 1977, the entire administrative staff of the A.I.M. and all but two members of the Board and all but one padre entered the Uniting Church in Australia and all A.I.M. properties and all its financial resources (except for a meagre amount) were awarded to the Uniting Church in Australia.

Notwithstanding these circumstances the General Assembly on 23rd June, 1977 resolved that the mission would continue under the management of an ad hoc committee. The appointment of this ad hoc committee was made by the Commission of Assembly on 26th August, 1977; namely, Rev. N. Monsen, F.B. Bray, J.C. Harris, Messrs. A.G. Spalding, D. Macdonald (N.S.W.); Rev. J. Knapp (Q.L.D.); Rev. D.B. Fraser (W.A.); Rev. R. Williams (Vic); Rev. N. Monsen, Convener.

The Committee held its first meeting on 14th October, 1977, and took cognisance of its charter; viz. 'to discharge such functions respecting it that are derived from the constitution of the Church, regulations thereunder, directions of the General Assembly, or any practice that has developed and to report to the next Assembly on its future powers and functions'...

G.A.A. 1977 Minute 26 Clause I(iv).

Financial Resources - The Committee also took cognisance of its available physical resources as enunciated in the Property Commission's determination of 17/18 June, 1977. (Minute 417); viz...

- (a) The assets of the A.I.M. be awarded to the Uniting Church subject to an amount of

\$106,337 being awarded to the Continuing Church to enable it to provide a patrol ministry or ministries.

- (b) In so far as the Commission has the necessary power it awards to the Uniting Church the properties of the A.I.M. including the Flynn Memorial Church.
- (c) South Australia A.I.M. funds and College Park furniture to the Uniting Church.
- (d) Queensland funds held on behalf of the A.I.M. be divided 65% Uniting Church and 35% Continuing Church.

The Committee acknowledged its extreme position in respect to the lack of adequate funds and total absence of field work but resolved to pursue the General Assembly's intention for the A.I.M. to continue as traditionally understood appropriate to patrol ministries. This resolve was transmitted to the Negotiators (Property Commission) with the request that the Property Commission be asked to reconsider the inadequacy of the allocation of \$106,337 on the basis that this amount represented only 3% of the total assets as owned by the A.I.M. (undivided) and on the basis that 36% of congregations remained to continue in the Presbyterian Church of Australia. The Property Commission on 7th January, 1978 resolved... not to give reasons and confirmed the determination made in Minute 417'.

Use of Name - The Committee was beset with further difficulties, for the authorities of the Uniting Church in Australia requested the Committee to refrain from using the name 'Australian Inland Mission' or the initials thereof in any form. These authorities were informed that only the General Assembly could cause an alteration to the name and the use thereof and for this purpose the Uniting Church in Australia was advised of the procedure to accomplish this. However, the action taken by the Uniting Church in Australia was to seek a declaration from the Property Commission that the name itself held the element of property and therefore constituted an asset to be held solely by the Uniting Church in Australia on the basis of Minute 417.

The Committee boldly stated to the Property Commission that it (the Commission) had no jurisdiction to...

- (a) determine that the name 'Australian Inland Mission' shall not be retained by the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
- (b) award any department of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to the Uniting Church in Australia.
- (c) redefine the province and function of any department of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.
- (d) compel a constitutional change within the Presbyterian Church of Australia or in any of its departments or committees.
- (e) compel the Presbyterian Church of Australia to change the name of any department or committee.

Subsequent to these submissions by both parties, the Property Commission resolved as follows:

'The Commission at its recent meeting considered submissions received from the Uniting Church in Australia and the Superintendent of the Australian Inland Mis-

sion of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and determined that if property rights existed in the name...Australian Inland Mission...as such, those rights had already passed to the Uniting Church pursuant to Minute 417(a) as an asset of the undivided Australian Inland Mission and that if no property rights existed in the name as such the Commission would appear to have no jurisdiction to make any such determination as to the disposition of the name independent of the other assets of the undivided Australian Inland Mission. In these circumstances the question whether the Uniting Church was entitled to the exclusive use of the name and to restrain question as to the legal effect of the Commission's determination in Minute 417 would have to be determined, if necessary, by the civil courts and that in all the circumstances no further action by the Commission was required' . (Recorded in the Committee's minutes dated 22nd February, 1978.)

Following upon this declaration by the Property Commission the authorities of the Uniting Church in Australia again requested the Committee to consider a change in the name for use by the Presbyterian Church of Australia. The Committee refused to compromise stating that this responsibility rested with the General Assembly alone.

Furthermore, the Committee determined to take any necessary initiatives to safeguard the proper use of the name...Australian Inland Mission...by the Presbyterian Church of Australia. It was clear to the Committee that the authorities of the Uniting Church in Australia were anxious concerning two aspects; namely,

- (a) two denominations using the same name causing confusion among church and community and
- (b) difficulty in determining the rightful and proper destination for funds and property left to the A.I.M. in wills, legacies, bequests documented prior to 22nd June, 1977.

Litigation - Consequent upon these events as described above, the Uniting Church in Australia instigated litigation against the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the Supreme Court (N.S.W. - Equity Division) to be heard initially 31st May, 1978, and named Rev. Norman Monsen and Rev. Edward R. Pearsons as Defendants therein. The purpose of this law suit was to claim for the Uniting Church in Australia the sole use of the name 'Australian Inland Mission' or any of its abbreviations.

The Presbyterian Church (N.S.W.) Property Trust moved to be party in the case on the assumption that the Trustees represented the Presbyterian Church of Australia in property matters.

The Court on 25th July, 1978 ruled that the summons was in order and that the case could proceed but that the Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust was not a proper party in the action brought by the Uniting Church in Australia.

The Trustees subsequently informed the Committee of this position and advised that the Committee had now the sole responsibility for instructing the Law Officers of the G.A.A. This advice was followed in that the Committee 'requested the Law Officers of the G.A.A. to take the appropriate action at law to safeguard the interests of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in respect to the legal action instituted by the Uniting Church in Australia anent the use of the name - 'Australian Inland Mission' (Recorded in the Committee's Minutes 31st August, 1978.)

The law suit was scheduled to be heard on 3rd October, 1978...but at the time of writing this report, due to delays of various kinds and also what now the Committee believes to be the reluctance of the Uniting Church in Australia authorities to pro-

ceed in the matter, no information is available in respect to a date being fixed for a court hearing.

Negotiation - Renewed approaches have been made to the Committee by the authorities of the Uniting Church in Australia to negotiate for a change in the name by both denominations rather than proceed with its litigation. The Committee received a written submission from the above authorities. The outcome of negotiations will be appended as an addendum to this report for presentation to the G.A.A.

Administration - The Committee recognised at the outset the enormity of the task given to it by the G.A.A.; namely, to continue the Australian Inland Mission and to re-establish this work with no administrative and field resources to hand*. The Committee had to acknowledge it did not possess office staff nor any institution to administer nor padres to give ministry to inland areas. Indeed, initially it had no funds!

The Committee set about the task undaunted and looked at the prospects of establishing the traditional patrol ministries as an initial step and for this purpose the Committee invited submissions from the various States of Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and New South Wales.

The Committee recognising its limitations at this juncture'authorized the Convener to assume the responsibilities and duties, as far as practical, of the Superintendent of the A.I.M. as such functions are defined in the Regulations Division H, A.I.M. Board, 202 G.A.A. Code...and such authorization remain until such time that the G.A.A. can consider the appointment of a Superintendent'. (Recorded in the Committee's Minutes 14th October, 1978.)

The Convener has undertaken these duties as far as possible attending to the various aspects of administration as these have developed since the appointment of the Committee...being personally responsible for all clerical work, deputation speaking, visitation inter-state, article writing and treasurer in financial matters. It is apparent as the Mission increases its scope of activity and expenditure other more practical arrangements will have to be made to cope with the work. At the moment everything that is done by members of the Committee is voluntary and within the limits of their capacity and time.

Field - The Committee entered into negotiations with the Church in South Australia in order to establish a patrol ministry based upon Port Augusta and Whyalla with dual responsibility in financing same. The Convener visited the areas as named above and met with interested parties and negotiated an acceptable agreement. Initially, it was doubtful whether A.I.M. finance would be sufficient to meet its proportion of costs towards the scheme but on request the Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust agreed to lend sufficient funds (repayable against the Property Commission's allocation in due course) to enable the patrol ministry to start. It is noted that no funds were drawn upon The Trustees; sufficient funds meanwhile were generated from donations within the Church.

The Committee was greatly pleased when Rev. James C. Harris, B.A., B.D. intimated his interest in the appointment to the Port August/Whyalla Patrol Ministry. Mr. Harris (remaining in the Presbyterian Church of Australia) completed his tour of duty with the Uniting Church in Australia as a padre at Kunnanurra, Western Australia. The Committee appointed Mr. Harris to the new patrol as from 1st March, 1979, and the Presbytery of Torrens set him apart to his work at a service held at Port Augusta on 9th March, 1979. The Moderator General sent his best wishes for the occasion; the Convener prepared the Narration of Steps and took part in the service.

Initially, Mr. Harris will consolidate the parish work in Port Augusta and Whyalla and then survey and implement a patrol ministry in the environs of the north of South Australia. Mr. Harris will work in co-operation with the local Session but is responsible for his work to the Committee.

Correspondence continues with the Presbyteries of Rockhampton and Western Australia in the matter of A.I.M. interest being extended in a practical form in these areas. Consideration was given to possible needs in the Northern Territory but no specific action has been taken by the Committee in this area.

Regulations - Consideration was given to the 1977 G.A.A. injunction 'to report to the next G.A.A. on its (the Committee's) future powers and functions'. (Minute 26 Clause i(iv)). The Committee considers the existing Regulations impractical to follow (Code 202 G.A.A.) and therefore proposes to have them repealed and substituted with a new set of regulations.

Financial - The Committee has not yet appropriated the Property Commission's allocation of \$106,337 into its own accounts. The amount is held by the Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust on the basis of interest accruing until such time as a vesting day may be declared for the general division of all funds held in respect to the two denominations or until the Committee specifically requests a transfer of the amount to its own books of account.

Due attention has been given to the matter of publicity for the generating of funds and proper wording of wills, legacies and bequests. Many people (individually and collectively) have been generous with their donations allowing the Committee to presently pay its way...but if the work is to expand in the propositions hoped for then the financial resources of the Church will need to be obtained and instituted as capital for investment. An example of such interest is the resolve of the N.S.W. Presbyterian Women's Association to devote the proceeds of the 1980 Market to the patrol ministry in the north of South Australia. The Committee records its thanks to the P.W.A. in N.S.W. and all who have given of their resources in talent, treasure and prayer.

The Committee's income has come mostly from N.S.W. and this is not unexpected for the greater proportion of Presbyterians since church union now reside within this State and also a greater share of publicity is generated here. However, it is hoped that other States will assist in publicising the A.I.M. and generate giving to its funds. ..even to the extent that each State Assembly will make an allocation as have N.S.W. and Tasmania.

The expenditure on legal matters anent the Uniting Church in Australia litigation is not yet fully assessed nor can this be at this stage. Should the litigation be not proceeded with, the Committee will request the authorities of the Uniting Church in Australia to meet the costs of our Church which already are considerable.

The matter of determining the rightful and proper beneficiaries of legacies...where these fall due and dated pre-union and designated 'Australian Inland Mission' or 'Australian Inland Mission of the Presbyterian Church of Australia'...will continue to exercise the supervision and determination of the Committee in conjunction with the Law Officers of the Assembly. The Committee believes such supervision and determination will be a continuing matter irrespective of the outcome of the present legal action pending; a joint advisory body of the two denominations may have to be appointed to undertake such work.

Appreciation - The Committee places on record its gratitude to the G.A.A. for the measure of its confidence imposed upon this Committee to undertake the rebuilding of the Mission traditionally known as the A.I.M. and to express thanks to Almighty God for the responsibility therein and whereby He has blessed the work of His servants in Christ's Name.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

(min 88)

The Committee entered into direct communication with authorities of the Uniting Church in Australia at the said authorities request in order to negotiate a satisfactory settlement appropriate to the use of the name 'Australian Inland Mission' or its abbreviation 'A.I.M.' It is apparent to the Committee that the Uniting Church in Australia would prefer such a settlement to the litigation that sought to prevent the Presbyterian Church of Australia from using the above name. Likewise, the Committee is not anxious to be involved in such litigation, even though the matter of legal action was initiated by the Uniting Church in Australia. All parties recognise that a problem exists and in some respects it is of a mutual nature.

The Committee acknowledges the sincere wish of the Uniting Church in Australia to come to terms with the complex problem and in reciprocal spirit has proceeded on a mutual basis to draw up jointly a Statement and Heads of Agreement, which document is hereunder appended for the approval of the General Assembly of Australia.

A simplistic analysis of the situation is that neither church will use the word 'Australian' in the title of their respective Missions and for this the Presbyterian Church of Australia is assured in the terms of the Heads of Agreement that the Uniting Church in Australia will withdraw the costly litigation at the appropriate time and that a joint committee will review and determine the proper beneficiaries of legacies, bequests etc. bequeathed to the Australian Inland Mission of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Committee has been assured by its legal advisers that the proposal enunciated in the Heads of Agreement will in no way prevent the ongoing development of the Mission nor prevent it from being the beneficiary, in appropriate cases, to the legacies, bequests etc. bequeathed to the Australian Inland Mission of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA

and

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

Toward an Agreement Relative to the Work Generally Known

as 'Inland Mission', and as to the Use of the Name

'AUSTRALIAN INLAND MISSION'

Statement.

Whereas the Presbyterian Church and the Uniting Church both have, and intend to continue, a mission to Inland Australia; and

Whereas in each case that work perpetuates aspects of, or similar to, the Inland Mission Work carried on before union (22nd June, 1977) by the Presbyterian Church and

Whereas in the case of both the Presbyterian Church and the Uniting Church the work now proceeding has in part a common origin and a common history; and

Whereas both have desired to continue to use the former name by which that work is known, namely the Australian Inland Mission, and Australian Inland Mission Frontier Services; and

Whereas a difference of view has arisen between the two churches as to the right to use that name; and

Whereas there is a common concern on the part of the two churches as to confusions that could arise should both persist in the use of that name; and

Whereas each church seeks to settle the difference by mutual agreement this document purports to set out certain heads of agreement, to be developed and settled by the two churches concerned.

Heads of Agreement.

1. Use of Name

- (i) (a) Each of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and the Uniting Church in Australia agree not to use otherwise than is herein authorized, the combination of words, Australian Inland Mission, or the initials A.I.M., as the title of an activity of the respective churches.
 - (b) Each church shall be entitled to use the following titles for the activity formerly named or including the words 'Australian Inland Mission' -
 - 1. The Presbyterian Inland Mission (Successor in the Presbyterian Church to the Australian Inland Mission founded 1912) .
 - 2. The Uniting Church Inland Mission (Successor in the Uniting Church to the Australian Inland Mission founded 1912).
 - (c) Neither church shall be obliged to include the sub-title referred to in (b)
 - 1. & 2.
 - (d) Each church shall be entitled to vary the names referred to in 1. & 2. by the addition of the words 'of Australia' or 'in Australia' as part of the name respective churches.
 - (e) Each church shall not by virtue of this agreement be prevented from changing the name of the said activity subject to the limitations of this agreement.
 - (f) The Uniting Church shall be entitled to use the name 'The Uniting Church Inland Mission Frontier Services' and the provision for the variation of names and titles in this agreement shall apply mutatis mutandis.
- (ii) Neither church will derogate from the claim of the other to a heritage derived from the Australian Inland Mission of the pre-union Presbyterian Church, or deny that the other is in true succession from the mission work. Neither church will at any time promulgate the impression that it is in sole succession.

2. Publicity

In order to explain the present situation and to advise as to how wills and other instruments creating a benefit for either church should be drawn in order to direct that benefit to either of the respective parties, it is agreed.

- (a) from the date this agreement comes into effect neither church will engage in

the promulgations of announcements and publicity which derogates from or denies the other church the common heritage derived from the pre-union Australian Inland Mission.

(b) it is agreed that within the journals of the respective churches and in publicity directed by either church to its own membership it shall not be obligatory to make reference to the work of the other church.

3. Interpretation of Wills etc.

The Churches will appoint (and as long as may be necessary will continue in operation) a committee to consider the interpretation of wills and other instruments in existence at the date of union creating a beneficial interest which, had they come into effect prior to union, would have been for the benefit of the Australian Inland Mission and its related activities and agencies - it's duty being,

- (i) in cases where it is clear as to who is the intended beneficiary to facilitate the passing of the benefaction to that party.
- (ii) in cases where circumstances so require to negotiate with the executors and with the potential beneficiaries toward a resolution of any will or instrument the intention of which is in doubt.
- (iii) as and when necessary to make a joint approach to the relevant courts for opinion, direction or advice as to the interpretation of such instrument.
- (iv) to inform both churches of any matters in process to enable them to make any submission or claim relevant to the issue.

4. Confirmation of Agreement

Upon the General Assembly of Australia approving the Statement and Heads of Agreement, the Uniting Church in Australia will withdraw litigation presently proceeding in the Supreme Court of New South Wales as the 'A.I.M.' case and will contribute to the costs of the litigation incurred by the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

5. Implementation of Agreement

Consequent upon the Uniting Church in Australia and the Presbyterian Church of Australia agreeing to the proposal contained within this document, the proposal becomes effective as soon as practical thereafter and for this purpose a committee be formed, each church appointing an agreed number of representatives, representative of its work in inland mission, and such committee be responsible for the implementation of these proposals other than as set out in item 3.

Norman Monsen,
CONVENER.

BENEFICIARY FUND.

(min 98)

The Committee has met on a number of occasions and the following principles upon which a Federal Beneficiary Fund could be established were agreed to:

1. That there be a Federal Beneficiary Fund (F.B.F.)
2. That the Committee acknowledges that there are certain advantages in establishing the Federal Fund under the New South Wales Act of 1929 and seeks to investigate ways and means of so establishing the fund.
3. That the F.B.F. as far as is financially possible provide the best benefits that exist in the present Funds.
4. That the F.B.F. be an actuarial based Fund providing an annual pension of approximately 1/3 of Notional stipend as recommended by the Federal Beneficiary Fund Committee in consultation with the Actuary and confirmed by the Assembly with the provision for the full computation to a lump sum on retirement. (The Notional Stipend to be as near as possible to Actual Stipend).
5. That the F.B.F. have a contingent Benefit of approximately 3 to 4 times Notional stipend in the event of a minister's death before the age of 65 years.
6. That the F.B.F. receive Contributions as follows:
 1. Members 5% Notional Stipend
 Congregations/Committee 7% Notional Stipend
 2. That there be a scale of charges (refer Regulation 23)
 3. That from time to time there would be received legacies, gifts and other special contributions.
7. That the F.B.F. provide a Cost of Living adjustment up to an increase of 5% *p.a.* payable only if the Actuary were satisfied that the state of the Fund would permit.
8. That the F.B.F. be administered by the Federal Committee.
 That the administrative work be carried out by the N.S.W. Church Office.
 That the N.S.W. Trustees be responsible for the investment of funds. (It was noted that the Queensland Fund would prefer that the F.B.F. be handled by a life office).
9. That the Committee acknowledges the desirability of the pension being paid at 65 years of age irrespective of retirement or otherwise.

The Principles were circulated to State Committees and while there was general agreement on the desirability of establishing a Federal Fund there were objections to some of the principles:

e.g. in the administration of the Fund
 in the benefit offered - annuity/Lump Sum

The Committee draws attention to the considerable divergence between the various State Funds and of the difficulty in drawing them together into a Common Scheme. It would seem that a new fund designed basically to serve the needs of newly-ordained Ministers is the most satisfactory course to follow.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.
 (min 98)

The Convener took advantage of a pre-Assembly meeting with Victorian representatives of the Beneficiary Fund together with Mr. Huntley Walker to consider ways and means of moving forward immediately to establish a Beneficiary Fund suitable for the whole

of the Australian Church. The principles in the Report were received and helpful comments were made.

P.E. Boase,
CONVENER.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

(min 38)

The ad hoc committee on Christian Education was appointed on 23rd June, 1977, in a vacuous situation - article ix anent Christian Education being in process of repeal, the Joint Board of Christian Education having gone to the Uniting Church and the General Assembly having resolved not to exercise its option of membership in the new circumstances (min. 22, 23rd June, 1977). Members were appointed to the Committee soon afterwards, the N.S.W. members forming the executive.

Members of the executive were anxious not to infringe on the rights of state committees, and through various contacts, found that Christian Education was proceeding satisfactorily in all states. The Committee's major activity has been in providing Christian Education materials which are not available from other reputable sources. To this end we have published "A Communicant's Work Book", "Our Presbyterian Faith", "Elder's Roll Book and Hand Book", "A Guide for Parents Seeking Baptism for Their Children", Baptismal and Confirmation Certificates, "Live" Vol. I, a history of Church planting in the New Hebrides, Personal Daily Bible, Study Note pads and "Power in the Pulpit". In each case these materials have met a real need and found a ready market, so that having begun with no resources, financial or otherwise, we now have a stock-pile of materials and two publication accounts with healthy credit balances for future publications. The Committee will be pleased to receive suggestions for needed materials, comments on publications already in print, and manuscripts for possible publication. Naturally, donations towards publications are also most welcome from parishes» organisations and individuals.

There has been one full meeting of the Committee since the last Assembly, as a result of which there was a sharing of Christian Education work in each state. A proposed article of agreement and regulations to cover future Christian Education work were approved and are submitted to the General Assembly.

It is proposed that a Board of Christian Education be appointed as a special Committee by each General Assembly to avoid the membership requirement of a standing committee and to allow the fullest possible consultation and co-operation to take place with State Conveners or their deputies being members of the Board.

The ad hoc Committee on Christian Education thanks the General Assembly for the privilege of serving the Church and acknowledges complete indebtedness to Almighty God for His sustaining grace in all our endeavours. We pray that His blessing will rest upon those who participate in this work in the future so that Christian Education can proceed in a spirit of co-operation between the states, in obedience to the will of the General Assembly, and in complete dependence on Almighty God.

C.R. Thomas,
CONVENER.

CHURCH AND NATION COMMITTEE.

(min 29)

The Committee has met several times during the past two years. It has published two resource booklets which are designed to be used within congregations. The first booklet has the title CHRISTIANITY...THE WAY OR ONE OF MANY? This booklet touches on fundamental theological issues that lie behind a consideration of the more obvious issues of Christian social concern. The second booklet which has the title THE CHRISTIAN AS A CITIZEN is designed to quicken an interest in the field of Christian social concern, and especially the responsibility of some Christian people actively participating in the public life. Both these booklets are available in the Presbyterian bookroom in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. Copies are also available from the Convener.

The report concentrates on four areas of interest; namely unemployment, Women in the Service of Christ, the Eldership in the Church today, and aims and aspirations of the Australian nation in the final quarter of the twentieth century.

The Committee acknowledges help received from various people beyond its membership, especially Dr. Alec Robertson of the Session of St. Andrew's, Wagga Wagga, who prepared the section on unemployment in dialogue with the Committee.

Unemployment.

Introduction - This paper does not attempt to do more than examine in an introductory way the general characteristics of the problem of unemployment in Australia and to point to some biblical principles which bear on the stance the Church might adopt on this issue.

In addition to a variety of newspaper reports, and comments and discussion in other media, much of the source material has been drawn from an A.I.D.A. publication, "Understanding Unemployment" (Australian Industries Development Association, 1978), a speech by Mr. R.J. Hawke, President of the A.C.T.U. to a Summer School, University of Western Australia, January 1979, and the monograph by Alan Richardson, "The Biblical Doctrine of Work" (S.C.M. Press, 1952). All of these writings are commended to any reader seeking greater information and insight.

It is a particular concern that the Church, in response to the revealed will of God, be active and compassionate in meeting this serious, destructive and divisive problem and that she should exercise her influence to see that the causes and the effects of unemployment are speedily removed.

The Fact of Unemployment - Since World War II Australia, along with most of the developed world, has enjoyed a period of very low unemployment. Apart from two periods of economic recession the rate of unemployment remained below 2% of the workforce and was generally close to 1%. This 1% was believed to be made up of persons moving between jobs and the 'chronically unemployable'. However, during the seventies, the rate of unemployment has grown spectacularly. There is debate, and a certain amount of posturing, on the question of the severity of unemployment, but it cannot now be denied that we have a rate of unemployment higher than at any time during the previous forty years, perhaps 5 to 10 times that typical of that period. Some sectors have been particularly affected, whilst some other groups have been relatively unaffected. In broad terms the less skilled and less experienced have been passed over or displaced in the competition for the available employment. At the end of this competition the unskilled and the young tend to find themselves making up a large proportion of the unemployed. Unemployment in the 15 - 19 age group has topped 20% at times during the past 2 years and has not fallen below 15%.

At the same time, among the employed there may well be many who, while pleased to be in employment, find their ambitions and aspirations frustrated as a result of the need to work in a job neither utilising their skills nor providing the career path they might have expected.

Unemployment among the professionally trained, with the exception of teaching, has not yet become serious (less than 2%) although there have been some gloomy forecasts. On the other hand the manufacturing and building industries have been hard hit, with a fall of about 30% in employment since the start of the decade.

Further to complicate the picture in detail, there are areas requiring particular skills, for example computer specialists, where there is still a shortage of workers.

It can with certainty be said that the nation and the Church are facing an unemployment problem of very serious proportions which brings with it theological, social, economic and political issues of great moment and pressing urgency.

The Future of Unemployment - Some experts and commentators claim, that the notion of full employment has passed away with the dodo and the carrier pigeon and that we must address ourselves to a new social and political order in which a significant proportion of those able to work will not find employment in the sense that we presently understand.

The expectation of the 50's and 60's was that virtually the entire population would have an extended period of active leisure at the end of a working life itself characterised by considerable leisure. In the 70's a whole section of expert leadership appears to be suggesting that part of the community can look forward to long periods of enforced 'leisure' with an income too small to enjoy the packages of the leisure industry.

More conservative commentators see the present situation as an aberration which can be corrected, producing a return to something like earlier levels of employment.

Whatever longer term view is taken, it has not proved possible to find a single authority prepared to predict a significant improvement in the unemployment position in the near future. The length of the period during which high unemployment exists is itself a very important matter. Conditions which might be tolerated by individuals, communities or the entire nation for brief periods may be ruinous if maintained over long periods. Already Australia has known five years of increasing unemployment. The most optimistic views indicate at least some years before a substantial improvement.

The costs of Unemployment

- (a) Economic - Our political and economic leaders are grappling with economic problems which seem to be extremely intractable. The remedies proposed and implemented are severe and are producing some degree of discomfort. Whether unemployment is a cause or an effect or both may be debated elsewhere, but the direct cost to the community of our unemployment is recognised and can be estimated with some accuracy.

In 1978/79 unemployment benefits were budgetted at \$925m. Actual expenditure will exceed this figure by at least \$100m. Something like \$150m. will be spent on other direct forms of unemployment related schemes.

If it is assumed that the unemployed could have been employed in similar work

to be employed population, in lost income tax alone at least \$900m will be foregone by the Government in 1978/79. Loss of other income related taxes makes the total money cost of unemployment staggering.

The combined effects of unemployment related payments and income foregone place the Government in the position of either raising more money from the employed sector, or reducing its expenditure if it wishes to avoid large deficits. Thus the direct money cost of unemployment is spread over the whole community.

Beyond the costs to the Government the economic costs to individuals and the nation are enormous. To the unemployed the economic cost is acute, urgent and obvious, but the cost is spread, albeit less acutely, across the whole community. The cost to the Government is transferred quite directly to all taxpayers. Services which otherwise might be provided are lost. Business activity is reduced, even though the unemployed spend what money they have fairly completely and quickly. There is a major cost to business in under-used capital, productive-capacity and often in reduced efficiency.

It has even been suggested that there is a significant public cost in terms of increased crime resulting from unemployment, although this does not seem to have been demonstrated clearly.

- (b) Social Costs - Although the economic costs of unemployment, particularly to the unemployed, are plainly of great significance, as the period of high unemployment is prolonged, the social costs loom as perhaps more serious and more permanent.

The notion that all who can should work is so much a part of the mores of our society that prolonged high unemployment must cause stresses and a calling into question of those values, not only by the unemployed, but by the whole society.

Some evidence is already clear that social issues are becoming of central importance. For some time a significant section of the community has regarded the unemployed simply as 'dole bludgers', misfits unworthy of a real place in the society. Such a view is divisive and unhelpful in finding a solution to a real problem. It does however demonstrate the nature of a deep social issue resulting from unemployment. There is a constant temptation for a division to be created between the unemployed and the rest of the community. The unemployed may feel rejected, misled and angry with a society largely unconcerned with their plight and sometimes abusive. The employed may feel aggrieved with the burden of supporting the unemployed and threatened in the competition for employment.

Beyond this however is the increasing possibility that the unemployed, feeling rejected by the society, will, in turn, reject the values approved by the society. This possibility, in the minds of many, makes a pool of unemployment a serious threat to the very fabric of the society. This seems to be particularly serious when one considers the level of unemployment among the young. This is the group most likely to have its view of the society's values permanently modified by a long period out of work. The young in any case frequently question society's values. If they find that the society has no place for them in work, and often then criticises their failure to find work, they may well feel justified in rejecting that society's values, perhaps even the society itself. There exists a potential that persons antipathetic towards society's values, could exploit the situation of the young unemployed particularly.

An earlier generation, experiencing the trauma of the Great Depression, created a significant shift in political and social values. There is no reason to believe that the present recession, if prolonged, will do less. Certainly the possibility of one fifth of the youth of the nation unable to find work for, say, a decade would strain modern Australian society to an unprecedented extent.

In the realm of education there has been a sharp shift in emphasis due to the employment difficulties. There are few cries for education for self development and for leisure, cries which were very familiar a decade ago, but there are loud and persistent cries for more job training and more tie between education and the job market. Students themselves are selecting courses which lead to good job prospects, rather than those for which they necessarily have any real vocation.

Social workers frequently point out that youth, having left the relative security of school, are unable to cope with the problem of unemployment. The attack on their financial and personal independence, their self-esteem and status in the society, can easily lead to serious and long term social problems, including the loss of any desire to work and a general retreat from the society.

The Causes and the Cures - The causes of unemployment in economic terms are complex and widespread. One of the major difficulties confronting national Government seems to be that the problem is so complex and so universal that perhaps only a universal solution will suffice.

The link between unemployment and inflation is daily attested in our newspapers, but the causal relationship seems to be more a matter of economic doctrine than of clear demonstration. This nation's economic performance and inflation rate are closely tied to factors relatively outside this nation's control in several respects. These include oil prices, investment patterns of trans-national companies, world trading policies, especially the tendency towards protectionism, even demographic patterns in the nations which are our trading partners. Internal factors affecting both inflation and unemployment seem to include labour cost escalation, structural changes as some industries decline or require less labour, technological changes displacing labour which cannot readily adapt and demographic factors, in particular the changing age distribution of the Australian population.

It is not the purpose of this paper to evaluate these causes. That would require an expert analysis beyond our scope. We can merely reiterate, on the basis of an almost universal consensus, that the causes of unemployment are complex and not all within the control of this nation.

Quite beyond the economic causes we can note that at least in part the problems are due to the ease with which men and women are prepared to prosper at one another's expense. It would be difficult to believe that the command of Jesus that we 'love our neighbour as ourselves' has penetrated our economic, commercial, industrial and international policy areas as He would wish.

The cures of unemployment seem to be at least as obscure and complex as the causes. We have, almost uniquely, agreement among the Government, business leaders and trade union leaders that the unemployment problem is particularly intractable in the short term.

At present the Government is pursuing a policy which asserts that unemployment will be reduced when inflation is controlled and that key aspect in the control of inflation is a reduction in real wages.

Other specific 'cures' are myriad. Each of these schemes has its supporters and equally all have their detractors. Most commentators seem to agree that any solution will be a combination of many factors and may well be determined to a considerable extent by the priority placed upon the problem among the array of difficulties facing our national leadership.

The Church, Work and Unemployment - No doubt since earliest days believers have had views about work. Some have seen work as a punitive result of man's sinfulness, other have seen purifying quality in honest labour. In a small but comprehensive work Alan Richardson examines "The Biblical Doctrine of Work" (S.C.M. Press, 1952). Among many other things he points out that work is ordained for man by God the Creator, standing not as a punishment for sin, not as a means of man's rehabilitation, but as part of the "natural law". It may even be argued that those profound early chapters of Genesis establish that man is by Divine plan a worker and that "to be denied the opportunity of work is to be treated as something less than a human being", (op. cit. . 25). This view makes serious unemployment totally abhorrent to the Christian Church as a denial of God's express plan for mankind.

It is doubtful whether the concept of unemployment in the modern industrial sense was known to the biblical writers but the important principle is clear.

Richardson (ibid) concludes that it is also the biblical view that a society in which the opportunities and rewards of labour are shared is better than one in which labour is frustrated, exploited or inadequately rewarded, and that the honourable status of labour has been frustrated by human sin. Accepting this position the Church must be concerned to see unemployment removed and also to see that as far as lies in Her power the familiar scene of self-seeking, rivalry and exploitation in the world of labour relations is brought under the transforming power of Christ so that the purposes of God can be achieved.

Just how this is to be done is not always agreed upon. However, believers can individually and in concert impress upon our national leaders in every sphere the need to strive more vigorously and more urgently to remove unemployment from the national scene, it must be recognised that Christians will have a variety of opinions about the means of reducing unemployment, but there ought not to be division on the need for its removal.

Since some authorities suggest that significant levels of unemployment will be a more or less permanent feature of western mixed economies such as ours, the time may well be ripe for the Church to examine anew its view of the traditional "Protestant work ethic". It has already been stated that work should be seen as ordained by God for the well-being of individuals and societies. However, there remain the questions of how to affirm the worth to society and to God of those persons who are unable to work by virtue of economic, educational or social factors and how to interpret "work" in an era when economic factors and technological changes are rapidly and radically altering the patterns of employment and unemployment.

It may well be possible for Christians to take a more positive stance on some ways of alleviating the plight of those already unemployed. First there is the biblical view that labour ought properly to be for the common good. Some persons, acting with notably high purpose, and including numbers of Christians, have shown themselves willing to share the benefits of their own employment with those not able to find work. This has sometimes been through job creation, job sharing or even retirement at an early date. These actions do not solve the problem as a whole, but they may go far to solving particular individual problems and are living evidence of a spirit to meet the need.

Then, there are the very real financial and personal difficulties of the unemployed. Various Governmental and private agencies are, of course, active here, but the Church is particularly charged with being the expression of Christ's redemptive love. To the unemployed man (or woman), perhaps doubting his worth, perhaps angry with the society, perhaps unable to provide adequately for a family, the fact of God's love is Good News indeed. If that love is conveyed through an active concern by the Church standing beside in troubled times then the work of Christ goes on.

Many individual Christians and congregations are well placed to contact and to assist the unemployed. In some places this is being done, but perhaps in others there is reluctance to act because of uncertainty about what to do or how best to assist. A positive approach can be seen only as an expression of the compassionate and practical love of Christ.

Women in the Service of Christ

(Mrs Mary Grant)

During the 1970's legislation has been introduced in most States of the Commonwealth to eliminate discrimination from both legislation and social attitudes. A notable aspect of this anti-discrimination legislation is the desire to eliminate discrimination against women purely on the basis of their sexuality. Equality of opportunity in the fields of education and employment is a widely accepted social attitude in this country today.

The Church must be very careful that in its total life it does not discriminate against women purely on the basis of sexuality. Should such discrimination be expressed in terms of opportunity of service within the eldership and ministry, then it must be rooted in very substantial Biblical and theological soil. Women have in fact historically played a significant and prominent part in the service of Christ. The Presbyterian Church today must be perceptive of the spiritual gifts of women, as of men, and ensure that all in the body of the Kirk have full opportunity to exercise those gifts to the glory of God.

It is almost impossible to undertake any serious study into the ministry of women in the Church without being aware of the enormous influence that the prejudices of our culture and traditions have exerted. Within the Body of Christ male chauvinists, women libbers and all the gradations between exist as they do in our society. So often in debates, Scripture texts are hurled like weapons against each other in futility. There is a tremendous need to read and listen to Scripture, not to re-inforce our own beliefs but to stand under God's authority and allow Him through the Word and the Spirit to shape our understanding. "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould, but let God re-make you so that your whole attitude of mind is changed" (Rom. 12 v.2. Phillips). There will need to be much mutual understanding and acceptance as we trust each other's honest search under God. Many questions have been raised as the old cultural pattern of a stereotyped role for all women is countered by the present emphasis on personal freedom and permissiveness. What has the Bible to say to the Church concerning the Christian woman who seeks to exercise her God-given gifts in the Church situation?

Eve was created as a 'help-meet' for Adam. This surely indicates a complementary, not a subordinate position in responsibility for service. In the Fall certainly Eve came under God's condemnation and her punishment included subjection to her husband. This of course is not to be permanent but is a part of sin's curse which is abolished by the Atonement. In spite of this subjection and the Jewish Oral Law which added terms to the concept, women in the Old Testament played very important roles.

Miriam was not only pious and God-fearing but she exercised a quasi-ministerial office. Deborah became a spiritual leader in Israel and a judge under whom the "land had rest forty years". Hannah, Samuel's mother, the little Jewish maid to the wife of Naaman, Huldah who prophesied to Josiah, all found no hindrance to their spiritual service. Women were allowed to become Nazarites but not Levites (the period for a Levite was from age 20 to 50 which were marriage and child-bearing years for women).

There were no women among the Twelve Apostles of Christ (nor were there Gentiles), but the Gospels often mention groups of women as followers; many Samaritans believed the witness of the woman at the well; Martha was encouraged to leave her domestic chores and join Mary at Jesus' feet; and Mary anointed Jesus, an act which revealed her deeper understanding of the words of Christ concerning His approaching death and resurrection.

It is however as the young Church commences that women take their place as the Holy Spirit endows them. Priscilla ministered with her husband and taught Apollos at least. Philip's daughters all prophesied; women of the "Way" were cast into prison; Lydia's home was the first Gentile "Church" Euodia and Syntyche were called "labourers in the gospel", the same designation as Paul used in speaking of Timothy; Chloe maintained a Christian household. Paul designated Phoebe "diakonos", a term he used himself in I Cor. 3:5, 6, 7 - 8, and Col. 1:23, and "rostatas" (this was the feminine noun corresponding with the masculine used in I Chron. 29:6 and II Chron. 8:10. The verbal equivalent is found in I Thess. 5:12 and I Tim. 5:17. To translate this as helper or good friend). From this description it seems more than possible that Phoebe was a preacher and leader in the early church.

Other prominent women were Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis, Nympha, Eunice, Lois, and Dorcas. There seemed no hindrance to the full operation of their God-given ministries, varied as they were. How then do we reconcile this liberty with the strict rules of conduct that Paul quotes in I Cor. 14 v.34, 35. and in I Tim 2. v.12? were these merely interim ethics so that the Law could be observed until Grace abounded? It has been said that "Paul set the Church permanently in tension with all forms of functional subordination of female to male by calling for mutual subordination in the family and the church as well as by pointing to the eschatological reality that there is neither male or female in Christ. The Church can never be content until the full personal and social implications of that eschatological reality are established and practiced in this age" (E. and D. Fraser. A Biblical View of Women).

The early centuries of Christianity gave us many outstanding women who were saints and martyrs. Paula assisted Jerome in translation; Scholastica established a companion order to her brother Benedict; Clare to Francis of Assisi and Hilda and Mother Julian had abbeys. The Protestant dissolution of the monasteries meant that the only vocation open to women was marriage or home help. With the coming of the nineteenth century and the opening of mission fields women played a very significant role. One has only to recall Mary Slessor, Ann Judson, Amy Carmichael and a hundred others (nearly every mission field had women as pioneers) in difficult lands. Catherine Booth and her daughters served in England in the slums. Women responded to the Great Commission. The seal on their work was the obvious blessing of God.

These women were rooted and grounded in Scripture and only sought to follow their Lord and yet often suffered as men questioned the Divine Authority for their ministry. John Wesley in his later years encouraged women to preach and found that some were leading congregations of over 2,000. Adam Clarke stated in his commentary

(1810) "under the blessed spirit of Christianity women have equal rights, equal privileges, and equal blessings, and let me add, they are equally useful".

In the last few years of the undivided Presbyterian Church women were able to train for the ministry and seek ordination, and also serve as elders on local sessions. This practice has been continued in some places and suspended in others. It would seem very important for the on-going life of the Church that the issue is clarified. There are many women who feel God has called them to serve within a family situation, on a local P.W.A. group, on a church roster; they need much encouragement. Other women sense that God has called them to other areas of service as the ordained ministry and eldership and men and women in the church must be aware of their gifts. In the years ahead our branch of the Body of Christ needs mutuality, partnership, interdependence and co-responsibility if the true life of God is to flow.

"Ecclesia semper reformanda"

Some references recommended by the Committee:-

- N.C. Deck - The Ministry of Women in the Church
- K. Giles - Women and their Ministry (Dove 1977)
- Paul Jewett - Man as Male and Female (Eerdmans 1975)
- K. Stendahl - The Bible and the Place of Women
- J. Jeremias - Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus

The Eldership Today

(Mr. Keith Swan)

Preamble - For almost a quarter century until 1977, the Presbyterian Church of Australia debated the question of entering a corporate union with the Congregational and Methodist Churches. On 22nd June, 1977, that corporate union became a reality in the Uniting Church in Australia, which included many former members of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

While those of us who continued Presbyterian grieved about the cutting of old ties in Christ, and asked God to bless the Uniting Church, we rejoiced that this divisive issue was settled in principle if not in detail, that we could now concentrate on 'glorifying God and enjoying Him for ever,' which the Shorter Catechism tells us is 'man's chief end.'

Since 1977 we have been unable to suppress a feeling of excitement that we are now 'back on course', that we can concentrate on the great task of spreading the Gospel of Salvation with a minimum of debate on contentious issues.

Now we believe it is time for this General Assembly of Australia to tell the nation, and to remind its own members, about its Faith and Order, which are inseparable; because, indeed, our firm convictions about Faith and Order prevented us from entering corporate union, though we profess unity with all who own Jesus Christ as Saviour. We emphasise that ours is a positive faith. We are not against this, or against that, or against the other thing as Christians.

For these reasons we speak with confidence to the Nation, and to the members of our Church, about Faith and Order.

A Confessional Church - In the first place, the Presbyterian Church is a Confessional

Church, affirming the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as our supreme standard, but accepting the Westminster Confession of Faith of 1645, with some modifications, as our subordinate standard. This Confession, giving the interpretation of Scripture held by Presbyterians, was adopted by the Commonwealth-wide Church when established in 1901, with provision for amendment when necessary.

Part of the Church Catholic - One of the great declarations of the Westminster Confession is the 'the visible Church, which is ... catholic or universal under the Gospel ... consists of all those throughout the world that profess the true religion, together with their children; and is the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ, the house and family of God.'

As the Presbyterian Church of Australia believes this, it follows that we perceive the Christian or Catholic Church to be a far more important entity than the Presbyterian Church. And it also follows that we welcome to the Lord's table in any Presbyterian Church - because it is the Lord's table and not a Presbyterian table - all who confess and obey Christ as their Lord and Saviour, whatever their denominational affiliation.

A Conciliar Church - In one sense church government is a matter of minor importance, FAITH being much more important than ORDER. But as the Presbyterian Church proclaims the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as its supreme standard; and as our polity or church government has been fashioned 'in conformity with and agreeable to the Word of God'; then Order is inseparable from, or is an integral part of, Faith.

Let us proclaim this with fervour : Christ is the Sovereign Ruler of His Church; Christ rules His Church through ordained officers whom He has called; and today, as it was in the first or New Testament Christian Church, His officers rule for Christ through a series of courts or councils. Hence we are a Conciliar Church because we accept the Scriptures as our supreme standard.

As Professor Norman McLeish said in 1942, 'government in the Presbyterian Church ... is not government by one man, but by brethren conferring together in accordance with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Thus, the congregation is under, not an individual minister, but a "session"; an ecclesiastical district is under, not a diocesan bishop, but a "presbytery"; the Church as a whole, in a national or other large area, is under, not a primate or archbishop, but a general "synod" or "assembly". And that this conciliar form of government is the sort of government of which we read in the New Testament, cannot reasonably be denied; for the letters of Paul to the Churches were addressed, not to single individuals in charge of these churches, but to the collegiate body of bishops of presbyters appointed in each of them.'

Moreover, in the councils or courts there is equality of status among the members, so that those members act together as brethren, as Christ enjoined us to do, under a duly elected chairman or 'moderator', who is primus inter pares, or first among equals.

A Theocratic rather than a Democratic Church - To regard Presbyterian polity as democratic is wrong, in spite of appearances. Carnegie Simpson described the situation clearly and accurately when he said, 'the Presbyterian Church takes its guiding principles not from Demos but from Christ, not from what is political but from what is religious. Presbyterianism, so far as it exhibits elements or popular democracy in its system, does this accidentally; its essential idea is theocratic. It is that the Church is 'composed of the people of God; and this supernatural society governs itself in His name.'

Eldership in the Presbyterian Church - The feature of our theocracy giving the appearance of popular democracy is the presence in all Presbyterian courts - session, presbytery, assemblies - of non-ministerial elders in at least as equal numbers as ministers. In one court - the session - they far outnumber the minister, who is that court's moderator.

The Bible gives abundant evidence of elders in the Jewish Church from as early as Moses, who appointed elders during the exodus from Egypt. Naturally, early Christian communities followed the Jewish example, and in the eleventh chapter of the Book of Acts, the last verse, we read of Barnabas and Saul taking gifts to the elders of the Jerusalem Church from the new Church in Antioch. This and many other examples in the Book of Acts and in Paul's Epistles show that there were 'ruling' elders in the New Testament Churches.

In the New Testament these men were called 'presbyters' which we have taken to include ministers, who not only 'rule' but also 'teach' and 'preach', and other elders who only 'rule'. In fact, Paul said in his First Letter to Timothy, 'the elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honour, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.' Whether this should be interpreted as indicating two distinct kinds of presbyters, ruling and ministerial; or whether it should be interpreted as meaning two functions of a single group called presbyters, is a matter of keen debate; but both ministers of word and sacraments and ruling elders are called by God and ordained for His service.

The Importance of Ruling Elders in the Presbyterian Church of Australia - Hitherto
we have been addressing the nation with the members of our Church listening. Now we address the Church, and trust that the nation will continue to listen.

We have already said that ruling elders, like ministers of the word and sacraments, are called by God and ordained for His service. Presbyterians know this full well, but it is well to remind ourselves of important facts from time to time. What a privilege and a responsibility this places upon those who serve as ruling elders, and upon the congregations who elect them.' What detailed study of the Supreme and Subordinate Standards of our Church this responsibility demands.' How can we ever discharge this responsibility without remaining dependent upon the grace of the God and Father of us all?

Down the years many have attested to the powerful influence of ruling elders. Almost two centuries ago J.G. Lockhart, Sir Walter Scott's son-in-law, spoke of the elders in small country parishes of Scotland as 'men selected to discharge the function of their office on account of the exemplary propriety and purity of their long lives?'

In our own generation, Professor Henderson of Aberdeen has referred to 'the kindness and sympathy, ... the powerful example, and ... the shrewd judgement of these representatives of the people.'

As recently as 3 April, 1977 at a rally in Saint Paul's Church, Brisbane, Rev. Donald MacNair from the Reformed Presbyterian Church of the United States of America said the experience of his own denomination was that 'the future of the Church is as bright as the eldership is qualified and committed.'

Before concluding, we commend to all the following propositions of Lawrence R. Eyres in the booklet The Elders of the Church:

- * Elders are made by the Holy Spirit of Christ.
- * Adult (Confessing) Christians are endowed with the spiritual capacity to discern those whom the Holy Spirit has made elders.

Elders, in the fulfillment of their holy calling, hold the key to the health of the congregations under their rule.

- * Biblical submission to elders cannot be expected except where the congregation has exercised its choice as to who its elders should be.
- No man can safely be ordained to the office of elder who does not possess all the biblically stated qualifications for that office.

The elders of the church are co-pastors, and every use of the office should reflect this fact.

Conclusion - Finally, we re-iterate that the Presbyterian Church of Australia is part of the Church Catholic; a Church having as its Supreme Standard the Word of God; a Confessional Church having as its Subordinate Standard the Westminster Confession of Faith read in the light of the Declaratory Statement of 1901; and a Conciliar, Theocratic Church whose polity has been fashioned 'in conformity with and agreeable to the Word of God.' It is moreover, utterly dependent for its witness on 'elders ... made by the Holy Spirit of Christ.'

We present this statement - and our loyalty in Christ - to the nation; and we urge our members both to study the statement earnestly and prayerfully, and to involve themselves actively in the discussions and conferences being arranged by many Presbyteries .

Whither Australia?

An absent minded Bishop, was travelling by train to a distant part of his Diocese. On the way he lost his ticket. He was well known to the train guards and when he became agitated about his loss they reassured him with the words, "It's quite alright, sir, you need not worry, we know you and are prepared to take you without your ticket", to which the somewhat irate Bishop replied, "It may be alright for you, but what about me - I don't know where I'm going."

Where is Australia heading? What are we trying to achieve? Are we merely endeavouring to create a materialistic utopia, a welfare State in which all the material requirements of the people are satisfied?

Prince Charles in a recent address to the Australian Academy of Science pointed to what he defined as "the decline in moral courage". He quoted Alexander Solzhenitzyn as saying that "it is dangerous for the future of mankind and for western society as a whole to think solely in terms of the advancement of the world through the benefits of material science."

In addition to the advancement of material wealth through the development of science and technology, this nation must be directly concerned with the things of the spirit if we are to survive, and if we are to make a notable contribution to mankind.

Australia in the 1970's is factionalised and fragmented. We seem to lack a vision that unites the people. We seem to be deprived of a unity of purpose that is essential for national greatness. Individuals and vested interests seem to be concerned solely with their own advancement and we widely lack any real understanding of the common good or the public interest.

It is essential for this nation of Australia to develop ceremonies and symbols that will unite the people. Given a plurality of commercial, social, religious and ethnic differences, it is crucial that a national understanding and unity of purpose be developed that will bind the differing and often warring factions together.

Greed and selfishness are the acids eating into the Australian nation today. These ancient vices of human nature have become institutionalised. The strike weapon has become an offensive weapon to bludgeon a union's way to a position of privilege. The power of corporate capital is as selfish and wilful. Public accountability in the use of all forms of power in the nation is required, and a feeling for the common good or the national interest is vital.

The nation singularly lacks leadership that is given the trust and enjoys the confidence of a wide cross-section of the community. The political and economic polarisation of the early 1970's continues to grip the nation. We need national leadership that is prepared to lead by example. "Moral courage" referred to by Prince Charles is required. Yet that moral courage within our Western European tradition has always rested on a Christian foundation. Today Australia is a highly secular society. "God" for many Australians has no relevance to the commercial and social aspirations of the people. Love of thy neighbour is based on a humanitarian concern. This is a worthy but fragile foundation.

Hans Kung in *SIGNPOSTS FOR THE FUTURE* touches on the real nerve of the national disorder we are experiencing today.

"The Christian message begins at the point which no state constitution, no economic, social, or cultural system can really reach; the point at which man experiences a change of heart, at his personal centre. This is what politicians, economists, and sociologists desire but do not achieve, what Karl Marx also demanded in vain: "A new human being". But the renewal of man can come only from his personal centre. From that centre he acquires a different basic attitude to life, a different life style: it is there that he sets up different priorities in his life, another measure of what is important, so that the very palpable economic values in particular are no longer regarded as supreme. This is what the sermon on the mount and indeed the Christian message as a whole demands, promises, offers, and makes possible."

The tone of the nation would be vastly different if our civic and national leaders set an inspiring example to the people. Attendance at Divine worship, for example, means acknowledging God, and respecting His laws and ways, and seeking His guidance. It is when people low and humble, or high and prominent on the social ladder, regularly attend public worship of Almighty God that "the new human being" is possible.

Australia today needs leaders who by their moral courage can express the virtues of the Christian ethic in legislation and social attitudes: virtues such as righteousness, honesty, integrity, trust, compassion, a sensitive attitude of caring towards the needy, the frail and the weak, and a regard for the common good.

Although most people of this nation desire the Christian ethic, and the virtues that flow from it, they too often eliminate the foundation upon which it truly rests. Jesus said that there were two great commandments, namely to love God and to love the neighbour. The former without the latter produces an irrelevant piety: the latter without the former results in a shallow humanitarianism which is unable to withstand the pressures of greed, selfishness and the deceptions of the human heart.

Two passages of Scripture are relevant to the national malaise of Australia. First; "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Ps. 111:10. The forces of secularism need to be arrested. Acknowledging God, respecting his Laws and seeking his guidance should be a first priority to our national leaders and the people of this country. Second; "Where there is no vision the people perish". Proverbs 29:18. We need to develop a vision of the future of this country; we need to define goals, and fashion the directions the nation should follow.

Christian men and women can lift the nation above the crass materialism and the shallow hedonism and the blatant greed that is evident in all walks of life today. Within schools and local communities a spirit of nationalism needs to be fostered. It is of crucial importance that Church people enter public life. The Gospel of Christ applies both to individuals and to the corporate dimensions of society. Society can be built upon the Christian ethic only when Christian men and women enter the public life and see that policies based on those values are translated into legislation.

Campbell Egan,
CONVENER.

CODE COMMITTEE
(min 12)

The Code Committee has been asked by another committee whether women are eligible for admission to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. For reasons that hereafter appear, the Code Committee felt that it was not in a position to provide a definitive answer to this question, and considers that this is a matter that must be determined by the General Assembly. The Church cannot indefinitely tolerate a situation in which some say that the Church has decided the matter and others say this has not been done. Therefore without seeking as a committee either to favour or to oppose the admission of women to the ministry, it felt it was the appropriate body to set in motion the necessary procedure to achieve a conclusive determination of the matter.

The committee points out that quite regardless of any issue concerning the standing of purported legislation, what has been done to date to achieve this end, if otherwise validly enacted, has been constitutionally incapable of bringing about the eligibility of women to be admitted to the ministry. It was sought to add words to Article VIII(a) of the Articles of Agreement, which read, "All candidates for licence shall be students who have been regularly trained at some Theological Hall recognised by the General Assembly." The additional words were, "Women shall be eligible for admission to the ministry of the Word and Sacraments on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to men and all rules and regulations of the Assembly and service of ordination and induction shall be construed that reference therein to the ministers of the Word and Sacraments shall include women."

The function of the Articles of Agreement in the constitution of the Presbyterian Church of Australia is to provide for setting up the General Assembly and to define and make provision for the exercise of that court's functions, one of which is to regulate the training of students and the admission of candidates for the ministry. Hence this particular article lays down where candidates for the ministry have to be trained. But it is not for this article or any other to determine what is the nature of the ministry to which candidates are admitted. This is something that may only be dealt with in the basic constitution of the Church.

The only lawful method of determining the issue of whether women are or are not eligible for admission to the ministry is for the Assembly to remit to state assemblies and presbyteries under Section III of the Basis of Union of 1901 an appropriate revision of the Confession of Faith. It is therefore proposed that the Assembly remit to these courts that Section 3 of Chapter XXV of the Confession of Faith be amended by inserting after the word ministry therein the words "(To which both men and women are eligible)". The section would then read (to which both men and women are eligible), oracles, and ordinances of God, for the gathering and perfecting of the saints in this life, to the end of the world; and doth by his own presence and Spirit, according to his promise, make them effectual thereunto.

Due to many pressing matters arising out of the union of the 22nd June, 1977, and the consequent disruption of our Church, the members of the committee have been so occupied that they are not in a position to present a revision of the Code to this Assembly, but propose to complete the matter in so far as it is possible to do so at this time, for presentation to the next General Assembly.

The Committee regards its functions as being to make available for publication the constitution and law of the Church, to revise the drafting of regulations proposed by committees, and generally to keep tidy and up to date the regulations of the Assembly.

Remits - Blue Book 1977, Minute 26 (4).

The following are the returns in relation to the above:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Assemblies | - For - Vic, N.S.W., Q.L.D.
- Against - Tas. (No return), S.A. (No return). |
| Presbyteries | - For - 41
- Against - 3 (No return). |

E.R. Pearsons,
CONVENER.

COLLEGE COMMITTEE.
(min 107)

General - The exodus of a considerable majority of both teachers and students throughout the Commonwealth into the newly formed Uniting Church created a serious situation in theological education in the Presbyterian Church of Australia, which has been confronted with the difficult task of rebuilding.

Upon the decision of the majority at the General Assembly of 1974 to proceed with union various preparatory steps were taken in the three mainland eastern states to ensure the continuance of training for the Presbyterian Ministry, with the result that in the period 1977 - 1978, thirty-one candidates completed training. Since the last General Assembly in 1977, following the consummation of union, the work has been further consolidated both as to staff and candidates. Theological teaching in New South Wales is conducted by a number of lecturers (including Professor Crawford Miller, recently re-appointed to the Chair of Systematic Theology), with assistance from Moore (Anglican) College. In Queensland a second full-time member will be added to the staff from 1980 with the election this year of the Rev. N.T. Barker to the Chair of Biblical Studies, whilst in Victoria in the current year the Rev. D.J.W. Milne, the fourth professorial appointment, assumed responsibility for the Chair of New Testament Studies. At present there are sixty-eight students for the Ministry, which figure compares favourably, considering the reduction in size, with the pre-union Church. The question of the eligibility of women as candidates being raised, the Committee referred the matter to the Code Committee, which will make reference to it in its report.

Two candidates, having been recommended by their presbyteries, passed in the special Home Mission Examination on the Sacraments.

Following communication with the Reception of Ministers' Committee, that committee has agreed to consult with this Committee concerning its recommendations to the General Assembly as relating to the academic assessments and requirements of petitioners.

Regulations - Since the Church with its inherited system of theological education has

now entered a changed situation, the present Executive, which has met on five occasions since the beginning of 1978, in consultation with State committees and faculties, has given much consideration as to the aims and standards of training, and towards this end proposes a number of amendments to the present regulations, which regulations, for the purpose of comparison, are here inserted as follows:

Present Regulations

Article 4Zcm to the Constitution of the MuntviQ.

1. The College Committee shall admit to the Course of Training for the Ministry applicants who:
 - (a) Have been accepted by a Presbytery as "Candidates for the Ministry" and are recommended by the Presbytery and the State Committee responsible for Theological Education for admission to the Course of Training.
 - (b) Submit adequate evidence that they have passed the requisite examinations (see 2(c) below).
2. The State Committee shall require an applicant for candidature for the Ministry to:
 - (a) Have been a member of the Presbyterian Church in full communion for at least six months prior to the date of application.
 - (b) Produce a certificate from the Presbytery within whose bounds he resides, stating that, after careful inquiry, the Presbytery is convinced that his character and personality are such as to fit him for the work of the Ministry.
 - (c)
 - (i) Produce evidence that he has met the academic requirements for entry to a faculty of an Australian University or,
 - (ii) Produce evidence that he has met the academic requirements for entry to an approved institution of tertiary study or,
 - (iii) Satisfy the College Committee that the Candidate is academically equipped to enter on the alternative Preparatory Course.

Article 4Zcm to the Constitution of the MuntviQ.

3. The Course of Training shall include a Preparatory Course, and a Theological Hall Course. The Course of Training is intended to be one of full-time study and candidates must secure the permission of the Faculty (Senatus) to do extra work.
4. The Faculty shall be responsible for assessing the progress of students in both Preparatory and Theological Hall Courses, and shall make annual reports to the College Committee on the progress of the student. The College Committee may remove a candidate from the Course of training at any stage of his course, after consultation on the matter with the State Committee responsible for Theological Education. If the Presbytery determines that a man shall cease to be a candidate for the ministry after consultation with the State Committee, they shall notify the College Committee, who shall remove his name from the list of those doing the course.
5. The Faculty (Senatus) shall direct candidates in their course of training.

Preparatory Courses.

6. The Preparatory Course shall normally consist of full-time university study for a degree.
7. The College Committee shall have power to approve alternate forms of Preparatory Course where a candidate is unable to pursue University subjects. The subjects offered in such alternative courses should be such to provide an appropriate preparation for the Theological Hall Course and the practice of the Ministry.

In giving such approval the College Committee shall satisfy itself that tuition and examination in such alternative courses are at recognised tertiary level and that successful completion of the course may reasonably be regarded as the academic equivalent of having passed a minimum of six (6) University subjects. Where such an alternative Preparatory Course is offered by Faculties, the Faculties shall submit annually on or before 30th June, for approval of the College Committee detailed particulars of the courses to be offered, contents of subjects, and the names of teachers and examiners to be appointed for the following year.

Theological Hall Course.

8. (1) Candidates who have graduated from an Australian University shall be admitted to the Theological Hall Course.

(2) Candidates who have completed a minimum of six (6) University subjects or, as set in 7 above, a course deemed by the College Committee to be equivalent to at least six University subjects, may be admitted to the Theological Hall Course.
9. The Theological Hall Course shall extend over three academic years. The College Committee shall be empowered on the recommendation of the Faculty to give appropriate credit towards this three years' requirements for previous studies pursued by candidates in other centres, provided that satisfactory evidence is forthcoming that such studies were of a nature and at a standard consistent with studies at the Theological Hall.
10. The Faculty shall include in the Course of Training the basic subjects listed in Article viii(4) of the Deed of Union, namely "Hebrew and O.T. Exegesis; N.T. Greek and Exegesis; Apologetic; Church History; Systematic Theology; and Pastoral Theology and Training" (including Presbyterian Polity).

The Faculty shall prepare syllabi in these subjects at appropriate stages in their training by such means as examinations, critical exercises and theses.

The Faculty may exempt candidates from Hebrew after the first year of their Theological Hall Course, reporting such exemption to the College Committee.

Exit Regulations.

11. The College Committee shall issue an Exit Certificate to a candidate when:
 - (a) He has been certified by the Faculty as having completed the whole Course of Training to the satisfaction of the Faculty.
 - (b) He has passed the tests set by the Faculty (See 12 below).

12. The Faculty shall require candidates to submit two theses during their third year of the Theological Hall Course (although they may be prepared in the first second or third years of this course) one a subject in Biblical Studies and one in Systematic Theology, Pastoral Theology or Church History, to be approved by the appropriate teacher in the Theological Hall and an external examiner invited by the Faculty, which shall report the results of such examination to the College Committee.

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13. The Executive of the College Committee is empowered to deal with special cases as they arise from time to time. If it departs from prescribed procedure in doing so, it shall report to the full Committee.

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14. The College Committee shall arrange regular visitation to Theological Halls by visitors whom it appoints.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

(min 107)

1. There shall be a scheme for the reduction of the period of training for candidates over 30 years of age who have been communicant members of the Presbyterian Church for at least two years.
2. Candidates shall be classified as follows:-
 - (a) Those who, in the judgement of the College Committee, have acquired a training which can be accepted as an alternative to the whole Preparatory Course of Training.
 - (b) Those who, in the judgement of the College Committee, have acquired a training which can be accepted as an alternative to part of the Preparatory Course of Training.
 - (c) Those who can produce evidence that they are, in the opinion of the College Committee, in the evidence of the Faculty (Senatus) concerned, equipped to undertake tertiary studies.
3. Candidates within all three categories shall be accepted and admitted by the usual procedure as in Regulations 1 and 2(b) and (c) of the College Committee.
4. The Course of Training for the categories already defined shall be as follows:
 - (a) Candidates shall be required, according to the discretion of the College Committee, to complete three years in the Theological Hall, with or without Hebrew, and with or without Greek, to the satisfaction of the Faculty concerned (see Regulation 10 above), and shall be required to submit two theses. (See Regulation 12 above).
 - (b) Candidates shall be required to complete one or two years in the Preparatory Course, and three in the Theological Hall, with or without Hebrew and with or without Greek, to the satisfaction of the Faculty concerned (see Regulation 10 above), and shall be required to submit two theses (see Regulation 12 above).
 - (c) Candidates shall be required to complete at least two years in the Pre ara-

tory Course, and three in the Theological Hall, with or without Hebrew, and with or without Greek, to the satisfaction of the Faculty concerned (see Regulation 10 above), and shall be required to submit two theses (see Regulation 12 above).

5. All candidates shall be required, so far as is practical, to do full-time study without any other occupation during the academic session.

Amended Regulation - In respect to the amended version of the regulations (appearing in the deliverance) reference requires to be made to the most significant proposed alterations.

2(c) is more specific as to the requirements for admission to the course of training, eliminating the rather undefined provision in the present 2(c)iii. 3 extends study on a part-time basis from the Preparatory to the Theological course, with the permission of the Faculty.

The major changes proposed relate to the Preparatory Courses in regulations 6 and 7. The present regulations, apart from a general statement, provide no specification as to the subjects to be studied appropriately at this stage. As a consequence many tertiary courses have lacked relevance and sufficient integration with the Theological Course. It is proposed that all candidates study the subjects listed in 6 as basic preliminaries to theological studies, whilst also in some measure possessing a general cultural value. Examinations in these subjects would be conducted by the College Committee, with exemptions provided when other appropriate examinations have been passed.

With respect to the Theological Hall Course provision for exemption in Hebrew at the end of the first year (present regulation 10) is deleted; the College Committee is empowered in proposed regulation 9 to approve of extension courses under Faculty supervision; and in the Exit Examination (present regulation 12, proposed regulation 10(b)) external examiners of theses are to be appointed by the College Committee instead of Faculty.

The addendum relating to older candidates, originally introduced as a temporary measure is deleted, adequate provision for such being made under Preparatory Courses (6) and Admission 2(c), many tertiary institutions having modified entry for mature age candidates.

Further time is required by the Executive for consideration of the regulations applying to the Exit Examination and it is proposed that these be further reported upon to the next General Assembly.

Should the regulations as amended be approved, it is requested that the General Assembly leave to the discretion of the Committee as to the appropriate time for implementation.

Secretary - The partial restoration of the College Committee as an examining body would entail a considerable increase in its responsibilities and activities, requiring the reintroduction of the office of Secretary. It is proposed that the General Assembly appoint the Rev. J.F. Boyall, who has had considerable administrative experience in theological education in N.S.W., to this position, upon the implementation of proposed amendments to the regulations, at an honorarium to be fixed in consultation with the Finance Committee.

Articles of Agreement - It is considered that in the changed circumstances of the

Church, the time has come for a reconsideration of the Articles of Agreement as related to Theological Education, and it is proposed that the General Assembly direct the Committee to report on the matter to the next Assembly. As the relevant parts of the Articles insofar as they relate to the Course of Study, with amendments since the last publication of the Constitution and Procedure and Practice in 1950, may be unfamiliar to many members of the General Assembly, they are set out as follows:

- Article (viii) d. The Course of Study in each Hall shall extend over a period of three years, and shall include the subjects of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis, New Testament Greek and Exegesis, Apologetic, Church History, Systematic Theology, and Pastoral Theology and Training, and such other subjects as may from time to time be prescribed.
- Article (viii) e. Candidates for admission to a Theological Hall shall produce evidence to the College Committee that they have obtained or qualified for a degree in some recognized university.
- Article (viii) f. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article (viii) e., students who have obtained the prerequisites for entrance to a theological hall may be admitted.
- Article (viii) g. The prerequisites for entrance to a theological hall shall be such as are approved from time to time by the General Assembly.

Committee and Executive - It is recommended that the Committee and Executive be appointed as in the deliverance.

R. Swanton,
CONVENER.

DEFENCE FORCES CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE.
(min 61)

The main issues which have been the concern of your Committee are as follows:

1. The organization of Churches in relation to the Defence Force.
2. To ensure the recognition of Presbyterian Chaplaincy Entitlements.
3. (a) The assurance of representation at Senior Chaplain level in the Navy.
(b) The appointment of a Chaplain General.
(c) The appointment of a Principal Air Chaplain.

The following comments are relevant:

1. Organization - We have agreed in principle to the establishment of a Religious Advisory Committee to the Services (RACS) but have raised objections to the reduction of five Chaplains General to three Senior Chaplains of Brigadier status.
2. Chaplaincy Entitlements - Opportunity was afforded Service personnel to state their denominational adherence.

Both the Navy and the Air Force takes notice of denominational percentages within the services and chaplains are proportioned accordingly, but the Army adheres strongly to the National Census figures.

For example:

Census figures 1976	6.65%	Presbyterian
Navy, August 1978	8.03%	"
Army, " "	6.82%	"
Air Force, August 1978	7.6 %	Presbyterian

Resultant Chaplaincy Entitlements are:

Navy	1 F/T (Vac)	3 PT	Senior Chaplain (if eligible)
Army	3 F/T (1 Vac)	18 PT	1 Chaplain General
Air Force	2	7 PT	1 Principal Air Chaplain

3. (a) The Protestant Senior Chaplain can be U.C.A., Pres., or U.C. The credentials for this appointment are seniority of service and experience. The position is not necessarily rotational. Senior Chaplain Bates of the U.C.A. looks after the Presbyterian interests.
- (b) In the absence of relevant Census figures, and being primarily concerned with the re-organization of the Chaplain's Branch, the Army demurred over the appointment of a Chaplain General. After long and wearying representations made on your behalf by the former Convener, the Rev. R.C. Russell, and more recently by me, the Rev. K.J. Gibson was appointed Chaplain General in April of this current year.
- (c) Until such times as the denomination percentages were known I continued, after retirement, to attend to Air Force matters as a civilian clergyman. We are happy to say that without demur the Rev. J. Reid was appointed Principal Air Chaplain in November, 1977.

Promotions and New Commissions - These have special mention in the Chaplain's General report. It suffices to say that we congratulate and welcome those concerned.

Retirements - Senior Chaplain A. Stubs retired from the Army Reserve in March of this year. We would wish to record our appreciation of his excellent service as a Chaplain, and later as a Senior Chaplain, over a period of sixteen years.

We record also the retirement in April, 1978 of the Rev. R.C. Russell, as Convener of this Committee. A laudation of his outstanding service as Chaplain and Principal Air Chaplain was made to the 1974 Assembly. It now remains our privilege to thank him for his service to the Church as Convener of the Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee. His contribution for over twenty-two years has been enormous, and he will be remembered as probably the most able administrator the Chaplains Branch has ever had.

All Chaplains - Your Committee here expresses its sincere appreciation of the devoted ministry being exercised by the full-time and part-time Chaplains in all branches of the Chaplaincy service within the Defence Department.

A.J.W. McAllister,
CONVENER.

CHAPLAIN GENERAL'S REPORT.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

Army Head Quarters, Canberra - Russell Offices.

Chaplain General K.J. Gibson

Australian Army : Full time postings:-

Chaplain A.P. Mortimore - District Support Unit, Liverpool area,
New South Wales.

Chaplain A.D. Lang - District Support Unit, Watsonia, Melbourne, Metropolitan
area.

Army Reserve : Postings

1st Military District (Queensland)

Senior Chaplain - P.L. Gordon - 1 Mil. District

1st Cadet Brigade Townsville - Vacant

1st Mil. District - A Reserve - Vacant (Brisbane Metropolitan area)

2nd Military District (New South Wales)

Senior Chaplain - C. Egan - H.Q. 2. Mil. District

2nd Mil. District - Vacant - (Sydney Metropolitan area)

2nd Cadet Brigade - Vacant

3rd Military District (Victoria)

Senior Chaplain - G.F. Lyman - H.Q. 3. Mil. District

H.Q. Victoria Barracks - J.H. Stasse

3rd Cadet Brigade - D. Winter

4th Military District (South Australia)

Senior Chaplain - Vacant

4th Mil. District - Vacant

4th Cadet Brigade - Vacant

5th Military District (Western Australia)

Senior Chaplain - Vacant

One A Reserve posting on temporary loan to United Churches Board

6th Military District (Tasmania)

Senior Chaplain - M.J.K. Ramage

6th Mil. District - Vacant

6th Cadet Brigade - Vacant

Department of Veterans Affairs Hospitals

Concord, New South Wales : Full Time - Vacant

Heidelberg, Victoria : Part Time - Rev. G.F. Lyman

It is with thanks to God and with great pleasure I report to the General Assembly that the office of Chaplain General (Presbyterian) has been recognized and appointed as from 22nd April, 1979.

I regret to report the passing of the Anglican Chaplain General, Bishop Frank Hume Moir. A memorial minute is being prepared by the Conference of Chaplain's Generals to be signed by all members and sent to his wife.

Chaplain P.L. Gordon (Queensland) has been appointed Senior Chaplain 1. Mil. District and promoted Chaplain 2nd Class.

Chaplain G.F. Lyman has been appointed by the Victoria Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee, to attend to the affairs of the Assembly, at the conference of Senior Chaplains 3. Mil. District, until his appointment to that position is gazetted.

Two new Chaplains were appointed and commissioned, Chaplain J. Stasse, H.Q. 3. Mil. District pool. Chaplain D.R. Winter, 3 Cadet Brigade, H.Q. Ivanhoe, Victoria.

At the time of reporting the New South Wales Assembly Defence Forces Chaplaincy Committee were carrying out procedures to fill the full-time Chaplaincy position at Concord Veterans Affairs Hospital. This position became available after the retirement of Chaplain H. Smith of Woomera. An exchange of postings was negotiated by U.C.A. Chaplain General Busch, making available the Concord Hospital posting in exchange for the Woomera Protestant Denominations Posting. The exchange was accepted and sanctioned.

It would appear that in certain States the need by Assembly's Committees to fill the vacancies existing, is a most urgent requirement, if the Presbyterian Church is to remain a viable entity, in the Spiritual and Moral advisory capacity to the Army.

The first all-denominational Chapel to be built by the Army has begun at 'Laverack Barracks' Townsville. It is expected that the work will be completed by the end of December, 1979.

K.J. Gibson,
CHAPLAIN GENERAL.

(Presbyterian)

PRINCIPAL AIR CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Within the R.A.A.F. our strength is gradually increasing and we are regaining the ground lost as the result of Union.

We now have two full time Chaplains (subject to this Assembly accepting the petition from Rev. Peter Davidson). Chaplain Pilgrim is based at Williamstown and Chaplain Davidson at Wagga.

The part time Chaplains serve as follows:

Chaplain Spring, Richmond - (Soon to be replaced by Rev. J.J. Knapp of Merry-

lands)

Chaplain Durham, Amberley - (Brought in this year)

Chaplain McCracken, Operation Command, Glenbrook - (Took over this duty in

February)

Chaplain Bramley, East Sale.

It is hoped to make another appointment soon in the Sydney area. I would also be interested to hear from anyone in the Point Cook or Edinburgh area who would be willing to serve on a part time basis.

The Principal Air Chaplain has regularly attended the Board of Chaplains meetings in Melbourne and Canberra. On behalf of the Board he paid a staff visit to Butterworth and Tengah, Singapore. Denominational staff visits were made to Williamstown and Wagga. The P.A.C. also attended various Inter-Service meetings and was involved in ANZAC day services.

This year (for the first time) an Inter-denominational Moral Leadership Course will be held at Richmond. If this proves successful it is anticipated this will be the pattern for the future and courses would be held in each state.

James Reid,
PRINCIPAL AIR CHAPLAIN.

SENIOR CHAPLAIN (PROTESTANT DENOMINATION) REPORT.

When the Uniting Church in Australia was formed, all Presbyterian Naval Chaplains except one Reserve (Chaplain Hale RANR), transferred from the Presbyterian Church.

Prior to this the Presbyterian Church was represented by two full-time seagoing Chaplains, and the ports of Fremantle, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney had Reserve Chaplains actively engaged. These men with the approval of the Heads of Church Committee, continued to fill the postings they had.

With normal movement of Clergy these RAN Reserve Chaplains (Part-Time) will be transferred to another parish and be unable to perform new duties.

A proportion of Presbyterian nominations could be recommended to the Heads of Church's Committee for recruitment, as vacancies occur.

In the Permanent Naval Forces (PNF) there are at present three Uniting Church Chaplains and one Baptist.

RAN Chaplains are given a permanent commission after a two year probationary period, because of the highly specialised ministry they perform, and can be expected to continue in the service till retirement at 50 years for a Chaplain and 55 years for a Senior Chaplain.

The complement of PNF Chaplains is strictly regulated and the recruitment of new Chaplains is determined by resignations and retirements. The first opening should occur with the retirement of Senior Chaplain Bates in July, 1981.

W.J. Bates,
SENIOR CHAPLAIN, RAN.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.
(min 19)

In accordance with the practice that has developed and in terms of the direction of the 36th General Assembly of Australia (Minute 26(1)(iv) of the second sederunt of Thursday, 23/6/77), those members of the Finance Committee resident in Sydney formed the executive. Eleven meetings of the executive were held. Interstate members have been kept fully informed, without delay, of all decisions of the Executive.

Powers and Functions - As directed, Powers and Functions of the Finance Committee, which were submitted to the Code Committee, are recommended for approval in the terms set out in the deliverance.

Finance Committee - Following the proposal of the Business committee it is recommended that, until the next General Assembly of Australia, those listed in the deliverance be appointed members of the Finance Committee, members resident in Sydney forming the executive.

Honoraria to Officers of G.A.A. - Having been authorized (Minute 26(8)) the Finance Committee fixed the following remunerations:

Moderator	\$500 p.a. plus payment of expenses.
Clerk of Assembly	\$400 for each General Assembly
Deputy Clerk	\$200 for each General Assembly
Business Convener	\$200 for each General Assembly

It is recommended that those honoraria be continued.

Moderator's expenses - The Rev. Norman Monsen conducted a thorough examination into the financial requirements of the Moderatorship. The Executive examined the reports in detail and brings recommendations as set out in the Proposed Deliverance.

Balance Sheets and Statements of Income and Expenditure - Arrangements have been made for the printing in the Blue Book, for record purposes, of the Balance Sheet, as at 30th June, 1977, and statement of income and expenditure account for the six months period ended 30th June, 1977. Previously similar information had been printed and recorded as at 31st December, 1976.

For information, Balance Sheet as at 30th June, 1979, duly audited by Mr. H.J. Wyles, F.C.A., Official Auditor in New South Wales, and statement of income and expenditure covering the period 1st July, 1977, to 30th June, 1979, will also be printed in the Blue Book. It should be noted that certain accounts in the Balance Sheet fall to be divided following the formation by statute of The Uniting Church in Australia in June, 1977.

G.A.A. Property Commission, Expenses - The 35th General Assembly meeting in Melbourne in May, 1974 (Minute 43.5) requested from state assemblies, in the proportion at present used, the finance necessary for the G.A.A. Property Commission. The proportions then in use were:

Victoria	40%
New South Wales	35%
Queensland	14%
South Australia	5%
Western Australia	4%
Tasmania	2%
	—
	100%
	—

G.A.A. Property Commission - Expenses (c'td.) - The G.A.A. Property Commission (Determination 498) resolved that expenses of and related to the work of the Property Commission shall be borne 31% Presbyterian, 69% Uniting.

The audited statements as at 30th June, 1979 indicate that expenses at that date amounted to \$93,915. The division is as follows:

		Presbyterian	Uniting
Victoria	\$37,566-00	\$11,645-46	\$25,920-54
New South Wales	32,870-25	10,189-78	22,680-47
Queensland	13,148-10	4,075-92	9,072-18
South Australia	4,695-75	1,455-67	3,240-08
Western Australia	3,756-60	1,164-55	2,592-03
Tasmania	3,878-30	582-27	1,296-03
	<u>\$93,915-00</u>	<u>\$29,113-65</u>	<u>\$64,801-35</u>

There will be further expenses of at least two meetings and possible legal costs in connection with litigation in Victoria.

Commission for establishment of Uniting Church, Expenses - The 35th General Assembly meeting in Melbourne in May, 1974, (Minute 43.8 and 9) set up a commission for the establishment of the Uniting Church, costs to be debited against the assets of the Uniting Church and provided by States in accordance with proportions at present used

The G.A.A. Property Commission (determination 498) resolved in similar terms.

The audited statements as at 30th June, 1979, indicate that expenses at that date amounted to \$15,578. The division is as follows from funds to pass to the Uniting Church:

Victoria	\$ 6,231-20
New South Wales	5,452-30
Queensland	2,180-92
South Australia	778-90
Western Australia	623-12
Tasmania	311-56
	<u>\$15,578-00</u>

General Purposes Committee, Expenses - The 35th General Assembly meeting in Melbourne in May, 1974, (Minute 43.9) set up a General Purposes committee to attend to all planning necessary for the Presbyterian Church, costs to be debited against Presbyterian funds.

The G.A.A. Property Commission (determination 498) resolved in similar terms.

The audited statements as at 30th June, 1979, indicate that expenses at that date amounted to \$16,473. The division is as follows from funds to remain Presbyterian:

Victoria	\$ 6,589-20
New South Wales	5,765-55
Queensland	2,306-22
South Australia	823-65
Western Australia	658-92
Tasmania	329-46
	<u>\$16,473-00</u>

G.A.A. Expenses, Proportions Attributable to States from 1/7/77 to 30/6/79 - Following the long established formula of allocating between states those expenses associated with the General Assembly of Australia according to numbers of communicant members the division immediately following church union is in the following proportions:

Western Australia	.5%
South Australia	1.0%
Victoria	21.0%
Tasmania	1.5%
New South Wales	60.0%
Queensland	16.0%
	100.0%

The amount of expenditure to be divided for the period 1/7/77 to 30/6/79 amounted to \$39,795 as set out in the audited statements.

Western Australia	\$ 198.98
South Australia	397.95
Victoria	8,356.95
Tasmania	596.92
New South Wales	23,877.00
Queensland	6,367.20
	\$39,795.00

G.A.A. Expenses, Proportions Attributable to States subsequent to 30th June, 1979 -

Great difficulty was experienced by the Finance Committee in endeavouring to ascertain the number of Presbyterian communicants throughout Australia. When, finally, they were put together as at 31/12/1977 considerable doubt existed as to the accuracy of those figures. It became obvious that a different measure was required - one that could be ascertained speedily and accurately. Several methods of division were considered. The executive is of the opinion, particularly as the costs associated with meetings of the General Assembly form a considerable proportion of expenditure, that it would be fair and reasonable to allocate expenditure between states in proportion to the actual membership of the General Assembly of Australia coming from each State as recorded in the Roll of Assembly. Accordingly, it is recommended that, as from 1/7/79, with the exception of expenditure associated with the G.A.A. Property Commission, such a measure be applied to all expenditure of the General Assembly.

Expenditure by Committees of G.A.A. - The 36th session of the General Assembly meeting in June, 1977 (Minute 26(9)) authorized the Finance Committee to fix the necessary assessments on state assemblies for the next triennium. However, as it was decided that the next session of the General Assembly should be convened in September, 1979, committees were requested to submit details of their financial requirements only until December, 1979. Acting on the above mentioned authority, the following limits for expenditure were authorized by the executive covering the period 1/7/77 to 31/12/79:

COMMITTEE.AMOUNT APPROVED
FOR PERIOD ENDING 31/12/79.

Judicial Commission	NIL
Beneficiary Fund	\$ 800
Business	500
Church and Nation	3,000
Code	1,000
College	3,000
Defence Forces	900
Finance	1,050
Immigration	100
Maintenance of the Ministry	NIL
Public Worship and Aids to Devotion	350
Reception of Ministers	200
Relations with other Presbyterian Churches	500
Stewardship and Promotion	NIL
Australian Inland Mission	500
Christian Education	2,000
Overseas Missions	NIL
National Journal	NIL
	<hr/>
TOTAL APPROVED ...	\$13,900
	<hr/>

As is shown in the audited statements up to 30/6/1979, committees expended only \$5,472. However, there have been further drawing since that date.

Regulation 181A sets down the normal procedure whereby recommendations are submitted by the Finance Committee to the General Assembly of Australia for the approval of estimates and the requirement that an estimate with detailed statement of expenses or commitments per annum for the ensuing three years be submitted to the Convener, Finance Committee, one month prior to the date dead-line for the material for the White Book. At its meeting on 30/7/79 the executive considered estimates at length and resolved to recommend to the 1979 General Assembly of Australia approval of the following amounts as maximum allocations to the several committees for the years 1980; 1981 and 1982 the unused amounts to be cumulative within the triennium but not after 31/12/1982.

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Beneficiary Fund	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200
Business	100	100	100
Christian Education	1,000	1,000	1,000
Church and Nation	1,000	1,000	1,000
Code	500	500	500
College	1,500	1,500	1,500
Defence Forces	500	500	500
Finance	500	500	500
Immigration	50	50	50
Public Worship and Aids to Devotion	100	100	100
Reception of Ministers	200	200	200
Relations with Other Presbyterian Churches	100	100	100
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$5,750	\$5,750	\$5,750
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Code - subsidy for re-print to The Code			\$2,000
Reception of Ministers - reprinting regulations			500
Year Book subsidy			3,000
			<hr/>
			\$5,500

An annual subscription of \$A1,000 to the World Alliance of Reformed Churches is recommended. If approved, a maximum amount of \$25,750 would be involved for the period 1/1/1980 to 31/12/1982.

The World Alliance of Reformed Churches proposes to call a General Council in 1982. It is recommended that, if that proposal eventuates, authority be given to the Finance Committee to seek contributions from state assemblies to finance the attendance of one Presbyterian representative from Australia.

The Finance Committee has been informed by the National Journal Committee of its intention to bring the financial problems facing Australian Presbyterian Life before the General Assembly as a separate matter. Members of the Finance Committee are aware of the outstanding contribution of the Reverend Keith Burton, B.A., who, with assistance from his son, the Reverend Brian Burton, B.A., produces the journal in an entirely honorary capacity. It is of the opinion that "Australian Presbyterian Life" fills an important role in the life of the church and that assistance should be provided to enable it to continue.

The 1979 Year Book has met with wide acceptance. By request it was produced by the Reverend Keith Burton, B.A., at somewhat short notice. It is recommended that it be produced annually as has been the case for many years. A Year Book can only be as good as the information provided and all concerned are urged to ensure that Mr. Burton is provided with corrections and with any additional information that may be considered desirable. For many years it has been necessary to subsidise this useful publication for the continuation of which provision has been made in the abovementioned recommendation.

Future Committee Structure - It is understandable that, after the disruption of 22nd June, 1977, some temporary re-arrangement of committee structure became necessary. It was noted that in certain cases members of committees were described as "corresponding members only" which led to confusion in that others, who resided in capital cities other than that which the Convener resided, considered that they should attend each meeting. However, the undivided church found that it could not afford such a committee structure and adopted the executive system.

Whereas it would seem to the Finance Committee that the G.A.A. committee system should be restructured to cut costs and, at the same time, preserve efficiency, it is of the opinion that, meantime, the executive principle should be preserved. An appropriate recommendation has, therefore, been included in the Proposed Deliverance.

1979 General Assembly of Australia, Cost - It is regretted that it has not been possible to form an accurate estimate of the cost of this session of the General Assembly. Apart from the honoraria previously mentioned the items of expenditure are printing and distribution of white and blue books, notices of motion etc., travelling and accommodation expenses of members; catering and some incidental expenses. It is proposed, when all accounts have been paid, to request state finance committees to make re-imburement and authority to do so is being sought.

The basis for re-imburement of travelling expenses was resolved by the 1970 General Assembly of Australia, with a minor amendment in 1974.

In accordance with past procedure arrangements were made through the good offices of Australian Church Travel Service for the provision of accommodation on a share twin room basis with full breakfast for three nights. Accommodation cost for one additional night will be paid to members of G.A.A. committees required to meet on Monday, 10th September, 1979.

Next General Assembly of Australia - The executive learned with some concern of the

Business committee, that the General Assembly of Australia should meet again in 1981. It is considered that the expense would be such as to create a burden on the states that should be avoided. It is proposed, therefore, to recommend that the next General Assembly be held in Sydney in September, 1982. The suggestion is also made that the Finance committee be authorized, after examination of probable costs and comparison with costs likely to be incurred under the existing authority for payment, to approve re-imbursement of travelling expenses on the basis of economy class air fares in respect of the next General Assembly. It is the understanding of the Finance committee that most Australia wide organisations re-imburse the travelling costs of members attending conferences on the basis of economy air fares, taking advantage of any cost saving schemes provided by airlines at the time.

Australian Hymn Book Pty. Ltd. - In consultation with the Convener, Public Worship and Aids to Devotion committee, the Reverend Alan Dougan, M.A., contact has been maintained with Mr. Mark Tweeddale, Chairman of the company. Messrs. Charles Louis Fouvy and David Cromby Hayes, who have served with distinction in the publication of the Australian Hymn Book, were re-appointed as directors in October, 1978, and arrangements were made for the Reverend Alan Dougan to be consulted on editorial and music matters.

Hector MacFarlane,
CONVENER.

IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE.

(min 122)

Due to my retirement, on medical advice, and subsequent move to New South Wales to live, little work has been done by this Committee.

However, I would report that in a recent publication, received from the Federal Department of Immigration, it showed that the bulk of Migrants arriving in Australia are settled in either New South Wales or Victoria. New South Wales receives the greater number of these.

At present the Government has severe restrictions on the number of Migrants permitted to enter the country. Only a few categories exist for normal migration. These being a very close relationship of the special need of the work force.

In addition to these categories there exists a special Family Reunion Scheme. This scheme make provision for people whose only living relatives reside in Australia to enter as Migrants.

There also exists the N.U.M.A.S. Scheme. This is a system of Selective Immigration which was introduced at the beginning of this year. It is considered as being extremely fair to all seeking to migrate to Australia. The factors considered in this scheme are skill, occupational demands, competence in English, pre-arranged employment, age and more personal attributes that indicate whether or not the person is likely to settle successfully in Australia.

Australia also does its part in re-settling Refugees. On a per head of population basis, Australia ranks high on the list of countries re-settling Refugees. In the past three and a half years 16,500 Indo-Chinese Refugees have been settled in Australia. By the year 1980 this figure will be in excess of 32,000.

The large number of Vietnamese Refugees arriving by unauthorized entry is causing considerable disquiet in Australia. When a Vietnamese applies for a permit to leave Vietnam and is granted that permit, he automatically become stateless. As such

they can no longer obtain employment or buy food. This causes many to leave by small boat in the hope of reaching another country which will provide them with shelter until they can be accepted as Migrants in other countries.

I would recommend that the General Assembly locate the Federal Immigration Committee in New South Wales. This state receives the largest number of Migrants coming to Australia.

R.J. Allan,
CONVENER.

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE.

(min 99)

Since 1973 the Committee has not met due to the advent of Church Union and the request of the Business Committee of the General Assembly at that time that Committees should not present reports to the General Assembly of Australia.

Because of Church Union, half of the Executive members of the Committee transferred to the Uniting Church and the remainder staying with the Presbyterian Church. It will be necessary therefore for a new Executive and corresponding members to be appointed should it be the wish of the Assembly for the Committee to continue its work.

For those who are unsure of the role of the Committee since it was established, the duties are briefly set out:

1. The Committee was authorized to negotiate with the States to seek uniform stipend levels throughout Australia; to facilitate the transfer of Ministers from State to State in particular to the smaller States so that in translating they would not be disadvantaged by lower stipend levels, allowances and conditions.
2. To liaise between the various States on questions of Long Service Leave and to ensure that reciprocal arrangements were maintained so that if a Minister transferred from one State to another, his rights under Long Service Leave would be maintained and that he would be able to take his Leave when due and that the costs which were apportioned to a particular State would be met by that State.
3. To consider any matter placed before it by State Committees if that State Committee considered it would be in the best interests of the Church that uniform arrangements should be enacted for the benefit of the Church in the realm of ministry.

It is proposed that the Executive be appointed as proposed in the Deliverance and that it be requested to correspond with the various State Maintenance of the Ministry and Ministry and Mission Committees to see that the above charger is maintained and to deal with any other matter that might be brought before it by the Executive itself or by a State Committee.

D.R. Brierley,
CONVENER.

MODERATOR'S REPORT.

(min 18)

When elected to the position of Moderator of the General Assembly, I felt very much as Amos did when God called him for a particular task, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son ... but the Lord took me." (Amos 7:14, 15). Like Amos I did not seem to have the gifts for such a high office. However, I can testify that as God calls so

He also supplies the strength and the skills to do His work. It has been a most humbling and rewarding experience, and I thank my brethren for the confidence they had in me when they elected me to the office.

I endeavoured, as time and money allowed, to respond to all requests for visitation, particularly the minority groups. I visited each state and attended their Assemblies. My movement from state to state clearly vindicated that our Church was on the move. The faith and courage demonstrated in minority groups have to be seen to be believed. From almost complete defeat, groups have recommenced the difficult task of rebuilding as 'the people of God'. The depth of fellowship and caring for one another in these groups is nothing but amazing. It reminded me of what was said about the early Christians, 'See how they love one another'. I would hope that as we grow larger we shall not leave such treasures behind.

It is obvious that the eastern states are much stronger and more able to support themselves than are Western Australia and South Australia. The New South Wales Assembly is to be commended for the way it has rallied to the support of them. I would hope that the Assemblies in Victoria and Queensland might also give some support to these struggling states.

The Day of Prayer (Minute 32., 2, B.B., 1977) found favourable support. It is essential that we continue the practice of setting aside at least a week each year for united prayer throughout our Australian Church. The month of July would seem an appropriate month for this to take place.

I have endeavoured, where possible, to fill all official civic engagements. This, too, is a very rewarding, though time consuming, experience. It is important that officials of the State and Commonwealth see and know that we have high regard to our civic duties.

I did not use my chaplains as much as I might have done. However, I am extremely grateful to them for their advice and help when required.

My charge, Ann Street, graciously accepted my continued absence from the charge. Also the elders willingly accepted the additional responsibility of supplying the charge in my absence. My task would have been made considerably harder without this co-operation. I, therefore, wish to record my sincere thanks for their patience, understanding and support during my term of office.

It was a great joy to be able to share fellowship with my brethren in the ministry. Invariably hospitality was provided by the Manse folk. To them, and all others who assisted with hospitality, I am grateful.

K.J. Gardner,
MODERATOR.

NATIONAL JOURNAL COMMITTEE.

(min 33)

Immediately after the 1977 meeting of the General Assembly, the National Journal Committee met and appointed Mr. Alan Spalding as Editor until further notice and authorized him to continue the publication of 'Australian Presbyterian Life' but in a new magazine format to be published monthly.

The first issue in the new form was published in August, 1977, and met with an enthusiastic reception. Subsequent issues appeared in October and December, 1977, and March, 1978, under Mr. Spalding's editorship.

As the editor had found difficulty in producing a monthly magazine as authorized by the General Assembly, the Committee, at a meeting in March, 1978, instructed Mr. Spalding to arrange publication on a monthly basis. In the event of his inability to do this, the Committee authorized the Convener to take charge of the production of the journal, to publish it monthly, and to transfer all operations to Sydney.

Mr. Spalding was not agreeable to undertake monthly publication and immediate steps were taken to have the journal produced in Sydney, and since April, 1978, it has been produced regularly each month. The Convener has served as Manager with the Rev. Brian Burton as acting editor, both without remuneration. The only paid staff is one part-time office assistant.

In June, 1978, the office was finally removed from Melbourne, and the staff employed there dispensed with.

The Committee expresses appreciation of the service rendered by Mr. Alan Spalding as Editor in launching the journal in its new format, and by Mrs Smith and Mrs Harris in the Melbourne office.

'Australian Presbyterian Life' has been well received throughout the church and has established a position as a most valuable medium for the dissemination of news of the church throughout the whole of Australia. It has proved especially valuable in providing encouragement to disadvantaged groups in many centres who might otherwise have felt cut off from the main stream of church life.

Circulation - The immediate effect of church union was the loss of some 4,000 subscribers. The introduction of the new magazine format attracted a considerable number of new subscribers and the circulation appeared to level off at about 9,500. However, cancellations at the end of 1978, other cancellations made when accounts were received, and the cancellations of subscriptions unpaid for two years reduced the circulation to 8,000. At the time of writing this report, accounts for 1979 are being issued and the effect of these will give a reasonably accurate figure of the effective circulation and the full effect of church union on the journal.

The great need of the journal is a large increase in the number of subscribers, and the assistance of all members of the Assembly is sought in achieving this.

Financial - Since April, 1978, costs have been kept to a minimum with the employment of only one paid office assistant, but the present honorary Manager and honorary Editor will not be able to continue in this way indefinitely. While their service to date has been given freely and gladly in an effort to establish the journal securely on a sound footing, this can only be a temporary arrangement.

Our accrued indebtedness to the Victorian Board of Trustees incurred in 1977, should be cleared as soon as possible after the vesting of funds has been effected. To enable this to be done and to give the journal a reasonable chance of achieving financial stability, it is suggested that State Assemblies be asked to make a special subsidy. It is noted that few religious journals are financially self-supporting, and some are very heavily subsidised.

Any further economies could only be achieved by a reduction in the size and quality of the present production, and any such move has been considered to be inexpedient.

Editorial policy - An endeavour has been made consistently to provide as far as possible a wide coverage of news from all States; the ventilation of varied points of view in articles and letters; the opportunity for ministers in all States to find a

wider congregation; a bright and attractive magazine that will appeal to a wide readership and to foster a sense of unity throughout the whole Church.

Appreciative acknowledgement is made of the ready co-operation of correspondents and contributors without which these objectives could not have been achieved.

Year Book - At the suggestion of the General Purposes Committee, steps were taken to publish a Year Book for the Church, and after some delay in gathering the information required, the 1979 Year Book was published in March. As has been the practice in the past, the deficit in the cost of the Year Book has been met by the Finance Committee.

K.W. Burton,
CONVENER.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS MISSIONS.

(min 56)

Since the last General Assembly of Australia the Committee has met on five occasions. The executive has met on a monthly basis with the exception of the month of January in 1978 and 1979.

The situation in the work of Overseas Missions is quite different in 1979 from what it was even a few years ago. We are now living in a day of national churches, the establishment of national identities, and the very obvious feeling on the part of many people to be not only their own masters, but to be seen to be their own masters. These attitudes have spilled over into the work of Christian Missions and we find that the older concepts of "sending" and "receiving" Churches, Mission stations and superintendents to run them, the right to dictate or give directions because we pay the bill, and many other accepted Mission attitudes in previous years have changed. This has meant that the Committee has had to plan a series of new approaches and attempt to initiate some of them during the past twelve to fifteen months. At times it would appear that we were making very small progress but in review it is obvious that a lot of good work has been accomplished.

New Hebrides - After the division of our Church in June, 1977, the Presbyterian Church that remained found that its only Overseas Mission obligation was in the New Hebrides. There the Rev. and Mrs Walter Zurrer work as a lecturer and advisor in the Bible College at Tangoa while the Rev. Bill Camden commutes between the New Hebrides and Australia in his very important work of helping to translate the Bible into Bislama, the lingua franca of the New Hebrides people. An amount, in excess of \$50,000-00, was contributed by our church to the New Hebrides Church and this included not only the support of our missionaries but a share in the budgets of P.C.N.H. enterprises.

Every church member will be pleased to know that over 95% of the finance handled by this committee has been used directly on the mission field. The reasons for this are that we have no paid staff and there has been a high measure of voluntary assistance. Nevertheless, as our changing world-mission involvement develops the need for some full time staff will become a necessity. The Committee wants to commend members and congregations who have supported Overseas Missions. As a result of this support we have not only met all our First Priority commitments in the New Hebrides, we have also given substantially to Second Priority projects and helped members and ministers of our church working under the direction of an approved mission agency. A project, which, it is hoped, will gain urgently needed insights in furthering Christian work among urban aborigines, will receive \$2,000-00 from us during the next two years. A debt of \$14,460-00 paid by the Uniting Church on our behalf during the time of the division has been repaid also.

The publication in the latter months of 1978, a book entitled "LIVE" by the Rev. Dr. Graham Miller, a former missionary to the New Hebrides, is recognised with delight and appreciation. It is also noted that the subtitle of the book is, "A History of Church Planting in the New Hebrides to 1880", that this book is Volume One of a projected Three-Volume issue and that as was published jointly by this committee and the Committee on Christian Education of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

Other member missionaries - Also, during the year, the Committee considered the important question of how we, as a Church, might best help the many members of our church who were missionaries working under the guidance and control of missionary Agencies other than our own Church. After seeking advice from many missionary Agencies and Agency leaders, the Committee formulated a policy which has been developed in three ways. First a proposed agreement was drawn up whereby we might recognise members of our Church. Second, a Missionary Directory was put together containing the names, addresses and place of service of all missionaries who had personally requested to retain their membership in the Presbyterian Church of Australia so that local congregations, parishes and presbyteries might be informed and be the more able to support such member missionaries. Third, amendments to the existing "Constitution and Procedure and Practice" were formulated so as to incorporate these three and other changes and they will become a part of an overture to be presented to this Session of the General Assembly.

Fraternal links with other churches - During the year we have written to a number of Presbyterian Churches in various parts of the world with the view of establishing some form or partner church relationship so that we may serve with them in the Gospel as they attempt the work of missionary outreach within their own country. The Churches written to were the Presbyterian Churches of Pakistan, Kenya, Egypt, Lebanon and Korea. Suggestions have been received from some of them. For example, in the February meeting the Rev. Kap Shik Sung, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Korea, and the Rev. Sung Doo Kang, secretary of the Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church of Korea, were present and following consultation there were three suggestions made as to how our church in Australia may be able to co-operate with the Presbyterian Church in Korea. One suggestion was that a minister with the ability to master the Korean language should come to Korea and specialise in either Theological Education or in the area of Urban Mission. A second suggestion involved an exchange programme in which information, ideas, students, and scholarships might be exchanged with mutual benefit. A third suggestion was that two representatives of the Australian Church should visit the next General Assembly of the Korean Church which would commence on Thursday, 20th September this year. This is but a beginning and we anticipate that there will be many suggestions received from various churches around the world. It is hoped that as we think prayerfully about each suggestion, we may find that in some of them there is definitely the mind of the Lord for our Australian Church.

The reduction in missionary resources and opportunities that occurred in June 1977 when so many of our church left us to become a part of the Uniting Church has, as we have already indicated, given the Committee an opportunity to consider other ways for our church to tackle the missionary obligation. Because of action already taken, we are categorising our involvement in three ways. The first category will involve full support for Missionaries of our church serving a partner church in which the Presbyterian Church of Australia has accepted responsibility and also, first priority projects associated with such missionaries and mission areas. The second category contains those contracts that involve total or partial support of Ministers of our church working under the direction of an approved mission agency and also second priority projects associated with partner churches in which the Presbyterian Church of

Australia has accepted responsibility. We have placed in the third category total or partial contributions to the support of members of our Church who are approved missionaries, working with approved missionary agencies and also third priority contributions for projects sponsored by approved missionary agencies.

New Missionaries - Since the formation of this Committee only two new missionaries have gone out under the direct support of our church, namely Mr. & Mrs Ian Baird from New South Wales. Both are high school teachers and both will serve in the Onesua High School of the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides. Nevertheless, along side this report is the fact that names continue to trickle in from our churches of members who are going out as missionaries with other Mission Agencies and that list is now approaching ninety adult people. This list includes ministers of our church and their wives, such as the Rev. & Mrs John Ting from N.S.W., The Rev. & Mrs Reg Mathews from South Australia and the Rev. Peter and Dr. Jenny Richardson from Queensland, as well as many other members with exceptional qualifications. In some cases such members are receiving almost total support from their home congregation while in other cases, the amount is little more than a token gift and in not-a-few cases, nothing at all. It is hoped that, as a result of a new understanding of our missionary obligation, both to our own members and to people in other places, this situation will be far healthier in twelve months time.

Overseas and Australian representation - Deaconess Nance Smith represented the Committee in the New Hebrides at their General Assembly in August, 1978, while the Rt. Rev. K.J. Gardner and in a more limited way Deaconess Nance Smith, have done an excellent job representing the work of this Committee on the Australian Church scene.

The Committee - The inaugural Convener of this Committee, the Rev. N.W. Roberts, resigned in July 1978 and the Rt. Rev. K.J. Gardner was then elected Convener. The present committee includes the Rt. Rev. K.J. Gardner (Convener), Rev. Dr. E.J. Norton, Rev. K. Allen, Deaconess Nance Smith, Mr. W.M. Houseman, Mr. D.W. Burnett, Rev. M.M.Y. Kim, R.P.F. Benn and R.T. Missenden (Vice Convener).

Representation at state level - For the work of education and support in overseas missions, some states utilise the service of a Committee and full-time help while in one of the two states the work is done by virtually one volunteer person. Certainly this is an area where guidance is needed and an understanding of the tremendous importance of the task should be grasped by the Church as a whole.

Like so many other sections of our Church's work, the Overseas Missions Committee is seeking to find its feet, redefine its responsibilities and serve the whole church in a more efficient and forth-right way. We will appreciate prayer, constructive criticism and the knowledge that the whole Church has been grasped by the urgency of the task.

We are people under the authority of our Risen Lord and His Word. The needs in Australia are great the needs in many other countries are greater but our resources in God are greater than all.

K.J. Gardner,
CONVENER.

AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN CONGRESS.
(min 100)

Members will remember that the 1977 General Assembly of Australia (Minute 28) noted the New South Wales proposal for an Australian Presbyterian Congress to be arranged at an appropriate time and suggested to State Assemblies and Presbyteries that they

give this active and sympathetic consideration.

Since then the State Assemblies of Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania and the Victorian General Administration Committee have given their support to the holding of the Congress.

Arrangements have been made by a committee of the New South Wales Assembly for the Congress to be held at the Burton and Garron Hall, Australian National University, from 31st July to 3rd August, 1980. We have been particularly fortunate in getting Rev. Professor Stanford Reid of Guelph, Ontario, as key speaker.

The Assembly will remember that this Congress is felt necessary to not only mark the genesis of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in 1879 but also so that we may affirm with enthusiasm the significant role of the Presbyterian Church in personal and national life and at the same time to learn from Scripture, history and from one another how our Church may be revived, inspired, informed and challenged to respond to the leading of God's Spirit as we enter the future.

The success of the Congress will depend on responsible representation from Assemblies, Presbyteries, ministers, elder, laymen, lay women and young people.

J.C. Mackillop,
ACTING SECRETARY.

PUBLIC WORSHIP AND AIDS TO DEVOTION COMMITTEE.
(min 43)

The Committee has met several times since last Assembly and although it had no specific instructions it has considered two obvious matters.

Firstly, in view of the possibility of publication of The Revised Church Hymnary (RCH) ending, consideration should be given to a suitable replacement. The book is no longer available in Scotland, and, although some deny that it will soon cease here, it seems unlikely that Oxford University Press will re-issue the book when present stocks have run down. There is also the question as to whether we should continue with some hymns which are out-dated and ignore fine new ones.

Your committee considered as possible replacements, aware of the variety of theological opinion among us, The Church Hymnary (Third Edition) of the Church Scotland (CH3). The Australian Hymn Book (AHB), The Canadian Hymn Book of the Presbyterian Church of Canada (CHB) and The Trinity Hymnal. All presbyteries in Australia were sent a questionnaire on these. Almost all responded and obviously a good deal of consideration was given to the matter.

It is obvious that the present RCH is still in great favour and most of our people would prefer to continue its use. Should this not be possible, as we fear, the strong preference would be for the Scottish CH3 with the Scottish Psalter included. This is available. There was minor interest in the two books from North America.

Surprising was the lack of enthusiasm for the Australian book, the more so because this Church not only sponsored it but initiated it. The Editorial Committee of the Australian Hymn Book invited our church to appoint a representative on it. Pending the action of this Assembly your Convener has acted in this capacity and is able to report several matters of interest. Until the Australian Anglican Prayer Book appear-

ed sales of the AHB established an Australian publishing record. The book is about to appear in Britain, the United States and New Zealand under the title "With One Voice" and a good reception is expected following glowing reviews overseas. The editorial committee is considering criticism that some tunes are set in too low a key. It will be noticed that, anticipating American criticism, many hymns have been 'de-sexed' so that, for example, one sings 'The sun that bids us rest is waking/our friends beneath the western sky' and 'Good Christians all, rejoice'.

Your convener raised the possibility of an edition of AHB being published bound up with The Scottish Psalter, and he has a letter from Collins saying that they would be very glad to do this provided the Presbyterian Church authorities approved and the Editorial Committee gave its fiat. Unfortunately, the committee was far from unanimous about the proposal and decided to note the proposed Clause 2 in the deliverance below and to make no decision until our church shows greater interest in the AHB.

Your committee suggests that no action be taken in the matter until next Assembly. In the meantime the Committee would like to study further the Scottish CH3 with included psalter and the AHB with included or a separate Scottish Psalter. Those of us who were active in 1927 when RCH appeared will recall the desire to retain the original Church Hymnary and the criticism of RCH.

The committee also considered the need for a new official Book of Common Order in our church. The Book of Common Order 1979 of the Church of Scotland reached Australia in May. There also appeared the companion book of ordinary services, "Prayers for Contemporary Worship" and "Reformed Book of Common Order" published by the National Church Association of Scotland, a body representative of the more evangelical and conservative members of the Scottish Church. Your committee is disappointed with these books.

It will be remembered that the present Australian Book of Common Order is almost a reprint of the Church of Scotland's Book of Common Order 1940. Your committee re-examined this church's original Book of Common Order published first in 1920 under the convenership of the late Very Rev. Dr. Robert Scott West. This book was unpretentious, beautifully produced and presented. It had a clear understanding of our liturgical tradition and its pattern of services was simple and dignified. The Committee suggests that the Assembly authorize it to begin work on a revision of this book which could produce a work expressive of our particular ethos in Christian worship and tradition. The Committee is grateful to the Rev. D.E. Murray who has acted as its secretary so faithfully.

Alan Dougan,
CONVENER.

RECEPTION OF MINISTERS COMMITTEE.

(rnin 70)

The Committee - Due to the advent of church union the General Assembly of Australia on 23rd June, 1977, determined upon the appointment of a Reception of Ministers Committee and authorized the Commission of Assembly to appoint the membership thereto, which appointment was made on 26th August, 1979; namely, Rev. N. Monsen, H.G. Durbin, R.A. Caldwell, G.R. Fullerton, Messrs. D.R. Brierley, J.C. Mackillop (NSW), Rev. R.S. Miller (Tas), M.W. Roberts (Qld), E.R. Pearsons (Vic), Convener, Rev. N. Monsen.

The Committee held its first meeting on 18th November, 1977, and took cognisance of its charter; viz, "to discharge such functions respecting it that are derived from the constitution of the Church, regulations thereunder, directions of the next Assembly on its future powers and functions".

G.A.A. 1977, Minute 26, Clause I(iv)

The Convener reported receiving from the previous Convener (Rev. R.A. Blackwood) the Committee's Minute Book and all related documents necessary to the Committee. The Committee held five meetings at various times to the date of the compilation of the report to Assembly. At all of these meetings consideration was given and decisions taken in respect to Certificates of Status, Petitions, Regulations, and Enquiries from ministers of other churches in Australia and Overseas.

Certificate of Status - The following fulfilled the study requirements of the G.A.A. to the satisfaction of the College Committee and were referred by the Reception of Ministers Committee to the respective Presbyteries for the issuing of Certificate of Status - Rev. R. Boan, D. Newman and A. Abbas.

The Committee reports that the requirements of the 1977 G.A.A. "One year of approved study plus an Exit Certificate" given to Rev. R. Coxhead and G.L. Chipp have not been fulfilled to date.

Rev. G.L. Weber (Free Kirk) was received under Regulation 196(a) thereby being eligible to accept a Call to Murwillumbah, N.S.W.

Petitions - The question of former Presbyterian ministers now in the Uniting Church in Australia applying to be given membership in the Presbyterian Church of Australia was considered by the Committee and thereafter the following statement was issued:

"Declare that the Practice and Procedure of the Presbyterian Church of Australia precludes ministerial members of the Uniting Church in Australia (including former Presbyterian ministers of such Church) from membership of the Presbyterian Church of Australia other than through the provisions of application by petitioning the General Assembly of Australia". Minute 18th November, 1977.

The advice of the College Committee was sought and obtained in respect to the academic qualifications of petitioners; such advice generally has been incorporated into the Committee's recommendations to the Assembly.

Petitions from the following have been processed and will come before the Assembly as a confidential paper to be dealt with in private session (Regulation 197 (g)):

Rev. P.A.	Davidson	Uniting Church
Rev. R.T.	Missenden	Uniting Church
Rev. J.C.	Paterson	Church of England
Rev. P.W.	Swinn	Church of England
Rev. G.A.	Adams	Orthodox Presbyterian
Rev. J.D.	Ot tway	Baptist
Rev. A.R.	Harvey	Brethren in Christ
Rev. H.G.	Weir	Congregational

Irregularities - The Committee is concerned that some Presbyteries have inducted ministers from other churches without conforming to the G.A.A. Regulations. The Committee concludes that this has been done in most cases in ignorance of the Regulations rather than a flouting thereof; such ignorance may be due to the lack of G.A.A. Code Books in the hands of the responsible people or the said books not being up-to-date in respect to amendments.

In each case when known the Committee has followed the matter up with the respective Presbytery.....and each time "expressed regret that the Presbytery did not fulfill the requirements of G.A.A. Regulations 196(a) but nonetheless condones the action taken by Presbytery and will report same to the Assembly".

The irregularities were committed by the following Presbyteries:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| Hamilton Presbytery | - Charge of Heywood/portland - Rev. C. Cameron |
| Mortlake Presbytery | - Charge of Koroit/Port Fairy - Rev. C. Abel |
| Penola Presbytery | - Charge of Naracorte - Rev. G.J. McDonald |
| Brisbane Presbytery | - Charge of Ithaca - Rev. A. Buchan |

Regulations - The Committee considered the need for amendments to the Regulations taking cognisance of some recommendations formulated by the Committee before church union as well as formulating other amendments. The proposed amendments are fairly extensive but not enough to warrant a complete repeal of the present Regulations in order to substitute a new set. However, the Committee will consider a reprint of the Regulations in booklet form for general distribution at an early date and seek Assembly approval for the expenditure thereto.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT (min 70)

The Committee was advised by the College Committee that Rev. R. Coxhead had completed the requirements set by the 1977 General Assembly and consequent upon this the Sydney South Presbytery and the Ministry and Mission Committee (N.S.W.) were accordingly advised whereby, as in Regulation 199 (a), the former could grant a Certificate of Status and the latter make an appointment available per the Exit provisions.

The full list of ministers received under Regulation 196 (a) since the 1977 General Assembly is -

Rev. C. Cameron, Rev. C. Abel, Rev. G.J. McDonald, Rev. A. Buchan, Rev. Isabel Buchan, Rev. N. Duncan (all from the Church of Scotland)and Rev. G.L. Weber from the Free Kirk of Scotland.

In addition to the ministers listed in the report petitioning the General Assembly are the following -

Rev. G.D. Bouma - United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.; Rev. K.P. Hong - Korean Presbyterian Church; Rev. D.W. Edmonds - New Zealand Methodist Church.

The section in the report titled 'Irregularities' requires a further explanation in respect to the Presbytery of Brisbane and the Charge of Ithaca. The said Presbytery on receipt of a Certificate of Status (presumed to be valid) from the Presbytery of Kilnoorat proceeded to the Induction of Rev. A. Buchan but at no time had the Presbytery of Kilnoorat been advised that the said minister had been received by the Reception of Ministers Committee as a Minister of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

N. Monsen,
CONVENER.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS WITH OTHER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

(min 92)

World Council of Churches - Though this did not come strictly under our care, there seemed to be no other committee appointed to deal with it, so we took it under our wing.

Members looked at the advisability of remaining in membership (Minute 21/3/77 G.A.A.). After careful consideration of the facts, the members were of the opinion that the Presbyterian Church of Australia should not be affiliated with the World Council of Churches or the Australian Council of Churches. However, as the matter will come before the Assembly in a communication from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland, the Committee decided that there was no need to pursue the matter. The resolution and communication from the Queensland Assembly has our whole-hearted support.

World Alliance Reformed Churches - (Minute 21/3/77 G.A.A.). The Presbyterian Church of Australia has been a member of this Alliance since its inception. However, the committee is of the opinion that there is much left to be desired in the policy of the Alliance. Their concept of 'reformed' is a very general one and allows for a very wide membership. For instance, the Uniting Church in Australia has been accepted as a member.

Before any decision can be reached regarding any withdrawal from the Alliance, the committee considers it wise for the Presbyterian Church of Australia to look at the ramifications involved in being associated with it. To do this, it will be necessary for the committee to publish some papers on the Alliance and its work.

For the present we are recommending that the Presbyterian Church of Australia continue in membership of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

The Reformed Ecumenical Synod - This movement is more akin to our concept of what it means to be 'reformed'. It is a smaller group than the World Alliance of Reformed Churches but places greater emphasis on reformed doctrine than does the Alliance.

The Committee is not recommending membership in the Synod at this time. It prefers that the Courts of the Church be given an opportunity to examine the constitution and requirements of membership in the Synod before making any decision on the advisability of seeking membership.

It is interesting to note that there are member churches who hold membership in both the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Reformed Ecumenical Synod.

Other Presbyterian Churches - We recommend that the Presbyterian Church of Australia takes steps to increase the depth of our fellowship and fraternal relations with congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, the Reformed Churches of Australia, the Reformed Presbyterian Church (Covenant), the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and the Westminster Presbyterian Church. It is considered desirable that conversation take place between representatives of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and aforementioned Churches.

In order to acquaint the membership of our Church with the life and work of these sister denominations, the committee recommends to the editorial committee of the National Journal (A.P.L.) that consideration be given to the inclusion from time to time in the Australian Presbyterian Life of articles and news in connection with these churches.

K.J. Gardner,
CONVENER.

STEWARDSHIP AND PROMOTION COMMITTEE.

(min 4)

The Stewardship and Promotion Committee met in Sydney on April 20, 1978, including members from Victoria and Western Australia.

It was agreed that the time was not opportune to further the idea of a national stewardship and promotion structure (refer 1970 G.A.A. Minute 47 and 1973 Minute 112), and that the N.S.W. Stewardship Department should meantime be invited to take the responsibility of fostering stewardship and related concerns with all States. The N.S.W. Assembly subsequently accepted this commitment.

However, a large number of the congregations throughout Australia have been engaged in basic re-organization following church union and no widespread demand for stewardship or lay evangelism development has yet emerged, apart from considerable stewardship activity in N.S.W. itself.

Previous G.A.A. decisions have entrusted the Committee with a charter of co-ordinating experience in the areas of stewardship education, budget promotion, capital funds procedures, and also evangelism. It is considered that the Committee should maintain this charter as a valuable forum for exchange of views among all States.

D.F. Murray,
CONVENER.

TRUSTEES.
(min 21)

In 1951 the then Trustees reported to the General Assembly their failure to act effectively as trustees under the Deed of Trust which in 1941 had been executed for the purpose. The General Assembly thanked and discharged the surviving Trustees.

The General Assembly at the same time requested:

- (a) the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales Property Trust to act as Trustees for the Presbyterian Church of Australia and to report to each meeting of the General Assembly;
- (b) State Assemblies, where possible, to arrange for the transfer to the N.S.W. Property Trust of all Presbyterian Church of Australia properties held by State authorities;
- (c) the N.S.W. Property Trust to ask other State Church Trustees to act as trustees for the Presbyterian Church of Australia if the N.S.W. Property Trust should be unable or unwilling to act in that capacity in the States concerned; and
- (d) Corporate Trustees in States other than New South Wales to report annually at 31st December to the N.S.W. Property Trust on their activities for the preceding year.

To a large extent the N.S.W. Property Trust has acted as trustees for the property of the Presbyterian Church of Australia but as far as can be ascertained has not reported to the General Assembly nor received annual reports from other State authorities who have acted as trustees.

In preliminary proceedings of "The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (New South Wales) and Anor. v Monsen and Anor." before His Honour Mr. Justice Rath in the Supreme Court of New South Wales Equity Division (No. 1382 of 1978) doubt was cast on the manner in which property of the Presbyterian Church of Australia became vested in the N.S.W. Property Trust.

It is, therefore, necessary that appointment of Trustees for the Presbyterian Church of Australia be made in proper form. The N.S.W. Property Trust is prepared to continue to act as Trustee if so appointed and it is therefore recommended that the Assembly appoint the Trust to consist of the persons who for the time being hold office

as the Trustees of the Presbyterian Church (New South Wales) Property Trust.

The Trustees report that since "Church Union" date, 22nd June, 1977, on the basis of determinations of the G.A.A. Property Commission, they have passed over to The Uniting Church of Australia under indemnity certain property (particularly that of the Australian Inland Mission and the Board of Ecumenical Mission and Relations) to enable those bodies to carry on their work without unnecessary impediment. Vesting has already taken place in the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory in terms of the Ordinances in those territories. The Trustees are asking the General Assembly to note what has been done and to concur in the Trustees' actions.

It appears that if this Assembly agrees to the proposals of the A.I.M. Committee concerning a settlement with The Uniting Church about the revision of the name 'Australian Inland Mission', no useful purpose would be served by withholding from the Uniting Church the remaining assets which under the determinations of the G.A.A. Property Commission are to pass to that Church. The Trustees request the General Assembly's authority to transfer all remaining assets of a federal character to The Uniting Church when formalities concerning the Australian Inland Mission are satisfactorily completed.

J.G. Menzies,
CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES.

COMMUNICATION 1.
(min 5)

6th July, 1979.

The Clerk,
Presbyterian Church of Australia,
Rev. E.R. Pearsons,
156 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. VIC. 3000.

Dear Mr. Pearsons,

Re. Moderator Elect.

I wish to advise that the Board of Nominations for the election of the Moderator for the period 1979 - 19? have unanimously agreed to nominate the Rev. James Mullan, B.A., minister of Beecroft, New South Wales, as Moderator.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Rt. Rev.) K.J. Gardner,
MODERATOR GENERAL.

COMMUNICATION 2.

(min 53)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA.

Tasmanian Presbyterian Women, whose turn it was to accept Federal PWA Executive responsibility, realised there would be many adjustments and re-establishments and rebuilding ahead when they were elected in 1977.

The Office Bearers elected were:

President	Mrs R.S. Miller
Senior Vice President	Mrs F.W.F. White
Secretary	Mrs R.J. Graham
Treasurer	Mrs G. Merrington
Committee Members	Mrs A. Stubs
	Mrs A. Kilner
	Mrs H. Ginn

In October 1977 Mrs F. White resigned to move to Queensland with her husband.

In December PWA of A Federal minutes, Funds and related papers arrived

In April, 1978, the Federal President, Mrs R.S. Miller, indicated that she would be resigning as from end of May, to move to Melbourne.

By the June meeting with a re-shuffle and new members stepping in to fill the ranks, Executive changes were:

	President	Mrs R.J. Gardam
Senior Vice	President	Mrs A. Stubs
	Secretary	Mrs T. Clezy
	Executive member	Mrs P. Tillema

These were duly installed and dedicated by the State Moderator, when State President Mrs E. Edwards presented Mrs Gardam with the President's badge and Bible.

Mrs Miller was presented with a gift from Federal PWA at the Congregational farewell.

There was yet another change on Executive when Mrs A.C. Stubs resigned in March, 1979, to move to Melbourne. By the next month, a new Senior Vice President was welcomed, Mrs D. Ramage, newly from Sydney.

The Presidents of State Units are automatically Vice Presidents. Honorary President, Mr. K.J. Gardner residing in Queensland read the greeting on behalf of PWA of A at the recent State Conference in Queensland.

Greetings - have been conveyed to State Annual Conferences, congratulations on special occasions and State Office appointments & condolences to Mrs Hector Harrison, of Canberra. We extended our congratulations to Rt. Rev. K.J. Gardner when the honour of OBE was bestowed on him.

Presidential visits - Mrs R.S. Miller, while visiting Western Australia for National Committee meeting of ACW in July, 1977, met with Western Australian women to encourage them.

Mrs R.J. Gardam in her turn made a Presidential visit to South Australia which occurred at the time of re. constitution of PWA in the State, and she participated in the installation of the new State Executive of South Australia.

Her visit to South Australia extended to Naracoorte and Mr. Gambier in the South-East.

Tasmanian PWA Executive arranged for the Federal President to address the State PWA Conference in Hobart in May, and an additional State Rally in the North-West later at Devonport.

Plans to visit New South Wales & Queensland early in 1979 were abandoned. Costs of travel having escalated, and the Executive having only a two year term instead of the usual three years in which to accumulate funds, it was necessary to be economical, especially in the realm of travel.

Australian Church Women - Mrs R.S. Miller, as Federal President of PWA of A, attended the National Committee Meeting held in Perth in 1977.

Mrs C. Groat of New South Wales was co-opted by the ACW Working Committee and attended meetings in Sydney. Activities have been reported in news to States and to us.

World Alliance of Reformed Churches - Our Federal Representative has been Mrs C. Groat. Changes in administration and structures may have limited news. Mrs Groat has been diligent to pass on reports and has sought links in each State for reciprocal exchange of news to send overseas.

Federal Badge Secretary - Miss E. Blackwell has efficiently carried out her duties in keeping supplies of stocks, and her work has been appreciated.

There has been one situation which has saddened and disappointed the Federal Executive during this period. Despite overtures by personal visits and correspondence, negotiations to find acceptable ways for the continuing Presbyterian women of the Victorian Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union to become affiliated with PWA of A, have not been found. A visit was made to Melbourne in April, by the Federal President and Secretary, when the Victorian PWMU Executive gave helpful ideas and guidance for arrangements and offered some practical help for the Conference, which was appreciated.

In view of this Conference being the 25th Anniversary of Federal work, arrangements at long distance have necessitated extra work for members of Executive.

The Federal Executive was particularly appreciative of the hours of work and of the support and guidance of the Queensland ladies on the Continuing Church Women's Subcommittee, who helped with negotiations for PWA books and funds after Union.

Our thanks are also extended to Mrs Miller for her leadership and faithfulness in her time as Federal President.

Members of the Executive who have lived in Hobart, have willingly travelled 200 km. north to almost all Executive meetings, a considerable effort which is greatly appreciated. Special thanks to all members for the good team spirit.

It would be impossible to adequately thank Mrs Gardam in words. Both in her role as Federal Secretary in the early months of Federal Executive members. Her vision for Presbyterian women, her wisdom and strong reliance on prayer have given us all leadership for which we give thanks to God.

The response and helpfulness of States have been very necessary to the progress on a Federal level, and our prayers and support will follow the new Federal Executive in Western Australia, and those who work in each State, that together we may serve God in love, effectively.

Nancy Clezy,
FEDERAL SECRETARY.

COMMUNICATION 3.

(min 91)

Rev. E.R. Pearsons,
Clerk of Assembly,
The Presbyterian Church of Australia,
Assembly Hall,
156 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. VIC. 3000.

Dear Mr. Pearsons,

I have to advise you that the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church of Queensland at its meeting duly constituted on 14th May, 1979 received communications from four of the five Presbyteries in Queensland anent the withdrawal of this Assembly from the membership of the Queensland Ecumenical Council and urging the General Assembly of Australia to withdraw from membership of the Australian Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches.

The Queensland Assembly agreed to withdraw from membership of the Queensland Ecumenical Council and agreed that this Assembly request the Presbyterian Church of Australia to withdraw from the Australian Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. There has been, for some time, a general disquiet within this Church over many of the policies of the Council of Churches.

Yours sincerely,

(REV.) A.W. Laurie,
CLERK OF ASSEMBLY.

COMMUNICATION 4.

(min 53)

The Clerk,
General Assembly of Australia,
156 Collins Street,
MELBOURNE. VIC. 3000.

Dear Sir,

At the Federal Conference Business Session of the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia, held in Scots Church Lower Hall, Melbourne, on Monday, 10th September, 1979, inter alia, the following Constitution change was brought forward; having duly notified to all states:

Moved: "That our Constitution under
'Governing Body 5 -'"

be amended to read -

The Governing Body shall be the Federal Conference, which is a meeting representative of all the women of the Presbyterian Women's Association of Australia. Voting Delegates of the Federal Conference shall be appointed by the State Units as follows:

New South Wales 5, Queensland 4, South Australia 2,
Tasmania 2, Western Australia 2.

This involves substituting as follows' for 'in the proportion'.

There is also the necessary removal of 'Victoria 5', as their application has lapsed.

This was seconded and carried by the Conference.

We hereby present this Constitutional Change to the General Assembly of Australia for its approval and ratification.

Nancy Clezy,
FEDERAL SECRETARY.

OVERTURE 1.
(min 108)

From the Presbytery of Ku-Ring-Gai re. 'The Rightful Subjects of Baptism'.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

WHEREAS the General Assembly of Australia of 1905 observed that - 'a difference of view exists in the Church with respect to the children who should be regarded as rightful subjects of Christian Baptism, and a diversity of practice among those with whom lies the duty of administering this ordinance'; and

WHEREAS a similar difference of views and diversity of practice regarding rightful subjects of Baptism exists in the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the 1970's, and these different views and different practices cause considerable unrest and discontent among the people requesting Baptism for their children; and

WHEREAS it is most desirable that a uniform theology of Baptism and a uniform practice of Baptism be held throughout the whole of the denomination; and

WHEREAS the latest Rule 203 (1967 G.A.A. Min. 120:3) is so broad that widely divergent practices can legitimately be argued from it; and

WHEREAS the 1906 pronouncement notes that : 'The view of the Church with regard to the children to whom baptism should be administered is explicitly stated in the Confession of Faith and in the Larger and Shorter Catechisms. The Catechism, Question 95 - 'Infants of such as are members of the visible Church are to be baptised.' The Larger Catechism, Question 166 - 'Infants descending from parents, either or both professing faith in Christ, are to be baptised.'

The Confession of Faith (Chapter XXVIII, Section IV) says: 'Not only those that do actually profess Christ, but also the infants of one or both believing parents are to be baptised.'

This view which makes Christian faith on the part of at least one of the parents essential to the validity of the ordinance, is the only one which is in accordance with the nature of the ordinance as that is set before us in the Scriptures. As great spiritual truths are symbolised in this ordinance, and obligations of a special kind with regard to the training of the children are incurred, by those who receive baptism for their children, to administer this sacrament to the children of such parents as are without the Christian faith, degrades the ordinance to a meaningless form, and brings parents under responsibilities which they are unable to discharge. The Assembly, therefore, would counsel Ministers and Sessions to take heed that the ordinance be administered only to the children of such parents as are one or both communicants of the Church, or who, being themselves communicants of the Church, or who, being themselves baptised, make such a profession of faith as would entitle

them to become full members of the Church, and partakers of the Lord's Supper...'; and

WHEREAS the Westminster Confession of Faith is the Subordinate Standard of the denomination, and therefore its teaching on the practice of baptism should be followed.

NOW THEREFORE the Presbytery of Ku-ring-gai humbly overtures the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to take these premises into consideration and;

- (a) to repeal the Declaration of the Assembly regarding 'Rightful Subjects of Baptism' (G.A.A. 1967 Min. 120:3), and
- (b) to restore as Rule 203 in 'Constitution, Procedure and Practice', Division J, 'Rightful Subjects of Baptism', the rule passed by the General Assembly of Australia dated 1906 (i.e., the one printed on pp. 54 - 55 of the 1950 edition of 'Constitution, Procedure and Practice');

Or to do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

The Rev. C.D. Blazer and Very Rev. N. MacLeod were appointed to state the Overture to the General Assembly of Australia.

P.G. Logan,
CLERK OF PRESBYTERY.

OVERTURE 2.
(min 121)

From the Presbytery of Western Australia.

To the Venerable, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

WHEREAS the General Assembly of Australia at its meeting in June, 1977 directed that the same formula be subscribed by Elders at ordination, as is subscribed by ministers; and

WHEREAS the majority of existing elders have not subscribed such a formula, and are not familiar with the Westminster Confession and the Declaratory Statement; and

WHEREAS in recent cases of induction of elders, difficulties have arisen for them in understanding these two documents; and

WHEREAS the Declaratory Statement makes reference to 'liberty of opinion on matters in the Subordinate Standard not essential to the doctrine therein taught' but does not define such doctrines, thus making it difficult for elders to know which matters in the Confession are considered by the Church to be essential; and

NOW THEREFORE, the Presbytery of Western Australia humbly overtures the General Assembly of Australia to take these premises into consideration and appoint a committee to prepare a statement for the guidance of elders -

- (a) explaining the relationship of the Declaratory Statement and the Westminster Confession.
- (b) showing the effect of the Statement on understanding of the respective sections of the Confession, and
- (c) setting out those doctrines in the Subordinate Standard for which liberty of opinion is allowed;

Or to do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

The Rev. A. McAuliffe and Mr. D.A. Conway were appointed to state the Overture to the General Assembly.

D.A. Conway,
CLERK OF PRESBYTERY.

OVERTURE 3.
(Fallen from)

From the Presbytery of Melbourne East re. 'Membership of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod.'

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

WHEREAS the Presbyterian Church of Australia holds as its supreme standard of faith and conduct the Scriptures of the Old Testament and New Testament; and

WHEREAS the Presbyterian Church of Australia holds as its Subordinate Standard the Westminster Confession of Faith read in the light of the Declaratory Statement; and

WHEREAS the Presbyterian Church of Australia, as a smaller denomination having suspended its membership of the World Council of Churches pending an investigation of the latter's activities, is in danger of becoming isolationist; and

WHEREAS it seems desirable that the Presbyterian Church of Australia maintain strong ties with Churches which profess and maintain the Reformed Faith; and

WHEREAS the Basis of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod is 'the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments interpreted by the Confessions of the Reformed Faith, namely the Gallican Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Second Helvetic Confession, Thirty-nine Articles, the Canons of Dort and the Westminster Confession'; and

WHEREAS the purpose of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod, as defined in its Constitution, is:

1. To express the Church's oneness in Christ and to promote the unity of the Churches which profess and maintain the Reformed faith.
2. To give united testimony to the Reformed faith in the midst of the world living in error and groping in darkness, and to the Churches which have departed from the truth of God's Holy Word.
3. To confer together as far as advisability or necessity may require, regarding missionary work of the Churches at home and abroad.
4. To advise one another regarding questions and problems of import pertaining to the spiritual welfare and Scriptural government of the Churches.
5. To strive to attain a common course of action with respect to common problems, likewise issue joint resolutions regarding movements, practices or dangers when joint statements are deemed necessary; and

WHEREAS membership of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod is open to Churches which:

- (a) Profess and maintain the Reformed faith and subscribe to the Basis;
- (b) Maintain the marks of the true Church (the pure preaching of the Gospel, the Scriptural administration of the Sacraments, and the faithful exercise of discipline) and conform to the main principle of Reformed polity, namely the headship of Christ;

NOW THEREFORE, the Presbytery of Melbourne East humbly overtures the Venerable, the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration, and

- (a) Make application to the Reformed Ecumenical Synod for membership;
- (b) Instruct the Selection Committee to nominate to the Assembly two voting and two non-voting delegates to the next meeting of the Reformed Ecumenical Synod to be held at Nimes (France) in August, 1980;
- (c) Instruct the Finance Committee to budget for delegates' expenses;
- (d) Instruct the Committee on Relations with other Presbyterian Churches to open dialogue with the Reformed Church of Australia.

Or to do otherwise as in its wisdom it may deem fit.

Rev. A.C. Stubs has been appointed to state the Overture to the General Assembly of Australia.

F.A. Hoad,
CLERK OF PRESBYTERY.

OVERTURE 4.
(min 12)

From the General Assembly of Queensland re. 'Length of Theological Hall Course'.

To the Venerable, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

WHEREAS the sovereign Lord gives gifts of ministry to those whom He chooses in the body of Christ, and some of these gifts are those of being 'pastors and teachers' (Eph. 4:11); and

WHEREAS it seems, from observation, that God gives such gifts to people of differing intellectual abilities; and

WHEREAS the present Articles of Agreement of this Church require a three year Theological Course, entrance to which is normally a degree 'in some recognised university' (Article viii (e)), with provisions for partial reduction of this requirement in some cases (Article (viii (f))); and

WHEREAS professions such as engineering, architecture, medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, pharmacy, commerce and accounting do not require a university degree prior to commencement of professional training, and the arguments for an exception in the case of training for the ministry are unconvincing; and

WHEREAS at the time for the Reformation a bachelor's degree was the normal finishing education for the privileged, was obtained in middle teenage years, and was little superior to present secondary levels in the classics etc.; and

WHEREAS the requirement of a university degree or part thereof for entrance to the Theological Hall seems to be an unnecessary barrier for some people presenting themselves for training; and

WHEREAS this entrance standard has, in the past, dissuaded people from offering for candidature at all, and the church has thereby suffered loss; and

WHEREAS theology is successfully studied in many Seminaries without the prerequisite of a university degree; and

WHEREAS the present Articles of Agreement require a University Degree in any discipline, such studies often not providing a suitable basis for theological study; and

WHEREAS a course of four years duration, integrating the three years of theological study with one year of preliminary study relevant to the Theological Course, as well as an Entrance Standard sufficient to allow a wide range of candidates to enter the ministry, would serve the church better than the present requirements.

NOW THEREFORE, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Queensland humbly overtures the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

1. Remit the following proposed amendments to State Assembly and through them to Presbyteries as follows:

- (a) In Article (viii (d)) (Rule 148) by the omission of the word 'three' in line two with a view to inserting the word 'four' in its place;
- (b) In Article (viii(e)) (Rule 149) by the omission of all words - 'Candidates for admission to a Theological Hall shall be a minimum age of twenty-two years and satisfy the College Committee that they are able to undertake tertiary study.';
- (c) Delete Article (viii(f));
- (d) Delete Article (viii(g));
- (e) In Article (viii(h)) by the omission of the words 'entrance and';

Or to do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

The Very Rev. K.J. Gardner and Rev. Dr. H.J. Whitney were appointed to support this overture.

A.W. Laurie,
CLERK.

PETITION I.
(min 73)

To the Venerable, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

This Petition humbly showeth:

THAT Mr. Peter William Playsted was born on the 17th day of July, 1944. He is married, with three children and was educated at The Scotch College, Launceston, Tasmania, and at the University of Tasmania, where he graduated in Arts, and completed a Diploma in Education. He is also a holder of the Tasmanian Teachers' Certificate.

THAT feeling the call of God to the ministry of the Presbyterian Church, he applied to, and was accepted by, the Presbytery of Tasmania as a Candidate for the Ministry.

THAT upon proceeding to the Theological Hall in Melbourne in 1969, he was distressed by the lack of allegiance to Presbyterian theological standards on the part of some of the then staff and subsequently left the Hall.

THAT he served as the Presbyterian Home Missionary in Stanley, Tasmania, in 1972, and proceeded to Moore College in 1973, but was prevented from continuing in that course because of his wife's pregnancy and subsequent illness.

THAT he thereafter was accepted as a lay preacher in the Presbyterian Churches of Tasmania, Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

THAT he then served as Assistant to the Very Rev. Hector Harrison in St. Andrew's, Canberra, during 1975, and thereafter as Assistant and later Pastor of the Belconnen Alliance Church, A.C.T. between 1976 and 1979, whilst still a member of St. Andrew's.

THAT during this time he also completed both the L.Th. and the four year B.Th. course of the Alliance College of Theology in the A.C.T., passing examinations in the following subjects:

Old Testament Survey 1	Old Testament Survey 2
Old Testament Survey 3	New Testament Introduction
Introduction to Biblical Languages	New Testament Greek 1
Daniel and Revelation	Romans
Pastoral Epistles	Heremenuetics
Philosophy of Christian Religion	Christian Theology 1
Christian Theology II	Biblical Theology
Contemporary Theology	Ethics
Church History I	Church History II
Church History III	Introduction to Missions
Missionary Methods	Personal Evangelism
Church-Structured Evangelism	Homiletics I
Homiletics II	Practice Preaching
Worship and Hymnology	Church Planting
Interpersonal Relations	Church Administration
Principles of Pastoral Care	Seminar in Pastoral Theology
Christian Education II	Supervised Practicum
Graduate Thesis	

THAT in order to respond to an invitation by the congregation and appointment by the Presbytery to St. Columba's Presbyterian Church, Devonport, Tasmania, where he is now the incumbent, he left the service of the Belconnen Alliance Church at the point where he would very shortly become eligible for ordination.

NOW THEREFORE, your Petitioner prays the Venerable the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration, in view of the desperate need for ordained ministers in the state of Tasmania, where there are currently only two ordained ministers, but five full parishes, and asks it to authorize the Presbytery of Tasmania to take him on trials for license.

Or do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

P.W. Playstead.

Forwarded by the College Committee with the recommendation that the prayer of the petitioner be granted subject to the petitioner being required to complete a course

of two years at a Theological Hall.

(Supported by the Presbytery of Tasmania and the General Assembly of Tasmania).

PETITION 2.
(min 80)

From the Presbytery of Orange, N.S.W. for the granting of an Exit Certificate to Deaconess Valerie Sylva.

To the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia.

The Petition of the Presbytery of Orange humbly showeth:

THAT Miss Sylva was accepted for training as a Deaconess in 1965 and successfully completed the required theological course, equivalent to the training for the Ministry, and being commissioned as a Deaconess in February, 1969, was appointed to the Parish of Bathurst, New South Wales.

THAT on the 27th June, 1971, Deaconess Sylva was ordained as an Elder of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and was inducted into the Eldership of the Parish of Bathurst, N.S.W.

THAT Deaconess Sylva faithfully served the Parish of Bathurst until July, 1977, when following Church Union, supplied the Parish of Orange, N.S.W. At the request of the Session and the congregation of this Parish, in February, 1978, she came under the jurisdiction of the Ministry and Mission Department of the Presbyterian Church in N.S.W.

THAT she was accepted by the Presbytery of Bathurst, N.S.W. in October, 1977, as a Candidate for the Ministry and came under the jurisdiction of the Presbytery of Orange on the 22nd February, 1979.

THAT she successfully completed a further year of Theological training, including Biblical Studies in 1978, has passed an examination in Church Polity, has completed one thesis, and this year is studying as an External Student with the University of New England, as directed by the Theological Education Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the State of N.S.W.

THAT she has more than satisfied the requirements of the College Committee of the General Assembly of Australia, and in particular Regulations 17 (1), 17 (2)(d) and 17 (4).

THAT the Theological Education Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia in the State of N.S.W. has recommended to the College Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia that an Exit Certificate be issued to Deaconess Sylva, and have been advised that this matter has been referred to the Code Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia for clarification, of which no advice has been received.

THAT Deaconess Sylva has and is exercising a faithful, fruitful and dedicated Ministry to the Parish of Orange. This she has achieved despite the burden of studies for the Ministry and travel to Sydney to attend lectures. She has led the Parish of Orange, which was severely weakened by Church Union, to the position of being able to Call a Minister.

THAT in the opinion of the Presbytery, Deaconess Sylva's Ministry to the Parish of Orange can only be described as remarkable, and that she has made an outstanding contribution to the Church, and has clearly shown the grace and callings of Almighty God.

NOW THEREFORE, the Presbytery of Orange, N.S.W. humbly petition the Venerable the General Assembly to take these premises into consideration and instruct the College Committee of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia to issue an Exit Certificate to Deaconess Sylva and direct the Presbytery of Orange, N.S.W. to take her on trials for Licence.

Or to do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem fit.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

The Rev. G.A. Morrow was appointed to present the Petition.

D. Blackford,
CLERK OF PRESBYTERY.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH JUNE, 1977.

31/12/76			30/6/77
\$			\$
<u>(7,099)</u>	SPECIFIC FUNDS		7,601
	Stewardship and Promotion Committee -		
2,562	Expenses Fund	2,652	
	Committee on Relations with other		
317	Presbyterian Churches	329	
620	Special Payment Account	620	
3,600	Provision for Travelling Expenses	<u>4,000</u>	
		<u>7,601</u>	
<u>(58,995)</u>	TRUST FUNDS		60,893
	Church of St. Andrew, Canberra -		
6,675	Parish Endowment	6,515	
2^ 813	J.I. Dent Bequest - Building	2,913	
1,060	J.I. Dent Bequest - Stipend	<u>1,097</u>	10,525
	A.E. McCracken Bequest -		
7,960	Capital	7,960	
146	Income	<u>654</u>	8,614
	John Frazer Foreign Mission		
2,000	Endowment		2,070
	A.I. Cameron Estate - Home and		
241	Foreign Mission		250
	A.E. White Estate -		
5,710	Capital	5,710	
8,767	Income	<u>9,274</u>	14,984
	W.B. Tonkin Estate -		
17,365	Capital	17,365	
6,258	Income	<u>7,085</u>	<u>24,450</u>
			<u>60,893</u>
<u>(19,807)</u>	GENERAL FUNDS		82,111
16,268	Capital Fund	16,837	
-	Expense Account (Deficit)	<u>(29,159)</u>	
16,268		<u>(12,322)</u>	
3,539	Presbyterian Church in New South Wales	<u>94,433</u>	
		<u>82,111</u>	
<u>\$85,901</u>	Total Funds Employed		<u>\$150,605</u>

GENERAL ASSEMBLY BALANCE SHEET AT 30TH JUNE, 1977 (Cont.)

The Total Funds Employed are represented by:

<u>(7,099)</u>	<u>INVESTMENT OF SPECIFIC FUNDS</u>		7,601
7,099	Presbyterian Church in New South Wales	<u>7,601</u>	
<u>(58,995)</u>	<u>INVESTMENT OF TRUST FUNDS</u>		60,893
6,827	Government and Semi-Government Securities	6,827	
2,182	Shares and Debentures in Companies	2,038	
40,786	Presbyterian Church in New South Wales	42,828	
9,200	Australian Resources Development Bank	9,200	
		<u>60,893</u>	
<u>(19,807)</u>	<u>INVESTMENT OF GENERAL FUNDS</u>		82,111
	Expenditure G.A. of A. General Purposes Committee to be covered by Loan of \$20,000 from The Presbyterian Church (N.S.W.) Property Trust	14,723	
6,084			
	Expenditure G.A. of A. Planning Commission to be covered by loan of \$12,500 from the Presbyterian Church (N.S.W.) Property Trust	14,129	
8,282			
	Property Commission (Handley) to be recouped from assets of Church Presbyterian and Uniting	53,259	
5,441			
		<u>82,111</u>	
<u>\$85,901</u>	Total Employment of Funds		<u>\$150,605</u>

I report that I have compared the above Balance Sheet and attached Statements of Income and Expenditure with the Books of account of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and have found same to be in accordance therewith

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPENSES ACCOUNT

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD FROM 1ST JANUARY, 1977 TO 30TH JUNE, 1977.

3 Years Ended <u>31/12/76</u> \$		Six Months Ended <u>10/6/77</u> \$
<u><u>INCOME</u></u>		
	Assessments Received for Expenses -	
25,275	Victoria	9,200
22,133	New South Wales	8,050
8,847	Queensland	3,220
3,150	South Australia	1,150
2,331	Western Australia	920
1,264	Tasmania	460
<u>63,000</u>		<u>23,000</u>
	Assessment received for Church Union Expenses -	
8,835	Victoria	-
7,736	New South Wales	-
3,092	Queensland	-
1,101	South Australia	-
815	Western Australia	-
443	Tasmania	-
<u>22,022</u>		<u>-</u>
	Contribution Moderator's Visit Overseas -	
480	Victoria	-
420	New South Wales	-
170	Queensland	-
60	South Australia	-
45	Western Australia	-
25	Tasmania	-
<u>1,200</u>		<u>-</u>
5,856	Interest on Current Account	621
433	Royalties on Church Hymnary	73
<u>6,289</u>		<u>694</u>
8,468	Balance Brought forward 1st January, 1977	-
<u><u>\$100,979</u></u>		<u><u>\$23,694</u></u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPENSES ACCOUNT

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD FROM 1ST JANUARY, 1977 TO 30TH JUNE, 1977 (Cont.)

3 Years Ended 31/12/76	<u>EXPENDITURE.</u>	Six Months Ended 30/6/77
\$		\$
	Honoraria -	
3,450	Clerk of Assembly	480
250	Second Clerk of Assembly	200
100	Other Clerks	-
250	Convener of Business Committee	200
-	Hospitality at Assembly	8,381
44,268	Travelling Expenses of Delegates	33,595
45	White and Blue Books	512
4,346	Sundry Expenses	440
<u>52,709</u>		<u>43,808</u>
7,170	Less : Transfer from Capital Fund	-
<u>45,539</u>		<u>43,808</u>
-	Clerk of Assembly - Secretarial Expenses	2,579
-	Travel	703
-	Other	306
	Moderatorial Expenses -	
4,000	Honorarium Rt. Rev. G.A. Wood	-
1,575	Pulpit Supply	-
750	Travelling Expenses	736
1,200	Official Visit Overseas	—
	College Committee -	
490	Secretary's Honorarium & Expenses	242
441	Examiners' Fees	132
	Expenses - Advisory & Other	
16,201	Committees	30
11,706	Expenses of Conference Representatives	1,261
3,078	Loss on Year Book	-
1,600	Transfer to Provision for Travelling Expenses	400
700	Audit Fee	750
	General Expenses -	
2,229	Printing, Postages, Telephone etc.	539
1,244	Sundries	-
4,690	Interest	830
5,536	Interest Charge 4% on Revenue	537
<u>100,979</u>		<u>52,853</u>
-		<u>(29,159)</u>
<u>\$100,979</u>		<u>\$23,694</u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD FROM 1ST JANUARY, 1977 TO 30TH JUNE, 1977

<u>3 Years Ended 31/12/76</u>		<u>Six Months Ended 30/6/77</u>
\$	<u>INCOME</u>	\$
	Contributions Received for	
	Special Payments -	
23,457	Victoria	7,613
20,454	New South Wales	6,661
8,079	Queensland	2,665
2,908	South Australia	952
2,154	Western Australia	761
<u>1,172</u>	Tasmania	<u>381</u>
58,224		19,033
	Balance brought forward	
<u>1,782</u>	1st January, 1977	<u>620</u>
<u>\$60,006</u>		<u>\$19,653</u>

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
	Special Payments approved by	
	1977 General Assembly -	
15,129	Theological Hall, Perth	3,450
23,790	Australian Council of Churches	7,315
14,927	World Council of Churches	4,790
5,000	World Presbyterian Alliance	1,375
	Federal Inter-Church	
540	Migration Committee	200
-	Asia Christian Conference	<u>1,900</u>
59,386		19,033
	Balance carried forward	
<u>620</u>	30th June, 1977	<u>620</u>
<u>\$60,006</u>		<u>\$19,653</u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

ALEXANDER EARLE McCracken BEQUEST ACCOUNT
FROM 1ST JANUARY, 1977 TO 30TH JUNE, 1977

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Capital</u>
	\$	\$
Balance brought forward 1st January, 1977	146	7,960
Interest Received from -		
Current Account	288	-
A.R.D.B.	37	-
Government and Semi-Government Loans	183	-
	<u>654</u>	<u>7,960</u>
Balance carried forward 30th June, 1977	<u>\$ 654</u>	<u>\$7,960</u>

JOHN FRAZER FOREIGN MISSION ENDOWMENT ACCOUNT
FROM 1ST JANUARY, 1977 TO 30TH JUNE, 1977

Balance brought forward 1st January, 1977	2,000
Interest on Capital Account to 30th June, 1977	70
Balance carried forward 30th June, 1977	<u>\$2,070</u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 1977

<u>30/6/77</u>			<u>30/6/79</u>
\$			\$
(7,601)	<u>SPECIFIC FUNDS</u>		22,885
2,652	Stewardship and Promotion Committee - Expenses Fund	2,385	
329	Committee on relations with other Presbyterian churches	364	
620	Special Payment Account	686	
4,000	Provision for travelling expenses	4,000	
-	Christian Education - Publications	3,642	
-	- Special Publications	<u>393</u>	4,035
-	Presbyterian A.I.M.		<u>11,415</u>
			<u>22,885</u>
(60,893)	<u>TRUST FUNDS</u>		64,211
6,515	Church of St. Andrew, Canberra - Parish Endowment	6,746	
2,913	J.I. Dent Bequest - Building	-	
1,097	- Stipend	<u>1,134</u>	7,880
7,960	A.E. McCracken Bequest - Capital	7,960	
654	- Income	<u>1,826</u>	9,786
2,070	John Frazer Foreign Mission Endowment		2,140
23U	A.I. Cameron Estate - Home and Foreign Mission		276
5,710	A.E. White Estate - Capital	5,710	
9,274	- Income	<u>10,865</u>	16,575
17,365	W.B. Tonkin - Capital	17,496	
7,085	- Income	<u>10,058</u>	<u>27,554</u>
			<u>64,211</u>
(82,111)	<u>GENERAL FUNDS</u>		125,966
16,837	Capital Fund	12,585	
(29,159)	Expense Account (Deficit)	<u>(39,796)</u>	
(12,322)		(27,211)	
94,433	Presbyterian Church in New South Wales	153,177	
			<u>125,966</u>
<u>\$150,605</u>	Total Funds Employed		<u>\$213,062</u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY BALANCE SHEET AT 30 JUNE 1977.

<u>30/6/77</u>		<u>30/6/79</u>
\$		\$
	<u>The total funds employed are represented by:</u>	
<u>(7,601)</u>	<u>INVESTMENT OF SPECIFIC FUNDS</u>	22,885
	Presbyterian Church in New South Wales	<u>22,885</u>
<u>(60,893)</u>	<u>INVESTMENT OF TRUST FUNDS</u>	64,211
6,827	Government and semi-government securities	6,750
2,038	Shares and debentures in companies	2,030
42,828	Presbyterian Church in New South Wales	46,221
9,200	Australian Resources Development Bank	<u>9,200</u>
		<u>64,211</u>
<u>(82,111)</u>	<u>INVESTMENT OF GENERAL FUNDS</u>	125,966
	Expenditure GAA General Purpose Committee to be covered by loan of \$20,000 from the Presbyterian Church (NSW) Property Trust	16,473
14,723		16,473
	Expenditure GAA Planning Commission to be covered by loan of \$12,500 from the Presbyterian Church (NSW) Property Trust	15,578
14,129		15,578
	Property commission (Handley) to be recouped from assets of Church Presbyterian and Uniting	<u>93,915</u>
53,259		<u>93,915</u>
		<u>125,966</u>
<u>\$150,605</u>	<u>Total Employment of Funds</u>	<u>\$213,062</u>

I report that I have compared the above Balance Sheet and attached Statements of Income and Expenditure with the books of account of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and have found same to be in accordance therewith.

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPENSES ACCOUNT

Revenue account for period from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1979

6 months ended 30/6/77	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	2 years ended 30/6/79
\$		\$
	Honoraria	
480	- Clerk of Assembly	400
200	- Second Clerk of Assembly	200
200	- Convener of Business Committee	200
8,381	Hospitality at Assembly	3,925
33,595	Travelling Expenses of Delegates	15,642
512	White and Blue Books	-
440	Sundry Expenses	-
2,579	Clerk of Assembly - Secretarial expenses	-
703	- Travel	-
306	- Other	-
-	Moderatorial expenses	
	- Honorarium Rt. Rev. K.J. Gardner	1,000
736	Travelling Expenses	2,313
-	World Alliance Reformed Churches	2,000
	College Committee	
242	- Secretary's honorarium and expenses	1,855
132	- Examiners' fees	-
30	Expenses - Advisory & Other Committees	
	- Beneficiary	240
	- Reception of ministers	37
	- Code	551
	- Church and Nation	1,226
	- Defence Forces Chaplaincy	1,113
	- Business	125
	- Christian Education	325
1,261	Expenses of conference representatives	-
-	Loss on Year Book	1,000
400	Transfer to provision for travelling expenses	-
750	Audit fee	1,750
	<u>GENERAL EXPENSES</u>	
539	Printing, Postages, Telephone etc.	228
-	Legal costs	5,817
830	Interest	64
537	Interest charge 4% on revenue	-
52,853	Balance carried forward (deficit)	40,011
(29,159)	30 June 1979	(39,795)
<u>\$23,694</u>		<u>\$ 215</u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY EXPENSES ACCOUNT
 Revenue Account for period from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1979

6 Months ended <u>30/6/77</u> \$	<u>INCOME</u>	2 Years ended <u>30/6/79</u> \$
	Assessments received for expenses -	
9,200	Victoria	-
8,050	New South Wales	-
3,220	Queensland	-
1,150	South Australia	-
920	Western Australia	-
460	Tasmania	-
<u>23,000</u>		
621	Interest on Current Account	-
73	Royalties on Church Hymnary	215
<u>\$ 694</u>		<u>\$ 215</u>
<u><u>\$23,694</u></u>		<u><u>\$ 215</u></u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Revenue account for period from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1977

6 Months ended <u>30/6/77</u> \$		2 Years ended <u>30/6/79</u> \$
	<u>INCOME</u>	
	Contributions received for Special payments -	
7,613	Victoria	66
6,661	New South Wales	-
2,665	Queensland	-
952	South-Australia	-
761	Western Australia	-
381	Tasmania	-
19,033		66
620	Balance brought forward 1 July 1977	620
\$19,653		686
	<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
	Special Payments approved by 1977 General Assembly -	
3,450	Theological Hall, Perth	-
7,315	Australian Council of Churches	-
4,793	World Council of Churches	-
1,375	World Presbyterian Alliance	-
200	Federal Inter-Church Migration Committee	-
1,900	Asian Christian Conference	-
19,033		-
620	Balance carried forward 30 June 1979	686
\$19,653		\$686

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF AUSTRALIA

Alexander Earle McCracken Bequest Account from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1979.

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Capital</u>
	\$ \$	
Balance brought forward 1 July 1977	654	7,960
Interest received from - Current Account	(214)	-
- A.R.D.B.	152	-
- Government and semi-Government loans	<u>1,234</u>	-
Balance carried forward 30 June 1979	<u>\$1,826</u>	<u>\$7,960</u>

John Frazer Foreign Mission Endowment Account
from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1979.

Balance brought forward 1 July 1977	2,070
Interest on Capital Account to 30 June 1979	<u>70</u>
Balance carried forward 30 June 1979	<u>\$2,140</u>

H.J. Wyles,
OFFICIAL AUDITOR.

NATIONAL JOURNAL COMMITTEE

Statement of Receipts and Payments for period from 1st July, 1977 to
30th June, 1979.

Balance at 1st July, 1977 (Overdrawn)	7,926
Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation, 0/D \$7,926	

Add : PAYMENTS

Office Salaries	22,319	
Editor (A. Spalding) Salary and Expenses	10,801	
Print and post "Australian Pres. Life"	78,869	
Other Postages(accounts, etc.)	2,562	
Rent and Office charges	3,741	
Other Printing (Incl. Year Book)	3,359	
Convener & Acting Editor, Expenses	1,785	
Photographic costs	1,337	
Office supplies and Telephone	3,351	
Sundries	4,744	
		<u>132,868</u>
		\$140,794

Deduct : RECEIPTS

Subscriptions	109,244	
Advertising	14,947	
Cash and Bulk sales	563	
Bank Interest	518	
Sundry Income	315	
Year Book sales	1,350	
		<u>126,937</u>

Net Balance at 30th June, 1979, (Overdrawn)	\$ 13,856
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Comprising: Pres. Church of Victoria Trusts Corp. 0/D	29,242-30
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Pres. Church in N.S.W. (Church Office A/C)	CR	7,570-00
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C.B.C. of Sydney Ltd.	CR	7,818-00
		<u>\$13,856-30</u>

NOTE - By determination of the Property Commission, the National Journal Committee is to receive \$12,000 from funds held by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria Trusts Corporation at the vesting of accounts.

AUSTRALIAN PRESBYTERIAN LIFE
PRODUCTION COST PER MONTH (1979)

(extracted from statements supplied to Finance Committee)

MONTHLY PAYMENTS

Printing and Postage	5,200
Office Salary (Office Ast.)	500
Rent and Admin. Costs	180
Production Costs	<u>120</u>
	<u>\$6,000</u>

MONTHLY INCOME

Subscriptions (6,500 @ \$7-00 .a.)	3,800
Advertising	600
SHORTFALL per month	<u>1,600</u>
	\$6,000

ESTIMATED POSITION AT 31/12/79.

Loss for 1979 at \$1,600 per month		19,200
Accumulated deficit prior to 1979		14,000
	TOTAL	\$33,200
	Deduct Prop. Comm. Alloc.	<u>(12,000)</u>
	Net Deficit	<u>\$21,200</u>

POSSIBLE SOLUTION FOR 1980.

STEP ONE - Repay accumulated deficit of \$21,200 from State Grants.

STEP-TWO - PROJECTED COSTS FOR 1980 (per month)

Printing and postage		5,200	
Office Salary		500	
Rent and Administration		180	
Production Costs		120	
Part-time Editor (payment to parish)		420	
Part-time Manager		<u>420</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>\$6,840</u>

MONTHLY INCOME BY INCREASING SUBSCRIPTIONS RATE

6,500 subs. @ \$10-00 p.a.		5,400	
Advertising		600	
SHORTFALL		<u>840</u>	
	TOTAL		<u>\$6,840</u>

NOTE - Shortfall equals \$10,000 per annum.

Shortfall could be made up either -

by - (a) a minimum increase of 1,000 subscribers;

or - (b) annual State subsidy of \$10,000.

K.W. Burton,
CONVENER.

authorizations, instruction, recommendations, etc.

Assemblies

All 39(3), 42(4), 95(7b,11), 97(8,12), 99(1)

Presbyteries &/or Presbytery Clerks

All 3*9(3), ^^^((.1,)) 6 (2,) 7^^(K, 98(9(8,98,11,13)

Sessions

All (1/2(2), 93(4), 997(8,9,11)

Congregations

All 93(4), ^^^(5,9,H)

Boards of Management

All 64(1)

Federal Committees

Conveners 97(7))

All 95(18)

Ad Hoc anent the Declaratory Statement 111(1,3)

Beneficiary OS^,))

Code 1791(^)

College 80(104(117

Finance 95(1(1b(4(8(9(80(13)(97(14d)

Maintenance of the Ministry 99(3)

National Journal 64(3(5(6)(93(5)

Overseas Missions 60(5)

Presbyterian Inland Mission 88(6(7(^3)

Public Worship and Aids to Devotion 43(3)

Relations with Other Presbyterian Churches 93(1,3)

State Committees

Christian Education 39(5)

Moderator

41(6), 60(1(7)(95(4c), 97(15,16)

Clerk

71(13), 97(14c)

Trustee

90(^,^)

Commission of Assembly

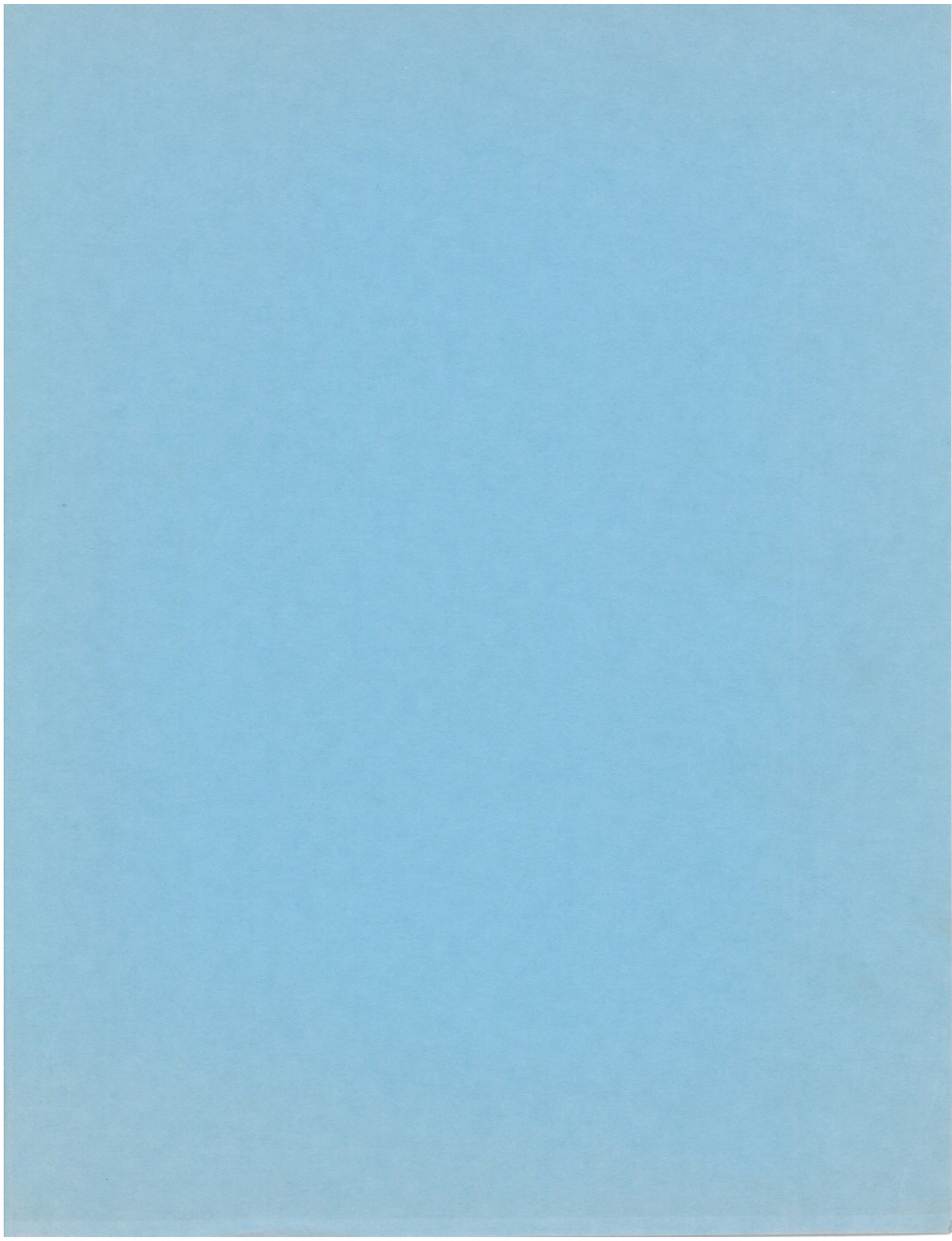
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