

TRANSACTIONS OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

The meeting held in the Cairnwood Village dining room, Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania was called to order at 5:00 P.M. on May 13, 2000, with some seventy members and friends present.

In his welcome address, President Reuben Bell spoke of the opportunities he has experienced to introduce others to Swedenborg's scientific works while teaching in the graduate school one day a week at the University of New England College of Osteopathy in Biddenford, Maine. In the right place at the right time, Dr. Bell was able to talk about and direct medical students and researchers interested in historical knowledge of the brain to Swedenborg's 1742 treatise, *The Brain*. Swedenborg's purpose is to see spirit in nature. The process, the methodology he uses—with one foot in objective science, the other foot in spirit—while he is attempting to explain nature, is orderly, rational and legitimate. Even though we don't actually see the spirit in the pre-theological works, our mission to keep the scientific and philosophical works of Swedenborg in print, available to scholars, and to encourage scholarship in them, is vital.

The minutes of the meeting of January 24th were corrected to include Rev. Stephen Cole as present at the meeting, prior to approval.

Reports

Dr. Allen Bedford presented his Treasurer's Report for 1999 which included a budget for 2000, and Dr. Erland Brock presented his Publisher's Report; these are included elsewhere in this issue.

Nominating Committee's Report

Mrs. Aubrey C. Odhner as chair of the committee reported that Dr. Dan Synnestvedt replaced the late Dr. Grant Doering as vice president and Rev. Stephen Cole was appointed to the board to fill Dr. Synnestvedt's seat. Rev. Dr. Reuben Bell was elected President. Rt. Rev. Alfred Action, Rev. Dr. Jonathon Rose, and Dr. James Pendleton were elected to the board for another term.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR PROFESSOR EDWARD F. ALLEN

Prof. Donald C Fitzpatrick, Jr.

Professor Edward Franklin Allen passed into the spiritual world on February 19, 2000, at the age of 92. His involvement with the Swedenborg Scientific Association spanned six decades from the 1930s to the 1990s. During that time he served as President of the Association from May 1949 to May 1963 and from May 1972 to May 1979, and as Editor of *The New Philosophy* from 1959 to 1970. His “Philosophical Notes” were a regular feature of that journal beginning in 1955 and numbered more than 475 when the last of them was published in 1990.

In these notes, as in the many other articles and addresses he produced, Professor Allen’s aim was to encourage others to study and think about philosophical ideas whether they were found in the writings of ancient Greeks or in the writings of the Existentialists and other modern thinkers. But above all, he sought to interest others in the philosophy of Swedenborg and in those ideas in the theological writings for the New Church that explain the true relationship between the two foundations of truth—nature and the revealed Word of God.

We who are gathered for this 103rd annual meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association record here our gratitude for Professor Allen’s many contributions to the work of the S.S.A. and our hope that the spirit in which he made those contributions may inspire us to continue to support its uses.

**MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR
DR. GRANT RICHARDSON DOERING**

Rev. Dr. Reuben P. Bell

The Swedenborg Scientific Association marked the passing of its first century with the passing of Dr. Grant Doering, board member, secretary, and friend. In memory and appreciation for this man’s forty years of dedication and service to the SSA, the following is read into the minutes of the 2000 Annual Meeting.

Grant Richardson Doering, scientist, philosopher, dedicated New Churchman, and tireless worker in the cause, personified the quality of character that comes from a life according to the principles of the New Revelation. His long and magnanimous service to the Swedenborg Scientific Association will long be an inspiration to all who share its mission. For this we are grateful for the time he spent among us.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Prof. Edward Allen and Dr. Grant Doering.

Annual Address

The Annual Address was presented by Mr. George Gantz, titled "A Discussion of Modern Philosophy: The Trend to Naturalism, and Swedenborg—A Philosophy for the Third Millennium?" Following the presentation, Mr. Gantz responded to questions from the floor, and members expressed appreciation for his address. The meeting was closed at 9:00 P.M. The address is published in this issue.

Board Meeting

Present: Rev. Dr. Reuben Bell, Dr. Alan Bedford, Dr. Erland Brock, Mrs. Aubrey C. Odhner, Rev. S. Cole, Mrs. Rae Friesen, Rev. Kurt Nemitz, Dr. James Pendleton, Rev. Eric E. Sandstrom, Dr. Dan Synnestvedt.

It was moved and seconded that Lisa Synnestvedt be assistant treasurer to Dr. Bedford, our treasurer.

Mrs. Odhner suggested that the presidential term be extended from the current 1-year term to a 3-year term. The board agreed and this amendment to the bylaws will be voted on by the membership at the next annual meeting. Rev. Stephen Cole, an appointee, will be proposed for election at that meeting also.

At our next meeting Dr. Bell would like to draft a resolution of the board and letter to Rev. Dr. Woofenden who will be resigning after many years of service to the SSA.

Next Meeting: September 18th, 8:00 P.M. Swedenborg Library

Respectfully submitted,
Rae Freisen, *Secretary*

PUBLISHER'S REPORT

I would like to pay tribute to Miss Alice Fritz who for many years served as one of our proofreaders. She brought to this work not only expertise but also a keen interest in the contents of the articles and books that she proofed for us. Her spirit was an inspiration, and the association is most grateful for the substantial contribution she made to its life.

During the past year the part-time work force has been increased. In addition to the professional work of Mrs. Kirsten Gyllenhaal in journal and book desktop publishing and other services, we have Mrs. Lisa Synnestvedt acting as assistant treasurer and membership secretary, Rev. Kurt Nemitz responsible for book scanning and website maintenance, and Mr. Ned Asplundh designing dust jackets. In addition, the editorial board oversees publishing work. In particular, Prof. Don Fitzpatrick's input on book design questions is especially appreciated.

I want to express special appreciation to Kirsten Gyllenhaal. We have a gem in our midst; she keeps the show on the road in many ways.

It was with regret that we received the resignation of Dr. William R. Woofenden whose circumstances have dictated against his being able to be with us on a regular basis. During Bill's chairmanship of the publication committee the association has produced a number of important works with new front matter prepared by him: revised editions of Swedenborg's *Psychological Transactions*, *Scientific and Philosophical Treatises*, and *Rational Psychology* (now being prepared for the press). Also with Prof. Charles Cole he edited a new edition of Hugo Odhner's *Principles of the New Philosophy*. In addition, he authored *Swedenborg Researcher's Manual*, a work rich in detail about Swedenborg's literary output as well as in commentary on important ideas found in it. Finally, Norman Newton's book was shepherded to readiness for publication under Bill's editorial eye.

A word or two about future publishing. Over the years book-length treatises have appeared in the journal, and two of them have been published as books by the SSA—Dan Goodenough's *Providence and Freewill in Human Action* and Norman Berridge's *Natural Basis of Spiritual Reality*, both out of print. Others are the first translation into English of

Swedenborg's *On Common Salt* (the Latin is also ready for publication), Carl Sjoden's *Swedenborg in France*, Gottlieb Florschütz's *The Hidden Influence of Swedenborg on Immanuel Kant*, and—beginning publication in the upcoming issue of *The New Philosophy*—Ernst Benz's *Spiritual Vision and Revelation*. These are all worthy of publication in book form. In addition, we have the responsibility of getting into print a new edition of Swedenborg's work on the brain, of *Tremulation*, and of *A Philosopher's Notebook* as well as other works now out of print. So clearly the association has its work cut out for it.

None of this could be accomplished without the on-going support of our membership which, over the years, has placed its faith in our collective ability to get the job done. For this the association is most grateful

Respectfully submitted,
Erland J. Brock, *Publisher*

TREASURER'S REPORT

for year ending December 31, 1999

OPERATING FUND

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1998	\$13,865.99
Plus Receipts	
Publication Fund Reimbursements	13,845.00
Annual Appeal	9,995.77
Dues	4,108.96
Book Sales	3,080.29
Special Events	476.00
Interest	<u>337.02</u>
Total	31,843.04
Less Expenses	
<i>New Philosophy</i>	8,687.86
Payments for Book Publishing	8,256.58
Wages	4,975.07
Editorial Expenses	2,800.00
Computer	1,771.88
Office Expenses	641.84
Special Events	490.00
Newsletter	368.67
Postage	268.40
Annual Appeal	237.44
Speaker's Honorarium	100.00
Travel	75.00
State Registration Fee	<u>15.00</u>
Total	28,687.74
BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1999	\$17,021.29

OPERATING FUND ALLOCATION

First Union Checking Account	\$9,468.97
Vanguard Fund #30—Prime Money Market	\$7,552.32

PUBLICATION FUND

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1998	\$39,249.55
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Plus Receipts

Payout From Endowment	10,000.00
Reinvested Dividend	1,108.93
Interest	<u>347.92</u>

Total	11,456.85
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Less Expenses

Wages	13,692.23
Computer Equipment	3,900.00
Operating Fund Overhead	4,740.00
Research	76.27
Account fee	<u>65.27</u>

Total	22,473.77
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BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1999	\$28,232.63
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PUBLICATION FUND ALLOCATION

Vanguard Group Investments

Fund 21—Wellington	\$18,100.55
Fund 33—Federal Portfolio Money Market	\$4,760.87

First Union Checking Account	\$5,371.21
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ENDOWMENT FUND

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1998 \$239,123.92

Plus Receipts

Reinvested Dividend 13,208.12

Price Gain 36,714.76

Total 49,922.88

Less Expenses

Payout to Publication Fund 10,000.00

Transfer fee 228.51

Total 10,228.51

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1999 \$278,818.29

ENDOWMENT FUND ALLOCATION

Vanguard Group Investments

Fund 9—Index Growth \$65,712.03

Fund 29—High-Yield Corp. Bond \$23,124.76

Fund 40—Index 500 \$65,981.77

Fund 52—Health Care \$11,966.47

Fund 59—PrimeCap \$66,447.67

Fund 84—Total Bond Market \$21,076.50

Fund 114—Horizon Aggressive Growth \$24,509.09

Respectfully submitted
Allen J. Bedford, *Treasurer*