

when Rushbrooke added the Eastern Secretaryship to his work as Commissioner. Three years later he was appointed the first full-time General Secretary of the Alliance. Eleven further years of distinguished service followed until in 1939, on the eve of his seventieth birthday he became President, only the second British Baptist in that office, the very first not inappropriately having been John Clifford. Because of the war, Dr W.O. Lewis, his successor, was confined in North America, and the new President looked remarkably like the old Secretary in terms of the responsibilities Rushbrooke, ever the peacemaker and reconciler, still had to carry.

As General Secretary, Rushbrooke had become the human face of Baptists worldwide. As champion of religious freedom and encourager of Baptists in their missionary task, he gave himself tirelessly to detailed administration and costly advocacy of evangelical minorities, especially in Eastern and Latin Europe.

Baptist participation in ecumenical conversations developed at a different pace on different sides of the Atlantic: there was considerable suspicion of British attitudes to the Lambeth invitation of 1920, although British Baptists yielded nothing in reply to a gracious initiative which of itself was testimony to very changed inter-church relationships. Rushbrooke was torn in different directions: the pioneer of the Hampstead initiative had now to heed a wider constituency. Thus in 1927 on Rushbrooke's initiative British Baptists declined to be represented at the Lausanne meeting of Faith and Order, sending only a greeting. Bernard Green repeats E.A. Payne's assessment that Rushbrooke was concerned about losing the confidence and considerable support of the Southern Baptist Convention which would have meant financial disaster for the Alliance. To hold Baptists together in world-wide fellowship was for Rushbrooke in the second half of his life a sufficient goal in itself. As yet it is difficult to tell whether such a strategy was right for 'tomorrow' or not.

BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY: SUMMER SCHOOL 1998

Westminster College, Cambridge, 16-19 July 1998

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and to receive subsequent details about the programme.**

our Capacity untill Death calls or Devine providence shall seperate us one from another.

3^d To Love one another, with pure Harts fervantly, and Endiavor to keep the unity of the spirit, in The Bond of peace, for the Honour of God, and our Mutual Good unto Edification.

4th We will also make it our Care through the afforesaid help to walk Before the Lord in our own houses With upright Hearts and to keep up the Worship of God therein, by daily prayer, and praises to God And Diligent Reeding the Holy Scriptures that the word of God May Dwell Richly in us.

5th And as we have given our Children to the Lord by a solemn Dication, so

we will Endeavor to teach them the way of the Lord, and Commad them to keep it, seting before them an holy Example, worthy there Immitation, and Continuing in prayer to God, for their Conversion And Salvation.

6th We will Endeavor by the Grace of God to keep ourselves pure from the sines and vices of the times and places wherein we Live, so that none May have occation given by our unholy Lives to speak Evile of Gods holy Ways.

7th and Lastly And all this under an Abiding sense that we must shortly give up oure Accounts to him that is Ready to Judge the Quick and Dead to which Solomn Covenant we agree in the preasence of the all knowing And heart searching God.

SOCIETY OFFICERS' MOVES

The Secretary, Revd Stephen Copson, now Secretary of the Hertfordshire Baptist Association, expects soon to move from his present temporary accommodation but post will be forwarded from the address shown on the front cover of this issue.

The Editor, Mr John Briggs, will soon move to Birmingham as Principal of West Hill College. We should be able to give both new addresses in the October issue.

CUMULATIVE INDEXES

Cumulative Indexes to Volumes XXI-XXXI and to Volumes XXXII-XXXVI will be available from mid August on disc in ASCII format. These will cost £10-00 each and may be obtained from the Treasurer, Revd T.S.H. Elwyn, 28 Dowthorpe Hill, Earls Barton, Northampton, NN6 0PB.

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