## 6/12/69 Wellhausen #3

mose widely most widely distributed and is in my opinion the greatest thing f. there are other approaches which are being used today, but they are not nearly so widespread, and - oh, there are some people who will present the Wellhausen idea who will make a few bows in the direction of (?) formal(?) criticism make a nice obeisance toward one or the other of those ideas, but their main thing they're presenting is this documentary approach. Now all that we can come across, or gather, or think of, that will be useful in combating those others, let's keep it, & let's note it, possibly use it in a different book = or perhaps in an appendix in this book, but it seems to me the one thing that is the powerful thing today is the documentary; and that's the thing we want to concentrate on, and its if possible demonstrate that it's not excemble tenable. Not only does it exist, but you take=the leave aside for the man moment the little world of specialized professional OT° scholars, or even if you want to say 'professional Biblical scholars," - it's a little world - a comparatively small number of men, compared to the number of people who are interested in theology as a whole, or who are interested even in the Bible. Set aside this little group, in which there are all kinds of theories; take the big group of people those who are writing about religion, or writing as about the Bible as a whole, or who are dealing with theology as a whole, and that group, aside from of course from our 9/10ths Orthodox orthodox people, that group, I would say that/ with of it, are following very largely (bw?) the Wellhausen approach mfxth to the documentary school(?) theory. and they are presenting it in Sunday School literature; they are presenting it in popular books of different types; they are presenting it in books of approach to the OT°, and so on, as established fact. And the little group of OT° acholars, experts in that field, we want to do what we can to influence them. But I'm thinking particularly now of the group, fifty times as large, of people who are dealing with the subject as a whole and who are reaching fifty times as many people as that little group is (?)