

---

Wednesday 12 January 1977. 1.30 to 4.30

---

ESSAY

Write an essay on *one* of the following subjects:

1. Consider this statement:

'There are, in fact, three diseases from which religious music can suffer: the disease of virtuosity, which over-elaborates the technique of composition and so tends to lose sight of its meaning; the disease of theatricalism which over-emphasizes the meaning at the expense of true dignity and reverence; and the disease of sentimentality, which enervates the meaning by relaxing it into a soft and facile prettiness, unworthy alike of the sincerity of religion and of the chastity of art. All these may be successively illustrated at three critical periods in the history of English church music.' ('Church Music' - W. H. Hadow, 1926)

2. Examine developments in hymnody over the past twenty-five years.

3. Discuss the conflict of liturgical structure and musical form.

4. The Royal School of Church Music was founded fifty years ago 'to encourage the study, practice, and improvement of music, speech, and such other matters as are relevant to the seemly conduct of the services of the Church'. To what extent do you think the RSCM has caused an improvement in standards, and how do you reckon its standing today?

5. To what extent does church music reflect the spirit of its age?

6. Carols.

7. The influence of the organ.

8. 'The cult of the Baroque Organ' is a retrograde trend.

9. Voice production and the cathedral organist.