

THE SOCIETY FOR ECUMENICAL STUDIES

From Uniformity to Unity 1662-1962, Geoffrey F Nuttall and Owen Chadwick, editors, London, SPCK, 1962

A review by Donald Norwood

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For August 2012 the Society's Committee is planning a joint event to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the 1662 Book of Common Prayer and the Great Ejection, when something like 20% of clergy were ejected from their livings because they could not in all conscience conform to what was then being imposed on them. Older readers may remember and may have read and even possess this volume that commemorated the 300th Anniversary. Back in 1962 the price was £1.75, which may have seemed a lot then, but what you got for the price were essays by two distinguished editors, plus others by Ernest Payne, the famous Baptist ecumenical leader, Bishop Oliver Tomkins of Bristol, John Huxtable, a founding father of the United Reformed Church, and others by eminent historians. Even the title still resonates, as we go on explaining that the goal of unity is not uniformity.