

under discussion we should seek to learn from our sister donominations ways in which, without destroying all that is good in our own methods, we can make this relatively infrequent occasion one which is more immediately accessible to all present.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

AUTUMN CONFERENCE - REPORT

The Autumn Conference at Dundee was attended by about thirty-four members of the Society with members of the Scottish Church Society and a few visitors. The papers given by James Annand of Lockerbie and Andrew Scobie of Cardross together covered two aspects of worship, and will be published in a future issue of 'The Record' . Such was the quality of their presentation that good discussion ensued of a most interesting and profitable nature. In the afternoon the third part of the proceedings was primarily for members of the Church Service Society and was largely a consideration of policy.

The history of the Society is a story of success in the reawakening of the Church of Scotland to the importance of ordered, reverent and relevant worship. Today the fruits of its labours are to be found in an awareness of these principles and the existence not only of a Panel on Worship as a Standing Committee of the General Assembly, but also of the existence of books of Common Order. As such the Society is to be seen as an influence for good in Public Worship and the Conference affirmed the need now to consolidate the continuing work of the Society in terms of study and the need to publish now material which can be of use to the Church. The need remains and especially so at a time when experiments are being made in new forms of worship, and when there is also evidence of a widespread confusion of standards. We believe that what the Society has to offer out of the treasury of its experience would be welcomed by Divinity Students and Ministers as well as by members of the Church generally. It is therefore along such lines that we propose to expand our activity and fulfil our function and to this end the Council will be applying itself.

W B R Macmillan

SOCIETY NEWS

The Annual Meeting, at which Bill Macmillan will deliver his Presidential Address, will take place at Greyfriars Kirk House on Thursday 22 May at 5.30, with supper at 6.30. The invitation slips to be issued nearer the time will emphasise the need for those desiring supper to indicate this in advance. This simple courtesy would make an enormous difference to those responsible for this arrangement each year.

The Revd David Mill, Minister of Finnart St Paul's, has been appointed the new Editor of 'The Record' , and it is hoped that he will be in a position to be in full command by the autumn of this year (1986). The present Editor will remain in charge of production, together with Sir Ronald Johnson whose proof-reading and other helpful suggestions on points of fact, grammar and clarity of expression are always gratefully appreciated.