

EDITORIAL REMARKS

In this Issue

Articles on ethics are rare in this journal, so it is a pleasure for us to include Rev. Dr. Horand Gutfeldt's article on the virtue of humility. In a world so rife with arrogance in all of society, it is timely for us to give serious thought to humility's nature and importance.

The article on Swedenborg's influence in political movements reflects the fact of his hidden presence in human thought. I suppose it could be argued that ideas expressed by everyone, in varying degrees, find their way to being influential. But it is perhaps not insignificant that in two very important respects—political freedom and the use of reason—Swedenborg should be present. In regard to reason, I refer to the continuing treatise on Swedenborg's hidden influence on Kant; and the significance of Kant in directing thought about the nature and role of reason cannot be underestimated, particularly as it finds expression in molding the character of modern universities.

In Notes and Comments we have two letters. The first, from Rev. Erik Sandstrom, Sr., gives a lucid picture of the political circumstances in Sweden that surrounded Swedenborg's life. The second, by Mrs. Rachel Odhner, expresses her appreciation for the translation of Swedenborg's *De Sale Communi*. I find the work interesting from the perspective of the history of science (chemistry and geology in particular), and as it discloses Swedenborg's own scientific outlook. I am delighted to read in Mrs. Odhner's response other ways to appreciate its significance.

A New Journal

Attention is drawn to *Arcana. Inner Dimensions of Spirituality*. In the Introduction to the first issue, we read that "the contributors to *Arcana* illustrate the essential unity of Divine truth as it has been revealed since time immemorial, and they indicate how that truth...has been presented in its fullest, clearest, and most consistent form in the revelation given through Emanuel Swedenborg." This attractive quarterly with its focus on religious thought is a timely complement to journals produced by Swedenborg societies and New Church organizations. Subscriptions: \$15 (USA), \$20 (elsewhere). Write to Rev. Leonard Fox, Editor, Swedenborg Association, Box 533, Bryn Athyn, PA 19009.