

TIMES 27/7/78

Report may help women to ordination

By Clifford Longley

The Lambeth Conference received yesterday the full text of a joint report on the ordination of women drawn up by Anglican and Roman Catholic theologians appointed by the two churches for the task. It is bound to be interpreted in Anglican quarters as tacit encouragement to accept the ordination of women throughout the Anglican world, and that could have a decisive influence on the Church of England.

It is the danger to relations with the Roman Catholic Church that has emerged as the Church of England's biggest worry as pressure for the ordination of women increases within its ranks.

Many other churches in the Anglican Communion have admitted women to the ministry.

Although the report makes clear that the Roman Catholic position is against woman priests, it indicates that that could be changed. It identifies two points that "may be seen as ground for hope", and they both imply the possibility that it is the Anglican Communion that is right, and the Roman Catholic Church wrong.

~~Text of report~~, page 4