

Judge for yourself what your worth is and then forget other judgments. You can estimate your worth by your will and understanding as shown in the use you are performing. Trust your reason to judge for you whether you are doing what is right to attain the goal in your mind. When this goal has been activated by your own love and visualized in your imagination, judged by your reason and rationality, then your will and understanding will be geared to take over. The will can push the project through, and the understanding will sift knowledges and throw out all that are not serviceable to your project. When your synchronized mind is working toward a use, then you will be ready for the illustration that is your gift that will add peace, love, beauty, wisdom, happiness, or comfort to the world.

OPEN HOUSE OF SWEDENBORGIANA LIBRARY

ACADEMY OF THE NEW CHURCH

On the evening of October 20, 1966, Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner, Head of Swedenborgiana Research, opened a meeting attended by alumni and friends of the Academy of the New Church in its auditorium in Benade Hall as follows:

Friends of the Academy:

On behalf of the Academy, I welcome you this evening for a brief view of one of its enterprises—generally referred to as “Swedenborgiana Research.” Our hope is that before this evening is over you may obtain a clearer idea of this name or title.

In the first “Announcement” of the Academy of the New Church in 1878, it was stated that one of its purposes was “to collect, publish, and preserve the manuscripts and the original editions of those Writings which constitute the second advent of the Lord.” And in the Charter itself, one of the purposes of the Academy is stated to be “establishing a library.” It was hoped that this library would include—beside the usual literature needed by an educational institution which was to meet the needs of all ages and interests—copies of all the works of Swedenborg the philosopher as well as the theologian, in their *original editions*, as well as all his own known *letters* and *manuscripts* and *photographic copies* of the same, and “all documents bearing upon his life and character.”

Dr. Odhner, after describing in general terms the relation of the Swedenborgiana Library to the library of the Academy, introduced the Academy librarian, Miss Lois E. Stebbing.

Miss Stebbing on her part also welcomed the guests. She then described the various divisions of what is known as "Swedenborgiana" and also related some of the personal efforts of the several Academy librarians over the past sixty years to collect and preserve the collections.

Dr. Odhner then concluded the meeting with a brief description of the nature of the exhibition prepared by the staff of Swedenborgiana Research and invited the guests over to its new quarters in Pitcairn Hall.

Much of what has been published in the NEW PHILOSOPHY is based upon source material that is now a part of what is known in the book and manuscript collections of the Academy of the New Church as "Swedenborgiana." Furthermore the only physical possessions of the Swedenborg Scientific Association consist of manuscript reproductions placed for safe keeping in the Academy's library. It is therefore of special interest to the association to follow the development and use of the collections belonging to the Swedenborgiana library.

Consequently while visiting the Swedenborgiana Open House I felt that it would be a loss not to have a record preserved of the program that was prepared by the research staff of Swedenborgiana, Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner, Miss Beryl G. Briscoe and Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt.

I therefore asked Mr. Alfelt to prepare for NEW PHILOSOPHY readers an introduction to the meaning of "Open House" at the Academy Charter Days and also a running commentary on the exhibits themselves.

To this I have added a list prepared by Miss Briscoe of some of the items that were on display, with which she has worked during her long association with Dr. Alfred Acton and on which she has continued to work since his death. Special emphasis of course is given *Selectae Sententiae* because it was the item on which she was working at the time. The work has since appeared in the January issue of NEW PHILOSOPHY.

In addition I obtained permission from the librarian, Miss Stebbing, to take from her remarks to the visitors a brief description of the several divisions of Swedenborgiana.

E. F. A.