

Editor's Introduction

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Volume 9 of this journal, Philip McShane on Functional Research, revisited the work of the SGEME seminar of 2011 which explored the first four functional specialties. We thought many of the submissions to the original seminar were ripe for further development. In contacting submitters about the possibility of revisiting their work, there were enough positive responses to envisage two volumes. The greater interest was in following up on issues in Dialectic, the specialty where the seminar stopped. While we prepare that issue, we present the five essays of this volume. All the essays are concerned with the Lonergan corpus, both published and unpublished. Three of the articles take up questions emerging from Lonergan's correspondence with Frederick Crowe.

Three of the five essays are contributions to either Research or Interpretation. Robert Henman's original offering in the SGEME seminar concerned what appeared to be a lacuna in the indexing of the word 'implementation' in Lonergan's *Insight, Understanding and Being*, and *Method in Theology*. Henman collaborated with me in expanding the original research. The result is "An Apparent Anomaly in Lonergan Scholarship" which leads off the volume.

In recent years William Zanardi has graced us with an impressive stream of books vigorously exploring Dialectic, often taking up philosophical problem areas in cognitive science and neuroscience. In this issue he shifts attention to Research and Interpretation. In two linked articles, Zanardi considers a puzzling reference by Lonergan to *vis cogitativa* that occurs in a 1955 letter to Frederick Crowe. In the first article, "Bernard Lonergan's Puzzling Comment About the *Vis Cogitativa*," Zanardi shows us his research into the texts in the Lonergan corpus for understanding the context of the letter reference. The second article, "Early Forms of Apprehension and Moral Evaluation" builds on that research to tease out clues for building an interpretation of Lonergan's meaning.

My own "Preparing to Read Economic History Functionally" explores Lonergan's use of the word 'transition' in *For a New Political Economy* as a basis for examining how we might read history functionally. The essay stresses the importance of developing standard models in reading the history of economics and suggests that Lonergan's work in economics provides just such a basis for developing standard models for both economics and general method.

The final essay, "Method in Theology: From $[1 + 1/n]^{nx}$ to $\{M (W_3)^{\theta\Phi T}\}^4$ " is Philip McShane's expansive exploration into the meaning of what is perhaps the most puzzling of Lonergan's written statements. The occasion, again, was a 1954 letter to Frederick Crowe, the selection follows.

The Method of Theology is coming into perspective. For the Trinity: Imago Dei in homine and proceed to the limit as in evaluating $[1 + 1/n]^n$ as n approaches infinity. For the rest: ordo universi. From the viewpoint of theology, it is a manifold of unities developing in relation to one another and in relation to God, i.e., metaphysics as I conceive it but plus transcendent knowledge. From the viewpoint of religious experience, it is the same relations as lived in a development from elementary intersubjectivity (cf. Sullivan's basic concept of interpersonal relations) to intersubjectivity in Christ (cf. the endless Pauline [suv- or] sun- compounds) on the sensitive (external Church, sacraments, sacrifice, liturgy) and intellectual levels (faith, hope, charity).
Religious experience : Theology : Dogma :: Potency : Form : Act.

McShane explores this passage and connects it to his recent Vignette series whose stated aim is 'drawing effective attention to destructive misreadings of particular passages in Lonergan's work.'

Our next issue on Dialectic (Volume 11) will appear in late 2019. In addition to contributions from previous contributors to the journal, we will be welcoming articles from Frank Braio, Catherine King, David Oyler, John Raymaker, and Hugh Williams. We are also in the early planning stages of an issue on economics which is scheduled to appear in 2020.

In this issue, we have included hyperlinks to online references. Finally, and certainly not least, I would like to thank Sandy Gillis and Bruce Anderson for their generous help with copy-editing.