

EDITORIAL

In this issue we pay tribute to the work of Dr Ian Moir who has recently demitted office as Editor. Ian Moir became the Editor of the *Church Service Society Annual* in 1967 and has guided *Liturgical Review* since its inception as a twice-yearly publication in 1971. A glance over the contents of the journal in these years shows the great variety of subjects which have been covered. The doctrine as well as the practice of liturgy has been included, and the relation of worship to contemporary society as well as its history has been studied. The contributors to the journal, too, have come from different denominations and from different parts of the world. In addition Ian Moir has not hesitated to speak his mind on the current state of worship in the Church of Scotland, to raise questions and to provoke thinking, that we might not become complacent with our liturgical forms. We thank him for all that he has done for the journal. As his successor I am most grateful for his assistance in the period of transition and am glad that he has agreed to carry on as an Associate Editor.

* * *

The new *Book of Common Order* has been brought out by the General Assembly's Committee on Public Worship and Aids to Devotion and we are happy to include a review in this issue by Dr John Huxtable, who is at present the Convener of the sister committee in the United Reformed Church. The General Assembly decided to "note" rather than "welcome" the book, but the subject was considered late in the evening in a much depleted Assembly Hall. It is to be hoped that next year the Public Worship Committee's report will be given a better place on the agenda.

* * *

The report of the Assembly's Parish Education Committee on "The Lord's Supper and the Children of the Church" has been sent down to Presbyteries for further study and comment. The report is to be commended on the important place given to doctrinal considerations. It is on the basis of the "unconditioned nature of grace" that children are to be admitted to the sacrament. With this change, too, communion would be seen more as an integral part of the worship of the Church, and not as an event from which some members of the family of the Church are excluded. It is hoped to include an article on this subject by Professor James Torrance in a future issue.

The Future Publication of "Liturgical Review"

By the time this issue is published the journal will be entering upon a new phase of its life. Negotiations have been carried out with Professor Ross Mackenzie (formerly of Edinburgh) of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, about an alliance between *Liturgical Review* and *Worship and Reform*, a journal directed to the Presbyterian ministry of the United States and published at Union Seminary. The amalgamated journal, to be entitled *Liturgical Review*, will have a joint editorship in Scotland and in America, and articles and news from both sides of the Atlantic will be included. *Liturgical Review* will have a greatly increased circulation and a more secure future, and it will be given a larger scope and usefulness. We look forward in eager anticipation to this new co-operative venture.