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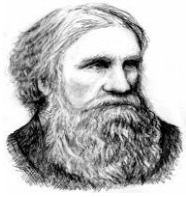
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Orts

The George MacDonald Society Newsletter No. 3, September 1983

1. It was with pleasure that we welcomed Dr. Rolland Hein and students from Wheaton College USA, the Revd. John Rogers from Kentucky USA, Dr. Georgette Lormant from Paris and Dr. Glen Cavaliero from Cambridge, at the meeting at Church House on Wednesday, June 29th. Reports of the talks given by Dr. Hein and Dr. Cavaliero appear elsewhere. We are most grateful to Mr Nigel Sustins for so kindly organizing the gathering.
2. We warmly congratulate Dr. Georgette Lormant on the success of her thesis of which she has generously presented us with a copy: Deux romanciers regionalists meccnns du XIXeme siècle: Ferdinand Fabre (1827-1898) George MacDonald (1824-1905) (Thesis – Paris – Nanterre. 1983). It now takes its place in the MacDonald collection in Kings College Library, London. Dr. Adrian Thomas has also generously given the library five volumes of George MacDonald books which we are very glad to have...
3. We include with this newsletter a preliminary list of books which the library lacks, hoping that members who have duplicate copies may offer to give or exchange them for any of our surplus (a list of these for sale or exchange enclosed), or let us know of any they may see in bookshops.
4. We are delighted that Mrs Kathy Triggs of Bingley, and Mrs Rachel Johnson of Lincoln, have most kindly taken over much of the typing and editing work and responsibility for membership respectively.
5. Work is proceeding on the next issue of the Journal. The editor would welcome letters, comments, suggestions and cash contributions. The last issue cost £185.00 (excluding typing and postage). The typing was generously done for us and we received a splendid donation of £100.00 from a member. We enclose subscription renewal forms - because of our small numbers as yet, finances are limited.
Copies of North Wind No.1 are still available at £1.00 from the Acting Hon. Sec. 58a Westbourne Park Villas, London W2 5EB. (Telephone: 01.221.0842)
6. The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 26th at 7.30 pm at 58a Westbourne Park Villas, London. W2 5EB. (see enclosed notice)

On Wednesday, June 29th, we were fortunate to have two world renowned scholars address us. Dr. Rolland Hein of Wheaton College, Illinois gave an informed and interesting talk on the Theology of George MacDonald. It was of particular interest to me as I had long wanted to know how George MacDonald's work and message was being related to present day students and especially in America where most of the research is being carried out.

I hope by now that most members will have read Dr. Hein's latest book on MacDonald, "The Harmony Within." To my mind, the most interesting chapters in the book deal with George's childhood and upbringing and how those times influenced him for the rest of his life and in his writings.

Dr. Glen Cavaliero of the Faculty of English, Cambridge University, was our other speaker. He is widely known for his study of Charles Williams. His book "Charles Williams: Poet of Theology" has had wide reading. Dr. Cavaliero surprised many of us by telling of an authoress whom I certainly had not known of before. Her name was Phyllis Paul and her novels were published in the late 1950's and early 1960's. The use of the word novel may be incorrect in this instance as judging from, Dr. Cavaliero her books were an unusual blend of mysticism and crime. A cross perhaps between Agatha Christie and Edgar Allen Poe.

The lady herself was virtually a recluse and Dr. Cavaliero told us of his difficulty in tracing her and details of her life.

We were read passages which illustrate a recurring theme in Phyllis Paul's books, that of a natural instinct to detect evil of some kind. Dr. Cavaliero certainly whetted my appetite for the lady's works. Unfortunately, her books are just as rare as MacDonald's. Perhaps one day I will be interested in an author whose books are as easy to find as sand on a beach. An unattainable goal I fear.

The George MacDonald Society owes a vote of thanks to our two guests for their time and the interesting talks that they gave.

Once again, Nigel Sustins of Church House Bookshop arranged the meeting with great efficiency. If there are any members who have not yet heard of this bookshop, I can heartily recommend it as having the best selection of George MacDonald reprints today.

As mentioned elsewhere in this letter, the MacDonald/Troup Collection at Kings College is progressing well. The committee would be grateful if members kept us in mind when visiting bookshops. If you see a book that you yourself do not need, please let us know. Any magazine articles or old reviews are also most welcome.

CHRISTOPHER MACDONALD