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THE PROTECTION
OF OUR
ENGLISH CHURCHES

Report for 1923

*of the Central Committee for the Protection
of Churches*

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE DIOCESAN ADVISORY
COMMITTEES AND THEIR WORK

HUMPHREY MILFORD
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
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PRINTED IN ENGLAND
AT THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS
BY FREDERICK HALL

*Letter from His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury
to the Hon. Secretary of the Central Committee.*

LAMBETH PALACE,
S.E.

7th October 1923

DEAR MR. EELES,

Nothing could be better than that a report should be forthwith published showing the work which has been done by the Central Committee for the Protection of Churches. This should be accompanied, if possible, with some account of the Diocesan Advisory Committees and their work. I gather this to be exactly what you contemplate, and I am glad to assure you that such publication has my warmest approval and encouragement. I am personally most anxious to further in every way the action of such Committees—Central and Diocesan—as I believe that in wise and capable hands their endeavours will be of the highest value in the historical, the architectural, and the ecclesiastical fields.

I am,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) RANDALL CANTUAR.

*All communications should be addressed to the
Hon. Secretary, Francis C. Eeles, 43 Grosvenor
Road, London, S.W. 1.*

PRELIMINARY NOTE

THIS book contains information about the new machinery of Central and Diocesan Advisory Committees which the church authorities have been setting up to safeguard our ancient English churches and the treasures they contain, and to raise the standard of work done to-day. After the story of the growth of the system will be found an explanation of the way the Committees work, and their relation to the Consistory Courts. Then some account is given of what has actually been done during the few years the system has been in existence. Appendixes include the constitution of the Central Committee, and the names of the members, with a list of the Diocesan Committees and their members. Lastly some important memoranda are printed which the committees have produced, and to which the Central Committee wishes to give the widest publicity.

The Central Committee cannot afford to give illustrations showing the best work done under the influence of the Diocesan Committees, but have had to depend on the blocks which have been lent to them. They wish to thank the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings for those of the Hanborough screen and the Kingsnorth glass, and the *Bath Herald* for that of the Batheaston font. One or two blocks showing good modern work, also lent by friends, have been included. The limited scope of these illustrations is entirely due to lack of money.

It is hoped to issue a report every year. The amount of matter that can be printed and illustrations that can be given will depend entirely on the financial support received.

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THE ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF THE SYSTEM OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHURCHES

It has long been an increasing matter of concern to all who are proud of our great heritage of English ecclesiastical art, that hitherto there has been no way in which the Church could enlist the help of technical knowledge for its preservation with anything like the certainty or regularity needful to ensure success.

It is now fully recognized that the gothic revival of the nineteenth century was accompanied by a vast amount of unnecessary destruction of ancient work of all periods. To realize the enormous losses we sustained as a nation we have only to recall the theories then current. It was widely held, for example, that a church of many periods should be restored to what it was in its first period of construction: that gothic work after about 1350 was more or less 'debased'; that renaissance additions or furniture should be removed from a gothic church as incongruous, and that mutilated or broken works of mediaeval art must either be completely 'restored' or else discarded. It is easy to understand how destructive methods lingered on after such theories had been abandoned in responsible quarters, and it would not be hard to compile a list of scandals in the way of destruction of mediaeval and renaissance works of art that have occurred even in the present century.

The official system of the church by which a faculty or licence from the Bishop's Court is a necessary condition

of any alteration or addition to a church fabric, coupled with the periodical inspection of buildings and their contents by Archdeacons and Rural Deans, if thoroughly carried out, ought to have provided sufficient safeguard against mishandling or neglect. But the continued cases of destruction and negligence and the low artistic standard of new work showed that something was lacking, and during the years before the war the urgent need of serious reform was increasingly felt.

The movement now growing in force, towards securing adequate control of our ancient church fabrics and the artistic treasures connected with them, may be said to date from before the passing of the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act in 1913. Already in 1912, in view of the mischief done to churches by bad restoration and the loss of valuables, a Select Committee of Lords and Commons, after careful inquiry, had recommended that the State should take control of the Cathedrals as national monuments which ought to be protected by legislation from mishandling by incompetent custodians. This proposal was not carried farther, largely because the Archbishop of Canterbury promised that the ecclesiastical authorities would take the necessary protective measures. Accordingly the Archbishops of Canterbury and York asked Sir Lewis Dibdin and two diocesan chancellors—

‘to ascertain what steps are taken on the issue of faculties in the different dioceses to secure due protection, both on archaeological and artistic grounds, for church fabrics which have to undergo repair or in which changes are being made, and to report . . . with any recommendations . . .’

This Committee reported in 1914 in favour of certain improvements in Consistory Court procedure. They said :

'Churches and their contents are placed by law under the care of the Ordinary, i. e. of the Bishop of the diocese and those delegated to act on his behalf. The Ordinary's jurisdiction exercised by the Chancellor in the Consistory Court of a diocese extends to the control of every change whether by way of addition, alteration, removal, renovation, or repair, which affects the structure of a church or its appearance, or its ornaments or decorations or furniture. This jurisdiction is not in practice asserted in small matters, such as mending windows, replacing tiles, supplying kneelers, and similar minor works of repair and furnishing. It is obvious that it would be impossible for churchwardens to discharge their duty of seeing to the upkeep of churches unless some authority, independent of, or delegated by the Ordinary, were recognized as inherent in their office. Its extent is to be defined rather by common sense in particular cases than by the general application of precise rules. But if a substantial alteration—even by way of repair, e. g. an entirely new roof—is contemplated, the Licence or Faculty of the Ordinary is necessary. Especially is this the case with regard to so-called repairs to ancient work which, if carried out, might impair, or otherwise affect, historical or artistic tradition.'

They also suggested that expert advisory bodies should be formed in every diocese—

'for the assistance of the Court in architectural, archaeological, historical and artistic matters relating to churches as to which faculties are sought,' which should assist the Chancellor 'if and when asked to do so by him, during and not before the pendency of the application.'

Such matters as the sale of the fourteenth-century silver-gilt bowl and cover at Studley Royal church, which was allowed by the Chancellor on condition that it came to the national collection at South Kensington, seem to have stirred the interest of the church authorities, and the question was discussed in the Convocation of the

Province of Canterbury in April 1913, when the following resolutions were passed :

' That this House deplores any loss or alienation of sacred vessels and other Church goods, and urges the duty and necessity of a short and simple inventory of valuable Church property being kept in the vestry of every parish church, in order that the list may be readily verified by the incoming churchwardens in accordance with Canon 89, as well as by the Archdeacon and Rural Dean at their official inspection.'

' That such valuable property should include works of ancient sculpture, painting, and stained glass, and objects of decorative and memorial interest.'

' That his Grace the President and their lordships of the Upper House be respectfully requested to consider how this resolution may best be brought to the notice of all Incumbents and churchwardens.'

' And also to consider whether it would not be advisable that a new Canon should be made regulating the sale or alienation of chattels belonging to the Church.'

These proposals, however, were evidently not regarded as adequate, and in fact did not materialize. The next step was taken by the Archbishop of York, who speaking in Convocation on the 11th February 1915, said :

' legislation of a very drastic and important kind was proposed in both Houses of Parliament ; a Committee of the House of Lords had taken a great deal of evidence upon this very matter, and there was in many quarters a very strong desire to include not only the cathedrals but also the more ancient and important churches of the country within a scheme of Government inspection and control.'

A Committee of the Upper House of Convocation of Canterbury ¹ was appointed to consider the Report of the

¹ Consisting of the Bishops of Peterborough, Worcester, Norwich, and St. Edmundsbury. This Committee had joint meetings with a similar Committee of York Convocation consisting of the Archbishop of York and the Bishops of Wakefield and Manchester.

Ancient Monuments (Churches) Committee. In its report, signed by the Bishop of Norwich as convener, this Committee strongly endorsed the view expressed by the Chancellors in the document they were called upon to examine. They made various suggestions and criticized certain portions of the report. Dealing with the question of Advisory Committees, they said :

‘ We agree with Recommendation III, but we recommend that at first considerable variety should be allowed in the constitution and functions of these advisory bodies. We are also of opinion that reference to the advisory body should be made by the Court alone, and not by any of the parties interested, or by the Bishop.

‘ The expenses incidental to the work of the advisory body may be allowed by the Court under the provisions of 30 and 31 Vict., c. 135.’

Before the end of 1915 some private discussions in the diocese of Carlisle were followed, on the motion of the late Canon Rawnsley, by the appointment of a Committee of the Lower House of Convocation of the Province of York to consider the Chancellors’ Report already referred to. This Committee considered that the suggested expert advisory committees should be consulted *before* and not after a case had gone to the Consistory Court, and in this gave expression to a very widespread desire.

On the 5th July 1916 the Lower House of Convocation of Canterbury resolved :

‘ That the reference to the Committee on Insurance of Churches and other Ecclesiastical Buildings be enlarged so as to include the care of Churches and their furniture.’

The Committee on Insurance then reported upon the Chancellors’ Report of 1914, endorsing most of its recommendations, and published their Report in February 1917 (No. 502, 1917).

On the 6th July 1917 the Lower House of Convocation of Canterbury passed three resolutions, of which the second is :

‘ That it is desirable that in every diocese the Bishop should appoint an honorary advisory body to which either the Bishop himself or the Chancellor may apply for advice.’

Meanwhile, owing to the continuance of the War, the matter seemed likely to be approached from another direction. The desire was growing of placing memorials in churches to the men who had laid down their lives for their country, and it was quickly recognized that this desire demanded guidance and direction. Feeling became unanimous that efforts should be made to prevent the flooding of churches with stereotyped tablets or other objects. The Civic Arts Association issued several pamphlets and secured the insertion of articles in the Church papers.

In one diocese, that of Oxford, decided action was taken by the Bishop, who in May 1916 appointed an Advisory Committee to deal with the question in that diocese.

Many well-informed people considered it essential that the erection of permanent War Memorials should not be set in hand until after the end of the War ; apart from the difficulty of securing the most competent artists to produce such memorials, and difficulties connected with the supply of material, it was felt that a true perspective as regards suitability of memorials could best be obtained only after the conclusion of the War.

The authorities of the Victoria and Albert Museum became connected with the movement in the following way : they have always taken deep interest in the artistic treasures such as plate, stained glass, woodwork, and

other objects remaining in English churches: they have on several occasions rescued and preserved in the Museum works of art thrown out of cathedrals and churches in ignorance, and have felt it incumbent on them to render every possible assistance in the safeguarding and preservation of such objects. They have given advice to church authorities who consulted them as to the repair or preservation of their treasures. They have gone farther than this: in the case of valuable old church plate of great artistic importance (some of it in danger of perishing through long and constant use), they obtained sanction from the Government (should funds become available) to make facsimiles and to lend these to the church for so long as the authorities of that church are willing to lend the originals to the Museum. They endeavoured further to induce clergy and churchwardens to place on loan in the Museum plate of a non-ecclesiastical nature, much of which remains in the possession of churches throughout England, and not being suitable for use, is liable to be forgotten or lost sight of; the response to this effort was, however, disappointing. A certain amount of disused church plate of inconvenient form but of artistic value has, however, been deposited on loan in the Museum.¹

In April 1917 a letter on this subject was addressed to Bishops and Archdeacons, and sympathetic replies were received from almost all to whom it was sent. It will be found in Appendix 10, p. 67.

It could easily be seen that the question of War Memorials was likely to involve the existing treasures and

¹ Something of the same kind has been done at Norwich, where a certain amount of church plate has been deposited in the Castle Museum, in return for replicas in silver provided by generous private donors.

fabrics of the churches, as it might mean restoration or addition in some form or other. The smaller question of War Memorials consequently tended to merge into the larger one, and the matter became one of not merely adding new monuments or treasures to churches, but also of securing that there should be no detriment from this or any other cause to older features or possessions.

Conversations between various interested parties resulted in an informal meeting being held on the 28th June 1917, at the Victoria and Albert Museum, at which the following conclusions were reached :

1. It was agreed that the appointment of a committee of reference on all matters concerning churches and their contents is desirable in each diocese.
2. That the present urgency of providing effective safeguards against mishandling in connexion with War Memorials makes it imperative to raise the whole question without delay.
3. That it is at the same time undesirable that action be limited to War Memorials.
4. It will probably be impossible to find in each diocese a body capable of supplying expert advice on all the varied questions likely to arise. And while it is desirable that the available local knowledge be represented on the Diocesan Committee, that Committee will probably be glad to refer certain questions requiring special experience to a central committee.
5. For the present, at any rate, it will probably be found better to proceed on voluntary lines rather than to risk antagonism of vested interests by attempting to introduce any form of legal obligation.

A second meeting was held on the 14th March 1918 of a somewhat more extended and representative character. In the main this meeting confined its attention to the suggestions made at the meeting on the 28th June 1917 : but the strong and unanimous feeling was (a) that greater

care should be exercised in the preparation of terriers and inventories, and that the periodical checking should be of a less perfunctory and more searching character ; and, in order that these measures should be effective, it was essential that there should be an exhaustive survey of church fabrics and their contents ; (b) that an advisory committee should be formed in each diocese. It was also felt that there should be a Central Advisory Committee which should assist the Diocesan Committees, if required, in special matters which they felt themselves unable to decide.

These meetings had no official authority : but they were attended by men of wide and varied experience, as well as of expert knowledge, all of whom held the firm conviction that the matter required urgent and immediate action.

At a later meeting in the same year further progress was reported. In addition to the Advisory Committee on War Memorials already existing in the diocese of Oxford, similar committees had been set up in Peterborough, Chichester, Truro, and Southwark ; it was understood that like action was being taken elsewhere.

The desirability of the appointment of such Committees in the remaining dioceses was emphasized. The terms of reference of the existing committees were considered too narrow, and it was felt that they ought to deal not merely with War Memorials, but with all matters affecting alterations and additions to churches and their contents ; in fact that they should be the natural reference for the bishops upon artistic and archaeological questions, in the same way as the Diocesan Chancellor is upon legal questions.

The question of a Central Advisory Committee was also raised. It seemed highly desirable that Diocesan Com-

mittees should as far as possible act in unison and along parallel lines; as their number grew, the need for co-ordination became more apparent. This co-ordination would probably be best effected as one of the functions of a Central Committee, which would thus exist for a three-fold purpose, viz. :

1. To form a link between the different dioceses and so help to secure uniformity of action and procedure.
2. To provide specialist advice on highly technical questions, such as is unlikely to be forthcoming on many diocesan committees.
3. To superintend, and, if possible, organize the various forms of survey work.

Such a Central Committee would be a large body, including a representative from each of the thirty-seven dioceses, and it would have an executive which would meet constantly. In this way individual dioceses would be relieved from the necessity of finding local specialists, and their committees would be selected from residents of weight, standing, and common sense, who would be of real practical use in supporting the Bishop. Obviously men of special knowledge resident locally would be available for the Diocesan Committee, but the existence of an effective Central Committee would make up for the lack of local specialists in dioceses where they could not be found.

It was urged that an adequate survey of church fabrics and ornaments would be a desirable preliminary to any effective scheme of control. Much had already been done, but with a few exceptions the material available in print was scattered, and no index to it existed. The making of such an index was an obvious and urgent necessity. It was stated to be the intention of the authorities of the Victoria and Albert Museum to carry this out as far as the considerable material officially available to them is

concerned. Beside the question of survey, there was also the need of close watching, which is a duty of Archdeacons and Rural Deans, but which not all of them have the technical knowledge, or even the time, to carry out with the requisite thoroughness.

These suggestions became well known in course of time in many parts of the country, with the result that some of the War Memorial Committees were turned into permanent committees on the lines indicated. That of Truro was the first to become a permanent body with the wider reference. Southwark, Winchester, and Gloucester soon followed. Then came the setting up of permanent advisory committees in dioceses which had never had War Memorial Committees, e. g. Canterbury, Bath and Wells, St. Albans, and Rochester. Little by little the system extended, until in 1921 some twenty-three dioceses possessed committees.

Meanwhile public attention had been drawn to the whole subject in another quarter. In July 1920 the First Commissioner of Works appointed a committee, known as the Ancient Monuments Advisory Committee, 'to enquire generally whether the powers given by the Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1913, should be amended or strengthened, and particularly whether advisory powers as regards ecclesiastical and secular buildings still in use and in occupation should be included within the scope of the Act'. This Committee reported as follows on the situation regarding churches in 1921 (*italics ours*):

' Ecclesiastical and Secular Buildings.

' We have now to consider the second point submitted for our consideration, namely, the advisability of extending the scope of the Act to include Ecclesiastical and Secular Buildings which are still in use and in occupation.

‘(a) Ecclesiastical Buildings.—The case of Ecclesiastical Buildings presents certain analogies to that of secular buildings and certain differences. In architectural, artistic, and historic value, they easily take the first place. All that can be said of the national importance of secular buildings applies with even greater force to them. The principal difference lies in the fact that the large majority of them are controlled by an organized body.

‘We are informed that as regards Cathedral Churches belonging to the Established Church the fabric is under the jurisdiction of the Visitor, and the Visitor is usually the Bishop. As a matter of practice, however, the fabric has been under the sole control of the Dean and Chapter, who, as a rule, appoint an architect as their sole official adviser.

‘The charge of the fabrics of all parochial churches belonging to the Established Church in England is in the hands of the Ordinary, that is to say, the Bishop of the Diocese in which they are situated. No alterations or additions can legally be made to them without the grant of a Faculty, a function entrusted by the Bishop to the Chancellor of the Diocese, who, sitting as a Judge, decides all applications upon the evidence placed before him. So far as we can judge by results, it seems clear that even in the recent past when applications for the grant of faculties have been before a Chancellor’s Court the archaeological and historical points of view have not always received adequate consideration.

‘The interest of the nation in the preservation of Cathedral and Parochial Churches came prominently before the Houses of Parliament in 1912, when a Joint Select Committee of six members of each House considered the consolidation of the Acts relating to Ancient Monuments. In a session of ten members a resolution to bring Parochial Churches within the operation of the Bill failed to pass, five voting for and five against the resolution. A similar resolution as regards Cathedral Churches was carried in another session of eleven members, six voting for the resolution and five against. Our colleague, Bishop Brown, then Bishop of Bristol, was the appointed representative of the Bishops on the Select Committee.

‘Both Cathedral and Parochial Churches were, however, omitted from the scope of the Bill, the authorities

of the Church undertaking to ascertain what steps were taken on the issue of faculties in the different Dioceses to secure due protection, both on archaeological and artistic grounds, for Church fabrics which have to undergo repair or in which changes are being made.

A Committee consisting of Sir Lewis Dibdin, Sir Alfred B. Kempe, and Sir Charles E. H. Chadwyck-Healey, was accordingly appointed by the Archbishops, and their report, which dealt only with Parochial Churches, was published in 1914. They recommended that in each diocese an honorary Advisory Board should be appointed by the Bishop, to which the Chancellor might, at his discretion, apply for advice when considering applications for faculties. *We understand that Advisory bodies have been, or are being, formed, now that the pressure due to the war is relieved, and we hope that they will be appointed in every diocese without delay.* We consider that they should be made representative of the best opinion on matters of archaeological, historical, and artistic interest, and that they should be given early and full information of the details of an application for a faculty, and be enabled to visit the Church concerned.

Provision should also be made to give the members of these bodies a definite status as assessors with the Chancellors on all such matters. At present the Chancellors need not consult them nor regard their advice. We suggest that the members of the Diocesan Advisory Committee should sit with the Chancellor as members of the Court for the purpose of deciding all questions other than of law which may arise in the case before him.

We cannot leave the question of the care of Parish Churches without expressing some anxiety about the possibility of loss of chattels, which are not technically "ornamenta" or "furniture" of the Church, and thus are not, so far as we know, legally protected against removal. We may instance the case of old helmets and other pieces of armour, of which some have interesting historical associations, some have artistic beauty, and all deserve to be carefully scheduled, not only in the records of the parish, but also in the central records of the diocese and of the province.

The Faculty system gives legal protection to all the Parish Churches in the kingdom. There is not, so far as we are aware, any legal protection for the Cathedral

Churches, the most important of our National historical monuments. These are, in practice, under the sole control of the Dean and Chapter, who, as before stated, usually appoint an architect to be their official adviser. We think that the grave danger of unreservedly placing themselves in the hands of a single adviser would be met, if, in each Province, the authorities of the Church appointed a central body parallel in importance and in personal calibre to the Ancient Monuments Board. Every question relating to Cathedral Churches should be referred to this body before any proposals affecting fabrics are put into force.

'Such a body should also be of the greatest assistance to the official principals or Judges of the Provincial Courts in deciding appeals in faculty cases from the Chancellors' Courts on matters other than of law.

'Should, however, no satisfactory scheme for the legal protection of the fabrics of Cathedral Churches be brought into operation by the authorities of the Church we recommend that provision should be made for the protection of these buildings by an appropriate extension of the powers of the Ancient Monuments Act.'

'We have considered the question primarily in relation to the Churches of the Church of England, but similar suitable arrangements should be made by the responsible authorities of the Churches in Scotland and Wales.

'Under the head of Parish Churches, we expressed some anxiety with regard to the protection of chattels other than "ornamenta" and "furniture" in a parish church. It appears to us anomalous that the smallest parish church in the kingdom has a large measure of legal protection against the alienation of its movable possessions of one important class, namely, the "ornamenta" and "furniture", but, so far as we are informed, the largest Cathedral Church has no legal protection against the alienation of any class of such possessions. A list of all the movable possessions of historical and antiquarian value, other than "ornamenta" and "furniture", in all the Cathedral Churches of the kingdom, including their muniments, would be a document of very wide scope and of extraordinary interest. We venture to think that if a corresponding list were made of all the "ornamenta" and "furniture" of all the Cathedral Churches, including the disused Communion Vessels as well as the Communion

Vessels in general or partial use, the central authorities of the Church might see reason to redress the anomaly which becomes a source of anxiety when it is mentioned and understood.

'We find another cause for anxiety in the want of careful protection of objects in Cathedral Churches, which is illustrated by the condition of the accoutrements of the "Black Prince" in Canterbury Cathedral.'

In July 1921 a large and representative meeting was held in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster Abbey, under the presidency of the Dean of Westminster, at which it was decided to ask Diocesan Committees to send delegates to another meeting to be held in November. That meeting took place in the Jerusalem Chamber on the 4th November 1921. The Dean of Westminster was in the chair: 26 delegates were present representing 20 dioceses, with 4 invited members.

The Dean said that the meeting was the outcome of a series (see p. 14) of informal conferences of persons interested in the question of the Protection of Churches and their artistic treasures, which had been held from time to time during the last few years. At the last of these gatherings, on 29th July 1921, it was unanimously decided that the time had come to ask the various Diocesan Committees to elect two members each to attend a subsequent meeting with a view to forming a Central Advisory Committee. That meeting was the result. The Dean stated that he had no official position in the matter and the part he had taken was simply at the request of those who were interested in these important questions. The delegates present, however, had the authority of their own committees, which were appointed by the Bishops in consultation with the Chancellors. It therefore rested with them to take the action he understood was proposed.

He pointed out that a Central Committee was required in the main for the three following purposes :

(A) *Co-ordination of work of Diocesan Committees.*

While it was not desirable to introduce absolute uniformity of procedure everywhere, much might be done to avoid needless diversity, and every committee could learn from the common experience of the rest. In practice, questions constantly arose on which committees wished to know what was customary elsewhere.

(B) *Technical advice.*

It was obviously impossible for any committee to include specialists competent to advise on *every* question that might come within its sphere of action. In cases of special technical difficulty the Central Committee would probably be able to assist the Diocesan Committees to obtain the needful information either directly or indirectly.

(C) *Consultation and Reference.*

It sometimes happened that a parish committee questioned the advice given by the Diocesan Committee. It might be that some local feeling or prejudice was aroused. Mistaken accusations of this kind were sometimes made by persons who were nettled at being thwarted. If reference to a Central Committee could be arranged, it would remove most difficulties of this kind : or a second opinion might be asked for by parish authorities in a friendly way, or to strengthen their position against a troublesome donor : or a Diocesan Committee might wish to fortify itself by a second opinion : or a Chancellor might ask for a second opinion in a difficult faculty case.

After discussion, the following resolution was proposed by the Chairman and carried unanimously :

‘ That this body here assembled together with the delegates already appointed or to be appointed by the Diocesan Committees be constituted as a Central Advisory Committee.’

Mr. Athelstan Riley proposed the Dean of Westminster as Chairman. The Dean of Westminster proposed Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith, Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, as Hon. Treasurer, and Mr. Francis C. Eeles as Hon. Secretary. These proposals were carried unanimously.

Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith mentioned that it would be desirable for the Central Committee to have power to add to their number a few additional members if and when required.

Further discussion followed, during which it was pointed out that the existing delegates would naturally remain members of the Central Committee unless and until the Diocesan Committees appointed others.

Following on this it was decided by the newly-constituted Central Committee to appoint a working Executive Committee, most of the members of which would be within easy reach of London and could be called together at short notice.

In the course of the proceedings it was announced that out of 37 English dioceses, 23 had Committees for Protection of Churches, while one was about to be formed in a twenty-fourth diocese. In a very few instances the committees did not appear to be efficient, largely on account of the Chancellor only consulting them upon occasional cases instead of requiring their opinion upon all faculty cases involving artistic questions. It was hoped that these dioceses would speedily come into line

and that the remaining 13 dioceses would shortly be provided with Committees like the majority.

The Central Committee and its Executive met several times in 1922 and the work done was widely appreciated and its value recognized. Towards the end of the year the increase of business was such that the Executive found it necessary to appoint a Standing Committee, and it was felt that a definite constitution was desirable. This was carefully considered both by the Standing Committee and by the Executive, with the result that it was finally agreed upon by a full meeting on 22nd March 1923. It is printed on p. 41, Appendix I.

The Central Committee is continually dealing with matters relating to the work of Diocesan Committees, and is obtaining technical advice for them. These are usually matters of minor importance in themselves, or concern special points in regard to particular cases, which are handled in the office in the usual way, very often with the help of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Of cases of a more important kind, which have required the consideration of the whole Committee or its Executive, may be mentioned that of a series of new windows proposed for Salisbury Cathedral. This extensive scheme excited considerable controversy, and a satisfactory settlement has now been reached through the action of the Committee. Another important case is that of Sherborne Abbey Church, where there was also considerable controversy, and where the Committee was asked by the parochial authorities to examine the work, and has been able to report favourably upon what has been done, and to give guidance for the future.

The Central Committee has also considered a memorandum on the treatment of bells and bell-frames agreed upon between the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. The Committee is circulating this document with a covering letter in which further suggestions are made. The memorandum and the covering letter will be found below, Appendix 7, p. 56.

Diocesan Advisory Committees.

These are appointed by the Bishop with the concurrence of the Chancellor and in some cases also that of the Diocesan Conference.

A list of them with the names of their members will be found in Appendix 3, p. 44.

The Diocesan Committee can give most effective assistance when clergy, parochial church councils, and intending donors ask for general advice as soon as they contemplate making any alterations, additions, or repairs to a church or its fittings or ornaments. In this way it is always possible to avoid the forming of schemes or obtaining of designs to which exception might be taken at a later stage.

If this procedure be not adopted, it may be found that the Committee cannot advise the Chancellor to grant a faculty for the work when it comes before the Committee at a later stage, and considerable revision of plans may be found necessary.

In many dioceses the Chancellor makes it a rule that all applications for faculties where the fabric or contents of a church are concerned must be referred to the Committee for their opinion before being submitted to him for consideration. Everywhere and in all cases the Chancellor's decision is final.

In several dioceses when application is made to the Committee, one or more members are asked to visit the

church with a view to helping those concerned, whether clergy, donors, or church councils. In such cases the Committee is usually glad to give further assistance and to make a general report on the church and its contents to guide the local authorities in the immediate future. Much gratitude has been expressed for these reports, as they indicate the most urgent needs in the matter of repairs and the most desirable forms that gifts might take.

In this way the Committees have been of the greatest possible assistance to Archdeacons and Rural Deans and have been able to indicate what ought to be done and how.

Thus in one case after another parishes have been advised to call in architects to supervise repairs which would otherwise have been done without sufficiently skilled direction. On the other hand the Committees are providing a much-needed check on the activities of a certain type of architect who handles an ancient building in too drastic a manner, or of one who is perhaps too anxious to impress his own individuality upon an old church. If it is a question of selecting an architect, a Diocesan Committee has much more experience and knows of a wider circle of names than the average parochial church council.

In many dioceses a card has been issued with the authority of the Bishop and sent to each church to be hung on or near the door, briefly explaining the faculty system, urging all concerned to make use of the Advisory Committee, and giving the name and address of the Secretary. An example of one of these notices will be found below, Appendix 4, p. 51.

It is well to recall the fact that it is these three things, neglect of repair, drastic and mishandled repairs, and crude and aggressive modern additions, with of course

a fourth, namely destruction of ancient work, that have gone on in the past to such an extent that many archaeologists and artists have said that the Church is unfit to have the care of her ancient buildings, and that their only safety lies in the State taking possession of them. The actual working of the Diocesan Committees now proves that the new system is fast providing a remedy for these evils. The Central Committee not only supplies any deficiencies in the Diocesan Committees, but is also prepared to advise in the case of those churches which do not come under the Consistory Court jurisdiction.

SOME RESULTS OF EXPERIENCE

It will readily be understood that it is impossible to publish full particulars of the most valuable part of the work of these Committees. When a donor or a parish with the best of intentions, but without sufficient technical knowledge, has produced a scheme for making some addition or alteration to an old church which ought not to be made, it would not be right to inform the world that the Diocesan Committee sent a representative to the church who succeeded in getting the promoters to abandon their scheme, or that the Chancellor, on the advice of the Committee, refused to grant a faculty for it. Yet this is what is happening somewhere in England almost every day at the present time. The good work goes on, but the reader must not ask for names of persons and places.

It is the same with the numerous cases where purely modern work is in question, and the Committee succeeds in getting a higher class of work substituted for a lower.

The Committees have already done much to raise the standard of new work placed in churches. This is a difficult matter, and a wise discretion has to be exercised as to how far it is expedient to go in any given case. Some general principles seem to have evolved themselves in actual practice.

In ancient churches the greatest care has to be taken not merely to see that no injury is done to old work, but that all new work is of such a character as to harmonize with it.

At the same time it is desirable to see that nothing is added to an ancient church which on close examination could be mistaken for ancient work, even if in the same style.

Modern churches are in different category. Where a church is the work of a living architect it is generally considered that all additions ought to be subject to his supervision. In other cases a wide latitude for artistic experiment is felt to be allowable. In the case of churches of bad design in very poor districts it is often not possible at present to aim at so high a standard as can be attained elsewhere.

As to style, work is now being done, roughly speaking, either in some form of gothic or else in a variety of renaissance, or possibly in some form of 'new art', or in what is called 'non-stylist' method. Without the exclusion of any one form, experience seems to show that there is a limit to the eccentricity of experimentalism that can be allowed in a church, and that that limit is much narrower in an ancient than in a modern building. On the other hand, it would also be agreed that there are certain dull and lifeless methods of working in more or less traditional forms that are commonly, if not quite accurately, called 'commercial' or 'shop' work, and are to be carefully distinguished from the really living and vital continuance or revival of the great traditional styles. While there is general agreement that much later renaissance work was of a degenerate type, and that the gothic revival was flooded by bad work to an excessive degree, the nineteenth-century mistake of the wholesale condemnation of the renaissance warns us against any similarly violent reaction against all work of the gothic revival. Generally speaking, the tendency is to try to get outside mere nineteenth-century peculiarities, and mistakes due to lack of knowledge, and to rely on those broad principles common to all the great artistic periods. For example: it is now agreed that the nineteenth-century men went much too far in the desire to show bare

wood and bare stone ; in their fear of bright colour ; and in their reaction against the white walls which we now know usually formed the groundwork of decoration from the earliest times through all the varying architectural styles. We also know that filling ancient chancels with steps and covering east windows with high reredoses were due to mistakes : the nineteenth-century people who did these things thought they were treating the chancels as the original builders intended, but they had not the facts.

Much careful if somewhat tedious work has been done in the supervision of memorial tablets. While such tablets were not too common and were generally of artistic merit down to about a century and a half ago, since that time our churches have been covered with them in various degrees of ugliness. Lettering has become bad, decoration meaningless, and the tablets themselves have been made far too large and of garish materials. It has been the aim of the Committees to induce donors to make them smaller and quieter, and to have shorter inscriptions with simpler and clearer lettering ; to use local stone where possible, and to avoid lacquered brass or cheap metal, and only to have elaborate monuments when designed by persons specially qualified. The position of tablets in churches has also been a special consideration, and care is now taken to prevent them being placed on pillars or the splays of windows or in chancels or on east walls of chapels, or where they would obscure or distract attention from ancient or important features.

While in many cases it has been difficult or impossible to secure all the alterations desired, a very real improvement has been made. In lettering the advance has been beyond question, and within the last few years much lettering has been produced which for clearness and beauty will

compare with the work of the best periods. There has also been a better and more effective use of heraldry. Inscriptions have been shortened and there has been a widespread movement to omit the words 'To the glory of God', as inappropriate on a simple tablet, however desirable on a stained window or an ornament of the church.

In places where good stone exists, Diocesan Committees have endeavoured to stimulate its use in preference to the importation of marble or the use of metal or wood. This has been the case to a large extent in the diocese of Gloucester, where the Cotswolds provide some of the best stone in England.

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED : SOME EXAMPLES

A FEW typical instances of good work may be given. As space is limited, these are largely drawn from two sources, viz. the reports of Bath and Wells, the first Committee in the alphabetical list, and of Canterbury, the metropolitan diocese.

The Bath and Wells Committee is taking special pains to see that the splendid towers of Somerset shall not be injured by mishandling of bells and bell-frames, or by the well-meant but disastrous ironwork with which their fragile parapets were repaired in the nineteenth century. Little by little the Committee is getting them examined and reported on with a view to proper treatment. In the case of the peculiarly graceful tower of Staple Fitzpaine, the Committee pointed out that the proposed addition of a clock face would mar the beauty of the structure, each side of each stage of which contains ornamental features. At Worle, Bleadon, Mark, Chewton Mendip, Shepton Mallet, Croscombe, Stogursey, Kingston St. Mary, Bishop's Lydeard, Crowcombe, Bicknoller, and Exford, the towers have been thoroughly examined and protective measures are being carried out, or are in contemplation. Steps are being taken to preserve the beautiful little church of Swell and the chapel of Rodhuish, where the walls have long been in dangerous condition owing to cracks. At Emborough the same is being done, and at Hinton Blewitt the interesting roofs, long neglected and in a serious state, are to be taken in hand. Reports have also been made upon North Barrow, Chesterblade, Baltonsborough, and Selworthy. At Hinton Charterhouse



PANEL OF FIFTEENTH-CENTURY STAINED GLASS
AT KINGSNORTH, KENT

Recently repaired on the advice of the Canterbury Committee



SCREEN IN NORTH AISLE, HANBOROUGH, OXON.
FIFTEENTH CENTURY

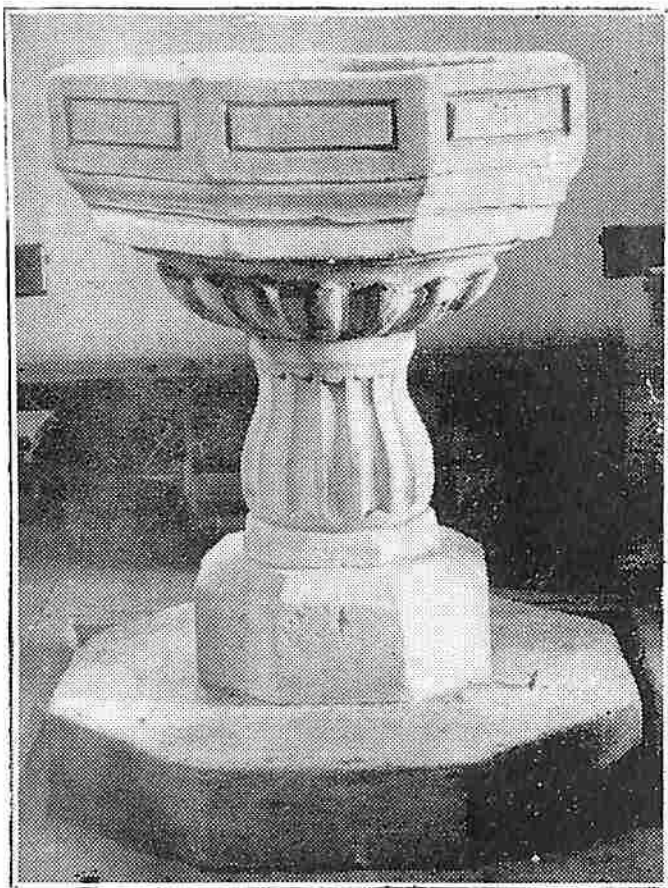
An example of conservative repair of ancient woodwork

Before repair: The work was done with the minimum use of new material. In some cases the addition of rather more modern work is both possible and desirable.



THE SAME SCREEN AFTER REPAIR

The chapel within has since been furnished. The absence of an east window is due to an ancient vestry further east. The pulpit also is fifteenth-century work.



SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY FONT, LONG DISCARDED
REPLACED AT BATHEASTON, SOMERSET

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
CHARLES HENRY GRUNDY M.A. PRIEST
FOR 27 YEARS VICAR OF THIS PARISH
DIED APRIL 21ST 1914 AGED 69 YEARS
THIS BRASS IS PLACED HERE BY HIS
THREE CHILDREN + BEATI MORTUI
QUI IN DOMINO MORIUNTUR

MODERN BRASS WITH SIMPLE ROMAN LETTERING

the porch has been repaired. In these and other cases the work either has been or will be done in such a way as to preserve all that can be preserved of ancient work, without unnecessary renewal or conjectural restoration of lost features. At Batheaston the seventeenth-century font and two mediaeval cross-bearing slabs, long neglected in the churchyard, have been restored to the church. Preparation has now been made in several places for the re-leading of old glass under proper supervision.

A statement by this Committee, printed in the *Diocesan Gazette*, on the Somerset towers, will be found in Appendix 9, p. 64.

The Bath and Wells Committee are also endeavouring to find out where ancient woodwork exists which was removed from churches in the nineteenth century. In one case they have met with extraordinary success. The fifteenth-century rood screen turned out of the parish church of St. Audries, or West Quantoxhead, when rebuilt in 1858, proves to be still in existence. It was given to the neighbouring church of Williton before the war, and was found by the Committee carefully preserved in pieces in a dry apple-loft. The screen is a small but rich example of the beautiful local type of which the best-known representative is the splendid screen at Dunster, the longest but one in England. On the advice of the Committee the screen is being lent to the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, for a short time until sufficient money is raised to erect it in Williton church. This will give ample opportunity for determining in what way the missing portions can best be made good and the remainder sufficiently repaired without detracting from its value and interest.

The Canterbury Committee have taken special trouble in regard to the thirteenth-century church at Petham

near Canterbury, where the roof, bells, and furniture were destroyed by a fire which originated where the stove-pipe passed through the nave roof without adequate protection. In this case important discoveries of three thirteenth-century consecration crosses and some mediaeval grave slabs were made. These have been carefully preserved. A bad nineteenth-century arcade has been rebuilt in a way that, while it is not aggressive, cannot be mistaken for anything but modern work. The new roofs follow the traditional lines of Kentish construction, while they show that they are no mere conjectural restoration of what might have been there before. The church has been whitened in the ancient way both without and within, and although at present somewhat bare, it presents much of the appearance it must have had when first built.

The same Committee has also supervised work at St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, a church badly mishandled in the nineteenth century. Here there is a valuable late sixteenth-century altar-table for which a cross and candlesticks were desired, and the Committee has been successful in finding ornaments that suit it. The white walls are being restored in place of the red distemper of the Victorian reaction. Advice has been given about rearranging the bells so as to protect the tower from danger, as a large frame had been set up without proper supervision, and the tower walls cut away to admit it.

Care has been taken to see that a new heating system is satisfactorily installed.

At Harrietsham, under the Committee's advice, a large organ, which blocked both chancel and south chapel, has been placed in the west tower. At Doddington the Committee similarly secured the proper placing of the organ so as not to obscure features of interest. At Milton-next-Sittingbourne advice was given about the treatment of

the porch. Full reports have been made upon many churches for the further guidance of those responsible for them. At Kingsdown by Sittingbourne, steps are being taken to save Pugin's interesting little church from the effects of cracks due to insecure foundations.

The Committee has also secured that the fine fifteenth-century stained-glass panel in Kingsnorth church, near Ashford, should be re-leaded, with the weak parts plated.

A report of the Committee's work was made to the Archbishop and printed in the *Diocesan Gazette*; it will be found in Appendix 5, p. 53.

Extracts from a report by the Chelmsford Committee will be found in Appendix 6, p. 54.

The Chichester Committee has been successful in getting an ancient screen, that had been discarded, replaced in Westham church on Pevensey Level.

The Gloucester Committee has done good service in rescuing the half-deserted church of Stanley Pontlarge near Winchcombe. One of their members, Sir Philip Stott, who was trained as an architect, has himself superintended the re-roofing of the Norman chancel. This Committee is also making efforts to preserve another partly disused church of great interest.

The fine church of Dartford, in the diocese of Rochester, has been skilfully treated within and without; the old font, long discarded, has been found and replaced, the brasses re-set on their proper stones, including the splendid canopied brass of Richard Martyn and his wife, 1402, which has lain in a strong room in pieces ever since its matrix was buried under a Victorian floor at an unfortunate 'restoration' in the last century.

The St. Albans Committee has rescued a valuable stained-glass window of about 1540 brought from Rouen after the French Revolution and set up in Rickmansworth

church. It was turned out about 1890 to make way for a modern window, was taken to pieces, stored in a box and looked on as useless. The Committee heard of it, called attention to its value, and advised the parish to have it re-leaded and repaired. This was done with great skill by Mr. J. N. Comper. Then, as there is at present no place to put it in Rickmansworth church, the parish has lent it to the Victoria and Albert Museum, where its beauty can be seen and appreciated, and where it is in no danger of being forgotten.

This Committee has also taken steps towards getting many ancient churches properly repaired, in particular the large church of Toddington in South Bedfordshire, long much neglected, as well as the churches of Clifton, Henlow, and Biggleswade.

Under the direction of the Southwark Committee the interior of the interesting but hitherto very dingy seventeenth-century church of Charlton near Greenwich has been whitened, and its fine series of renaissance monuments carefully cleaned. This is a good example of what ought to be done with our splendid marble monuments of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, which were so shamefully neglected during the period of the gothic revival. If only the marble is cleaned, and unpainted surfaces polished with a little white prepared beeswax and turpentine, it is possible to realize the beauty of these structures, which so often look dreary and forbidding in a state of neglect, especially when begrimed with the smoke of a large town. This Committee has also arranged for careful preservative treatment to be applied to the famous wall-painting of the Doom at Chaldon.

Lack of space as well as considerations mentioned above make it difficult to give further instances. But it may be added that the Committees have succeeded in preventing

organs being placed in unsatisfactory positions in many cases: they have stopped the adding of vestries in improper ways to ancient churches: they have saved valuable bells from being recast or mutilated; they have urged that internal walls improperly stripped should be replastered; they have frequently advised about the removal of ivy, the better disposal of surface water, the repair of old glass, the treatment of ironwork, the preservation of monuments and wall-paintings, the repair of church plate, and the care of churchyards and churchyard crosses.

FINANCE

THE extraordinary and unlooked-for success of the whole system, which is working more satisfactorily than any one would have foreseen or hoped seven years ago when the Oxford Committee was founded, may even now be jeopardized for lack of money, even though no very large sum is required.

The Diocesan Committees have enlisted on behalf of the Church the services of some three hundred and twenty-five of the most able men in the country, who are giving time, work, and experience for nothing. But there are inevitable working expenses which each diocese is in some degree endeavouring to meet. The adequate protection of our churches by this new system wholly depends on church people not allowing those who do the work to be out of pocket. A Diocesan Committee requires money for four purposes, viz. (1) Secretary's postages and similar expenses; (2) members' expenses in attending meetings; (3) members' expenses in visiting churches; (4) fees for specialists in certain cases. Of these, No. 1 is not a serious matter; No. 2 ought to be found if the enthusiasm of members is not to be allowed to decline and a good attendance at meetings is to be maintained; No. 3 can sometimes be obtained from the church requiring a visit, but only too often it would be impolitic to ask for it locally; No. 4 should be paid by the church requiring advice, but there are cases where the parish does not see the need of it, while the Committee feels it to be vital, e. g. where a second opinion is required. These are needs that are not yet realized. As a matter of fact, the more a Committee inspects and reports on churches, the more

likelihood there is of repairs being done quickly and cheaply, and the less danger of their being delayed till more extensive work is unavoidable. It will pay any diocese to be generous to the Advisory Committee: one might almost say that for every £10 given to the Committee *now*, the Diocesan Finance Board will save £100 or more in five years.

Even as things are, most though not all Diocesan Committees receive a very small grant from the Diocesan Funds, although hardly ever enough. But the Central Committee, the heart and centre of the whole system, is in far worse case. To maintain an adequate Central Office and staff might cost as much as £1,000 or £1,200 a year. At present it has been found possible to carry on the work by a special arrangement which involves much less expenditure than this. But even so, a sum of £250 or £300 a year is required, and that at once. Further, if the present arrangement cannot be placed on a permanent basis, the larger sum might be required at any time to save the whole movement from collapse. It ought to be raised now and capitalized for future emergencies. At present the staff available practically consists of one shorthand typist, who must in addition perform many of the duties of assistant secretary. For this responsible position a salary of £156 per annum cannot be regarded as excessive. As a matter of fact, the office work is already more than a single shorthand typist can get through, and it has been necessary to fall back upon voluntary help, which, however willingly given, must always be a more or less uncertain quantity.

A form of subscription and legacy will be found at the end of this book.

APPENDIXES

1. Constitution of Central Committee.
2. List of Members of Central Committee.
3. List of Members of Diocesan Committees.
4. Example of card for hanging near church doors.
5. Report of Canterbury Committee.
6. Extracts from Report of Chelmsford Committee.
7. Memorandum on Church Bells agreed upon between the S.P.A.B. and the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers with covering letter from the Central Committee.
8. The Care of Monumental Brasses and other Memorials.
Issued by the Canterbury Diocesan Committee.
9. Somerset Church Towers.
Issued by the Bath and Wells Diocesan Committee.
10. Letter to Bishops and Archdeacons on the care of Church Plate, 1917, from the Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

APPENDIX I.

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHURCHES AND THEIR TREASURES CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

IN the year 1913 a Committee of Diocesan Chancellors consisting of Sir Lewis Dibdin, Sir Alfred Kempe, and Sir C. E. H. Chadwyck-Healey, was invited by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to report on certain matters concerning the issuing of faculties.

This Committee reported in July 1914 suggesting that Advisory bodies should be formed in every diocese

'for the assistance of the Court in architectural, archaeological, historical, and artistic matters relating to churches as to which faculties are sought.'

Largely as the result of these recommendations, a movement took place in 1916, which has resulted in the setting up of Diocesan Committees. Out of 37 English Dioceses 31 have now such committees.

These Committees are appointed by the Bishops, usually in concurrence with the Chancellors, to advise the Chancellor in cases concerning the structure of churches, or their contents, if, and when asked to do so by him. In practice, they are often consulted beforehand when a faculty is in contemplation, or in cases where work is contemplated which does not need a faculty. This development has met with the approval of many of the Chancellors. As a result of their experience these Committees have found it necessary to set up a Central Committee of which the Dean of Westminster at present acts as Chairman.

It is believed that such a Committee may assist where necessary as a channel of information between different Diocesan Committees; and it may be found useful where there is some local diversity of opinion.

CONSTITUTION

1. The Central Committee, which derives its authority from the Diocesan Committees, shall consist primarily of two representatives from each Diocesan Committee. A small number of additional members may also be co-opted.

2. There shall be a Chairman, a Treasurer, and a Secretary who shall be appointed by the Members of the Central Committee.

3. The Central Committee shall consider all questions of general interest concerning churches and their contents which may be referred to it by the Diocesan Committees. It may also consider questions otherwise referred to it, if these seem to be of sufficient importance, but the Central Committee shall decide whether it would be expedient to intervene in any particular case.

4. The Central Committee shall refer difficult technical questions to those who are specially qualified to deal with them even though they be not members of the Committee.

APPENDIX 2

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN.	The Rt. Rev. the Dean of Westminster.*
HON. TREASURER.	Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith.*† 62 Rutland Gate, S.W. 7.
HON. SECRETARY.	Francis C. Eccles.*† 43 Grosvenor Road, S.W. 1.

REPRESENTING THE DIOCESE OF

BATH and WELLS.	The Archdeacon of Wells,* the Rev. Dr. Salisbury Price, and (in reserve) Prebendary Hamlet.
BIRMINGHAM.	G. A. Bryson and A. C. Dixon.
BRADFORD.	Colonel Parker and Rev. Canon Howson.
BRISTOL.	H. Brakspear.

CANTERBURY.	Rev. R. U. Potts.*
CHELMSFORD.	Revs. W. J. Pressey and Montagu Benton.
CHICHESTER.	J. E. Couchman and W. B. Chamberlin.
ELY.	G. H. Tyndall and Rev. Dr. Cranage.*
EXETER.	Rev. Stanley D. Dewey.
GLOUCESTER.	The Archdeacon of Cheltenham and Rev. Dr. West.
HEREFORD.	Rev. Dr. Hermitage Day.*
LICHFIELD.	Rev. Dr. Cranage and F. H. Crossley.
LINCOLN.	The Archdeacon of Stow.*
LIVERPOOL.	Canons Wells and Mitchell.
MANCHESTER.	The Dean of Manchester and Isaac Taylor.
NEWCASTLE.	The Archdeacon of Northumberland and A. Hamilton Thompson.*
NORWICH.	Canon Gordon Roe and W. R. Rudd.
OXFORD.	C. O. Skilbeck.*
PETERBOROUGH.	The Earl Ferrers * and Rev. H. K. Fry.
RIPON.	E. W. Crossley.
ROCHESTER.	The Archdeacon of Rochester *† and Leland L. Duncan.
ST. ALBANS.	The Archdeacon of St. Albans *† and W. Page.*
SOUTHWARK.	Rev. A. R. F. Hyslop and W. W. Watts.
TRURO.	Canon Holroyd Mills and Athelstan Riley, Sr.
WAKEFIELD.	E. W. Crossley.
WINCHESTER.	The Dean of Winchester and Sir Thomas Jackson.
WORCESTER.	G. McNeil Rushforth * and John Hum- phreys.
YORK.	The Dean of York and J. Bilson.*
<i>Co-opted.</i>	F. H. Day,*† W. A. Forsyth,*† G. A. Macmillan.*†

An Executive Committee has been appointed consisting of those whose names are marked * above.

A Standing Committee of the Executive has been appointed to meet at least once a month, consisting of those whose names are marked † above.

APPENDIX 3

LIST OF MEMBERS OF DIOCESAN COMMITTEES *

BATH and WELLS : *Advisory Committee for the Protection of Churches.*

The Bishop of Taunton (Archdeacon), the Archdeacons of Wells (*Chair*), and Bath, Canon Alcock, Prebendaries Hamlet and Palmer, Revs. Dr. J. Salisbury Price, W. T. Reeder, G. W. Saunders, Messrs. E. G. Cuthbert F. Atchley, W. I. Croome (*Hon. Sec.*, Feltrim, Weston-super-Mare), Francis C. Eeles, G. Evans.

Meets 2nd Thurs. in month at Wells, Bath, Taunton, Glastonbury, Weston-super-Mare, Ilminster or elsewhere.

BIRMINGHAM : *Diocesan Church Fabric and Faculty Advisory Committee.*

The Archdeacons of Aston and Birmingham (*Chair*), Dr. G. A. Auden, Messrs. W. H. Bidlake, G. A. Bryson (*Hon. Sec.*, Queen's College, Birmingham), A. S. Dixon, A. G. Gaskin, J. R. Holliday, B. J. Fletcher.

Meets last Mon. in month, Diocesan Office, Queen's College, Birmingham.

BRADFORD : *The Bishop of Bradford's Advisory Committee.*

Canons F. J. Howson and W. J. Stavert (*Hon. Sec.*, Burnsall Rectory, Skipton-in-Craven), Col. J. W. E. Parker, H. B. McCall.

Meets at Leeds at quarterly meetings of Archaeological Society.

BRISTOL : *Diocesan Advisory Committee.*

The Archdeacons of Bristol and Swindon, Canon Masters, Rev. E. H. Goddard, Messrs. C. E. Boucher, Harold Brak-

* Considerations of space have made it necessary to give these lists in as short a form as possible.

spear, Claude B. Fry, J. J. Simpson (*Hon. Sec.*, Church House, Bristol), Dr. A. Hamilton Thompson.

Meets when required at Church House, Bristol.

CANTERBURY : *Advisory Committee on Faculties.*

The Archdeacons of Canterbury and Maidstone, Canon Livett, Revs. Dr. Mason, R. U. Potts (*Hon. Sec.*, Kingston Rectory, Canterbury), Lord Northbourne, Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith, Messrs. R. Griffin, F. C. Eeles, A. H. Hallam Murray, Leland L. Duncan.

Meets 2nd Mon. in month in London and Canterbury alternately.

CHELMSFORD : *Diocesan Advisory Board on Churches and Church Treasures.*

The Bishops of Barking and Colchester (Archdeacons), Canons Galpin (*Chair*), Lake, Reeve, Rendall (*Vice-Chair*), Steele, Tancock, Revs. A. G. B. Atkinson, G. M. Benton, W. J. Pressey (*Hon. Sec.*, Margaretting Vicarage, Ingatestone), Messrs. F. C. Eden, R. C. Fowler, W. H. Lewer, C. W. Parker, C. F. D. Sperling, W. W. Watts, Miss T. M. Hope.

Meets last Mon. of month at St. Botolph's Parish Room, Bishopsgate, London.

CHICHESTER : *Consultative Committee on Faculties.*

The Archdeacons of Chichester, Hastings, and Lewes, Revs. W. Godfrey Bell (*Hon. Sec.*, Church House, Brighton), Kenneth Clark, A. H. Coombes, A. A. Evans, Dr. Grayling, F. H. D. Smythe, Messrs. W. B. Chamberlin, J. E. Couchman (*Chair*).

ELY : *The Bishop's Advisory Committee on the care of Ancient Buildings.*

The Archdeacons of Ely, Huntingdon, and Wisbech, Canons G. W. Evans, Payton, Woodhouse, Rev. Dr. Cranage, the Earl of Sandwich, Sir Thomas Hare (*Chair*), Professor Prior, Col. Proby, Major Birch, Messrs. F. F. Doggett, G. Jebb, R. M. Osborne, G. M. Woodgate, G. H. Tyndall (*Hon. Sec.*, Minster Cottage, Ely).

Meets thrice a year, but Sub-Committee constantly.

EXETER

The Dean of Exeter (*Chair*), Revs. Prebendary Chanter, H. E. Bishop, Stanley D. Dewey, Stanley Nourse, Chas. Sherwin (*Co-Sec.*, Clyst Hydon Rectory, Exeter), Sir R. L. Newman, Bt., Sir Henry Yarde-Buller Lopes, Bt., Messrs. E. C. A. Byron, S. Kyffin Greenslade, A. Locke Radford (*Co-Sec.*), W. H. Rogers, H. I. Seymour.

GLOUCESTER : *Diocesan Committee on Faculties and Protection of Churches.*

The Archdeacon of Cheltenham (*Chair*), Canons W. Bazeley, R. C. S. Jones, Revs. G. Lewis, Dr. G. H. West (*Hon. Sec.*, 48 Park Road, Gloucester), Sir Philip Stott, Messrs. Sidney Barnsley, Edward Conder, Francis C. Eeles, Charles Gere, Dr. S. T. Pruen.

Meets last Fri. in month at Gloucester.

HEREFORD

Canon Bannister, Revs. W. G. Clarke-Maxwell, Dr. Cranage, Dr. Hermitage Day, Miss Auden, Professor Bosanquet, Messrs. G. Jack, George Marshall, Dr. A. Hamilton Thompson, H. T. Weyman.

LICHFIELD : *Advisory Committee on Alterations in Churches. Archdeaconries of Stafford and Stoke.*

The Dean of Lichfield (*Chair*), the Archdeacons of Stafford and Stoke-on-Trent, Preb. Budgen (*Hon. Sec.*, Rocklands, Lichfield), Preb. Royds, Rev. Dr. Cranage, Messrs. S. A. H. Burne, F. H. Crossley, J. T. Homer, W. N. Landor, J. R. B. Masfield.

Archdeaconry of Salop.

The Archdeacon of Salop, Sir Offley Wakeman, Bt., Hon. W. Ormesby-Gore, Miss R. Leighton, Hon. Mrs. Heywood Lonsdale, Col. H. Oldham, D.S.O.

LINCOLN : *The Advisory Committee on Faculties for the Diocese of Lincoln.*

The Bishop of Grantham, the Dean of Lincoln, the Archdeacons of Lincoln (*Chair*) and Stow (*Vice-Chair*), the Countess of Yarborough, Sir Charles Nicholson, the Revs. Canon Kynaston (*Hon. Sec.*, Pomona, Church Lane, Lincoln), Sutton, Walker, the Rev. G. B. Vessey, Messrs. W. Bond, J. A. Donson, W. G. Watkins.

LIVERPOOL : *Church Fabrics Advisory Committee.*

The Archdeacons of Liverpool and Warrington, Canons Baines, Poulter, Mitchell (*Hon. Sec.*, Wavertree Rectory, Liverpool), Sylvester, Wells (*Chair*), Revs. G. W. Hockley, Professors P. G. H. Boswell and Reilly, Messrs. J. F. Caröe, Fred. H. Crossley, J. C. Legge, Philip Nelson, H. Peet, F. M. Ratcliffe, J. A. Thompson, Dr. John Sampson.

Meets at Liverpool Diocesan Ch. House, 1st Mon. in month.

MANCHESTER

The Dean of Manchester, Revs. H. A. Hudson, R. G. Parsons, J. E. W. Wallis, Messrs. T. D. Barlow, L. Haward, Isaac Taylor (*Hon. Sec.*), F. P. Oakley.

NEWCASTLE : *Diocesan Church Fabric and Faculty Advisory Committee.*

The Archdeacon of Northumberland, Bishop of Newcastle, Bishop Ormesby (Archdeacon of Lindisfarne), Rev. Canon G. E. Newson, Lord Northbourne, Professor R. G. Hatton (*Hon. Sec.*, Armstrong College, Newcastle), Aldermen A. E. Bell and A. J. Robinson, Messrs. G. G. Butler, Chas. Williams, Howard Pease, Percy Corder, C. C. Hodges, T. Gibson, R. C. Bosanquet.

Meets 1st Mon. in month at Armstrong College, Newcastle.

NORWICH : *The Bishop's Church Fabrics Advisory Committee.*

H. H. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh (*Chair*), the Earl of Orford (*President*), Canon Gordon-Roe (*Hon. Sec.*, Acle Rectory,

Norwich), Rev. W. M. Cleaver (*Hon. Ass. Sec.*), Messrs. E. M. Beloe, J. Cator, Walter R. Rudd, Hon. Sybil Amherst, Mrs. Saxton Noble, Miss Helen Colman.

OXFORD : *Diocesan Advisory Committee.*

The Bishop of Buckingham and Bishop Shaw (Archdeacons of Bucks and Oxford), Archdeacon of Berks, Revs. W. C. Emeris, J. F. Hoyle (*Hon. Sec.*, Thatcham Grange, Newbury), F. R. Marriott, E. J. Norris (*Chair*), W. Magee Tuke, Sir C. W. C. Oman, Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith, Messrs. F. C. Eccles, F. A. N. Garry, P. Matheson, W. Potts, C. O. Skilbeck.

Meets first week in month alternately in London and Oxford.

PETERBOROUGH : *The Bishop's Advisory Committee.*

The Rev. Canons H. K. Fry (*Hon. Sec.*, Islip Rectory, Thrapston) and S. T. Winckley, Revs. A. W. Pulteney (*Chair*), the Earl Ferrers, Messrs. S. G. Stopford-Sackville, W. Talbot Brown, W. L. Keay, T. H. Fosbrooke.

Meets at Peterborough, Leicester, Market Harborough, or Northampton.

RIPON

Lt.-Col. E. Kitson-Clark, Messrs. E. W. Crossley, S. W. Kitson, H. B. McCall.

ROCHESTER : *Diocesan Advisory Committee.*

The Archdeacons of Rochester (*Chair*) and Tonbridge, Canon Livett, Rev. S. W. Wheatley (*Hon. Sec.*, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Rochester), Messrs. K. Bilborough, Francis H. Day, Leland L. Duncan, F. C. Eccles, Col. D'arch Breton.

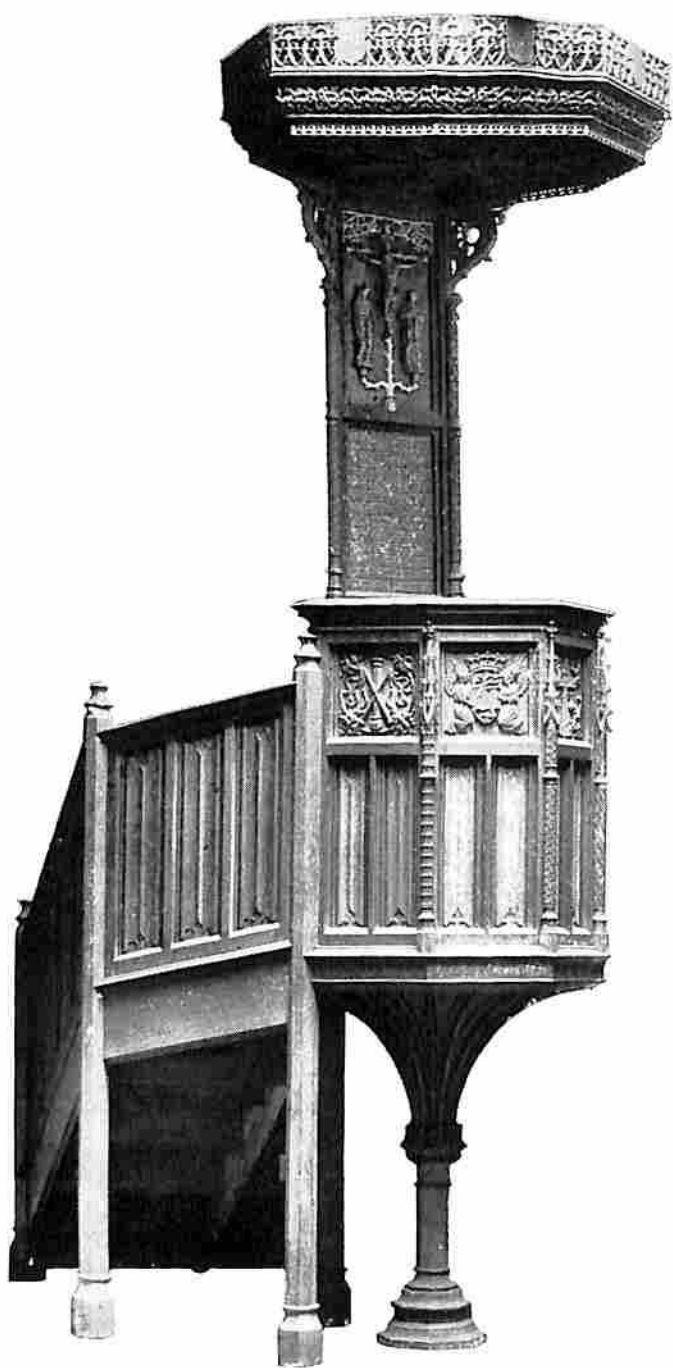
Meets alternately in London and Rochester.

SALISBURY

The Archdeacons of Dorset, Sarum, Wilts., and Sherborne, Revs. E. H. Goddard, C. D. Hoste, H. Pentin, Sir Henry Newbolt, Sir E. Lutyens, Messrs. J. J. Hammond, H. B. Walters, M. R. James, F. C. Eccles, Miss Olivier.



A MODERN FONT OF ALABASTER WITH MARBLE SHAFT AND
STONE BASE IN ENGLISH RENAISSANCE STYLE



MODERN PULPIT, WITH STAIRCASE AND TESTER

SHEFFIELD : *Diocesan Advisory Committee.*

The Archdeacons of Sheffield and Doncaster, the Rural Deans, Sir Chas. Nicholson, Messrs. David T. Smith, J. R. Wigfull, Norman Masters, H. B. Sandford (*Hon. Sec.*, Diocesan Registry, 30 Bank St., Sheffield).

ST. ALBANS : *Diocesan Advisory Committee on Faculties.*

The Bishop of St. Albans (*Chair*), Archdeacons of St. Albans (*Vice-Chair*) and Bedford, Canon Hicks, Revs. Prebendary Hibbert (*Hon. Sec.*, Lilley Rectory, Luton) and Jocelyn J. Antrobus, Messrs. C. H. Comyns, Arthur Day, F. C. Eeles, H. E. Luxmore, W. Page.

Meets monthly in London.

ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH : *Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Protection of Churches.*

The Archdeacons of Suffolk (*Chair*) and Sudbury, Canon Vatcher, H.H. Prince Frederick Duleep Singh, Lord Islington, Sir E. Packard, Sir John Wood, Rev. Lord Manners Hervey, Revs. H. B. Gray, Leslie Mercer, Col. Probert, Messrs. H. Munro Cautley, G. H. Garratt, Guy Maynard, C. Partridge, Miss A. P. Farren.

SOUTHWARK : *Diocesan Advisory Committee on Faculties.*

The Bishops of Kingston-on-Thames and Woolwich (*Chair*) (Archdeacons of Southwark and Lewisham), the Archdeacon of Kingston-on-Thames, Rev. A. R. F. Hyslop, Messrs. F. H. Day, F. C. Eeles (*Acting Hon. Sec.*, 43 Grosvenor Road, S.W. 1), Philip M. Johnston, W. W. Watts.

Meets 1st Mon. in month at Chapter House, Southwark.

TRURO : *Diocesan Advisory Committee.*

The Archdeacons of Bodmin and Cornwall (*Chair*), Canons Marsh and Holroyd Mills (*Hon. Sec.*, St. Stephen in Brannell), Chancellor Cooper, Lady Mary Trefusis, Messrs. H. Elkington, Stanhope Forbes, Athelstan Riley, Mrs. Martin, Miss Stewart.

Meets 1st Tues. in month at Bp. Phillpotts' Library, Truro.

WAKEFIELD : *Diocesan Advisory Committee.*

Sir Chas. A. Nicholson, Messrs. E. W. Crossley (*Hon. Sec.*, Broad Carr, Holywell Green, Nr. Halifax), Sydney D. Kitson, John W. Walker (*Chair*).

WINCHESTER : *Diocesan Faculties Advisory Committee.*

The Dean of Winchester (*Chair*), the Archdeacons of Surrey and Winchester, Canon J. Cooke-Yarborough (*Hon. Sec.*, Puttenham Rectory, Guildford), Sir Thomas Jackson, Sir Chas. Nicholson, Sir William Wyndham Portal, Sir Cecil Harcourt Smith, Revs. A. L. Brown, C. E. Matthews, Lt.-Col. Olivier, Messrs. F. C. Eeles, G. Bruce Gosling (*Hon. Ass. Sec.*), A. Harvey Hoare.

Meets monthly in Winchester and London alternately.

WORCESTER : *The Bishop of Worcester's Advisory Committee for Churches and their Contents in the Diocese of Worcester.*

The Bishop of Worcester (*President*), the Archdeacons of Dudley and Worcester, Canons J. E. H. Blake and Clement Price, Revs. J. Davenport, R. G. Griffiths, J. F. Hastings, F. R. Lawson, E. E. Lea, A. Linzee Giles, R. A. Wilson, W. E. Davis-Winstone, W. T. Whitley, Messrs. E. A. B. Barnard, H. Howard, J. Humphreys (*Hon. Sec.*, 68 Harborne Road, Edgbaston), Rees Price, G. McN. Rushforth, C. Stewart Smith, J. W. Willis Bund (*Chair*), Miss L. M. Hingley.

YORK : *Diocesan Advisory Committee on Faculties.*

The Dean of York (*Chair*), the Archdeacon of the East Riding, Rev. Canon Solloway, Rev. C. V. Collier (*Hon. Sec.*, Langton Rectory, Malton), Dr. Evelyn, Messrs. J. Bilson, J. Brierly.

Meets monthly at York.

APPENDIX 4

EXAMPLE OF CARD FOR HANGING NEAR
CHURCH DOORS

DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

ISSUE OF FACULTIES FOR ALTERATIONS TO FABRIC
AND FITTINGS OF CHURCHES

NOTICE is hereby given that the following regulations have been settled by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese and the Chancellor, and must be followed by Incumbents and Parochial Authorities before making alterations in the fabric or in the fittings, &c., of Churches :

1. Before any addition or alteration can lawfully be made to or in the fabric, furniture, or ornaments of a Church, or any erection placed in a Churchyard, other than an ordinary tombstone, and before any Church possessions, fittings, or ornaments can be altered, removed or sold, it is necessary to obtain from the Chancellor of the Consistory Court of the Diocese a Licence or Faculty authorizing the proposed addition or alteration or removal or sale.

A resolution of the Parochial Church Council, whether approving or disapproving of the proposed work, will in every case be required before the application for a Faculty can be entertained.

2. In order to assist the Chancellor in difficult and technical questions connected with the fabric and fittings of churches, and all matters of art affecting Churches and Churchyards, the Bishop has appointed an Advisory Committee.

The services of this Committee will be at the disposal of the Clergy, Churchwardens, parishioners, or donors, free of charge.

The Bishop and the Chancellor desire that this Committee should be consulted when any scheme is in contemplation, and before any definite commitment as regards expenditure on the work is made by the promoters. The Committee will be prepared to advise and help in the settlement of plans and

designs, and of a scheme generally which will be in harmony with the character of the Church, and in every respect suitable, and likely to meet with the approval of the Consistory Court.

This applies not only to the structure, but also to the ornaments and furniture, which should only be procured under skilled advice.

3. Applications for Faculties for alterations or additions to the structure must be accompanied by a plan or design, together with a specification or other detailed description of the work; or, in the case of furniture, fittings, or ornaments, with full descriptive particulars. The name of the architect (if any) or designer intended to be employed, and of the person or firm to be engaged to do the work, must be supplied.

No application will be entertained unless accompanied by a report, or a copy of a report, from the Advisory Committee on the proposals to be set out in the formal application for the Faculty.

4. Any question arising in regard to these rules will be determined by the Chancellor.

The province of the Advisory Committee is merely to help and advise promoters, and to report to the Chancellor as to the suitability of the scheme for the particular Church.

Questions of law or doctrine do not come within the purview of the Committee.

The final decision will remain, as at present, with the Bishop and Chancellor.

5. Communications for the Advisory Committee should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary of the Advisory Committee, Church House, Bristol. Forms of application to the Diocesan Registrar, 28 Broad Street, Bristol.

W. SEFTON CLARKE,
Diocesan Registrar.

28 BROAD STREET,
BRISTOL.

January 1923.

APPENDIX 5

REPORT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
FACULTIES FOR THE DIOCESE OF
CANTERBURY, 1922

IN accordance with the suggestion that the Committee might make a report to the Archbishop on its first year's work, which, if it were his pleasure, could be inserted in the Diocesan Gazette or published in any other way, the following brief summary has been drawn up.

The Committee met first in June 1921, and met nine times in the first year alternately in Canterbury and at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington.

After considering its own terms of reference, a notice for Church porches was drawn up with the approval of the Archbishop and the Commissary-General, which was inserted in the Diocesan Calendar and a copy sent to every incumbent in the diocese. The notice pointed out the twofold function of the Committee: (1) To advise the Commissary-General on any application for a faculty which he might refer to them. (2) To give informal advice to parochial authorities and others when invited to do so, before a formal application was sent in, thus saving the parties concerned expense and disappointment in the event of unsuitable proposals being submitted.

It would be unnecessary to go into great detail, but it may be said that the Committee has given advice formally and informally concerning 38 churches including, for example, St. Dunstan's, Canterbury, Milton Regis, Petham, and Aldington; dealing with such questions as the addition of a vestry to an ancient church; the removal of an organ which seriously blocked the chancel; the addition of an organ chamber; new stained-glass windows; war memorial screens; preservation of a most valuable ancient font; preservation of interesting Jacobean panelling; preservation of decaying stonework, external and internal; preservation of ancient glass; and has made at the request of the incumbents and for their information and that of the Archdeacons, reports

on the history and present needs of several churches. These reports have been much appreciated. They indicate what is desirable for the preservation of the fabric and its contents: the proper treatment of decoration and fittings: the relative urgency of different work and the order in which it should be carried out.

This has involved in many cases visits to the churches by some Members of the Committee, some of whom have come down from London for the purpose.

The Diocesan Board of Finance has made a grant of £10 which will just cover the expenses of printing, postage, and typing; but there is no provision at present for any travelling expenses, which are borne by the members themselves, nor for paying any fees to technical advisers if the Committee should feel it necessary to consult them.

APPENDIX 6

FROM A REPORT ISSUED BY THE CHELMSFORD DIOCESAN ADVISORY BOARD ON CHURCHES AND CHURCH TREASURES, 1922

War Memorials. Various Memorials have been considered, and in most cases the designs have been approved. Where exception has been taken, the Board has always been able to command expert advice or help, which has usually led to suitable modifications in the design, or to revision of the scheme proposed, with the result that something artistic, or at least not out of harmony with its surroundings, has been achieved.

Stained-Glass Windows. The Board has had under its consideration a considerable number of stained-glass windows, some designed as war memorials, and some by way of private memorial or gift.

In one case it was proposed to sell a portion of the old fifteenth-century glass, and to expend the proceeds on strengthening another window containing still more ancient glass, and for other purposes.

In this case the Board called in the advice of an expert from South Kensington, who most strongly deprecated the sale of any portion of the glass, which has thus remained in its present position.

Church Plate. The Board has firmly set its face against the sale or alienation of Church Plate regarded as superfluous or unusable. In one case the vessels in question were the gifts of a pious donor, anonymously presented some 200 years ago; in another, the proposal was to alienate an old and historic cup and cover of the Elizabethan period. In the first instance, the money obtained was to be expended upon something for the service of the altar; in the other it was to be placed to a fund for restoring the Church. In both these cases the Board decided to recommend that no faculty be granted.

On the other hand the Board was able to approve the transference of certain old Sheffield Plate vessels from one church which did not need or use them, to a neighbouring church where they are both used and valued.

Additions to the Churches. A discarded portion of a fourteenth-century screen, removed by faculty many years ago, has been purchased, restored, and re-erected in another church.

Additions and re-adjustments have been approved in the provision of organ chambers, organs, choir stalls, the substitution of oak for pitch-pine seats, the erection of parciose screens, the heating and lighting of churches, &c.

Recovery of Church Property. The Board has been able to do something for the reclamation of lost effects. An old brass mural tablet which had lain discarded in a vicarage has been re-erected at the suggestion of one of the members of the Board. A font, which had for some years past occupied a position in a private garden, has been restored to a church. An old communion cup and cover advertised for sale as a lady's private property, but having on its bowl an inscription showing it to belong to an Essex parish, has been, by the active intervention of one member, and the substantial generosity of another, bought and returned to its church.

APPENDIX 7

MEMORANDUM ON BELLS AGREED UPON BETWEEN THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS AND THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS, 1923

1. *Covering Letter from the Central Committee.*

THE TREATMENT OF CHURCH BELLS

DEAR SIR,

The Central Committee for the Protection of Churches has received from the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings the enclosed memorandum on the treatment of bells which has been agreed upon in conference between that Society and the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

The Central Committee considers it a most valuable and helpful document, and would suggest that all Diocesan Committees should endeavour to make it as fully known as possible by sending it for publication to the Diocesan monthly paper, and the local press, at their discretion, together with this covering letter.

In the judgement of the Executive Committee it is desirable to emphasize most strongly the danger that may accrue to our ancient church towers by the addition of more bells, unless they are hung under skilled advice. Ancient towers were not built to contain the more recent type of heavy bell used for change-ringing. The great majority of mediaeval bells were not only fewer and lighter than those of a later period, but it is highly doubtful if they were ever swung round as in change-ringing. It is only now that we are beginning to see the effect of the large number of additions of heavy ringing bells improperly hung and of unsuitably designed frames placed in ancient towers especially in the nineteenth century. Those concerned with ringing should

bear in mind that while some ancient towers can stand such additions there are many which cannot.

As a general rule it would seem that wooden frames should be used in ancient towers, and wooden headstocks on bells which have canons. Canons should not be cut off, save under most exceptional circumstances, and never in the case of a mediaeval bell. Experiments with untried materials and methods of hanging should be confined to modern towers.

The Central Committee would suggest that Diocesan Committees should not advise the granting of faculties for repairs to bells without a definite understanding whether or not tuning according to the Simpson or 5-tone method is proposed: that no Simpson tuning should be advised on bells dating from before 1700 and only under special circumstances on bells dating from before 1800. No opinion is here expressed on the desirability of tuning new bells according to the Simpson method, though it may be pointed out that technical opinion is by no means agreed as to its merits.

The Committee would also advise that no agents or representatives of bell founders should be allowed to inspect or report upon bells on their own initiative save in cases where the bells have been rehung by the same firm within the previous five years.

The Central Committee is seriously concerned by information received as to the condition of certain ancient towers in the country which are of priceless artistic and architectural value. It is not without reason that they would urge upon Diocesan Committees the desirability of inspecting and watching towers and the need of obtaining reports by competent architects in as many cases as possible.

No additions or alterations to rings of bells or their hangings should be made without asking the advice of the Diocesan Committee.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS C. EELES,

*Hon. Secretary, Central Committee
for the Protection of Churches.*

2. *Conference between the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings and the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.*

During the past quarter of a century or so very many different statements with regard to the right way in which bells should be hung in old towers have been made, and a considerable difference of opinion appeared to exist between the recommendations made by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings and the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. Added to this difficulty, the Bell-hanging Firms were still to a great extent experimenting with metal cages and recommending new and untried methods of construction.

Just before the War the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings approached the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers in the hope that a Conference could be arranged between the two bodies in order to arrive at some general principles which they could jointly recommend. This Conference did not take place until the winter of 1921. It resulted in complete agreement, and the conclusions reached will be found below.

The Conference felt that it is not always clearly realized that the maximum forces set up by a swinging bell are four times its own weight in a downward direction and twice its own weight horizontally. It will immediately be recognized from the case of large bells, whose weight may well be a ton or more, that the hanging of a bell or bells is not a matter which can be left to inexperienced people, or even to those who have some considerable knowledge of bell ringing. Conclusion (a) has special reference to this point.

It was agreed that the object of the meetings was to draw up a Memorandum of General Principles agreed upon by both Parties to the Conference, to be used as a guide by those who have the care of Rings of bells in old towers (i. e. towers built before the end of the sixteenth century or thereabouts).

(a) With regard to any question concerning their Church bells or work in their towers, the Parish Authorities are strongly urged to consult the Advisory Committee set up in their own diocese, or the Central Committee for the Protection

of Churches and their Treasures, with whom the parties to this Conference would be prepared and willing to advise on technical points.

(b) It is of first importance that wherever bells are rung, the ability of the tower to resist the forces set up thereby should be verified. It is usually insufficient to conclude that a tower is sound from a survey of the wall surfaces alone. The strength and condition of the core of the wall should be known, and the rigidity of the tower in each direction measured. These observations should be made with particular regard to the actual forces which will be set up by the bells to be rung in that tower.

(c) It is most important that bells and fittings receive regular and individual attention. The Conference regrets that it is still necessary to urge those that are responsible for belfries and ringing chambers to keep them clean and protected from birds and weather. The ventilation of ringing chambers is often neglected. Usually the duties of steeple keeper should be allotted to one of the ringers, and he should be held responsible for the cleanliness of the belfry and for the care of the bells, together with their bearings and fittings.

(d) It is preferable to hang bells in a cage at one level. Occasionally it may be desirable to have a second tier, but each case must be judged on its own merits.

(e) It is preferable that only the foundations or the bottom members of the cage should rest on, or be attached to, the walls. As regards the foundations on which bell cages rest, it was agreed that these should have as distributive a bearing as possible, that such a bearing should be attained by giving the supporting members as many points of support as is practicable, that the members should rest on proper templates, or padstones, or sometimes on a continuous plate right round the tower wall. Likewise with regard to the foundations, it was decided that it is highly desirable, in order to obviate twisting, to introduce diagonal cross-bracing.

(f) It is desirable that concrete in its various forms, as a material for foundations and cages, should receive more consideration than it has received in the past.

(g) As regards the material of which the foundations and

cage should be made, after much discussion it was decided to draw up a list of the various advantages and disadvantages of certain named materials, a Schedule of which is appended to this report.

(h) To obtain greater rigidity, the frame and foundations should be carefully designed as a whole in consideration of the known forces which will be applied to them, the members being triangulated so far as is possible and convenient.

(i) In the case of any old tower, when there is doubt of its sufficiency to carry a peal of bells of a given weight, it would be desirable that the rigidity of the tower in each direction be measured, and the bells be arranged in the frame according to the result obtained.

(j) In many cases it would be possible to give relief to the tower by lowering the bell cage.

(k) The question of roping should be taken into consideration.

(l) In no circumstances should a pre-Reformation bell be re-cast or its canons removed. It is recommended that when such bells cannot be retained in the ring they should be used as single bells or preserved as a valuable and interesting work of the past.

(m) In the case of bells of post-Reformation date, or of bells cast by famous founders as Miles Gray or Abraham Rudhall, or other bells of special interest, the parish is recommended to refer to the authorities cited in clause (a). It is probable that these bells should receive the same care as those of pre-Reformation date. In some cases it is possible by drilling out the crown staple, if cast in the bell, to prevent the cracking of the bell due to the corrosion or expansion of such staple.

(n) In the case of re-casting, the enrichment and inscription should be reproduced on the new bell in facsimile, and the new bell should be dated and the fact and date of re-casting should be added.

(o) If a bell is to be sounded in any other way than by 'chiming' or 'ringing', a proper chiming hammer should be fixed, and in no case should a rope be attached to the clapper of the bell, as this has frequently resulted in cracking. It is desirable that the general question of the repair of cracked bells by welding should receive consideration.

(p) It is necessary to quarter-turn a bell when it wears thin. In this connexion the Conference would draw attention to the importance of the form and condition of the clapper.

(q) As regards the material of which headstocks are made, the same conditions hold as apply to the bell frames.

(r) With regard to bearings, it is doubtful if any advantage is gained by the use of ball bearings.

(s) The traditional method used as regards wheels, stays, and sliders, are thoroughly satisfactory.

To sum up, the Conference finds that :

1. Bell cages can be made to satisfy the various requirements of bell ringers, archaeologists, and architects, having particular regard to the protection of ancient towers, by the use of any of the materials mentioned in the Schedule.

2. The design and workmanship of a cage are of more importance than the material of which it is made.

3. When the renewal of an old bell cage or the re-casting of an old bell is under consideration, the benefit of any doubt should remain with the retention of what exists.

(Signed) A. R. POWYS,

*Secretary of the Society for the
Protection of Ancient Buildings,*

and E. ALEXANDER YOUNG,
*Secretary to the Central Council of
Church Bell Ringers.*

SCHEDULE REFERRED TO IN CLAUSE (g)

OAK

Merits.

Durability.
Is more in keeping with a
mediaeval building.
Needs little attention except
for the tightening of bolts.
Does not need painting.

Demerits.

Takes up more room in cages.
Liable to be unseasoned.
May be attacked by insects.
Liable to cause corrosion to
iron bolts.
Liable to shrink and warp.

CHESTNUT

As oak.

As oak, but not liable to cause
corrosion to iron bolts.

TEAK

*Merits.**Demerits.*

As oak.
Bolts are less liable to rust.
Less liable to shrink and warp.
Will not be attacked by insects.

METAL—(STEEL, WROUGHT IRON, CAST IRON)

Is not affected by the humidity of the atmosphere.	Needs regular painting to prevent corrosion.
Gives the rigidity required by bell ringers to ensure the easy going of bells.	Has not got the shock-absorbing qualities of timber; but in a properly constructed frame in proper condition shock does not arise.
Takes up less room than timber in cages.	
Is not liable to the attack of insects.	

APPENDIX 8

THE CARE OF MONUMENTAL BRASSES AND OTHER MEMORIALS OF THE DEAD

Issued by the Canterbury Diocesan Committee, 1923.

No part of the ancient treasures of our Churches has suffered more from the ignorant 'restorer' than the memorials of the dead. He found fine slabs with brasses in them, or large ledger stones. He either ruthlessly tore these up and ejected them from their places or he covered them with a bed of concrete in which he laid his beloved encaustic tiles, so making what he regarded as a beautifully neat floor. The slabs he tore up he cared not for, and left them to the mercies of the workmen. Hasted, our Kent historian, in writing of what happened in his time to the gravestones in Sittingbourne Church says 'they were in the most absurd manner removed from the graves over which they before lay, from one aisle, and from one chancel of the church, to another part of it and some even from the churchyard, just as it suited the workmen to make the pavement complete'. Hasted only looked on the proceeding from an historical and genealogical point of view. There is a higher point of view which we would perhaps rather adopt. That is to regard these as precious reminders of those before us who have worshipped in our churches and in that sense are one with us. We would, as they did, carry on the

tradition of the churches of England. These stones constantly before us cry out to us. We therefore resent with a sense of personal loss any action which involves the loss of the teaching they so silently yet so forcefully convey.

These sumptuous large ledgers have an artistic appeal. As borders of the beautiful lettering with which they are often adorned they remind one of the margins of a beautiful folio page from a great Venetian press. The cutting of them down is like the action of an ignorant binder with his guillotine. It is moreover not rare to find finely carved coats of arms artistically exhibited on these slabs. The loss of so many of such works of art is to be deplored.

But there is a form of memorial of the dead in which Kent was, and still is, very rich, which is pre-eminent as a form one found in these islands. No such things as our memorial brasses are to be found elsewhere, formed as they are from engraved latten plates let into, and as it were framed by, the beautiful slabs of Purbeck, Bethersden, or other marble which they adorn. The restorer often dragged the brasses out and nailed them on the wall 'out of harm's way', as he speciously asserted. They were far safer in their slabs, and his remark shows that he had no artistic perception. The artist in latten knew how his beautiful engravings were set off by the blue gray of the marble. No other form of stone gives quite the same result, and just as a mount of a water-colour may make or mar its effect, so the combination of latten and Purbeck gives the most harmonious result. Further, the slab could not tell its tale in all its completeness when severed from the inlaid brasses that remained, and the specious excuse for severing them had no substance, as a brass on a wall soon works loose and is unsafe.

1. Except in cases of extraordinary necessity no slab or ledger should be moved, unless there is evidence that it is not in its original place.

2. The brasses should remain in their slabs. Even if some part of the whole composition is lost, the indents may form valuable guides to identification.

3. If any parts of a brass are loose, they should be carefully refixed under skilled advice.

4. When a brass is on the floor it should be kept carefully covered. Coco-nut matting and any kind of such hard matting, which acts as an abrasive, is a bad covering, unless under it there is placed on the brass a covering of felt such as is commonly used under carpets. This method of covering involves little expense and should be adopted in every case, whatever the upper covering may be ; but the felt is not sightly by itself.

5. A brass should never be polished. It should be well cleaned at monthly intervals with paraffin or petrol, which will preserve the beautiful brown patina of the latten plate. This, though called brass, is of a much softer composition. Any kind of polishing removes the upper surface and will shortly destroy the engraving. So well-intentioned church workers who undertake to keep the brass ornaments of the church polished, must be warned that they must not do anything to polish the old memorial brasses.

6. The slabs are usually of Purbeck, Bethersden, or other marble, which at times has a great tendency, unless kept well polished, to flake. Such marble is best treated with oily or fatty matter. The following is recommended by competent authority for all slabs, fonts, pillars, carved effigies, tombs, or other things made of such marble :

First clean with soap and water, then if necessary use benzine or the preparation known as Westrosol.

Secondly, polish with beeswax and turpentine, or if necessary a little putty powder on a cloth, or use a paste made of ceresine wax and toluene.

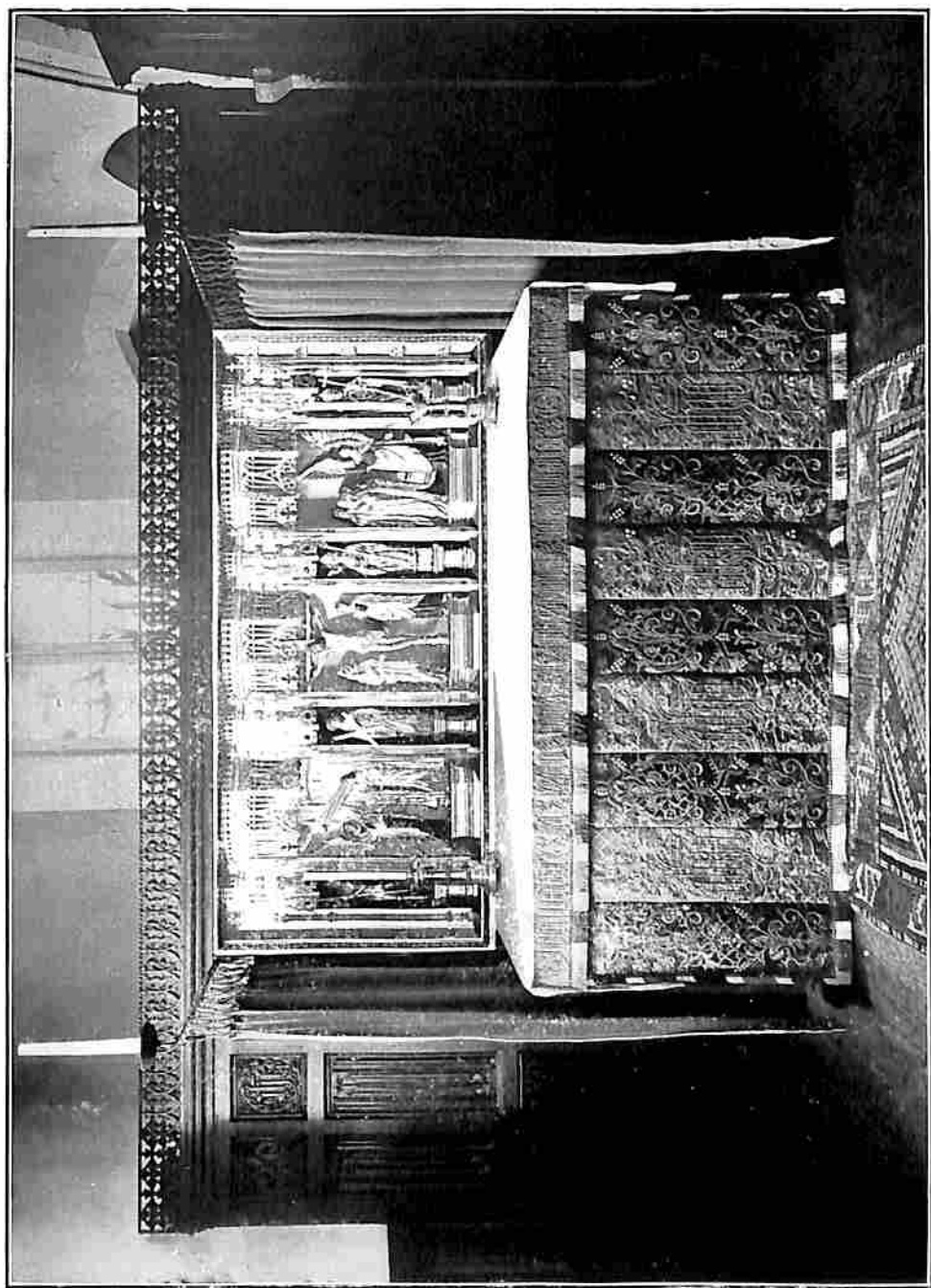
RALPH GRIFFIN, F.S.A.

APPENDIX 9

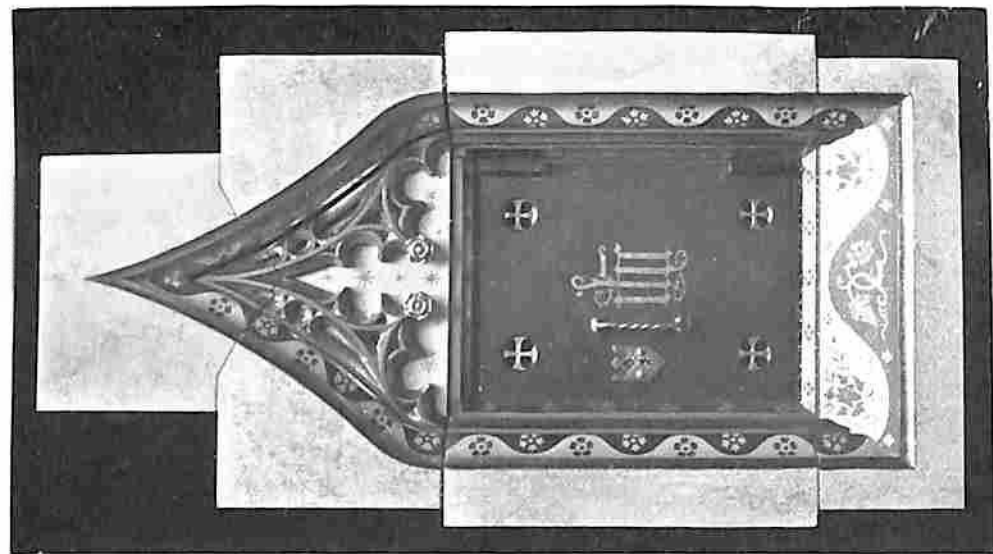
SOMERSET CHURCH TOWERS

Issued by the Bath & Wells Diocesan Committee, 1922.

It is probably no exaggeration to say that the churches of Somerset are the most beautiful of all English churches in their general appearance as parts of the landscape. Nowhere else exists the same extraordinary combination of striking and often splendid architecture with charming villages set



MODERN ALTAR AND REREDOS AGAINST A SCREEN WITH VESTRY BEHIND



amid natural surroundings of such beauty. Other counties have villages in beautiful scenery, but their churches are plainer: elsewhere there are churches in some respects as splendid, but they are in much less attractive surroundings. For example, the towers of many beautiful Devonshire villages are far plainer than those of Somerset, while the tall spires of the Midlands and the great churches of the eastern counties are only too often in comparatively dull and commonplace country.

The parish churches of no other part of England, indeed of no other part of Europe, can show anything to equal the gorgeous church towers of our own diocese. They are a possession beyond all price. Elsewhere in towers and spires one can, of course, find beautiful, original, and interesting architectural features, and there is always a variety in mediaeval art for which one looks vainly in most of that of the present day. But scarcely anywhere is there such extraordinary diversity of form and detail as in our Somerset towers. This is the case even if we only consider the richer towers of the more distinctively Somerset type. Over and above these, moreover, we have a greater variety of types than any other diocese. Not only are many of the smaller plainer and earlier examples of great interest, but there are some fine spires, and two remarkable groups of octagonal towers and saddle-backed towers. Once again we repeat that no other county can show the like.

Now these towers are a very serious responsibility, as well as a great artistic treasure. It is not without grave anxiety that the diocesan advisory committee has found, even in the short time it has been in existence, that the condition of several of them leaves much to be desired. There are cases of cracks due to improper placing of bells: there are cases of surface decay. There are towers upon which little bushes are growing and others whose lace-like parapets and delicate pinnacles are in danger of falling. The latter condition is often due in part to well-meant but mistaken repairers with iron-work which has rusted the stone. It is only in comparatively recent times that the danger from rust has been fully appreciated.

We must always remember that these glorious towers were built at a time when change-ringing had not been invented. In those days bells were not only fewer, but they were much lighter. They were not swung right round the circle when being rung: five was a large number for a country church. Very likely it is only now that we are finding out the unwisdom of placing so many heavy bells in these fine towers. Although so large and striking, many of them are really very delicate and fragile structures. Not a few of them suffer from a constitutional weakness due to the eastern buttress resting upon the nave walls instead of being built upon the ground. In the case of several of the richer towers it is very doubtful if there ever ought to be any more bells.

In the case of every tower, large or small, rich or plain, no alteration should be made to the bells, however much desired by ringers, without consultation with an architect who has the confidence of those who understand repair and preservation work. It is the hope of the advisory committee that in course of time they may be consulted about every tower in the diocese. Meanwhile the committee would urge upon all incumbents and parochial church councils the desirability of seeking the advice of the committee in all cases of doubt or difficulty.

A few simple precautions can be taken in all cases. Remove ivy and other vegetation: clear gutters and downpipes: clear loose rubbish from belfries and secure them against birds and bats: see that the base of the tower walls is not heaped up with soil or surrounded with vegetation and that all surface water can get quickly away. Repairs of any kind, however small, even a little pointing, should not be done except under skilled advice. Many common forms of pointing are quite unsuited to an ancient building: for example, raised ridges between the stones, ribbon-like flat bands, lines marked with a trowel, or mixing with soot should be avoided. It is especially important that the danger from ivy be fully realised, and it cannot be too widely known that it is now being removed from ancient and valuable buildings all over the country.

With sufficient care it ought not to be impossible to put every tower in the county into a sound and satisfactory condition of repair within a very few years.

APPENDIX 10

LETTER ON THE CARE OF CHURCH PLATE, 1917,
FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE VICTORIA
AND ALBERT MUSEUM

IN April 1917 the following letter was addressed to the Bishops and Archdeacons; to this letter sympathetic replies were received from almost all to whom it was addressed:

Victoria and Albert Museum,
South Kensington, London, S.W. 7.
10th April 1917.

'MY LORD BISHOP,

'You are doubtless aware that a good deal of discussion has recently been taking place in the press and elsewhere in regard to the ancient and often very valuable plate and other artistic objects to be found in churches throughout the United Kingdom. I am venturing, as Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, to address you on this matter, because this Museum may justly be regarded as possessing the most important national collection of ecclesiastical works of art.

'I should like to say, first of all, that we are very far from suggesting, or even desiring, the alienation of church property from the church in which it is deposited. On the contrary, we hold that where the conditions of security and proper conservation are adequately fulfilled, such objects should remain undisturbed. I need hardly, however, remind you that in only too many cases these conditions are not being fulfilled, and are, indeed, impossible of fulfilment; not only that, but many instances have become known where ecclesiastical plate of the highest artistic and historical importance has either suffered irretrievable damage or been sold into private lay hands, or has been stolen.

'I venture to think that the first and most essential necessity is that there should be in each diocese a central record of all the important church possessions of every kind. The valuable publications on the church plate of various counties and dioceses, such as that of Hampshire by Canon Braithwaite

published in 1909 (under the auspices of the Archdeacon of Winchester), show what may be done so far as ecclesiastical plate is concerned. It is by means such as this that vicars and churchwardens, who do not perhaps always realize their responsibilities as trustees, will have the importance of the matter brought more clearly home to them; there will be less likelihood of old plate being melted down or re-fashioned into a more modern shape, to the entire destruction of its historic and artistic value. It will also be less easy for unscrupulous dealers to induce the authorities to part with such objects in ignorance of their true interest and worth.

'It may, of course, sometimes happen that a relatively poor parish may possess more plate than is actually needed for use, or plate which was never intended for ecclesiastical purposes, all of which may nevertheless be of great value; and should it be desirable to obtain funds for the upkeep of the church or for other worthy causes, such as the increase of the endowment, it will no doubt be difficult in such cases to resist the temptation to sell. I understand that since the adoption of the Diocesan Finance Scheme such cases are likely to be of less frequent occurrence than formerly, but in any event should such sale take place, it is in the highest degree desirable that it should only be permitted under the express sanction of proper authority, and (I would suggest) after consultation with those who have expert knowledge of such objects as are proposed for sale.

'Where the valuable objects are retained as the property of the church and the conditions are not such as to ensure proper conservation and custody, a question then arises as to their disposal. I understand that in many instances such property is deposited in banks, where for all the good it does to the church or the public, it might just as well be buried in the ground. I would venture to suggest for your consideration that in such cases two alternative plans may be proposed. Either something in the nature of a strong room might be set up in connexion with the Cathedral of the diocese, which would serve as a sacristy or storehouse for the valuable relics of the diocese. They would then be, to some limited extent, available for the public, but, of course, a considerable

responsibility would attach to the Cathedral authorities, which possibly they might not be willing to undertake.

'The other alternative is the proposal that has been made that such objects, or at any rate the more interesting and more valuable of them, should be lent to this Museum. They would remain in perpetuity as the property of the church and would receive precisely the same care and security as the Museum collections which are the property of the nation. I am aware that exception has been taken to this proposal in some quarters; on the other hand, I am glad to be in a position to say that some churches have already gladly availed themselves of the opportunity of depositing part of their plate on loan here. I should be most ready in hearing from you to discuss any doubtful points which you may consider as arising out of the proposal. You will, I am sure, appreciate the fact that were the plate deposited here, it would be available for the great number of students and visitors to the Museum, and thus undoubtedly fulfil a valuable function in the stimulus of British design; besides enlightening the public in regard to the beauty and importance of ancient silversmiths' work.

'Remembering the important resolution on the subject passed by Convocation of the Province of Canterbury in the spring of 1913, I have ventured to put these suggestions before you in the hope that a solution may be found for what has been, and is, a growing difficulty, and I should be extremely grateful if you would kindly let me know what your views are on this subject.

'I need hardly add that the Officers of this Museum will be most happy to give any expert advice in their power.'