For purposes of comparison it may be noted that Spurgeon last appeared on the platform of the Baptist Union in 1882 and that in February 1886 he wrote to Samuel Booth with regard to the work of the Union, 'I am anxious not to be asked, that I may not be obliged to decline'. E. A. Payne, in the Baptist Quarterly, 1979, p.151.

Henry Ward Beecher, was America's leading pulpiteer and certainly an advocate of 'modern' preaching, though in 1863 he gave an address at James Spurgeon's recognition service as pastor at Bayswater. He had visited Britain a second time in 1886 when he occupied Parker's pulpit at the City Temple which in particular seems to have offended Spurgeon.

C. Binfield, So Down To Prayers, p.26-9. See also K. S. Inglis, Churches and the Working Classes in Victorian England, 1963, p.14-16, where Thomas Binney's dictum 'Our mission is neither to the very rich nor to the very poor, but to the great middle section of the community' is cited.


Cited in Tidball, op.cit., p.141.

A. Porritt, The Best I Remember, 1922, p.4-6.


J. H. Y. BRIGGS
Senior Lecturer in History, University of Keele

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Baptist Historical Society will take place on Monday, 28th April 1986 at 4.30 p.m. in the Lloyd Jones Hall at Westminster Chapel.

The Henton Lecture will be given by the Revd Dr G. Henton Davies, M.A., M.Litt., B.D. His subject will be 'Bound for (South) Wales'.