

EDITORIAL

* * *

Important Note regarding Title

Members of the Society and Subscribers will note that the cover bears a different title from that carried by Vol. I.

During 1971 it came to light that the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, uses the title 'Liturgical Studies' for a series of monographs relating to liturgical subjects which have been appearing since 1955. In these circumstances it was felt that the use of the same title for two different publications would lead to unnecessary confusion and the Executive of the Council decided to take steps to rectify matters.

The Executive circulated the whole Council by post and in accordance with the circular, since no objection has been received, it is proposed to adopt the title LITURGICAL REVIEW as the title of the Society's Journal. This title was in fact that proposed by Mr. Douglas Grant of the Scottish Academic Press at the time of the original negotiations with the Press and it is adopted beginning with the current number (May 1972). It is not proposed to alter the serial number and this volume will accordingly be known as Vol. II (1972). As an economy measure supplies of existing stationery etc. will be used as they stand until exhausted.

* * *

The Editor will welcome contributions in the form of letters, notes on services or brief studies as well as longer articles. The most satisfactory format for contributions is in double-spaced typescript and those which approximate to 400 words or multiples of 400 words are most easily handled from the paging point of view. The use of capitals should be as sparing as possible. Contributions from those facing problems of worship in parish ministry will be particularly valued.

* * *

According to information received by the Editor, the Church of Scotland General Assembly's Committee on Public Worship and Aids to Devotion (what a clumsy title!) hopes to publish by May 1972 a pamphlet containing three revised forms of service for Holy Communion. These should be of value to members of the Society and to others interested.

A brief report is given elsewhere of the Conference of the *Societas Liturgica* at Strasbourg in September 1971. The closing act of this conference was a service specially prepared by various 'workshops' around the theme 'I am the vine and you are the branches.' The whole was not intended to be a celebration of the eucharist and while it was in many ways a moving experience for those of the many denominations who took part it raised an urgent question. There were here in the language and movements so many undertones and overtones of the eucharistic pattern that one could not help being reminded of the writings and outlooks of some of the Gnostic Sects of earlier generations. If the time has come to celebrate together to this extent is the inherent danger not less in a frank and obvious celebration of the eucharist in which all participate than that which can arise from various forms of fringe exercise which have no canonical authority and might, like John's baptism, prove inadequate and misleading substitutes in the end of the day?

* * *

Readers who study Professor Barkley's article on the Reformed Church in Hungary may be interested to know of a small collection of English Psalms and Hymns translated from the Hungarian into English for use in public worship. This is the work of Mrs. Kálmán Tóth, 3036 Globe Avenue, Lorain, Ohio, U.S.A.

* * *

The Reverend John Walker of St. Cuthbert's Church, Girvan, has edited a book of prayers entitled *Real Happiness for Modern Man*. The prayers are conventional and unconventional and form an interesting collection, though there is heavy dependence on the language of A.V. scripture. Publishers are S. Bagster & Sons Ltd. and price is £1.25.

* * *

The Editor would welcome comments from those who have experience of using recently revised forms of the Baptismal Service.