

Notes and Comments

Could not something be done at Presbytery level to stimulate a sense of fellowship among members of the Society? Obviously our members share a common interest in all that pertains to the worship of the Church. If arrangements were made, say, through the Presbytery Correspondent, for them to meet from time to time as a group, to hear and discuss a paper on a liturgical subject by one of their number, this would make for edification. The men concerned would also have an opportunity of sharing with each other the common problems which arise in the conduct of worship and the ministration of the Sacraments and other Ordinances—even in the minor details of ceremonial which always require due attention if things are to be done decently and in order.

We have not yet been able to afford the publication of a complete list of the membership of the Society in Scotland, as was once the practice. This might well be done in 1965, our centenary year. In consequence only too often members are unaware of the identity of others who belong to the Society. The writer recalls that on joining the Society at his ordination he did not know of one other member in his Presbytery, although there were, in fact, nine.

Like-minded people gain much by meeting together. Is it not time that the study of the principles of worship, and the promotion of order, reverence, beauty and reality in worship, were accorded something more than the lip service we pay annually? We suggest that any member who would welcome developments on these lines should discuss the matter with his Presbytery Correspondent, with a view to constructive action?

It is clear from the report of the Annual General Meeting of the Society that a "time-lag" operates in the matter of the ingathering of subscriptions from members. This is a matter of some concern to our very efficient and watchful treasurer. Some Presbytery Correspondents, obviously, experience difficulty in making necessary contacts with members for the collection of their subscriptions. The

following suggestions, which have been tried and proved, may be of some help in this connection.

(1) Obtain permission from the Business Committee to make an intimation at the Presbytery meeting, inviting others to join the Society, and reminding members that subscriptions are due and should be paid at that meeting.

(2) Place (with permission) a notice to the same effect on the table where lies the sederunt book, and contact each member as he signs in.

(3) If there is a Presbytery lunch or tea, collect the subscription then. Members, presumably, are in a more affable and pliant mood in this atmosphere.

In the earlier days of this Society, before the *Annual* came into existence, interest in liturgical studies was fostered mainly by regional conferences. Clearly, something much more is required to advance our cause than simply the issue of the *Annual* to members. In recent years the practice has been revived, with great profit ; but attendances could be improved.

We take this opportunity of intimating that the next Conference will be held on Monday, 3rd October, 1960, at the Barony Church, Glasgow, which should be convenient to a considerable number of our members, there and in adjoining Presbyteries. A distinguished scholar of the Church, the Revd. Stewart Mechie, D.D., Lecturer in Ecclesiastical History in the University of Glasgow, will speak on "The Book of Common Order and the Worship of the Scottish Reformers". On the eve of the commemoration of the Fourth Centenary of the Scottish Reformation the subject will be of special interest, and we are confident that many members will wish to attend. They are welcome to bring others with them.

Notice of the Conference will be sent to all members in Glasgow, and also to others outwith that area who notify the Secretary, the Revd. W. J. Ross, that they wish to receive particulars.

Many members express warm appreciation of Dr. Lamb's annual reviews of recent liturgical literature. Most of the publications noticed are in the library of New College, Edinburgh. They are available to all who pay the annual lending subscription of ten shillings and sixpence.