

a greeting was received, and also an offer to supply sufficient copies of the *Annual* for all our members. The membership has grown from 22 to some 240 members. In October 1941 *The Bulletin* was first issued, the subsequent numbers including addresses, articles and book reviews, proving a valuable local means of expression.

The influence of our New Zealand Society has been quietly but steadily felt. The Society has an accepted place in the life of the Church, as may be seen from the fact that nearly half the ministers are members. Its objects have not been extremist and its influence has been exercised by bringing about a gradual deepening of the concern for worthy worship. This has resulted in a transformation of church worship which is quite considerable: and along with more edifying outward form has gone deeper theological content. There is a significant change in attitude which shows itself in a readier evaluation of both new and old. There has been a noticeable improvement in the standard of public prayer; in the conduct of occasional services e.g. weddings and funerals; in the administration of Baptism and in the celebration of the Lord's Supper: and the main seasons of the Christian Year are more widely observed. The concern of the Society for worthy architecture has proved beneficial, greatly through the influence of the Reverend D. M. Hercus. This concern has been of strategic value in the last twenty years, because of the needs arising from the condition of old buildings and the development of new areas of population. A secondary influence of the Society has been the interest in Church Music which has grown in recent years. Though the great advance made in the *Revised Church Hymnary* has been recognized and appreciated, the news of a further revision has been welcomed.

As the Society in Scotland enters its second century, we here will continue to pray that its work may promote that worship of God which is indeed "in spirit and in truth".

J. E. STEWART

The Church Service Society of Victoria

The members of the Church Service Society of Victoria, Australia, convey to the Church Service Society, Scotland, cordial greetings, and their congratulations on the occasion of the Centenary celebrations of 1965. Although we are many thousands of miles from you, we rejoice with you at this historic occasion. We give thanks to God for the rich heritage

that is ours from the past ; and we pray that all your work will continue to be blessed in the years to come.

W. G. PUGH

The Church Service Society of Queensland

THE Church Service Society of Queensland wishes to thank the Scottish Society for this opportunity to contribute to this Centenary issue, and we send our greetings to them, and to all linked with them in the study of those things which make for good order in the Church.

Our Society in Queensland is of very recent origin, having held its first meeting in Stephen's Church, Toowoomba, on 31st May, 1962. The Society now has eighteen members out of about 106 Ministers in this State. Four meetings are held each year but, inasmuch as Queensland is a very large State of some 670,500 square miles, divided into nine Presbyteries, and several Australian Inland Mission patrol areas, it is quite impossible for all Ministers to attend meetings. However, the Annual Meeting is held during the State Assembly so as to make it possible for country members to attend, and, in addition to this, all papers presented to the Society are circulated to members. At this early stage in its history we are still experimenting to find the most suitable way in which to exercise our witness within the Queensland Church. Perhaps one of the Society's most important functions is the bringing together of people who are keen to share in liturgical study, and the dissemination of this material to their more widely scattered brethren.

For the past two years the Society has had in preparation a small leaflet which will set out in simple form the main features of the Christian Year, with explanatory notes and an introduction stating reasons for observing it. This leaflet is designed for use by regular worshippers and for the instruction of new communicants. It is hoped that through its use a more intelligent participation in the Church's worship may be achieved.

What the Society achieves here, however, will be mainly through the work of individual Ministers who instruct their congregations in liturgical matters. It is at this point that the Society is able to forge a bond of fellowship between Ministers, reduce their isolation in this large State, and so strengthen their hands in the leadership of the Church's worship.

W. W. HARTIN