

EDITORIAL REMARKS

In This Issue

In November, 2002, Rev. Dr. John Durban Odhner passed into the spiritual world after a long life of devotion to the New Church. Dr. Odhner was editor of *Translator's Corner*, a department he established in 1980. In this issue we include a tribute in his memory there.

The one hundred and fifth Annual Meeting of the Association was held on April 20, 2002. Transactions of the meeting are included in this issue, together with the Treasurer's Report.

The Annual Address titled "Are Quantum Physics and Spirituality related?" was given by Prof. Ian Thompson of the University of Surrey, England. Dr. Thompson observes in his introduction that "An urgent reason for discussing this link is that some people want to *identify* these things." He then proceeds to explore the connection between them from a New Church perspective.

Dr. Dan Synnestvedt, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Bryn Athyn College says in "Swedenborg and Ancient Philosophy," "The subject of this essay is ancient and modern wisdom, especially concerning the existence and powers of the soul." He explores what both the pre-theological works and the theological Writings of Swedenborg have to say about wisdom, both ancient and modern. In doing so he draws on Swedenborg's *A Philosopher's Note Book*, a posthumous work edited by Alfred Acton, and subtitled *Excerpts from Philosophical Writers and from the Sacred Scriptures on a Variety of Philosophical Subjects; together with some Reflections, and Sundry Notes and Memoranda*.

Rev. Erik E. Sandstrom brings a form of symbolic logic to the pages of the journal for the first time in recent memory in "Logic, Pascals's Wager, and Theodicy." Early on he states that "The problem with believing that God exists . . . is that so does evil. That is the 'theodicy' problem, a term invented by Leibnitz: If God is good, why is there evil? How can a good God create a universe in which there is evil?" The article addresses fundamental philosophic aspects of the physical universe and of humanity. The subheadings "Ex Nihilo vs. Ex Ipso," "Time and Space," "Foreknowledge and Freewill," "Origin of Evil: [Humanity's] invention," clearly indicate this.