

EDITORIAL

A year ago the Editorial was entitled "Crisis", and that is still an accurate description of the publishing position. It is encouraging to report, however, that the drive to increase the membership of the Society, and hence the circulation of *Liturgical Review*, has so far had a modest success. During 1978 there was an increase of fifty members, bringing the total to just over four hundred. Members should continue their efforts to make the journal more widely known.

We are one of the few societies in the Church of Scotland which publish such a regular review, and it is one which, it is hoped, is of interest to parish ministers and members alike. We hope to continue to include examples of services and prayers which have been devised for use in worship. Another feature which we would like to continue is book reviews. While the reviewing work carried on by the late Dr Lamb is being revived, it would be helpful if members could draw the attention of the Editor to new books which they have found of interest.

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The new *Book of Common Order* prepared by the General Assembly's Committee of Public Worship and Aids to Devotion is not yet to hand, but we await its publication with interest and hope to give it attention in a future issue.

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The most common way of increasing the frequency of communion would appear to be the introduction of shorter celebrations immediately after the morning service once a month. These have the disadvantage of not being an integral part of morning worship, but they have the advantage of providing a smaller and more informal service than is possible at quarterly celebrations. It is those belonging to the normal Sunday Morning congregation who attend rather than those who only come three or four times a year. One minister has commented:—

"It seems clear to me that the monthly communion is appreciated by a good proportion of our most regular worshippers, and several have said that they now prefer the monthly celebration to the 'big' quarterly services."

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We regret to announce the death of Mr James Fleming Lamb, F.R.C.O. Mr Lamb was for many years the organist at Dunblane Cathedral and had been a member of the Council of the Church Service Society since 1976.