

Program Summary

Tuesday, September 1, 1953

- 8:30 A.M. Registration
- 9:30 A.M. Opening Session
- 1:30 P.M. Technical Session
- 7:30 P.M. Night Session

Wednesday, September 2, 1953

- 7:00 A.M. Devotional Period
- 9:00 A.M. Technical Session
- 1:30 P.M. Technical Session
- 7:30 P.M. Public Session

Thursday, September 3, 1953

- 7:00 A.M. Devotional Period
- 9:00 A.M. Technical Session
- 1:30 P.M. Technical Session
- 3:30 P.M. Adjournment of Convention

OFFICIAL PROGRAM



Eighth Annual Convention

The American Scientific Affiliation

(Incorporated)

A group of Christian Scientific men devoting themselves to the task of reviewing, preparing and distributing information on the authenticity, historicity, and the scientific aspects of the Holy Scriptures in order that the faith of many in Jesus Christ may be firmly established.



September 1-3, 1953



GRACE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Winona Lake, Indiana

Convention Committees

General Chairman:

William J. Tinkle, Ph.D.
Route 1
Albany, Indiana

Committee on Papers:

Oscar W. Neher, M.S. (Chairman)
Associate Professor of Biology
Manchester College
North Manchester, Indiana

Hendrik J. Oorthuys, M.S.
Assistant Professor of
Electrical Engineering
Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana

Paul E. Stanley, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of
Aeronautical Engineering
Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana

Robert B. Fischer, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Chemistry
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana

Committee on Arrangements:

Paul R. Bauman, D.D.
Executive Vice-President
Grace Theological Seminary
Winona Lake, Indiana

The Purpose of the Convention:

"That they may see and know, and consider, and understand together that the hand of the Lord hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it." Isaiah 41:20

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1953

8:30 A.M. Registration—H. Harold Hartzler in charge

9:30 A.M. Opening Session

F. Alton Everest presiding

Welcome—Paul Bauman, Grace Theological Seminary

President's Report—Russell L. Mixter
Announcements

Papers by Members of A. S. A.

Henry Weaver, Jr.—CHRISTIAN PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

M. T. Brackbill—ORIGIN AND DESTINY OF THE EARTH

12:00 Noon Luncheon. It has been arranged that we eat together, for fellowship, at the Eskimo Inn. (This applies to all meals.)

1:30 P.M. Technical Session

Marion D. Barnes presiding

Timothy J. Strubhar—~~IS GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION SCIENTIFIC?~~

Peter W. Stoner—RELATION OF SCIENCE TO SCRIPTURES DURING THE LAST FIFTY YEARS

Russell L. Mixter—EVOLUTIONARY LITERATURE OF THE 1950's

A. Van der Ziel—WORK OF THE SWISS ZOOLOGIST ADOLPH PORTMANN

3:30 P.M. Adjournment

~~5:30~~ 6:00 P.M. Dinner

7:30 P.M. Night Session Attend meeting of Winona Bible Conference.

245 Human Apples

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

7:00 A.M. Devotion—James O. Buswell III *Eskimo Inn*

7:45 A.M. Breakfast

9:00 A.M. Technical Session

Delbert Eggenberger presiding

read by Dr. Eggenberger
Robert Knudsen—THE IDEA OF CHRISTIAN SCIENTIFIC ENDEAVOR IN THE THOUGHT OF H. DOOYEWEERD

read by Dr. Neher
O. W. Neher—WHAT CAN I BELIEVE?

N. L. Peterson—PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW BIRTH

Mrs. William Rayburn—ANTHROPOLOGICAL AND LINGUISTIC PROBLEMS IN EQUADOR

12:00 Noon Luncheon

1:30 P.M. **Technical Session**

Russell L. Mixter presiding
Reports by A. S. A. members on Creation
Articles in LIFE MAGAZINE
I
II
III Silas J. Smucker—THE FREE OF
THE LAND
IV Ivan W. Brunk—HOW AIR WAS
CREATED

Annual Business Session

3:30 P.M. Adjournment

6:00 P.M. Dinner

7:30 P.M. **Program of Special Interest to the Public**
(Winona Bible Conference cooperating)

Address—J. Oliver Buswell, Jr., President
of Shelton College

Nature Film, THE PRIOR CLAIM—Moody
Institute of Science (One of the first
showings of this film)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

7:00 A.M. Devotions—S. W. Witmer

7:45 A.M. Breakfast

9:00 A.M. **Technical Session**

Edwin Y. Monsma presiding

Henry Morris—BIBLICAL EVIDENCE FOR
A RECENT CREATION AND UNIVER-
SAL DELUGE

Carl S. Wise—PHYSICAL RESEARCH
AND THE BIBLE (Such as the Michael-
son - Morley Ether Drift)

D. C. Boardman—SOME IMPLICATIONS
OF STRATIGRAPHY

Wm. J. Schepp—OUR PETROCHEMICAL
AGE, BUILDERS GIRDED WITH THE
SWORD

12:00 Noon Luncheon

1:30 P.M. **Technical Session**

Paul Bauman presiding

Discussion of High School Textbooks; Do
they help the A. S. A.?

John Sinclair—THE NATURE OF MUTA-
TIONAL CHANGES

Irvin A. Wills—GENETIC EVIDENCE AS
TO COLOR OF ADAM AND EVE

William J. Tinkle—THE PRINCIPLE OF
GROWTH AS AN OBSESSION

3:30 P.M. Adjournment

Please note—It is requested that the presentation
of a paper be limited to twenty minutes. Discussion
is to continue at the discretion of the presiding officer.

ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS

A Christian Philosophy of Science

Henry Weaver, Jr., Ph.D.

Instructor in Chemistry and Mathematics
Eastern Mennonite College
Harrisonburg, Virginia

Science has recently been made aware of the need
of religion and morality to control it. Any religion
that would control science must show that it is
intimately connected with it. Christianity is in har-
mony with modern science, and has a different re-
lationship to formal and non-formal science. Conflicts
that appear between science and Christianity should
be dealt with in the same way that conflicts within
either of the two are solved.

Evolutionary Writings After 1950

Russell L. Mixter, Ph.D.

Professor of Zoology
Wheaton College
Wheaton, Illinois

Textbooks of evolution by Dodson (Notre Dame),
Shull (Michigan), and Moody (Vermont) express
trends in thinking about the origin of species. The
tendency to lump fossil men into the genus *Homo*
is significant. The Pattersons (Texas) have written
"Evolution in the Genus *Drosophila*," an account of
the most thoroughly studied animal from the genetic
viewpoint. The periodical "Evolution," published by
the Society for the Study of Evolution, has reports
on leading research.

The Work of the Swiss Biologist

Adolf Portmann

A. Van der Ziel, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Physics
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dr. Portmann is a well-known zoologist associated
with the University of Basel, Switzerland. He has
written several books on zoology, one of them deal-
ing with the animal form and what one may learn
by studying it very carefully. In Switzerland he is
perhaps even better known for the many talks he
has given for the Swiss Broadcasting Corporation on
various problems of the life sciences.

Dr. Portmann belongs to a group of European
scientists, who are searching for a new and broader
"world view". This should in their opinion be broad
enough to have space for many different viewpoints,
including the religious and even the Christian point
of view. This is in marked contrast to previous build-
ers of world views, who generally ended up with a
very much distorted universe in which there was
only place for a single "big idea". This does not
mean of course that these people are adopting a

Christian point of view, but there is at least openness for such a point of view. It is for this reason that Dr. Portmann's work should be of great interest to the A.S.A. members.

It is obvious that a scientist can only do so by taking a critical attitude against current theories and that he must be able to discriminate between facts, hypotheses and speculations. As an example, Dr. Portmann takes a very critical attitude against many parts of the theory of evolution. He always warns against the pitfall of thinking that we know already all that there is to know about a given subject.

The Idea of Christian Scientific Endeavor In the Thought of Herman Dooyeweerd

Robert D. Knudsen, Th.M.
Westminster Theological Seminary
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The *Wijsbegeerte der Wetsidee* (The Philosophy of the Idea of Law), with which the name of Herman Dooyeweerd is most closely connected, is a recent development in Christian philosophy. It is of significance for the Christian working in the special sciences as well as for the Christian philosopher. Himself a jurist, Dooyeweerd sought the theoretical foundations for his own field. In doing so he was led to develop a Christian ontology and epistemology which contains many novel and stimulating insights.

At the heart of his idea of Christian scientific endeavor is a transcendental critique of thought. Immanence philosophy has sought to proclaim the autonomy of human reason; but because theoretical thought is bound to the various aspects of the cosmos, which comprise its *Gegenstand*, immanence thinking is forced to absolutize one aspect of the cosmos, elevating it above the others as the *arche* of all reality. Because in its created form reality is a unity, its aspects correlated in a hierarchy of cosmic time, the elevation of one aspect to an absolute evokes the protest of the others, and thought is enmeshed in the theoretical antinomies. Only from the true transcendent standpoint can thought, under the leading of the Christian world view, gain a vantage point from which the world can be seen in its unity and manifoldness. The Christian viewpoint of the origin, unity and diversity of the cosmos is necessary for the fruitful development of the special sciences.

What Can I Believe?

Oscar W. Neher, M.S.
Associate Professor Biology
Manchester College
North Manchester, Indiana

An interrogation concerning theories of origin and variations, and their validity in a day of accurate and critical investigation.

The Biblical Evidence for a Recent Creation and Universal Deluge

Henry M. Morris, Ph.D.
Professor and Head of Department of Civil Engineering
South Western Louisiana Institute
Lafayette, Louisiana

The supposed necessity for harmonizing the Bible account of creation and the Noachian deluge with the uniformist interpretation of historical geology has led creationists to develop a number of special theories which purport to supply the desired harmony. With regard to the creation record, the more important of these theories have been: (1) the "ruin-and-reconstruction" theory; (2) the "day-age" theory; (3) the "vision" theory; (4) the "localized creation" theory; and (5) the "six-day revelation" theory. With regard to the Deluge, the only theory of harmonization with geology as commonly accepted has been the theory of a local or partial flood. More commonly than not, the Bible account of the Flood has been simply ignored with reference to any geological implications.

However, very considerable Scriptural evidence can be brought against all these harmonies of harmonization, amounting in the judgment of the writer to definite proof that none of them are Scripturally tenable. On the contrary, the traditional "literal" interpretation of the Genesis record, implying a recent six-day creation and a later, worldwide, aqueous cataclysm, with profound geological disturbances associated, is strongly supported by the Bible, and all supposed Biblical objections to this literal interpretation can be easily refuted.

Consequently, it is strongly recommended that scientific Christians become more concerned about harmonizing geology with the Bible, rather than the reverse, as has heretofore been the case. It is suggested by the writer that the only important concepts of historical geology that would have to be sacrificed in such a harmonization are the absolute time-scale commonly proffered and the evolutionary philosophy that has been associated with uniformitarian geology since the time of Lyell and Darwin.

The Bible and Physical Research (Such as the Michelson-Morley Ether- Drift Experiment)

Carl S. Wise, M.S.
Research Chemist
United States Department of Agriculture
Peoria, Illinois

In Chapter four of Hebrews it speaks of the word of God as a quick and powerful two-edged sword. On this basis a person may be justified in obtaining more than one true meaning from certain passages of the Scriptures. For example Jeremiah 31:37 is a message of comfort to the remnant of Israel; but it also is in agreement with the famous Michelson-Morley ether-drift experiment. This total lack of even a vague ether for the earth to float in is also stated in Job 26:7 and 38:4-6. Even if we can't

search out the foundations of the earth (Jer. 31:37), yet because the Comforter is come (John 15:26) we know Who hath established all the ends of the earth, what is His Name, and what is His Son's Name (Proverbs 30:4).

Several other scriptural passages will also be examined as to their relationship with modern physical science. For example the phenomenal growth of science itself is at least strongly hinted at in Daniel 12:4.

Our Petrochemical Age - Builders Girded With the Sword

William J. Schepp, G.C., F.A.I.C.
The Schepp Laboratories and Wm. J. Schepp Co., Inc.
East Paterson, New Jersey

Petroleum and Petrochemicals—
from Bitumen/Asphalt to Kerosene to Gasoline and
finally PETROCHEMICALS

with significant date

The Impact of Science on our Present Age
the fission of science and the atom bomb
the fusion of science and the Petrochemical build-
ing blocks

Nitrogen from the air above

Land displacement and the flexibility of the Petro-
chemical industry

Food Scarcity vs Food Surplus

Petroleum from Dead Things - How Did Nature Do it?

Origin of Petroleum in the light of recent research
In The Enormous Crucible of the Middle East

Six Kingdoms of Oil

The Birth of a Nation

Israel's Sixth Year

Road to riches - water in the desert

Petrochemical industry for economical independence

Summary —

"Slime" in the first war in the Bible - Abram as
Victor

"Slime in the last war in the Bible - Abraham's
Seed as Victor

Wrestling not against flesh and blood but rulers
of darkness

The Prince of Peace and permanent Peace.

The Principle of Growth as an Obsession

William J. Tinkle, Ph.D.
Albany, Indiana

When a person's mind is ruled by an idea he
makes conclusions according to it but does not
scrutinize the idea which obsesses his mind.

There is a tendency to think that living things
reached their present structure by a process similar
to the development of an egg or seed. In defining
evolution Webster uses growth and development as
synonyms.

We must not overlook the limitations of growth.
It does not take place whenever the environment is
favorable but ceases at maturity in mammals and
at the onset of dormancy in seed development. It is
controlled by genes in the chromosomes, which re-
peat themselves in each generation, without growing
in size or complexity.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Russell L. Mixter, Ph.D. (1954)* President
Chairman, Division of Science and Professor of
Zoology
Wheaton College
Wheaton, Illinois

Brian P. Sutherland, Ph.D. (1956) Vice-President
Administrative Assistant, Consolidated Mining
and Smelting Co.
Trail, British Columbia

H. Harold Hartzler, Ph.D. (1955), Secretary-Treasurer
Professor of Mathematics
Goshen College
Goshen, Indiana

J. Laurence Kulp, Ph.D. (1953)
Associate Professor of Geology
Columbia University
New York, N. Y.

Delbert N. Eggenberger, M.S. (1957)
Research Chemist
Armour and Company
Chicago, Illinois

* Year of retirement from Council

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PAST COUNCIL MEMBERS

Roger J. Voskuyl, Ph.D. (1952)
President, Westmont College
Santa Barbara, California

F. Alton Everest, E.E. (1951)
Associate Director
Moody Institute of Science
Los Angeles, California

Allan A. MacRae, Ph.D. (1950)
President and Professor of Old Testament
Faith Theological Seminary
Wilmington, Delaware

Edwin Y. Monsma, Ph.D. (1948)
Professor of Organic Science
Calvin College
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Marion D. Barnes, Ph.D. (1947)
Research Chemist
Lion Oil Company
El Dorado, Arkansas

Peter W. Stoner, M.S. (1945)
Chairman Dept. of Mathematics, Engineering,
Astronomy
Pasadena City College
Pasadena, California

Russell D. Sturgis, Ph.D. (1944)
Head, Department of Chemistry
Ursinus College
Collegeville, Pennsylvania

Irving A. Cowperthwaite, Ph.D. (1943)
Plant Engineer
Thompson Wire Company
Milton, Massachusetts

John P. Van Haltsma, Ph.D. (1942)
Professor of Organic Science
Calvin College
Grand Rapids, Michigan

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The Objects of the American Scientific Affiliation are:

- “(1) To integrate and organize the efforts of many individuals desiring to correlate the facts of science and the Holy Scriptures.
- (2) To promote and encourage the study of the relationship between the facts of science and the Holy Scriptures.
- (3) To promote the dissemination of the result of such studies.”

—Article I of ASA Constitution

Each candidate for membership in the ASA must sign the following statement:

“I believe the whole Bible as originally given to be the inspired word of God, the only unerring guide of faith and conduct. Since God is the Author of this Book, as well as the Creator and Sustainer of the physical world about us. I believe there can be no discrepancies when both are properly interpreted. Accordingly, trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, my Saviour, for strength, I pledge myself as a member of this organization to the furtherance of its task.

Signed

—Article II of ASA Constitution

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Fees:

A registration fee of \$2.00 will be requested in order that the normal work of the ASA will not be handicapped due to convention expenses.

Accommodations:

Rooms are available at the Winona Hotel. Prices range from \$2.00 to \$4.50 for a single room and from \$3.00 to \$6.00 for a double room. Also, at the Inn where prices range from \$1.50 to \$2.00 and \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Please send reservations to Dr. Paul R. Bauman, Grace Theological Seminary, Winona Lake, Indiana. You may also write directly to the hotels at Winona Lake, Indiana. Early reservations are advised.