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Wesleyan Holiness Studies Center Bulletin

Evangelicals and Politics in Antebellum America

In his new book *Evangelicals and Politics in Antebellum America*, British scholar Richard J. Carwardine uses the writings of prominent evangelicals concerning presidential and significant regional elections of 1840 through 1860 in a generally successful attempt to demonstrate the effect of religion on political action. Carwardine's work is an important milestone in American evangelical historiography. This is reflected in the author's exhaustive research in primary source materials and his thorough mastery of the complex secondary literature of the "new political history" as shown in the copious endnotes to the book. He convincingly argues that the political, and increasingly sectional, commitments of many Americans were primarily shaped by religious concerns. In a thesis that clearly identifies him with a generation of scholars who have sought to locate political motivation in such cultural factors as ethnicity and religion, Carwardine's methodology, a traditional narrative history, allows him to do more than merely demonstrate the relative importance of cultural factors over eco-

nomie factors in political causation. For unlike the so-called ethno-cultural historians, whose dependency on quantitative methodology allowed them to demonstrate the centrality of cultural and religious issues, Carwardine's narrative places the actual political discourse concerning issues such as education, Indian removal, war, drink and especially slavery at the center of his account of evangelical political thought in the antebellum period.

Of particular interest to students of the Wesleyan/Holiness tradition is Carwardine's use of Methodist materials (along with Baptist, Presbyterian, and Congregational) to demonstrate his point and his placing of Methodism at the center of antebellum evangelicalism, an unfortunately rare, and long over due development in the historiography of antebellum evangelicalism. In

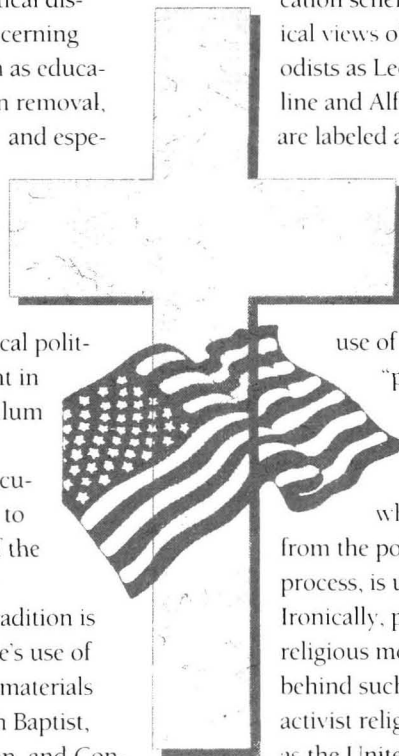
this regard, Carwardine is in line with Nathan Hatch's *Democratization of American Religion*.

Many will argue with Carwardine's terminology. Wesleyan/Holiness Scholars will be surprised to find that, under Carwardine's classification scheme, the political views of such Methodists as Leonidas Hamline and Alfred Brunson are labeled as "Calvinistic."

In addition, Carwardine's ahistorical use of the label "pietistic," to describe those Christians who withdraw from the political process, is unfortunate. Ironically, pietism, as a religious movement, lies behind such political activist religious groups as the United Brethren, Evangelical Association, and among Lutherans, the abolitionism of Samuel Schmucker and the strong tradition of Scandinavian Lutheran activism.

Carwardine's achievement provides a tantalizing first move in a new direction and understanding of antebellum evangelicalism, if the term itself is not anachronistic. A more thorough understanding awaits the study of regional and ethnic bodies such as German Reformed, Cumberland Presbyterian, United Brethren, and the Evangelical Association, and more work on the recently recognized crucial role of gender in nineteenth-century evangelicalism. In addition, it is clear that issues of class and race which continue not only to define American society, but evangelicalism itself must be addressed. Meanwhile, Carwardine has demonstrated that it is impossible to understand antebellum political culture without an understanding of evangelical Christianity and has, hopefully, provided not only a valuable and interesting study, but a stimulus for further research in the same related areas.

Reviewed by William C. Kostlevy, assistant director, Wesleyan/Holiness Studies Center. Richard J. Carwardine. *Evangelicals and Politics in Antebellum America*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1993.



Recent Books on Wesleyan/Holiness Themes

Blumhofer, Edith L. *Restoring the Faith: The Assemblies of God, Pentecostalism, and American Culture*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1995. \$19.95, \$42.50

Buehler, Kathleen D. *Heavenly Song: Stories of Church of God Song Writers and Their Songs*. Anderson: Warner Press, 1993. \$8.95

Garipey, Henry. *General of the Lord's Army: The Authorized Biography of General Eva Burrows*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993. \$19.95

Gilbertson, Richard. *The Baptism of the Holy Spirit: The Views of A. B. Simpson and His Contemporaries*. Camp Hill, PA: Christian Publications, 1993. \$19.99

History Project Committee. *A Story Not Yet Told: The Journey; United Methodist Women in North Georgia*, vol. 2. Atlanta: North Georgia Conference United Methodist Women, 1992. \$12.50

Horridge, Glenn K. *The Salvation Army: Origins and Early Days: 1865-1900*. Godalming, Surrey, England: Ammonite Books,

1993. \$50.00. (Order from Ammonite Books, 58 Coopers Rise, Godalming, Surrey, England GU7 2NJ.)

McCasland, David. *Oswald Chambers: Abandoned to God*. Grand Rapids: Discovery House Publishers, 1993. (Distributed by Thomas Nelson Publishers, Nashville, TN.)

Parrott, Leslie. *The Olivet Story: An Anecdotal History of Olivet Nazarene University*. Kankakee, IL: Olivet Nazarene University, 1993. (Order from Public

Relations Office, Olivet Nazarene University, Kankakee, IL 60901.)

Stoesz, Samuel J. *Sanctification: An Alliance Distinctive*. Camp Hill, PA: Christian Publications, 1992. \$6.99

Strege, Merle. *Tell Me the Tale: Historical Reflections on the Church of God*. Anderson, IN: Warner Press, 1991. \$6.95

Tell Me Another Tale: Further Reflections on the Church of God. Anderson, IN: Warner Press, 1993. \$8.95

Recent Dissertations on Wesleyan/Holiness Themes

Albertson, Wayne Frederick. "Narcissism and Destiny: A Study of the Life Work of Fanny J. Crosby." Princeton Theological Seminary, 1992. Order No. DA9229014

Carl, Harold F. "Found in Human Form: The Maintenance and Defense of Orthodox Christology by Nineteenth Century American Reformed Theologians." Westminster Theological Seminary, 1992. Order No. DA9224640

Dalhouse, Mark Taylor. "Bob Jones University and the Shaping of Twentieth Century Separatism, 1926-1991." Miami University, 1991. Order No. DA9200969

Graham, Fred Kimball. "'With One Heart and One Voice': A Core Repertoire of Hymn Tunes Published for Use in the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, 1808-1874." Drew University, 1991. Order No. DA9213368

Gullon, David Pio. "An Investigation of Dispensational Premillennialism: An Analysis and Evaluation of the Eschatology of John F. Walvoord." Andrews University, 1992. Order No. DA9225977

Hendrix, James Carl. "The Christian College Consortium: 1971-1991." Southern Illinois University, 1992. Order No. DA9239722

Hoyle, Lydia Huffman. "Missionary Women Among the American Indians." University of North Carolina, 1993. Order No. DA9309890

Joy, Mark Stephens. "'Into the Wilderness': Protestant Missions Among the Emigrant Indians of Kansas, 1830-1854." Kansas State University, 1992. Order No. DA9229245

Lennox, Stephen. "Biblical Interpretation in the American Holiness Movement." Drew University, 1992. Order No. DA9312772

Longden, Leicester Ralph. "The Recovery of a Christian Sense of History: The Theological Vocation of Albert

Cook Outler." Drew University, 1992. Order No. DA9233187

McManus, Michael J. "'A Redeeming Spirit Is Busily Engaged': Political Abolitionism and Wisconsin Politics, 1840-1861." University of Wisconsin, 1991. Order No. DA9209236

continued on page 4

The Wesleyan Holiness Studies Center Bulletin

Bill Faupel
Editor

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Associate Editor

Recent Articles on Wesleyan / Holiness Themes

- Bundy, David. "Pentecostal Mission to Brazil: The Case of Norwegian G. L. Peterson." *Norsk Tidsskrift for Misjon* (1993): 171-179.
- Bundy, David. "Thomas B. Barratt and *Byposten*: An Early European Pentecostal leader and His Periodical." *Pentecost, Mission, and Ecumenism, Essays on Intercultural Theology: Festschrift in Honor of Professor Walter J. Hollenweger*. Jan A. B. Jongeneel, ed. (New York: Peter Lang, 1992.)
- Cerillo, Augustus, Jr. "The Origins of Pentecostalism: A Review Essay of James R. Goff, Jr.," *Fields White Unto the Harvest: Charles F. Parham and the Missionary Origins of Pentecostalism*." *Pneuma* 15 (Spring, 1993): 77-88.
- Cole, Charles C., Jr. "A 'Sweet' Mystery: The Tale of Two Diaries" *Methodist History* 31 (July, 1993): 255-261. (Contains information on James B. Finley).
- Dayton, Donald W. "Presidential Address: The Wesleyan Option for the Poor." *Wesleyan Theological Journal* 26 (Spring, 1991): 7-22.
- Dayton, Donald W. "The Search for Historical Evangelicalism: George Marsden's History of Fuller Seminary as a Case Study." *Christian Scholar's Review* 23 (September, 1993): 12-33.
- Dillon, Merton L. "In Retrospect: Gilbert H. Barnes and Dwight L. Dumond: An Appraisal." *Reviews in American History* 21 (September, 1993): 539-552.
- Durnbaugh, Donald E. "Nineteenth-Century Dunker Views of the River Brethren." *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 67 (April, 1993): 133-151.
- Faupel, D. William. "Presidential Address: Whiter Pentecostalism?" *Pneuma* 15 (Spring, 1993): 9-28.
- Faupel, D. William "William H. Durham and the Finished Work of Calvary." *Pentecost, Mission and Ecumenism, Essays on Intercultural Theology: Festschrift in Honor of Professor Walter J. Hollenweger*. Jan A. B. Jongeneel, ed. (New York: Peter Lang, 1992.)
- Galea, Kate P. Crawford. "'Anchored Behind the Veil': Mystical Vision as a Possible Source of Authority in the Ministry of Phoebe Palmer." *Methodist History* 31 (July, 1993): 236-247.
- Garrison, Charles Jeffrey. "How the Devil Tempts Us to Go: First Presbyterian Church of Virginia City, 1862-1867." *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly* 36 (Spring, 1993): 13-34. (Contains information on A. B. Earle).
- Hamilton, Michael S. "Women, Public Ministry, and American Fundamentalism, 1920-1950." *Religion and American Culture* 3 (Summer, 1993): 171-196.
- Heinrichs, Timothy J. "Progressivism's Revival of 1905." *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 83 (October, 1992): 144-151.
- Lazernow, James. "Rethinking Religion and the Working Class in Antebellum America." *Mid-America* 75 (January, 1993): 86-104.
- Liestman, Daniel. "'To Win Redeemed Souls from Heathen Darkness': Protestant Response to the Chinese of the Pacific Northwest in the Late Nineteenth Century." *Western Historical Quarterly* 24 (May, 1993): 179-201.
- Lyerly, Cynthia Lynn. "Francis Asbury and the Opposition to Early Methodism." *Methodist History* 31 (July, 1993): 224-235.
- Marilley, Suzanne M. "Francis Willard and the Feminism of Fear." *Feminist Studies* 19 (Spring, 1993): 123-146.
- MacRobert, Iain. "The Black Roots of Pentecostalism." *Pentecost, Mission and Ecumenism, Essays on Intercultural Theology: Festschrift in Honor of Walter J. Hollenweger*. Jan A. B. Jongeneel, ed. (New York: Peter Lang, 1992.)
- O'Brien, Betty A. "The Lord's Supper: Fruit of the Vine or Cup of Devils." *Methodist History* 31 (July, 1993): 203-223.
- Sicherman, Barbara. "Reading and Ambition: M. Carey Thomas and Female Heroism." *American Quarterly* 45 (March, 1993): 73-103.
- Sider, E. Morris, ed. "The Legacy of E. J. Swalm." *Brethren in Christ History and Life* 16 (April, 1993): 49-80.
- Smith, John Abernathy. "The Case of Bethel Academy: Methodism's School for the Frontier." *Methodist History* 32 (October, 1993): 19-30.
- Stanley, John E. "Some Words on the Bible's Last Word: An Assessment of the Four Recent Commentaries on Revelation." *Christian Scholar's Review* 22 (No. 3): 291-296.
- Trautwein, Noreen. "Alma Cassel: The A.B.C. of Beulah (Upland) College." *Brethren in Christ History and Life* 16 (April, 1993): 3-46.
- Tripp, Steven E. "Race, Class, and Religion: Lynchburg, Virginia's 'Great Revival of 1871'" *Mid-America* 75 (January, 1993): 5-22.
- Uminowicz, Glenn. "Recreation in Christian America: Ocean Grove and Asbury Park, New Jersey." *Hard at Play: Leisure in America, 1860-1940*. Kathryn Grover, ed. (Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 1992.)

Methodism and the Shaping of American Culture

A conference on Methodism's impact on American culture will be held at Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, Ky., and will be hosted by the Wesleyan/Holiness Studies Center, October 7-8, 1994.

Developed by Nathan O. Hatch, vice-president for graduate studies at the University of Notre Dame and author of the highly regarded *Democratization of American Christianity* (1989), this gath-

ering of students of the American-Methodist experience will examine the process by which Methodism emerged as the largest Protestant denomination and a major shaper of American culture during the early nineteenth century. The event is made possible by a grant from the PEW Charitable Trusts.

The conference will include papers exploring the spread of Methodism by Richard Shiels. The Ohio

State University and John Wigger, University of Notre Dame. William Gravely, University of Denver, and Dennis Dickerson, Williams College, will present papers on the African-American Methodist experience. Richard Carwardine of the University of Sheffield will present a paper on Methodism political engagement and the coming of the Civil War. Women and Methodism will be the theme of a paper

by Catherine Brekus, University of Chicago Divinity School. Kathryn Long of Wheaton College will address the significance of Phoebe Palmer. A comparative paper on Methodism in England, Wales, Ireland and the United States will be presented by David Hempton of Queen's University of Belfast. William Sutton, a recent Ph.D. graduate of the University of Illinois will present a paper on Methodism and labor.

More Dissertations

Moyer, Bruce Eugene. "The Doctrine of Christian Perfection: A Comparative Study of John Wesley and the Modern American Holiness Movement." Marquette University, 1993. Order No. DA9318927

Munton, Douglas Wayne. "The Contributions of J. Edwin Orr to an Understanding of Spiritual Awakenings." Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1991. Order No. DA9213044

Owen, Christopher Hendrick. "Sanctity, Slavery, and Segregation: Methodists and Society in Nineteenth Century Georgia." Emory University, 1991. Order No. DA9204818

Pepper, Francis Leroy. "Republican Virtue and Evangelical Sanctification: Changing Ethical Norms for United States Citizenship, 1791-1860." Florida State University, 1993. Order No. DA9321896

Periaccante, Marianne. "Calling Down Fire: Charles G. Finney and the Revivalism in Jefferson County, New York, 1800-1840." University of Virginia, 1992. Order No. 9237565

Pruett-Barnett, Mark. "Be Thou My Vision: Theology Pastoral Care and Culture in the Methodist Episcopal Church." Drew University, 1991. Order No. DA9213374

Robertson, Allen Barry. "John Wesley's Nova Scotia Businessmen: Halifax Methodist Merchants, 1815-1855." Queen's University, 1990.

Ross, William Edwin. "A Methodist Experiment in Graduate Education: John Fletcher Hurst and the Founding of American University, 1889-1914." American University, 1992. Order No. DA9234497

Sutton, William. "To Grind the Faces of the Poor: Journeymen for Jesus in Jacksonian Baltimore,

Maryland, Populism." University of Illinois, 1993. Order No. DA9329174

Walker, Pamela Jane. "Pulling the Devil's Kingdom Down: Gender and Political Culture in The Salvation Army, 1865-1895." Rutgers the State University of New Jersey, 1992. Order No. DA9219966

Westerfield Tucker, Karen Beth. "'Till Death Do Us Part': The Rites of Marriage and Burial Prepared by John Wesley and Their Development in the Methodist Episcopal Church, 1784-1939." University of Notre Dame, 1992. Order No. DA9233647

W o m e n C l e r g y C o n f e r e n c e

"Come to the Water—A Celebration of Our Call" will be the theme of the first-ever Wesleyan-Holiness Women Clergy Conference April 14-17, 1994, in Glorieta, New Mexico. Clergy women and women in other professional ministerial positions are invited to attend.

The conference is designed to affirm and encourage women in ministry and to provide opportunities to discuss issues and concerns and to share ideas and insights.

This first-time event is sponsored by the Church of God, Anderson; Church of the Nazarene; Evangelical Friends, International; Free Methodist Church; and Wesleyan Church.

Activities will include five plenary sessions featuring women from the sponsoring denominations, workshops and a bit of free time for relaxation and getting acquainted with other women in ministry.

Cost for the event is a \$40.00 registration fee, plus housing accommodations (\$110-175 for three nights lodging and nine meals).

Questions regarding the conference may be directed to Dr. Susie Stanley at 503-639-0559.