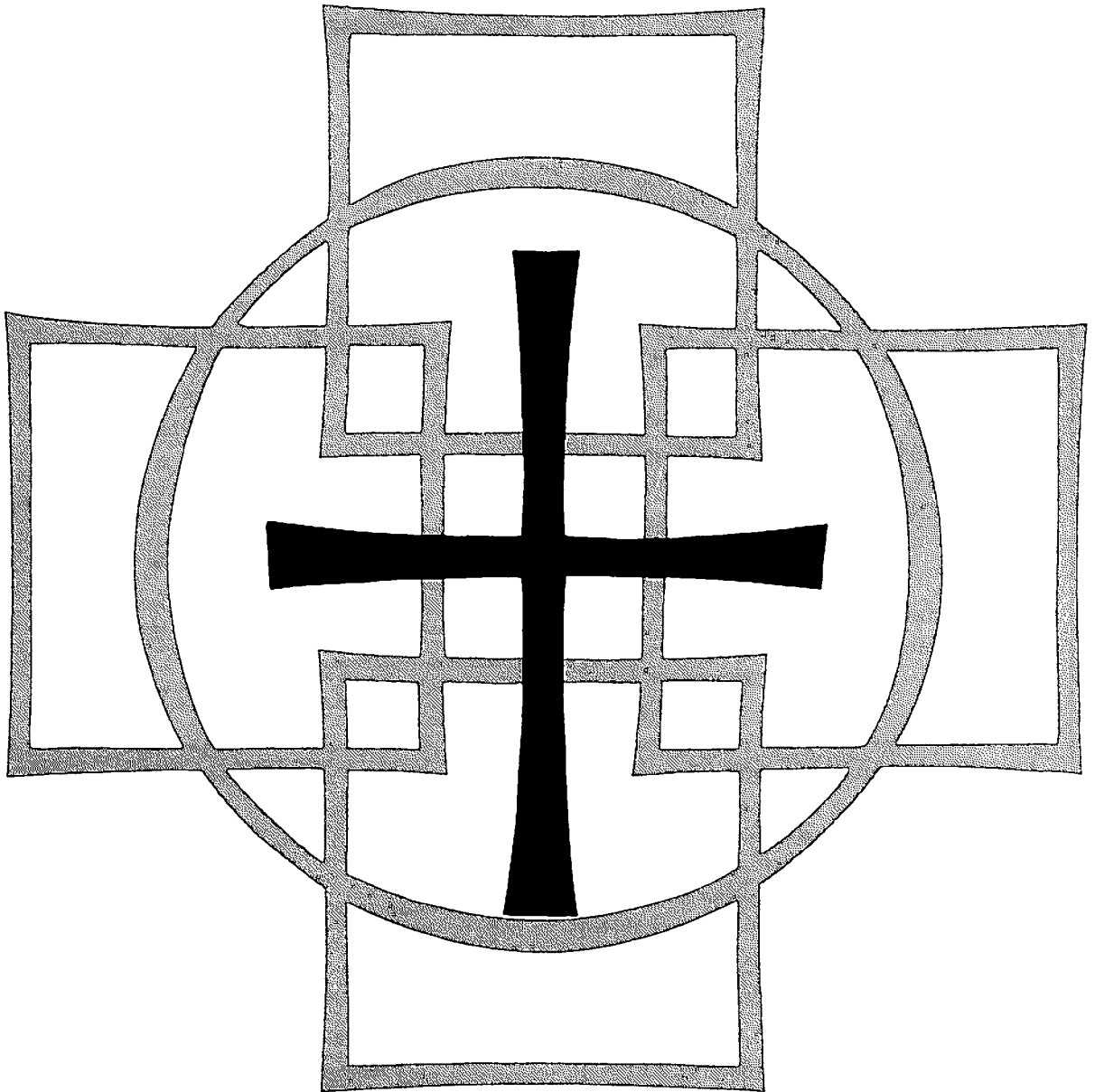


THE MESSENGER

Official Organ of the Swedenborgian Church

JUNE 1971

CONVENTION REPORTS ISSUE



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This month, *The Messenger* carries *Advance Reports* to the 147th General Convention. This is a new policy (formerly, *Advance Reports* were mimeographed for distribution to delegates and visitors to Convention), and it offers some important advantages—and one inconvenience.

The first advantage is that Convention members who do not attend Convention, and do not receive the *Convention Journal*—the majority of you, after all—will have a chance to learn more of what has been going on in your church across the country, than has ever been made available to you in the past. A second advantage is that the *Convention Journal* will be published earlier than formerly, becoming available much sooner to those national and regional officers and committee members whose responsibilities to the church make it an indispensable tool. This advanced publication date is made possible because the reports that appear in this issue have already been set up in type for the *Journal*, and so will be ready for publication as soon as the *Convention Minutes*, and other post-convention material, is prepared and composed in the same way.

This last advantage is the cause of the inconvenience, however. Lines of type in the *Journal* are wider than one column of *The Messenger*, but only 72% as wide as a *Messenger* page. However, as you will notice, the *Journal* type fits quite well in *The Messenger*, when set up as two columns running sideways on a page. Thus, the inconvenience: to read the *Advance Reports* section of this issue, you will have to rotate your magazine 90 degrees clockwise. I acknowledge that this will be annoying, but hope you will agree that the advantages outweigh the inconvenience.

Robert H. Kirven

ALLIANCE NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee of the Alliance of New Church Women is happy to present the following slate:—

President: Mrs. Robert W. Tafel, Philadelphia
1st Vice-President: (*To be submitted later*)
2nd Vice-President: Mrs. Edward Tuck, Kitchener
Recording Sec.: Mrs. Alan W. Farnham, Brockton
Correspond. Sec.: Miss Josephine A. Hope, Boston
Treasurer: Mrs. Thornton O. Smallwood, Chicago
Member Nominating Committee: (*To be submitted later*)

Chairmen

Religious Committee: Mrs. Alice Van Boven, Redlands, Cal.

Mite Box: Miss Mildred Billings, Chicago

Round Robin: Mrs. Frank Hamilton, Almont

Publications: Mrs. Clayton Priestnal, New York

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Paul Zacharias

Mrs. Galen Unruh

Mrs. Nancy Banus

Miss Alice Unruh

Mrs. Horace Briggs, Chmn.

SWEDENBORGIAN STUDENTS ON THE DEAN'S LIST AT

URBANA

Sweiji Fiddo

Cynthia Turley

Becky Haverkos

Elizabeth Bishop

MAY, 1971

Vol. 191, No. 6

Whole Number 4943

Published monthly, except for the one double issue in July-August, at the office of the Editor, c/o Swedenborg School of Religion, 48 Sargent St., (P. O. Box E) Newton, Mass. 02158.

Second class postage paid at Boston, Mass.

The Messenger is the official organ of the Swedenborgian Church, founded 1817, incorporated as the General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America.

Printed at Thomas Todd Company, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. 02108. Incorporated publisher: the Swedenborg Press, Box 143, Madison Square Station, New York, N. Y. 10010.

Subscription free to members of the Swedenborgian Church; non-members, \$3.00 a year; foreign postage, 25 cents extra. Gift subscriptions, if from a member, \$1.50. Single copies, 25 cents. Address subscriptions, checks, changes of address to the Publisher, Box 143, Madison Square Station, New York, N. Y. 10010.

Contributions toward the cost of publishing should be sent to:

The Treasurer, Swedenborgian Church

Chester T. Cook, Box 25, Deer Isle, Maine 04627

Officers of Convention: Rev. Ernest O. Martin, President, 48 Sargent St., Box 66, Newton, Mass. 02158; Stewart E. Poole, Vice-President, 2024 DuPont Building, Wilmington, Del. 19898; Chester T. Cook, Treasurer, Pressey Village Road, P. O. Box 25, Deer Isle, Maine; Mrs. Ethel Rice, Recording Secretary, 31 Poole St., Brockton, Mass. 02401.

Department of Publication: Rev. Richard H. Tafel, Sr., Chairman, Dr. Robert H. Kirven, Miss Cecile Werben, Rev. Paul Zacharias, Mrs. Jan Seibert, Mrs. Leonore Spiers, Mrs. Corinne Tafel, Rafael Guiu, Ernest Martin, Tomas Spiers.

Robert H. Kirven, Editor

Mrs. Perry Martin, Editorial Assistant

Miss Margaret Kirven, Lay-out Assistant

Address all editorial correspondence and manuscripts to the Editor, *The Messenger*, P. O. Box E, Newton, Mass. 02158. The opinions of contributors do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the Department of Publication, or represent the position of the church.

SWEDENBORG SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION MEETS

The seventy-fourth Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association was held on May 5, 1971 in Pendleton Hall, Bryn Athyn, with an attendance of 49 members and 54 guests.

Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr. was reelected as president, and the following were elected to the Board of Directors: Rt. Rev. Elmo C. Acton, Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt, Mr. Edward F. Allen, Mr. Erland J. Brock, Mr. Charles S. Cole, Jr., Rev. Daniel W. Goodenough, Rev. W. Cairns Henderson, Mr. Joel Pitcairn, and Mr. Tomas H. Spiers. (At a meeting of the Board later in the evening, Mr. Charles S. Cole was elected vice-president, Miss Morna Hyatt was elected secretary, and Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh was elected treasurer. Dr. Hugo Lj. Odhner, having declined nomination, President Fitzpatrick read a tribute to him, and he was unanimously elected an honorary member of the Board.

Reports were read. Prof. Edward F. Allen had resigned as Editor of *The New Philosophy* at the March meeting of the Board, and Mr. Lennart O. Alfelt had been elected to fill the post. The new Editor paid tribute to the former Editor, and announced that Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr. and Mr. Kenneth Rose will continue on the Editorial Board. He spoke of the desirability of scholars from the various New Church bodies and from among Academy graduates contributing to the pages of *The New Philosophy*. "Among them we have a great potential for viewpoints of a stimulating kind, possible only in an environment where variant philosophies and practices pose a challenge to our own philosophy."

Rev. Alfred Acton II, then delivered his address on "Evil and Early Man." In it he discussed some long debated questions. What is evil? Did God create evil? After briefly outlining various answers given in oriental religions and by the Jews and the early Christians, he turned to the philosophers. Our school believes that evil is entirely relative to man. Others see good and evil on an absolute scale. The Writings define evil in many ways. Diseases and evil animals have arisen as a result of man's free choice of evil. Such things are called evils because they hurt man. They could not ante-date hell, and yet the studies of scientists indicate their existence much earlier.

Mr. Acton developed a thesis regarding the possible dates for the Most Ancient Church, and for an explanation of the advent of evil; supporting it by citing instances of fossil findings, cave drawings, and images. The idea that the fall was partly due to the influx from pre-Adamites in the other world is not taught directly in the New Word. It was suggested by the Rev. Carl Theophilus Odhner in his work, *The Golden Age*. After the fall, it was necessary for the Lord to come on earth and to establish a new order.

The address and a complete account of the meeting will be published in the July-September issue of *The New Philosophy*. Subscriptions to *The New Philosophy* and requests for membership in the Swedenborg Scientific Association will be welcomed by the treasurer, Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh, Bryn Athyn, Pa.

Morna Hyatt
Secretary

SSR MANAGERS MEET IN NEWTON

The Board of Managers of the Swedenborg School of Religion met at the school in Newton, Mass., May 6-8. Almost the entire twenty hours of discussion was given over to consideration of the separation and impending divorce of the Rev. David Johnson, and his announced plans to marry Norma Capon, who is being granted a divorce from the Rev. Edwin Capon, SSR President. Mr. Johnson has been serving as a part-time faculty member in the school's Field Education Center in Bellevue, Washington, for the past eight years. Actions taken included the removal of Dave Johnson from the SSR faculty, and termination of the field education program in Bellevue for as long as he remains on the team of ministers in Program Link. In related action, the Board instructed the faculty to conduct a thorough study of field education possibilities, including conditions under which the program in Bellevue might be re-instated. Faculty findings and recommendations are to be reported to the Board of Managers in time for its fall meeting.

For other news of SSR, see the Report of the President, and the Report of the Board of Managers, in the *Advance Reports* section of this issue of *The Messenger*.

MEMORIAL TO SWEDENBORG IN SWEDISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In Franklin Delano Roosevelt Park in South Philadelphia there is an American Swedish Historical Museum on land which in the 1600's was known as New Sweden. The Museum resembles a 17th century Swedish manor. Each exhibit room in the museum represents American Swedish contributions to American civilization in government, industry, science, religion, invention, and the arts. The Swedenborg Room, named after Emanuel Swedenborg, is dedicated to philosophy, religion and science.

The room was given by Karl W. Hallden, a Connecticut inventor and industrialist who was born in Sweden, and came to this country as a small boy. It is to be a living sanctuary for those who want to sit down, surrounded by his books and use them for browsing or serious study.

At the dedication of the Swedenborg Room in 1969 the principal address was given by Dr. William A. Johnson, and was reported in the 1969-70 Yearbook of the American Swedish Historical Foundation by Daniel Birgers. Parts of the report are quoted as follows:

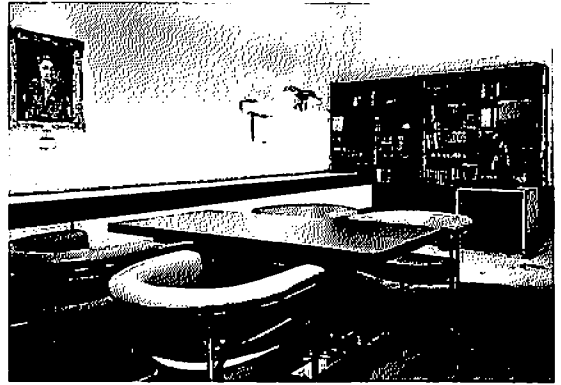
In his talk, Dr. Johnson first suggested that there is a strong link between Swedenborg's character and that of the old Scandinavian Viking religion, and then proceeded to the very heart of Swedenborg's religious thinking.

"I'd like to talk about Swedenborg as one of those heroes. I want to look at him as a representative of something I might call the Scandinavian character, and by that I mean certain indelible characteristics that pertain to the majority of those people now and in the past."

"What we mean by Scandinavian character, the Swedish character has something to do with exuberance, the probing mind, perhaps introverted personality . . . yet intensely rational and spiritual. Swedenborg, I want to suggest, belonged to that character. He lived at a time when man's mind was becoming freed from both intellectual and religious bondage. Swedenborg was, therefore, permitted to explore his world as he found it and to let a discovery or an idea take him where he wanted to go." To do that "implies a free man and a free spirit."

"In the history of western civilization, some have been experimentists, others visionaries. These have been the explorers, the dreamers, the mystics.

"Swedenborg was all of them at once. He was one of those few in the history of western man who can never be characterized. And . . . as we meet this afternoon, we recognize the multiplicity of gifts which belong to Swedenborg as a human being. Because everything, whether it was physical or metaphysical, came under his scrutiny. Whether it was an expression of matter or spirit, nothing was excluded from the province of Swedenborg's wisdom.



The Swedenborg Room in the American Swedish Historical Foundation in Philadelphia. Named after Emanuel Swedenborg, the room is dedicated to philosophy, religion and science.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Dr. Hallden, donor of the room made the presentation to the Board of Governors. "We are meeting here," he said, "to dedicate a room to the greatest Scandinavian that ever lived. In fact, some call him the greatest scholar since Aristotle."

Mr. Donald Hogeland, Vice-President of the Foundation accepted the gift, saying about The Swedenborg Room, "We intend to use it, we intend to fill it, and we hope to make it available to other people who wish to study the works of this man, who almost defies description—a tremendous individual."

The Swedenborg Room now holds a special collection of the writings and inventions of Emanuel Swedenborg. The Foundation depends for its support on membership dues and contributions and to a limited extent on income from an endowment fund. The Museum, which houses the Foundation, is located at 1900 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia.

SWEDENBORG HOUSE HOSTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

*By Miss Elizabeth Kieffer
Photos by Calvin Brinkley*

They began to arrive on Friday the 16th, fearful of missing any part of the Saturday and Sunday program. First to roll in were two camper-trailers from the Gulfport congregation. They found comfortable parking space under the kumquat trees at the curve of the driveway. Bus passengers, unable to accomodate the morning timetables to their needs, came in the afternoon, and thus had a pleasant visit on the lawn and in the family room before the arrival of others.

During the night there were other arrivals who had driven from states to the north of us and got there in time for breakfast; while all of Saturday morning other carloads rolled in, some from Miami and the towns in between, some from northern Florida and Georgia, and some from the west coast of Florida. With the arrival of the Rev. and Mrs. Ernest O. Martin on Saturday afternoon, the house and the two small tenant houses were filled to capacity with 19 occupants, not counting the five in the trailers, while those who could not be accomodated, there, spent the night at motels. On Sunday, when the local congregation, including those from Daytona and Orlando had gathered, and two carloads from the St. Petersburg congregation made it in time for church, a frantic consultation in the kitchen as to "How many do we serve?" reached an estimate of fifty, which was as near as we ever came to a total. As someone complained "They won't stay *put* long enough to be counted" and we never did get everyone to sign the guest book.

Saturday's proceedings began in a low key with an



Kitchen cookery at Swedenborg House. Only half of the area is shown. Kitchen has 2 stoves, 1 gas and 1 electric with 4 ovens, 2 sinks, 2 water heaters, 1 gas and 1 electric, dishwasher and lots of cupboards and workspace.

informal discussion held on the beautiful lawn under the great trees with their festoons of Spanish moss. The topic which was, more or less, adhered to was "Future Plans for Swedenborg House." While some of our projects seemed, in the circumstances, a bit far out, many of them are perfectly feasible, and in a not too far distant future. Visits from family groups or congregational parties, to combine tourism, classes in the doctrines, recreation and spiritual renewal, are already beginning in a modest fashion. The possibility of building small vacation cottages in the orange grove and on the bluff overlooking the lake is for the future, when current debts are paid. Even farther away, is the possibility of retirement homes. The concensus, however, was that Swedenborg House shall be looked upon as a regional center, to be a focal point where all activities of the Association may find a home, and to which the scattered members may look for pastoral care and guidance.

Saturday's lunch was eaten at a nearby pancake house which specializes in providing batter and bacon to be cooked on griddles on one's own table. The men of the party did most of the cooking, their wives looking on with critical but not too interfering supervision. One monster of a pancake, which everyone was afraid to eat, was taken home to Mrs. Frederick, as a souvenir.

In the afternoon, some of the party visited the Sidewalk Art Exhibit in DeLand, while some of the younger guests from a distance made a quick trip to Daytona Beach. All returned in time for the chicken barbecue, served in the patio, with the cooking done by Herbert Young, the president of the Association, and Mike Gretch of Orlando. Until dark, sociability and discussion continued in the gardens and the grove, and then far into the night in the family room.

Everyone was stirring early on Sunday morning. While the distant visitors explored the grove, and walked to the lake, the Miami Society of the New Jerusalem Church, which includes DeLand, Daytona, West Palm Beach, and all the scattered members of east coast Florida and the other southeast states, held its annual meeting in the patio. A feature of this meeting was the Rev. Mr. Frederick's resignation, immediately followed by his assurance that he will "go on just as usual," only on pension and social security instead of salary. Of only secondary importance was the report of the newly formed Women's Auxiliary, which is already on its

way to the achievement of its first project, the installation of rest rooms on the first floor of Swedenborg House.



SWEDENBORG HOUSE, Main Building

At eleven a.m. the worship service was held, conducted by the three ministers present, the Revs. E.O. Martin, L.C. LeVan, and E.L. Frederick, with a sermon by Mr. Martin, and the celebration of Holy Communion. A plentiful Sunday dinner was served by the women of the local congregation, and eaten wherever one could find sitting or standing room. At one-thirty we reassembled for the Association meeting, at which reports were made from both congregations, and from the officers of the Association, showing particularly the healthy state of the Swedenborg House finances, which, with the help of new contributions to the "Seventy Club" formed at the last annual meeting, have lifted us almost out of debt. After another address by Mr. Martin, the meeting was closed, and one by one, trunks were packed with "Swedenborgian oranges," reluctant goodbyes were said, and one carload after another turned out of the drive.

Possibly the pleasantest time of all was spent by those who stayed another night, or delayed their departure so long that they must have reached home at dawn. (One young couple with an eight-month old baby got well started, and decided to turn back, and start again in the morning.) This was the relaxed period when each of us "did his own thing." Mrs. Martin (Perry) wandered off alone, and came back with an armload of the wild pink phlox and other lovely wild flowers which were in profusion by every roadside, which she arranged beautifully in a teapot which had disappeared in the moving but came obediently to her hand when needed. Two members who discovered unexpectedly congenial tastes in literary amusements drifted together to discuss space exploration and time-travel, ending by organizing the "Sweden-

borgian Science Fiction Club" (membership of two): Rev. and Mrs. Frederick, Rev. Mr. Martin, and Mr. Johnson, the Association treasurer, were discovered comfortably enjoying the twilight outside the larger of the trailers, and deep in discussion of life in the three heavens and the organization of societies there.

It seemed unbelievable that only a year ago, we had seen this place for the first time, and that the meeting of the Association held there at that date was for the purpose of deciding whether to purchase the property. Since then, it has become so dear to so many of us that it seems like a home we have always known.

Something of this feeling permeated the many letters received by Mr. Frederick since the meeting: "This weekend did go so well—seemed so satisfying spiritually and in every way." "We especially enjoyed staying in your home, and experiencing the aura of Swedenborg House." "I congratulate you for your work in establishing Swedenborg House... and feel sure that your ministry will continue to bear fruit there." Possibly the most delightful of the "bread and butter letters" came from a charming young girl who had come with her father, and her "boy friend" all the way from South Carolina, "Daddy, Felix and I certainly had a delightful weekend at the Swedenborg House! The people were so genuine, and really helped Felix and me understand some of the New Church philosophy. Felix is already reading *Heaven and Hell* and thanks you for introducing him to the word.



Family Room scene at Swedenborg House. Lower right, newly baptized baby, Dawn Brinkley with her mother, Lori Brinkley.

"And of course, Daddy enjoys so much to talk with you and other members of the church. I can say that I have seen Daddy happiest and most fulfilled when he is talking about and listening to Swedenborg's interpretations. Even the long drive home

wasn't long enough for Felix and me to ask questions that you sparked in us this weekend. We can't wait to return." In her companion letter to Mrs. Frederick, she adds, "We're counting oranges in our sleep."

There was a pleasant postscript on May 2, which was "St. Petersburg Sunday" when the scattered members of the St. Petersburg Church come in for services there. The local congregation at Deland, mindful of the happy fellowship with the delegates who came from there to Swedenborg House, decided to omit their usual Sunday worship in Deland and drive to St. Petersburg. There were twelve or thirteen in the party including some from Daytona and Orlando, and after the service they were entertained for lunch in the church social room. Thus fellowship begets fellowship, and the church becomes a Church.

GULFPORT NEWS

With the other ministers of the Association occupied in their respective churches at Easter, the Rev. Leslie Marshall, of St. Petersburg, was invited for that day's commemoration at the Gulfport, Miss. church. On the preceding evening there was a discussion meeting centering on the theme "How to be Happy Despite the Headlines." Forty-four persons took Communion, which with several little children made the attendance fifty-one. In the course of the service, Mr. Marshall baptized Jennifer Dee Ann, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coolidge of New Orleans. The grandparents are Capt. and Mrs. Arthur Higgins, of Belle Chasse, La. The Gulfport church is among the oldest societies in the south, and perhaps the most isolated, its first most active member being Joel R. Stewart, who was ordained into the New Church ministry in 1914, ministering to the original members for some years. They constructed the present commodious church, and moved a house nearby as a parsonage. A photograph taken some years ago, when the late Rev. Peters was resident pastor, shows a group of a hundred or more, with numerous young folks and children.

Detroit Youths' Worship Service

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir:

We have had one of the most wonderful and breathtaking experiences at our church that it is possible to imagine! The extremely talented young people's group from Detroit came to us last Sun-

day and conducted the entire church service.

Everything was under their eager leadership, and the winning innocence that accompanied everything tugged at the hearts of us all, and made us wish, Oh God how *deeply* we wished it, that we could roll back the hours and years of rank sophistication and sophistry, and become as little children again! Every time we think of them and their church service, and we think of them many times a day, we are choked up in the warm tender emotion of love for them and the work they are doing so valiantly for the church.

They did the entire service. Even the faith of the church was set to music one of them composed. There was the deepest reverence to everything, every sparkling moment of it. And the only moment of high anguish and grief, yes, of grief unspeakable, was the horrible thought and realization that this tremendous revelation from heaven itself had to come to an end. We saw perfection for a few golden, hallowed moments, perfection that can only be present and witnessed once in a lifetime. When it is over, we find ourselves left stranded by what we are, and then there is nothing we *can* do but thank God the mental catharsis given to us, totally surrender our lives to the Divine, and begin to live as New Churchmen should *really* live.

The group wrote up and furnished their entire order of service, a copy of which we are enclosing, which they prepared in advance and brought with them for distribution to all in attendance. The group was composed of 14 young people from the Cleveland and Detroit churches, with Ruth Brandau of Detroit and Alberta Theriault of Cleveland as adult sponsors. All of the young people had some part in the church service. The sermon, "My Religion—what does it mean to me?" was a combination of five short talks, each probably averaging 3–5 minutes in length, prepared by the person giving it without assistance from any adult.

Tell all your readers about this overwhelming event. Perhaps not everyone should hear them, for those not yet ready to commit themselves and the church they love fully and completely to the Lord, are, perhaps, not yet ready for this sublime and unique experience. But if you know of any church group, that needs to be touched by the divine finger of destiny so that they come alive and really live for the first time, then this is the divinely appointed means to this end. They came to us, and we expected a miracle to happen. The miracle happened, and thank God we will never be the same again.

Thornton O. Smallwood

STATISTICS

BIRTHS

A daughter, Crystal Lisa, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Jorgenson of Richmond, Ontario, on January 18th.

Mr. & Mrs. Stewart R. Saul of the San Francisco Church, announce the birth of a daughter, Erin Jo on February 23rd.

The Fryeburg, Maine Church announces the birth of two babies: Thomas Wade, son of Terry and Karen Leach on January 25th; and Richard Earl, son of Tommy and Clara Fox on March 7th.

BAPTISMS

On February 21st the Rev. Henry W. Reddekopp baptized Jarod Mervin, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Charzewski of Winnipeg.

Sandra Dawn, infant daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Wheeler of Creighton, Sask. was baptized during a worship service at the home of her parents on March 10th. The Rev. Henry Reddekopp officiated.

The following baptisms took place in the San Francisco Church: on March 14th Seth Taylor, infant son of Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Chamberlin; and on March 21st, Elizabeth Anne, infant daughter of J. Terry and Leslie Burgon; and Bradley Blake, infant son of Nick V. and Donna Avtonomoff.

Scott Addison Emery and his mother, Pamela Lou Emery, were both baptized in the Fryeburg Church.

In the Riverside, Cal. Church on March 14th, the Rev. John Spiers baptized the three children of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley C. Wagner: Johnny Carl, Robby Guy, and Shohnii LaVerner. On April 11th, he baptized the mother, Johnnie Faye Wagner, and confirmed Mr. and Mrs. Stanley C. Wagner.

On January 10th the Rev. John Spiers baptized Sheila Elliott of the Riverside, Cal. Church.

On Easter Sunday at the Gulfport, Miss. Church the Rev. Leslie Marshall baptized Jennifer Dee Ann, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Coolidge of New Orleans, La.

On Easter Sunday, April 11th, Erin Jo Ann, infant daughter of Stewart and Arlene Saul, and Aaron Frank, infant son of Donald and Nancy Shephard, were baptized by the Rev. Erwin D. Reddekopp of the San Francisco Church.

Pamela Agle Emery of the Fryeburg Church was baptized on March 28th.

Keith Boivin, Alan, Kevin, Shawn and Sheila Whitaker were baptized on May 2nd in the Fryeburg Church.

There were a number of infants baptized in Fryeburg recently. Among them were Scott Addison, son of Alan and Pamela Emery on March 28th; Kara Marjorie, daughter of Michael and Sarah Clemons on April 4th; Daniel Eugene, son of Gardiner and Pamela Bartlett, also on April 4th; Jodi Lynn, daughter of John and Frances Botting, on April 18th; Charles William, son of Patrick and Sharon Beck on April 25th.

The Fryeburg Church received into membership by Baptism Priscilla Boivin, Burton and Rowena Chaplin; Theodore Lewis; Fred and Rochelle Whitaker, all on May 2nd.

CONFIRMATIONS

Sharon Teresa Moore of Winnipeg was confirmed by the Rev. Henry W. Reddekopp on February 21st.

In St. Louis on Palm Sunday, April 4th, the following persons joined the Church of the Open Word by confirmation of faith: Willard Bradshaw, David Currall, Paul Maring, and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Seamans.

Alice Susan Wood of the Portland, Maine Church was confirmed during worship services by the Rev. Michael B. Salvetti on March 21st.

In the San Francisco Church on Palm Sunday, April 4th, the following people were confirmed: J. Terry and Leslie Burgon, Hubert and Aina Beaumont, Douglas and Jane Daniel, Bernadette Olson.

David and Martha Richardson were confirmed into membership of the Fryeburg Church on April 18th.

The following people were confirmed in the Church of the Good Shepherd in Kitchener, Ontario by the Rev. Paul B. Zacharias on April 4th: Marilyn Appleton, Ted Gabriel, Brock Paul Lasso, Martha Ritsma, Mary Ritsma, Tammy Ritsma, Gregory John Schneider, Jeffrey Carl Woeller, Matthew Zacharias, all of Kitchener, Ontario.

MARRIAGES

Dianne Chown and William Carl Schneider were married on March 12th in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Kitchener, Ontario by the Rev. Paul B. Zacharias.

Charles Sheldon Pollina and Leslie Karen Abrahamson were married on March 20th by the Rev. Horace H. Briggs of the Fryeburg Church.

Grace Lindsay and Archibald Aitken, Jr. were married in Nova Scotia on April 10th.

Ernest Walter Smith and Edna Frances Hartford of the Fryeburg Church were married recently.

DEATHS

Resurrection services were conducted for Madeline Savard of the Fryeburg Church by the Rev. Eugene Lloyd.

Resurrection services were held at the Pretty Prairie, Kansas Church for Mrs. Ethel Siebert on February 19th.

Lillian M. Newbert, widow of Kent Newbert, passed to the higher life in Portland, Maine on February 11th. Resurrection services were conducted by the Rev. Michael B. Salvetti on February 16th.

Mrs. Eitel (Florence) Woeller of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Kitchener, Ontario, passed away on April 15th. Resurrection service was conducted by the Rev. Paul B. Zacharias on May 4th.

Resurrection services were held in Fryeburg for Ernestine Bell on April 22nd, and for Edna Willett on April 24th.

Gladys Dickinson of St. Louis died on April 29th. Services were held on May 2nd by the Rev. William Woofenden.

Gladys K. Mosher of the Detroit Society passed into the spiritual world on April 30th. Resurrection services were conducted by the Rev. Paul B. Zacharias on May 4th.

Mr. Cassius Hughes, father of Mrs. Billie Howe, passed into the spiritual world on April 19th at the age of 88. Memorial service was held in the San Francisco Church on May 1st.

Mrs. Jane M. Eaton of the Brockton Church passed into the spiritual world on May 14th. She is survived by one son and two daughters. Resurrection service was conducted by the Rev. Wilfred G. Rice.

Resurrection services were held in Fryeburg on May 18th for Guy May; on May 14th for Mrs. Ebmer; and on May 19th for Sarah T. Clark.

SWEDENBORG

by
Edwin Markham

Out of the North the great Seer rose to scan
The genesis and destiny of man,
The shrewd geometrics of earth and star,
Of atoms swinging in their voids, as far
Apart as sun from circling sun—to find,
In the vast frame of nature, laws that wind
In widening spirals, up from living clod,
Till lost in the immensity of God.

He saw Man sitting on the Central Throne,
The shadows of Him over the Kosmos blown:
Quickened by Heaven, his listening spirit heard
The far-flung echoes of the Primal Word,
Bright harmonies that fall from sphere to sphere,
Telling the heart that God is ever near—
That all our world of mysteries and laws
Glasses a deeper world, the World of Cause—
That nature is woven and let down to be
The Time-veil of the husht Eternity.

They called him "visionary clad in mist,"
And yet he stood earth's iron realist.
Surveying Earth and Heaven in reverent awe,
He found that all is mercy hid in law;
Beheld men moving on their fateful roads
Toward their self-chosen, far, unseen abodes;
Beheld men, in their reason or their whim,
Moving toward Heavens or Hells beyond the rim,
Where—whether fiend, philosopher or fool—
The deep, interior love comes forth to rule.
And so he saw the long unbreakable thread
That binds the living ever to the dead.

He heard God calling out of every need,
And saw life's deeper worship in a deed;
Could find no power in all the worlds to loose
A soul to freedom but a life of use;
Could find no rest on any unseen shore
But in the Love that was our rest before.
Back in the abyss of theologic night
He was the one man who beheld the Light;
His were the eyes on the front of that dark age
Which read the Truth upon the judgment page.

And thus this guest of the angelic spheres
Let out a gleam of Heaven upon the years!

(A dedicatory poem read at the unveiling of Adolph Jonsson's bust of Swedenborg in Lincoln Park, Chicago, Illinois, on June 28th, 1924)

Reports of Officers

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The March 1971 issue of *The Messenger* includes a detailed report that I made to the General Council in January. This will be printed in the *Convention Journal* as part of my report for 1970-71. My activities since January include:

Association Meetings: Illinois, Southeast

Worship Services: Detroit, Cleveland, DeLand

Special Services: Dedication of Chapel at Kemper Road Community Church, (Swedenborgian), Loveland, Ohio, May 23

Other Churches Visited: St. Louis, Des Plaines

†11 *Board and Committee Meetings:* Board of Managers of Swedenborg School of Religion, Corporation of the New Church Theological School, Board of Directors of the New Church Theological School, Advisory Placement Committee, Research and Planning Committee, Evaluation of Central Office Committee, and Convention Planning Committee

National Council of Churches: General Board meeting in Louisville, Kentucky

Urbana College: Trustees' meetings, conferences with president, meetings with church trustees

Swedenborg Foundation: Attended annual meeting on May 10th

A major part of my responsibility as full-time president is to direct activities of Convention's central office at the Swedenborg School of Religion in Newton. This office was set up on a three-year trial basis in July, 1968. An evaluation committee under the chairmanship of vice-president Stewart E. Poole will make recommendations regarding the future of the office.

CONDENSED ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE U. S. A. FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1971

SECTION I

PROPERTY HELD BY CONVENTION MARCH 31, 1971

Stocks, Mortgages and Bonds—Common Fund*	\$4,738,108.06
Mortgage and Note—Urbana College	387,343.79
Church Loans, Mortgages and Real Estate	879,265.50
Stocks—Special	3,762.44
Deferred Charges	9,975.55
Savings Banks	5,000.00
Cash In Bank And On Hand	31,010.39
Accounts Receivable—Net of Payable	26,623.53

Total Property	\$6,081,089.26
*Securities At Market 3/31/71	\$4,952,681.18

Designates As Follows:

Note—Bank of Delaware	\$	200,000.00
Funds—Given For "Special Purposes"		
Income Only To Be Used	\$2,417,628.28	
Funds—Given For "Special Purposes"		
Principal And Income For Use	574,233.79	
Funds—Given For "General Purposes"		
Income Only For Use	201,789.93	
Income For "Special Purposes" By Vote	600,188.41	
Principal And Income For Use	1,743,747.74	5,537,588.15

In my address to the 1971 Convention I will share my observations regarding the state of the church and make recommendations for action. I see the need to formulate new goals and objectives for the church and to develop a strategy for their implementation. If the Swedenborgian Church is to make a significant contribution to the life and growth of its members, we must dream, plan, and work together in a spirit of love and cooperation.

Ernest O. Martin
President

REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY

As Recording Secretary I have attended meetings of General Council at Claremont (post-Convention 1969) and at Philadelphia in January 1970 and 1971, recording and transcribing the entire proceedings. Notification of elections and appointments were written following the last Convention sessions and requests for annual reports were sent to all Church, Association and Convention personnel.

11

Prior to the publication of the 1969 Convention *Journal* all Society secretaries were contacted with a view to standardizing the listings in the *Journal* and bringing the current officers' listings up-to-date. With the advice and assistance of the President, the Convention *Journal* itself has received a facelifting and a new format. It is hoped that such changes have proved effective in making the *Journal* easier to use.

Legal matters, letter votes of General Council and responses to inquiries about the Church and its organization and teachings are numerous and require attention.

Appreciation is herewith expressed to Mrs. Lewis Barrington for her invaluable assistance in legal matters, and to Church and Association secretaries, Ministers and Convention and organizational officers for their prompt responses to the Secretary's many requests for information.

Ethel V. Rice
Recording Secretary

Fund—Washington Church	100,000.00
Fund—Wayfarers' Chapel	131,925.43
Income Accumulation:	
Augmentation Fund	91,990.34
Pension Fund (For Insurance)	1,595.55
Deferred Interest Added To	
Urbana College Note	17,989.79

	111,575.68

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Total Note Funds And Surplus	\$6,081,089.26
	=====

SECTION II

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURES
YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1971

INCOME

Gross Income—Investments and Mortgages	\$305,251.67
Blakebell Fund	7,210.00
Contributions:	
Appeal (Incl. \$7,000.00 Interest Urbana per vote)	\$21,513.55
Augmentation—Repayment of Loans	400.00
Mission Board—Direct	450.00
Messenger—Gifts	633.50
Mission Board For Travel	1,223.12

Total Income	\$339,711.84

EXPENDITURES

For Convention Uses, Per Terms Of Gifts Or By Direction Of General Council:	
Mission Travel	\$ 1,223.12
Augmentation—Societies—Students	49,574.94
Missions—Home, Foreign And Admin.	44,999.41

Pension Premiums And Loan Interest	30,236.95	
Urbana College	15,000.00	
Messenger	21,507.63	162,542.05

Income From Funds Held By Convention Payable By Terms Of Gifts:

American N.C. Tract & Publishing	\$ 1,064.32	
Board Of Publications	2,753.30	
Cambridge Society	155.05	
Connecticut Association	140.65	
Des Plaines Society	1,161.94	
First Penn. Society (Incl. Kirk)	1,779.51	
Illinois Association	1,023.75	
Michigan Association	2,073.18	
Newtonville Society	1,915.18	
Orange Society	1,068.50	
Swedenborg Publishing Association	973.75	
Theological School	6,272.40	
Various	1,536.45	21,917.98

Expenses:

Administrative	37,300.60	
Boards And Committees	23,914.92	
Real Estate	1,189.56	
Other	20,287.86	82,692.94
Total Expenditures		<u>\$267,152.97</u>
Income In Excess Of Expenditures		<u>\$ 72,558.87</u>

DISTRIBUTION

Augmentation	\$27,127.85
General	<u>45,431.02</u>
	<u>\$72,558.87</u>

SECTION III

CHANGES IN FUNDS HELD BY CONVENTION

Funds And Balances Per Next Prior Account March 31, 1970 \$6,142,652.34

Additions:

Restricted Free:		
Keller, Helen, Memorial	\$ 59.41	
General Free:—Special		
Lehnen	117.71	
General Purposes:		
New Addition:		
Estate of Emy Mollenhoff	18,485.85	
Income Over Expenditures	45,431.02	
Surplus Accounts:		
Augmentation	27,127.85	
Deferred Income	17,989.79	109,211.63
Total Additions		<u>\$6,251,863.97</u>

Deductions:

Restricted Free:		
Pension Funds (To Insurance)	122,387.17	
Orphanage Funds "	25,186.31	
General Funds (Wescott)	1,000.00	
Contributory Pension Fund	147,178.71	
Foreign Travel	643.21	
Scholarship Fund	1,278.44	
General Purpose (To Insurance)	32,185.57	
Surplus Account (Pension)	40,915.30	
Total Deductions		<u>370,774.71</u>

Note Payable Added 1970-71	<u>200,000.00</u>
Total Note Payable, Funds & Surplus March 31, 1971	<u>\$6,081,089.26</u>

Reports of Boards and Committees

REPORT OF GENERAL COUNCIL

A somewhat condensed, but nevertheless complete, report of General Council's business sessions in January 1971 have appeared in the March 1971 issue of *The Messenger*. A report of Council's pre-convention session in June will be prepared and distributed at the first business session of the Convention in Urbana.

Ethel V. Rice
Recording Secretary

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF SWEDENBORG SCHOOL OF RELIGION

In 1970-1971 the Board of Managers has considered especially the place of the Theological School in the church as a whole. Some churches find themselves unable to support a full time minister on their own, and find that lay people must take greater responsibility for the survival of a meaningful church. Better transportation and more emphasis on adult study and discussion has led to greater use of weekend conference facilities by many groups in our society. In our own church our LEL programs for young people have been an effective instance of this conference approach to working with people. All this has meant a greater emphasis on education and workshops for lay people in the church, and a greater sense of the need for laymen and clergy to work together in meeting the challenge of a changing society.

The Board of Managers has tried to respond to some of these needs in encouraging the President and faculty of the SSR to work out new ways of helping in the education of laymen in the church, to move toward more flexibility in the education of clergy as they prepare for ministries more varied than before, and to develop more ways to help laymen and ministers work together as New Churchmen. The Managers have also urged the faculty to do all possible to make the School a center for scholarship and writing for the church as a whole, to provide the tools needed as we think together about problems facing all religious men and about our own Swedenborgian role in the life of the universal church.

It is to serve these larger purposes of the School that the Managers support the invitation to Calvin Turley to join the Newton faculty full time, with the

hope that he will not only work with students there, but also help the church to understand the potential of conferences, of possible new work in regional centers, and of other work with laymen in the church. The Managers are glad to see Dr. Turley join the faculty full time.

The Managers regret that we will be losing the part time services of Rev. Antony Regamey, who will be retiring at the end of this year. We appreciate very much the contribution he has made particularly in his sensitivity to worship, and to the depth of religious experience. We regret also that we found it necessary to terminate the service of the Rev. David Johnson on the faculty. We appreciate particularly the work he has done in the area of pastoral work, and in providing students a chance to share in the work of the team at Bellevue in an exciting field work experience. The Managers have found the work at Bellevue an important element in theological education. We hope and expect that this kind of experience will continue to be available for students for the ministry, and we appreciate very much the work that David Johnson has done to bring this experience into existence. We are grateful to both Mr. Regamey and Mr. Johnson for what they have given to the work of the SSR.

Dorothea Harvey,
Chairman

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT SWEDENBORG SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Since my last annual report to Convention, I have made eight reports to the Board of Managers and/or the Board of Directors. These are available at the school and give the facts and history of the past year in some detail. The following is a summary.

During the past year our campus faculty consisted of Dr. Robert H. Kirven, Dr. George Dole, and myself, assisted on a limited basis by retired faculty member, the Reverend Antony Regamey. Dr. Coleman C. Bender of Emerson College worked with our students in speech both semesters. In addition to the Tutorials in Swedenborg and the speech classes one Seminar was presented each semester. Dr. Kirven and Mr. Regamey conducted a Seminar on Worship during the first semester; Mr. Capon, a Seminar on Preaching during

the second semester. Dr. Dole has continued to conduct the Hebrew class which began last year.

The Reverend Messrs. Owen T. Turley, Calvin E. Turley, and David P. Johnson continued as faculty members at our Field Education Center in Bellevue, Washington, though Calvin Turley was again on leave-of-absence and expects to receive a Doctor of Religion Degree from the Southern California School of Theology in Claremont in June. He has written a thesis entitled, "Theology for Theo-Therapy: A Swedenborgian Perspective." Instead of returning to Bellevue Dr. Turley will join the campus faculty in September.

Four students began the school year in Newton and one in Bellevue. A sixth student was admitted in February.

At his own request John K. Billings was permitted to remain in our Field Education Center for a second year for further experience. He has already made a decision to specialize in pastoral counselling and has submitted a preliminary plan of ministry to the Council of Ministers. After a summer of clinical pastoral education in the Federal Penitentiary on McNeil Island near Seattle John will return to Newton for his final year at SSR and at Andover Newton Theological School.

Our newest student, Vaclav Hokus, arrived in this country on February 25th. He is originally from Czechoslovakia and is a friend of Dr. Franklin. We have accepted him for a one-year exploratory stay at the school.

Four men are studying jointly here and at Andover Newton: Dr. Ivan Franklin, Yuzo Noda, Matthew Glowé and Walter Orthwein. Dr. Franklin will complete his program this Spring and expects to serve our church in San Diego and develop a counselling service as an additional source of income. Yuzo Noda expects to qualify for the degree of Master of Arts at Andover Newton in 1972 and possibly spend 1972-73 at Bellevue. Both Matthew Glowé and Walter Orthwein are in their second year here and at Andover Newton and are working for their first professional degree. Currently that degree is the Bachelor of Divinity one, but in all probability by the time they graduate they will be granted Master of Divinity degrees. This change in degree nomen-

"Lastly, I believe there are some among our lay people who are interested in learning further about Swedenborg in relation to their own personal growth. Here I am thinking particularly of the kind of use of our teachings that is being made of in our Leadership Education Institute for young people, in the retreats of the Middle Atlantic Association, and in the group programs of the Kemper Rd. Church, the El Cerrito Church, and the Good Shepherd Center in Bellevue."

"I am aware that the above described needs and interests present a 'tail order' for the school, if we try to deal with all of them. I think we would want to do quite a bit of checking through the church as to what actually is desired and by whom and where. For example, the situation in Massachusetts where there are a number of ordained ministers is rather different from the situation in the Mid West or in Southern California. I would want to see all churches and groups contacted by mail or by visits to make a kind of market analysis."

"We are fortunate in having one opportunity to do some exploratory work already on the drawing-board. The Reverend Richard Tafel, Jr. and the Reverend F. Robert Tafel of Kemper Rd. (Cincinnati) asked the school to sponsor jointly with them a Laymen's Leadership Training Institute one weekend in March. Some preliminary planning has gone on and some lay people have already been approached. By carrying through this project we would hope to come into contact with several dozen people of different ages from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Ontario, Michigan, Indiana and perhaps Missouri and learn from them what they feel they need in the way of training to become better New Churchmen. The design for the institute calls for each registrant to let us know in advance what kinds of things he would like to see built into the institute. This information plus what we heard at the institute could be very valuable data."

In April of 1971 I can now report a very successful Lay Institute in the Cincinnati area. Twenty participants from nine churches and three associations joined the staff for an intensive two and a half days for worship, discussion, study, and fellowship. All but two participants favored a continuation of such programs and voted to set up a regional committee to help in planning and managing future institutes. Since this initial institute word has come to us of interest in something similar in another area in Convention. We hope this

clature was authorized by the American Association of Theological Schools at its last biennial meeting and has been adopted by many member schools in the past ten months.

In December of 1970 I reported to the Directors as follows: "Subtracting nothing from the school's historical uses (i. e. the training of ministers and the encouragement and pursuit of Swedenborgian studies), the Faculty and Managers have voted in favor of adding a significant and major new use to the school's program: the training of lay-men and lay-women for their ministries, whether as leaders or members of the church. This additional endeavor of the school involves the Directors, inasmuch as it will require new items in the budget and—for the immediate future at least—deficit spending. What is the thinking behind this step?"

119 "To begin with, I think we are recognizing the presence of a need. For several years past and certainly for a number of years to come there will not be enough ordained ministers to serve those churches which have usually had ministers in the past. Furthermore, if there were ministers available, many of these churches would not be in a position to offer adequate salaries without far more assistance than the Augmentation Fund or—in the case of Massachusetts—the Massachusetts New Church Union have been accustomed to granting. In addition, several of these churches have frankly said that their needs are not sufficient to warrant the employment of a full-time man. Lay leaders with the help of some training could meet the need quite adequately."

"Secondly, the need of training for lay people arises not only from a shortage of ordained leadership but also from the newly recovered recognition of the importance of the work of the lay man and lay woman in the church. Throughout the Christian church we are hearing the reminder that the ministry of the church is the duty and privilege of all Christians and not the sole right and responsibility of paid professionals. A group of Swedenborgians can continue a ministry of pastoral care, a ministry of social service, and a missionary ministry whether there is a full-time, resident professional available to them or not. I believe there are people who feel the need of training to carry out such ministries."

"Thirdly, there have been definite indications from a few unusually able young people in the church that they would like an opportunity to learn more of Swedenborg so that his teachings may become a part of their every day

lives or of the vocations which they have chosen. Here I have particularly in mind several young people who have chosen the teaching field and who are interested in Swedenborg's philosophy and psychology of education."

new program of the School will continue to develop both through institutes away from Newton and through short-term conferences and workshops here. Somewhat in this connection it may be of interest to note that a high school teacher has made arrangements to live and study at the school this coming July and August.

This past year has seen continued consideration of improvement of our curriculum by our faculty, consideration which is incomplete because of a delay in the work of curriculum revision at Andover Newton Theological School. Our relationship with Andover Newton has been considerably strengthened during this past year and I am delighted to be able to report that a course on Christian Mysticism will be given by Dr. Kirven and Dr. Dole at Andover Newton next year and will be open to the students of that school for credit. Dean George Peck has been warmly appreciative of our offer to make such a course available.

Improvement of SSR's scholarly function has not been overlooked during the past year. Our librarian has had conferences here with the Urbana College librarian and has spent several days at Bryn Athyn with librarians of the Academy of the New Church. These meetings have resulted in plans for co-operative action, which will enhance the usefulness of each library for scholarly purposes. Further, we are bringing to the Newton faculty a third man who has gained a Doctor's degree to join Drs. Dole and Kirven. Dr. Calvin Turley will greatly strengthen our teaching force in the area of Swedenborg's teachings regarding the psychology of regeneration and in the area of modern psychology and pastoral counselling.

This past year, then, has been an encouraging one. We have added to our uses. We have strengthened our faculty. We have moved forward on the library front. And we are developing new relationships with Andover Newton. At the same time there have been more inquiries from prospective students and more men have been interviewed by myself and by other members of the faculty. I am looking forward to further progress next year.

Edwin G. Capon

**CORPORATION OF THE
NEW THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL
SWEDENBORG SCHOOL OF RELIGION**

**BALANCE SHEET
March 31, 1971 and March 31, 1970**

ASSETS

	1971	1970
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash—First Nat'l Bank of Boston	\$ 53,303.39	\$ 18,253.34
Newton National Bank	2,000.00	2,000.00
Petty Cash	400.00	400.00
Accounts Receivable	31,468.94	32,597.07
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$ 87,172.33	\$ 53,250.41

120 INVESTMENTS

Suffolk Franklin Savings Bank	\$ 1,632.84	\$ 1,632.84
Newton Savings Bank	6,000.00	6,000.00
United California Bank	7,622.26	7,622.26
Mortgage	12,468.50	13,214.87
General Convention Common Fund	1,489,779.82	1,489,779.82
256,029 Units @ \$9.50542926		
3/31/71 Market Value \$2,433,775.53		
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	\$1,517,503.42	\$1,518,249.79

PLANT ACCOUNT

Cambridge Chapel	\$ 190,422.39	\$ 189,031.48
48 Sargent St., Newton, Mass.	251,246.88	251,246.88
Station Wagon (Depreciated)	700.00	1,500.00

TOTAL PLANT ACCOUNT **\$ 442,369.27** **\$ 441,778.36**

TOTAL ASSETS **\$2,047,045.02** **\$2,013,278.56**

Library	6,490.00	6,262.62
Other	5,700.00	5,340.16
Cambridge—Taft Fund	500.00	500.00
Prior Year Adj.		87.88
Interest to Funds		700.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS **\$111,650.00** **\$106,091.95**

Income in excess of Disbursements **\$ 31,363.51**

Disbursements in excess of Income **\$ 11,650.00**

Balance April 1, 1970 **\$ 72,095.20**

Balance March 31, 1971 **103,458.71**

Exhibit "B"

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AMENDMENTS

During the year just past the Committee on Amendments has handled all matters referred to it by the General Convention and/or the General Council. The wording of proposed amendments to the By-Laws have been printed in *The Messenger* for presentation and action at the coming Convention session to be held in Urbana, Ohio on June 24-26, 1971.

*Forster W. Freeman, Jr.
David P. Johnson
Philip M. Alden, Chm.*

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

LIABILITIES, FUNDS & SURPLUS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$ 4,008.09	\$ 2,800.07
------------------	-------------	-------------

REPRESENTING FUNDS & SURPLUS

Representing Funds	\$ 934,804.39	934,713.27
Cambridge Fund	994,081.20	994,081.20
Julian K. Smyth—Surplus	5,746.93	5,571.82
J. Emmanuel Weren—Surplus	2,900.00	2,650.00
John Perry—Surplus	810.00	540.00
William F. Wunsch Mem. Fund	1,235.70	827.00
Surplus	103,458.71	72,095.20
	-----	-----
TOTAL	\$2,047,045.02	\$2,013,278.56
	=====	=====

Exhibit "A"

INCOME AND DISBURSEMENTS

April 1, 1970 to March 31, 1971

	Budget	Actual
--	--------	--------

INCOME

From Securities	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 126,383.06
Convention Funds		6,272.40
Rent		2,050.00
Clark Fund—Union		750.00
Rice Fund—Library		2,000.00
	-----	-----

TOTAL INCOME

	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 137,455.46
	-----	-----

DISBURSEMENTS

Educational Account	\$ 61,800.00	\$ 58,496.00
Plant Operations	14,575.00	15,583.25
General School	16,200.00	13,468.71
Administrative Boards	6,385.00	5,653.33

REPORT OF THE EDITOR OF THE MESSENGER

In the year ending March 1971, *The Messenger* published the usual eleven issues. Seven were the regular sixteen-page length, two were twenty-four pages, one thirty-two pages, and one, eight pages. This total of two hundred pages will be increased in the coming year.

Special issues were devoted to the "Crisis in the Nation" (June), the World Assembly (September and October), the Boston Church (November), and Swedenborgian publishing and scholarship (March continued into April of this year). The World Assembly issues created with the assistance of Department of Publication members who went to London, and other volunteer reporters and photographers, reported most of the major events of the Assembly (certain major addresses and important conferences regrettably were not covered) and contained sixty-four pictures.

The Messenger served as circulating medium for two items which it did not publish: a flyer for the Rev. Brian Kingslake's *Aqueduct Papers*, and a supplement to the Swedenborg School of Religion bulletin were stapled into the center fold. News of meetings and events, informative and inspirational articles comprised the bulk of the material. Announcements of coming meetings and special events and notices of Swedenborgian books for sale appeared in many issues. An index covering each Volume (January thru December) is available without charge from *The Messenger* office.

By the end of the fiscal year, arrangements had been completed for editorial and lay-out assistance from Mrs. Perry Martin and Miss Margaret Kirven. Composition of *The Messenger* continues to be done in Convention's Central Office by Mrs. Gladys Baker with help from Mrs. Leona Freedman; with printing by the Thomas Todd Company of Boston, and binding and mailing by Boston Mailing Co.

Robert H. Kirven, Editor

BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Board reports with sorrow the death of the Rev. Leonard I. Tafel, M. D., who, as our Secretary for many years, served us as memory and as guide through many perplexities. While it is good to know that his energies are no longer hampered by failing health, we feel the loss of a richness of ties with our past.

We had already reorganized the Board, choosing Mrs. Dorothy Farnham as Recording Secretary, with the Chairman handling through the Central Office of Convention much of the correspondence that had fallen to the Executive Secretary. In the first year of operation under this arrangement, it has appeared workable. It has undoubtedly been convenient for the Board's Chairman to have an office across the hall from that of the President of Convention, and some of the difficulties of communication that have existed in the past have resolved themselves quite simply by physical proximity.

The chairman had the good fortune to be able, with his wife, to visit our ministers on the Continent before the World Assembly in London. Our first stop was at Zurich, where we were most impressed by the good order and productivity of the printing establishment Dr. Horn has working. Some of the better educated members have parted company with the church on matters of policy, but it is felt that the remaining majority is now free to work with greater unity of purpose.

Our group in Lausanne continues faithfully, but may be faced with property problems in the future. The church occupies a plot that is scheduled for rebuilding, and a projected widening of the street would not leave room to build adequate facilities. A capable realtor is a member of the society, and it is hoped that when the eventuality finally arrives, a solution will be found.

In Freiburg, Werner Schmidt seems in excellent health and spirits, heartened by the coalescence of groups in his far-flung field. Werner's son Friedemann is beginning pre-theological studies with a view to ordination and work in our German area, though of course the precise extent of his field and nature of his ministry cannot be worked out at this time.

In Paris, Claude Bruley is proving very energetic in the production of New Church literature in French, which has long been sadly lacking. The former separate groups are cooperating well, an attractive chapel has been set up in

The Rev. Jack Hardstedt reports faithfully from Stockholm. His health continues to restrict him more and more each year, but he still pushes himself to the limit. The effort is being made to develop lay leadership there in anticipation of his retirement, and successful lay services have been held during the past year. A projected visit of Mr. Doi on behalf of the Board missed connections owing to a confusion concerning dates, much to the regret of all.

In Egypt, the only news is that the Rizqs are still in Upper Egypt, awaiting a resolution of the Suez crisis that will enable them to resume work in Port Said. Some little work has been done in the neighborhood around Asyout, but with no foundation to work from, little can be expected. We continue to support the Rizqs as best we can, in anticipation of his return to the Salaam Church.

In Japan, a potentially critical situation involving both personalities and principles seems to be quieting down, with some urging from the Board. Mr. Doi reports that a drop in Sunday School attendance has led him to concentrate on the development of materials for home and family study, and we await with interest a report of progress on this venture. Mr. Yanase, under the joint sponsorship of the Board and the Swedenborg Foundation, has completed the translation of the *Arcana*, which is being published volume by volume. This major task should provide the groundwork for future growth.

In Korea, as may be well known, Mr. Lee has been most energetic, and it appears that changes in the political situation there make it advisable for him to come to this country for a time. His able work has made it possible for him to do this and to leave the church in Seoul in capable hands. In Kwangju, Mr. Chung is moving toward a building program which, if feasible, should materially increase the resources of his group. He too has been actively translating, and several fascicles of *True Christian Religion* have been issued in mimeographed form. Both groups were visited by Miss Margaret Sampson after the World Assembly, and the Board profited from her first-hand report in the fall.

Miss Sampson also visited the Phillipines, and informed us that the long-standing property dispute there seems to be moving toward resolution. The Board took what action it could to help toward this long-awaited event.

Our overseas missions lost a worker of long standing with the death of the Rev. Walter Fraser of Guyana. He is survived by his wife, who has also long

the building in Meudon (suburban Paris), and a successful "camp" last summer has led to plans for a longer one this year.

All of these efforts have marginal budgets, and the chairman was impressed with the amount of very capable work that is being done within these limitations. With the relative devaluation of the dollar in Europe, we may face a rise in expenditures simply to maintain support at its present level.

The World Assembly itself was busy, but there was time for the Chairman to talk with the Rev. Mr. Asawo of Nigeria, and to clarify his understanding of the situation there. The Board has from time to time had "feelers" from Nigerian groups about affiliation with Convention, and partly as a result of the talk with Mr. Asawo, has reaffirmed its previous decisions not to complicate the task of the British Conference by becoming involved directly in this area. We did, however, vote in October to try to arrange the use of the Mite Box for relief of Nigerian churches which suffered in the Biafran conflict.

In London, the chairman was also fortunate to have the opportunity to meet and talk with Mr. Habegger of Buenos Aires. His small group is presently centered mostly in study of the doctrines, with little interest in moving toward more ecclesiastical forms. Mr. Habegger was assured that we feel it best for the group to develop in ways appropriate to it, and is under no pressure to conform to past patterns, whether North or South American. With the energetic work of Tomas Spiers of the Board and of the Swedenborg Foundation, substantial progress is being made in the area of New Church literature in Spanish. Again, this seems to be a time for laying foundations rather than for impressive growth, and we are fortunate to have the cooperation of a man of Mr. Habegger's calibre at this juncture.

We were stunned and saddened on our return to learn of the death of Rev. Othmar Tobisch shortly after the Assembly. It is difficult to add anything to what has already been said and written about the passing of this beloved brother in the fulfillment of his dream, but it might be in order to say that his determination and labor over the past ten years have led to an awareness of world brotherhood which was quite unexpected in its fullness and intensity, and that we and the church of the future have much to be grateful for.

There has been little news from Berlin or Vienna this past year, and time did not permit the chairman to visit either place. Both groups are under lay leadership at present.

been active in the church and continues to do what she can to maintain its activities. Since, however, the only likely candidate to succeed Mr. Fraser has dropped out of the picture, there is little likelihood of the Board's continuing to be as closely involved there as in the past. We do regret this, and hope that leadership may develop there which will further the work Mr. Fraser began.

Reports from Vancouver indicate that rising costs have indicated the wisdom of foregoing plans for a new church building, and the society is studying the possibilities of opening a book room. Plans are underway at this writing for the Rev. Rollo Billings to visit Vancouver, and to report to our Convention meeting of the Board.

The Rev. Henry Reddekopp continues to cover extraordinary distances in the care of his scattered flock. It was mentioned at our October meeting that in the course of a month he probably visits and conducts worship for more individuals than anyone else in Convention. Whether this is statistically true or not, the thought may serve to underscore the importance of this inconspicuous work.

In Florida, activities at the new center in DeLand are growing month by month. Difficult as it is to believe, the Rev. Ernest Frederick has reached retirement age, but if this represents any inward change, there is little outward and visible indication of it. The center has instituted a regular and attractive mailing to its scattered members, and what is learned there may well be of considerable value to Convention in the coming years.

Our budget continues to be a problem. The areas where dollars in small amounts do great things are dwindling each year, and it is a continuing effort of the Board to urge mission groups to find forms of existence and service that are appropriate to their own conditions and more or less supportable within the local economy. This is not easy, but as we look into the years ahead, it appears quite necessary.

But for all the dollars we spend—and in regard to Convention's overall expenditures, the amount is substantial—we cannot help but feel the ability and devotion of the men we support is worth a great deal more than we can afford. A great deal of very excellent work is being done, and we have every reason to be happy to be part of it.

George F. Dole
Chairman

BOARD OF HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS

BALANCE SHEET

MARCH 31, 1971

ASSETS

Cash—First National Bank of Boston	\$ 1,935.49
Due From Convention	11,324.80
Book Value—assets—Convention	35,997.82

Total Assets	\$49,258.11
	=====

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS

Accounts Payable	\$ 1,194.81
Mite Box	2,158.62
Warren Berlin Sunday School	115.20

Total Liabilities	\$ 3,468.63

FUNDS

General Purpose	\$35,464.91
Mansfield (Inc. To Mass. N.C. Union)	3,381.25
Alfred Regamey	4,096.37
Warren (Berlin Sunday School)	480.00
Vienna Building	2,366.95

Total Funds	\$45,789.48

Total Liabilities and Funds	\$49,258.11
	=====

EXHIBIT A

BOARD OF HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

APRIL 1, 1970 TO MARCH 31, 1971

Income:

	Budget	Actual
Convention Funds	\$29,000.00	\$39,116.62
Childs Fund	10,000.00	5,432.79
Appeal	12,000.00	-0-
Stamp Income (Rev. Marshall)	300.00	450.00
Underwriting	1,221.96	-0-
Collection	-0-	-0-
	-----	-----
Total Income	\$52,521.96	\$44,999.41
	-----	-----

Expenditures

Home	\$18,580.00	\$17,423.97
Foreign	29,864.00	25,353.08
Secretary Expenses	750.00	-0-
Treasurer's Office	600.00	600.00
Treasurer's Expenses	150.00	57.00
Board Travel	1,500.00	1,024.30
Contingencies	500.00	-0-
Project Comm.	50.00	13.10
Diehl Fund—Mass. N. C. Union	250.00	250.00
Mansfield Fund—Mass. N. C. Union	98.56	98.56
Vienna Building Fund	165.00	165.00
Warren Fund—Berlin	14.40	14.40
	-----	-----
	\$52,521.96	\$44,999.41
	=====	=====

REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

EXHIBIT B

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education has held two meetings this year: a business meeting in October at Urbana, Ohio, and a meeting for the purpose of learning to work together more productively, held in Cambridge, Mass. in December with a human relations consultant.

The Leadership Education Institute at Fryeburg in August, directed by Jerry Poole was filled to capacity. There were young people from many geographical areas, representing first, second, and third year participants. Sessions were held on the group process, psychodrama, dealing with conflict, leadership, the philosophy of the church in relation to sensitivity encounters, worship experience, and arts and crafts. A highly positive response was expressed by the participants.

The need for a continuing program for those who have been through LEI is a concern of the board. Also the need to help young adults relate meaningfully with the church and Convention is recognized, and recommendations have been made to further such relationships in Convention.

All Sunday School lessons are now being distributed by the Convention office. The reprinting of lesson materials is being continued.

The changing emphasis of the Adult Work Committee was reported in the *May Messenger*. This committee hopes to become of increasing use in the educational work now being carried on in various areas.

Exploratory work toward the establishment of a day care center, referred to the board by Convention, has centered on the establishment of such a center through the efforts of one of our churches with the backing of Convention. Efforts up to this time have proved unproductive.

Learning About Learning seminars, under the auspices of the board, have been conducted by Carolyn Blackmer in New York and Detroit. Response to the seminars by the participants was enthusiastic.

Perry S. Martin
Secretary

REPORT OF THE NEW CHURCH PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

Monthly bulletins and lists of prayer requests have been issued each month except for July and August when Brian and Jill Kingslake were in London for the World Assembly. There we made contact with those New Church people in England who are interested in the Prayer Fellowship and held a two-session seminar on Prayer and Healing, as part of the Assembly activities. This year we have had three bulletins written by ministers under the auspices of the Council of Ministers' Committee on Spiritual Healing: June, Dr. Horand Gutfeldt; November, Rev. Andre Diaconoff; and January, Rev. Brian Kingslake. In October, there was an article by Emilie Bateman, and in April, an address, "The Weakness of Medicine" by Clair B. King, M.D., an eminent eye surgeon who is also devoted to the principles of Spiritual Healing.

Membership as of May 1971 stands at 135 (including 20 members overseas) and bulletins are also mailed to 39 ministers.

The generosity and devotion of our members, expressed in free will offerings, continues to cover all our costs of mimeographing and mailing. The tape recording on prayer and spiritual healing has been borrowed and used as a basis for a discussion group. I should like to see more use made of the Prayer Fellowship Library.

The service of laying-on of hands continues at the Church of the Holy City in Washington, D. C. and Brother Mandus conducted healing services in this church in April 1971. Miss F. Marion Greene continues to act most efficiently as Treasurer and Secretary, responsible for the mailing of the monthly bulletins.

Jill Kingslake, Director

A REPORT ON THE ADULT WORK COMMITTEE

The Adult Work Committee came into being in 1968. Over a period of years, members of Convention had voiced a need for some kind of educational endeavor that would be designed for adults in the church. The Leadership Education Institute, geared to the youth of the church, was suggested as one model. The Board of Education, in responding to this expressed need, developed the Adult Education Committee, now called the Adult Work Committee. This committee's purpose was to focus attention on this concern and see what could be done.

The committee held two meetings to discuss possible means of approaching this issue. The meetings were encouraging to those who attended. A new awareness of the church's unity emerged as the members of the committee, representing various viewpoints within the church, experienced increased appreciation for and acceptance of the differences in emphasis and approach to using the teachings of our church. We discovered anew that these differences need not keep people separated from one another. The church has room for people of differing approaches. Our growth as individuals, and as a church, requires mutual respect, not isolation. We share weaknesses. We have complementary strengths and resources to give. The Adult Work Committee wanted others to have the opportunity to share in this process of discovery.

The committee decided to hold a pilot retreat for this purpose in an Association. We approached the Executive Committee of the Massachusetts Association to see if they would be interested in cooperating with such a pilot project. They were. A joint planning committee was established, consisting of the Adult Work Committee and three representatives from the Massachusetts Association. Within a year, two attempts were made at holding a pilot retreat that had been "planned" by the joint committee. Both failed to secure sufficient registrations and were cancelled.

through the process. We continue to believe that retreats, institutes, conferences and workshops have a valuable place in the life of the church. We take the desire expressed by members of Convention as genuine and needing response. During the years since 1968, and in some cases before, Associations have held retreats: California, Middle Atlantic and Ohio. Also, individual congregations have made use of this method of adult education: El Cerrito and Los Angeles, California; Cincinnati, Ohio; Bellevue, Washington; and there are others. These have developed from within the participating groups. Massachusetts is considering having a retreat that is of their own design. Both the Swedenborg School of Religion and the Research and Development Committee of Convention have sponsored institutes or conferences of national make up. In short, opportunities for this kind of experience have been increasingly offered; more are anticipated.

All this has led to a new understanding and image of the kind of role the Adult Work Committee can serve. We presently feel our efforts should be centered on being available to the churches and associations for their use as a consulting and resource group. Our experience at trying to hold a pilot retreat has attuned us to some of the problems and issues to be resolved in such efforts. We are taking steps to gather information and impressions regarding such experiences in which members of the church have participated. We are continuing to look at the possibilities of regional and national institutes for adults. We are listening and noting the kinds of needs and desires around which retreats could be centered. We are making ourselves known.

Randall Laakko
Chairman of A.W.C.

REPORT OF THE AUGMENTATION FUND COMMITTEE

In computing the income of the Augmentation Fund Committee for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1971, the Treasurer of Convention reports that the Bank of Delaware, custodian of Convention's Common Fund, revised its accounting procedure. This resulted in a substantial increase over past years to an amount exceeding \$76,000. This change results in an increase for only one fiscal year. In the fiscal year 1972 the income will return to normal.

The Adult Work Committee and representatives from the Massachusetts Association analyzed this failure at holding a pilot retreat in this way. While the Adult Work Committee members had had a common, positive growing awareness and sense of unity as a church, the representatives of the Massachusetts Association had not been a part of that process. The Adult Work Committee failed to communicate the experience and the discovery of our unity through the process of mutual acceptance and respect did not happen during the joint meetings. There was, to some degree, a hidden agenda on the part of the Adult Work Committee members. This resulted, in some measure, in the members of the Adult Work Committee doing the planning of a pilot retreat that would then be offered to the Association. We were playing the role of "experts" from the outside planning a retreat for others. This is one point at which the needs and desires of the constituents of the Massachusetts Association were lost. In fact, it could be said that at the point the Adult Work Committee wanted to have others share in the kind of experience we had had, the committee began to lose an openness to the desires and needs of others. Were we enthused to the point of being insensitive?

127

The experience of the Adult Work Committee has been one of discovery and learning. We have felt discouragement and frustration. We have matured

Disbursements during the fiscal year were:		
To 8 churches		\$30,127.11
For 5 students		18,683.00
One Association		100.00
Expenses of the Fund		664.83
	Total	<hr/> \$49,574.94
Income increased as above	\$76,302.79	
Refunds from students not becoming ministers	<hr/> 400.00	
	\$76,702.79	
Balance		\$27,127.85
As of March 31, 1970, the surplus amounted to		<hr/> 64,862.49
Leaving amount on hand March 31, 1970		<hr/> \$91,990.34

The capital funds will be reflected in the annual report of the treasurer.

George Pausch, Secretary

Reports of Associations

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION

The California Association hosted Convention in Claremont, California in July 1969. The Association meeting was held February 15, 1970 at Wayfarers' Chapel. The next meeting is scheduled for San Francisco September 3 to 5, 1971.

San Francisco welcomed Rev. Erwin Reddekopp as their pastor on September 6, 1970. On October 11 Rev. Robert L. Young conducted a memorial service for Rev. Othmar Tobisch, who died in London following the World Assembly which was his dream come true. There was an installation service

for the new pastor on November 1 conducted by the Rev. Ernest O. Martin. On March 17 a film about Robert Frost was shown in the church; Mr. Tobisch appeared in one scene of the film. As a boy Robert Frost attended the New Church Sunday School in San Francisco (on O'Farrell Street). Mr. Reddekopp describes "Marriage Sunday" as a new experience for him—this is the time when all who have been married in the church are invited to attend. This year 140 people were present. The Martha's Alliance continues to serve in many capacities; also a Young Married Couples Club, and a Church Interest Group which meet regularly.

The El Cerrito parish continues its encounter groups, led by the pastor. The Sunday service is conducted by a small group of lay persons, who take

turns leading worship. The encounter groups attract some who are not members of the society.

San Diego has been served one Sunday a month by Rev. John Spiers, and the other Sundays by laymen of the parish—Dr. Garry White, Henry Swanton, J. Allen Hodges, Jack Brooker, Lee Rittenhouse and Bert Chombeau. Dr. Ivan Franklin, who is to complete his studies at Swedenborg School of Religion in June, has been called to serve the society, as part time minister. The womens' Threadtwisters group is especially active. The Sunday School continues.

Riverside has been served one Sunday a month by Rev. John Spiers, the other Sundays by two lay leaders—Eugene Denning and Chester Skinner. The Dennings moved in February to be near the Wayfarers' Chapel, where Mr. Denning is now an assistant. There is a larger attendance in Sunday School than in the church service. Mrs. Alice Sechrist conducts a weekly evening class in the writings.

Los Angeles has been served twice a month by Rev. John Spiers, the other Sundays by laymen—Merle Lundberg, Ernest Sandstedt, Irving McCallum, Ronald Block, Marvin Butts, and others. Rev. Henry K. Peters was guest preacher on Easter, and Dr. Garry White has come from San Diego now and then. The women are active in the Stitch and Study club. The Sunday School continues weekly. Rev. Spiers conducted an evening class in True Christian Religion. Rev. Chungsun Lee has been called to serve this church.

The Temple City Society is worshipping in the home of its secretary in Pasadena, and finds it very satisfactory. The group is small, but very faithful.

The Portland, Oregon church has been without a minister for over five years. They meet for worship and study about every other Sunday, with eight to twelve persons usually present. The Women's Alliance meets regularly, with eight members. They are still trying to sell the church building.

Bellevue, Wash. is served by two ministers, both of whom hold membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. The church is serv-

The Kitchener Swedenborgian Church carries on an active program throughout the year, with an average attendance last year at the Sunday morning worship services of 70. The Women's Auxiliary and the Youth League meet twice monthly, carrying on a number of religious, social and service activities. Last year two study groups met, also twice monthly. Our Church School enrollment holds steady at about 75, with an average attendance of 58. The Toronto Study Group continues to meet twice monthly in the homes of members, with the minister in attendance every second meeting. Since last August we have also been serving the Detroit New Church Society once a month.

Paul B. Zacharias, President

THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION

The Connecticut Association met twice in 1970. The meetings were held in New Haven at Center Church House, 311 Temple Street. The first meeting was on May 19, 1970 with twelve members present. The meeting began with a worship service conducted by the Rev. Clayton Priestnal of New York City. The theme was "As It Is in Heaven."

Mrs. Foster G. Woods called the annual meeting to order after luncheon. The following officers were elected:

President:	Mrs. Foster G. Woods
Vice-President:	The Rev. Clayton Priestnal
Treasurer:	Miss Frances Vodola
Secretary:	Mrs. Martin F. Lynn

The Association met on Oct. 13, 1970 for the second meeting, which began with a worship service conducted by the Rev. Clayton Priestnal. The sermon topic was "The Deathless Dream" and was based on the second chapter of Joel. There were seven present.

Following the luncheon a business meeting was conducted by the president. It was voted to send \$200 (completing a \$300 pledge) to the New Church Theological School in Korea in memory of the past members of the Connecticut Association.

ing the Seattle metropolitan area with a special emphasis on human growth and development. They want to sell their large plant, and purchase a small property which they can use to better advantage. Mr. Calvin Turley has been on educational leave for two years in Claremont, Cal. and is a candidate for a doctorate in June.

The Wayfarers' Chapel holds no membership, but services are well attended. The chapel is much used for weddings. Mr. Young and staff keep things going smoothly. Mr. Eugene Denning is especially pleased with the opportunity of talking with people about our church teachings as they come to the visitors' center.

The Association sponsors Split Mountain Camp for youth over 14, which continues to hold two week sessions each August on Forest land in Kern County.

Alice Van Boven, Secretary

CANADA ASSOCIATION

The Church of the Good Shepherd in Kitchener is the only active congregation in the Canada Association. However former members of the Toronto New Church Society, and other isolated members of the Swedenborgian Church living in Ontario, still maintain an active interest and attend services in Kitchener occasionally.

The Executive Board of the Canada Association meets twice annually and sponsors a number of worthy projects for the Church, including the following: the Association funds our annual Homecoming Sunday program each spring; it offers financial support for local delegates to attend the annual Swedenborgian Convention; it provides financial assistance to our ministers in Western Canada, for their travel expenses to Convention; last year it paid for the broadcasting of eight Sunday morning worship services over CHYM radio in Kitchener; it provides funds for the purchase and distribution of New Church literature in Canada and has contributed to the Urbana College Building Fund.

In April 1971, matching a gift from Miss Emma Bancroft, a check for \$1,000 went forward from the Connecticut Association of the New Jerusalem to Urbana College to augment the scholarship fund for students there who are affiliated with the New Church.

The next meeting of the Connecticut Association will be held in New Haven on May 19, 1971. The sermon topic will be "The Vision of a New Earth."

Louise W. Lynn, Secretary

REPORT OF THE GULFPORT CHURCH

Since the first of May 1970, the Sunday services have been led by our two faithful lay leaders, Mr. Robert Loper and Mr. George Hersey. The average attendance is 17.

On Easter Sunday, the Worship, Holy Communion, and Baptism services were conducted by the Rev. Leslie Marshall. Attendance was 41.

Rev. Mr. Marshall gave a lecture in the church on the evening of April 10th. As always his services were much appreciated by the church members.

Esther Peters, Secretary

KANSAS ASSOCIATION

The Kansas Association of the New Jerusalem Church met in its annual session at Pawnee Rock, Kansas on October 18, 1970. The Adult Sunday School discussion was led by Mr. Frank Unruh of Grand Junction, Colorado. The theme of the morning was "Spreading the good word for the Lord's New Church." There were numerous questions and suggestions offered by those taking part in the class.

The Morning Worship services were conducted by The Rev. Galen Unruh, of Pawnee Rock. Rev. Tom Reed of Wichita, Ks., delivered the sermon. Mr. Reed was assisted by Mr. Zacharias and Mr. Unruh in administering the Holy Communion.

The noon meal was served by the ladies of the local church. During the afternoon Helen Hundley gave an interesting report on the trip and meetings which she attended at the World Conference in London. The business meeting was directed by Rev. Zacharias. Reports of the activities of all groups were heard. Rev. Tom Reed meets with a group of people in Wichita. This is an entirely new group. On several occasions they have visited with the Pretty Prairie Society. The Church at Montezuma has a regular Sunday School which is very active. The Pretty Prairie Church has cooperated with the other churches of their community in several joint ventures. The Pawnee Rock Church has kept up its attendance throughout the year with a number of activities that involved the community. The League had seventeen youth and five adults that camped out for several days in the Colorado Rockies.

The Association sends copies of *Daily Bread* to all the 105 County Libraries in Kansas. It also sponsors a newsletter which is published by the Rev. Galen Unruh with contributions from some members of the various societies. Rev. Zacharias writes articles for the *Pretty Prairie Times* and the *Kingman* newspaper weekly. Rev. Zacharias is a Counselor at the Mental Health Center in Hutchinson. During the past year Rev. Galen Unruh has been a full time student at the Barton County Community College. While continuing his education, he has had many opportunities for visiting and counseling the youth of the community.

The groups of people which make up the churches in the Kansas Association carry on many activities which help those outside of their own societies. This is one of the real secrets of the strength of the Kansas Association. All the churches have active Sunday Schools which assures a continuing church.

Roger R. Unruh, Secretary

The Boston Society held a successful homecoming Sunday on March 22, and in May held a farewell dinner in honor of the President of the Society and his family—the Carl Sjostedts—who were leaving the city. A harvest fair was held in November which included dinner and entertainment, and in which all the Association churches joined. The church facilities have been used for community service, including Boy Scouts and the Perry Normal School Nursery classes. The Ladies' Aid meets regularly and carry on a Senior Citizens program in addition to their other activities. An enthusiastic Adult Discussion Group meets monthly in the homes of members.

Bridgewater continues in the pattern of previous years with no special news, but a steady continuous participation in community affairs and with the active groups including the Sunday School, Ladies' Sewing Circle, King's Daughters and the Study Group.

Brockton also continues its regular program with no unusual developments, and with its facilities used regularly by the Red Cross Blood Bank and the Annual Sale of Articles Made by the Blind. The Ladies' Circle and the NTO's (a group of younger women) meet regularly and contribute their time and money to various church and community charities.

In Cambridge study meetings are held every Monday night, the Sunday School is active as is the Ladies' Aid. The church library has been open two days a week from noon to 5 p. m. with two members of the society as attendants.

Elmwood takes part in inter-church activities in the community, has held two meetings of young adults, and maintains one of the oldest BoyScout troops in the state. There is a large and active Sunday School, youth and senior choirs, two women's organizations—the Joppa Guild and the sewing circle. The Lenten Sunday evening meetings are described elsewhere in this report.

Manchester has been without a regular minister since June 1970 with the Rev. Edwin G. Capon acting as interim minister two Sundays a month, and students from the SSR taking the other services. There is an active Ladies' Aid, and all the members take much interest in the church property.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION

The Massachusetts Association held two meetings this year, one in October at the Swedenborg School of Religion in Newton, and the April (annual) meeting in Bridgewater. The program at the annual meeting was planned by the Massachusetts New Church Union and consisted of a lighted map of Swedenborg's travels in Europe, accompanied by slides of some of the sights he might have seen, narrated by Mrs. Rafael M. J. Guin. A feature of the fall meeting was a memorial service for the Rev. Everett K. Bray, for many years General Pastor of the Association and Pastor Emeritus of the Cambridge Society. The program at this meeting was a movie "Evasion" followed by a discussion of its significance.

Camp Blairhaven in South Duxbury was active as usual during the summer of 1970, and plans are underway for the 1971 session. Mrs. Charles Benson of Elmwood was the Director for 1970 and she and the Rev. Paul B. Zacharias are Directors for 1971.

131

The Swedenborg birthday celebration of the Northern Area Council was a dinner followed by a talk by the Rev. Dr. Harry Barnitz of the Nova Hiersolyma. He also spoke to the Southern Area churches at Brockton on the previous night.

A series of Sunday evening Lenten programs was held in Elmwood with the speakers talking on Latin America, Vietnam and Southeast Asia, the NASA film on the Apollo 11 moon flight, a dialogue discussion on Christian unity, a black Baptist minister on "Reconciliation or Reparations" and the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Bible Society.

The New Church *News* has continued its regular publication several times a year keeping the members of the Association informed and aware of church activities in other societies.

The Women's Alliance has held its usual meetings and donated to the usual charities. Its theme for the year has been the "Doctrine of Use."

Newtonville has continued having pulpit supply from the SSR students and faculty and occasionally other Association ministers. There are no activities except for the Sunday School, but the facilities are used regularly by a number of community groups.

Yarmouth is served during the summer months only by the Rev. Clayton S. Priestnall of New York. An active program is carried on during the vacation season.

The bookrooms of the Massachusetts New Church Union are very much a part of the Association activities under the able direction of Mr. Rafael M. J. Guin. Many people stop in for conversation and/or research during the year, and new contacts are made for the church and its teachings.

The officers of the Association are the Rev. George D. McCurdy, President, Mr. Clarence L. Mitchell, Vice-President and Mrs. Alan W. Farnham, Secretary.

Dorothy B. Farnham, Secretary
George D. McCurdy, President

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Michigan Association was held at the Church of the Holy City in Detroit, Michigan on October 4, 1970.

A contribution of \$1,000 for Urbana College was approved.

The Almont New Church Assembly made a financial request in order to partially complete a new building addition to the Almont Summer School. The request was granted.

The kitchen-dining room area, living room, the upstairs study and two other rooms and showers are expected to be completed by the beginning of the Summer School session, which is July 11, 1971.

The newly elected officers for 1970-71 are as follows:

President	Mr. Delmar Anderson
Vice-President	Mr. John Locke
Treasurer	Mr. Wilfred C. Locke
Secretary	Mrs. Johanna Locke (W. C.)
Trustees	Mrs. Eunice Hamilton
	Mrs. Elizabeth Harder
	Mr. Vincent Bergmann

During the 1970-71 year the Church of the Holy City in Detroit held regular worship services. Due to the resignation of the Rev. Erwin Reddekopp, guest ministers conducted Sunday services. Rev. Paul B. Zacharias from Kitchener, Ontario came the last weekend of every month. Discussion groups met Saturday evenings and Rev. Paul Zacharias conducted the Sunday morning church services. He also met with the Senior League after church.

132 Rev. Joseph Gregory of Detroit conducted two Sunday services a month. The second Sunday of the month was well taken care of by Swedenborgian guest ministers from out of state. On March 28, 1971 it was voted by the congregation to accept the offer of Rev. Joseph Gregory to serve as pastor of the Church of the Holy City, beginning May 1, 1971. Rev. and Mrs. Gregory may attend the General Convention at Urbana College.

It has been a very busy social year for the Detroit Church. There were many pot-luck dinners and after church coffee hours. The women were all very gracious in their cooperation to make this year a pleasant one.

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION

During the past two years the President of the New York Association, C. Corey Mills, has kept us functioning in a number of directions, both within the Association and in relation to the New York church community. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Council of Churches of New York City

Mr. Larsen reports considerable activity in the Orange Church. He is particularly pleased with the way laymen have participated in the worship service. His two youngest members, recently confirmed, Torgny Vigerstad and Gus Abato, as well as Messrs. Dobbins, Kreicsberg and Sabol, have given the Bible readings on several occasions. His adult Bible class is in its thirteenth year with five of its original members still attending. This year the Society rejoices in the fact that they are making the last payment on the church mortgage. They plan to celebrate!

The Women's Auxiliary of Orange and the Ladies' Aid of New York combine to form the New York Women's Alliance which meets alternately in New York and Orange. After lunch and a business meeting the members join in a program of mutual interest. The Auxiliary continues to make money through various projects to help support the church and is meticulous about attending all outside projects by women's groups in and around Orange which welcome them. Several Alliance members attend the meetings of Church Women United.

The Ladies' Aid contributes generously to a number of worthwhile projects, among which are Church Women United for their Marriage Counselor in the Home Term Court, the Leadership Education Institute, Save the Children Federation (sponsoring an Indian child) and Odyssey House, the treatment center for adolescent drug addicts in New York City. A most successful pre-Christmas cake and gift sale has been held each year and the ladies continue to interest themselves in the upkeep of the church, the coffee hour, baby-sitting during the service and gifts and flowers to those who are ill.

Margaret S. Sampson, Secretary

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION

The Annual Meeting of the Southeast Association was held at Swedenborg House in DeLand, Florida, on April 17-18, 1971.

St. Petersburg: The missionary activities of this church, under the direction of the Rev. Leon C. LeVan, have been in the form of public lectures, news-

and several of our members serve on one or another of its committees. The Rev. Clayton S. Priestnal has given four series of talks over WHN radio on time obtained by the Council. His talks have been well received and one led to an invitation to address a gathering of sixty people at the Lighthouse (the Institute for the Blind). Some of his talks are now available in pamphlet form and the Association is considering other ways of using them as missionary material.

Mrs. Virginia Branston has served in the Radio and TV Department of the Council of Churches for several years and was recently elected to be vice-president of the department. She has just finished moderating four programs over WOR-TV in which she interviewed persons of outstanding achievement in working with the problems of the aging. The Rev. Harold B. Larsen has obtained time, underwritten by our Association, over station WTHE radio on Long Island. He gives a fifteen minute talk, invites questions and offers books. He is pursuing the subject of correspondences and concentrating on the first few chapters of Genesis.

133 The usual work of the Church has gone forward within our two local Societies. In New York we had two worship services that were innovations. The Sunday after Christmas, with few members present, an informal service was held in the front of the Church much as one would hold family worship at home. It featured members taking their offering to the altar instead of having the plate passed. This spring Mrs. Mary Jane Wolbers, an authority on the dance, showed us how it could be incorporated in the worship service. Her demonstration was preceded by a film showing a company of dancers interpreting the different sections of the service by means of the dance.

In New York Mr. Priestnal has conducted a well attended adult class before church, besides having two series of discussion groups, spring and fall, in the parish house. One weekend the church sponsored a seminar on an intensive exploration of the learning process conducted by Carolyn Blackmer, which those attending praised highly. A very pleasant feature of our activities has been the presentation of two Sunday evening concerts last year and a series of ten this year by our organist, Mr. William Mount. His particular interest is in ancient instruments and from time to time they have been played during the offertory.

paper advertising of selected books, 2-minute recorded telephone messages about New Church teachings, running up to 400 calls a week, and monthly meetings at Bradenton. The Rev. Leslie Marshall, although retired, still looks after the Board of Missions' Stamp Outlet and is currently, with the help of Mr. Warren Westcott, Sr., reducing the six volume Swedenborg Concordance to one volume for popular usage. Mr. Marshall also makes occasional visits to Gulfport to serve the church there.

Miami-DeLand: After the fire, the church building was sold and, pending relocation, temporary quarters were rented on Devonshire Blvd. At about this time, both the Miami Church and the Southeast Association recommended that the possibility of acquiring a regional center be explored. (See Southeast Association report in 1969 Journal).

Because of the scattered membership and the rapidly changing housing patterns in Miami, the congregation decided, for the time being, to place its energies and resources toward the goal of establishing a regional center to be known as Swedenborg House. After searching for some months, the society found a suitable property near DeLand. By a unanimous vote, and with the approval of the Southeast Association, the property was purchased by the Miami Church on June 15, 1970.

Since then, in addition to holding two annual association meetings and three retreats here, regular Sunday services are conducted each week and a Sunday School has been started. Attendance has been good, and the response to the challenge of this new center has been excellent. Swedenborg House, consisting of ten acres of land, bordered by roads on two sides, four buildings, orange groves, and a part of a lake, belongs to the Miami Church and is its contribution to the forward thrust of the Southeast Association. Already

Swedenborg House is becoming self-supporting although it is less than one year old. It is open the year around and has sleeping facilities (rooms and cottages) not only for Association members, but also for all Convention members on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. The Rev. Ernest L. Frederick is the resident minister at DeLand and he also holds regular monthly meetings at West Palm Beach and Miami and visits the isolated members throughout the southeastern area.

Herbert Young, Secretary

REPORT OF THE WESTERN CANADA CONFERENCE

The Western Canada Conference, with a membership of approximately 400, is dispersed over the four western provinces of Canada, from Winnipeg in Manitoba to Vancouver in British Columbia.

The Conference is served by three ministers and one lay leader. Rev. Henry Reddekopp continues to serve the societies of Manitoba and Saskatchewan, as well as isolated members, from his home in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The Calgary, Alberta, Society is served by Mr. John Jeffery, lay leader, once a month. The Rev. Harvey Tafel is serving the Church of the Holy City in Edmonton, Alberta. The Rev. Harold Taylor serves the Vancouver, B. C. Society, as well as several groups in the interior of British Columbia. The Society has sold their church building and are looking into new possibilities.

Paulhaven, the Conference Camp, had a very successful camp last year, with twenty children involved, as well as adults. The highlight was a treasure hunt using correspondences as clues. The Children's Summer Camp this year, July

11-18, is being looked forward to with great anticipation.

The annual meeting of the Conference was hosted by the Battlefords, of the Saskatchewan Society last July. It was well attended with the fellowship and worship enjoyed by all. This year's meeting, July 3-4, will be held in Roblin, Manitoba.

There have been several significant things taking place within the Conference. Up until last year Convention, through the Board of Missions, had almost totally supported the ministry in western Canada. The Conference has now undertaken to pay all traveling expenses of its ministers. At the last annual meeting it was decided to invite General Convention to hold a convention in Western Canada in the near future. It is hoped that an invitation will be extended at Urbana this June.

The past two years have seen some exciting things taken place, and we look forward to their continuing in the future.

Rev. Harvey A. Tafel, Secretary

