This third issue of the Society's Newsbulletin reflects the continuing and spreading interest in the thought of Michael Polanyi. The growing membership list indicates that new people continue to learn about, and show their strong interest in, being a part of, this network of research and shared information.

The current issue also indicates the continuing strong interest in bibliographical information concerning Polanyi's thought.

We had fewer people sharing information on current projects since the last issue, although the Atlanta meeting indicates that there is strong interest in writing and sharing abstracts of current projects. So, write up those abstracts and send them in and they will be in the next Bulletin.

Finally, the report on the Atlanta meeting suggests a growing interest in getting together to share and discuss our common work. I would be happy to help coordinate such meetings if there is sufficient interest and some general consensus on the what, where and when of such events. Let us hear from you.

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NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Douglas G. Adams
1634 Oxford, Apt. 302
Berkeley, California 94703

Interested in the ways Polanyi's epistemology aids inquiries into the relation of religion and the arts.

Professor John V. Apciuski
Box 12
St. Bonaventure, N.Y. 14778

Interested in Polanyi's theory of knowing and its implications for religious faith.

Professor Dale H. Cannon
524 Valley Road
Charlottesville, Va. 22903

From the perspective of epistemological and ontological concerns I am interested in Polanyi's contribution toward establishing and consolidating a post-modern intellectual sensibility toward the condition of human existence.
NEW HURDUS, Continued

Mr. Cari P. (Pili) Mallins
2475 Le Conte #6
Berkeley, California 94709

Interested in (1) using Polanyi's epistemology to develop a post-Kantian, pluralistic theological model, (2) using the epistemology to analyze hermeneutical problems of liturgical criticism.

Professor Geoffrey Payzant
336 Shellrdake Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M4P 2R4

Interested in experimental and philosophical studies of our subsidiary awareness of musical phenomena as prompted and pulsed by Polanyi's writings on theory of knowledge and aesthetics.

Professor Theodore F. Peters
Department of Religion & Philosophy
Newberry College
Newberry, South Carolina 29108

Interested in the possible relationship of Polanyi to continental studies in Hermeneutics.

Dr. Michael Polanyi
22 Upland Park Road
Oxford, England

Interested in all the things everyone is doing relative to his work, and interested in knowing what reports or contributions he might make that will be most helpful and useful to the "Society."

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1. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

A. Published Works:

Adams, Douglas G., Congregational Dancing in Christian Worship, Vallejo:
The Unabling Co., 1971. 120 pp.
(Studies heavily on Polanyi's thought concerning the relation of dance and religion, particularly in terms of the concept of indwelling and the relationship of the individual to works of art.)

Vita, Dan Otto, The Parables
(Makes limited use of Polanyi in an attempt to treat the parables as literature. Apparently Mr. Vita read only the early Polanyi work. Since this book Vita's interests have apparently turned more toward French structuralism.)

(Nr. Fish is a literary critic whose work in theory of criticism is very Polanyian in shape and tone. Fish knows of Polanyi but has only recently begun to study his works. Fish's theoretical outlook which he calls "affective stylistics" appears as a chapter in this book and in one of the 1970 volumes of "New Literary History."

McCoy, Charles, The Responsible Campus (new release)
(Combinces a Polanyian and Conventional theological perspective.)

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL RESEARCH AND INFORMATION - Continued


(Notes reference to Polanyi as a way to rethink the foundations of ministry which avoids some of the dehumanizing aspects of traditional Christian ministry.)

Payzant, Geoffrey, "Key Perception in Music," 1969
(Radio broadcasts on the CBC "Ideas" program. Professor Payzant writes: "My publishing has, for some years, been done in the form of radio broadcasting from audiotape, since the type of subsidiary awareness in which I am interested must be heard and discussed simultaneously. The topic does not lend itself to letterpress treatment. I could make a dub of an abbreviated version of one of my projects and send it to you if it would be of interest. You would need reel-to-reel playback facilities and approximately two hours of spare time.")

Note: If anyone is interested in this material let us know. I could either obtain the tape from Professor Payzant and make it available on a loan basis or transcribe it on cassette tape (if Professor Payzant would permit such duplication) and make it available in that form.

(These two essays were originally given as lectures in the CHERS workshop on Polanyi, "The Trajectory of Hope," which was held in 1970-71.)

Proesch, Harry, "Polanyi's Tacit Knowing in the 'Classic' Philosophers," accepted for publication in The Journal of the British Society for Phnomeneology. (This essay, as well as Proesch's essay on "Polanyi's Ethics" which was published in Ethics, 82, January, 1972, was also presented as part of the CHERS workshop on "The Trajectory of Hope."


II. MEMBER PROJECTS

Douglas Adams

Pursuing a study of irony in painting from Polanyi’s perspective -- particularly the irony in Jasper Johns’ works. Polanyi’s thought undergirds Mr. Adams’ teaching techniques, and Polanyi’s works guide his own writing in ways that are unspecified.

Geoffrey Payzant

Doing experimental research on tonal perception in music using Polanyi’s theory of knowledge and aesthetics.

III. SOCIETY MEETINGS

Report on March Atlanta Meeting

Dr. Richard Galvick, who convened the Atlanta meeting of the Society of Explorers last March, reports that the group had an “excellent” meeting despite some difficulties they had with the Program Committee of the regional AAR. Despite competition (the AAR Presidential address) and poor communications, twenty Polanyians showed up at the meeting. The major activity centered on a sharing of present research and interests. Geoffrey Payzant’s work on music particularly excited the group.

Dick commented that:

There was tremendous enthusiasm in this group. A number of people commented that it was the best meeting of the entire weekend because we had some real exchange and gave help to each other in our own areas of concern. Two other things became apparent in our meeting. First, there is sufficient activity and research going on in Polanyi alone to justify another national conference in the near future where persons could make presentations on their work and also hear more from other persons. Second, there is sufficient work for us to begin sharing brief summaries or abstracts of our projects. We agreed that we did not yet feel that we wanted to move to a slick journal. Instead, we would prefer to keep it more informal and brief, and by doing this encourage the publication of work in the other journals that are already existing. This would also help to infiltrate and spread the work throughout the academic world.

Those seriously interested in another national conference of the type described in Dick's comment should let us know in the next month or so. On the basis of interest we can determine if, when and where such a conference should be held.

Dick also noted that a question concerning “field” or “discipline” concentration in the membership list was raised, indicating that if there was a heavy concentration in one field we might plan a conference in conjunction with a national meeting in that field and encourage members from other fields to join the group for the conference on Polanyi. The heaviest concentration is in the field of philosophy and religion.

Let me know your reactions to these concrete and feasible proposals as soon as possible!

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Professor Ray Wilkin at Kent State expressed interest in a meeting in the Ohio region for those persons interested in Polanyi from this immediate area. Those interested in such a meeting should, again, let me know.

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Finally, Phil Mullins, GTH, expressed strong interest in a Western region meeting. He indicates it is possible to host such a meeting in the Berkeley area. Dale Beckman (Stockton, Ca.) had expressed interest in such a meeting earlier. Anyone else out there interested? Phil Mullins reports that there is a "small Polanyi study group prospering in the theological community in Berkeley."

IV. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
(As of April 30, 1973)

INCOME

Membership Dues $410.61

EXPENSES

  Postage, Material & Telephone $54.58
  Secretarial Services 75.86

TOTAL EXPENSES $128.44

BALANCE $282.17

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Be sure to send any questions, ideas, imaginings concerning your research in Polanyi which you want to raise or share with others to us, as well as bibliographical or project information.