

THE ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
THE WESLEYAN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
TO  
THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION  
CHRISTIAN HOLINESS ASSOCIATION

April 25, 1984

The Wesleyan Theological Society is about to leave its teen years. This fall we will be celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Society, at Candler School of Theology of Emory University. The date November 1-3, is also but a month-and-a-half away from the 200th anniversary of the Christmas Conference in which Asbury was first ordained elder and then made Superintendent of the Methodists in America, thus marking the official organization of American Methodism.

This past year the Society met at Anderson School of Theology, hosted both by that school and Warner Press. We were graciously received and cared for by Dean Jerry Grubbs, and by Rev. Arlo Newel, Editor of the Warner Press. The special theme was "Restorationism as a Motif in Wesleyan Thought." This was an examination of the non-Wesleyan roots of the holiness movement. Other themes and addresses were "Christian Holiness and the Problem of Systemic Evil," "George Whitfield and John Wesley" and "Covenant Concepts of the Atonement."

Of special interest to the CHA was the action taken regarding accepting the CHA statement of faith as that of the WTS. To put the results in the words of Donald Dayton, secretary pro-tem:

"The Society resoundingly rejected the recommendation of the Executive Committee that the CHA statement of faith be substituted for the WTS doctrinal statement. Instead the Society voted to ask CHA to enter into dialogue with the WTS with the purpose of achieving a common statement of faith."

Though the total reason for rejection is impossible to ascertain, that which was vocalized were some problems in sentence structure and precision of language. Both Donald Dayton and myself communicated this to Darius Salter, Executive Secretary of the CHA, who then requested that we present a revised statement. Under further advice at this CHA conference from the representatives of the CHA, a statement has been drawn up and will be presented to the CHA Executive Committee at this conference and to the WTS Executive this fall for their action.



The membership of the Society continues to grow. Present active members: full--560; associate--203; student--414; and honorary--48. Total, one thousand two hundred twenty-five (1,225).

The finances of the Society continue to be sound. The total deposits of the Society as of April 17, 1984, are \$15,776.33. Approximately \$9,000 of this is earmarked for three copies of the Journal now in process.

The Wesleyan Theological Journal, containing the papers and responses of the annual meeting and other scholarly papers is being recognized by the theological schools of the country. This is due in large part to the work of Donald Dayton, the promotional secretary of the Society.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Cubie

President, WTS, 1983-1984