

TRANSACTIONS OF THE NINETIETH ANNUAL MEETING

Swedenborg Scientific Association

The Ninetieth Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association was called to order by President Charles S. Cole, Jr. on Monday, April 27, 1987, at approximately 8:00 p.m. in the Pendleton Hall Auditorium of the Academy of the New Church, Bryn Athyn, Pennsylvania. Over seventy members and guests were in attendance.

The Minutes of the previous annual meeting held on Monday, April 28, 1986, were accepted as published in *The New Philosophy*, vol. 89, no. 3, page 125.

The Secretary reported on the activities and decisions of the Board of Directors during the past academic year, 1986-1987. Details are set forth in this issue under the heading, "Report of the Board of Directors."

The Editor of *The New Philosophy* presented his customary report, and that report is likewise set forth in detail within this issue under the heading, "Editor's Report."

Inasmuch as the Treasurer does not close his books until the end of April, this completed report appears in *The New Philosophy* under the Heading of "Treasurer's Report."

The Nominating Committee consisting of Dr. Gregory L. Baker, Dr. Grant R. Doering, and Mr. Jerome V. Sellner placed Prof. Charles S. Cole, Jr. in nomination for President together with the following for election to the Board of Directors: Dr. Gregory L. Baker, Dr. Grant R. Doering, Dr. Charles H. Ebert, Rev. Daniel W. Goodenough, Rev. Andrew J. Heilman, Rev. Willard L. D. Heinrichs, James L. Pendleton, M.D., Rev. Donald L. Rose, and Rev. Dr. William R. Woofenden. All of the above were duly elected by unanimous ballot.

This year's speaker was Rev. Stephen D. Cole, addressing the meeting on the subject, "Swedenborg's Psychology and the Cerebellum." Prior to commencing his address Rev. Cole expressed special appreciation to Prof. Edward F. Allen for fifty years of service as an active member and former president of the Association. The full text of the address will appear in a later issue of *The New Philosophy*.

Respectfully submitted,
Jerome V. Sellner, *Secretary*

EDITORS REPORT

This report has three parts. The first has to do with our purposes, the second with copy for this year's volume of the journal, and the third with the distribution of our publications.

Purposes

I recently engaged in an enquiry into the purposes of the association and the journal. My interest in doing this arose from the desire to feature a statement on these in the first number of the journal for 1987, from a discussion in a recent SSA board meeting, and from the expression of some views about the journal by one of our members. However, after some discussion of some aspects of the history of the association, it became evident that the topic deserved more attention than I was able to give it at the time. And furthermore, an enquiry into purposes as they relate to the association and journal now, needs careful consideration by the board as a whole. We hope to be able to publish the product of these deliberations without too much delay.

The New Philosophy, Vol. 90, 1987

The first two issues for the year are close to being ready for the press. It is our hope that the first will appear in May, and the second in June.

Copy in hand for this year's volume as a whole includes:

De Sale Cornmuni translation

Analysis of the development of Swedenborg's philosophical thought

Analysis of the *journal of Dreams*

Application of the doctrine of correspondences

Completion of the series on "order"

A study of the relation of religion and science

A study of the gospel of John and the Dead Sea Scrolls

A talk on the nature of the true philosopher

Continuation of a New Church epistemology study

Annual reports

We note that during the period 1983-86, issues on the average had 51.5 pp., while during 1986, they had 55.5 pp. I expect all issues for this year to have a like number of pages as last year's. Our printer,

Mr. Richard McCollum of the General Church Press, says that with the present form of binding, 64 pp. is the maximum that can be handled to preserve the present quality of the journal. With this in mind, and with the current flow of copy for consideration, authors can expect a delay of 12 months or so between the time of original submission and publication.

The publication of each issue of the journal involves many people. Aside from the editorial board, we have a network of helpers who kindly give time and their expertise in refereeing articles and proofreading—and in this latter regard we wish to extend special thanks to Miss Alice Fritz—and the staff of the General Church Press who do a superb job in the production of each issue. To all these people we express our sincere thanks.

Distribution

The purposes of the association include preservation, translation, publication, and distribution. We do the first well enough; translation continues; we have published books in 1983, '84, '86, and '87; and we distribute our publications. It is in this last area that there is room for improvement.

I refer you to the list of works sold in 1986—not a great record. I urge the association to set up an improved marketing organization, centered on our new business manager, and drawing on the expertise of management and marketing people in the Bryn Athyn community. We have a stockroom filled with literally thousands of copies of works we have published. We need to determine who our clientele is for each item on our inventory list, and set about letting that clientele know what we have to offer. We as human beings find a lot to be excited about in Swedenborg's works and in related material. There are another 3 billion or so human beings like us out there. If you and I are impressed by what we have to offer, could it not be that many others would be too?

We are planning to have a display at the Assembly, at which I hope we can not only advertise our works, but also sell them. For this latter purpose, we need volunteers to man the display. Anyone interested could contact Edward Gyllenhaal or myself.

Respectfully submitted,
Erland J. Brock, *Editor*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Since the time of the last Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors of the Swedenborg Scientific Association met at three regular meetings for the transaction of business. These meetings were on 11/4/86, 2/10/87, and 4/27/87. A summary of the activities and decisions follows, herewith:

Work in Progress

Research Grant Program under the supervision of Dr. Gregory L. Baker.

1. Translation from Latin to English of Swedenborg's *De Sale Communi* by Mr. Michael V. David and Dr. J. Durban Odhner. About half the work is already in print in *The New Philosophy*, and the translation of the rest is now undergoing review.

2. Biblical Interpretation in the Age of Swedenborg by Richard L. Goerwitz III. Specifically, work is focusing on the original pronunciation of the Divine Name "Jehovah."

3. Translation from French to English of the Personal Letters of Rene Descartes by Paul Funk and assistants.

The Natural Basis for Spiritual Reality by Norman J. Berridge originally appeared as a series of articles in *The New Philosophy* under the heading, "Thinking from Correspondences." Color printed diagrams are currently being completed at the General Church Press and publication is anticipated shortly.

The Swedenborg Scientific Association agreed to undertake fifty-one percent, that is to say primary publication of Rev. Dr. Woffenden's *Swedenborg Researcher's Manual*, with others, as yet unnamed, as co-publishers. This will be a bound book and several hundred copies will be printed.

A Catalog of Publications is being prepared so as to list those publications available through the Swedenborg Scientific Association. Edward Gyllenhaal is being retained as business manager to oversee this project as well as others being handled by the Association.

Complimentary copies of Swedenborg's Scientific Works continue to be disseminated to College and Theological students at the Academy of the New Church and at the Swedenborg School of Religion.

Completed Matters

A new edition of *Principles of the New Philosophy* by Hugo Lj. Odhner was completed this year. The new edition has a more attractive external appearance, a preface, title page, table of contents, and key to abbreviations.

The Swedenborg Scientific Association published Rev. Daniel W. Goodenough's work, *Providence and Free Will in Human Actions*.

An ample supply of *Physiological Correspondences* by John Worcester is now available.

The Swedenborg Scientific Association authorized the publication in Japanese of *The Human Mind* by Hugo Lj. Odhner. The translation and subsequent publication was handled by Kazu Takahashi.

A revised price list has brought publications to a price level which is more reasonable in light of current economic conditions.

Future Matters

Efforts are underway to complete an index for *The New Philosophy* for the years from 1890 through the present.

TREASURERS REPORT

for year ending April 30, 1987

BALANCE APRIL 30, 1986.....	\$ 46,618.33
<i>Plus Receipts 1986/87</i>	
Dues	\$ 779.50
Subscriptions.....	108.00
Contributions.....	30,579.90
Book sales.....	1,715.16
Interest.....	<u>1,589.31</u>
	\$ 34,771.87
<i>Less Expenses 1986/87</i>	
New Philosophy (5 issues)	\$ 8,577.65
Postage.....	264.57
Editorial Expenses.....	3,925.00
Book Publishing.....	17,369.70
Research.....	5,231.75
Misc. Office Expenses	2,362.80
Travel.....	<u>375.00</u>
	\$ 38,106.47
BALANCE APRIL 30, 1987	\$ 43,283.73

Respectfully submitted,
E. Boyd Asplundh, *Treasurer*



SWEDENBORG SYMPOSIUM '88

PROGRAM

Sunday, February 7

1:00-3:00 pm Registration, Heilman Hall

3:15 pm Welcome: President Geoffrey S. Childs, Academy of the New Church.

Keynote Address: Inge Jonsson, Vice-President, University of Stockholm.

5:15 pm Reception

6:15 pm Dinner, Heilman Hall

7:30 pm Session I. SWEDENBORG AND EUROPEAN LITERATURE

Göran Stockenström, University of Minnesota, "**The Great Chaos and the Infinite**

Order: The Spiritual Journeys of Swedenborg and Strindberg." Olle Hjerm, Herrens

Nya Kyrka, Sweden, "**Carl Jonas Almquist—Great Poet and Swedenborgian Heretic.**"

John J. Cerullo, University of New Hampshire, "**Swedenborgianism in the Works**

of Joseph Sheridan Lefanu: Desocialization and the Victorian Ghost Story."

Monday, February 8

9:00 am Session II. PHILOSOPHY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Robert H. Kirven, Swedenborg School of Religion, "**Swedenborg and Kant Revis-**

ited: The Long Shadow of Kant's Attack and a New Response."

Thomas Keiser, Licensed Psychologist, "**Swedenborg, Cultism, and the Problem of**

Evil."

Daniel W. Goodenough, Academy of the New Church, "**Swedenborg's Political**

Thought."

Eugene Taylor, Countway Library of Medicine—Rare Books, Harvard University,

"**Swedenborg's Appearance in the History of American Psychology.**"

2:00 pm Session III. SWEDENBORG AND SCIENCE

Gustaf O. S. Arrhenius, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of

California, San Diego, "**Swedenborg as Cosmologist.**"

Gregory L. Baker, Academy of the New Church, "**Limits to Knowledge: The**

Mechanics of Ignorance."

Linda S. Odhner, "**Recapitulation Theories and Man's Place in the Universe.**"

8:00 pm Session IV. SWEDENBORG AND THE AMERICAN ENLIGHTENMENT

Anders Hallengren, Harvard University, "**The Importance of Swedenborg to**

Emerson's Ethics."

Paul J. Croce, Rollins College, "**A Scientific Spiritualism: The Elder James's**

Adaptation of Swedenborg."

Dwight W. Hoover, Ball State University, "**The Influence of Swedenborg on the**

Religious Ideas of Henry James, Sr."

Tuesday, February 9

9:00 am Session V. RELIGION

Michael W. Stanley, New Church College, "**Appearance and Reality in the Rela-**

tionship Between the Finite Soul and the Infinite Source."

Samuel J. Rogal, Illinois Community College, "**Swedenborg and the Wesleys: A**

Opposition or Outgrowth?"

Bernhard Lang, Universität Gesamthochschule Paderborn, "**Glimpses of Heaven.**"

George F. Dole, Swedenborg School of Religion, "**True Christian Religion as**

Apologetic Theology."

2:00 pm Session VI. HISTORY

Marsha K. Schuchard, Georgia State University, "**Swedenborg, Jacobitism, and**

Freemasonry."

Alfred J. Gabay, LaTrobe University, "**Alfred Deakin and Swedenborg: An Australian**

Experience."

Eberhard Zwink, Württembergische Landesbibliothek, "**Gustav Werner and**

Johann Gottlieb Mittnacht: Forms of Hidden and Open Swedenborgianism in

the 19th Century German Southwest."

7:00 pm BANQUET Ambassador Lars Bergquist, Toastmaster

Mary E. Phillips, Phillips University, "**The Effect of Swedenborgianism on the**

Later Paintings of George Inness."

Mary F. Holahan, Delaware Museum of Art, "**'Twilight Altitudes': Howard Pyle,**

Swedenborg, and the Artist's Soul."

Irving D. Fischer, University of Southern Maine, "**The Chicago City Plan.**"

Ethelwyn Worden, Director, Central Office, General Convention, **Musical Program.**