

Tradition & Discovery

The Polanyi Society Periodical

Incorporating

Convivium

The United Kingdom Review of Post-critical Thought

Volume XVII

Numbers 1 & 2

1991-1992

In This Issue

Preface	Inside Front
News and Notes	3

Major Articles

<i>Polanyian Perspectives on the Teaching of Literature and Composition</i>	6
M. Elizabeth Wallace, Peter Elbow, Louise Weatherbee, Sam Watson , Janet Emig	

<i>Those Missing “Objects”</i>	19
Harry Prosch	

<i>A Theory Of Personal Language And Implications For “Logos” Theology</i>	23
Joan Crewdson	

<i>The Critical Appropriation Of Our Intellectual Tradition: Toward A Dialogue Between Polanyi and Lonergan</i>	31
Vincent M. Colapietro	

Books in Review	46
------------------------------	-----------

J.C. Nyiri and B. Smith, Eds., *Practical Knowledge: Outlines of a Theory of Traditions and Skills*. Reviewed by R. T. Allen

Stephen Hawking, *A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Holes*. Reviewed by Dru Scott

Gregory Bateson and Mary Catherine Bateson, *Angels Fear: An Investigation Into the Nature and Meaning of the Sacred*. Reviewed by Robin Hodgkin

Edward Moss, *Seeing Man Whole: A New Model for Psychology*. Reviewed by Joan Crewdson

Contributors	57
Submissions to TAD	57
Membership Information	58

Preface

The Polanyi Society

General Coordinator

Richard Gelwick
University of New England
Biddeford, ME 04005
(207)283-0171

General Editor-Tradition & Discovery

Phil Mullins
Missouri Western State College
St. Joseph, MO 64507

Book Review Editor

Walter Gulick
Eastern Montana College
Billings, MT

Art Studies

Doug Adams
PSR/Grad. Theol. Union
Berkeley, CA

Communication/Rhetorical Studies

Sam Watson
University of North Carolina, Charlotte

Education Studies

Raymond Wilken
Kent State University

Medical and Psychiatric Studies

Allen R. Dyer
Quillen College of Medicine
East Tennessee State University

Philosophical Studies

Martha Crunkelton
Bates College

Religious Studies

David Rutledge
Furman University

Member At Large

Harry Prosch
Skidmore College

UK Editorial Committee

Joan Crewdson
12 Cunliffe Close
Oxford, OX2 7BL

Robin Hodgkin
39 Holyoake Road
Oxford, OX3 8AF

Drusilla Scott
Ashe House, Aide Lane
Aldeburgh, Suffolk

UK Coordinator

John Puddefoot
Benson House, Willowbrook
Eton
Windsor, Berks SL4 6HL

© 1991 by the Polanyi Society

ISSN 1057-1027

The significance of Michael Polanyi's work certainly does not depend upon the regularity of the publication of this periodical. In spite of our delays, the Centennial Celebrations have developed. The Kent State Conference, which will be reported in a later edition, was a major international forum. Celebrations are taking place in Hungary, Great Britain, and across the United States. So far dependent upon a very low budget and voluntary labor, The Polanyi Society and *Tradition & Discovery* have struggled, but they are continuing. Conditions are now occurring that will facilitate a schedule of regular publication and even improvement of our process. At the Kent State meeting, The Polanyi Society members there voted to double our dues beginning with the issue following this one, Fall of 1991. Phil Mullins will be the general editor of *TAD* and Walter Gulick is taking over as editor of book reviews. In the meantime, we appreciate your faith and patience.

Richard Gelwick, General Coordinator
May, 1991

With this issue, *TAD* is entering a new phase. In the last two years, there have been many complications that have hampered production; we owe the survival of the journal to the tenacity of Richard Gelwick. I trust that such difficult times are now past.

We have taken the bold step of turning over much of the production of *TAD* to Kash Literary Enterprises who can consolidate, with desktop publishing software, much of the work of putting together an issue. This move should regularize the emergence of *TAD* (we are shooting for two and perhaps three issues a year).

Rather than play the game of issuing numbers with back dates, we are updating the numbering scheme. This is Volume XVII, Numbers 1 and 2, 1990-1991 which is the immediate successor of Volume XVI, Number 2, 1988-89. As you can already see, the appearance of the journal is much improved with computerization. Contributors now need to submit electronic copy (see "Submission for Publication" note in this issue); we are willing to work with persons on whom this imposes a special hardship. In upcoming issues, we will be taking further steps to professionalize *TAD*. We hope to have *TAD* indexed in several Humanities indices; we are getting a Library of Congress identification number.

In this issue is a Polanyi Society membership form. Since there were difficulties issuing *TAD*, no effort has been made in two years to collect renewals, although some folk have generously paid up. As noted above, at the April 1991 Kent State University conference on Polanyi, The Polanyi Society held a meeting; those present voted to increase the annual dues from \$10/year to \$20/year. Although this is a 100% increase, there has been no increase in dues in ten years. The \$20 rate should allow the improvements in *TAD* described above.

Membership dues should be paid every September. Please support the effort to make The Polanyi Society more visible by encouraging others interested in Polanyi's thought to become Society members.

NEWS AND NOTES

The Kent State Centennial Celebration "From Polanyi to the 21st Century" was an outstanding success. Over 130 persons attended as full participants. The program of eight plenary addresses and 67 refereed papers produced an "indwelling" rare in our life time. To **Raymond Wilkin**, his faculty colleagues, and his graduate students, go our highest regards and deep thanks for an event that will have a long range impact. The proceedings of the meeting will be summarized in the next issue of *TAD*. Editing of papers is now beginning for publication of the proceedings of the meeting.

The Michael Polanyi Liberal Philosophical Association in Budapest, Hungary invites you to participate in the **Centennial Memorial Meeting On Michael Polanyi** to be held on August 24-25, 1991. The official language of the conference is in English. The Polanyi Centennial Meeting will be held at the Friedrich Naumann Foundation, Budapest VI. Gorkij fasor 45. The registration fee is \$190.00 (includes accomodation, reception, and Book of Abstracts). In order to reserve accomodations, acceptances are needed immediately. Proposals are to be submitted in quadruplicate with the cover sheet identifying the author, address, and institutional affiliation. The deadline is passed, but they have accepted late applications this May. It's worth the try. Proposals are to be sent to: Michael Polanyi Liberal Philosophical Association, 1111 Muegyetem rkp.3.K.I. 59 Hungary (Dr. Eva Gabor or Gabriella Ujlaki). Telephone: (361) 1665 981. Telefax: (361) 1665 981. (When you FAX, you have to call them and tell them you want to send a FAX, then they turn on their machine.)

The Center for Ethics and Social Policy, The Center For Theology and the Natural Sciences, The Center for Arts, Religion and Education, and the Marjorie Casebier McCoy Fund For Religion

and Art (all of The Graduate Theological Union and the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California) with the encouragement of the Polanyi Society sponsored a Centennial Conference on "The Thought of Michael Polanyi" March 15 16, 1991. **Melvin Calvin**, Nobel Laureate and post-doctoral student of Polanyi, spoke at the banquet on "Memories of Polanyi at Manchester." **Phil Mullins**, Missouri Western State College, spoke on "Polanyi and Art," **Charles S. McCoy**, GTU and PSR, on "Post-Critical Reflections for Ethics," **Robert John Russell**, GTU, on "Polanyi's Contributions to Theology and Science," and **Benjamin A. Reist**, San Francisco Theological Seminary, on "Polanyi and Hermeneutics." Persons interested in these presentations should contact Prof. Charles S. McCoy, PSR, 1798 Scenic Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709. Telephone: 415/848-0528.

The Gospel And Our Culture, a newsletter published in response to a concern of the British Council of Churches, is a new forum dealing with the problems of faith and ethics in a "post-Enlightenment culture." Inspired by Bishop Lesslie Newbigin's book, *The Other Side Of 1984: Questions For The Churches*, the newsletter often employs a Polyanian analysis and prescription for our age. Bishop Newbigin wrote to the Polanyi Society: "I hope you will find this of interest. The whole programe owes a great deal to Polanyi." Having read several issues, I concur and recommend subscription to it.

Write to: *The Gospel And Our Culture*, Rev. Dr. H.D. Beeby, c/o The Selly Oak Colleges, Bristol Rd., Birmingham B29 6LQ. The cost is five pounds sterling. Send in sterling money order or add the equivalent of 4.50 sterling to cover bank charges.

Andy F. Sanders' *Michael Polanyi's Post-critical Epistemology* has a very favorable

review by **Walter Gulick** in *Canadian Philosophical Reviews* IX:8 (August, 1989), pp. 330-333. Sanders work is seen as very important in interpreting Polanyi's work to contemporary analytical philosophers.

David W. Rutledge, Polanyi Society member who did his dissertation on Polanyi at Rice and is Professor of Religion at Furman University, gave the 1990 Rockwell Lectures at Rice University on "Humans and Planet Earth: Networks of Mutuality."

Phil Mullins continues to organize excellent sessions for The Polanyi Society meetings at the annual American Academy of Religion. Meeting in New Orleans, Nov. 17, 1990, **Vincent Colapietro**, Fordham University, presented "Loneragan and Polanyi: The Critical Appropriation of Intellectual Traditions." Colapietro examined the "delicate" way that Polanyi and Loneragan treat "the precarious authority of any particular tradition" as it plays its role in critical human inquiry. Colapietro evoked a lively discussion as he explored the problem of critical openness in "the dialectic of fidelity and truth." **John Apczynski**, St. Bonaventure University, responded. **Ira Peak, Jr.**, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, presented "Dworkin and Hart on 'The Law': A Polanyian Reconsideration." **Bruce Haddox**, Simpson College, responded. Peak argued for a way to reconcile the difference between "the rules approach" of Hart and "the legal principles approach" of Dworkin by using Polanyi's model of universal intent which allows for decision making that is both "contextual" and "objective."

The next meetings of The Polanyi Society at the AAR will be in Kansas City, Missouri, Nov. 22, 1991, Friday afternoon and evening, and Nov. 23, Saturday morning. Because this year is a special centennial year, two gatherings in addition to the regular opening day AAR pre-session meeting have been arranged. Richard Gelwick has organized a joint meeting on Friday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. with

the Paul Tillich Society; the location (for all three meetings) will be published in the AAR Annual Meeting Program. The topic of the Tillich Society-Polanyi Society meeting is: "The Polanyi-Tillich Dialogue of 1962" discussing the meeting and correspondence of Polanyi and Tillich in Berkeley. **Richard Gelwick**, **Charles McCoy**, and **Durwood Foster**, who were involved in the dialogue, will present papers. On Friday evening, November 22, 1991, there will a Polanyi Centennial Banquet tentatively scheduled for the Allis Plaza Hotel in Turner B. A panel discussion is being arranged for the banquet on the theme "the tacit victory and the unfinished agenda." The regular Saturday morning AAR Polanyi meeting (9 a.m. to 12 noon, November 23, 1991, tentatively scheduled for McShann A in the Allis Plaza) will include two papers ("Critical and Post-Critical Objectivity" by **Ron Hall** and "Immanent Principle and Personal Transcendence: Polanyi's Teleology of Progress" by **Phil Rolnick**) available by late October from Phil Mullins for \$5. An additional mailing providing further details about the AAR Polanyi meetings will go out in early Fall; if you are not on the AAR-Polanyi Society mailing list and wish to be, contact Phil Mullins (MWSC, St. Joseph, MO 64507).

Will Kyselka has written *An Ocean In Mind*, the story of his adventure in retracing an ancient sailing route in the south Pacific ocean. He claims in the introduction that one of the motives that inspired him was the thought of Michael Polanyi and his understanding of tacit knowing in the process of discovery. The book is published by Pacific Books, 124 Forest Ridge Way, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

Allen Dyer and **Richard Gelwick** are collaborating to hold a centennial celebration of Polanyi's work in New England. They are trying to arrange an early November meeting. Announcements will be sent as soon as time and place are definite.

Robin Hodgkin, R. T. Allen, and other members of the Convivium Group in Great Britain are also planning to announce a centennial observance during the centennial year, March 11, 1991 - 1992.

Walter Thorson, University of Alberta, on April 19, 1991, gave a lecture on Michael Polanyi's centennial at The Center For Theological Inquiry at Princeton Theological Seminary.

R. T. Allen's new book, *Thinkers Of Our Time: Michael Polanyi*, was recently published by The Claridge Press in London and is also available from The Claridge Press, Box 420, Lexington, GA 30648. In eighty pages, Allen gives a substantial overview of Polanyi's thought. This concise yet solid introduction will be useful to all who teach or wish to inform others about Polanyi's ideas.

Richard Gelwick
General Coordinator