A.R.C.I.C. Grottaferrata, August 27th - September 5th 1974

AGENDA FOR BUSINESS MEETINGS

(a) Reactions to the Canterbury Statement

- (i) ARCIC 114, 114A, and 114B papers by Mgr. Purdy and Mr. Davey, and Bibliography, and English ARC's Discussion Leaflet.
- (ii) Publication and timing of commentaries on Agreed Statements.

Resolution: The publication of any future Statement agreed by the Commission should take place with adequate official supporting documentation, but there should be a gap of perhaps two weeks before the publication of commentaries.

(iii) The possibility of sending embargoed copies of any future Statements to National ARCs.

(b) Reports

- (i) Report of Dublin 1974 meeting of the Anglican/Roman Catholic Marriage Commission (Mgr. Purdy) Bishop McAdoo's published lectures on Mixed Marriages to be noted.
- (ii) Report on Proposed Communications Group (Mgr. Purdy)

Resolution: The Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission welcomes the proposal by the Anglican Consultative Council and the Vatican Secretariat for Unity to set up a small informal Communications Group to keep each other informed of, and to discuss matters concerned with Anglican/Roman Catholic relations which are outside the scope of A.R.C.I.C.

- (iii) Report on National Anglican/Roman Catholic Dialogues (ARCIC 120) and permission to offer it for publication to "One in Christ" and other journals.
 - (iv) Report on Anglican/Orthodox Joint Doctrinal Discussions (Professor Fairweather).
 Roman Catholic Dialogues with other Churches (Mgr.Purdy) and the
 Faith and Order continuing survey of Bi-lateral dialogues (Dr.Gassmann)

(c) Publications

(i) Report on "Anglican/Roman Catholic Dialogue: the work of the Preparatory Commission" published by the Oxford University Press, and on S.P.C.K.'s publication of the Canterbury Statement.

The forthcoming publication this autumn by Mowbrays of "Canterbury and Rome" by Archdeacon Bernard Pawley, and the publication on January 16th 1975 by S.P.C.K. of "Modern Ecumenical Documents on Ministry" and "A Critique of Eucharistic Agreements to noted.

(c) (ii) Reconstitution of Editorial Committee

Resolution: Bishop Clark and the Revd.Christopher Hill to be appointed as the nucleus of the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission's Editorial Committee, with power to co-opt others.

- (iii) Publication of papers on Church and Authority
 - (a) The publication of Bishop Butler's paper "The Nature of Schism" (ARCIC 101) in "One in Christ" 1974 No.3, pp. 228-236, to be noted.
 - (b) Proposal by the Co-Chairmen: A selection of papers on Church and Authority to be made by the Editorial Committee and offered to "One in Christ" in the autumn. (Members are free to publish their own position papers in any journal but are asked to let the Co-Chairmen know of their plans in advance.)

(d) Graymoor Prize and Gift from Papua/New Guinea

(i) The use to which the Graymoor Prize might be put.

Proposal by the Co-Chairmen: It should be kept for use on the publication of an eventual full documentation of the Commission's work, to assist the promotion of this work at a time when it is being assimilated and studied prior to decisions being taken about it.

- (ii) The gift of £62 from the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches of Papua/New Guinea to be reported.
- (e) Dates of Future Meetings and the Shape of Future Work
 - (i) The dates have been arranged as follows:

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1975 29th August - 7th September at St. Stephen's
House, Oxford
1976 24th August - 2nd September
1977 30th August - 8th September

(ii) The need for a Final Report to contain definite conclusions and recommendations, and the proposal to invite informed experts, not now members of the Commission, to assist in writing it.

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ANGLICAN/ROMAN CATHOLIC INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

MERCEN MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING

Tuesday, September 3rd 1974: 8.45 p.m.

1. Official Supporting Documentation for Agreed Statements

It was emphasised that the preparation of any background documents (like the Appendix prepared by the Revd. Colin Davey for publication with the Statement on Ministry) should be officially sponsored by the Co-Chairmen or the Editorial Committee. Although the danger was noted of the supporting documentation being taken too seriously or of its being too long, there was a very real need for it.

RESOLUTION: At the discretion of the two Co-Chairmen, acting in agreement, the publication of any future Statement agreed by the Commission may take place with official supporting documentation.

2. Publication and Timing of Commentaries on Agreed Statements

In opening the discussion Bishop Clark said that the need for Commentaries was great, but that the timing of them had been questioned, for if they were published at the same time as a Statement, people tended to regard them as an official interpretation. In the remarks which followed it was emphasised that even if the publication of Commentaries was delayed, many people would nevertheless wait to read the text of a Statement until they could read it with the Commentary. It was also mentioned that if there were no commentaries at the time of the publication of a Statement, there might be a number of uninformed comments written by journalists. The question of whether the Commentaries should always be written by the same members of the Commission was also discussed and it was stressed that there was complete freedom of publication and any member could write a Commentary. The seeming ambiguity of some of the language of the Statements was also touched upon, although it was known that this was always a problem with documents.

After considerable discussion the Commission decided not to recommend that the publication of future Commentaries should be delayed.

3. The Sending of Embargoed Copies of any future Statements to National ARCs

This was readily agreed to but it was stressed that the distribution should take place after agreement to publish had been given by the Vatican and the Archbishop of Canterbury. It was mentioned that it was the practice to send in strictest confidence advance copies of the texts of Statements to the Roman Catholic National Conferences of Bishops and the Primates of the Anglican Communion before permission to publish had been given. The Vatican Secretariat for Unity, the office of the Secretary-General of the Anglican Consultative Council and Lambeth were therefore asked to liaise to ensure that the document was not circulated more widely before permission to publish had been given.

4. Reports

(a) Report of the Dublin 1974 meeting of the Anglican/Roman Catholic Marriage Commission

Mgr. Purdy, the Roman Catholic Secretary of the Commission, reported that this was the second meeting which had attempted to discuss in detail the programme set out in the published Report of the Third Meeting. It had been decided at Dublin to invite Professor Dunstan and Mgr. Purdy himself to produce a First Draft of the Final Report for consideration at the last meeting in 1975. A draft of 72 paragraphs had already been written and would be circulated to the members shortly. It contained a full treatment of what the Commission saw as the agreements and disagreements of the theology and discipline of marriage and a section on the problems of mixed marriages.

(b) Proposed Communications Group

Mgr. Purdy reported that preliminary discussion had taken place between Cardinal Willebrands and Bishop Howe in November 1973, on the proposal by the Anglican Consultative Council and the Vatican Secretariat to set up a small informal Communications Group to keep each other informed of and to discuss matters concerned with Anglican/Roman Catholic relations which were outside the scope of ARCIC. Further informal discussions were planned for this autumn.

(c) Report on National Anglican/Roman Catholic Dialogues (ARCIC 120)

The Commission gave permission for this Report by the Revd. Colin Davey to be offered for publication to "One in Christ" and other journals.

(d) Report on the Anglican/Orthodox Joint Doctrinal Discussions

Professor Fairweather, a member of the Commission, reported that following the first plenary meeting in Oxford in 1973, two years of meetings in Sub-Commissions had been planned for 1974 and 1975 in preparation for the next plenary in 1976. Three Sub-Commissions had met in July 1974: the first in Crete from July 1-6 had discussed "Inspiration and Revelation in the Holy Scriptures", the second meeting in Romania from July 9-14 "The Authority of the Councils" and the third meeting in New York from July 8th-12th "The Church as Eucharistic Community". Communiqués had been issued from these meetings but the work done would not be fully reported or published until after the plenary meeting in 1976.

(e) Roman Catholic Dialogues with Other Churches

Mgr. Purdy said that dialogues were in progress between the Roman Catholic Church and the Methodist Church, the Reformed Church, the Lutheran Church and the Pentecostal Churches. He suggested that an exchange of some documents between these dialogues and ARCIC might be valuable and in particular he mentioned that a forthcoming document on "Ministry" prepared by the Roman Catholic/Reformed Dialogue might be useful. In view of the number of documents already being considered by ARCIC, it was decided that this and other similar papers might be placed on the table at future ARCIC meetings for consultation.

4. Reports (continued)

(f) Faith and Order Continuing Survey of Bi-lateral Dialogues

Dr. Gassmann explained that the Faith and Order Department of the W.C.C. had decided to prepare a survey of bi-lateral dialogues because of the large number of dialogues and the fear that there would be a lack of interaction between them and also to see what impetus from these dialogues could be fused into the multi-lateral dialogues. There were also problems of compatibility of agreements in dialogues between different partners. Confessions in Dialogue was now in its second edition and a revised edition would be published next year.

5. Publications

(a) Sales

It was reported that between the time of its publication in February 1974 and June 1974, 1,303 copies of Anglican/Roman Catholic Dialogue: the Work of the Preparatory Commission, published by the Oxford University Press, had been sold. Sales figures for Ministry and Ordination: A Statement on the Doctrine of the Ministry Agreed by the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission were 10,146 at 31st July 1974.

(b) Forthcoming Publications

The forthcoming publication this autumn by Mowbrays of "Rome and Canterbury" by Bernard and Margaret Pawley, and the publication on January 16th 1975 by S.P.C.K. of "Modern Ecumenical Documents on Ministry" and "A Critique of Eucharistic Agreement" were noted.

(c) Reconstitution of Editorial Committee

As the Revd. Colin Davey had now resigned as Anglican Secretary of ARCIC and from the Editorial Committee, the Commission passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: Bishop Clark and the Revd.Christopher Hill to be appointed as the nucleus of the Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission's Editorial Committee, with power to co-opt others.

(d) Publication of papers on Church and Authority

- (i) The publication of Bishop Butler's paper on "The Nature of Schism" (ARCIC 101) in "One in Christ" 1974 No.3, pp. 228-236, was noted.
- (ii) The Commission considered a proposal by the Co-Chairmen that a selection of papers on Church and Authority should be made by the Editorial Committee and offered to "One in Christ" in the autumn. After discussion it was decided not to recommend the publication of a collection of papers at present. It was emphasised, however, that those who had been specifically commissioned to write position papers for ARCIC, were free to publish their own papers in any journal, but were asked to let the Co-Chairmen know of their plans in advance.

6. Graymoor Prize and Gift from Papua/New Guinea

Members of the Commission were invited to discuss a proposal by the Co-Chairmen that the Graymoor Prize (of 5,000 dollars) should be kept for use on the publication of an eventual full documentation of the Commission's work, to assist the promotion of this work at a time when it was being assimilated and studied prior to decisions being taken about it. After hearing that the money was at present banked with the East Anglian Trustees and gaining adequate interest, members decided to defer a decision on how the money should be spent until a later date.

The gift to ARCIC of £62 from the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches of Papua/New Guinea was also reported.

7. Dates of Future Meetings and the Shape of Future Work

- (a) The following dates for future meetings were announced:
 - 1975 29th August 7th September at St. Stephen's House, Oxford.
 - 1976 24th August 2nd September
 - 1977 30th August 8th September
- (b) The need for a Final Report from ARCIC to contain definite conclusions and recommendations, and the suggestion that informed experts, not now members of the Commission, should be invited to assist in writing it were noted.