

Local

2337

General Assembly of Church of Scotland-

May 24th. '56.

Edinburgh-- Before attending St Giles Cathedral for the opening service of the 72nd General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Lord High Commissioner- Mr Walter Elliot- inspected a Guard of Honour <sup>the</sup> of Royal Scots.

Delegates from five continents watched the traditional procession as it made its colourful way to the Assembly Hall- and among the distinguished guests was the Archbishop of Canterbury- Dr Fisher. Once again the splendour of the Lyon Court of Heraldry added to the time-honoured occasion- spanning four centuries ~~xxx~~ of Scottish Church history.

Then the Mace-bearer, who preceded the High Commissioner (the Queen's personal representative), was followed by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh. Inside the Hall, the new Moderator- the Right Rev Dr R.F.V. Scott <sup>of</sup> ~~St Columba's~~ <sup>Minister of</sup> St Columba's, Pont Street- London, was duly installed in office- ~~xxxx~~ taking over the Chair from his predecessor- Professor Henderson of ~~xxxxxxxx~~ Aberdeen University.

This year saw a notable departure from precedent- for it was the first time that a Minister from England was appointed a Moderator of the Church of Scotland.