

Tradition & Discovery

The Polanyi Society Periodical

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The Polanyi Society

Preface

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This is the second special thematic issue of *TAD*. The first (21:1) honored William Poteat, a scholar who introduced many to Polanyi's thought. The present special issue focuses on Polanyi and the Christian theologian Paul Tillich. Polanyi and Tillich had a conversation in 1963; Polanyi made notes on the discussion and Tillich and Polanyi exchanged letters. These materials are included in the Polanyi Papers at the Regenstein Library of the University of Chicago. Berkeley theologian Charles McCoy set up this Polanyi-Tillich conversation; Richard Gelwick, then a doctoral student working with McCoy, Durwood Foster and Polanyi, was also present. In 1991, the Polanyi centennial year, the North American Tillich Society and the Polanyi Society held a joint meeting in Kansas City at which McCoy, Gelwick and Foster made presentations on the thought of Polanyi and Tillich and especially this 1963 encounter. Both societies agreed to publish, for their respective members, the materials prepared for our joint meeting.; the Tillich Society has already published the essays by McCoy (Newsletter XVIII,3 (July 1992): 3-10) and Gelwick (Papers from the Annual Meeting of the North American Paul Tillich Society, November, 1991: 7-11). Foster's "Faith and Knowing in Polanyi and Tillich" was not available for publication. Thanks go to Robert Scharlemann of the Tillich Society for his cooperation with this project. I am very pleased to add to McCoy and Gelwick's 1991 papers Donald Musser's "Polanyi and Tillich on History." Although not included in the 1991 panel, some years ago Musser began a scholarly project comparing the ideas of Polanyi and Tillich.

In addition to several reviews, this issue carries the notice about the upcoming meeting of the Polanyi Society at the Philadelphia Marriott on November 18, 1995. See the program that David Rutledge provided on page 4. Be sure to note that you can order papers to be discussed from Rutledge.

Please be aware that this issue begins the new subscription cycle. Dues are collected each Fall at the beginning of the academic year. Enclosed is a single sheet with complete subscription information. Please notice two things that are different this year: Dues are now mailed to me (Phil Mullins) rather than Richard Gelwick, as they have been in the past. Also you now may charge membership dues with a charge card if you provide complete information as requested.

Phil Mullins

Tradition and Discovery is indexed selectively in *The Philosopher's Index* and *Religion One: Periodicals*. Book reviews are indexed in *Index to Book Reviews in Religion*.

NEWS AND NOTES

Harold Turner from New Zealand provided a short review of scholarly resources and activity related to the thought of Michael Polanyi in a recent issue of *New Slant*, the newsletter of The Gospel and Cultures Trust. Gospel and Cultures programs operate in the US and Great Britain as well as New Zealand. Among other things, Turner reported that he taught a 1991 course titled "The Commonsense Philosophy of Michael Polanyi" within the Auckland University Continuing Education Centre; to his great surprise one student "produced a rare copy of Polanyi's short but basic book, *The Tacit Dimension*, and voluntarily exchanged it for the tutor's xerox copy!"

Robert Lyman Potter continues in the practice of geriatric medicine but has recently taken a role as clinical ethics scholar at the Midwest Bioethics Center in Kansas City, Missouri. See Potter's recent article "Learning to 'Read/Hear': Narrative Ethics and Ethics Committee Education" in *Bioethics Forum* 10:4 (Fall 1994): 36-40.

A second edition of *Tradition & Discovery, Publications of the Polanyi Society, Fall 1972 through Winter, 1984-85* has just been published at the price of \$25.00 plus postage of \$2.00 in the U.S.A. Several years ago, Phil Mullins put together a compilation of these materials but they quickly sold out. The present need is mainly for university libraries and doctoral students. Several of our research university libraries now subscribe to *TAD* annually and have tried to establish a complete collection. To order, contact Richard Gelwick, College of Osteopathic Medicine, University of New England, Biddeford, ME 04005.

John Puddefoot has recently become an Associate Governor of the Centre for Personalist Studies based at Westminster College, Oxford; John will serve as a representative of the Polanyi Society.

From the database of *Expanded Academic Index*, the following articles are relevant to the Polanyi Society:

"The Body Comes All The Way Up." (Polanyian answer to eliminative materialism.) **Robert Paul Doede**. *International Philosophical Quarterly*, June 1994, vol. 34, pp. 215-28.

"Gadamer, Polanyi and Ways of Being Closed." (Hans Georg Gadamer, Michael Polanyi and canonical interpretation.) **Ian R. Torrance**. *Scottish Journal of Theology*, December 1993, vol. 47, pp. 497-506.

Richard Gelwick

Program for Fall 1995

Polanyi Society Meeting

This meeting is in conjunction with the American Academy of Religion/Society for Biblical Literature annual meeting at the Philadelphia Marriott and Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA. The meeting room is Marriott 308; the AAR/SBL Program does carry a listing for the meeting in the Additional Meetings section (page 166). The papers listed below are not read during the session but are discussed for approximately one hour each. Participants can order papers from David Rutledge, Religion Department, Furman University, Greenville, SC 29613-1474 for \$5. For additional information, contact Rutledge at (803) 294-3296, fax (803) 294-3001 or e-mail Rutledge_David@furman@furman.edu.

Saturday, November 18, 1995

9 a.m. - 12 noon

Walter Gulick, Montana State University, Billings, Presiding

9:00 “Religious Pedagogy from Tender to Twilight Years: Parenting, Mentoring, and Pioneering Discoveries by Religious Masters as Viewed from within Polanyi’s Sociology and Epistemology of Science”

Aaron Milavec, The Athenaeum of Ohio, Cincinnati

Respondent: **John Apczynski**, St. Bonaventure University

10:15 “Beyond Objectivism and Relativism: Commitment and Coherency in the Academy”

Elizabeth Newman, St. Mary’s College

Respondent: **Andy Sanders**, University of Groningen

11:30 Business Meeting