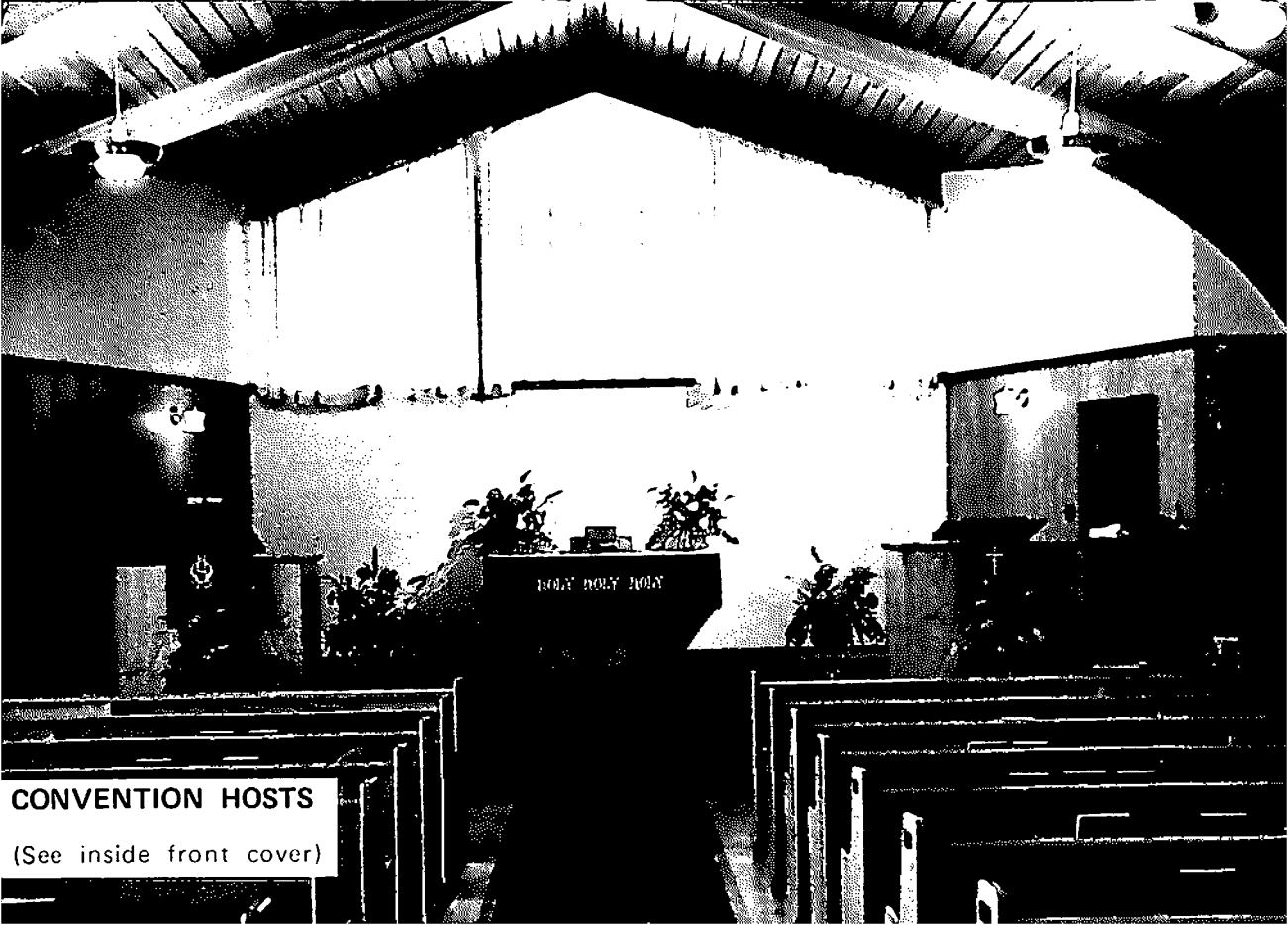


THE MESSENGER

Official Organ of the Swedenborgian Church

JUNE 1973



CONVENTION HOSTS
(See inside front cover)

FRONT COVER: The Edmonton, Alberta Church, host society to this Convention, is served by a Lay Council. Seen at last Fall's Consecration Service are: The Rev. John Jeffery, President, Ernest O. Martin, Mr. Paul Tremblay and Mr. Vincent Almond.

NCTS CORP. MEETS

The Corporation of the New Church Theological School, parent body for financial and property matters of the Swedenborg School of Religion, met on Sunday, June 23rd at the School in Newton, Mass. The meeting was well-attended, with 39 members voting.

Besides reports of the year's activities, and introduction of students and students' wives who were present, the main business of the meeting was election of officers and directors for the coming year. The entire fifteen-member Board of Directors is elected each year by the Corporation, which also names the Clerk and Treasurer. The new Board, meeting after the election, chooses its own President and Vice-President.

The 1973-74 Directors are: Alexander L. Alberice, C. Fred Burdett, H. Page Conant, Chester T. Cook, August A. Ebel, Rafael Guiu, Dorothea Harvey, Frank N. Houghton, Harvey M. Johnson, Albert LeMee, Gordon W. Miller, Frederick G. Perry, Jr., Jerome A. Poole, Richard H. Tafel, Sr., Lawrence C. Young.

The new officers are: President, H. Page Conant; Vice-President, Frank N. Houghton; Clerk, Harvey M. Johnson; and Treasurer, Chester T. Cook.



Contributions toward the cost of publishing should be sent to:

The Messenger
48 Sargent Street
Newton, Mass. 02158

Officers of Convention: Rev. Ernest O. Martin, President, 48 Sargent St. Newton, Mass. 02158; Adolph T. Liebert, Vice President, 626 Park Place, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15237; Mrs. Wilfred Rice, Recording Secretary, 31 Poole St., Brockton, Mass. 02401; Chester T. Cook, Treasurer, P. O. Box 25, Deer Isle, Maine 04627

Department of Publication: Rev. Richard H. Tafel, Chairman; Mrs. E. Edsworth Seibert, Mrs. Virginia Branstom, Miss Cecile Werben, Edward Bohlander, Dr. Robert H. Kirven, Rafael Guiu, Thomas H. Spiera, Mrs. Richard H. Tafel, Rev. Ernest O. Martin.

Robert H. Kirven, Editor

Miss Suzanne Fisher, 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.

A Brief Chronology

THE NEW CHURCH IN WESTERN CANADA

- 1890's - Two missionaries for the "Haldeman Church," a split-off from the Mennonites, visit Manitoba, and give Swedenborgian literature to some questioners—leading to a new group including such names as Klassen, Vogt Wiebe, Reddekopp, Ens and Friesen (all prominent in subsequent history).
- 1898 - Rosthern Society established
- 1907 - Western Canada Conference established
- 1917 - Western Canada Conference Constitution adopted
- 1913 - John H. Ens ordained, first Convention Minister in Western Canada
- 1953 - Ordained Convention Ministers in all four western Provinces (Revs. Peter Peters, John Zacharias, Henry Reddekopp, Erwin Reddekopp)
- 1963 - Edmonton Church built (home church of Convention Hosts)
- 1973 - One member of Edmonton's three-man Lay Council (Rev. John Jeffery) consecrated as Lay Minister, one (Mr. Paul Tremblay) authorized as Candidate for Lay Ministry, while third (Mr. Vincent Almond) participated in service inaugurating first lay-ministerial team

THE MESSENGER

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Report of the Chairman

BOARD OF MANAGERS, SWEDENBORG SCHOOL OF RELIGION

At its meeting on Saturday, June 23rd, the Board of Managers with eleven members present discussed in detail the report of its chairman and voted wholeheartedly to endorse it.

This has been a challenging and rewarding year in the life of our School. Not for a long, long time have we had such a large student body, or so long a list of interested inquirers looking to possible admission in the near future. Of our present twelve students, it is interesting to note that ten come from outside our Church. The differences in background and the varying degrees of knowledge about our Church and our teachings, while bringing mental and spiritual stimulation, present a tremendous challenge. The Managers are very proud and appreciative of the way our faculty have risen to this challenge, and we are tremendously impressed by the impact which they have had upon our students, even in the short time that many of these have been with us.

It is providential, for certainly we did not plan it this way, that the Board of Managers as a body and as individuals have been more intimately involved with the School and more frequently on the scene in Newton than for many years. We have had more meetings. The Executive Committee of the Board has met four times since Convention, and the full Board three times. As Chairman I have met informally with the students for several hours on three occasions, to get to know them, just to talk with them and to establish a closer rapport between them and our Board. One result of this last was that the Managers took the revolutionary step of opening our meetings to both students and faculty. Then we completed this process of getting the "whole team" together, by inviting the Board of Directors to all our meetings. This has borne rich fruit in terms of increased trust, respect, understanding and cooperation. It has certainly helped our Board in its task of working with the faculty and the administration in setting the curriculum of the School, in developing our unique Covenanting Programme, and in determining the degree of

competence which we demand of students, particularly in the area of the Church's theology and philosophy. I trust that the President of the School will deal with these matters in detail in his Report, as he, of course, is more qualified to do this than I am.

A special meeting of the Board of Managers was held on June 22-23 to deal with the charges against the School circulated so widely by Dennis Reddekopp and others. These place our School in the most unfavorable light and call into question the loyalty of the faculty and their competence as teachers and leaders of the Church. They give a caricature of our students, and challenge both their integrity and their motive in attending the School and preparing for service in the Church. Worse, still, they have caused doubts and misgiving in the minds of the members of the Church to whom they have been sent, and have hurt and humbled those against whom they have been directed.

Since these letters have been broadcasted to Convention, instead of using the orderly channels always open to legitimate criticisms and concerns, and because they contain grave charges, honesty and justice demand that I take this opportunity to brand his statements as irresponsible and substantially groundless. Where factual basis does exist for certain of his remarks, it comes out of conversation with students who, reacting to his pontifical "lecturing," make preposterous assertions and engage in leg-pulling, which Dennis takes at face value.

His charges consist of statements taken out of context, or words put in the mouths of un-named students and faculty members, and their meaning distorted. For example, he states that a student, in class, claimed that Swedenborg was schizophrenic, and that the teacher remained silent and did not set him straight.

Reality, fact: it was the *teacher*, Dr. Calvin Turley, in the class on Swedenborg's doctrine of man, who brought up this matter. This class was conducted by Dr. Turley with Dr. George Dole present. After describing the phenomenon of schizophrenia clinically, Dr. Turley told the students that in their work as ministers they would be confronted with this charge that is sometimes made against Swedenborg, and then proceeded to point out the best ways of meeting it.

Having investigated the charges, and having discussed them at length with the faculty and students, I can assure the Convention that there is substantially no basis for these charges. Of course, there can be improvements in the School. To this end the faculty and the Board are committing their time, their talents, their labors, and their prayers. We have an eager, seeking, hard-working student body. Maybe some will not graduate, maybe some will not be ordained into our ministry—that is in the Lord's hands—but no one will leave the School untouched by or ungrounded in the teachings of our Church or unchallenged by the New Evangel of the Second Coming of our Lord!

We have a loyal and committed faculty, faithful to their ordination vows and to the Cause of the

Lord's New Church and to their sacred task of training men and women to labor in his Vineyard.

But beside devotion and consecration, there is the matter of competence and qualifications. We have a faculty with three full time men with doctorates, now that Dr. George Dole has accepted a full-time appointment. We have another in Dr. William Woofenden, who serves us on a part-time basis. We have a President, who as Administrator, directs and is moulding these servants of the Lord into an excellent team. Let us get on with our task! "Being done with lesser things," let us rise to the challenge and the opportunity which our Lord is setting before us!

Richard H. Tafel

A STATEMENT

by the Reverend Andre Diaconoff
member, Board of Managers

Our meeting in the living room of the SSR was a concerned and representative meeting of twenty-four people, members of the Board of Managers, the Board of Directors, the faculty, and students, men and women, of the School.

We were concerned for the School and the Church to find what truth there was in the allegations made by Dennis Reddekopp, and we were concerned to stop the hostile and irresponsible circulation of accusations throughout the Church.

Faculty and students had a chance to face each allegation. We found them unfounded, because made thoughtlessly and emotionally, after inadequate acquaintance. We emphasized the need for recognizing, and observing regular channels for criticism, suggestions and ideas for correction and/or improvement.

We agreed the faculty of SSR showed real commitment to their work and to the Church, and was an excellent faculty in every way. We also found the students sincere and dedicated in their search for truth.

We were deeply of the mind that the Church as a whole should support the work of SSR and see to it that opinion be tested by the truth, that better acquaintance prevail, and that any exchange of ideas follow orderly channels.

A STATEMENT

by C. Fred Burdett
member, Board of Directors

In a day when we hear so much in the news media about the communication gap between the younger and older generation, it is most unfortunate, if not tragic, that we have a communication gap between the Swedenborg School of Religion and the members of Convention.

The following suggestions are offered because it would appear that the correct procedure has not been followed. These channels are as follows:

1. Questions regarding the operation of the school should be addressed to the President of the school.
2. If satisfactory answers are not forthcoming, they should be addressed to the Chairman of the Board of Managers, for that Board is charged, in Article VII of the By-Laws, specifically with the "appointment of teachers, regulation of the course of study and all matters of control, except the establishment of salaries and the expenditure of money which is reserved under Article III, paragraph 6, for the Board of Directors.
3. If satisfactory answers are still not forthcoming, the question should be addressed to the General Council of Convention.
4. If no satisfactory resolution can be accomplished, either the President of Convention or the

General Council shall refer the matter to the General Convention's Board of Conciliation—which, if it does not succeed in effecting a settlement, shall report its judgment and recommendations to the General Council, which shall take such actions as it deems suitable.

5. If the question still remains unresolved, then and only then, through the General Council, President, or Secretary of Convention, shall anyone have the right as a final resort to seek reconsideration by the General Convention at one of its annual sessions.



Directors, students and managers meet

SSR MANAGERS AND DIRECTORS MEET JOINTLY

A joint meeting of the Board of Managers and the Board of Directors of Swedenborg School of Religion was held at the School on the morning of June 23rd, preceding the Annual Meeting of the NCTS Corporation. This is an infrequent event, the Managers and Directors ordinarily communicating about their common concerns with the school by means of formal reports, resolutions and motions. In the last decade, joint meetings have been held before to consider relocation of the school, a curriculum allowing greater focus in a student's training, and the accommodation of Convention's Central Office in the SSR building. The Board of Managers' new policy, opening the greater part of its meeting to students, faculty and directors, may make formally-called joint meetings even less frequent in the future. The June 23 meeting, while attended by substantially more Managers than Directors, did allow for significant exchange of views on important matters of common concern and overlapping responsibility.

RESOLUTION

NCTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 23, 1973

RESOLVED: To commend the Board of Managers for their diligent efforts on behalf of the school and the faculty in their handling of the Dennis Reddekopp incident.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Sir:

Some time ago I received a copy of a letter written by Mr. Dennis J. Reddekopp concerning the Swedenborg School of Religion. It disturbed me, and has been troubling me since. The more I think of it I feel it ought not to have been written. It gives a wrong impression of the whole School, and is unjust to the good students, and especially to the integrity of professors and teachers, some of whom I know. There is Dr. William Woofenden, I became acquainted with in earlier years in Detroit. I have a high respect for him. The letter, which like a dark cloud interposed on the happy prospect that some years from now my son David may be a New

Church minister,—is out of order and far from the right thing to do in consideration of the Board of Education. The letter causes a bad impression of the whole School as though there were but little or no good of our School. It seems to me if any difficulty or doubt exists, any complaint whatever should be referred to the proper authority, the Board of Education, or committee appointed by the New Church.

In every difficult situation in regard to the Swedenborg School of Religion, our outstanding concern should be for the good and upbuilding of our School of Theology.

I love the New Church, and the Swedenborg School of Religion, and pray for its continued good service in the life of the New Church.

A. P. Rienstra

Reports of Officers

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

During the last year my activities have been reported in the "President's Corner" of *The Messenger*. Articles have appeared in the November '72 and April '73 issues. My President's Address was printed in the July-August 1972 issue. I printed an organizational chart of Convention in the February '73 issue and made an appeal for financial support of Convention in the March '73 issue.

Since the last convention I have participated in the Ohio, Massachusetts, and Illinois Association meetings. I have visited many of our churches, conducted services, or spoken in St. Paul, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Rosthern, Philadelphia, Urbana, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Cambridge, Bridgewater, Los Angeles, Riverside and San Francisco. I have attended meetings of Convention boards and committees and sought to facilitate the works of these bodies through the personnel and resources of the central office in Newton.

In October of 1972 I visited our church in Edmonton, Alberta, and met with the local committee in charge of arrangements for the 1973 convention. While in Edmonton I consecrated John Jeffery as Lay Minister, Paul Tremblay as Authorized Candidate for the Lay Ministry, and Vincent Almond as Lay Leader. These laymen work together in a unique way to provide excellent leadership for their church.

In accordance with a decision of the General Council, a finance office has been set up in conjunction with the central office. Miss Agnes Richard has been employed as bookkeeper to serve both Convention and the Swedenborg School of Religion.

On behalf of the church I have become increasingly involved in the administration of Urbana College. I have served on various committees of the Board

of Trustees, met with community leaders and college administrators, and spoken to the Rotary Club of Urbana on the relation of the church to the college. At the annual meeting of the Trustees, I was elected to serve as chairman for the coming year. I succeed Philip M. Alden who has served faithfully for thirty years.

During the last year we have added church representatives to the Urbana Board of Trustees, bringing our total to 12. Our scholarship program was given a boost with the receipt of \$50,000 from the estate of the late George Pausch. Mr. Pausch suggested that the income of this fund be used to provide scholarships to Urbana College for young people of the church.

Our church continues to be actively represented at meetings of the National Council of Churches. I attended the General Assembly meetings in Dallas, Texas in December and the Governing Board in Pittsburgh the end of February. At the February meetings I was accompanied by Adolph Liebert and Randall Laakko. Robert Kirven serves on the Faith and Order Commission and has worked with a special committee exploring Christian-Jewish relations.

An inordinate amount of time has been spent in recent months answering inquiries about the spate of letters circulating around the church in regard to the Swedenborg School of Religion. It is unfortunate that the questions and charges were not referred to the Board of Managers of the school for consideration, for the Board is the body elected by Convention to manage the school, appoint faculty and president, and determine policy. The indiscriminate distribution of letters has affected the morale of students and faculty of the school and has proven very destructive. It is my hope that we will find ways of preserving our freedom to dissent and at the same time acting responsibly and charitably.

In my President's Address at last year's convention, I spoke on the theme

of the convention—"In Search of Oneness." I declared my conviction that we can experience unity within our church without sacrificing our diversity. This conviction has been tested during the last year, but I continue to uphold it.

I reiterate the need for long-range planning in the church by local congregations and Convention boards, committees, and auxiliary bodies. Our concept of the church is expanding to include local groups meeting for worship, study, and service; summer camps; regional conferences and institutes; retreats and workshops; publications; missions; the program of the Swedenborg School of Religion; and new forms of ministry. With our limited personnel and resources, we must make decisions on priorities and emphases. We must follow up planning conferences held in Urbana in 1968, in Newton in 1970, and at the General Council meeting in Waltham in 1973. I propose that a Research and Planning committee be charged with the task of developing proposals for long-range planning and that this committee make specific recommendations to the Council of Ministers, the General Council, and the Convention at large.

Ernest O. Martin

REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY

The Secretary has attended to the usual routine duties of the office, which include taking and transcribing minutes of meetings of the General Convention and General Council, together with follow-up correspondence, answering inquiries about the Church, the soliciting and preparation of reports for both the Advance Reports and the Convention Journal.

A note of special interest is the fact that at its mid-winter meeting, General Council voted to request the Committee on Amendments to re-write Article 2 Section 3 of the Constitution which would include the Recording Secretary as one of the officers of Convention serving the General Council ex-officio; and further voted that all officers of Convention are entitled to cast a vote at General Council meetings.

I want to express my appreciation to the officers, committee heads and other Convention personnel, as well as General Pastors and Association Secretaries, for their prompt cooperation in responding to my requests for information; to Mrs. Lewis Barrington for her assistance in readying legal documents (in Washington, D. C.) for the Convention; and to Mrs. Leona Freedman, secretary at the Central Office, for her very capable assistance in the preparation of copy for the Convention Journal.

Ethel V. Rice

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, 1973

SECTION I

PROPERTY HELD BY CONVENTION MARCH 31, 1973

Shares In Common Fund	\$4,794,460.93
Mortgage and Note — Urbana College	372,343.79
Church Loans, Mortgages and Real Estate	858,253.16
Stocks — Special	3,762.44
Savings Banks	5,000.00
Cash In Bank and on Hand	60,260.32
Deferred Charges	12,811.23
N. Y. Office Board of Publications (Cash and Inventory)	1,375.97
Accounts Receivable Net of Payable	<u>32,866.59</u>
Total Property	<u>\$6,141,134.43</u>

*Market Value 3/31/73 \$5,039,180.80 Approx.

Designated As Follows:

Note – Bank of Delaware		\$ 130,000.00
Funds – “Special Purposes”		
Income Only To Be Used	\$2,479,727.74	
Funds – “Special Purposes”		
Principal & Income For Use	572,472.70	
Funds – “General Purposes”		
Income Only To Be Used	201,789.93	
Funds – “Special Purposes” (By Vote)		
Income Only For Use	601,842.15	
Funds – “General Purposes”		
Principal & Income For Use	1,776,297.59	
Fund – Alfred Regamey	5,918.75	
Fund – Vienna Building	<u>2,588.38</u>	5,640,637.24
Fund – Washington Church		100,000.00
Fund – Wayfarers’ Chapel		131,925.43

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Income Accumulations:

Augmentation	\$ 118,333.62	
Pension Fund (Insurance)	2,248.35	
Deferred Interest (Urbana)	<u>17,989.79</u>	<u>138,571.76</u>
Total Note, Funds and Accumulations		<u><u>\$6,141,134.43</u></u>

SECTION II

CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1973

INCOME

Gross Income – Investments And Other	\$ 281,817.18
Blakebell Fund	5,700.00

Contributions:

Appeal	\$ 13,892.50	
Augmentation Fund–Loan		
Repayments	500.00	
Mission Fund–Rev. Marshall–Stamps	690.00	
Messenger–Direct	460.85	
Augmentation Fund – Direct	<u>345.00</u>	<u>15,888.35</u>
Total Income		\$ 303,405.53

EXPENDITURES

For Convention Uses per terms of gifts or direction of General Council

Augmentation–Societies–Students	\$ 61,719.72	
Missions–Home and Foreign	40,208.51	
Pensions–Net Premiums and Loan Interest	18,092.60	
Messenger	18,660.67	
Urbana College	<u>15,000.00</u>	153,681.50

Income from Convention held funds payable by terms of gifts

Board of Publication	5,901.48
Theological School	5,502.10
American N.C. Tract and Publishing	933.66
Michigan Association	1,818.56
First Penn. Society	1,560.97
Orange Society	937.28
Cambridge Society	136.00
Connecticut Association	123.37
Newtonville Society	1,679.98
Swedenborg Publishing Association	967.90
Illinois Association	1,069.60
Des Plaines Society	1,019.24
Miscellaneous (7)	<u>747.62</u>
	22,397.74

Less Transfer Augmentation & Missions	<u>2,700.00</u>	19,697.74
Expenses:		
Administration	\$ 40,248.07	
Boards and Committees	34,075.41	
Real Estate	1,686.30	
Other	<u>15,450.98</u>	<u>91,460.76</u>
Total Expenditures		\$ 264,840.00
Income in Excess of Expenditures		<u><u>38,565.53</u></u>

	<u>Distribution</u>	
To General Funds	28,106.30	
Augmentation Fund	10,406.01	
Pension Fund	<u>53.22</u>	
		<u><u>\$ 38,565.53</u></u>

General Funds Permanent	
Regamey, Alfred	662.79
Vienna Building	<u>123.26</u>
	786.05
General Funds – Free	
Lehner, J. J.	114.13
Frankford, Pa.	<u>1,439.85</u>
	1,553.98

General Funds	
Vogeley, Elizabeth M. (Estate)	267.57
Williams, Davion E. (Estate)	203.83
Prior Years L.E.I. Adjustment	2,164.61

SECTION III

Changes in Funds Held by Convention

Year Ended March 31, 1973

Funds and Surplus Per Next Prior Account March 31, 1972 \$5,969,377.35

Additions:	
Restricted Free Funds	
Foreign Travel	57.91
Keller, Helen	57.60
Scholarship Fund	<u>100.00</u>

Income over Expenditures	<u>28,106.30</u>
	30,742.31
Surplus Accounts	
Augmentation	10,406.01
Pension	<u>53.22</u>
	10,459.23

Total Additions	<u>\$43,757.08</u>
	\$6,013,134.43

Deductions:	
Scholarship Fund	<u>2,000.00</u>
Funds and Surplus March 31, 1973	\$6,011,134.43

Reports of Boards and Committees

GENERAL COUNCIL

A detailed report of the matters considered and actions taken by General Council at its mid-winter meeting in Waltham, Massachusetts was prepared and printed in the February issue of *The Messenger*.

At this session an extra day was scheduled, so that members of General Council could spend some time in discussing the present state of the Church and deliberating on matters of policy.

Ethel V. Rice,
Recording Secretary

BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Board of Missions held its usual pre-Convention, post-Convention and mid-winter meetings, the last in conjunction with the meetings of General Council at Waltham, Mass. There has been considerable activity; and the following report can be no more than a summary.

In the home field, Henry Reddekopp continues his vast circuit in the west central provinces of Canada. This year, the contributions of the members Henry serves exceeded the costs of his visits—evidence both of the value of the services provided and the devotion of those served.

Harold Taylor reports from Vancouver that the Society has opened a book room. Sales of books are picking up, and new faces are appearing at church functions. We have no statistics as yet, but we sense a renewed energy and effort.

Tentative plans for missionary work in the Gulf states have been tabled, owing to Tom Reed's departure from Gulfport.

A proposal for a visiting minister to the isolated has been under consideration in the course of the year, and a job description was drawn up and discussed. Realizing that the undertaking is extensive and expensive, and feeling that no individual is presently available for the task, the Board has filed the matter for presentation at a more opportune time.

The Board's Projects Committee has been exploring the possibility of establishing a cassette library of home worship and study materials. Sample worship material was heard at the mid-winter meeting, and was approved. Thus far, however, there has been little response from the church at large to the idea. The Board feels that no true reading of the usefulness of the proposal can be gained until sample material has been made available, and the Committee is proceeding toward this end.

In the overseas field, one omnipresent concern is the continuing devaluation of the dollar. The support we can give is slight enough—\$26,600 is spread among eight ministers and four lay workers—and each drop in the dollar's value amounts to a reduction in salary across the board. As we try to take a long look ahead, we see a necessity for local groups to assume an increasing proportion of the expenses.

In the Far East, the work in Seoul continues despite Chungsun Lee's absence, and we hear from En Bo Chung in Kwangu that he has a virtual school of theology going. The Mite Box is surely bearing fruit there.

Arrangements are in process for the retirement of Mr. Doi in Tokyo, and for Yuzo Noda to continue his work there. The Nodas spent a month in Tokyo this past winter, without which no realistic decisions would have been possible. Yuzo now plans to go to Tokyo during the next church year, to further his education while serving the church, and eventually to combine a pastoral and a scholarly ministry.

From Argentina, Mr. Habegger reports that his little group continues despite the atmosphere of uncertainty in political matters. Members sometimes bring friends, which is often a first sign of growth. Mr. Habegger continues to cooperate with the Swedenborg Foundation in the production of Spanish editions of New Church material.

There is still no sign of a successor to Mr. Fraser in Guyana, but work there continues under the guidance of his widow. The Board is supporting this on a specific grant basis.

There is much to report from the Continent. We regret having to convey the news that Jack Hardstedt suffered a cerebral thrombosis and is unable to continue his work. The Society in Stockholm is carrying on as best it can under available lay leadership.

The group in Copenhagen, which has long maintained formal ties with both Convention and the General Conference, has come to our attention during the past few months. Rev. Gudmund Boolsen of the General Church is requesting admission to Convention's ministry in order to serve us there. The Board is exploring the possibility of his giving occasional service to the Stockholm Society.

Claude Bruley continues his energetic work in Paris, duplicating sermons and study materials regularly, lecturing frequently to other organizations, and overseeing publication of new material. A new translation of *Heaven and Hell* came off the presses this year, following a brief biography of Swedenborg by Jean Prieur. Both publications are attractive, and should contribute to the growth of the church.

The Berlin Society continues to operate under lay leadership, with an occasional visit by Friedemann Horn. He reports that this is a lively and promising group, despite the passing of some stalwarts.

Werner Schmidt is providing a similar service to Vienna, in addition to his circuit in southwest Germany and regular services in Freiburg. His "right-hand man," Hans Klotter, contributed to *Offene Tore* a most interesting and

thorough article on evolution as viewed by Teilhard de Chardin and in the light of the Writings. We hope that this will be available in English eventually.

The news from Zürich keeps on being encouraging. Friedemann Horn reports that his group is now able to give some financial assistance to the work in southwest Germany, and that the mechanics of the printing operation are now running smoothly enough that he can give more time to study and pastoral work. This is in addition to his visits to Berlin, Trieste, and Milan.

Our General Pastor for the Continent, Alfred Regamey, holds regular services at Lausanne and at Geneva. We receive with interest his monthly bulletin. This Convention marks the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination, and the Board is delighted that he has accepted our invitation to attend Convention in Edmonton. Rather than expound his virtues, then, we simply urge all who can to make his acquaintance there, since "the real thing" is more impressive than any description could possibly be.

George F. Dole, Chairman

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The Board of Education has experienced an interesting and productive year. Beginning with the first Post-Convention Conference at Fryeburg, it has continued to focus on the expressed—as well as the unobtrusive—concerns of our divergent church membership. The Board has been aware of the evident decline in the numbers participating in the more traditional forms of education within our church family. It has realized, however, that this decline is not unique with our denomination, but one, rather, that is symptomatic of change which is going on within the society of man today.

Accepting this fact, the Board has attempted to continue maintenance help for traditional education where the need has arisen, but has concentrated the major portion of its time—and creative thought—to new ways to educate the young and the old alike. Quite simply, as viewed by the Board the necessary process is two-fold: first, to make available in understandable form, for whatever group it is intended, the knowledge of the Bible as interpreted through the insights of Emanuel Swedenborg; and secondly, to suggest activities and

developing life-styles which can be productive and satisfying, as a result of the foregoing understanding.

Board member, Dr. Dorothea Harvey, has focused our thoughts with her following Statement on Religious Education:

"Education is essentially liberation from attitudes or prejudices held blindly, and so without choice or responsibility. This is especially important in religion where trust freely given, without compulsion, and with acceptance of responsibility for the consequences of the trust, is essential.

"No one can grow for another person. To attempt it is to make the avenue of growth almost impossible for the other person. To attempt to indoctrinate, to instill patterns of belief or behavior blindly and without awareness, or to protect against the knowledge of alternatives is opposed to the growth towards religious maturity, rather than helpful to it. Religious maturity means partly accepting responsibility for continuing to be the person one is, or for opening oneself to change (as opposed to an immature reaction for or against authority). To provide the freedom which comes from awareness of alternatives is at least a first step in religious education because this freedom means the opportunity for responsibility."

Accepting the foregoing as a valid and stimulating exposition of our field, the Board has moved out to implement growth in understanding through the following activities:

It has evaluated the first Post-Convention Conference and has planned a second Post-Convention Conference which will follow the Edmonton Convention. It will be held at Overlander Lodge in the Canadian Rockies. The provocative theme for its meetings will be "Nurturing the New Person for a Changing Age."

A monthly column in *The Messenger*, under the caption, "Religious Education Today" has been established. It has carried articles covering a variety of topics related to our church and the problems of religious education in the climate of our present society.

"Religious Learning Through Creative Expression," a booklet published by the Board, contains many usefully possible ways to develop meaningful involvement of students in a church school environment.

A pilot program consisting of tapes, games and other related materials is being developed for use with isolated church families and/or the small classes in some Sunday Schools.

In answer to a request from the General Council, the Board has been working to make material available which will be appropriate for adult study. Tapes at the Swedenborg School of Religion will be made available for discussion lesson purposes. Steps are being taken too to get the Almont lesson material together and put into some usable format for this purpose. Some discussion material used at the Fryeburg Post-Convention Conference is also being developed. And material used by Dr. Harvey and Dr. Gutfeldt at Urbana will be considered as possible adult study material, as well.

The Board has continued its concern in the field of social action. Rev. Andre Diaconoff's article on the "606 Drop In Centers" in *The Messenger* was one tangible outgrowth of this interest.

L.E.I. continues to be a productive and satisfying experience for our young people. Leadership training for this, and other Convention-related youth camps, is one of the topics currently under consideration by the Board.

We feel that this year has been a fruitful one for the Board. We hope that the things started this season will grow and prosper. We hope too that many new and useful ways in religious education will open up to us during the coming year.

Betsy Young, Secretary

NEW CHURCH PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

The New Church Prayer Fellowship has kept active through the year with the fine cooperation of Mrs. Brian (Jill) Kingslake. Mrs. David (Gwynne) Mack, Reverend Thornton C. Smallwood, and the Secretary, Miss F. Marion

Greene. Reverend Andre Diaconoff is now serving as Director.

We have received many calls for prayer and counsel. We have published the monthly Fellowship letter. A few persons have signified through the year their desire to join actively in the service, and are welcome new members of the Fellowship.

We are thankful to the Office of the General Convention in Newton for the great help in publishing the monthly letter.

Andre Diaconoff

THE MESSENGER

The Messenger was published in the usual eleven issues during the fiscal year. Seven issues were 16 pages each; April, with preliminary Convention material, was 24 pages; May, with the special issue on the Swedenborg School of Religion was 32 pages; June, with Advance Reports was 40 pages; and the July-August Convention issue was 48 pages.

Preparation of photo-ready copy continues to be handled by the Central Office, with type composition primarily by Mrs. Gladys Baker, and Suzanne Fisher now handling lay-out and paste-up.

A new format for *The Messenger* is being considered for possible introduction this Fall. Under the proposed plan, a much shorter (4-6 pages) *Messenger Newsletter* will be published monthly September through June. *The Messenger Newsletter* would focus on events of note in Convention and local churches, and would be marked by more and shorter articles. In addition to *The Messenger Newsletter*, there would be *The Messenger Magazine* appearing quarterly. This would be a journal of longer articles, its format allowing for more complete development of scholarly, inspirational and educational themes. *The Messenger Newsletter* would be distributed to members of Convention without charge as is the present *Messenger*. After a free introductory period, however, *The Messenger Magazine* would be sold on a paid subscription basis.

This proposal will be considered this summer and early fall and is included in this report so that reactions to the plan may be forwarded to the Editor.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICATION

In addition to the elected and ex-officio members of the department, official representatives of all the publishing bodies related to the Church regularly meet with us in a liaison capacity. In this way the Department keeps abreast of everything published and planned, and so coordinates all the work that is being done. The Department met for two-day sessions on September 7-8, 1972 and February 18-19, 1973, at the home of the Chairman, in order to save both time and expenses. We are indebted to Corinne Tafel, who graciously makes these meetings possible.

Publishing activities the past year have included *Marriage Realities*, by the Rev. Paul Zacharias, and *Bible Imagery*, by Mrs. Alice Sechrist. The Swedenborg Publishing Association has ordered another reprinting of *An Introduction To Swedenborg's Religious Thought*. It has requested the Swedenborg Foundation to include *Marital Love*, its translation of Swedenborg's work by Mr. William Wunsch, in their standard set of the theological works and in the same binding, instead of, or in addition to, *Conjugal Love*, the cost to be borne by the Association. In this connection, the Department extends congratulations to the Rev. Dr. George Dole for his projected translation of *Heaven and Hell*. Some of us have read chapters of this new translation and find them very exciting. The Swedenborg Publishing Association also has in preparation a memorial edition of Wunsch's *An Outline of Swedenborg's Teachings*.

The Swedenborg Foundation is reprinting *Marriage Ideals and Realization*, and is publishing a Spanish edition of *An Introduction To Swedenborg's Reli-*

gious Thought, as well as considering issuing *My Religion, Heaven and Hell*, and *Trowbridge's Life and Teachings* in the same language. By means of a grant it is sponsoring Dr. Wilson Van Dusen's new book, *In The Presence of Other Worlds*, which will be published by Harper and Row. Still in preparation is another new work, *The Pictorial Life of Swedenborg*, compiled by Dr. Marguerite Block. In cooperation with several of our other publishing bodies, it is sponsoring an English edition of Dr. Benz's biography of Swedenborg.

The Department has considered three manuscripts by the late Mrs. Carolyn Blackmer. We found all excellent, but thought that they would have a very limited audience. The titles are: *On Reading Swedenborg*, *Swedenborg: Psychologist Extraordinaire* and *The Journal of Dreams and The Spiritual Diary*. It voted to recommend these to the *New Philosophy*, looking to possible reprints.

The Department acts as a "clearing house" for our various publishing bodies who often simply report on their projects or ask for our opinion. The Swedenborg School of Religion, for instance, submitted to the Chairman its new all-English translation of Swedenborg's *Journal of Dreams* which it intends to publish. Likewise, the Massachusetts New Church Union reported on a number of things which they are planning to print, including a book of four sermons by the Rev. Brian Kingslake. The Department has before it a manuscript by the Rev. Ernest O. Martin, *The Mystic Quest: Emanuel Swedenborg and Dag Hammarskjöld*, which it will be considering for publication.

The Department has general supervision of our Church periodicals, *The Messenger* and *Our Daily Bread*. It takes this opportunity to thank the respective editors for their faithful and consecrated labors, and expresses its appreciation of the high quality of these magazines during the past year. A report by the Editor of *The Messenger* accompanies this report. Since the Chairman of the Department is also the editor of *Our Daily Bread*, he will only report that this publication continues its subscription list at around 1400 copies, and that it appears to fill a needed use in the devotional life of the Church.

A perennial problem facing the Department is the limited sale and distribution of our literature, which is before us at every meeting. We brought this

matter to the attention of the General Council at its mid-winter meeting. As a result, the Department voted that our printing policy in the future will be to print either in quantity of 500, done in the Central Office, or in quantity of 10,000, done outside, in order to permit a realistic selling price. We have come to realize more and more that, beside the Swedenborg Foundation, our most promising outlets are the Wayfarers' Chapel and Urbana College. It was felt that these two centers should be more widely used to distribute our missionary material, and we have requested a modest appropriation from the Board of Missions to make this possible.

We trust that this report will give the Convention some idea of the work of our Department. We stand ready to serve the Church in every way we can. We welcome manuscripts, ideas and suggestions, and especially ask for your support and prayers.

Richard H. Tafel, Chairman

REPORTS OF GENERAL PASTORS

MASSACHUSETTS ASS'N.

There has been no occasion for me to perform any of the official acts pertaining to this office.

I have enjoyed becoming better acquainted with members of the various societies, sometimes trying to answer questions about doctrinal matters, explain Association policies, or recruit campers for Blairhaven.

Wilfred G. Rice

PACIFIC COAST ASS'N.

Since my investiture as General Pastor last June in Boston, I have officiated at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Association in Los Angeles last

September. I have also visited the San Diego Church and the Wayfarers' Chapel (serving on the Chapel Board during the year). I authorized two men to serve as lay leaders in their respective parishes, namely, Eugene Denning for the Riverside Church and Eldon Smith as lay leader for the Wayfarers' Chapel.

There have been no other duties required as General Pastor.

Erwin D. Reddekopp

THE REV. ALFRED REGAMEY

According to the duty of a General Pastor, I renewed for another year—that is to say up to the 1974 Convention—the licenses as Lay Leaders delivered one year ago for the Continental field, with the exception of that of Bengt Grönwall who informed the Society of Stockholm that he was not in a position to continue his cooperation in celebrating Church services there. Some of these Lay Leaders have sent me brief reports of their activity, stating the number and the places where they have conducted services. Six of them have preached regularly and three occasionally in the towns where they are living. One of them has also delivered some lectures. As a rule, they are holding services in centers in which there are no residing ministers. However, some of these services are held by visiting ministers with the agreement of the General Pastor. Such is particularly the case of Berlin, Vienna, Trieste and Milano.

Once more, I have attended the annual meeting of the South-West part of the New Church of Germany, held in Freiburg i. Breisgau on the 29th of April; and by the time this report will reach you, I shall have also attended the annual meeting of the German-Swiss Society in Zurich which will celebrate the 99th anniversary of its foundation.

Our Continental Council of New Church ministers, which as a rule meets every three years, met informally for a three-day meeting in Lausanne by invitation last September. Those present expressed their pleasure at being present.

Some problems concerning the future of the Scandinavian Societies (Stockholm and Copenhagen) are now under consideration as well as the possibility of engaging a new minister for Copenhagen.

Some details concerning my activity as general Pastor are also to be found in my report to the Board of Missions.

THE REV. RICHARD H. TAFEL

I have supervised the work of the Middle Atlantic Association for the past year to the best of my ability. Our Association comprises the following societies, served by their respective ministers or lay leaders: Philadelphia, the Rev. Richard H. Tafel; Wilmington, the Rev. Randall E. Laakko; Baltimore, by the lay leaders, Messrs. Edgar Rinehimer, Milton Honemann and Horace Rich; Washington, the Rev. Brian Kingslake. Mr. Kingslake is retiring and returning to England, and on behalf of the Association I thank him for his faithful work here and wish him and Mrs. Kingslake joy and happiness in all the years to come.

On March 8, 1973 I authorized the following men to serve as lay leaders in the Baltimore Church until the session of Convention in July: Edgar Rinehimer, Milton Honemann and Horace Rich.

In recent years our Annual Fall Meeting has taken the form of a "Mini-Retreat," with the business of the Association being conducted during lunch time, leaving the morning and afternoon free for an experience of spiritual renewal. Our program also includes a Retreat of three or four days in the Spring. These occasions have brought our members together in a close spiritual bond, and I recommend Association Retreats to our sister associations.

THE REV. ANDRE DIACONOFF

The past year saw the beginning of a work that we had projected for some time. It was to find names and addresses of New Church people living at a distance from our church centers to communicate with them. The Reverend Jaikoo E. Lee accepted the chairmanship for the project and did an excellent job of it. People were contacted by letter, and offered *The Messenger* and *Our Daily Bread*. The response was gratifying. A second letter was written by the Secretary of the Association, Miss Agnes Cowern, and by me. I have also kept in touch by letter and through visits with some New Church persons in Northern Minnesota and Southern Illinois.

I made two trips to serve the church in LaPorte, Indiana. The cooperation with the pastors of the Cincinnati Church in visiting the LaPorte Church has continued happily.

112 Education Sunday was observed in the churches of the Association as in previous years. Assistance to young people seeking higher education has been the outreach activity and commitment of our Association Churches. The scholarship fund we have had has been renamed The Dorothea Groezinger Education Fund in honor of this fine New Church worker, who first proposed and sponsored it. We are grateful to have Urbana College so close to us both geographically and spiritually. May the Lord continue to bless and to lead us.

AUGMENTATION FUND COMMITTEE

This report covers the activity of the Fund during the fiscal year of Convention from April 1, 1972 to March 31, 1973.

While our income for the year increased \$6,232.11 over the previous year, mainly from the Common Fund, we paid out \$11,366.94 more. This increase

in payments was due to an additional \$9,525.64 for students and \$1,841.30 more to Churches and the Mission Board. While our income has been increasing, our requests for payments are increasing at a much faster rate. We hope that we will be able to keep income and expenses in line so that we will not have to draw on our surplus, which is invested and thereby increases our income.

For the fiscal year ending March 31, 1973, the financial statement of the Fund was as follows:

Income

From the Common Fund	\$ 71,345.73
Repayment of Loans	500.00
Annual Appeal	200.00
Total Income	<u>\$ 72,125.73</u>

Disbursements

Assistance to nine students	\$34,156.23
Assistance to eleven churches and Mission Board	27,167.15

Administration expense	<u>396.34</u>
Total disbursements	<u>61,719.72</u>
Income in excess of disbursements	\$ 10,406.01
Surplus April 1, 1972	<u>-107,927.61</u>
Surplus March 31, 1973	<u>\$118,333.62</u>

Stewart E. Poole,
Chairman

WAYFARERS' CHAPEL

The year just ended (April, 1972—through March, 1973) has been a busy one at the Wayfarers' Chapel. The Chapel staff continues as in the past, with Reverend Harvey A. Tafel as the Resident Minister; Annella Smith as Business Manager; Jess Fernandez as landscape gardener; Lucille Fullerton, office and visitors center attendant; Gene Denning, lay leader, visitors center and wedding attendant; Raymond Fullerton, usher, wedding attendant and maintenance; Eldon Smith, lay leader, wedding attendant and maintenance; and Gary Russell, part-time maintenance. This past year Clara Condit and John C. Santachi retired. They had been with the Chapel for ten and twenty years respectively. Three new staff members were hired; Ric Thomas, part-time office and wedding attendant; Stella Hollingsworth, receptionist; and Bill Bentz, janitor.

During the past year the Chapel's Board of Managers has met twice. In order to help facilitate communication and to better help in supervising the renovation of the visitors center building, a management committee has been set up that meets monthly. It is composed of three Board members, the business manager, and the minister. It has been of value in furthering the work of the Chapel.

For several years it has been felt that the visitors center building has not been used to its fullest potential. In order to help the public become more familiar with our Church's teachings, new exhibits are being constructed and the interior refurbished. The new display is a Bible Diorama, designed by Lloyd Wright, picturing the holy land, with biblical figures such as Moses and Noah placed on it. Phones at stations along the Diorama will give taped messages, and a self-guide brochure is also available to explain the exhibit to wayfarers. The first of three units has been installed with the other two expected

later this year. It is hoped that the Bible Diorama, along with other exhibits and literature, will be more meaningful to the wayfaring public. The Chapel is one of our best missionary opportunities and we need to utilize it more fully.

There has been some major repair work done by the maintenance staff to the Chapel building. Steel work has been ground down and repainted; all new soil and plants put in the berm walls inside the Chapel; some of the stone floor recemented; new electrical and sound system conduit and wire installed; and a new watering system installed inside. Several wire-mesh glass panels in the ceiling have been replaced, as well as one plate glass window.

The A Capella choir, under the leadership of Dorothy Simpson, has taken part in the Sunday morning worship services and our other special worship services. Several new "voices" have joined the choir this year. The choir presented their annual "Choir Advent Vesper Service" on December 3rd, with "wayfarers" walking out with lighted candles, symbolizing taking "the light of the world" into their homes for Christmas. A pinata party followed in the visitors center for all the children.

During the year numerous groups such as the Jobs Daughters, Girl Scouts, members of the YMCA Dat Camp groups have visited the Chapel for special services or to attend regular worship services. One group of Jobs Daughters participated in one worship service. The Portuguese Bend Home owners meet the first Tuesday of each month, and the local members of the Girl Scout Mothers Group meet one Thursday forenoon per month, both using the facilities of the visitors center building. The Rolling Hills High School A Capella Choir gave a concert in the Chapel on December 10th which was very beautiful.

During the year, approximately 446-666 wayfarers visited the Chapel and grounds, coming from about eighty countries besides the United States and Canada. There were 53 baptisms, 3 memorial services, and 521 couples were married at the Wayfarers' Chapel with approximately 15,000 guests attending the weddings. The annual income was \$110,000 and the operating expenses and capital improvements, notably the Memorial Stream and Bible Diorama,

were \$112,000, with a deficit of about \$1,200 being incurred. There were 827 paper back volumes of Swedenborg's works and collateral volumes and 2,102 pamphlets distributed to wayfarers from the visitors center. Each month 500 copies of *Our Daily Bread* are distributed in the Chapel as a meditation resource.

The annual special worship services continue to be an integral part of the Chapel program. They are: "The Meal in the Upper Room" on Palm Sunday afternoon, the reenactment by the minister and choir of our Lord's last days on earth, ending with the Holy Supper; the traditional Easter Sunrise Service in the amphitheater at 5:30 A.M., and hourly Easter services in the Chapel; World Wide Communion Sunday; the Christmas Eve Midnight Service of Carols and Scripture Readings; and the New Year's Communion Service of

Rededication and Renewal, with the rededication symbolized by the burning or resolutions in a charcoal brazier on the altar steps, and renewal through the Sacrament of Communion. On Sunday, June 18th, there was a special Dedication Service for the Rev. Robert L. Young Memorial Stream, with a luncheon following. The Memorial Stream flows gently down the upper hillside providing a place for wayfarers to be refreshed and meditate. The regular Sunday morning worship service begins at 11:00 A. M. In total, there were 59 worship and special services with 4,758 wayfarers in attendance. The Chapel grounds are open to the wayfaring public seven days a week from 11:00 A. M. to 4:00 P. M.

*R. Irving McCallum, Chairman
Harvey A. Tafel, Minister*

Reports of Associations

CANADA

The Church of the Good Shepherd in Kitchener is the only active congregation in the Canada Association. A number of isolated members scattered throughout the province still retain close ties with the New Church in Kitchener.

The Executive Committee of the Canada Association meets twice yearly and carries on a number of useful programs for the New Church in the province. This past year the Association appropriated funds for the following purposes: to assist clergy, laity and Leaguers to attend the national Convention; to broadcast five Sunday morning worship services over the major local radio station; to carry special advertising in the local daily newspaper, publicizing the above mentioned broadcasts, as well as featuring the sale of New Church literature; providing scholarships for local young people to attend L.E.L.; the Ass'n will contribute \$500 to the Western Canada Conference to

help underwrite expenses for Convention '73; funds were allocated to purchase and distribute New Church literature in Ontario.

The Church of the Good Shepherd carries on a full and varied program throughout the year, including Sunday morning worship services, Church school classes for all ages, special seasonal programs during the year, a Women's Auxiliary that meets twice monthly, two local discussion groups that meet twice monthly, a monthly visit to our Study Group in Toronto, bi-monthly "Birthday Parties" for the girls at a nearby Training School, and the

church building is used every Monday afternoon by a local Women's Club, meeting the needs of underprivileged women in the area. Each week about 115 church bulletins are mailed to members and friends, near and far. The Church of the Good Shepherd is actively involved in the work of the K-W Council of Churches, and the minister serves on the On-Call Chaplaincy program of the local Protestant hospital. Mr. Matthew Glowe, fourth year S.S.R.

student, is serving his internship at the Church of the Good Shepherd during the 1972-73 season.

During the year 1972 there were two baptisms, five confirmations, five marriages and five funerals in the Canada Association.

Paul Zacharias, President, Canada Association

CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION

The Connecticut Association met twice in 1972 in New Haven at Center Church House, 311 Temple Street. The Rev. Clayton Priestnall of the New York City New Church conducted both worship services.

The annual meeting was held on Sunday, May 14 at 4:00 P. M. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. Foster G. Woods. The question of attendance was discussed once again and the pros and cons of continuing with Sunday afternoon services. It was decided to continue the advertising in the New Haven Register and also to meet again on Sunday in the fall. Mrs. Woods stated in her annual report that whenever she learns that a New Church person has moved to Connecticut she writes a note of welcome and informs that person concerning the Connecticut Association and then sends that name to the secretary. A worship service followed the business meeting. The theme was "Why Did God Create Us?" After a discussion period and light supper, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 P. M.

The second meeting of the Connecticut Association was held on Sunday afternoon, October 15th at four o'clock. There were six people present. The theme of the meeting was "Our Treasure Chest." There was no formal business meeting. However, the same problem of poor attendance was discussed. It was noted that the newspaper advertising did not bring results. In spite of these disappointing circumstances it was decided to try again on a Sunday afternoon and a tentative date of April 29, 1973 was set. After a discussion period and a light supper the meeting adjourned at seven o'clock.

Louise W. Lynn, Secretary

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION

The Rev. Andre Diaconoff of St. Paul is our Presiding Minister. The Illinois Association held its 125th Annual Meeting in St. Louis, in May 1972, and the 126th in Chicago, May 1973. Between these two larger meetings, the Executive Committee met three times.

The members of the Illinois Association continue support of Urbana College, as a group (\$1000 budgeted for 1973 and 74) and individually. We maintain a scholarship fund, and match up to \$350 the sum raised for this project by the churches on Education Sunday.

Mrs. Jaikoo E. Lee, the former Miss Judy Nash, was welcomed to the Association.

During the last year, under the chairmanship of the Rev. Lee, letters went out to our isolated or inactive members, hoping to bring to these persons not able to attend a New Church, the interest and concern of our Association members. Free subscriptions to *The Messenger* and *Our Daily Bread* were offered. The responses to this first letter and to a follow-up were gratifying.

At our last Annual Meeting, we discussed the interpretation of "membership" as involved in the per capita fee and membership count, and felt it would be helpful if a uniform system of reporting were adopted by all the churches.

Reported by the Churches. (From the reports for the May '73 meeting)

Chicago (Church of the Holy City). Services were held all during the past year, with the exception of the summer months. One service was a union service between Chicago and LaPorte, Indiana, held early in the year at LaPorte. A resurrection service was conducted on November 17, 1972 for Miss Louise Dabney, a long-time member of the Chicago Society. There were three communion services and one private communion. The rite of confirmation was administered to Miss Margaret Nabors and Miss Ellen Ewald. The departure of Mildred Billings to the West Coast has left a void that can, of course, never

be filled. However, we continue to sense her inner presence with us, and copies of our sermons are being sent to her so that she may be more fully present with us as the service gets under way each week. Taped sermons are also being sent to members in Arkansas. A personal growth group meets from time to time. We sent young people to Almont, and six of our group attended the '72 Convention in Cambridge.

LaPorte (New Church—Swedenborgian). In its third year without a resident minister, LaPorte Society has carried on with the aid of visits from General Pastor Andre Diaconoff (2), the Rev. Richard Tafel, Jr., (2), the Rev. F. Robert Tafel (1), the Rev. Jaikoo E. Lee (2), the Rev. Thornton Smallwood and his congregation (1), and the Detroit Youth Group. We have had ten services conducted by other LaPorte ministers and speakers, while our six lay leaders have filled the pulpit on other Sundays. Although there is no Sunday School at present, the Women's Alliance has been active with several fund-raising projects, four church suppers, and cooperative work with Church Women United. We have issued a "call" to the ministerial candidate Matthew S. P. Glowe of Canada, provided we can secure adequate help from the Illinois Association and the Augmentation Fund. Mr. and Mrs. Glowe have indicated that they would like to come to LaPorte. Two members passed into the Higher Life, and one infant was baptised. We contributed \$41.00 to the Educational Scholarship Fund of the Illinois Association, and members contributed to Urbana College Project 21.

Park Ridge (The Good Shepherd Community Church). (Formerly listed under "Des Plaines"). Last June some members of the Underground Christians, our youth organization, went to Boston with their sponsors and minister. The youngsters participated in the American New Church League meetings while the adults were attending the Convention. The teen-agers are planning to go to Western Canada this July to attend the ANCL. On Thanksgiving Day we had a "Pilgrim Breakfast" at which we heard Rev. Alfred Acton of the Immanuel Church in Glenview speak on "Our Thanks-Giving and Divine Providence." On Christmas Eve we had a film festival and held a candle light service. Last November our Choir performed *H.M.S. Pinafore*. Our Sunday School consists of five classes: Nursery, Primary, Junior, Confirmation, and

Adult. Five youngsters were confirmed into the Church last Palm Sunday. Since last June we have received into our fold six new members. The Women's Guild provided refreshments at our Sunday Fellowship Hour, put on a fashion show, contributed to St. Matthew's Nursing Home, and held numerous rummage sales. Under Rev. Lee's direction there have been Transactional Analysis groups in which not only our members but also people from the community participate.

St. Louis (Church of the Open Word). Traditional (usually) worship was led primarily by lay men and women. Guest speakers occasionally visited and gave us a much-needed boost. What occurred (our interaction) is one expression of what the church is all about. We thank Edwin Capon, George Dole, Bob Kirven, Randy Laako, Walter Orthwein, Ron Rain (Presbyterian), Jim Zini (U. of C.). Sunday School was composed largely of adults. We continued to search for a permanent minister. This has been a major pre-occupation secondary only to providing for worship and spiritual experience. The Women's Alliance was our most active organization. The Alliance met regularly, and sponsored many projects, among them: the adoption of Josias Silva, a nine-year old orphan in Brazil; coffee hour each Sunday; community Art Fair; help to needy families at Christmas; church dinners; a church phone/address/birthday book; an evening with a local TV news commentator. The Annual Meeting of the Illinois Association was held in St. Louis in May, 1972. Marty Mason operated a pre-school nursery Monday through Friday on the church grounds. Both church and nursery benefitted.

St. Paul (Virginia Street Church). We hold Sunday services throughout the year with the exception of a summer vacation period. Coffee hour is held after morning services once a month. We are sorry to report the deaths of two members—Mr. LeRoy Ward and Miss Dorothea Groezinger. A gift memorial of a seven-branched candelabra was dedicated to Dorothea's memory on February 25, 1973.

We continue our participation in community projects. We purchased the south lot adjoining the church. Plans are to beautify the lot and dedicate it to

the memory of dear friends and relatives. At Easter we welcomed two new members—Mrs. Mabel Wanner and Bryan Lange. The Women's Alliance and Men's Club continue active. They meet once a month on the same night, holding joint devotional services, separating for business meetings, and reassembling for refreshments. The Sunday School provides Beginners, Primary, Junior and Adult classes. On Thursday afternoons, Mr. Diaconoff meets with the "Seekers" class for interested adults.

Agnes G. Cowern, Secretary

KANSAS ASSOCIATION

The Kansas Association of the New Jerusalem Church met in its annual session at Pawnee Rock on November 5th, 1972. There were 76 people in attendance. The Adult Sunday School lesson was led by Eric Zacharias. The morning worship service was conducted by Rev. Galen Unruh with Rev. Paul Zacharias of Kitchener, Ontario, Canada delivering the morning sermon. Some 60 people took communion following the sermon.

A noon meal was served in the church dining room. After some visitation the afternoon session was called to order with Rev. Paul Zacharias talking about his trip to the World Conference in London and showing of some of his motion pictures.

President Rev. Eric Zacharias began the business session by reading selected verses from the seventh chapter of Matthew.

Brief reports were heard from the three societies in Kansas; Pawnee Rock, Pretty Prairie and Montezuma. The church in 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 continues to function actively also. The League had 16 youths and 4 adults that camped out for several days at Estes Park in Colorado.

The Association sends copies of *Daily Bread* to all the 105 County Libraries

in Kansas.

The officers of the Kansas Association for 1973 are:

President	Rev. Eric Zacharias
Vice President	Rev. Galen Unruh
Treasurer	Vernon Kraus
Secretary	Joan McDonald

Mrs. Joan McDonald, Secretary

MAINE ASSOCIATION

The 134th annual meeting of the Maine Association was held in Bath in October 1972. Delegates from Bath, Fryeburg and Portland were present. Reports from the three societies were read, and officers elected for the ensuing year. A detailed Treasurer's Report, submitted in printed form, received due consideration. It was voted to follow the recommendations of the Executive Committee in the matter of apportioning Maine Association funds.

The Association will meet in Fryeburg in October 1974.

Barbara L. Holmes, Recording Secretary

MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION

As usual the Massachusetts Association held two meetings this year at Elmwood in April and in Manchester, N. H. in October. The program at the Spring meeting was concerned with the report of the Camp Blairhaven Feasibility Committee and indicated some of the options open to the Association in regard to the property in South Duxbury. At the Fall meeting the Rev. Mr. Wilfred G. Rice was installed as General Pastor of the Association and an inspirational doctrinal talk was given by the Rev. Mr. Brian Kingslake of Washington, D. C.

Camp Blairhaven in South Duxbury is planning its fifteenth season for the month of July with Mrs. Charles Benson as Camp Director.

The Swedenborg Birthday Celebration sponsored by the Northern Area Council in Boston was featured by a talk by Kent Hyatt who had some stimulating thoughts about being a practical Swedenborgian.

The usual series of Sunday evening Lenten meetings was held in Elmwood under the sponsorship of the Southern Area Council. Speakers were the Rev. Mr. Arvid L. Anderson, Rev. Michael Stotts of the United Methodist Church in East Bridgewater, the Rev. Dr. William R. Woofenden of Bridgewater. One meeting was cancelled because of inclement weather, and one speaker had to cancel because of illness.

Union services sponsored by the Northern Area Council were held during the summer in the Boston and Cambridge Churches, but were not well attended.

A Union Service at Blairhaven in June was sponsored by the Southern Area Council with the three churches in that area participating.

The New Church NEWS has been published twice a year with Mr. Rafael M. J. Guio as Editor. This serves as a link with the various Societies and the isolated members of the Association.

The Women's Alliance held six meetings as usual in various locations with the theme for the year being "Favorite Quotations from the Writings." The usual donations have been made to church camps, hospital and migrant chaplaincies and other charities.

The Boston Society under the leadership of the Rev. Mr. George D. McCurdy has had an active year. Much of the first part of the year was spent in preparation for the sessions of General Convention held in Cambridge in

June. There is an active Adult Discussion Group meeting in members' homes and centering its discussion on Divine Providence in the 20th century. Mr. McCurdy has taped a series of radio programs which have been broadcast over Radio Station WHDH-FM on Sunday mornings from 10:30 to 11:00 A. M. In September a retreat was held at Blairhaven for the 18 to 38 age group. Sixty persons attended and it was so successful that more are planned for the future. A Homecoming Sunday on Palm Sunday and a Harvest Fair in November were highlights of the year. Mr. Walter Orthwein has served his internship with the Boston Society during 1972.

The Bridgewater Society has continued its usual activities with a large and enthusiastic Sunday school, the Sewing Circle which does a good deal of charitable work, the Study Group and the King's Daughters which are both active. A Christmas Sale and Luncheon in October helped to provide the wherewithal to install new windows in the church.

The Brockton Society has been working as usual with a small but faithful Sunday school and church attendance. There are two active women's groups the NTO's who provide the weekly bulletins, and the Ladies' Circle which pays for the soloist and other special music. Both groups contribute to various charities both within and outside the church. Services have been held in the vestry during most of the year, both as a means of conserving heat and also to help those elderly members who cannot climb the stairs. Plans are underway either to sell the church building or to tear it down since it is in poor repair and much too large and expensive for the size of the congregation.

In Cambridge the Study Group meets weekly under the alternate leadership of the Rev. Dr. George F. Dole and the Rev. Julian Kendig, studying the Gospel of Mark.

The Library Extension in the church wing is now open five afternoons a week from 1:00 to 4:00 P. M. There is a small Sunday School and a small women's group.

In Elmwood the church program continues as usual with an active and energetic Sunday School. The Senior League teaches Sunday School, ushers

and helps in various other ways. The Joppa Guild and the Sewing Circle, the two women's groups provide generous support for the parish and there are two youth organizations sponsored by the church and meeting there: a Boy Scout and a Cadette Girl Scout troop.

The Manchester and Newtonville Societies continue with their regular programs with the Rev. Mr. Edwin G. Capon serving in an interim capacity in Manchester and the Rev. Mr. Theodore T. Foster in Newtonville. In the latter church a group of General Church people meet with them once a month with the Rev. Larry Soneson conducting the service. A number of community groups use the Newtonville facilities regularly.

Yarmouthport is active only in the summer. Special Music is a feature of the services with emphasis on the tracker organ which is of interest to both local and outside musicians. There is a steady attendance by both year round and summer visitors, with chiefly a non-New Church congregation.

Worthwhile work is being done with black students from a small town in Alabama. This has continued for nine years now. 1973 is the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the church building and a festive program of two special organ concerts is being planned.

The bookrooms of the Massachusetts New Church Union are visited by about 25 passersby each week. Some come back and many tell others about their visits.

At the Annual Meeting in April 1972 the following were re-elected as officers of the Association: President, George D. McCurdy; Vice-President, Clarence L. Mitchell; Secretary, Mrs. Alan W. Farnham. The Association has no Treasurer since its finances are handled by the Massachusetts New Church Union.

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

NEW YORK ASSOCIATION

As in the past our Association has carried through the year with regular meetings of the full Association and of its Board of Directors. Our main concern this year has been the sale of the Riverhead New Church Cemetery on Long Island. It has been bought by the local cemetery association which will repair and reset the stones and is pledged to keep the property for cemetery purposes only. This was accomplished through the dedicated and conscientious efforts of Messrs. Larsen and Dobbins.

The Association contributes annually to the Fryeburg Assembly and to the Council of Churches of the City of New York of which we are a member and to which we send delegates. The Rev. C.S. Priestnal and Mrs. Virginia Branstons are members of their Radio and TV Department and for the last five years Mr. Priestnal has conducted services on their Hour of Faith program over WHN. These have been very well received and some are available in printed form.

The usual activities of worship services and communion have been carried on faithfully in both Orange and New York with reports of weddings, baptisms and resurrection services. We note the passing to the higher life of Mr. George Odrig, Mr. Paul Hartley, Mr. Gustave Luckman, Mrs. Harold Recknagle and Mrs. L. A. Daniel.

Interesting and well-attended musical evenings have been enjoyed by both our societies. In Orange Mr. Vincent Profita, baritone, gave a concert accompanied by Mrs. Helen Wallace and in New York our organist, Mr. William Mount presented a series of Sunday evening concerts by members of the choir and their friends.

The New York Society has been trying a new experiment of opening the library three afternoons a week as a reading room, staffed by interested members. We have also held "Communication Workshops" on Sunday afternoons for a group of twelve to fifteen designed to help clarify responses to questions often asked of New Church members. Our Church Office mails out sermons

and newsletters regularly to a list of seventy-five, attends to the use of space in the parish house by outside groups and keeps in touch with community developments.

The Orange Society continues to enjoy the ministrations of the Rev. Harold B. Larsen, while Mrs. Larsen is prominent in the work of the Society. Under the sponsorship of the Swedenborg Foundation, Mr. and Mrs. Larsen conducted an exhibition of Swedenborg's works in Boston at a meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. They were both active at the Fryeburg Assembly with Mr. Larsen giving lectures and holding some services. The Ladies' Aid of Orange sent twenty suits of clothing to Mr. Mooki's Memorial College in Orlando, South Africa. The Women's Alliance, meeting alternately in New York and Orange contributes annually to the national organization and members give generously to the Mite Box.

Margaret S. Sampson, Secretary

OHIO ASSOCIATION

The 119th annual meeting of the Ohio Association was held at Urbana College in September 1972. At the business session officers were elected, and funds were granted for the Almont New-Church Assembly, the Cleveland-Pittsburgh Joint Ministry, the Kemper Road Project, *The Messenger* and Urbana College.

The Indianapolis, Indiana Church has disbanded and has bequeathed a gift of \$2,312.25 to the Ohio Association in the form of a loan to Almont to be repaid to the Association.

The Ohio Women's Alliance met and voted to disband, since only the Pittsburgh Church has an active local Alliance.

A committee to re-arouse interest in Retreats was appointed, as a follow-up of the Mid-West Lay Institute held in March 1971.

Three topics chosen for work-shop discussions were 1) Ministry to Married

Couples; 2) Church-College Relations; and 3) How to serve the Isolated and Elderly.

A special memorial service was held at the conclusion of the business meeting in remembrance of those members of the Ohio Association who had passed into the spiritual world during the past year.

The Sunday morning worship service was led by the Rev. Dr. Horand K. Gutfeldt and the President of Convention, the Rev. Ernest O. Martin, and during the service six Lay Leaders were consecrated for service in the Association.

The Association reports further that the Rev. F. Robert Tafel has left the Team Ministry at the Kemper Road Church, leaving only two ordained ministers—the Rev. Richard H. Tafel, Jr. and the Rev. Dr. Horand K. Gutfeldt—serving the entire Association.

The Cleveland and Pittsburgh churches are still considering the possibility of a joint ministry, utilizing the services of one minister for both churches.

Frances A. Boyle, Secretary

(Note: The above report is a condensation of one submitted by Mrs. Boyle last fall, and printed in full in the January 1973 issue of The Messenger.)

PACIFIC COAST ASSOCIATION

The Association met in Los Angeles Sept. 1 to 3, 1972. The 1973 meeting is scheduled for San Diego Aug. 31 to Sept. 2. The three days were full of good Christian fellowship, and were enlivened by sessions of group singing conducted by Rev. Dr. Ivan Franklin.

The San Francisco parish is active, with worship, choir, Sunday School, Young Couples Club, Interest Group, and especially, the Marthas' Alliance. On March 22 this group prepared a Canadian Dinner for the purpose of ac-

quainting members with the Edmonton church and the coming Convention meeting. On January 28 the birthday of Swedenborg was celebrated, with Dr. Wilson Van Dusen as guest speaker. On Feb. 16 Church Women United held a meeting in the church. On Nov. 10 the San Francisco Chronicle included in its issue a historical and architectural description of the church building with a sketch of it.

Parish activities at El Cerrito have been increasing since Rev. John Billings came to serve this parish. At Sunday morning worship, several of the members take turns in leading the group. Sunday afternoon the pastor and his wife conduct a Marriage Enrichment class. Sunday evening there is a Worship Experience, conducted by different parish members. On Monday evening Mrs. Roy Bateman has a Childrens' Drama Group in the church. Thursday evenings there is a Worship Response Group. The Women's Alliance is also active.

San Diego has granted their pastor, Rev. Dr. Ivan Franklin, a leave of absence to work in a hospital in Tacoma Wash., where he can look forward to acceptance as a psychiatrist in any hospital; he wishes in the future to combine this profession with his New Church ministry. In his absence laymen will conduct the services at the church. The Thread Twisters are the most active group in the church, not only with their study meetings, but with money raising schemes to host the Association, providing for a poor family at Christmas, sponsoring a play by the Alpha Omega Players, who perform in the church hall.

Riverside keeps steadily active in its small way, with Sunday School and Church, a weekly class in the Writings on Wednesday evenings conducted by Alice Sechrist, and an occasional pot luck lunch. Rev. Spiers serves part time, and lay people present sermons on many Sundays.

Los Angeles has welcomed Poyung Lee, the wife of their pastor, and their four children who arrived from Korea during the past year. Their son Emmanuel gave some karate lessons in the parish house on Saturdays, when they held a Saturday Church School. The Stitch and Study Club is most active, meeting for study and work in the homes of members who live in and near Los Angeles. The church library during 1972 sold 614 books to 171 people.

They donated 63 copies of Spalding's "Introduction to Swedenborg's Religious Thought" to one of the California State Universities, at Northridge, for use in their class in Religious Sects and Cults. They also donated some books in Spanish to Spanish speaking churches and to schools and libraries. They prepared an exhibit which was shown at the Century Plaza Hotel Sept. 2 to 5, in connection with the meeting of the International Congress of Learned Societies in the Field of Religion.

Temple City holds on to their program of Sunday worship in the home of their secretary in Pasadena.

Portland meets every other Sunday in homes of members. They have rented their down-town church building, which was taken in trade when they sold their large edifice.

Bellevue specializes in Pastoral Counselling and Group Therapy, which reaches a few more people each year.

Wayfarers' Chapel is in our area, and the staff there are very busy keeping their program going.

Split Mountain Camp held its regular two week session on forest land near the Kern river, with Rev. Chungsun Lee as teacher; he endeared himself to the young people, who came back with enthusiasm.

Alice Van Boven, Secretary

SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION

At the last meeting of the Southeastern Association at DeLand, Florida, it was voted by the membership that all future annual meetings should be held in the Fall instead of in the Spring in order to facilitate the attendance of isolated members. Missionary work is carried on throughout most of the area by Rev. Ernest Frederick who visits the isolated, conducts regular monthly meetings at Miami and West Palm Beach, and has recently contacted a group of over twenty young people in Georgia. On the west coast of Florida Rev. Leon C. LeVan's outreach includes the sale and distribution of hundreds of copies of the Writings and New Church collateral material, public lectures, and a

monthly meeting at Sarasota with an attendance of eighteen persons.

St. Petersburg: Under the direction of its minister, the Rev. LeVan, worship services, Sunday School, and study classes have continued each week throughout the year. The children of the Sunday School, as one of their projects, have constructed a beautiful scale model of the Tabernacle. It has become a prized possession. Swedenborg's birthday was celebrated on January 30, 1972, with a dinner followed by a lecture with fifty present. Thanks to the generosity of the late Mrs. Jessie F. Watson, several hundred copies of *Voices From The Open Door* were distributed with remarkably good results. The Ladies Sunshine Auxiliary assisted in sending two young people to Almont Summer School with \$325.00 being raised for this project.

The Rev. Leslie Marshall carries on his good work for the Board of Missions Stamp Outlet and requests that all New Church people and friends please continue to send in their used stamps. He is also completing work on a one volume edition of the Concordance for the Swedenborg Foundation.

Swedenborg House, Deland: This regional center under the supervision of Rev. Ernest Frederick has had a busy year. Worship services, Sunday School, and study classes have continued each week of the year, meetings and retreats have been held, and visitors and guests from many parts of the United States and Canada have been accommodated and have taken part in the activities of Swedenborg House, including young people from Florida and other neighbouring states. The Women's Service Club is due a vote of thanks for its various accomplishments such as assisting Sunday School projects, improving the kitchen facilities at Swedenborg House, maintaining contact with isolated members, providing dinners and other meals for regular and special occasions, and for imparting a delightful feeling of informal hospitality and friendliness to all who visit here.

With the aim of increasing the usefulness of this center, an institute for ministers and their wives is being planned for January 1974.

Herbert Young, Secretary

MIDDLE ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION

President: Rev. Richard H. Tafel
200 Chestnut Ave.
Narberth, Pa. 19072

Vice Pres: August Ebel
7311 Arrowwood Road
Bethesda, Md. 20034

Treasurer: Arthur R. Kalmbacher
1409 Grant Avenue
Wilmington, Del. 19806

Secretary: Mrs. Robert W. Tafel
115 Treaty Road
Drexel Hill, Pa. 19026

Saturday, October 21, 1972 was spent together in the Philadelphia Church. Coffee and buns were ready as members began arriving at 9.30 A. M.

A Worship Service began our mini-retreat. After seeing a poignant film, we chose a partner (someone we felt we did not know very well) to discuss the picture and our reactions to it.

Following lunch we held our annual meeting. A moment of silence was observed in tribute to our faithful member, George Pausch who recently entered the Higher Life. He generously gave us of his time, talent and self for which we are most thankful.

The afternoon program began with another film. There followed a period of contemplation and meditation. Our beautiful day together closed with a simple, but significant, Communion Service.

The Baltimore Church has been without a minister for several years and the Washington Church is seeking a replacement for the Reverend Brian Kingslake who is retiring to England in June. Dedicated laymen have been leading Services regularly in Baltimore, and when needed have done the same in Philadelphia and Washington. The need for more training was felt and desired, so last January our Association sponsored a training session held at Ft. Meade, Maryland and led by the Reverend Doctors Robert Kirven and William Woofenden. The laymen from these churches who attended felt it was beneficial and hope to arrange another such program in the future.

Doris W. Tafel, Secretary

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RETREAT

The Ten Commandments was the theme of the retreat held May 25 to 27, with Rev. Dr. Chungsun Lee as leader. Seventeen persons availed themselves of the opportunity of meeting together under the able leadership of the Los Angeles minister. First, he asked each to tell why we came into the New Church, what our chief interest was; then he divided us into three groups, based on whether our chief interest was theological, philosophical or social. Then we had the assignment: each group was to prepare a paraphrase of the Ten Commandments, for modern readers. On Saturday afternoon two stones were given to each group, and they were to write their results on these stones. It was very easy to determine which group wrote which stones, from the way they were written.

Those who came into the New Church through philosophical or psychological gates of the New Jerusalem spent Saturday forenoon studying the chapter on the Decalogue from TCR, then in the afternoon prepared the following:

1. There are other gods you could worship—but don't.
2. Don't call on my name unless you mean it.
3. Rest one day in seven and replenish your spirit.
4. Think kindly of your parents; they've been there too.
5. Don't hate nobody, no time, no how.
6. Have all your love affairs with your wife or husband.
7. Keep your cotton-pickin hands off other people's stuff.
8. Don't indulge in malicious gossip.
9. Be content with your wife or husband.
10. Be pleased with the machines or appliances and pets of your household.

Those who came into the New Church through the *sociological* gate of the New Jerusalem prepared the following, trying to be positive in their statements:

1. Loving the Lord means filling our use, our purpose in life, and striving for regeneration through spiritual growth rather than pursuing material possessions and power.
2. We respect our God and the beliefs of others.
3. Patiently and faithfully practice spiritual growth.
4. We value the potential for regeneration in every man and accept them as our brothers.

5. We treasure, value, regard and revere all human life.
6. We protect and value our commitments to one another.
7. We respect each man's spiritual and material possessions as being rightfully his.
8. We will accept one another and seek to rise above hypocrisy and judgment.
- 9 and 10. We observe the abundance of creation and are content to recognize and satisfy the needs of ourselves and others.

Those who came into the New Church through the theological gate of the New Jerusalem also tried to be positive in their statements, and wrote as follows:

1. The Lord Jehovah is the one and only God, to whom all worship belongs.
2. The name of the Lord is holy, and brings His presence in prayer and worship.
3. The Sabbath is holy because the word means, "Rest," and signifies the Lord and His victory over the hells. In Him we also conquer temptation with the consequence of regeneration and conjunction with the Lord.
4. The Lord and the church are to be venerated, for the Lord is the Father of all, and the church like a mother, nourishes people with spiritual food.
5. Enmity, hatred and revenge, like murder, are deadly and can destroy the soul and turn people away from the Lord and His worship.
6. True chastity consists in abstinence from wilful all that is adultery, fornication or obscenity for these things destroy what is good and true in the Word.
7. All that is false and dishonest robs others of what is theirs.
8. Truth and falsity cannot be confused, nor can good and evil be mixed.
- 9 and 10. Coveting what belongs to another can lead to lying, stealing, committing adultery and even murder.

Alice Van Boven

ATTENTION: For those wishing to contribute to the Mite Box Fund, to be presented this year to the Mission of Southern Africa, please send your check to Mrs. Thornton Smallwood, 7808 S. Union Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60620, treasurer of the Alliance of New Church Women. (Please make checks payable to Alliance of New Church Women.) The Mite Box Appeal appeared in the April issue of *The Messenger*.

SWEDENBORG SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION

The Seventy-sixth Annual Meeting of the Swedenborg Scientific Association was held on May 2, 1973, in Pendleton Hall, Bryn Athyn, with an attendance of 78 members and guests.

Professor Edward F. Allen was reelected president. New members elected to the Board of Directors were Mr. William H. Clifford III and Mr. Brian Keith, both students in the Theological School of the Academy of the New Church. The following incumbents were reelected to the Board: Rt. Rev. Elmo C. Acton, Mr. Charles S. Cole, Mr. Donald C. Fitzpatrick, Jr., Rev. Daniel W. Goodenough, Rev. W. Cairns Henderson, Mr. Joel Pitcairn, and Mr. Tomas Spiers. At a later meeting of the Board, the following officers were reelected: vice-president, Mr. Charles S. Cole; secretary, Miss Morna Hyatt; treasurer, Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh; editor, Mr. Lenart Alfelt.

In his report the Treasurer mentioned that the Association has contributed \$400 toward the Arcana Computer Project being carried on by a group in England. The Editor expressed appreciation for the steady flow of material for the *New Philosophy*, but he is still actively soliciting articles so that some selectivity and organizing of the material

around topics will be possible. He emphasized his conviction that we have in the pages of our journal the possibility of presenting viable alternatives to the hedonistic materialism of the present day. We need the support of scholars and of the church membership at large. Mr. Alfelt urged that members try to interest their friends and that philosophy discussion groups be organized or reactivated. The Secretary read a report from one such group in Glenview.

Dr. Horand Gutfeldt of Urbana College then addressed the meeting on the subject, "Swedenborg and Modern Parapsychology." In his interesting and thought-provoking presentation he referred to phenomena and experiments in telepathy, psychokinesis, clairvoyance, psychosomatics, etc., which give evidence of supernatural influences. While recognizing the warnings in the Writings of the dangers of magic and of communication with spirits, Dr. Gutfeldt believes that the church should re-evaluate its position. The church has for the most part rejected efforts to contact the supernatural, but would not the motive with which one engaged in such pursuits be the decisive factor in

determining whether the results would be harmful or useful? Much is being done in parapsychology today, and many universities have departments of parapsychology which are carrying on work important to the church. We have knowledge from the Writings not held by others, and we should be developing a New Church psychology. The work of Dr. Wilson van Dusen and others in relating mental illnesses and spiritual obsessions as well as studies in psychosomatics should be put to positive use in

promoting spiritual healing. Dr. Gutfeldt noted that interest in parapsychology today is a counterbalance to the belief that science is all-powerful. Youth is reacting against materialism. He hopes that we in the church will be aware of our responsibility to find and communicate a new relation to the super-natural, and so to contribute to "the healing of the nations."

Dr. Gutfeldt's address and a complete account of the meeting will be published in the July-September issue of the *New Philosophy*. Those interested in subscribing to this journal or in becoming members of the Swedenborg Scientific Association are invited to communicate with Mr. E. Boyd Asplundh, Bryn Athyn.

Morna Hyatt, Secretary

PRAYER

This short article was written by Mrs. Lilly (Dolly) Frederick, late wife of the Rev. Ernest L. Frederick, pastor at Swedenborg House, Deland, Fla. It was found among her papers, and dates back to pre-jet plane days. It surely can be a source of inspiration and courage.

Something happened this morning that made me realize how much prayer has meant to me. I had said some things that did not come out right. After saying them I knew what was wrong—I had not prayed for the right words and thoughts. This brought to mind the many, many times in the past when I had prayed to the Lord for help and always received it, and how he had never failed me and had been my constant source of strength day in and day out.

My thoughts went back, for instance, to the time when my husband began his work in the ministry, work we both loved and looked forward to doing, when suddenly illness had struck me. It was diagnosed as multiple sclerosis. It was incurable and, according to the doctors, only a warmer climate would help. This meant leaving the church at Brockton, Mass., and our dear friends there and I thought to myself that I would be taking my husband away from his pastorate.

But the Lord works in strange ways and I have found this new move has brought us into contact with new people who are searching for our truths, and it is reward enough for me just to meet and to talk to those who are thirsting for our kind of religion. And then I thought of how, just recently, I had visited my daughter Vivian, and her family in Bermuda.

At first, the idea of attempting such a long journey had seemed hopeless, not just from the financial end, but because I tired so easily and there was the long plane ride from Florida to New York and then a change of planes to reach Bermuda. No one thought I would have the strength to make the trip but things did work out. I prayed every night that I would be able to see my dear ones and then before I knew it, I was on a plane bound for New York, still not realizing that my prayers had been answered. Friends had helped with the fare, and here I was, approaching New York where my two sisters who lived nearby, were to meet me at the airport where I had a two or three hour wait before boarding the Bermuda plane.

On arrival they remarked that they really had not expected me to show up and were surprised that I had endured the trip so well. I replied that somehow I knew I would leave on that date and that all would be well. I thought to myself how much I had prayed that I might be able to go, and suddenly realized the Lord had answered my prayers. Later, I arrived in Bermuda tired but happy. I had stood the trip well, and with the gentle help of my daughter, Vivian, soon regained a little strength.

A few days later, while telling Vivian about the conversation with my sisters, I remembered I had not told them how much I had prayed to be able to make this trip. I asked myself, "Why was I so slow to come out openly and admit I had prayed and believed, if the Lord was willing, he would

make the journey possible?" I also recalled how, during the flight, I pictured in my mind's eye, a cross with our Lord's words on it: "Lo, I am with you always." (Mt. 28:20) Not long after that, Vivian remarked on how serene and relaxed I appeared to be. It was because I had just been thanking the Lord in my heart for his goodness. Prayer has indeed done much for me.

I think that when we ask the Lord for anything we should do more than just sit back. We need to do our share. We ought to do as much as we can and then, if it is the right thing, the Lord will do the rest, sometimes in ways we never dream possible. Remember, the Lord is with you always and that he does hear your call for help and he will answer you.

At times I have been asked very complicated questions about our religion, ones that are difficult to answer on the spur of the moment in a simple, easily understandable way. In cases like this, when I do not know what to say, I offer up a silent prayer and help comes immediately in the form of the right words to use. Afterwards, I find it difficult to recall just what my answers were, but they must have been right, because people have told my husband that I answered their questions and explained our beliefs in a better way than they had heard them explained before.

This little article is being written with the hope it will help others to pray. In looking back on my life, I think of the many times I have called on the Lord silently for help and strength. My prayers have always been answered. Remember our Lord's words, "Lo, I am with you always."

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE CONTINUES

The correspondence course written by the Rev. Brian Kingslake will be handled by Polly Baxter after Mr. Kingslake returns to England. Information can be obtained by writing Mrs. Polly Baxter, 48 Sargent Street, Newton, Mass. 02158

MEMORIAL

JOY H. HAMMOND

1903—1973

Joy Hammond grew up on a farm in Indiana. His father was also a mason contractor and it was under his father's tutelage that he himself became an accomplished brick mason. Of his call to the ministry he wrote many years later, "Discipline and the need for greater seriousness in the schoolroom added to my father's reading and explaining the Bible at home; it placed the burden of the ministry on my heart." Eventually, he made his way through college and became engaged in teaching.

A scholarship was offered affording entry to the New Church Theological School. He accepted and was ordained by the Rev. Louis G. Hoeck on November 21, 1933. Mr. Hoeck was General Pastor of the Ohio Association at the time. His career in the ministry called Joy to churches in New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Kansas and Missouri.

While serving the church in Pawnee Rock, Kansas, Joy developed an effective radio ministry. He wrote a series of pamphlets based on his radio talks with the title, "Answering Life's Questions." He had a large radio audience, and the work gave him great enjoyment.

Although he later became inactive in the Swedenborgian Church, his great love for the teachings of the church made him available for preaching in other Protestant churches. He was a 33rd degree Mason of Stanton Star Lodge, Past Worthy Patron, Eastern Star, Crescent Chapter. He spoke frequently to various groups.

His enduring love for education persisted throughout his life. At the time of his sudden passing, resulting from a heart attack in Yuma, Arizona on March 22nd, he was still contemplating teaching at the college level. Joy was a man of diverse talents. His wife, Elva, wrote after his passing, "He was active in the church and took part in all public activities he had time for. He had a printing press and made beautiful Christmas cards, stationery and many other articles. He wrote some of the most inspiring poetry I have ever read, published under the pen name of Ionia Ike. He loved to sing, and in our many travels as members of the Airstream Trailer Club he made many friends. Everybody loved him."

For those of us who knew him, Joy will be always remembered as a trusted and congenial friend who loved people and the many challenges offered by life's opportunities.

Galen Unruh

BIRTHS

Born to Bob and Marie Morse of the Fryeburg Church on May 21st, a boy, Uriah Everett, in Florida.

William Richard Baxter was baptized on May 27th in Washington, D. C. by the Rev. Brian Kingslake. William is the son of Dick and Polly Baxter, students at SSR and members of the Washington society.

CONFIRMATIONS

On April 15th the Rev. Paul Zacharias confirmed the following people in Kitchener, Ontario: Ken Rae, Nora Rae, Doreen Dienesch, Joan Middleton, Gunther Hintz, Deborah Hintz.

MARRIAGES

Glen David Poland and Penny Elizabeth Snow were married on May 19th by the Rev. Horace Briggs of Fryeburg. Also married on the same date were Henry Ela and Darlene Hatch.

On May 20th Donald Matheson and Susan Tafel were married in the Philadelphia church. The Rev. Richard H. Tafel officiated.

Gary Dean Kroeker of Pawnee Rock and Deborah Jean Orr were married in Great Bend, Ks. on April 21st. Alton Everett and Maxine Sovereign were married in Claflin, Ks. on April 21st also.

Jeanmarie Zacharias, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Paul Zacharias of Kitchener, Ontario, and Nicholas Ivan Czudyjowez were married in the Church of the Good Shepherd in Kitchener. The father of the bride performed the marriage ceremony on June 9.

DEATHS

Mrs. Mary Reine of Wynndel, B. C. passed into eternal life on January 23rd. She is survived by her husband and three children. Resurrection service was held on January 30th with the Rev. Harold Taylor officiating.

Mr. Walter R. Prussman entered the spiritual world on April 30th. Resurrection service was conducted by the Rev. George McCurdy on May 2nd.

Virginia Layton of Waltham, sister of John Layton and Elizabeth Goddard, member of the Newtonville Society, passed into the spiritual world on June 9th. Burial was in Norwood, Mass. with the Rev. George Dole officiating.

On Interseminary Plan

TWO SSR STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM ANDOVER NEWTON

Matthew S. P. Glowe and Walter E. Orthwein III, senior students at the Swedenborg School of Religion, were graduated from Andover Newton Theological School at ceremonies in May. Both men received the degree of Master of Divinity from the highly-respected Newton institution, and both expect to be graduated by SSR at ceremonies preceding Convention, on the evening of July 18, in the Edmonton Church. Along with Yuzo Noda, both men also anticipate ordination by Convention at the forthcoming session. Mr. Noda received his M. A. degree from Andover Newton last year.



Johnnie and Matt Glowe



Cathy and Walter Orthwein

The Master of Divinity degree, received by Walter and Matt, is a relatively new designation for what was formerly called the B. D. (Bachelor of Divinity). Only one other Swedenborgian minister (the Rev. John Billings) has received it directly, although several have returned their old B. D.'s to Andover Newton in exchange for the new Master of Divinity (abbreviated in writing and speaking as "M. Div." for distinction from the medical degree).

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