

News from Keston College

Over the last year a great deal of planning has gone into the Appeal which has now been launched by the former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Michael Ramsey (further details are enclosed with this issue). This has involved making clear to ourselves the structure of our work and the ways in which we would like it to develop. We have inaugurated Departments of Administration, Research, Archives and Information, which will serve as the basis for future development and, we hope, expansion.

The Administration Department has gained additional members: a part-time volunteer, Mr George Shrimpton, who is looking after the mailing lists, and Miss Lorna Waterton, the Director's secretary. Mrs Moira Harris (née Blacklaws) has returned to the Archives Department. Miss Gill Clarke has transferred to the Information Department and will also be editorial assistant for *RCL*. The telex news service has been operating since October and has led to an increased use of Keston College information in the media. The duplicated *Keston News Service* will appear fortnightly from January.

Eastern Europe is still strongly represented in the Research Department, with Alexander Tomskey and Mrs Janet Curtis (née Payton) jointly covering Czechoslovakia and Poland. We hope to introduce similar close teamwork in other areas. The tremendous flow of documents from Poland, Czechoslovakia and Romania has resulted in much wider coverage of Eastern Europe in the news services. We have missed Alan Scarfe during his time in the USA. Soviet research has been divided into three embryo sections covering Orthodox, Protestants and Catholics. We plan to build up teams of people working on these three areas, as well as to devote more research time to believers of other faiths, especially Islam and Judaism. The Department is currently augmented by Paul Lucey, who is with us for four months and sponsored by the Slavic Gospel Association.

The AGM on 7 October, as part of the formal business, changed our name officially from Centre for the Study of Religion and Communism to Keston College. After lunch we enjoyed a talk from Mr Norman Redaway, recently retired British Ambassador to Poland, on church-state

relations in Poland, which sparked off a lively debate, and an account of a visit to China by Canon Michael Moore. The research staff took part in the now traditional panel which answers questions from the floor.

The election of Cardinal Wojtyła of Cracow as Pope John Paul II on 16 October was a great encouragement to us, as well as to Christians of all denominations throughout Eastern Europe. Keston College staff were able to make an important contribution to the appraisal of the new Pope by the press, radio and television. Information was supplied to *The Times* and *The Guardian*, Michael Bourdeaux and Marite Sapiets appeared on the ITV "Credo" programme and Alexander Tomsy spoke on "The World at One" and "Profile" on BBC Radio 4 about the new Pope. During a visit to Ireland later in October Michael Bourdeaux was interviewed on Ulster television and radio.

MICHAEL ROWE

December 1978

New Keston Film

THE RIGHT TO BELIEVE

A new 25 minute sound film in full colour on the work of Keston College at its headquarters in Kent and on its outreach in Eastern Europe. The Archbishop of Canterbury is interviewed at the college, and we follow his visit to the Soviet Union where he joined in both Orthodox and Baptist worship.

This documentary film on Keston College can be hired from :

NATIONAL FILM CRUSADE,
P.O. BOX 4,
BRISTOL BS99 7SA

who will be pleased to answer enquiries regarding conditions of hire. The film will not be available for hire from Keston College.

The charge per showing will be approximately £7 plus postage.