

PERKINS' PERSONAL KIERKEGAARD NEWS LETTER - 1

The undersigned undertakes to report to the wider Kierkegaard circle and some others the events of the first session held at Washington, D.C. December 28, 1978.

First, Prof. John Donnelly read his provocative paper, "Kierkegaard's 'Problem I' and 'Problem II' in Fear and Trembling." Prof. Merold Westphal read a reply. Prof. Paul Holmer was unable to attend the session as announced because of illness. Somewhat over thirty persons attended the session. Prof. Perkins chaired.

After the break a short informal business meeting was held. It was decided that

1. Robert L. Perkins would develop a program for the Eastern Division, APA, for 1979.
2. Louis P. Pojman (Notre Dame) would develop a program for the Western Division, APA, 1979.
3. John Donnelly (San Diego) would develop a program for the Pacific Division, APA, 1980.
4. A decision will be made at the 1979 New York meeting regarding the development and organization of a formal Søren Kierkegaard Society. A widely based input was called for, and persons who cannot be present should write expressing their sentiments to Prof. Perkins or anyone listed below.

Those present at this business meeting were:

Barbara Anderson, College Park, Pennsylvania
John M. Anderson, Pennsylvania State University
John Donnelly, University of San Diego
Tom Morris, Wesley Seminary, Washington, D.C.
Robert L. Perkins, University of South Alabama
Louis P. Pojman, University of Notre Dame

In addition to arranging a program for New York, I will undertake to mail out these notes and call for papers to as wide a Kierkegaard public as I can. For this purpose I need as large a mailing list as I can assemble. For this I need your help: send names and addresses of persons who are Kierkegaard lovers but who may not have published very much. From my bibliography I can pick up the names of most who have published.

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Additional Notes

Special thanks for arranging and planning the New York 1978 meeting are due to Prof. John Donnelly who first suggested it and made the original arrangements with the APA. Though supported by others, the initiative was his.

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Thanks are due also to Prof. Ernest Soza, Brown University, who reacted affirmatively to Prof. Donnelly's request for space on the 1978 program and who also has agreed to arrange time and place for the 1979 program in New York.

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Thanks are also due to Prof. Robert Audi, University of Nebraska, for aid to Prof. Pojman in arranging time and place for the 1979 Western Division meeting.

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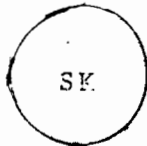
On November 24, 1978 we were honored when our colleagues and fellow Kierkegaard lovers were honored by the Danish government at the embassy in Washington by the award of the Order of the Elephant to Howard V. and Edna H. Hong. According to my understanding that is the highest Denmark has for foreigners.

Some who receive this may not know Edna H. Hong is also an author in her own right besides being the collaborator and co-translator in all these translations. Her latest is Bright Valley of Love from Augsburg Publishers.

The Danish Minister of Cultural affairs, Mr. Niels Matthaisen, flew in from Copenhagen to make the award. There were also remarks by Dr. Thomas Lichtenburg of the National Endowment for the Humanities which has supported KW.

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Although we have met and will meet under the name "Kierkegaard Society," it has occurred that the world already has at least two such societies; one in Japan and one in Denmark. Perhaps we can adopt another name. How about the "Soren Kierkegaard Circle". This sounds more intimate, but still a circle is an unlimited figure. It would be distinctive and it also suggests a logo.



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