

## EDITORIAL

The Cardiff conference, everyone who was there seemed to agree, was a great success. Like its predecessors at Cambridge and Nottingham, it provided both intellectual stimulation – how could Bishop Montefiore be anything other than stimulating – and another excellent opportunity for cross-fertilisation between lawyers and theologians in convivial surroundings. And our Welsh colleagues certainly made us welcome.

However, as the Chairman said at the Annual General Meeting, we must not let our gatherings – or our activities at them – become stereotyped. The General Committee would therefore very much welcome your comments on our conferences to date and an indication of what you would like to see on offer at both residential and one day conferences in the future. Please write to the Secretary - or to me if you would like to air your views in the Journal.

This leads me on to the question of our working parties. The proof of the pudding is in the eating and this certainly proved to be the case with the offerings at Cardiff from the groups on Visitations and Marriage Discipline, even if not exactly everyone agreed with the proposals put forward by the latter. But it all went to show what stimulating and thought provoking work there is for those who are prepared to give their time to these very worthwhile studies. Some groups, such as those on Statute Law Reform and Training for Archdeacons, have seen their work take off in a wider setting. In relation to the latter, the Society hopes to play its part in arranging Teach-Ins to familiarise all archdeacons with their changing role in relation to faculties when the Care of Churches and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Measure 1990 comes into force. With this encouraging picture of what has been achieved so far, it is to be hoped that many members will play their part in both new and continuing working parties. (details page 249).

I am glad to say that there is still a steady flow of articles which reach me with a view to publication in the Journal. In January we hope to have an article on the Parson's Freehold (the problems it raises) and disciplinary matters. This will be a foretaste of what you can expect at the next one-day conference (details page 235). However I am always delighted to receive worked from members who would like to write something for the Journal. If you do, please make sure you ask me for a copy of our Notes for Authors which deal with how such items should be set out.

Finally, as you know, the University of Wales is now offering a Masters Degree (LL.M) in Canon Law. It is a two-year part-time course consisting of lectures and seminars held in Cardiff on four weekends each year. Several members have already enrolled and information can be had from Dr C. N. Doe, University of Wales, P.O. Box 427, Cardiff, CF1 1XD.

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