

## CANADIAN SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL STUDIES

## TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Canadian Society of Biblical Studies was held concurrently with the nineteenth annual meeting of the Canadian Section of the Society of Biblical Literature and Exegesis on May 28th and 29th, with the President, the Rev. Professor M. T. Newby, of Trinity College, in the chair. The meeting was held at Knox College, Toronto.

## FIRST SESSION, TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 28th.

The President opened the meeting shortly after 8 p.m. After informal words of welcome by the Rev. Dr. Stanley Glen, Principal of Knox College, it was moved by Professor Meek, seconded by Professor Williams, and passed, that the minutes of the previous annual meeting, as circulated, be approved. On motion by Professor Hay, seconded by Professor McCullough, it was determined to begin the next day's sessions at 9.30 a.m.

The Secretary, Rev. C. J. deCatanzaro, reported briefly on the state of the membership of the Society, noting that there were 60 members paid up to the current year, and an almost equal number of others on the roll of the Society. On motion of Professor Beare, seconded by Professor Naughton, his report was received.

The Financial Report was presented by the Secretary-Treasurer, indicating total receipts of \$70.41 and total disbursements of \$7.16, leaving a balance on hand of \$167.74. Professor Winnett and Dr. Harold Reid were appointed auditors.

A nominations committee was then elected, consisting of Professor T. J. Meek and Rev. R. A. F. MacKenzie, S.J.

The following were then nominated for membership in the Society - Professor Ragnar Teigen, Rev. Dr. Coster Scovil, Rev. Dr. W. Harold Reid, Rev. Dr. H. H. Walsh, Rev. George Telcs, Rev. Neil Smith.

The following papers were then read and discussed:

"The New Testament Doctrine of Baptism", by Rev. David Stanley, S.J.

"Was the Last Supper a Passover or Not?" by Rev. Professor David Hay.

Following the papers the members of the Society were provided with light refreshments by our host college.

## SECOND SESSION, WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 29th.

The Society re-convened at 9.30 a.m. at Knox College.

## Business Session.

The auditors reported that they had scrutinized the Treasurer's accounts and found them correct. On motion duly seconded, the report was accepted.

Due to the excellent condition of the accounts of the Society, it was agreed that there be no levy for the travelling pool, but that the President and Secretary-Treasurer re-imburse those, who should apply for funds to cover their travelling expenses.

The following additional members were nominated - Rev. H. J. W. McAvoy, Mr. Wolfgang Roth, Rev. Sydney Childs. On motion by Professor T. J. Meek, seconded by Rev. Geoffrey Parke-Taylor, the nominees were declared elected to membership in the Society.

The nominating committee brought in its report, and on motion by Professor Beare, seconded by Rev. Leslie Hunt, the following slate of officers for the year 1957-1958 was elected -

President - Principal George B. Caird

Vice-President - Principal J. Stanley Glen

Secretary-Treasurer - Rev. C. J. deCatanzaro

Executive Committee - Rev. Professor M. T. Newby  
Rev. David M. Stanley, S.J.  
Professor Rolland E. Wolfe

On motion of Professor T. J. Meek, duly seconded and approved, the Secretary was instructed to write a letter of thanks to the Principal of Knox College for the hospitality of the college and the use of its facilities, as well as for the excellent arrangements for refreshments the previous evening.

The business session was then adjourned, and the Rev. Professor M. T. Newby then delivered his presidential address "Hebrew Thought and Style: Reversals and Antitheses".

In addition, the following papers were read and discussed -

"Demythologizing Genesis 18-19" by Professor Rolland E. Wolfe,  
Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio

"The New Eschatology" by Professor H. L. MacNeill, McMaster University,  
Hamilton, Ontario

"Some Old Testament Mistranslations" by Professor T. J. Meek,  
University of Toronto

"Some Observations on Mowinckel: 'He That Cometh'" by Professor W. S. McCullough, University College, Toronto

The meeting adjourned at 12.45 p.m., after which the members partook of lunch in the dining hall of the University College residence and were entertained at coffee in the Senior Common Room.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting re-convened at Knox College at 2 p.m.

The following papers were then read and discussed -

"Some Miracles of Jesus and their Life Situations" by Miss Helen Milton,  
Trinity College, Toronto.

"Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bethsheba, and the Blessed Virgin Mary in  
St. Matthew's Genealogy of our Lord" by Rev. Dr. G. C. Cotter,  
Trinity College, Toronto.

On motion the meeting adjourned at 3.15 p.m.

The following members were present at one or more of the sessions -

Anderson	Glen	Reid
Andrews		Roth
	Hay	
Beare	Hunt	Scovil
Pere Brunet, O.P.	Leupold	Simmonds
	MacKenzie	Smith, N.
Checkland	MacPherson	Smith, Miss R.
Clarke	McCullough	Stanley
Cotter	McNeill	Telcs
Childs	Milton, Miss H.	Teigen
	Moffatt, E. K.	
Darroch, Miss K. M.		Walsh
deCatanzaro	Naughton	Wevers
Dobie	Newby	Williams
		Winnett
Fennell	Orr	Wolfe
Freeland		Wotherspoon
	Parke-Taylor	

SUMMARY OF PAPER OF PROFESSOR R. E. WOLFE

DE-MYTHOLOGIZING GENESIS 18-19.

This is the only point in the Abraham stories where historical legend has taken flight from the human level into the realm of mythology, becoming a story of supernatural creatures. Some acts of these guests were incongruous with deity. It is the contention of this paper that these two chapters should be deflated from their flighty mythology to the good history they once were. This means reducing the mistaken heavenly beings back to human persons, presumably as in the original form of the narrative. These three guests probably were the three chieftains of Palestine. They can even be named.