

EDITORIAL

With the Church of England's new central structures emerging and taking shape it will be interesting to see how the Church's revised form of quasi-parliamentary government develops. It still has to be borne in mind that General Synod's Measures are, except in relation to worship and doctrine, subject to Parliamentary veto. The return of the Churchwardens Measure for further consideration will serve to remind the Church that the Human Rights Act and all that stems from it may have a profound effect on church life. Human rights on a national and international scale will be the subject-matter of the Society's next residential conference at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, from 30 March to 1 April 2001.

Before then there will be the day conference in London on Saturday, 25 March 2000, when the topic will be the role, status, and conditions of service of the clergy. A notice about this conference appears on page 240. It is also hoped that there will be a further Lyndwood Lecture later in 2000.

On an ecumenical note, a group from the Centre for Law and Religion at Cardiff University led by Dr Norman Doe recently participated in a colloquium in Rome organised with the Angelicum Pontifical University. The *Church Times* reported this as the first venture of its kind since the Reformation, and a Statement and Memorandum of the proceedings is reproduced at pages 281 to 283.

The Education in Canon Law course is now in process of being sent to colleges, courses and dioceses. A formal launch is being planned with the Advisory Board for Ministry on 24th September. Further information can be obtained from our Vice-Chairman, the Bishop of Stafford.

The activities of the Society's London Group are being revived, and details of meetings will appear in a future issue. All offers of assistance should be sent to James Behrens, 13 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, London WC2A 3UA. It is hoped that other groups will develop in various parts of the country, particularly with a view to the formation of working parties, an essential element in the Society's life.

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