

Minutes of the Fourteenth Annual National Meeting

The newspapers were struck in New York, but news was made in New Jersey. And that news concerned the Fourteenth Annual National Meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society, meeting at Northeastern Collegiate Bible Institute, Essex Fells, December 27-28, 1962. The physical preparations for the event were well laid by Wesley A. Olsen, Executive Vice-President of the host institution, and his gracious and willing staff. And the program of papers, centering on the theme "An Evangelical Appraisal of Karl Barth," gave promise of real stimulation. The Society gathered eagerly and expectantly, with attendance and interest at an all time high.

Thursday afternoon's session was called to order by President Ralph Earle at 1:00 p.m. in the lovely and newly constructed chapel of Northeastern Collegiate Bible Institute. After the singing of the hymn "O Word of God Incarnate," Berkeley Mickelsen spoke from I Peter 1:22-23 on the theme "Response to the Truth, and Brotherly Love." After the opening devotional service, Wesley A. Olsen, on behalf of the host institution, extended an official greeting to the members of the Society and briefly told the history of the school. The printed program (cf. *Bulletin of the E. T. S.*, Vol. V, No. 4, p. 121, with the addition of a paper by Martin J. Wyngaarden entitled "The Servant of Jehovah in Isaiah and the Dead Sea Scrolls," scheduled for 8:45 Thursday evening) was adopted as the docket, and the meeting proceeded with papers read by Cornelius Van Til and John W. Montgomery.

The first general business session of the Fourteenth Annual National Meeting convened at 3:00 p.m., Thursday, December 27th. The minutes of the previous year's national meeting were noted as printed in the *Bulletin* (Vol. V, No. 1). Reports were given by the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer (in absentia), auditor (in absentia), and chairman of the Membership Committee (see summaries below), with votes of appreciation being expressed to the secretary and treasurer. On the recommendation of R. Laird Harris, the common consent of the members gathered, and the direction of the president, the national secretary was instructed to employ secretarial help as needed, chargeable to the funds of the Society (clarified in the December 28th meeting of the Executive Committee to mean up to five hundred dollars per year). The Society then elected Gordon H. Clark, Roger Nicole, Vernon C. Grounds, Martin J. Wyngaarden and Robert Knudsen as the nominating committee, with Gordon H. Clark appointed by the president as chairman. President Earle announced the appointment of William Lane and Arthur Klem to serve as the Resolutions Committee.

After a coffee break in the new library of the Institute, the program continued with papers read by R. Laird Harris and Fred H. Klooster.

The evening Annual Banquet was held in the dining room of the host institution, with the Institute going beyond the call of duty in the graciousness of its service and the quality of its food. Vernon C. Grounds, vice-president of the Society, moderated, and our hostess, Miss Carol Young, brought two vocal solos. Bert H. Hall, in the absence of the scheduled devotional leader, led in a meditation, followed by the presidential address by Ralph Earle, "Further Thoughts on Biblical Inspiration."

The Thursday evening session was called to order by President Earle, with the paper by Kenneth S. Kantzer presented. In the healthy discussion which ensued, the schedule was threatened. Upon direction of the president, it was voted to re-schedule the paper by Martin J. Wyngaarden to 8:45 Friday morning; with the scheduled papers for Friday to follow. The discussion then went on in the chapel until quite late, and was continued by some in the Institute's lounge into the wee hours of the morning. Theologians have never been known to be short of speech,

and the point was demonstrated by most that night. Whereas a panel of six was scheduled for Friday morning, a panel of the whole was born Thursday night.

Friday morning came early for many. After a hearty breakfast, the majority were able to find their way to the chapel for the morning session. William Petersen directed in a hymn, and W. Gordon Brown led in the reading of Scripture and prayer. The program followed according to the revised schedule adopted the previous evening, with papers by Martin J. Wyngaarden and Roger Nicole, a coffee break, a paper by Gordon H. Clark, and the scheduled symposium. Whereas some feared that the previous evening's discussion would pre-empt the vitality of the schedule symposium — and perhaps it was a bit milder in tone than its spontaneous counterpart — the discussants conducted themselves well, and much additional light was shed.

Dinner was late, due to the preference for light over lunch.

The afternoon session on Friday was opened by the president, after which Edwin Yamauchi presented his paper as scheduled.

The second general business session of the Fourteenth Annual National Meeting of E.T.S. was convened by president Earle. Sectional reports were given by Burton L. Goddard, for the New England Section, Robert D. Knudsen, as chairman of the Eastern Section, J. Barton Payne, representing the Mid-Western Section, and the national secretary, reading the reports from the Far-Western and Southern Sections. The section officers for next year, as elected by the sections, were announced as approved by the Executive Committee; as follows:

	CHAIRMAN	VICE-CHAIRMAN	SEC.-TREAS.
New England:	Burton L. Goddard	Carlton Gregory	Charles Cook
Eastern:	Robert D. Knudsen	Claud A. Ries	Cornelius Van Til
Southern:	John C. Anderson	Irving L. Jensen	Robert Picerilli
Mid-Western:	John C. Wenger	J. Barton Payne	Charles M. Horne
Far-Western:	Everett F. Harrison	Arnold D. Ehlert	Oscar F. Reed

Richard N. Longenecker, as chairman of the Necrology Committee, read the memorials to Kenneth S. Wuest and Robert Park that appeared in the *Bulletin*, Vol. V, No. 1 and No. 2 respectively. He also read the memorial to Walter L. Penner (see below) and Carl Blackler (see below), while Samuel J. Schultz presented the memorial to Lando Hiebert (see below), Cornelius Van Til presented the memorial to Ned B. Stonehouse (see below), and Martin J. Wyngaarden announced concerning the death of Clarence Bouma. The Society rose in tribute to the memory of these stalwarts of Christ, and President Earle gave expression to the Society's prayer unto God for the families and labors which these have left behind.

In the absence of the vice-president, the editor, Samuel J. Schultz, on behalf of the Executive Committee, presented the report of the Executive Committee regarding the proposed constitutional amendment concerning membership. The proposal, as presented at the Thirteenth Annual Meeting, was that: "The B. D. degree or its theological equivalent shall ordinarily be required for membership in the Society . . ." (rather than the Th.M.). He read the minutes of the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Society on this point, pointing out the arguments pro and con as then advanced (cf. *Bulletin*, Vol. V, No. 1), and reported that the Executive Committee of E.T.S. recommends that the proposed amendment not be accepted. After some discussion, it was moved, seconded, and carried by a substantial majority that the recommendation of the Executive Committee be accepted. Then, that there be no ambiguity regarding the Society's mind on the matter and that the amendment itself be dealt with, the proposed amendment was moved and seconded; and the

amendment was defeated by the same majority vote that accepted the Executive Committee's report.

The Editor, on behalf of the Editorial Committee and with the approval of the Executive Committee, announced the publication of Gordon H. Clark's manuscript, "Barth's Theological Method," as Monograph #4 in the Society's publications. This makes the fifth book that the Society has sponsored (one symposium and four monographs), and is to be mailed free of charge to all who are full and associate members of the Society at the time of its publication (about March, 1963). It was further suggested that the publisher, The Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Company, be asked to make copies of the book available to student members of the Society at the publisher's price, and the Editor agreed to present such a request. Monograph #5 is also under consideration, with publication dependent upon arrangements with the publisher and funds available.

Gordon H. Clark presented the Nominating Committee's report, as follows:

President: Vernon C. Grounds (incumbent vice-president)

Vice-President: Burton L. Goddard

Secretary: Richard N. Longenecker (incumbent)

Treasurer: Earl S. Kalland (incumbent)

Executive Committee (term 1963-66); Ralph Earle (retiring president)

Editorial Committee (term 1963-66); John W. Montgomery

Membership Committee (term 1963-65); W. Gordon Brown and
A. Berkeley Mickelsen

Committee on Program and Arrangements: Open, subject to location of the
Fifteenth Annual National Meeting.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the nominations be accepted as presented. Allan A. MacRae nominated G. Douglas Young to fill the vacancy on the Program and Arrangements Committee, and it was seconded and carried.

The report of the Resolutions Committee was presented by Arthur Klem, expressing "thanks to the Northeastern Collegiate Bible Institute for the warm hospitality extended to the Society and for the use of its facilities," citing particularly "the cordiality and cooperation of Dr. Charles Anderson, the Reverend Wesley A. Olsen, and Miss Carol Young." It further expressed "thanks to the Program Committee for a stimulating and rewarding program of meetings at the Annual Meeting, December 27-28, 1962." There being no further matter presented, retiring president Earle adjourned the business session.

In the absence of president-elect Grounds, the retiring president continued in the chair for the remainder of the afternoon session. J. Barton Payne graciously suggested that in view of the advanced hour his paper be 'read by title' in deference to Leonard T. Van Horn. The group accepted his offer with regret. The paper by Leonard T. Van Horn was read as scheduled.

William N. Kerr brought the closing devotional on the theme "Let him glory in the Lord," from I Cor. 2:18ff. With the adjournment of the Fourteenth Annual National Meeting of E.T.S. by the Society's president for 1962, the members of the Society left Essex Fells having been inspired and stimulated to further incisive thought and productive scholarship.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard N. Longenecker
National Secretary

REGISTERED ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERS:	G. Johnson	Michaels	Van Til	STUDENTS:
Barker	Kaiser	Mickelsen	Walters	Aiken
Brown	L. Kalland	Montgomery	Wyngaarden	Cassel
Clark	Kantzer	Nicole		Kennedy
Earle	W. Kerr	Obitts	ASSOCIATES:	L. Miller
B. Goddard	Klem	Olsen	Bakker	Watson
Gustafson	Klooster	Payne	Beich	E. Williams
Hall	Knudsen	Sailer	Fandrich	
Hamilton	Lane	S. Schultz	Kirkwood	VISITORS:
Harris	Ledden	Stoesz	Sasher	c. 40
Helmhold	Longenecker	Taylor	Yamauchi	
Huttar	MacRae	Van Horn	Zimmer	



SUMMARIES OF REPORTS

as presented at the
 Fourteenth Annual National Meeting of the
 Evangelical Theological Society, December 1962

A. TREASURER

Balance, January 1962		\$1939.50
(Note: This differs from the reported balance of last year due to an error in last year's report.)		
Receipts during 1962:		3166.08
Dues and subscriptions	\$3041.00	
Books, plaques and back numbers	76.93	
Royalties	48.15	
	\$3166.08	
Total Credit for 1962		\$5105.58
Disbursements during 1962		3040.89
Printing	\$2735.85	
Postage, mimeo supplies, etc.	157.12	
Sectional meeting expenses	128.18	
Bank charges	19.74	
	\$3040.89	
Balance on Hand, December 1962		\$2064.69