

THE YOUNG MR AUBREY

- 1884 and remained influential until his death in 1919.
37. Letter dated 9th December 1924 and written from The Cottage, Leigh Hall Road, Leigh on Sea.
 38. J. C. Carlile, *op.cit.*, p.167.
 39. In assessing the affect upon J. H. Shakespeare, it has to be remembered that the pulpit in the Cathedral at Uppsala is a very high one and the Bible was very heavy.
 40. Ernest Payne's Journal comments of the B. U. Councils re early 1930s: 'M. E. Aubrey the Secretary was still a relatively young man and a rather dominating role was played by Dr J. C. Carlile who had had charge of the Union during Dr Shakespeare's breakdown in health.'
 41. Carlile, *op.cit.*, p.168.
 42. *Baptist Times* 24th November 1924. The Council was to meet on 20th January.
 43. *Christian World* 25th December 1924. Bound copies are in the Congregational Library now housed in Dr Williams's Library.
 44. T. S. Penny from Taunton dated 27th December 1924. W. E. Blomfield from Rawdon College, dated 27th December 1924. Herbert Marnham from Frognal Rise, Hampstead Heath, dated 29th December 1924. Charles Brown from Chorley Wood (on Ferme-Park notepaper) dated 30th December 1924.
 45. Including one from R. Rowntree Clifford of West Ham Central Mission dated 7th January 1925.
 46. Blomfield wrote from Rawdon: 'I should have been quite content to see Dr R. in the position but I always had some doubt as to the practicability of his taking up a work which must interfere with the close attention needful for the Baptists on the Continent . . .' He goes on to write forcibly, pastorally and persuasively to Aubrey. The letter reveals Blomfield's interesting view of the denominational leadership situation in 1925. 'Securing a denominational leader is as hard as securing the Principal of a College. I saw that clearly enough when Bristol was vacant. The thing was narrowed down to about three possible men. Were you to decline we should find it hard to secure anything like unanimity.'
 47. Blomfield had written a third letter to Aubrey on 1st January 1925, having apparently received one from Aubrey. In the letter he talks about whether to become the Secretary of the Baptist Union and therefore to leave the pastoral ministry is a step up or a step down. He suggests that it would be a step down if Aubrey were simply to be a Secretary. But he suggests, 'You are going to be vastly more and 20 years hence you will rejoice.'
 48. A copy of this letter is among the Aubrey papers in author's possession.
 49. This report is also amongst the Aubrey papers.
 50. A copy of this resolution is attached to the report in author's possession.
 51. Page 12 of report of meeting.
 52. Page 13 of report.
 53. Letter in *Baptist Times*, 13th February 1925.
 54. Report of Assembly in *Baptist Times*, 1st May 1925.

The author wishes to express his appreciation of the ready help given to him by Mr J. M. Aubrey in the preparation of this lecture.

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RECENT DEPOSITS IN THE ANGUS LIBRARY

Newport Pagnell Churchbook 1824-1878. Smarden, Kent, Churchbook 1705-1843; Churchbook 2 1845-1908; Church Minutes 1888-1906; Register of Members 1756. Harlow, Foster Street Burial Ground Register. General Baptist Association of the New Connexion, Minutes and Register 1887-1938; Minutes 1922-1939. Saffron Walden, Cosens General Baptist Trust Volume 1 - summary of Documents 1725-1864; copy of Will of Robert Cosens; Contributions to the New Meeting House 1792.

and a puzzle

Also two small books of lists of Members and Baptismal Records dated 1767 onwards for an unnamed church. They have references to Trowbridge and to Bradford (presumably on Avon) and seem to relate to a church in Wiltshire. Anyone interested in trying to establish to which church they refer should contact the Librarian/Archivist, Mrs Sue Mills, at Regent's Park College, Pusey Street, Oxford, OX1 2LB.

THE PAYNE MEMORIAL ESSAY COMPETITION 1991

MISSION: HOME AND OVERSEAS

The Baptist Historical Society offers a prize of £75 for an essay on this theme, chosen with the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Baptist Missionary Society in mind. Home mission or home support as well as activities overseas fall within this brief, the essay may be an historical or contemporary study, and essays which are theological as well as historical treatments of the theme will be welcome.

The essay should be an original, unpublished composition, based on personal research, that has not already been awarded another prize. The text should not exceed 10,000 words, but the submission should also include whatever footnotes and bibliography are considered necessary. It should be in typescript or clear computer print-out.

There is no restriction of academic qualification, place of residence or religious profession on candidates. The winning essay, and any other deemed worthy, will be published in the Society's journal, *The Baptist Quarterly*. The Society reserves the right to make no award if an essay of sufficient merit is not submitted.

Candidates should send their essays to arrive on or before 31st December 1991, in envelopes marked 'Payne Memorial Essay Competition' and addressed to The Secretary, Baptist Historical Society, Bristol Baptist College, Woodland Road, Bristol BS8 1UN.

The Payne Memorial Essay Competition commemorates the life and work of the Revd Dr E. A. Payne CH (1902-80), General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, a Vice-President of the World Council of Churches and President of the Baptist Historical Society.

REVIEWS

Henry D. Rack, *Reasonable Enthusiast: John Wesley and the Rise of Methodism*, Epworth Press, 1989, xvi + 656 pp. £25.00.

Since Wesley is probably one of the world's most famous half-known and inaccurately-known people, Henry Rack's comprehensive and truthful biography is greatly to be welcomed. In a 'Prelude' Mr Rack sets his subject in his socio-political and religious context, thereby providing the basis for his overall view of Wesley as 'a "reasonable enthusiast", combining religious values in some ways as radical as anything in the sixteenth-century Anabaptists and seventeenth-century Puritan Separatists with aspects of High Church polity, and clothing the whole in the language of Locke as well as that of the Bible.'

Part One takes us to 1738. We expect to meet Susanna and her encouragements to perfectionism, but Mr Rack can also tell us all we need to know about Westley Hall's temporary jilting of Wesley's sister Martha in favour of sister Kezziah. We expect to hear of the Holy Club, but its character and activities are here illuminated by recent research. Wesley's troubled relations with women, his obsessive private devotional discipline, the influence of the mystics - all are here. So too the Georgia adventure (and the 'selective and slanted' *Journal* account of it); the influence of the Moravians; and Sarah Hopkey, 'the worst of all the serpents in [Wesley's] Eden'. There follows an account of the Aldersgate Street experience in which the nature of the 'conversion' is closely examined, with special reference to Wesley's understanding of justification by grace through faith in relation to his earlier High Church convictions. An 'Interlude' on the origins of the Evangelical Revival