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AL/2077

19 JUNE 1924

BISHOP'S HOUSE,  
CHESTER.

18th June, 1924.

Dear Mrs Acres,

I have been some while I fear answering your letter, but I was anxious to find out what they were doing in the Liverpool Diocese. I saw two ladies yesterday who intend going to the Bishop and asking his advice, at the same time putting before him their own opinion. The Mothers Union refuses to act, as I was afraid it would. They say the Marriage Service is not their business.

This sounds very serious!! Personally, I would take the Yellow Book as it stands for it marks such a great improvement on the other. Rather than fail I would accept it. I think you would find it very much easier to work on a book, and amend that, than throw your amendments into the air. For instance, you might ask to put your views before

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*the Alcewin Club.*

I have been some while a member of the Committee of the Yellow Book. They might alter it in subsequent editions, which would be far the simplest method. I do not think it likely that the service will be touched for some time as the work on the Liturgy has not been finished.

By the way, the prayer that we take exception to is actually the prayer of nuptial Benediction as you will see in the Yellow Book.

It is possible that the Bishop of London would receive a deputation on the subject, and you might try to get this done in each diocese, and the women who are ready to go should represent education,-- elementary, secondary, and university---, if possible someone engaged to be married who doesn't like the service,

*to someone named who has refused to use it;*

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those engaged in

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philanthropic and social work, and if possible a  
Church organisation. The Mothers Union, the natural  
guardian of marriage, won't play.

Can you get the university women to go the new  
Bishop of Ely? & the Bishop of Oxford.

Yours sincerely,

Shuah Page.