



WESLEYAN THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A FELLOWSHIP OF WESLEYAN ARMINIAN SCHOLARS

ESTABLISHED IN 1965

Annual Meeting, Colorado Springs CO, November 1982

To the members of the WTS:

As most of you know, my work this year has been severely curtailed ~~unfortunately~~ by the automobile accident I suffered on New Year's Day returning from the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting in California. May I be allowed to express my appreciation for all the tokens of concern that I received in the wake of Wayne Caldwell's announcement to the membership in one of his letters. I have valued your prayers, and though I will suffer something of a permanent impairment in the left leg, I am greatly relieved to have enough mobility to be allowed to maintain much of my usual work. I still covet, however, your prayers for my traveling companion Jeff Smith (10041 Connell, Overland Park KS 66212), a Princeton Seminary student who remained in a coma for six months and is just now beginning to recover use of his voice, eyes, and muscles in a very slow process of recovery.

In spite of these difficulties, the work of promotion has gone forward on the following fronts:

(1) This year has been the first in which I have not submitted a report to CHRISTIANITY TODAY. Their failure to print the last several reports combined with an apparent tendency increasingly to shy away from reports of academic meetings made this seem futile. Instead I went straight to the TSF BULLETIN, published by the Theological Students Fellowship, a graduate wing of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, which had published earlier a report of our 1980 meeting. They have published a report of our 1981 meeting and are expecting me to file a report of this meeting. Though this journal, of course, does not have the circulation of CHRISTIANITY TODAY, it does regularly report on a variety of academic meetings and thus seems an appropriate, if not only, place for such a report to appear.

(2) I should report that through the initiative of an editor at Baker Book House, the WESLEYAN THEOLOGICAL JOURNAL was displayed in a booth at the American Academy of Religion meeting in San Francisco just before Christmas of 1981. I helped staff this booth which displayed a number of evangelical theological journals.

(3) I had made plans to attend the executive committee meeting at the annual Christian Holiness Association in April, but an infection developed in the foot that through me back into the hospital for another month preventing my attendance. I did continue discussions by phone with the president-elect and other members of the committee as much as possible, so as not to completely neglect my duty at this point.

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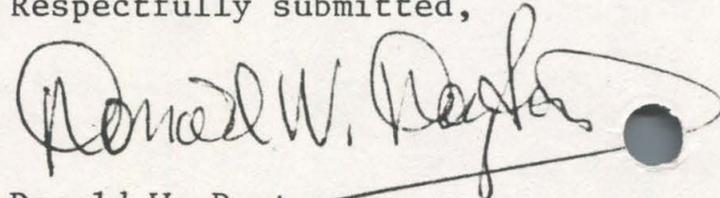
(4) I carried the 1982 WTS programs to this summer's Oxford Institute of Methodist Theological Studies, where I was able to make a presentation to the Wesley Studies Group about the WTS. This generated a great deal of interest, and persons from several parts of the world expressed interest in joining the society. The presence of a substantial contingent representing the WTS constituency contributed to the heightened interest in the WTS within this group, and I am happy to report that Paul Bassett has been chosen to represent our continuing interest in this arena.

(5) Finally, I have tried to distribute the programs widely, and have carried on correspondence with a number of persons interested in the WTS, as a result of this and other contacts.

I am pleased to report that I think we are becoming more a force to be reckoned with in the wider theological world. I am pleased with the extent to which the WTS is now included in the planning and thinking of many other related organizations and movements. I pray that we will have the vision to meet the challenges that are before us at this time.

I have agreed at the request of the nominating committee to stand in the election for another year. I have, however, completed now my eighth year of service, and I am prepared to serve or to gladly pass my duties on to another according to the wisdom of the society.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald W. Dayton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Donald W. Dayton
Promotional Secretary