

TO: Wesleyan Theological Society

FROM: Mel Dieter

RE: Annual Report to the Society, November 2, 1990

Thank you again for allowing me to participate in the executive functions of the Society as its promotional secretary. I have tried again this year to further the organizational health and best interests of the society. Whether in official position or as a participating member of the Society since its formation in 1965, I have been enthusiastic for the usefulness and future potential of our groups and deeply appreciative of the dedicated colleagues who have used common spiritual, intellectual and even physical energies to bring the biblical, historical, and theological concerns of the organization into clearer perspective within the church and academic community.

Those of us who have been here a while know well that there have been significant changes in the society over the years. Some have been quite radical adjustments to Society policies--at least within our own circles; most changes, however, have helped the society adapt its administrative procedures to keep the organizational base of our society adequate to the accomplishment of our purpose for being. Another such change comes before you at this meeting. The executive committee recommends that the office of promotional secretary be abolished. Due to the central promotional role of our secretary-treasurer in the preservation and extension of the society and the promotional responsibilities of the program chairman or first vice-president, organizing the annual programs, the original concerns for the office are pretty well covered. But even more important is the budgetary saving which the elimination of this executive position would accomplish. I hope you will see fit to give your approval to this recommendation. In view of my own commitment to the wisdom of such a move, I have asked the nominating committee to not bring my name in for the office for this year.

Regardless of your decisions on this and my own move into semi-retirement or whatever, as long as God allows I hope to continue my participation in the Society as an active member and will always enjoy great satisfaction in my associations and past participation with you and many who are now no longer with us.