

July 1975

At its 1974 meeting at Grottaferrata ARCIC instructed its Co-Chairmen to convene a Sub-Commission in the following year to consolidate and further its present work on the Church and Authority.

You will know that this Sub-Commission met at the Royal Foundation of St. Katharine, Stepney, from Sunday, 22nd to Thursday, 27th June.

With this letter you will find an appendix outlining the procedure adopted by the St. Katharine's Sub-Commission and also the resulting Schema in preparation for the Oxford Meeting of the full Commission.

During the meeting of the Sub-Commission the following outline emerged and forms the basis of the accompanying document.

- I The Lordship of Christ and the fundamental authority of the Word of God (paragraphs 1-2)
- II The Authority of the Christian Community (paragraph 3)
- III Authority in the Christian Community
 - (a) the authority of holiness and of special gifts (paragraph 4)
 - (b) the authority of the Ordained Ministry (paragraph 5)
 - (c) the Sensus Fidelium (paragraph 6)
 - (d) the inadequacy of all human authority (paragraph 7)
- IV Authority in the koinonia of local churches (paragraphs 8-9)

The Sub-Commission then foresees a Fifth section concerned with the question of the universal communion of Churches which would include the difficult problems of Primacy and Infallibility. The Sub-Commission feels this would be the main work of the Oxford meeting; it has not therefore drawn upon all the materials furnished on Primacy and Infallibility.

In the working out of the Schema the Sub-Commission has made full use of the following material: the papers of the three Grottaferrata Sub-Commissions (ARCIC 124/I/3, 124/II/3, 124/III/2), the Southern Africa paper (ARCIC 128), the paper by the Oxford Sub-Commission (ARCIC 115), and the Poringland Note (ARCIC 127). This is far from an exclusive list of sources from the extensive ARCIC documentation on our subject but it does indicate the primary influences in the production of the Sub-Commission's Schema.

HENRY OSSORY

ALAN C. CLARK

Co-Chairmen.

POSSIBLE SCHEMA FOR FUTURE WORK

- I Our confusion of thought: the separation of the strands
- (i) The primacy per se - *constant acceptance of primacy*
 - (ii) the exercise of the patriarch^{ship} of the West
 - (iii) The exercise of the curia.
- II Our ideals and aims
- (i) A visible sign of catholicity
 - (ii) Primacy and freedom within the Churches
 - (iii) Primacy and comprehensiveness in doctrine and practice
 - (iv) Primacy as leadership not constraint
- III Past problems and future progress
- (i) The ecclesial character of other Churches *in AC teaching*
 - (ii) The nature of the authority of the primacy and the acceptance it requires.
- IV How do these considerations influence our assessment of the future
- 1963*

SUGGESTED SUB-COMMISSIONS FOR ARCTIC OXFORD

I

Bishop McAdoo
Bishop Knapp-Fisher
Dean Chadwick
Professor Root
Professor Scarisbrick
Dr. Yarnold
Fr. Duprey
Fr. Tavad
Revd. J. Charley
Dr. Halliburton
Mgr. Purdy

II

Bishop Clark
Archbishop Arnott
Bishop Butler
Bishop Moorman
Bishop Vogel
Professor Fairweather
Fr. Ryan
Fr. Tillard
Fr. Ahern
Dr. Gassmann
Revd. C. Hill

Note

It is suggested that the Sub-Commissions may wish to subdivide themselves into Ia and b, and IIa and b.