

3 November 1989  
Asbury Theological Seminary

Report by the Editor of the WTS Journal:

When I was elected to the office of editor of the WTS Journal two years ago, I was delighted with the opportunity to be of service to the Society and to the wider world of scholarship in this way. Here was something that I believed I could do usefully and reasonably well. And, the Journal itself, after some absolutely unavoidable delays, was back on schedule and in very solid condition, thanks to the splendid service of Alex Deasley.

Then came severe difficulties of the sort that would seem to be solved, only to break open again. This was the very first number that was my duty to publish. By late May of this year all was at long last in hand, and in June I sent the first number and the next one due off to Old Paths, our publisher. Then I went off to Fuller to teach and on to Minnesota for vacation. The next I heard of the Journal was an anguished call from Bill Arnett, who said that Old Paths had not received the copy. So, I contacted the U.S. Postal Service and after several weeks (three, to be exact) learned that, as best as they could determine, the copy had been destroyed in an accident suffered by one of their vehicles -- where and exactly how they would not say, nor could I get from them a clear written account of the matter. I could understand their reluctance but still sought legal counsel -- given at no expense to the Society by a seasoned counselor. Fortunately, I had copies of every page that was lost, for I copy materials as soon as I receive them. But the copy copies were expected, so I edited both numbers again. This was done mostly in the first two weeks of October. So, those two numbers are now edited and ready to go to the printer. The articles of the third number, the papers from our last meeting (San Diego), have been ready for awhile, but I have been awaiting the printing of the first and second and completion of the new index -- of which, more in a moment.

On the suggestion of our Society's president, Luke Keefer, I did investigate the possibility of getting one of the numbers published by the Nazarene Publishing House so that perhaps we could have something available for you at this meeting. But there is a changing of the guard at Headquarters that affects the Nazarene Publishing House, so that was a dead end -- though it took better than two weeks to find out that it was.

To summarize the current situation, two numbers are now ready for the printer. I did want to check out a suggestion or two with the Executive Committee before going ahead, however. In response, the committee has decided that Vol. 23, numbers 1 and 2 will be published as a double number.

There was some feeling that I could have brought the Editorial Committee into service more adequately. Perhaps so. I did rely very heavily on Wesley Tracy, who was on the committee for the first two numbers, and the other member had his hands full with some medical problems. I have worked almost alone on the third number.