

THE NEW PHILOSOPHY

VOL. LXV

JULY-SEPTEMBER, 1962

No. 3

TRANSACTIONS OF THE SIXTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SWEDENBORG SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

The Sixty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association was held at Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, May 16, 1962.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by the President, Prof. Edward F. Allen.

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were adopted as printed in the *NEW PHILOSOPHY* for July-September, 1961.

The Chairman appointed Mr. William R. Cooper a Committee on the Roll. Mr. Cooper later reported an attendance of 105, of whom 54 were members.

The Chairman then announced the appointment of Mr. Philip G. Cooper and Mr. E. Bruce Glenn as Judges of Election, and of Mr. Daniel L. Horigan and Mr. Kenneth Rose as the Nominating Committee.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Horigan, nominated Prof. Edward F. Allen for the office of president. There being no further nominations, the secretary cast an unanimous ballot for Professor Allen. Mr. Horigan then nominated the following for members of the Board of Directors:

Lennart O. Alfelt
E. Boyd Asplundh
Randolph W. Childs
Charles S. Cole
Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

W. Cairns Henderson
Morna Hyatt
Hugo Lj. Odhner
Joel Pitcairn
Kenneth Rose

Mr. Tomas H. Spiers was nominated from the floor. Nominations were closed and ballots were distributed. The Judges of Elections later reported the election of the following:

Lennart O. Alfelt	Morna Hyatt
E. Boyd Asplundh	Hugo Lj. Odhner
Charles S. Cole	Joel Pitcairn
W. Cairns Henderson	Kenneth Rose

Tomas H. Spiers

The Report of the Board of Directors was read and accepted.

The Report of the Treasurer was distributed, commented on by the Treasurer, and accepted. The following motion by Mr. R. W. Childs was passed.

Resolved: that this meeting recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the Treasurer in his discretion in billing present and future members for dues to advise them that while regular annual dues are now \$3.00, persons who desire to do so may, instead of paying such regular annual dues, pay contributing annual dues in such larger amount as he shall in his discretion from time to time propose.

The President then called on Dr. Odhner to present a gift and some flowers to Miss Beryl Briscoe in thanks for her many years of service to the organization as treasurer from 1947 to 1961 and for her work on the NEW PHILOSOPHY. He expressed the affection, admiration, and gratitude of the Board for her past work and appreciation of her present work as Curator of Swedenborgiana for the Academy.

The Vice-President, Mr. Cole, then took the chair.

Mr. Allen read the report of the Editorial Board and of the President.

The Secretary read reports from the Glenview Chapter and from the Toronto Philosophy Reading Group and said that Mr. Geoffrey Childs had reported that the Kitchener Chapter has been dormant because of activities in connection with their new church building. The chapter is still alive in the hearts of its members, and they intend to resume meetings within six months of the dedication of the new building.

Mr. Lennart Alfelt reported for the committee headed by Dr. Odhner that has been appointed to oversee preliminary studies by Mr. Bruce Rogers for the proposed translation of *The Brain*.

Mr. Allen then delivered an address entitled "Cause in Science." Following the address there were questions and comments by Messrs. Joel Pitcairn, Gerald Penner, Tomas Spiers, E. Bruce Glenn, Rev. Theodore Pitcairn, Rev. Philip N. Odhner, and Bishop W. D. Pendleton.

Respectfully submitted,

MORNA HYATT, *Secretary*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1961-1962

Since the last Annual Meeting of the Association, four meetings have been held: on May 17 and October 10, 1961, and on March 13 and May 16, 1962.

At the meeting on May 17, 1961, the following officers were elected:

Vice-President: Mr. Charles S. Cole
Secretary: Miss Morna Hyatt
Treasurer: Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh
Editorial Board: Mr. Edward F. Allen, *Executive Editor*
 Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr.
 Rev. W. Cairns Henderson
 Mr. Kenneth Rose

At other meetings the following matters were considered:

Preliminary study by Mr. Bruce Rogers of the translation of *The Brain*.

Republishing of certain pamphlets now out of print, especially Dr. H. Lj. Odhner's *Principles of the New Philosophy*.

Material for the NEW PHILOSOPHY.

Various matters of interest because of their connection with Swedenborg's philosophy or indicating possible sources of material or members for the organization.

Routine business.

Respectfully submitted,

MORNA HYATT, *Secretary*

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1962

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Receipts

Dues	\$793.79		
Subscriptions	<u>69.40</u>	\$863.19	
Contributions	<u>139.94</u>	\$1003.13	
Old Balance, May 17, 1961		<u>2093.34</u>	\$3096.47

Expenditures

Printing and mailing <i>three</i> issues of the NEW PHILOSOPHY *	\$ 930.39		
Office Expense	44.69	\$ 975.08	
Balance in General Account: April 30, 1962			<u>2121.39</u>

PUBLICATION ACCOUNT

Net proceeds from book sales ...	\$ 232.43		
Contributions	2000.00		
Interest—Savings account	<u>155.52</u>	\$2387.95	
Old Balance, May 17, 1961		<u>3805.49</u>	
Balance in Publication Account: April 30, 1962			<u>\$6193.44</u>
Total in both accounts			<u>\$8314.83</u>

MEMBERSHIP

23 new members—net gain of 5—New total	283
9 new subscribers—net gain of 2—New total	30

Anticipated yearly income from dues and fees based on these totals is \$900 (compare with \$1200 cost of publishing four issues of the NEW PHILOSOPHY).

* Printer's bill for the fourth issue not yet received. Average cost has been just over \$300 per issue.

BOOK SALES

The Animal Kingdom, 2 vols.	3 sets
Dock and Dam	1 copy
Economy of the Animal Kingdom, 2 vols.	2 sets
The Fibre	6 copies
Generation	4 "
The Infinite	2 "
Letters and Memorials of Emanuel Swedenborg, 2 vols.	3 sets
Mechanical Inventions	9 copies
Ontology	1 copy
Principia, 2 vols.	1 set
Prologue to the <i>Animal Kingdom</i>	3 copies
Psychologica	2 "
Psychological Transactions	2 "
Rational Psychology	8 "
Concordance of Selected Subjects in the <i>Rational Psychology</i>	23 "
The Senses	1 copy
Tremulation	2 copies
Scientific and Philosophical Treatises	1 copy
Swedenborg as a Physical Scientist (H. Dingle)	2 copies
Emanuel Swedenborg as a Geologist (A. G. Nathorst)	6 "
Emanuel Swedenborg, Anatomist and Physiologist (G. Retzius)	12 "
NEW PHILOSOPHY—Back issues	19 "

The General Account might also be referred to as the "NEW PHILOSOPHY Account." Here the cost of producing and mailing the magazine is balanced against the income received from dues, subscription fees, and minor contributions. Because this year's balance of \$2121. is slightly above that of last year, it would appear from a casual glance that income and expense relating to the NEW PHILOSOPHY do balance. However, it must be noted that the bill for the fourth issue had not arrived before the books were closed. I have that bill now, and because of the extra pages of index, it is in the neighborhood of \$390.

The Publication Account was first established when gifts were received which were earmarked for the publication of certain books.

During the past year, no publishing was done, and the only expenses in this account have been in connection with the sale of books. Thus the account has grown considerably. Large contributions were received from the Glencairn and Cairncrest Foundations. These were not specifically earmarked for publication, and might be used in the future to offset the NEW PHILOSOPHY deficit. In the meantime they help to swell the publication account, which draws interest from the Federal Savings and Loan Association.

A little experience in trying to attract new members and subscribers leads me to believe that it will be some time before the NEW PHILOSOPHY is on a self-sustaining basis at the present rates. However, our balances are large enough that this is not a pressing problem. Members should be aware that the magazine does not pay for itself, and that additional membership would help. The treasurer would be happy to receive names of possible candidates.

Respectfully submitted,

E. BOYD ASPLUNDH, *Treasurer*

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

At a meeting of the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting on May 16, 1962, the following officers were elected:

Vice-President: Mr. Charles S. Cole

Editorial Board: Mr. Edward F. Allen, *Executive Editor*

Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

Rev. W. Cairns Henderson

Mr. Kenneth Rose

Treasurer: Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh

Secretary: Miss Morna Hyatt

Mr. Tomas Spiers and Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt were welcomed as new members of the Board, and appreciation was expressed for the retiring members, Mr. Randolph W. Childs and Rev. David J. Garrett.

MORNA HYATT, *Secretary*

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND EDITOR

I became Editor of the *NEW PHILOSOPHY* in January of 1961. Since that time five issues have been mailed. Copy for the sixth issue is complete and is now in preparation for the printer.

Five authors not previously represented in our journal have appeared in these issues. The subjects have been broader than usual, and the utmost of encouragement has been given potential writers to prepare articles that might contribute to New Church philosophy.

Our association needs leadership, needs academic leadership much more than it needs administrative leadership. And academic leadership is provided by the work of many, not of just a few. As things are, however, we have to be content for a time with the contributions of a few. But it is my hope that the *NEW PHILOSOPHY* will someday soon become an inspiration to many others to study and write in New Church philosophy. The problems that await this study are many.

During the past year there has been a noticeable improvement in our potential. Mr. Donald Fitzpatrick and Mr. Kenneth Rose have done fine work as associate editors—taking over all raw copy from me and seeing it through the press. This is a job I could not do myself.

Mr. Boyd Asplundh has been a most useful addition to the Board. As Treasurer he has shown a fine spirit and efficient manner in his conduct of that office. Without any prompting he has taken over a task which had been suggested before he was on the Board—Corresponding Secretary for the Association. For this I thank him.

A use begun this year primarily under the prompting of the Vice-President, Mr. Cole, is the preliminary study of the translation of *The Brain*. Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner and Mr. Lennart Alfelt have been appointed by the President as an Advisory Committee in this study.

In addition to these concrete things that are signs of improvement there is something that I believe more important than they for the eventual performance of the uses for which this association was founded. This is what appears to be an awakening of interest in the use and the purpose of New Church philosophy.

In recent months I have heard an increased number of interesting comments on articles published in the *NEW PHILOSOPHY*. Some of these I believe will stimulate further contributions. In other words I do not feel the somewhat cheerless approach of deadlines for copy that I felt on occasions before. It is true we are not flooded with material—but now if anything holds our journal up it is rather the lack of time on the part of us that have to get things ready editorially. For each of us it is an extra job and we have to do the best we can.

Another source of encouragement is that I have sensed an awakening of interest in New Church philosophy among younger men. As I write these words I think of several who of their own volition have asked to submit material or have made constructive suggestions. In each case they approach philosophy with an affirmative attitude and this is somewhat in contrast to an attitude that has been much in evidence during the decade previous. Three of these are now doing graduate work in some field and two are nearing college graduation. None have entered their professional uses yet but they hold promise for a brighter future.

Still another source—not directly associated with the Association, but under that body which in the past has been to a large extent a source of the life of that Association—the Academy of the New Church has during the last year sponsored an activity which no doubt will be productive of things that will support the same uses as the Association is interested in. Under the active sponsorship of its President, Bishop Willard Pendleton, and the Dean of the Theological School, Dr. Hugo Odhner, a series of meetings have been held discussing problems of New Church philosophy. Ten people have taken an active interest in these discussions during the past year, and plans are already made for future meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD F. ALLEN

CHAPTER REPORTS

There are more reading groups, study groups, and classes in the Immanuel Church of **Glenview** than in former years, but our chapter of the Association has had a somewhat better attendance than last year, and that showed a better attendance than immediately preceding years.

We had one meeting of a very special character when Mr. Gustav Genzlinger was on a visit here, and gave us an illustrated talk on the model he constructed of Swedenborg's airplane and on the methods Swedenborg used in constructing a dry dock. At other meetings we have continued to read *The Word Explained* and the issues of the **NEW PHILOSOPHY**. However, other matters have been brought in during parts of our evenings. While Pastor Acton was giving a series of doctrinal addresses in the Society on Church Government, he brought us tidbits of church history which he had gleaned in his research.

VICTOR J. GLADISH

Once again the Philosophy Reading Group of **Toronto** are pleased to report that we have had an increase in our attendance and in the number of meetings held this year.

We have had a variety of papers and subjects including *The Essence of Swedenborg's Philosophy* by the Rev. Erik Sandstrom before it appeared in the **NEW PHILOSOPHY**. The address by Mr. Kurt Nemitz on Emmanuel Kant was most interesting and has opened up further possibilities for our future activities.

The year's statistics are:

22 members in the Group

12 average attendance

5 meetings.

We look forward to another successful year.

MARY CHARLES