

A STATEMENT FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

In the last BLQ, in a footnote to our response to Stephen Clark, our Editor stated that the Wales Evangelical School of Theology (WEST) “is the training college of the Evangelical Movement of Wales...” (page 461). Stephen Clark has pointed out to us that this is inaccurate. The EMW has its own Theological Training Course which has nothing to do with WEST. We acknowledge and regret this error in the detail.

However, we also regret that Stephen Clark has drawn attention to this one small mistake in order to criticise John Thackway’s ability and to undermine the force both of his original critique and his subsequent response to Stephen Clark’s assessment. Sadly, we believe this is a “tactic” to avert our esteemed Editor’s entirely justifiable criticism of *New Christian Hymns*.

As Chairman of the Bible League Council, I would like to make it very clear to Stephen Clark that the whole Bible League Council stands with John Thackway in everything he has written, both in his critique and in his response.

Such is the grave condition of contemporary Evangelicalism that we resolve firmly to stand against the modernisation and compromise evidenced in *New Christian Hymns* which, sadly, Stephen Clark and others appear willing both to support and to defend. This said, while we bear no personal animosity whatsoever to Stephen Clark, we really can see no point in continuing publicly to defend what has been written in the *Quarterly*. We believe that our Editor is absolutely right in what he has written, and we are very thankful that his faithful voice of protest has been heard.

Malcolm H. Watts