My dear Bishop Sherrill:

As I think back over the year 1948, my first impression is that it was a year of "firsts". It was my first full year as Diocesan Bishop of Puerto Rico. I presided over my first Annual Convocation. It was the first year of the separation of the virgin islands from the district of Puerto Rico, and therefore the first all-Spanish Convocation, in which we could concentrate on purely Puerto Rican problems and opportunities in the language of the Church in Puerto Rico. I performed my first Ordination to the priesthood (The Rev. Wilbur Otis Fogg). I presided at the clothing of a Sister for the first time, and the first Sister to be clothed in the first Convent of the Episcopal Church in Puerto Rico (Ruth Clark, taking the name of Sister Teresa Ruth, in the Community of the Transfiguration, Ponce). I attended my first Lambeth Conference. And I, as it were, presided over the burial of my first bit of Policy making since becoming a Bishop—namely the abandonment (at least for a while) of any attempt to create and operate a local Seminary here.

After my first reaction to 1948 as being a year of "firsts", my second impression is that it was a year of many many conferences, with individuals and with groups, involving many trips as well as the receiving of many priests and workers at the office and in the home; the majority of the conferences having to do with problems, and the problems seeming to be outgrowths of a general restlessness, which in turn seems now to be based upon