

Dr. MacRae Interviewed by Jim Neher 8-15-79

This morning I got a phone call from Eckelmann. He seemed to have lots of time on his hands. He was in no hurry, and he just talked on. I was glad to have a real chat with, but phoning that far I'm usually, more penurious about the time.

He wants me to look at Carl Segans book (Broken(?) Brain) something like that. He says Segan comes out very clear in the book that there's no such thing as person or mind, that it's just a concorse of electro-magnetic forces is all. He says it's got some excellent things to quote as showing the -- what the materialistic view leads to. At the same time he's much concerned about it.

He does not think Segan is really a very good scientist. He has a great reputation as a scientist. He doesn't think he's an especially good ~~sc~~ scientist but he thinks he has a number of excellent men working for him and that he directs their work well, and is able to administer it well and he can express himself very attractively. He's worried about what influence he'll have among the general education -- educated population, especially among college professors.

He got back to what he's been talking up for 15 years. He feels the best evidence we have for Christianity is fulfilled prophecy. He was very enthused 10 yrs. ago when I gave a course (it was in the catalogue) in it. He said we're the only institution he knew of that was giving it. He said that at the alumni meeting. He was very anxious there be a good book on fulfilled prophecy. He mentions Urquart's book which is very old, and he's wishing I'd take the book, revise it and bring it up to date.

I mentioned Peter Stoner's book to him. Have you seen his book? Did Dr. Newman get out a new edition of it?

Neher: Several times he has.

Several times?

Neher: What I mean to say is Dr. Newman participated in a revision and then they had 3 more revisions since that.

I didn't know that.

Neher: Dr. Newman is listed as the co-author.

I see. I saw the first edition of it. I was vice-president of ASA and they sent it around to some of the executive committee and that's when the very first edition came out. I was not impressed by it at all. It seemed to me he had a lot of silly arguments. Like he would say, The Bible says a certain place will become a place for the growing of wheat. Now why will it be wheat? They might grow wheat. They might grow barley. They might grow rye. He'd name about 10 things. So there would be one