

CORRESPONDENCE

**From Rev Brian A Small,
Loughgall Presbyterian Church,
Co Armagh, N Ireland**

I have just been reading about the "British Reformed Fellowship" in the Banner of Truth and I am thrilled that such an organisation exists.

We are fighting not just against unbelief and ecumenism but also against the awful nauseating threat of Arminianism.

To know that such a Reformed Fellowship has been brought into being is a great relief and it could be the necessary key and spiritual weapon against these patently un-biblical "isms" such as Arminianism Ecumenism and Charismaticism.'

**From Rev Bruce Gardner,
Carloway Parish Church,
Isle of Lewis, Scotland**

I feel that we who are being reformed need to support those same purifying principles in a Church that is being reformed. That is the reason why I am delighted to have the opportunity to join the BRF, in order to learn from brethren more skilled and experienced in Reformation ministry than I, in order that I may stand more for the truth in a world that, sadly, has scarcely even the patience to hear it.

I enclose my subscription, and look forward to seeing more and more of the benefit of this happy association in time to come, as the Lord spares us for His Glory.'

**From Mr H V Eldred,
Luton, Bedfordshire**

'Thank you for sending me litera-

ture about the BRF.

Just one question please - What is your organisation doing that is not already covered by the British Evangelical Council (BEC)?'

EDITOR'S REPLY: *It is difficult to give an answer to your question accurately as I am not fully versed in the constitution and objectives of the British Evangelical Council. I will, however, mention one or two points that come to mind.*

Firstly, the BEC is principally an organisation uniting churches and denominations, whereas the British Reformed Fellowship is, at the present time at least, a fellowship of individual Christians.

Secondly, the BEC is not specifically Reformed. I am aware that many Reformed ministers and churches belong to the BEC but, unlike the BRF, it is broadly evangelical rather than specifically calvinistic in character.

Thirdly, the BEC can be described as ecumenical (in the best sense of that term), in that it welcomes churches and denominations from a wide spectrum, providing they are able to subscribe to its (short) Basis of Faith. The BRF, on the other hand, has a strict confessional constitution - the Westminster Standards and the Three Forms of Unity - and takes a definite, and we believe Biblical, approach to church government, baptism and other matters, that are sometimes considered controversial.

Fourthly, in operation, the BEC can be described, fairly, as apologetic, in that it seeks to represent the views of its constituent member churches. In contrast, the BRF could perhaps be styled as more active and even aggressive (not to be understood as implying

physical, violent or offensive behaviour) in its approach to the defence and propagation of the Reformed Faith.

In practical ways the two organisations are somewhat similar as both hold conferences and preaching services and both publish journals and other literature. The BEC is, of course, by far the larger body and has been in existence for 35 years.

I hope this helps to answer some of your queries.'

**From Pietro Bolognesi,
Istituto di Formazione
Evangelica e Documentazione,
35100, Padova, Italy**

We are interest to know a little bit more about the British Reformed Fellowship and we ask for more informations. Our Library would be happy to receive a free invoice of the British Reformed Journal.

Our Institute as a Center has already become a reference point for evangelical theological research in a very catholic country. IFED is dedicated to formulation of a biblical conscience which expresses itself dynamically in all areas of life.'

**From Pastor Jothy Hoole, Gospel
Grace Church, St Sebastian's
Street, Mannar, Sri Lanka**

I pastor a small Independent Evangelical Reformed Church in this small corner of the world.

I read about your work in the July issue of the Banner of Truth magazine. One of my interests in theology since my post-conversion student days in Brighton and Birmingham has been the covenant of grace and the way it relates to the Christian family and the up-bringing of children.'

Could you please send me more details of your work and some idea of the range of articles and format of the British Reformed Journal?'

**From Pastor Remegio Lapiz,
Bible Study Fellowship,
Bontong, Camaman-an,
9000 Cagayan de Oro City,
Mindanao, Philippines**

'Love Christian greetings in the Wonderful Name of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ!

You may be surprised why I know your name and address. I read your name and address at the STANDARD BEARER magazine and with much prayer and consideration the Lord has lead me to write you because we have been praying to God that we can have a christian friend at England who could help us pray in our ministry here in the Philippines. We hope that you would consider our request.

I am Pastor Remegio Lapiz and my wife is Elizabeth. The Lord has blessed us with three children, two boys and one girl. We are both graduates of one of the Bible Colleges. We have been trained in this college for four years. I am one of the students of Rev Bernard Woudenberg in his Bible Studies Doctrine class through correspondence. I enjoy listening to his tapes that I receive regularly. The lessons from the Word of God through his messages on the tapes have been great help in my life and in the ministry.

The Lord has given us a burden to work among the poor and needy people especially those who live in the slum areas and in the villages. These people are poor but they love to hear the Word of God. They are more receptive to the gospel compared to the rich people. Our greatest desire in our lives is to remain faithful to our loving God and to win souls for Him.

Please uphold us in your prayers that God will give us more wisdom and the guidance of the Holy Spirit be always our portion as we are doing the ministry that God entrusted to us here in Philippines.'