

CHURCHES OF THE NEW JERUSALEM

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Churches of the New Jerusalem, popularly called Swedenborgian, are two in number. The early history of both of these churches is given in the statement for the General Convention of the New Jerusalem, the older body, while the movement which resulted in the organization of the second body and the points on which it differed from the General Convention are set forth in the statement of the General Church of the New Jerusalem.

The principal statistics of the two bodies as reported for 1926, 1916, and 1906 are given in the following table:

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE CHURCHES OF THE NEW JERUSALEM, 1926, 1916, AND 1906

DENOMINATION AND CENSUS YEAR	Total number of churches	Number of members	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR		SUNDAY SCHOOLS	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Number of scholars
1926								
Total for the group	98	6,438	62	\$3,266,100	90	\$317,221	65	2,682
General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America.....	85	5,442	57	3,196,100	77	260,373	58	2,621
General Church of the New Jerusalem.....	13	996	5	70,000	13	56,848	7	61
1916								
Total for the group	123	7,085	78	1,766,122	101	189,129	80	3,050
General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America.....	108	6,352	72	1,711,090	87	172,463	67	2,732
General Church of the New Jerusalem.....	15	733	6	55,032	14	16,666	13	318
1906								
Total for the group	133	7,247	92	1,791,041	-----	-----	84	3,544
General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America.....	119	6,612	87	1,760,691	-----	-----	77	3,434
General Church of the New Jerusalem.....	14	635	5	30,350	-----	-----	7	110

GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

STATISTICS

Summary for the United States, with urban-rural classification.—A general summary of the statistics for the General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America for the year 1926 is presented in Table 1, which shows also the distribution of these figures between urban and rural territory.

The membership of this denomination consists of those persons who have been enrolled as communicants upon profession of faith.

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ITEM	Total	In urban territory ¹	In rural territory ¹	PER CENT OF TOTAL ²	
				Urban	Rural
Churches (local organizations).....	85	70	15		
Members	5,442	4,962	480	91.2	8.8
Average per church.....	64	71	32		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	2,133	1,921	212	90.1	9.9
Female.....	3,279	3,011	268	91.8	8.2
Sex not reported.....	30				
Males per 100 females.....	65.1	63.8	79.1		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....	99	51	48		
13 years and over.....	5,103	4,683	420	91.8	8.2
Age not reported.....	240	228	12	95.0	5.0
Per cent under 13 years ³	1.9	1.1	10.3		
Church edifices:					
Number.....	63	50	13		
Value—Churches reporting.....	57	47	10		
Amount reported.....	\$3,196,100	\$3,143,300	\$52,800	98.3	1.7
Average per church.....	\$56,072	\$66,879	\$5,280		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	12	11	1		
Amount reported.....	\$75,500	\$71,900	\$3,600	95.2	4.8
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	42	34	8		
Parsonages:					
Value—Churches reporting.....	16	12	4		
Amount reported.....	\$190,500	\$179,500	\$11,000	94.2	5.8
Debt—Churches reporting.....	2	2			
Amount reported.....	\$12,600	\$12,600		100.0	
Churches reporting "no debt" on parsonage.....	13	9	4		
Expenditures during year:					
Churches reporting.....	77	63	14		
Amount reported.....	\$260,373	\$244,375	\$15,998	93.9	6.1
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$235,826	\$220,127	\$15,699	93.3	6.7
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$19,070	\$18,771	\$299	98.4	1.6
Not classified.....	\$5,477	\$5,477		100.0	
Average expenditure per church.....	\$3,381	\$3,879	\$1,143		
Sunday schools:					
Churches reporting.....	58	50	8		
Officers and teachers.....	391	342	49	87.5	12.5
Scholars.....	2,621	2,355	266	89.9	10.1

¹ Urban territory includes all cities and other incorporated places which had 2,500 inhabitants or more in 1920, the date of the last Federal census; rural territory comprises the remainder of the country.

² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

³ Based on membership with age classification reported.

The data given for 1926 represent 85 active churches of the General Convention of the New Jerusalem, with 5,442 members. The classification of membership by sex was reported by 84 churches, and the classification by age was reported by 78 churches, including, however, only 12 which reported any members under 13 years of age.

Comparative data, 1890-1926.—Table 2 presents, in convenient form for comparison, a summary of the available statistics of this denomination for the censuses of 1926, 1916, 1906, and 1890.

TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1890 TO 1926: GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ITEM	1926	1916	1906	1890 ¹
Churches (local organizations)	85	108	119	154
Increase² over preceding census:				
Number.....	-23	-11	-35	-----
Per cent.....	-21.3	-9.2	-22.7	-----
Members	5,442	6,352	6,612	7,095
Increase² over preceding census:				
Number.....	-910	-260	-483	-----
Per cent.....	-14.3	-3.9	-6.8	-----
Average membership per church.....	64	59	56	46
Church edifices:				
Number.....	63	72	89	88
Value—Churches reporting.....	57	72	87	-----
Amount reported.....	\$3,196,100	\$1,711,090	\$1,760,691	\$1,386,455
Average per church.....	\$56,072	\$23,765	\$20,238	-----
Debt—Churches reporting.....	12	9	17	-----
Amount reported.....	\$75,500	\$30,466	\$40,625	-----
Parsonages:				
Value—Churches reporting.....	16	12	17	-----
Amount reported.....	\$190,500	\$68,000	\$64,400	-----
Debt—Churches reporting.....	2	-----	-----	-----
Amount reported.....	\$12,600	-----	-----	-----
Expenditures during year:				
Churches reporting.....	77	87	-----	-----
Amount reported.....	\$260,373	\$172,463	-----	-----
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$235,826	\$138,411	-----	-----
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$19,070	\$16,317	-----	-----
Not classified.....	\$5,477	\$17,735	-----	-----
Average expenditure per church.....	\$3,381	\$1,982	-----	-----
Sunday schools:				
Churches reporting.....	58	67	77	-----
Officers and teachers.....	391	398	510	-----
Scholars.....	2,621	2,732	3,434	-----

¹ Statistics include the General Church of the New Jerusalem, not reported separately.
² A minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

State tables.—Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 present the statistics for the General Convention of the New Jerusalem by States. Table 3 gives for each State the number and membership of the churches classified according to their location in urban or rural territory and the total membership classified by sex. Table 4 gives for selected States the number and membership of the churches for the three censuses from 1906 to 1926, together with the membership for 1926 classified as under 13 years of age and 13 years of age and over. Table 5 shows the value of church property and the debt on such property, for 1926 alone. Table 6 presents, for 1926, the church expenditures, showing separately the amounts expended for current expenses and improvements, and for benevolences, etc., and also gives the data for Sunday schools. Separate presentation in Tables 5 and 6 is limited to those States in which three or more churches reported the principal items shown (values or expenditures), in order to avoid disclosing the financial statistics of any individual church. The States omitted from these tables can be determined by referring to the complete list which appears in Table 3.

TABLE 3.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, AND TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX, BY STATES, 1926: GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX			
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Sex not re- ported	Males per 100 females (¹)
United States	85	70	15	5,442	4,962	480	2,133	3,279	30	65.1
New England:										
Maine.....	3	2	1	107	70	37	29	78		
New Hampshire.....	2	1	1	147	83	64	57	90		
Massachusetts.....	13	12	1	1,176	1,158	18	396	780		50.8
Rhode Island.....	1	1		117	117		44	73		
Connecticut.....	1		1	17		17	6	11		
Middle Atlantic:										
New York.....	4	4		372	372		153	219		69.9
New Jersey.....	3	3		143	143		45	98		
Pennsylvania.....	5	4	1	697	670	27	258	439		58.8
East North Central:										
Ohio.....	6	5	1	516	504	12	103	323		59.8
Indiana.....	2	2		75	75		23	52		
Illinois.....	6	6		326	326		133	193		68.9
Michigan.....	2	1	1	151	128	23	62	89		
Wisconsin.....	1	1		9	9		3	6		
West North Central:										
Minnesota.....	2	2		97	97		35	62		
Iowa.....	1		1	34		34	22	12		
Missouri.....	3	2	1	162	134	28	59	103		57.3
Kansas.....	2		2	174		174	94	80		
South Atlantic:										
Delaware.....	1	1		65	65		30	35		
Maryland.....	5	3	2	295	257	38	158	137		115.3
District of Columbia.....	1	1		146	146		59	87		
Virginia.....	1	1		20	20		8	12		
Georgia.....	2	2		28	28		10	18		
Florida.....	2	2		40	40		15	25		
East South Central:										
Tennessee.....	2	2		27	27		10	17		
Alabama.....	1		1	5		5	3	2		
Mississippi.....	1	1		10	10		5	5		
West South Central:										
Louisiana.....	2	2		30	30		12	18		
Texas.....	2	1	1	15	12	3	4	11		
Mountain:										
Colorado.....	1	1		30	30				30	
Pacific:										
Washington.....	1	1		16	16		8	8		
Oregon.....	1	1		92	92		61	31		
California.....	5	5		303	303		138	165		83.6

¹ Ratio not shown where number of females is less than 100.

HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION ¹

DENOMINATIONAL HISTORY

The Church of the New Jerusalem, known also as the "New Church," was first organized in London in 1787. It was based upon the writings of Emanuel Swedenborg, who was born in Sweden in 1688, studied at Upsala, traveled extensively in Europe, and was prominent in national affairs in his own country, where he held an assessorship under Charles XII. His favorite subject at first was mathematics, but astronomy, physics, human anatomy, and physiology all interested him, especially in their relation to spiritual matters. As he said, "I have gone through anatomy with the single object of investigating the soul." In 1747 he resigned his assessorship on a pension and thenceforth devoted his life to the revelations which he claims were given him. His first publication

¹ This statement, which is substantially the same as that published in Part II of the Report on Religious Bodies, 1916, has been revised by Rev. William L. Worcester, president of the General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America, and approved by him in its present form.

TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, 1906 TO 1926, AND MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926, BY STATES: GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches in either 1926, 1916, or 1906]

STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			MEMBERSHIP BY AGE, 1926			
	1926	1916	1906	1926	1916	1906	Under 13 years	13 years and over	Age not reported	Per cent under 13 ¹
United States.....	85	108	119	5,442	6,352	6,612	99	5,103	240	1.9
Maine.....	3	3	3	107	143	135	6	101	-----	5.6
Massachusetts.....	13	15	17	1,176	1,378	1,535	7	1,169	-----	0.6
New York.....	4	7	7	372	531	558	20	352	-----	5.4
New Jersey.....	3	3	3	143	140	133	-----	42	101	-----
Pennsylvania.....	5	6	9	697	760	704	-----	697	-----	-----
Ohio.....	6	7	7	516	608	593	-----	504	12	-----
Indiana.....	2	2	3	75	72	131	-----	75	-----	-----
Illinois.....	6	11	15	326	472	613	5	321	-----	1.5
Michigan.....	2	3	3	151	192	161	-----	151	-----	-----
Missouri.....	3	3	5	162	316	375	9	153	-----	5.6
Kansas.....	2	2	3	174	141	144	28	146	-----	16.1
Maryland.....	5	5	5	295	220	219	8	287	-----	2.7
Tennessee.....	2	4	5	27	59	73	-----	22	5	-----
Texas.....	2	4	1	15	115	10	-----	15	-----	-----
Washington.....	1	1	3	16	26	78	-----	16	-----	-----
Oregon.....	1	3	3	92	106	50	-----	92	-----	-----
California.....	5	5	5	303	239	294	-----	242	61	-----
Other States.....	20	24	22	795	774	806	16	718	61	2.2

¹ Based on membership with age classification reported.

TABLE 5.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY, AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926: GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting value of edifices]

STATE	Total number of churches	Number of church edifices	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		DEBT ON CHURCH EDIFICES		VALUE OF PARSONAGES		DEBT ON PARSONAGES	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount
United States.....	85	63	57	\$3,196,100	12	\$75,500	16	\$190,500	2	\$12,600
Maine.....	3	3	3	27,500	1	1,000	-----	(¹)	-----	-----
Massachusetts.....	13	12	12	828,800	3	49,800	3	20,000	-----	-----
New York.....	4	3	3	465,000	1	4,400	-----	(¹)	-----	(¹)
Pennsylvania.....	5	7	5	571,200	-----	-----	-----	(¹)	-----	-----
Ohio.....	6	5	5	300,000	-----	-----	-----	(¹)	-----	(¹)
Illinois.....	6	3	3	120,000	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
California.....	5	5	5	171,000	2	6,500	-----	(¹)	-----	-----
Other States ²	43	25	21	712,600	5	13,800	13	170,500	2	12,600

¹ Amount included in the figures shown for "Other States," to avoid disclosing the statistics of individual churches.

² The figures for parsonages (value and debt) include data for 8 churches in Maine, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and California.

was the Arcana Coelestia, an exposition of Genesis and Exodus, considered in their symbolical sense, the first part appearing in 1749 and the final part in 1756. Later years saw the publication of a number of works along the same line, including the True Christian Religion and the Apocalypse Revealed. Swedenborg's death occurred in London in 1772.

TABLE 6.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:
GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERUSALEM IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting expenditures]

STATE	Total number of churches	EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR				SUNDAY SCHOOLS			
		Churches reporting	Total amount	For current expenses and improvements	For benevolences, missions, etc.	Not classified	Churches reporting	Officers and teachers	Scholars
United States.....	85	77	\$260,373	\$235,826	\$19,070	\$5,477	53	391	2,621
Maine.....	3	3	6,641	6,510	131	—	2	9	55
Massachusetts.....	13	13	74,713	65,149	7,464	2,100	12	102	737
New York.....	4	3	31,477	27,807	3,670	—	3	22	149
New Jersey.....	3	3	6,509	6,059	450	—	2	7	35
Pennsylvania.....	5	5	27,900	24,523	500	2,877	4	37	223
Ohio.....	6	6	21,400	20,446	954	—	5	34	246
Illinois.....	6	4	12,600	11,882	718	—	3	29	154
Missouri.....	3	3	8,980	8,370	610	—	2	4	34
Maryland.....	5	5	7,449	6,394	1,055	—	3	22	140
California.....	5	5	25,915	25,404	511	—	4	21	98
Other States.....	32	27	36,789	33,282	3,007	500	18	104	750

In common with the general scientific literature of the day, the writings of Swedenborg were originally in Latin. His earlier theological works were published anonymously. In 1750 and succeeding years some were translated into English, but they did not attract much attention until, in 1783, Robert Hindmarsh, a printer in London, became interested in them, and gathered together a few men of like mind to consider them. Four years later the first organization, consisting of 16 persons, was effected. The following year public services were held, and in 1789 a general conference met. In 1821 there was incorporated the "General Conference of the Ministers and other Members of the New Church signified by the New Jerusalem in the Apocalypse or Revelation of John." In 1926 it consisted of 69 societies with an aggregate membership of 6,277, besides several societies and a number of individuals not members of the General Conference, so that the total number of members of the church in Great Britain in that year was probably about 7,100. The first New Church society in America was founded at Baltimore in 1792, and in 1817 the General Convention of the New Jerusalem in the United States of America was organized. In 1890 a considerable number withdrew and later organized the General Church of the New Jerusalem.

Swedenborg is regarded, on every hand, by members of this church as a "divinely illuminated seer and revelator" and as having been given the key to Bible interpretation—the science of correspondences—in order that he might thereby open the internal sense of the Word, and announce the Lord Jesus Christ, in His second coming, which is "His coming as the Word newly revealed." He was thus "divinely chosen to live consciously in the natural and in the spiritual world at the same time, so that he might describe to men those things which he saw, especially those things relating to the Holy City, the divine system of doctrine revealed out of the internal sense of the Word for the establishment of a New Church." It is the revelation of this interior truth of the Word, and not a personal appearing, that, in their view, constitutes the Lord's second coming, the "clouds" in which He comes being the literal sense, the "power and great glory" the spiritual sense.

DOCTRINE

The general doctrines of the New Church teach that there is one God, even the Lord God, the Savior, Jesus Christ; that there is in Him a Trinity, not of persons, but of essence, called in the Word, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that the Father is the inmost Divine Essence, or Love, from which all things are; that the Son is the Divine Wisdom and Word, by which the Divine Love is manifested and acts; and the Holy Spirit is the Divine Proceeding and Operation; and that these three are related to each other in God as are soul, body, and operation in man. Thus they teach that the Lord Jesus Christ, as the one Divine Person in whom is the Father, and from whom is the Holy Spirit, is, in His glorified humanity, the one God of heaven and of earth, and the supreme and sole object of worship for angels and men.

With regard to revelation, they teach that the Word of God contained in the Bible is not written like any other book, and can not be subjected to the same methods of criticism; that it is plenarily dictated by the Lord Himself, and inspired as to every word and letter, and, like Nature itself, is a divine symbol; that besides the literal sense adapted to men, it contains a spiritual sense adapted to angels; that these senses are connected with each other by the great law of correspondence, in accordance with which the universe itself was created in the beginning; and that in letter and spirit it contains the rule of life for angels and men.

With regard to redemption, they teach that the one God, Jehovah, the Creator of the universe, came down upon earth in the assumption, by birth of a virgin, of a human nature in order that He might live a human life, and, by purging it, redeem it; that in doing so He met and overcame in His temptations all the enemies of the human race and reduced them to eternal subjection; and that He continues to hold them in subjection in the mind and heart of every man who will cooperate with Him by faith and obedience; and that the application of this redeeming work in those who believe in Him and keep His commandments is salvation.

With regard to death and the spiritual world, they teach that when a man dies he is raised up in his spiritual body in the spiritual world, and there lives forever, in heaven or in hell, his state being determined by the spiritual character he has formed for himself by his life in this world; the judgment occurs immediately after death, in the world of spirits, which is intermediate between heaven and hell, and it consists in a man's coming to know himself in the light of the eternal realities of the Word of God.

Besides these cardinal points the doctrines of the New Church have much to say about the laws of divine order and of divine providence; about faith and charity; about free will and imputation, repentance, and regeneration; about marriage; about mental development in childhood and age; about the successive churches or divine dispensations that have existed on this earth, and the judgments terminating each; all of which teachings, based on the Word of the Lord, the believers hold to be in complete harmony with each other, and with the deductions of sound reason and the analogies of nature.

Baptism is administered in the scriptural formula, "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," to children as well as to adults who come on confession of their faith. Infant baptism is followed by the act of confirmation or ratification in maturer years, which is usually identified with the first communion, and this profession of faith in the essential doctrines of the church is regarded as the appropriate gate of admission to the sacrament of the Lord's Table.

ORGANIZATION

The polity of the church is a modified episcopacy, but the societies and associated bodies are left the utmost freedom in the administration of their local affairs. Each local society of the New Church elects its pastor and other officers, including usually a president, treasurer, secretary, and church committee. In some cases certain privileges are allowed to parishioners or pew holders who are not communicant members. The different societies are gathered in associations composed of the ministers and of lay members elected by the societies.

The General Convention is held annually, and every church member has a right to be present, take part in the deliberations, be appointed on committees, and be elected to office, but the right to vote is limited to ministers whose official acts are reported to the convention and to delegates of associations. Women frequently serve as delegates and as members of committees.

The convention is an ecclesiastical, a legislative, and a judicial body—ecclesiastical, in maintaining the orders of the ministry and of worship and in providing for missions and for the education of ministers; legislative, in maintaining its own organization and enacting measures for the carrying on of its various activities; and judicial, in admitting ministers to its roll or dismissing them therefrom and in promoting pastors to the general pastorate. The various boards of the church are elected by the General Convention and are absolutely responsible to it.

A council of ministers, which consists of all the ministers belonging to the convention, has charge of matters pertaining to the ministry. For the superintendence of the business of the convention and the exercise of its powers in the interval between meetings, there is a general council, consisting of the president, vice president, and treasurer of the convention, together with four ministers and eight laymen, chosen by ballot by the convention.

The ministry includes ministers, pastors, and general pastors. Ministers are those who are ordained to the ministry without identification with any particular pastorate, having the power to teach, preach, and baptize, and officiate at marriages and the Holy Supper. Pastors are those ministers who are called to the pastorate of societies and installed over them, generally to serve without fixed term of office. When the candidate is called by a society at the time of his ordination, the ordination and installation offices are often combined. A general pastor is one who, after a suitable term in the pastoral office, is, by request of an association and with the sanction of the General Convention, invested with power to authorize candidates, ordain ministers, preside over a general body of the church, and act as presiding minister of any association or of the General Convention. An association may, with the sanction of the General Convention, temporarily invest the powers of general pastor in its presiding minister or superintendent during his continuance in office.

The worship of the church is generally liturgical, chants being extensively used, but great latitude is observed in different societies and localities. A very complete Book of Worship was adopted by the General Convention in 1912 and is extensively used by the societies of the New Church.

WORK

The missionary enterprises of the New Church are conducted by the General Convention through its board of home and foreign missions, supplemented by an augmentation fund committee and by local boards of the various constituent bodies. In 1926 this board and some of the State associations employed 12 missionaries among the adherents in 17 States and aided 21 churches in connection with their running expenses, etc. The work has extended into Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Sweden, Switzerland,

British and Dutch Guiana, Burma, Japan, and the Philippine Islands. Contributions for the work amounted in 1926 to \$14,000 for the home work and \$12,500 for the foreign work. The property belonging to the denomination in the foreign field is valued at about \$75,000.

The educational preparation for the ministry of the church is carried on principally by the New Church Theological School at Cambridge, Mass., which has property valued at \$290,500 and during 1926 had 7 instructors and 8 students. Two other institutions, in Massachusetts and Ohio, under New Church management and partly supported by the church, reported 21 teachers and 134 students, and property valued at \$599,308. The total value of property devoted to educational purposes was given as \$889,808. The amount contributed for this work in 1926 was about \$7,642.

The New Church has a pension fund for needy ministers and an orphan fund. It has also a league of 30 young people's societies, with 700 members.

The Swedenborg Foundation, Inc., of New York, together with the American New Church Tract and Publication Society, and the Jungerich Trustees, of Philadelphia, have made free distribution to theological students and clergymen of over 161,270 copies of Swedenborg's writings, including the True Christian Religion, Apocalypse Revealed, Heaven and Hell, and Divine Love and Wisdom, and also The Life of Swedenborg. There are a number of other boards which make the press an important factor in the missionary work of the church. The church has three weeklies, a young people's monthly, and a quarterly. It is estimated that \$600,000 is invested in publication enterprises.