

The Historical Society of the Episcopal Church

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The Rev. John F. Woolverton (New Hampshire) *Journal Editor*
The Rev. John E. Booty, Historiographer of the Episcopal Church

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Dr. Winston B. Charles (North Carolina) 1997
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General Convention Board Members

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The Rt. Rev. Herbert A. Donovan, Secretary, House of Bishops
The Rev. Donald Nickerson, Executive Officer, General Convention

Ex-Officio Board Members (special appointments and representatives)

Mr. Mark Duffy, Archivist of the Episcopal Church
Dr. Peter Williams, Editor, Monograph Series

Commission representatives at General Convention

Bishop Herbert A. Donovan and Deputy Winston Charles are authorized to receive non-substantive amendments to the report.

SUMMARY OF THE SOCIETY'S WORK

The Historical Society of the Episcopal Church, by General Convention resolutions, is the designated publisher of the church's historical journal and historiographer of the church. It publishes the journal, *Anglican and Episcopal History* (formerly *Historical Magazine of the Episcopal Church*) under the editorship of the Rev. John F. Woolverton. The Rev. John E. Booty

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

bears the primary historiographical responsibility and has been designated Historiographer of the Episcopal Church by the Presiding Bishop.

During the past triennium the Historical Society Board of Trustees has worked to improve its own internal functions, to develop a broader historical consciousness on the part of the Episcopal Church, and to improve and extend the opportunities for the dissemination of historical research. The annual meetings, held this triennium in New York City, Raleigh, NC, and Berkeley, CA, attracted widespread participation by combining historical presentations with the necessary business sessions. To increase awareness of the Society's work among Episcopalians who teach history in U.S. colleges and universities, the board, with the support of Trinity Church, NYC, invited such professors to a luncheon during the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in New York City in January, 1997.

The journal, *Anglican and Episcopal History*, has continued its effort to serve the Episcopal Church with thoughtful articles on matters of contemporary concern such as the Spring, 1997 issue devoted to the Ecumenical Movement with particular reference to Episcopal-Lutheran relations or Bishop Walter D. Dennis's article, "Electing the Presiding Bishop" in the Fall 1996 issue. A special issue devoted to the history of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai [Episcopal Church in Japan] as well as articles on the Russian Orthodox Church, the Church of England, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem have extended our international coverage.

This triennium, four books have been published by the University of Illinois Press for the Historical Society's series, *Studies in Anglican History*. Those published are: John Woolverton, *The Education of Phillips Brooks*; Peter Iver Kaufmann, *Prayer, Despair, and Drama: Elizabethan Introspection*; Jeffrey S. Chamberlain, *Accommodating High Churchmen: The Clergy of Sussex, 1700-1745*; and Robert Prichard, *Theological Consensus in the Episcopal Church, 1801-1873*. Future manuscripts are under consideration.

"Mine Eyes have Seen the Glory: Visions of Apocalypse and of Hope" is the theme for a conference to be held in June, 1997 in Pittsburgh, sponsored by the Historical Society, the National Episcopal Historians and Archivists, and the Episcopal Women's History Project, and open to the public. Historical papers, panel discussions, and a keynote speaker will raise the historical consciousness of those in attendance. Fulfilling a similar function was the Historical Society Dinner at the 1994 General Convention where guest speaker, Dr. Mary Tanner, General Secretary of the Council for Christian Unity of the General Synod of the Church of England, spoke on "The Conflict Over Women's Ordination: A Credible Model for Ecumenical Decision Making?"

REPORT OF THE HISTORIOGRAPHER OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH (by John Booty)

As historiographer I have attended and participated in meetings of the Historical Society, the National Episcopal Historiographers and Archivists organization, the Archives of the Episcopal Church, the Conference of Episcopal Church Historians, and the Ecclesiastical History Society of Great Britain (at Norwich and Canterbury). In addition I have been a resource to newspapers, television news organizations (principally NPR), and news magazines on the historical background and contexts of the Righter trial. I have served as a resource and critic for numerous persons engaged in historical pursuits relevant to the Episcopal Church. In October, 1996, I addressed the

joint meeting of the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church and the Conference of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Finally I have seen into print my history of Virginia Theological Seminary and will soon have published my biography of Stephen Bayne and a book on the theology of Richard Hooker. And thus the role of the historiographer continues to unfold.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE 1995-97 TRIENNIUM

The Historical Society does not receive any funds from General Convention for its activities. Membership fees and donations have funded its historiographic activities. A successful endowment fund drive has enabled the Society to strengthen its activities so that it needs to rely on the General Convention only for the expenses of the Episcopal Historiographer.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE COMING TRIENNIUM

A major effort to enlarge the Society's membership is projected for the next triennium. In addition, the board of directors is exploring better ways of aiding individual parishes, dioceses, and church organizations in their efforts to preserve, analyze, and publish articles about their own history. An address by the Rev. Dr. Richard Norris will highlight the Society's General Convention dinner in Philadelphia and strengthen the Society's historical vision during the next three years.

BUDGET APPROPRIATION

	1995	1996	1997	Total
<i>Historiographer's Expenses</i>				
Travel	\$4,500	\$4,600	\$4,700	\$13,800
Office	500	500	500	1,500
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$5,000</u>	<u>\$5,100</u>	<u>\$5,200</u>	<u>\$15,300</u>

Resolution A061 Episcopal Historiographer Office Budget Appropriation

Whereas, The Rev. Dr. John E. Booty has been appointed Historiographer of the Episcopal Church, be it

- 1 Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That there be appropriated from the Assessment
- 2 Budget of General Convention, the sum of \$15,300 for the triennium for the expenses of the
- 3 Historiographer.