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TO ALL MEMBERS OF ARCIC-II

I

The Sub-Commission in preparation for Durham duly met at St.Albans, June 19-22. Those taking part were:

Bishop Santer, Professor Chadwick, Mr.Charley, Canon Hill  
Fr.Yarnold, SJ, Fr. Soane, Fr.Tillard,OP, Mgr. Stewart

Bishop Murphy-O'Connor was able to take part for a day.  
Professor Pobee was unfortunately unable to attend.

The task of the Sub-Commission was to attempt a trial draft on "Church and Salvation - with special reference to Justification" on the basis of the papers already circulated and of the papers prepared in the group discussions at Venice. Even in two and a half very full days it did not prove possible to produce as complete or unified a text as had been hoped. For much of the time the Sub-Commission worked in two groups - one on the general outline, Church and Salvation, the other on the particular issue of Justification. The resultant papers are enclosed. You will see that there is a considerable overlap (especially on the Scriptural images) and that other aspects clearly need development and completion. But though it is inevitably imperfect, the Sub-Commission hopes that, with the papers already circulated, it will provide a useful starting point for further work by the full Commission at Durham. Lack of time rather than any really fundamental disagreement was the main reason that the papers are not complete - their lack of maturity prevented the Sub-Commission putting them together as one coherent document. The Commission may find the Sub-Commission self-criticism helpful:

ARCIC-II 20(a) Church and Salvation:General Framework

In discussion of this paper the Sub-Commission felt that the group had still to make clear the main logic of its presentation of the "perspectives".

In particular (i) the material in para. 4 may need to be transferred elsewhere

(ii) the order of treatment of paras. 6,7 and 8 may need reconsideration.

Continued

ARCIC-II 20(b) (84) Justification

Paras. 5-7: There was some discussion of how best to handle the explanation of our historical formulae - the differing status (then and now) of Trent and the Articles; whether to refer to other Anglican texts (e.g. the Homilies); whether a "sample" canon of Trent should be "elucidated" in greater detail; whether the last sentence of para. 5 is premature.

para. 10: It was felt that the presentation of faith in this paragraph required considerable elaboration. Similarly with para. 12 on 'merit'.

II

Your Co-Chairmen and Secretaries look forward to seeing you in Durham. By way of reminder the Commission meets from the evening of Wednesday, 22nd until after breakfast on Friday, 31st August.at:

St. John's College,  
DURHAM, DH1 3RJ,  
England.

Telephone: Durham 69113/4

If you let Anne Tyler here know your arrival time at Newcastle Airport or Durham Station we shall arrange to have you met. Slightly warmer clothes might be appreciated at this time of year in North-East England.

You may find a first catalogue helpful to marshall your papers.

Till Durham,

CHRISTOPHER HILL

RICHARD STEWART