

# THE NEW PHILOSOPHY

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No. 3

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## TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

## SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

## SWEDENBORG SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

The Sixty-eighth Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association was held at Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday, May 12, 1965. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by the President, Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

The minutes of the last Annual meeting were adopted as printed in the *NEW PHILOSOPHY* of July-September, 1964.

The Chairman announced the appointment of Mr. William R. Cooper as Committee on the Roll. Mr. Cooper later reported that 55 members and 30 guests were in attendance.

The Chairman called on Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt to report for the Nominating Committee consisting of Mr. Alfelt and Mr. E. Bruce Glenn. Mr. Alfelt referred to the letter sent out by the Committee on April 27, presenting the following slate:

For President: Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr.

For Members of the Board of Directors:

Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt

Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner

Mr. Edward F. Allen

Mr. Joel Pitcairn

Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh

Mr. Kenneth Rose

Rev. W. Cairns Henderson

Mr. Tomas H. Spiers

Mr. Charles S. Cole

There having been no further names submitted to the Committee, Mr. Alfelt placed the above list in nomination. It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously that the secretary cast a ballot for the nominees, and they were declared elected.

The Treasurer's Report had been distributed. The Treasurer, Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh, announced that the General Account and the Publication Account have been combined and that membership now stands at 297 with 44 additional subscribers and 50 to 60 free copies of the NEW PHILOSOPHY going to libraries, etc.

The Secretary read the Report of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Edward F. Allen reported as Editor.

Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt gave a report for the Committee on Translations.

The Secretary read a report from the Glenview Chapter.

On motion, the reports were accepted.

Mr. Fitzpatrick announced that work is under way to bring the index of the NEW PHILOSOPHY up to date and to revise the index for the first 50 years.

Mr. Allen reported on a motion in the earlier Board of Directors meeting to send greetings to Randolph W. Childs, Esq., who was ill in the hospital.

The Chairman then called on Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner, who delivered the Annual Address entitled: "The Racial Man and the Human Form of Society."

In the discussion following the paper, Prof. E. Bruce Glenn questioned Dr. Odhner's statement that the modern mind is contemptuous of metaphor. He believes that there is today a new interest in symbol and myth and in what Jung called the collective consciousness. Yeats and his predecessors, Coleridge and Blake, depended on the foundation of ancient lore. This suggests a

fruitful field for the New Church philosopher. Mr. Glenn acknowledged Doctor Odhner's statement that doctrine is not to be drawn from correspondences, and yet we can take heart in the movement that frees the mind from fact and wakes it to a higher vision on the rational plane.

Prof. Charles S. Cole said that as a teacher of the course in the human body in the Boys' School he has always been conscious of a debt to Dr. Odhner. Prof. Cole sees definite evidence of the contempt for metaphor spoken of in the address. Allegory is all right for playing with, but is not real. There is ridicule for the man who sees God in the human form. No one would dare to present a speech like Dr. Odhner's to a learned society. Dismal and foolish efforts are made to demonstrate that life comes from the chance organization of matter. Only rarely is it pointed out that such efforts are an improper application of the laws of probability.

Dr. William R. Kintner believes that the world is not as bleak as described by Dr. Odhner and Prof. Cole. Political scientists are coming more and more to the anthropomorphic point of view of society, and systems engineers treat nations as human beings.

In his response Dr. Odhner emphasized that it is the *pragmatic* mind that has contempt for metaphor, and people are becoming more pragmatic. The field of metaphor has become confined to such areas as literature. All of us, at times when we feel the need to express something inexpressible, turn to picturesque speech and poetry. He closed with an expression of his lifelong delight in studying the human body and its spiritual counterparts.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

MORNA HYATT, *Secretary*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

for year ending April 30, 1965

BALANCE—May 1, 1964		\$8,551.67
<i>Plus Receipts 1964/65</i>		
Dues .....	\$ 674.92	
Subscription Fees .....	66.78	
Contributions .....	437.00	
Book Sales .....	241.97	
Interest .....	271.41	
	<hr/>	1,692.08
<i>Less Expenditures 1964/65</i>		
NEW PHILOSOPHY—3 Issues .....	\$1,150.40	
Editorial Expense* .....	982.20	
Office Expense .....	72.00	
	<hr/>	2,204.60
BALANCE—April 30, 1965		<hr/> \$8,039.15

(Of this amount, approximately \$7,000 is deposited with the Huntingdon Valley Savings & Loan Association.)

## BOOK SALES

The Animal Kingdom .	2 Sets	The Senses .....	6
Dock & Dam .....	6	Principia .....	1 Set
The Fibre .....	8	Prologue to Animal	
Generation .....	5	Kingdom .....	6
Letters & Memorials		Psychological	
3 Sets plus 2 Vol. II		Transactions .....	8
Mechanical Inventions .	6	Rational Psychology ..	11
Ontology .....	1	Concordance .....	2
Economy of the Animal Kingdom .....	4 Sets		
Scientific & Philosophical Treatises .....	1		
NEW PHILOSOPHY—Back Issues .....	61		

\* Includes work on *The Brain* and compilation of NEW PHILOSOPHY index.

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Since the last annual meeting, the Board of Directors has held four meetings: on May 13 and October 20, 1964, and on March 23 and May 12, 1965.

At the meeting of May 13, 1964, the following officers were elected:

*Vice-President:* Mr. Charles S. Cole  
*Secretary:* Miss Morna Hyatt  
*Treasurer:* Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh  
*Editor:* Mr. Edward F. Allen

At other meetings the following topics were considered:

Material for the NEW PHILOSOPHY.  
 Indexing the NEW PHILOSOPHY.  
 Policy on reprinting articles.  
 The composition of the Board of Directors.  
 Business matters.

Respectfully submitted,

MORNA HYATT, *Secretary*

## OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

At a meeting of the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting on May 12, 1965, the following officers were re-elected:

*Vice-President:* Mr. Charles S. Cole  
*Secretary:* Miss Morna Hyatt  
*Treasurer:* Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh  
*Editor:* Mr. Edward F. Allen

MORNA HYATT, *Secretary*

## REPORT OF THE EDITOR

The mailing of the NEW PHILOSOPHY has again fallen behind. The work of getting out the NEW PHILOSOPHY is extra work for all who contribute to that task—over and above their regular work. We ought to stop apologizing for this, I suppose, and marvel when an issue is published.

Copy for the first two quarters of 1965 is prepared, and both numbers are in the process of going through the press.

The April issue will be devoted to a revised edition of Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner's "Principles of the New Philosophy" which was originally published in 1941.

Again I wish to thank Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick Jr., Mr. Kenneth Rose, and Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt for their work in seeing the NEW PHILOSOPHY through the press.

EDWARD F. ALLEN

## REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSLATIONS

During the last summer, Mr. N. Bruce Rogers continued the translation of Codex 55, *De Cerebro*. A section of the work beginning with no. 189 and finishing with no. 215, inclusive, was translated. In addition, Mr. Rogers wrote some 200 notes pertaining to the text translated.

Since Mr. Rogers, as a candidate for the ministry, will be occupied with Society work most of the coming summer, he will have but little time, if any, to continue his translation work. When it can be resumed on a more regular basis is at present uncertain.

Respectfully submitted,

LENNART O. ALFELT

## REPORT OF THE GLENVIEW CHAPTER

With the coming of the Rev. Alfred Acton as resident minister at Sharon Church and assistant in Glenview, Pastor King arranged that the Rev. Kurt Nemitz would take up material from the NEW PHILOSOPHY with our Chapter on the first Thursday of each month. On the remaining Thursdays, Mr. Acton would lead us in our continued study of Swedenborg's *Rational Psychology*. This has proved a happy arrangement, for the material in Bishop De Charms's lectures on the philosophy of Swedenborg's *Principia* has been helpful to us in understanding the *Rational Psychology*, while the Rev. Alfred Acton has studied the work under Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner, and helps us to an understanding of its place in Swedenborg's philosophical system and its relation to the teaching of the Writings.

For several years all of our meetings had been held at the hospitable and very suitable home of Mr. Henry Maynard, but in February he had to go to the hospital for observation and treatment. In spite of his advanced age, he spoke of being back soon as host so we did not at once arrange for other meeting places but missed a couple of meetings. When it became evident that his condition was more serious, we began to meet at the homes of different members in rotation. Near the end of March he passed to the spiritual world, a promotion for him, but a keenly felt loss to the Philosophy Group.

VICTOR J. GLADISH