

NEWS AND NOTES

IN MEMORIUM

Ian Barbour, a pioneer in the science and religion discussion of recent decades, died on December 24, 2013 in Minneapolis. He was 90. Long a professor at Carleton College, his thought was influenced by a doctoral degree in physics and a degree from Yale Divinity School. Beginning with the publication of *Issues in Science and Religion* in 1966 through his two volume Gifford lectures, Barbour's books offer a vision of the relationship between science and religion that is largely harmonious with Polanyi's understanding of the personal participation of the knower in all knowledge. Indeed, Barbour often participated in the early meetings of the Polanyi Society during the 1970s and early 1980s.

Barbour was awarded the Templeton Prize in 1999 for his carefully worked out mediating approach to the relation between science and religion, which distinguished between the relations of conflict, independence, dialogue and integration. Personally, he adopted the position of critical realism. "On this view, models and theories are abstract symbol systems, which inadequately and selectively represent particular aspects of the world for specific purposes. This view preserves the scientist's realistic intent while recognizing that models and theories are imaginative human constructs" (*Religion and Science*, 117). In this work, Barbour offers on page 94 a fine one-paragraph overview of Polanyi's contribution to the science-religion discussion. He saw Polanyi's thought as contributing to his overall project, namely, "to articulate a theology of nature, for which we will have to draw from both religious and scientific sources" (105).

--Walter Gulick

James (Jim) E. Tiles, a leading pragmatist and Dewey scholar, died on January 13, 2014. He was the other half of Dr. Mary Tiles to whom he was married for almost 45 years and who will be incomplete without him. A US citizen, he first came to the UK in 1966 as a Marshall Scholar to study Mathematics and Philosophy at the University of

Bristol. His doctorate was from the University of Oxford (Balliol). He taught Philosophy at the University of Reading until 1989, and then at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa until he retired in 2010. He was a dedicated, conscientious, and very patient teacher. His academic work ranged widely, and focused primarily on pragmatism and Dewey in particular—both of which are reflected in his articles in TAD.

On a personal note, Jim, under whom I apprenticed, was the finest of exemplars as a teacher, an academic, a tutor, and perhaps most importantly, a practitioner. He wrestled (in the noblest of senses) with his Kantian-Stoicism, a self-consistent mark, I think, of the genuine commitment of a philosopher: an en fleshed mensch in pursuit of wisdom and the significant burdens such a path involves. In essence, he was a pragmatist in the best of its senses (a theme that I think has a definitive Polanyian resonance). It has always been my tacit estimation that Jim represents struggle of the highest and best sort, and forms an image that informs and regulates my own practices (albeit poorly, by comparison). It is indeed a blessing and an honor to have known such a person.

--Kyle Takaki

Poteat Website Established

The Poteat Conference at Yale is concluding as this issue of *Tradition and Discovery* goes to press, but the website will stay up after the conference concludes and can be accessed from one of the following three urls: whpoteat.org, whpoteat.com, or <http://rnithuama1.wix.com/william-poteat>. There are plans to post 15 audio tapes of Poteat lectures. Look for more information in future issues and links on the Polanyi website (www.polanyisociety.org).

Poteat Archive at Yale Completed

Former Duke students, friends, and colleagues of William Poteat, during the past three years, have been generous in donating to the Yale Divinity School

Library their letters, audio recordings, lecture notes and other papers for the William H. Poteat Archive, the completion and digital indexing of which will be celebrated at the Poteat Conference at Yale University, June 6-8, 2014. It has been a work of deep affection and appreciation for the friendship and scholarship of the late William Poteat (BD, YDS 1944). The archive will serve as a valuable resource for present and future generations interested in pursuing the insights of arguably the most valuable single contributor to Polanyi-related thought in the twentieth century.

A special thanks go to Martha L. Smalley, Special Collections Librarian at YDS, and to the following individuals who have provided the materials in the archive: Gus Breyspraak, Dale Cannon, Ronald Hall, Murray Jardine, Ben Ladner, Walter Mead, Phil Mullins, Elizabeth Newman, David Rutledge, Milton Scarborough, Jim Stines, James van Pelt, and Sam Watson.

Anyone wishing to make further contributions to this archive should send their materials directly to: Ms. Martha L. Smalley, Yale Divinity School Library, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511. Any questions should be sent to either Ms. Smalley martha.smalley@yale.edu or Wally Mead wbmead@ilstu.edu.

New Polanyi Materials Now Available on Web

Three new sets of materials have been posted on the Polanyi Society website (<http://www.polanyisociety.org/>). The first set consists of Michael Polanyi's Gifford Lectures (1951 and 1952), along with a short introduction and the Syllabus for Series I (summaries of the first set of lectures). Because the searchable pdf file for each lecture is rather large, files will likely not load quickly. The second is Richard Gelwick's 1963 microfilm collection of more than 100 Polanyi papers, the first collection of Polanyi's non-scientific writing. The third consists of a link to Polanyi's 1946 book *Science, Faith and Society*, which is hosted on another server.

John Polanyi, literary executor for Michael Polanyi, has approved the posting of the first two sets for non-commercial use. Thanks also go to the

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Duke University for cooperating with the Polanyi Society to make Polanyi's Gifford Lectures more broadly available.

If you have difficulty accessing either Polanyi's Gifford Lectures or the Gelwick microfilm collection (which is stored on a cloud), write to Phil Mullins (mullins@missouriwestern.edu).

Canadian Researchers Awarded 2014 Polanyi Prize for Work on Antimatter

The Government of the Province of Ontario has established a fund to honor Michael Polanyi's son, John, who won the 1986 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. The fund provides up to five prizes each year to outstanding researchers in the early stages of their career who are continuing to post-doctoral studies or have recently started a faculty appointment at an Ontario university. John Polanyi wrote the following to the 2014 Winners:

To Dr. Fujiwara and his team of seven; 2014 NSERC [National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada] Polanyi Prizewinners:

Throughout my career colleagues have assured me that the universe should not exist. Creation produced equal amounts of matter and anti-matter; they should have annihilated one another. Today's prizewinners give us hope that the universe may yet be saved. They have kept anti-matter away from matter for a full 15 minutes. The universe is older than that, so our prizewinners will be back on this stage. Meanwhile we congratulate NSERC for bravely recognizing the best and most basic research, and we applaud our prizewinners for adding an important milestone to the history of science.

For more on the winners and their work, see http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Prizes-Prix/Polanyi-Polanyi/Profiles-Profils/ALPHA-CanadaTeam-ALPHA-CanadaTeam_eng.asp.