

THE RECORD

The Editor writes:

The Church Service Society has issued periodical publication more or less regularly since 1928. From that date until 1970 it was entitled *The Annual*. In that year, in a bid apparently designed to increase the efficiency of production and distribution, the arrangements for publication were placed in the hands of the Scottish Academic Press and, on their recommendation, two issues were to appear each year – necessitating a change of title. *Liturgical Studies* was that first chosen but during 1971 it was discovered that that title was in use for a series of monographs issued by the University of Notre Dame, Indiana and *Liturgical Review* was chosen in its stead.

By 1981, after a period in which the Press carried losses amounting to several thousand pounds and the Society's own finances were severely strained, the two parties came to "the inescapable conclusion that publication cannot continue."

Out of its demise "The Record" was born, under a new editor who referred, in the first issue to its 'homespun' appearance. The President, Stewart Todd, indicated that it was to appear three times each year and produce material reflecting the life of the Society (hence the new title) and of more direct usefulness to its largely non-academic membership, while not altogether neglectful of scholarly interests. Over the years frequency has diminished and appearance has improved and some may judge that content does not always reflect the original intention. The present issue, however, can hardly be faulted on that score, reflecting as it does much, but not all, that has happened in relation to the Society's 150th anniversary – a scholarly lecture by the eminent liturgical scholar, Dr Bryan Spinks; a fine liturgical creation impressively delivered at the Anniversary Service; a helpful survey of some recent liturgical literature; and more besides. And for once, we have material left over for another issue which we hope may appear by AGM time next May.

J.C.S.