

**The Record of the 146th Meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of
Eastern Australia
TAREE, NSW
1993**

SESSION 1 MONDAY 19 APRIL 1993, 7.10pm

93.1 Within the Taree church building on Monday 19 April 1993 at 7.10pm, the Synod of Eastern Australia met and was constituted with worship, the Moderator, Rev James A. Cromarty presiding.

93.2 RETIRING MODERATOR'S ADDRESS

Having read Revelation Chapter 12 Mr Cromarty considered the subject of *The Danger of Worldliness*. He noted that Satan seeks by the waters of temptation to attack the church and wash her from her isolation from the ways of the world, her wilderness position, in order to destroy her by worldliness. The Lord Jesus Christ has his arms around his Bride and protects and purifies her.

93.3 The certified rolls of presbyteries were tendered, with apologies for non-attendance from those marked hereunder:

Northern Presbytery

Brisbane
Lismore
Maclean
Grafton
Armidale
Hastings
(Synod appt)

Ministers

W.J.W.Hanna
vacant
K.MacLeod
R.W.Murray ~
T.I.Leggott
A.L.Tripovich
S.N.Ramsay (ret'd)

Commissioned Elders

R.Lawson+
J.D.Ramsay
R.L.Campbell
A.Cameron ~
K.Dawson+
D.Caughey^

Central Presbytery

Manning
Hunter/Barrington
St George's, Sydney
Hawkesbury/Nepean
Sydney South
(Synod appt)

W.P.Gadsby

J.A.Cromarty
J.A.McCallum
vacant
vacant
J.S.Graham (CWI)*

K.Longworth

P.Grant
A.H.Steel
G.A.Neil
N.A.McPherson

Southern Presbytery

Melbourne
(Synod appt)
Geelong
Ulverstone

R.S.Ward
W.M.Mackay
J.M.Cromarty#
P.A.L.Hill

G.J.Moodie
J.R.B.Webster
N.G.Triffett+

* Apology for absence for health reasons was received, Mr J.A.Cromarty's in respect of sessions after the first.

Apology for unavoidable absence until Tuesday afternoon was received

+ Apology ^ apology for absence Monday and Wednesday due to family illness. ~ absent but no apology to hand.

93.4 WELCOMES

The Moderator welcomed Rev Dr J.C.Andrews and Principal-emeritus Clement Graham, and it was resolved that they be associated with the Synod with right to speak but not to vote during the proceedings.

A welcome was extended to Rev Dr Wes Hanna, recently inducted to the Brisbane congregation and to Messrs Peter Grant and Mr Greg Moodie who were attending as Commissioned elders for the first time.

93.5 CHANGE OF SYNOD DATE

It was moved that the action of the Administration Committee in amending the date of Synod be endorsed.

It was further moved that Synod confirms the change in time of commencement of Synod 1993 but notes that representative elders were not contacted in this regard.

The second motion was preferred and became the finding of the Court.

93.6 ELECTION OF NEW MODERATOR

The Acting Clerk (Rev R.S.Ward) reported that Rev William M. Mackay, MA (Hons) Dip.Ed., MACE, of Melbourne was Moderator elect, and it was resolved that this appointment be confirmed.

93.7 MODERATOR'S ADDRESS

The Moderator read from John 10 and addressed the Court on *The Lordship of Christ in the Church*.

(1) The Lordship of Christ

Noting the superb formulation of this doctrine in the Preface to the *Westminster Form of Presbyterian Church Government*, Mr Mackay continued by showing the Lordship of Christ in the metaphor of the Shepherd, leading his people, feeding them, giving himself for them.

(2) The Lordship of Christ in the Scriptures

There are frequent and current challenges to the authority of Scripture. Jesus' words in Luke 24:25-27 & 24:44ff show our Lord's teaching on the authority of the Scriptures. Tragically, there are many who lack that understanding of the Scriptures of which our Lord speaks.

(3) The Lordship of Christ in the history of the Free Church of Scotland

The Headship of Christ had been carried into effect in a practical way by the subjection of the church to the Scriptures and not in a clerical way or as an ecclesiastical corporation merely, but as a congregation of the Lord. The life of Dr Thomas Chalmers' exemplifies the progress of the Lordship of Christ over the individual and impacting on the wider church in its church extension and missions focus before the Disruption as well as after it. We need to recover the spirit which brings all things under the Lordship of Christ.

(4) The Lordship of Christ in the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia today

We are to be God's flock following the Good Shepherd. We are to look for the presence of Christ's wisdom in all the circumstances of life. The civic virtues must not be neglected lest social order be undermined. Let the world see the Christianity of our Presbyterianism.

93.8 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Acting Clerk presented the Administration Report together with a Supplementary Report dated 13.04.1993. Following questions and discussion, the report was received. It was resolved:

1. Synod does now accept with regret the resignation of Rev W.Peter Gadsby as Clerk of the Synod of Eastern Australia and record its appreciation of his diligent and efficient discharge of the Clerkship since his appointment in 1982.

2. The Synod resolved to call for nominations for position of Clerk of Synod. Dr Hanna and Mr McPherson were nominated. It was agreed that the Administration Committee augmented by Messrs Gadsby, Steel and Leggott meet and report to the Synod tomorrow, Mr Ward acting as Clerk meantime.

3. Synod expresses its sympathy to all with connection with the church who have been bereaved in the period since last Synod, particularly to the families of F.Maxwell Bradshaw and H.C.Nicolson.

4. Synod notes with concern the ill health of Messrs J.A.Cromarty and J.S.Graham, and assures these brethren of their prayers.

5. Synod approve the following memorial minutes and direct that extracts be sent to the families concerned:

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F.Maxwell Bradshaw, MA, LL.M

With the passing of Mr Bradshaw on 11 May 1992 the Synod lost one whose wise counsel and professional skill as a barrister had been freely at its disposal for more than 50 years. His remarkable memory, keen historical sense and first class analytical skills made him an invaluable and unsurpassed source of information and guidance on anything to do with the constitution of Scottish Presbyterianism. He was an unostentatious man, and a warm-hearted friend of our church. He contributed in a very marked way to the resurgence and furtherance of Calvinism in Australia because of his pivotal role in the continuation of the Presbyterian Church of Australia. We thank God for every remembrance of him and commend his widow, Jillian, and daughter, Rachel, to the God of all grace.

H.C.Nicolson, AASA, ACIS

Harald Nicolson was born at Lerwick in the the Shetland Islands in 1908. He came to Sydney in 1927 and a few years later joined the PCEA. He became an elder in 1938 and denominational Treasurer in 1940, a position he discharged with diligence and faithfulness until 1971. After his removal to Melbourne in 1947 he continued to serve the congregation there. He was a Trustee in terms of the Victorian Property Act from 1953 to 1979. Becoming involved in journalism he wrote the *Lerwick* column in the *Ringwood Croydon Mail* from 1954 until a few months before his death. In this column, as well as in the *In Focus* column in the PCEA magazine, Harald Nicolson used his penetrating intellect to further the expression of Christian faith in everyday life and exercised a wide influence in this way and through his own example. Our sympathy is extended to his widow and family.

6. That Correspondence Items 1-6 be taken in conjunction with the Inter Church Relations Report and Item 12 with 8:14 Foundation business.

7. That Mr Marshall's appeal against the Committee's rejection of his Petition be taken on the last day of Synod.

8. That Correspondence Item 7 be taken in conjunction with the Law and Advisory Committee Report.

9. That Correspondence Item 8 (re seat for Rev E.R.Lee) be taken as first business on Tuesday.

10. That Correspondence Item 9 be taken with NSW Trust Corporation business.

11. That the Richmond Property business be taken up with the report of the NSW Trust Corporation.

12. That Presbyteries having business to complete be permitted to meet when Synod is not in session.

93.9 Notices of motion were read and the session was closed with prayer at 9.30pm.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 2 TUESDAY 20 APRIL 1993, 9.10am.

The session was constituted with praise and prayer.

The minutes of Session 1 were read and confirmed.

93.10 CORRESPONDENCE ITEM 8

Correspondence Item 8 (overture from Northern Presbytery re presbytery seat for Rev E.R.Lee) was read and received.

Mr MacLeod stated the overture on behalf of the Presbytery and answered questions. It was moved and seconded that the prayer of the overture be granted and that Mr Lee be granted a seat on the Northern Presbytery. The motion was carried.

93.11 THANKS TO MODERATORS

It was resolved that the thanks of the Synod be conveyed to the retiring Moderator for his sermon

and to the incoming Moderator for his address.

93.12 ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (continued)

13. That Rev T.I.Leggott be appointed Moderator-elect for 1994-5.

14. That the time of next Synod be determined on the last day of this Synod.

15. That the place of next Synod be determined on the last day of this Synod.

16. That we record the appreciation of the Synod to the Free Church of Scotland for their generosity in meeting Principal-emeritus Clement Graham's fare to Australia, endorse the arrangements made by the Committee and authorise the payment of Mr Graham's incidental costs (nett of local contributions) from the Synod Visitor's Account.

17. That the following examiners of records be appointed:

Synod Permanent Record	Rev Dr Wes Hanna & Mr Greg Moodie
Northern Presbytery	Rev John Cromarty and Mr Peter Grant
Central Presbytery	Rev Trevor Leggott and Mr Bruce Webster
Southern Presbytery	Rev Ken MacLeod & Mr Keith Longworth

18. That Synod record its appreciation to the Manning River Congregation for providing hospitality to this Synod.

Report of Augmented Administration Committee: Appointment of Clerk

The Moderator reported, indicating the desirability of overlap, of evolution not revolution, and the problem faced by the Administration Committee in view of the absence of a year or two's notice of impending resignation, and the unwillingness of the Assistant Clerk (Mr J.M.Cromarty) to take over the Clerkship. Accordingly, the Committee proposed

19. That Rev R.S.Ward be appointed Clerk of the Synod of Eastern Australia and Rev Dr W. Hanna be appointed Assistant Clerk, the appointments to be reviewed at Synod 1994.

It was further moved and seconded that from the rising of Synod 1993 Rev Dr Wes Hanna be appointed Clerk of Synod and that Rev Rowland Ward be requested to continue as Clerk pro-tem for the duration of Synod 1993.

Upon being put to the vote the Committee's proposal was eliminated and the motion became the finding of the Court.

It was resolved that the thanks of the Synod be conveyed to Mr Ward for the excellent work done in preparing for Synod and for his diligence to this point in the proceedings.

93.13 WELCOME TO REV TIM YEE

The Moderator welcomed the Rev Tim Yee, currently supplying in Melbourne as a licentiate.

93.14 DELEGATE TO FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND ASSEMBLY

The Moderator ruled that a proposed motion by Mr MacLeod should not be taken at this point but should be considered by the Administration Committee for report to a later session.

It was moved and seconded that the Moderator's ruling be over-ruled in order to put a motion in regard to a delegate to the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland. The motion was carried.

It was resolved unanimously that Rev Dr.J.Campbell Andrews be commissioned in terms of the Federal Relations Act as this Synod's delegate to the 1993 General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland.

93.15 FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT (inc TREASURER'S & AUDITOR'S REPORT)

The report was presented by the Convener/Synod Treasurer, Mr A.H.Steel. Following discussion the report was received.

It was resolved

1. Synod record its gratitude to God for his provisions for the maintenance of the ministry during the past year.
2. Adjustment of Minimum Stipend and Benefits (excluding Manse, Car and Telephone) for 1993/94 be at the full flow-on of CPI increase and child allowance remain unaltered. In the event of a decrease in any quarter, a "Nil" movement be taken into account.
3. The Treasurer's action in providing for the deficit of \$3,571 in the Church Extension Fund from the General Fund, be confirmed.

93.16 APPRECIATION TO TREASURER & AUDITOR

It was resolved

That the Synod record its appreciation for the efficient and accurate work of the Treasurer.

It was resolved that the Auditor's Report be received and Synod note with appreciation the work freely done and advice given to the General Treasurer in preparing the financial statements.

93.17 NOTICES OF MOTION

Notices of motion were read and the session was closed with prayer at 12.35pm.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 3 TUESDAY 20 APRIL 1993, 1.36pm

The session was constituted with praise and prayer.

The minutes of session 2 were read and confirmed.

93.18 WELCOME TO REPRESENTATIVES OF FREE REFORMED CHURCHES

Rev Keith Kleyn and Mr John Bruning were introduced by the Clerk and welcomed by the Moderator.

93.19 8:14 FOUNDATION

The Report was presented by the Convener, Mr A.H.Steel. After discussion the report was received.

It was moved on notice, seconded and carried that the 8.14 Foundation be actively promoted during the coming year, particularly the fact that deposits are exempt from deeming provisions with effect 13.03.1992.

93.20 REQUEST FOR LOAN FROM ARMIDALE

Correspondence Item 12: A letter of application for a loan from the 8.14 Foundation by the Armidale Congregation dated 30.3.1993 was read and received. The Clerk of Northern Presbytery reported that the proposal had the support of that Presbytery.

It was resolved that the request be passed to the 8:14 Foundation for consideration and report to a later sederunt.

93.21 VICTORIAN TRUST CORPORATION

The Secretary, Rev R.S.Ward, presented the report which was received.

It was moved on notice that as the Church has provided all funds, totalling \$170,000, in a Mortgage Advance to A.McIntyre, N.Rourke & G.Dickson by Davgul Nominees Pty Ltd, the Trustees for Victoria be requested to seek the consent of both parties to assign the mortgage (Registered No: S007589B) securing the advance, to the Trustees for Victoria of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia. That all costs to effect the transfer be borne proportionately by the Synod Funds/Courts who provided the funds.

The motion was carried

93.22 NEW SOUTH WALES TRUST CORPORATION REPORT

Rev W.P.Gadsby presented the report which was received.

As resolved earlier, the Synod now took up Correspondence Item 9, an overture from Northern Presbytery seeking that local Deacons' Courts be empowered to execute lease documents on behalf of the Trustees, on condition that such leases are reported to ensuing meetings of the relevant Presbytery and Synod, and to that extent vary the provisions of Act of Synod 1988.

The overture was read and received. Mr MacLeod stated the overture. After questions, it was moved and seconded that the prayer of the overture be granted. A second motion was moved that the prayer of the overture be not granted.

Upon being put to the vote the second motion was preferred and became the finding of the Court.

93.23 RICHMOND PROPERTY REPORT

As resolved earlier the Synod now took up a report on the property at Westmarket Street, Richmond NSW. Mr Ward presented the report.

The Synod, having heard the report recorded its appreciation for the diligence of Mr Ward and Mr Gadsby.

93.24 QUEENSLAND TRUST CORPORATION

Mr Gadsby presented the report which was received.

93.25 PROVIDENT FUNDS COMMITTEE

The report was presented by the Convener, Mr Ward, and was received.

It was resolved:

1. Synod request any arrears for 1992 to be remitted promptly.
2. Synod amend the Provident Fund regulations to increase the Superannuation/Long Service Leave Levy to 10% of minimum stipend with effect 1.01.1994, and request Deacons' Courts to note that the 1993 Levy is \$2,003, not less than 50% to be paid by 30th June 1993.
3. Synod resolve that the Regulations be amended so that each member be credited with 8.9% of minimum stipend from 1.07.1993 and that the target benefit is increased proportionately in respect of periods of service after that date.
4. Synod amend the Provident Funds Regulations Sections C2, C6 and C8 (a) to read as follows:
C2. When a minister is duly inducted into a charge, in normal circumstances his membership in the Fund will be effective from the date of induction. Licentiates will be added to the Fund upon licence and commencement of residential supply to the extent of any Superannuation Guarantee or like legislation and contributions after ordination and induction adjusted to take account of what has been contributed previously.
C6. Contributions for missionaries are made from Missions Funds; contributions sufficient to cover

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any Superannuation Guarantee Levy or the like for students employed in supply work are made from Training of Ministry Funds.

C8. The following guidelines apply to the exercise of the discretion referred to in C3 above:

a. The benefit resulting from contributions under Superannuation Guarantee or the like legislation are fully vested in the member. In respect of any amounts in excess of those required to be legally vested in the member, vesting occurs to the extent of 50% after five years active service and a further 10% thereafter until full vesting is reached after 10 years. It is understood that a member must make arrangements to meet any undischarged financial liability to the church before amounts not vested by law will be paid to him. Amounts forfeited by reason of this clause will be applied towards contributions by the church on behalf of other members, and an equivalent amount taken from the levy on congregations and placed to the credit of the Supplementary Benefits Fund (see E3 below).

The Committee proposed

5. Synod request the Committee to keep a close watch on changes in Government regulations and to provide appropriate advice as required.

It was moved on notice that deliverance No. 5 be amended to read: "Synod request the committee to keep a close watch on changes in Government Regulations and to provide appropriate advice as required:

- a) to members, particularly in regard to information in addition to the current annual Benefit Reporting requirements of Trustees for Superannuation Funds.
- b) to Synod each year confirming that the Retirement Fund is a Complying Fund, i.e., one which meets the standards set by the Occupational Superannuation Standards legislation and which lodges annual returns with the Insurance and Superannuation Commission.
- c) to Synod each year confirming that the Trustee has lodged an Income Tax Return for the previous financial year and paid any taxes that were due.

It was resolved that the motion be now put.

On being put to a vote the amendment was preferred, and became the finding of the court.

It was moved on notice that Synod confirms that Mr. Higgins' appointment, as Auditor, is a normal, standard audit appointment, with no limitations, either express or implied, placed upon the scope of the audit.

It was agreed to meet in closed court.

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended by the deletion of all words after "appointment".

It was agreed to meet in open court.

The session was closed with prayer.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W. M. Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 4 TUESDAY 20 APRIL 1993, 7.05pm.

The session was constituted with praise and prayer.

The minutes of Session 3 were read and confirmed.

93.26 PROVIDENT FUNDS COMMITTEE (continued)

The court allowed the withdrawal of the first motion and the Synod resolved in terms of the second. Accordingly, Synod confirmed that Mr. Higgins' appointment, as Auditor, is a normal, standard audit appointment.

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It was further resolved that the Convener, Provident Funds be instructed to further liaise with the Auditor, with a view to formulating necessary documentation etc, so as to enable him to conduct audit in terms of his appointment this to include the year ended 31/12/1992.

93.27 TRAINING OF MINISTRY COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev T.I.Leggott, presented the report which was received.

It was resolved

1. Synod acknowledges with thankfulness to God, the grace of Christ present in our church as he gives and equips those with the gifts of teaching and preaching the Word of God.
2. Synod commends Dr Wes Hanna for the satisfactory completion of his studies, and for the high quality of his work; and gives thanks to the Hanna family and the Brisbane congregation for their support and encouragement, and prays that the ministry of Dr Wes Hanna might be richly blessed of God.
3. Synod encourage Mr Graham Kinder in the undertaking of his theological studies as a provisional student in accordance with its decision of 1992, and confirm the decision to give support of \$110 per week dating from 19 February 1993 and for the remainder of 1993, plus fees and book allowance.
4. Synod agrees that, if it is deemed appropriate by the Training of Ministry Committee, Mr Graham Kinder be permitted to continue his studies at the Presbyterian Theological Centre, Sydney.

It was agreed to meet in closed court.

An overture from Southern Presbytery re Mr Harry Klomp was received. It was resolved, none opposing, that the prayer of the overture be granted and Synod accordingly grant formal recognition to Mr Klomp as a student and payment of a living allowance, class fees and book allowance from 19/2/93 provided he sign the Bond.

The Synod further resolved in terms of the following Committee proposals:

5. Synod confirms Southern Presbytery's decision to receive Mr Harry Klomp as a student for the ministry and assure him of our prayerful support.
6. Synod encourages Mr Harry Klomp in the undertaking of his theological studies and agrees to give support as determined by Synod.

It was agreed to meet in open court.

The session closed with prayer at 8.20pm.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 5 WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 1993, 9.05am.

The session was constituted with praise and prayer, Rev Edwin Lee, at the request of the Moderator, contributing a devotion on Isaiah 53.
The minutes of Session 4 were read and confirmed.

93.28 WELCOME

The Acting Clerk introduced to the Moderator Rev Warren Myers of the Westminster Presbyterian Church and Rev Don Baird of the Reformed Churches of Australia, who warmly welcomed these brethren.

93.29 INTRODUCTION TO DISRUPTION COMMEMMORATION PROCEEDINGS

The Moderator introduced Rev Principal-emeritus Clement Graham, MA BD, who was welcomed with acclamation. Rev Edwin Lee, Convener of the Special Committee appointed by Synod 1993, outlined the proceedings and commended certain literature relevant to the subject.

93.30 THE TEACHING OF THE WESTMINSTER CONFESSION ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN CHURCH AND STATE

Mr Graham then addressed the court. He noted that the claim of the state to be secular is not a dictum to end all strife since religious interests cannot be compartmentalised or isolated from civil interests. The definition of the relationship may be pragmatically based, as in the United States, on a strict separation of church and state, but is found unstable in practice. Our plea is for a biblically based position, hence the teaching of our Confession.

He noted the following points as preliminary to a correct understanding of the Confession:

1. The doctrine of the Confession must be understood in its integrity, the several parts being taken as parts of a consistent body of teaching. Thus WCF 23 is often and erroneously held to be inconsistent with other parts of the Confession.
2. The Confession must be read in the light of changes in word usage particularly the terms "take order" and "settle" (WCF 23:3).
3. The Confession must be understood in the light of the terms of the Adopting Act of 1647, while the 1851 Declaration of the General Assembly concerning religious liberty is helpful in explaining the disavowal of the intolerant or persecuting principles some have claimed to find in the Confession.

Mr Graham then gave a lucid exposition of the main assertions of the Confession which set out the divine norm which is to inform the Christian community, gave some examples to guide the application of the Confession's teaching, and concluded by affirming that although there may be no present expectation of seeing this teaching applied in practice, it was vital that Christians, knowing their birthright, may claim it in due time.

The Moderator expressed the Synod's thanks to Mr Graham for his excellent presentation which was carried with acclamation. A period of questions followed.

93.30 BOOK REVIEW BY REV PETER HILL

The Moderator introduced Rev Peter Hill who reviewed Kenneth R. Ross, *Church and Creed in Scotland: The Free Church Case 1900-04 and its Origins* [Edinburgh: Rutherford House 1988].

Mr Hill commended this volume, written by a Church of Scotland minister, as the most valuable treatment of the history of the Free Church of Scotland from 1843-1900 and the causes leading up to the union of 1900. Mr Hill gave an overall outline of the book's content, noting in particular the way in which it showed tensions in the church from an early period, the impact of changes in the wider social and political context, the development of a party led by Dr Rainy, and the changes in such areas as biblical criticism and worship. He noted early diversity in the churchly and denominational approaches within the church, the latter representing a view which owed much to a pragmatic, democratic and secular influence which came to dominate, leaving after 1900 a remnant body which maintained a very different attitude to the church's creed than those who entered the union.

The Moderator expressed the Synod's thanks to Mr Hill for his thorough over-view. A period of questions followed.

93.31 Notices of motion were read.

The session closed with prayer.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 6 WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 1993, 1.40pm

The session was constituted

The minutes of session 5 were read and confirmed.

93.32 Mr Gadsby by permission informed the Synod that the Central Presbytery had this day granted Rev J.A.Cromarty 3 months sick leave due to an inoperable back problem which may necessitate the resignation of his charge, and the prayerful interest of members was solicited.

The Synod continued with its Disruption Commemoration programme.

93.33 THE HEADSHIP OF CHRIST IN A PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

Principal-emeritus Graham was introduced and presented his paper on this subject. He reminded us that the Disruption controversy did not call into question the universal lordship of Christ which was the general heritage of British society, but only how that sovereignty is to be differentiated between Church and State. However, our modern society reflects radically different concepts. The diversity in ethnic origin in contemporary societies also means diversity of religion. What are we to say to those who do not acknowledge Christ in our pluralistic society?

By a thoughtful and wide ranging analysis, Mr Graham showed that what may seem to pose as a major problem for the church today is nothing other than a challenge to reassert the universal lordship of Christ, for religious pluralism goes back to the Garden when Cain went his own way - but he went under God's judgement. Noting the explicit statement of such passages as Ephesians 1:22-23, Mr Graham made a distinction between the providential rule of Christ and the Messianic rule of Christ, although he emphasised that no conflict or tension is to be derived from this distinction. Christ is both Universal Lord and the only Saviour. His reign is not confined to a transcendental sphere or to the institutional church but is over all nations and governments without exception.

The providential rule of Christ does not mean that whatever is has divine approval, but it does mean that whatever is has its part in the divine purpose. Sinners may often have to learn the hard way. Yet if we suppose that God's rule is too tolerant of evil the cross of Christ shows us that which supports faith and enables us to see that God's purpose is realised through the chaos of human life. We need grace to discern the signs of the times. The Christian assurance of triumph (1 Cor 15:25) is not a triumphalism based on pride, nor is it an incentive to oppression of others, but it is an incentive to mission in the spirit of the gospel, for Christ's messianic rule, his rule in the church, is also all-embracing and authoritative. The messianic kingdom exists specifically to advance the kingdom of God, and every Christian is involved in this, the more particularly since Christ is the only Saviour.

The Old Testament obligation not to oppress the stranger has its contemporary application. There is no need for the Christian to be afraid, jealous, pessimistic or frustrated: our God reigns! The methodology of the gospel is the persuasion of love. The point of contact is our common sinful humanity. Discussion must be backed by demonstration in the spirit of goodwill. The rule of Christ is the rule of a gracious king. His rule is no threat but the ultimate guarantee of redress for the wrongs of the world.

A period of questions followed.

Rev Edwin Lee expressed the Synod's thanks to Principal-emeritus Graham for the splendid papers delivered by him, and the Synod further expressed its appreciation by acclamation. Additional thanks were expressed by acclamation to Rev Peter Hill and Rev Edwin Lee.

93.33 BROTHERS REPRESENTING OTHER CHURCHES

Rev W.Peter Gadsby introduced brothers representing the churches noted. The Moderator greeted each and asked that our greetings be taken back to their churches. Each delegate then brought greetings from their respective churches.

1. Free Church of Scotland (Rev Principal-emeritus Clement Graham)

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Mr Graham assured the Synod of the greetings of the Free Church Assembly and indicated the pleasure with which his Assembly would hear of the commemoration of the Disruption by our Synod, and the value the Free Church placed on the fraternal links between our churches. He affirmed that the tendency in some circles to down-play the Disruption as if it was an avoidable tragedy was not the view a careful reading of the circumstances would convey.

2. Westminster Presbyterian Church of Australia (Rev Warren Myers, Brisbane)

Mr Myers brought greetings on behalf of the Synod of his church. He outlined the background of this denomination since its beginning in Western Australia some 22 years ago to the position in which there are now about 21 churches spread over Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales. He shared his dream that the several sound Reformed denominations in Australia would have closer fellowship, while respecting the integrity of each other in their distinctive positions.

3. Reformed Churches of Australia (Rev Don Baird, Newcastle)

Mr Baird brought greetings on behalf of his Synod and expressed his gratitude for the Conference today as conveying a much clearer insight of the significance and relevance of the Disruption. He considered that our history was such that we could contribute something to other churches experiencing the pressures of contemporary society. In the Reformed Churches of Australia amendment of *Belgic Confession* Article 36 and adoption of the OPC/RNZ version of the *Westminster Confession*, means some difference between us on some of the issues raised in the Conference. Mr Baird also noted that there had not been a national Synod of his church since our last Synod, but on the local level there were continuing efforts to honour the Lordship of Christ, and there is continuing involvement in aboriginal work on the north coast of New South Wales in the vicinity of one of the PCEA congregations.

4. Free Reformed Churches of Australia (Mr John Bruning, Perth)

Mr Bruning brought greetings from his bond of churches, expressing appreciation for the visit of Mr Gadsby to their Synod last year, and for the value found in the Conference earlier today, in which our commitment to the Confession of Faith had been very evident.

93.34 MISSIONS COMMITTEE

It was resolved that Mr McCallum take the Moderator's chair vacated by Mr Mackay in order that he might present the Missions' Committee report.

Mr Mackay presented the report which was received.

It was resolved

1. Synod urges prayer for the work of Christian Witness to Israel and for those who undertake to discuss with Jewish people the character and coming of the Messiah.
2. Synod sends greetings to the brethren who meet in Leone Tupua's home in Fiji and encourages them in their study of the scriptures and their service to Christ. Synod expresses its approval of bringing Leone Tupua to visit congregations of the church.
3. Synod gives thanks for the positive developments taking place in Lakhnadon and Chhapara under the direction of the Emmanuel Hospital Association and sends greetings to the Free Church of Central India. To Dr Annie Mackay, the founder of the work and to Mrs P. Lall, retiring after many years of faithful service, Synod likewise sends greetings.
4. Synod thanks Rev and Mrs D Miller from South Africa for their welcome visit and for setting out the needs of the church so competently.
5. Synod recognises the suffering of the churches in Peru and prays for wisdom and courage for leaders and members. Synod expresses its appreciation of Mrs Hockett's willingness to serve and

also of the helpful visit from Miss Elizabeth MacKenzie.

6. Synod sends greetings to St Andrew's Presbyterian Church (Iglesia Presbiteriana San Andrés) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, encouraging the various congregations in their Christian and Presbyterian development.

7. Synod thanks Rev. Trevor Leggott for maintaining contact on behalf of the Committee with support groups encouraging the work of the Church amongst Aborigines. Synod continues to pray for effective assistance to be given this work and for interest to be stimulated amongst the congregations of the church.

8. Synod thanks Mr John Kerridge for his vital support in copying the Missionary Prayer Notes for distribution to the congregations.

9. Synod expresses its deep appreciation of the service of Dr Campbell Andrews in relation to Mr Malcolm McSwan's Estate, and records its deep appreciation for the generosity of Mr McSwan and the ready co-operation of the Solicitors to his Estate.

10. Synod ratifies the arrangements made for the support of Mr Tigi Verghis recommended by the Missions Committee.

11. Synod resolves that Mission Relief Fund Regulations (Act 7 Synod 1982 as amended by Act 12 Synod 1986) be amended by adding the following sentence to the preamble: "In October 1992 an additional amount of \$263,503 was received from the Estate of the original donor, Mr Malcolm McSwan of Wilson's Creek, New South Wales with a further \$82,664.71 added in 1993 when the estate was finalised, the total received from Mr McSwan thus being \$431,493."

The session was closed with prayer at 5.35pm

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 7 WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL 1993, 7.05pm

The session was constituted.

The minutes of session 6 were read and confirmed.

93.35 MISSIONS COMMITTEE (continued)

The court resumed consideration of Missions Committee business, Mr McCallum occupying the Moderator's chair.

It was moved on notice and seconded that the offset provisions in the report to Synod 1993 not be approved. The motion was approved 9 votes to 8. Mr Ward lodged a simple dissent.

93.36 DR DUFF AND THE PRINCIPLES OF MISSIONARY EDUCATION

Rev W.Peter Gadsby introduced Mr Mackay who delivered an address on this subject.

Mr Mackay outlined the life of Alexander Duff (born 1806), son of a small crofter who had been converted through the instrumentality of Charles Simeon. Converted early in life, Alexander was very conscious that he had been saved to serve. He was influenced by Thomas Chalmers when he was studying at St Andrews University. Duff was an extraordinary student. As a minister of the Church of Scotland he himself was to become one of the outstanding educators of his time.

In May 1829 Duff was appointed the first overseas missionary of the Church of Scotland, but experienced two shipwrecks on the way out to India. Duff soon established an educational

institution in Calcutta and aimed to work among young people with a strategy to promote education saturated with the teaching of Scripture so as to ultimately affect not a few individuals merely but a whole society. He also resolved to use English as the medium of instruction so at one stroke he removed the problems of the dominance of concepts of Hindu thought in Bengali and other local languages. Work of a similar kind was set up in Bombay and Madras. He also concerned himself with the education of girls and ladies.

All of the 14 missionaries of the Established Church of Scotland in India adhered to the Free Church of Scotland and lost the properties in consequence. But widespread sympathy was aroused and generous contributions from different parts of the world enabled the rapid re-establishment of the work. Duff was the key figure in the foundation of Calcutta University. By 1880 the work he had begun had grown to 210 colleges and schools where 15,000 pupils received instruction in the Scriptures.

The principles Duff demonstrated fully conformed to a Christian focus: Those involved in missionary education need to be fully subject to the Lorship of Christ, and to be of disciplined intellect. He based his centres strategically in major population centres, and worked in the context of local language and culture. His decision to utilise English was the basic factor in giving India the use of English today. His concern for women's education is notable. His concern for a wide curriculum and tertiary studies reminds one of Andrew Melville's approach in an earlier time.

Mr Gadsby expressed the thanks of the Synod to Mr Mackay for his informative and challenging address.

93.37 MISSIONS COMMITTEE BUSINESS (continued)

The Committee proposed

12. That the Missions General Budget for 1993 as given in the Report to Synod 1993 be approved, the aimed at increase in givings from \$8,473 in 1992 to \$11,500 in 1993 being particularly noted by Deacons' Courts.

It was moved on notice and seconded that the Missions General Budget for 1993 as given in the report to Synod 1993 be amended by deleting the item "less add back \$4,000" and increasing the item CWI (Australia) to \$7,500.

Upon being put to the vote the Committee's proposal was preferred and became the finding of the court.

13. That the budget of \$7,000 in 1993 (excluding allocation from General) for the support of the Fijian work be approved and brought before Deacons' Courts.

14. That the Missions Relief Fund budget for 1993 be approved.

15. That Deacons' Courts be asked to remit gifts not less than quarterly, and that a quarterly report be provided to Deacons' Courts.

16. That the \$4,000 add back on bequest interest in 1993 be allocated thus: \$2,000 Nicolson Bequest; \$2,000 Ashman Mission Bequest, raising Missions Capital to \$184,000.

93.38 Mrs Hockett was introduced and conveyed greetings from our Peruvian sister-church and made a plea for competent young teachers to aid the work of St Andrew's College in Lima. Notices of motion were read.

The session was closed with prayer at 9.29pm.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 8 THURSDAY 22 APRIL 1993, 9.00am

The session was constituted with praise and prayer, Rev Professor-emeritus Clement Graham, at the request of the Moderator contributing a devotion on Isaiah 61.

The minutes of Session 7 were read and confirmed.

93.39 INTER CHURCH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr Ward presented the Report which was received.

It was resolved:

1. That Synod now determine who is to be delegated to the third ICRC meeting.

Accordingly, it was moved and seconded that Rev. W.P. Gadsby be appointed as delegate to the ICRC meeting.

It was moved and seconded that Mr. Peter Hill be appointed our delegate to the ICRC conference in 1993. Mr. Hill declined nomination, and Rev. W.P. Gadsby was appointed as the P.C.E.A. delegate to the 1993 ICRC conference.

It was resolved that standing orders be suspended to permit the moving of the following motion. That Mr Ward be appointed as a second delegate to the ICRC conference, providing that this does not involve expense to Synod. This motion was seconded and became the finding of the court.

It was resolved:

2. The Synod approve and adopt the following statement regarding Inter-Church Relations:

FRATERNAL RELATIONS BETWEEN CHURCHES

There should be one simple rule to the following effect:

Fraternal Relations should exist between Churches that openly and practically profess the true faith of Christ as summarised in one or more of the classical Reformed symbols - ie the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, the Canons of the Synod of Dort.

Certain duties and courtesies devolve upon churches sustaining fraternal relations.

1. *There should be a spirit of cordial love and trust as becomes brothers in the faith.*
2. *There should be an attitude of mutual helpfulness. Each should be willing to share problems and difficulties with the others. By the same token each should be allowed to exhort to more exact obedience any who appeared to relax faithfulness to their avowed confession. This should not invite to an inquisitorial interference but to strengthening one another in love for Christ.*
3. *There should be a willingness to accept certificates of communicant membership, normally without personal examination.*
4. *There should be in the highest courts of the Churches a cordial welcome to visiting delegates from other Churches recognised as in fraternal relationship. This need not amount to according membership in the court to the visiting delegate.*
5. *There should be a willingness to allow ministers of one Church access to the pulpits of fraternal Churches as a matter of courtesy.*
6. *Churches should exchange copies of the Acts and Proceedings of their highest courts or at least inform one another of major decisions.*

3. That correspondence items 1,2,3 & 5, 5a, 5b be received and noted.

4. That correspondence item 4 (from Westminster Covenanter Presbyterian Church) be received and noted.

5. That correspondence item 6 be received and Synod resolve in favour of the application for ICRC membership of the Free Church of Central India.

93.40 ADDRESS BY REPRESENTATIVE OF FREE REFORMED CHURCHES OF AUSTRALIA

Rev. Keith Kleyn of the Free Reformed Churches of Australia addressed the Synod. He spoke of the backgrounds of both churches and the history of relations between us, speaking positively of the possibilities of the contacts between us.

Rev W.Peter Gadsby responded expressing the Synod's appreciation for the spirit and content of Mr Kleyn's address, which it was understood would be available for publication in our church magazine.

93.41 CHURCH AND NATION

The court took up consideration of the Church and Nation report.

Mr. Tripovich presented the report. It was agreed to defer further consideration until session 9.

93.42 PRESENTATION TO PRINCIPAL-EMERITUS GRAHAM

The Moderator presented Principal-Emeritus Graham with a book in appreciation of his visit to Australia.

A Notice of motion was read.

The Session closed with prayer at 12.32pm.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator.

SESSION 9 THURSDAY 22 APRIL 1993, 1.35pm.

The session was constituted with prayer.

93.43 Mr Macleod advised the court of the unfavourable diagnosis of Mr A. Cameron's health by his physician, and commended our brother to the prayerful interest of members.

93.44 CHURCH & NATION (continued)

The Court resumed consideration of the report, Mr Gadsby presenting *The Presbyterian Banner* report. The report was received.

It was resolved:

1. That the Church & Nation Report be circulated through Sessions and Congregations of our Church.
2. That serious attention be given to those things which are lacking, and encouragement be given to strengthen the things which remain and are held fast.
3. That the ministry of the church give appropriate warning and direction to congregations re: moral trends, and the use of television and literature.
4. That concerted effort be made by church ministry and parental oversight to bring up our young people in the knowledge of Scripture and with a clear understanding and appreciation of the distinctive principles of our church. And that to this end, greater use be made of the repetition work set by the church each year.
5. That protest be made by Synod, Sessions and people by letter or petition to relevant authorities when appropriate, i.e., when Godless or freedom-endangering legislation is under consideration.

6. That thanks and appreciation be conveyed to the editor and to all those who assist in the production of the church magazine.

7. That a limited time be given to discussion and suggestions re: desired and appropriate content of our church magazine.

Accordingly, the Synod entered into discussion for about 10 minutes.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Synod to the Committee, especially to the Convener, to Rev S.N.Ramsay and to Rev W.Peter Gadsby.

93.45 JAMES 5:13-18

It was moved on notice and seconded that an exegetical and expository paper be prepared on James 5:13-18 with special emphasis being given to verses 14 and 15, showing the relevance and applications of verses 14 and 15 to the Church today. The motion was approved.

93.46 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of session 8 were read and confirmed.

93.47 LAW & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Rev R.S.Ward presented the report of the Law & Advisory Committee.

It was resolved that the report be received.

It was resolved:

1. That Synod record its appreciation to Mrs Yvonne Moodie of Melbourne and Mrs Teresa Martin of Taree for their assistance with typing material related to the work of the Law and Advisory Committee and to Mrs Beth McPherson for proof-reading.

93.48 RETURNS UNDER REMIT RE NSW PROPERTY ACT

Returns under remit (correspondence item 7) were taken up.

It was moved on notice, seconded and carried that:

While noting the approval by a majority of Presbyteries of "The Synod of Eastern Australia Property (Amendment) Act" in terms of the Barrier Act, Synod defer further consideration of the subject until Synod 1994, meanwhile inviting lower courts to submit any further suggestions to the Law & Advisory Committee.

93.49 REQUEST TO LAW & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

It was moved on notice and seconded that the Law and Advisory Committee be requested to organise a fresh draft Amendment of the New South Wales Property Act 1918, and that Sessions in New South Wales be invited to submit suggestions to assist the Committee in bringing forward an up-to-date draft amendment - suggestions to reach the Committee by 30/9/93. [See below 93.51]

93.50 PRESENTATION TO PREVIOUS CLERK, REV W.P.GADSBY

The Moderator made a presentation to Mr Gadsby in appreciation of his work as Clerk since 1982.

93.51 The court resumed consideration of the motion under 93.49. Upon being put to the vote the motion became the finding of the court.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Synod to the Committee and especially the Convener.

93.52 Dr J.Campbell Andrews spoke briefly on taking his leave of the court to return home.

93.53 YOUTH AND FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

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The Convener, Mr Neil McPherson, presented the report, which was received.

It was resolved

1. That sincere thanks and appreciation be expressed to Mrs Irene Steel, Mr and Mrs Bruce Dunne and Rev and Mrs Jim Cromarty for the work they have carried out so willingly and effectively.
2. That Presbyteries, Sessions and all members, recognising the preciousness of the youth of the church, ensure that every opportunity and means are being used to further their interest and well-being.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Synod to the Committee and especially the Convener.

93.54 CHURCH EXTENSION & SUPPLY COMMITTEE

The Convener, Rev J.A.McCallum, presented the report, which was received.

It was resolved

1. That Synod ask Commissioners to remind their congregations of the continuing needs of Church Extension and Supply and to support this area of the Church's work in prayerful and practical ways.
2. That Commissioners be asked to convey the thanks of Synod to all in our congregations who have supported the work of Church Extension and Supply.
3. That Synod remind Presbyteries and congregations of the requirement to hand in reports re Church Extension to this Committee in time for their inclusion in the annual report to Synod.
4. That in accordance with the decision of Synod 1992 Ulverstone be granted 50% Stipend Relief for the remainder of 1993 and also 50% Stipend Relief for 1994 on a needs basis.
5. That in accordance with the decision of Synod 1992 Armidale be granted 50% Stipend Relief for the remainder of 1993 and also 50% Stipend Relief for 1994 on a needs basis.

The Moderator expressed the thanks of the Synod to the Committee and especially the Convener.

93.55 TRAINING OF MINISTRY (continued from 93.27 [6])

It was moved on notice and seconded that Synod agree to give support to Mr. Harry Klomp of \$214.00 per week, dating from 19/2/93, plus fees and book allowance, to be reviewed at Synod 1994.

93.56 PROVIDENT FUNDS (continued from 93.25)

The Committee proposed as follows:

That the basic rate of the weekly pension be increased from \$52 to \$54 (married) and from \$36.40 to \$38 (single) with effect from 1/7/93.

The proposal became the finding of the court.

93.57 REPORT OF EXAMINERS OF RECORDS

The Permanent Record and Minutes of the three Presbyteries were reported in order and and Synod accordingly resolved they all be attested.

93.58 TIME & PLACE OF SYNOD 1994

On the proposal of the Committee it was resolved that the next Synod be held on the Manning

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commencing in the Taree Church on Friday 8 April 1994 at 4pm and concluding no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 12 April 1994.

The session closed with prayer.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

SESSION 10 THURSDAY 22 APRIL 1993, 6.55pm

The session was constituted with prayer.

The minutes of session 9 were read and confirmed.

93.59 PETITION AGAINST A DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE BY MR JOHN MARSHALL NOT TO TRANSMIT A CERTAIN PETITION TO SYNOD

It was moved that we hear the petitioner for 5 minutes in support of his petition.

It was resolved to receive the petition but that the Synod uphold the decision of the Administration Committee not to transmit the original petition to Synod and advise the petitioner to take the matter up in the lower courts in the appropriate manner.

Mr Marshall indicated non-acquiescence and craved extracts which were granted.

Rev S.N. Ramsay dissented on the ground that Synod's action proceeds on the ground of alleged incompetent procedure such incompetence not having been clearly demonstrated.

Rev A.L.Tripovich lodged his simple dissent.

93.60 THE 8:14 FOUNDATION (continued from 93:20)

The Committee recommended that Synod resolve in the following terms:

1. That Synod approve the application by Armidale for a loan to finance the purchase of the property at 35 Kirkwood Street, Armidale noting that at least \$40,000 in addition to the present balance in the 8.14 Foundation will be required.
2. Synod authorise appeals to Deacons' Courts and to the wider church for assistance with gifts and loans with a view to reducing the anticipated total loan of about \$130,000 to the lowest amount possible.
3. Synod empower the 8:14 Foundation Committee to liaise with other Committees with a view to facilitating the funding of the shortfall without recourse to outside finance, trust requirements being always observed.
4. The repayment schedule is to be at a rate not less than the nett rental revenue from the students' accommodation and is to be reviewed after 3 years.

The Synod resolved accordingly.

93.61 SPECIAL GREETINGS TO 1993 FREE CHURCH ASSEMBLY

The Synod resolved unanimously to forward greetings in the following form to the 1993 Free Church of Scotland General Assembly.

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, the Synod of

the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia sends greetings in the Lord on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Disruption by which the Church of Scotland was freed from the encroachments of the State on her liberties under Christ.

In remembering the Disruption of the Establishment on 18 May 1843 we recall the repercussions it had in the British colonies and how *The Synod of Australia in connection with the Established Church of Scotland* refused to change its legal and moral connection with the Established Church, thereby leading to a disruption of the Australian Synod under the leadership of such honoured preachers of the Gospel as William McIntyre and James Forbes.

The Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia was formed in Sydney on 10 October 1846 to give practical expression to the independence of the Australian Church from another which in practice compromised the Confession's teaching on the Headship of Christ. It was therefore also founded to maintain consistent assertion of the ancient constitution of historic Presbyterianism in its whole-hearted loyalty to the word of Christ. Since 1953 it has incorporated the faithful remnant of *The Free Presbyterian Church of Victoria* organised by James Forbes in 1846, and its identity in terms of constitutional principle has been recognised in the *Federal Relations Act* enacted by your Assembly in 1952.

As we look back over the years we note that our "1900 Crisis" came over the years 1859-65 with compromising unions backed by the Free Church Assembly during those years. Yet if the remnant church in Australia struggled on without recognition from the Free Assembly, we give thanks for the constitutionalists in the Free Church of Scotland, and for the vindication of the minority who continued the Free Church in 1900. We also recall the practical assistance given by your church when the facilities of the College were made available following Rev S.P.Stewart's visit to your Assembly in 1908 and Professor Donald Maclean's visit to Australia in 1910. From 1913 to 1981 a total of 19 candidates of the Australian church who later served as ordained ministers, received their training in Edinburgh, and one of them served as a Professor. We are also very appreciative of visits from various of your ministers and Professors over the years, most recently that by Principal-emeritus Clement Graham to this Synod meeting, and the mutually used facility by which ministers of your church may be called to Australian pastorates and vice versa.

We have also had the privilege of sharing with you in the Missionary task with Australian personnel at various times on each of the three fields of Peru, South Africa and India, beginning with Rev Dr J.Campbell Andrews, our first overseas missionary, in 1948, whose fame is in all your churches also and whom we have commissioned to attend the Disruption Commemoration Assembly.

Brethren, together we look back and see God's gracious hand in our history, and it is our pleasure to express to you our greetings in the name of Christ, the only Head of the Church. Although times and circumstances change yet it is our prayer that you will be enabled to serve the Lord with an even greater energy, faithfulness and sacrifice in the future years as did the Disruption generation, and that as parts of the church of our common Lord our fellowship will continue and be strengthened to our mutual good and to God's glory.

The names of the ministers in order of ordination and the names of commissioned elders of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia, April 1993, are here recorded:

J. Campbell Andrews (retired), Stewart N. Ramsay (retired), Edwin R. Lee (retired), William M. Mackay (PLC, Melbourne), Alan L. Tripovich (Hastings River), Raymond W. Murray (Grafton), Kenneth MacLeod (Maclean), John Pateman (retired), Rowland S. Ward (Melbourne), John M. Cromarty (Geelong), W. Peter Gadsby (Manning River), John A. McCallum (Sydney), John S. Graham (CWI, Sydney), Peter A. L. Hill (Ulverstone), James A. Cromarty (Hunter/Barrington Rivers), Trevor I. Leggott (Armidale), W. J. Wesley Hanna (Brisbane), *ministers*; H. Tim Yee *licentiate*; Messrs R.A.Lawson, J.D.Ramsay, R.L.Campbell, A.Cameron, K.Dawson, D.Caughey, K.Longworth, P.Grant, A.H.Steel, G.A.Neil, N.A.McPherson, J.R.B.Webster, N.G.Triffett & G.J.Moodie, *commissioned elders*.

Signed in the name and by the authority of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Eastern

Australia, 22 April 1993.

William M. Mackay, Moderator

Rowland S. Ward, Acting Clerk

93.62 COMMITTEE TO COMMEMORATE THE SESQUICENTENARY OF THE FORMATION OF THIS CHURCH IN 1846

It was resolved that Messrs E.R.Lee, W.M.Mackay, W.J.W.Hanna, R.S.Ward and a representative of St George's Congregation form this Committee, E.R.Lee Convener.

93.63 COMMITTEES

It was resolved that the following Committee structure be adopted.

ADMINISTRATION & ICR

Clerk (Convener Admin) Moderator, Moderator-elect, Assistant Clerk, Convener of Law & Advisory, P.A.L.Hill (for ICR only), W.P.Gadsby (Convener ICR).

CHURCH EXTENSION & SUPPLY

J.A.McCallum (Convener) J.A.Cromarty, J.S.Graham, Hunter-Barrington elder, N.McPherson.

CHURCH & NATION

A.Tripovich (Convener) S.N.Ramsay, T.I.Leggott, K.MacLeod, R.L.Campbell, Hastings elder, Manning elder.

FINANCE

A.Steel (Convener) R.Alford, N.Kerr, J.McCallum, J.Gregor, N.McPherson.

8:14 FOUNDATION

Treasurer (Convener), Clerk of Synod, Moderator plus one representative from each Presbytery.

LAW & ADVISORY

R.S.Ward (Convener), W.P.Gadsby, W.M.Mackay, R.Lawson, K.Longworth, A.H.Steel, G.A.Neil.

MISSIONS

W.M.Mackay (Convener), R.S.Ward, P.A.L.Hill, J.R.B.Webster, J.Pateman. Advisors: Dr Helen Ramsay, Rev Dr J.Campbell Andrews

TRAINING OF MINISTRY

T.I.Leggott (Convener), J.A.McCallum, W.P.Gadsby, J.M.Cromarty (corresponding member), R.W.Murray, W.J.W.Hanna.

YOUTH & FELLOWSHIP

N.McPherson (Convener), J.A.Cromarty, J.S.Graham, G.Hamilton, G. Wylde, Hawkesbury-Nepean elder, Hunter Barrington elder

PROVIDENT FUNDS

R.S.Ward (Convener), J.Louden, N.Triffett, J.R.B.Webster, G.J.Moodie

93.64 DECLARATION OF FIDELITY BY THE CLERK

Rev W.J.W.Hanna, whose position as Clerk becomes effective from rising of Synod made the declaration of fidelity viz: *I do solemnly affirm and declare that I will faithfully discharge the duties now entrusted to me.*

93.65 PRINCIPAL ACTS

It was resolved that the Clerk draw up a list of Principal Acts of Synod 1993, and include it with the minutes.

93.66 TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr Steel indicated the financial commitments by this Synod.

93.67 THANKS

Thanks were expressed to the minister, session and congregation of the Manning especially to the ladies of the congregation for their hospitality.

Thanks were also expressed by the Moderator to Mr J.M.Cromarty for graciously allowing Dr Wes Hanna to assist the Acting Clerk, and for his willingness to continue as Assistant Clerk of the Synod.

The Moderator expressed the Synod's appreciation for Mr Ward's work as Acting Clerk. A vote of thanks was resolved in favour of the Moderator and the Synod Treasurer.

Minutes of the 1993 Meeting of the Synod of Eastern Australia

93.68 PRAYER

Several members led the Synod in prayer, particularly remembering brethren in ill health.

93.68 MINUTES

The minutes of this session was read and confirmed.

93.69 CLOSURE

The Moderator read from Revelation 21, and Synod 1993 was closed with the singing of Psalm 133 and the benediction at about 9.40pm.

Rowland S. Ward
Acting Clerk

W.M.Mackay
Moderator

Acts of Synod 1993

Appended by the direction of Synod (see Article 93.65)

Class 1 (Barrier Act Procedures).....Nil

Class 2 (Others)Article

1	Resignation of Clerk (Rev. W.P. Gadsby).....	93.8.1
2	Memorial minutes (F. Maxwell Bradshaw and H.C. Nicholson).....	93.8.5
3	Appointment of Rev. Dr. W.J.W. Hanna as Clerk.....	93.12.19
4	Delegate to 1993 Free Church of Scotland General Assembly.....	93.14
5	Amendment of Provident Fund Regulations.....	93.25
6	Scope of Auditor's appointment.....	93.26
7	Reception of Mr. Harry Klomp as student for the Ministry.....	93.27.5
8	Amendment of Mission Relief Fund Regulations.....	93.34.11
9	Appointment of delegates to ICRC conference.....	93.39.1
10	Adoption of statement regarding Inter-Church Relations.....	93.39.2
11	New South Wales Property Act.....	93.49
12	Ditto.....	93.57
13	Stipend Relief for Ulverstone.....	93.54.4
14	Stipend Relief for Armidale.....	93.54.5
15	Increase in basic rate of pension.....	93.56
16	8:14 Foundation loan to Armidale.....	93.60
17	Greetings to 1993 Free Church of Scotland Assembly.....	93.61
18	Sesquicentenary Celebration Committee.....	93.62