

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From The Archbishop of Canterbury's
Secretary for Ecumenical Affairs
The Rev Canon Christopher Hill

The Bishop of Chichester's characteristically erudite and stimulating paper on the implications of the history of Lambeth Conferences prompts me to ask whether other members of the Society would welcome continuing thought and work in the area of Authority within the Anglican Communion and Ecumenically. If we took Bishop Kemp's paper, together with Judge Quentin Edwards' paper on "The Canon Law of the Church of England: its Implications for Unity", a "working group" or "think-tank" would surely have excellent foundations.

Such a group would not perhaps have the urgency and immediate practical objectives of other working parties, but I believe we need to bring together theological, ecumenical and legal expertise in these most important matters for the future. Our Chairman, Chancellor Graham Routledge, has often said as much within the Committee for Roman Catholic Relations of which he was until very recently a member.

Yours sincerely,
Christopher Hill
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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1989

The second Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 9 April 1989 during the Nottingham Conference.

The Vice-Chairman, who took the chair in the absence of the Chairman due to illness, referred to the fact that the Society was growing fast and now had nearly 400 members. The organisation of Conferences and the publication of the Journal were becoming a considerable burden to those involved, as was general administration. Therefore the General Committee would have to consider making provision for some paid assistance, particularly if standards were to be kept high. It also seemed appropriate to meet the expenses of Working Parties in certain cases, including the cost of travel. This would all necessarily involve an increase in the relatively modest subscription.

It also seemed sensible to consider holding all annual Conferences in the Spring, whether one-day conferences in London or residential conferences in the country.

The Vice-Chairman also stressed the importance of the Working Parties in the life of the Society (see page 53). He suggested that a Working Party's report could well form the basis for a presentation and general discussion at a future conference. Members of the Society might also be invited to present short papers of general interest on such occasions.

The Officers of the Society were re-elected for the ensuing year and their names and those of the members of the new General Committee appear on the first page of the Journal.