

MINUTES OF THE CONVENTION

Monday, June 22, 1953:

The eighth annual meeting of the Catholic Theological Society of America convened at the Sheraton Belvedere Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland, from the evening of Monday, June 22, until the evening of Wednesday, June 24. The first general session was unusually well attended, and opened with the customary prayers, at 8:20 p. m. After a word of cordial welcome, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John M. A. Fearn, P. A., keynoted the convention by the presidential address recorded pages 174-182.

Upon its conclusion, Msgr. Fearn announced the membership of the Committee on Nominations, as follows: the Rev. Sebastian Carlson, O.P., Chairman; the Rev. John C. Ford, S.J. and the Rev. Lawrence J. Riley. The President then reminded us of the members who had died since the previous convention—namely, the Rev. Eugene T. McCloskey of Brooklyn, N. Y., and the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis J. Murphy of New York, N. Y. In November of 1953, we lost another member in the person of the Very Rev. John J. Clifford, S.J., of Mundelein, Ill. *R.I.P.* Their necrologies, as a memorandum for our continued suffrage, are to be found on page 214. This inaugural session adjourned after the usual prayers, and was followed immediately by the semi-annual, constitutional meeting of the Board of Directors.

Tuesday, June 23, 1953:

At 9:00 a. m., in the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Pontifical Mass of the Holy Ghost was celebrated by our archiepiscopal host, the Most Rev. Francis P. Keough, D.D. At the conclusion of the Mass, His Excellency extended to us a most gracious welcome and enthusiastic encouragement of our Baltimore convention.

At 10 o'clock, the members assembled in the Charles Room of the Sheraton Belvedere for the general session of the day. As a panoramic reminder of convention procedure, we embody here a copy of the 1953 program.

Monday, June 22

8:00 P. M. GENERAL SESSION
8:30 P. M. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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Tuesday, June 23

9:00 A. M. PONTIFICAL MASS OF THE HOLY GHOST
10:00 A. M. — 12:30 P. M. GENERAL SESSION

A SURVEY OF PROTESTANT THEOLOGY IN OUR DAY
The Reverend Gustave A. Weigel, S.J.

3:00 — 5:00 P. M. ELECTIVE SEMINARS

DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE AND AID TO EDUCATION
The Reverend William E. McManus
substituting for

The Reverend Thomas O. Martin

DETRACTION IN PUBLIC LIFE

The Reverend John E. Murphy

THE SEMINARY COURSE IN CONVERT WORK

The Reverend John T. McGinn, C.S.P.

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5:30 P. M. BUFFET SUPPER

8:00 P. M. INFORMAL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

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Wednesday, June 24

10:00 A. M. — 12:30 P. M. GENERAL SESSION
THE THEOLOGY OF SACRAMENTAL GRACE

The Reverend George W. Shea

2:30 P. M. GENERAL SESSION

SUMMATION OF SEMINARS

4:00 P. M. BUSINESS MEETING

The presentation and discussion of the major paper of Tuesday were presided over by the Rt. Rev. President, Msgr. Fearn. Throughout the convention, we enjoyed the services of Brother Thomas Cavanaugh, S.J., of Woodstock College, Md., as recording

secretary. For the full text of the paper by the Rev. Gustave A. Weigel, S.J., and for a digest of the discussion, we refer the reader to page 43 onward.

The afternoon sessions were devoted to three concurrent seminars. The seminar under the title "Distributive Justice and Aid to Education," was conducted by the Rev. William E. McManus of N.C.W.C., substituting for the Rev. Thomas O. Martin, owing to the latter's absence in Rome. This discussion was presided over by Msgr. Fearn. The Rev. Michael Murphy functioned as recording secretary (Page 157). During the discussion moderated by the Rev. John E. Murphy, the Rev. Joseph O'Brien recorded the minutes (Page 131). The Rev. J. J. McLarney, O.P., presided over the seminar headed by the Rev. John T. McGinn, C.S.P., for whom the Rev. James McVann, C.S.P., served as secretary (Page 143).

At 5:30 p. m., the members reassembled in the air conditioned Charles Room for a very enjoyable repast. At 8 p. m., the Fathers gathered here and there for the informal discussions, announced for "after hours." The interest evoked by these symposiums has become so keen as to merit a formal listing on our convention programs. Four groups met on the evening of June 23rd to discuss current problems in Dogmatic Theology, Fundamental Theology, Moral Theology and in the teaching of College Religion.

Wednesday, June 24, 1953:

At 9 a. m., the President celebrated the annual Mass for our deceased members. At 10:00 o'clock the members assembled for the presentation and discussion of the major paper of the Rev. George W. Shea. This session was presided over by the Vice President, the Rev. Edward F. Sheridan, S.J., and is recorded in full from page 81 onward.

The first general session of the afternoon was devoted to a summation of the seminars of the previous day. The President then recommended that, out of consideration for those who were pressed for time, the usual intermission be waived and the business meeting open immediately. In form of a motion, this recommendation was approved.

BUSINESS MEETING

Administrative Reports:

The President voiced the appreciation of the Society at large and especially of the Board of Directors, for the painstaking and helpful work of the Committee on Current Problems. A full report of their recommendations, submitted at Washington, D. C., in November, 1952, will be found on page 189.

In the absence of the Very Rev. Thomas Plassmann, O.F.M., Chairman of the Committee on Admissions, the Secretary presented for the ratification of the House, the names of the candidates for membership approved by the Committee. By unanimous approval, forty-seven new members were inducted into the C.T.S.A. Their names and addresses follow:

Arthur, Edward R., 1725 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Bechler, Charles P., Borromeo Minor Seminary, Euclid Avenue and Bishop Road, Wickliffe, O.

Biad, Robert H., O.C.D., 2131 Lincoln Road, N.E., Washington 2, D. C.

Bliss, Gerard R., 95 Mill Street, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Bolté, Paul-Emile, S.S., 2065 Sherbrooke, West, Montreal 25, Canada.

Casey, William V., S.J., Boston College, Chesnut Hill, 67, Mass.

Chiodini, Jasper J., 5130 Wilson Avenue, St. Louis 10, Mo.

Connolly, Joseph M., 101 Church Lane, Pikesville 8, Md.

Donahue, John G., Bishop Dubois High School, 503 West 152nd Street, New York 31, N. Y.

Evelt, Lester J., S.J., 6525 Sheridan Road, Chicago 26, Ill.

Fabing, Charles J., Box 538, Deer Lodge, Montana.

Fichtner, Joseph A., O.S.C., P.O. Box 744, Hastings, Nebraska.

Gauvreau, Adrian, O.F.M. Cap, 1062 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Canada.

Gerencser, Stephen, S.P., P.O. Box 2096, Buffalo 5, N. Y.

Gratsch, Edward J., 5440 Moeller Avenue, Cincinnati 12, O.

Griffin, Michael, O.C.D., 2131 Lincoln Road, N.E., Washington, D. C.

Hill, Paul J., M.S.C., Sacred Heart Seminary, Shelby, O.

- Huntington, Christopher, St. Aloysius' Rectory, Great Neck, N. Y.
 Kemper, John, S.V.D., St. Augustine's Seminary, Bay St. Louis, Miss.
 King, William F., St. Joseph's Seminary, Yonkers 4, N. Y.
 King, William J., 53 E. Railroad Avenue, Ogdensburg, N. J.
 Kryger, Henry S., C.R., 3689 West Pine Boulevard, St. Louis 8, Mo.
 McCloskey, Kevin, C.P., 3800 Frederick Avenue, Baltimore 29, Md.
 McGinn, John T., C.S.P., 415 West 59th Street, New York 19, N. Y.
 McManus, William E., 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.
 Markham, James J., 183 Liberty Street, Lowell, Mass.
 Mohan, Robert P., S.S., 401 Michigan Avenue, N.E., Washington 17, D. C.
 Murphy, John F., Villa Madonna College, Covington, Ky.
 Nolan, John, 131 South Third Street, Mechanicsville, N. Y.
 Oechsler, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis J., 35- 60- 157th Street, Flushing 54, N. Y.
 O'Leary, Charles G., C.S.S.R., Mt. St. Alphonsus, Esopus, N. Y.
 Pesce, John Baptist, C.P., 3800 Frederick Avenue, Baltimore 29, Md.
 Pitts, Samuel R., S.J., Georgetown University, Washington 7, D. C.
 Reed, John J., S.J., Woodstock College, Woodstock, Md.
 Rozsaly, Francis, S.P., P.O. Box 123, North Evans, N. Y.
 Rudden, Peter F., S.A., Graymoor, Garrison, N. Y.
 Salm, Brother Celestine Luke, F.S.C., De La Salle College, Washington 18, D. C.
 Schalk, Richard J., Pontifical College Josephinum, Worthington, O.
 Schmitt, Myles T., O.F.M. Cap., 4121 Harewood Road, N.E., Washington 17, D. C.
 Siedlecki, Matthias E., 12 North Eighth Street, Lebanon, Pa.
 Simonitch, Roland G., C.S.C., Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, Ind.
 Staab, Giles J., O.F.M. Cap., 4121 Harewood Road, N.E., Washington 17, D. C.
 Sullivan, Jordan, O.F.M. Cap., Glencllyffe, Garrison, N. Y.
 Thielen, Thoralf T., Pontifical College Josephinum, Worthington, O.
 Tiffany, George E., Cardinal Hayes High School, 650 Grand Concourse, New York 51, N. Y.
 Van Croonenburg, Engelbertus J., C.S.Sp., Duquesne University, Pittsburgh 19, Pa.
 Walsh, Eugene A., S.S., 600 North Paca Street, Baltimore, Md.
 White, Myles T., Borromeo Minor Seminary, Euclid Avenue and Bishop Road, Wickliffe, Ohio.

The President, as Chairman of the Cardinal Spellman Award Committee, announced as the 1953 recipient of the Award, the Rev. Gerald Kelly, S.J. of St. Mary's College, St. Marys, Kansas. That the designation of Father Kelly met with hearty approval was well registered by the spontaneity of applause.

The Secretary reported that our annual, *THE PROCEEDINGS*, had been circulated among all members of the hierarchy of the U.S.A. He then appealed to the membership to continue their cooperation in enlisting new members for the Society, in patronizing our advertisers and when so doing, to make mention of their ads in our annual publication. Father McDonough concluded by emphasizing the appreciation of the C.T.S.A. to all who had so graciously extended the courtesy of publicity. The result has been a widespread interest in our conventions, as well as a marked increase in orders for *THE PROCEEDINGS*.

Father James Rea, Treasurer of the Society, gave a guardedly optimistic report on its financial condition, noting the crucial importance of inducting additional qualified members each year. He remarked that, although revenue from advertising in the *PROCEEDINGS* was of great significance, the substantial contribution must always be the annual dues of the members. He asked each of the members present to take with him one or more of the throwaways which he had prepared and to use it to arouse interest in the history and purposes of the society. He suggested that it would be a reasonable aim to have five hundred enrolled members by the time of the tenth annual meeting in 1955. A summary of the financial report, which shows a slight increase of some four hundred dollars over the previous year, will be found on page 183.

The President then made known the personnel of the standing committees for 1953-54. He explained that, in the case of the Committee on Research and Publications, and in that of the Committee on Current Problems, it is advisable to maintain the same membership, whenever feasible, for the ideal accomplishment of their work. The latter committee is chosen also on a geographical basis, to facilitate their meetings. For a complete list of C.T.S.A. officers, Board members, and committee personnel, please turn to page xxxi.

It may be added here that the Rev. John H. Harrington, Chair-

man of the Committee on Research and Publications, had given his report in each of the three seminar meetings on the previous afternoon. The report which concerns the Society's Union Catalogue project appears on page 184.

The President made known the request of the National Council of Catholic Learned Societies that, with a view to continuity of representation, each member society—including the C.T.S.A.—be represented by its Secretary. Msgr. Fearn mentioned that the officers of the Society had held several meetings in the New York City area to plan and organize the Baltimore convention. He then extended to the Rev. Aloysius McDonough, C.P., a tribute of congratulation and felicitation, on the occasion of his silver jubilee of priesthood. As spokesman for the many concerned, the President made public acknowledgment of our appreciation for the facilities for celebration of Holy Mass, provided by the Superior of Calvert Hall College; Msgr. Duggan, Rector of the Baltimore Cathedral; the Rev. Ferdinand Wheeler, S.J., Rector of St. Ignatius' Church; and to the Very Rev. James A. Laubacher, S.S., and the Rev. Edward J. Hogan, S.S., of Roland Park Seminary, who provided fourteen altars as well as servers in the air conditioned Charles Room of the convention hotel. The President then announced that the 1954 convention would be held in Montreal, Canada, June 28-30.

The President made known the receipt of a letter of commendation from Cardinal Pizzardo, addressed to the C.T.S.A. through the kind offices of His Eminence, Cardinal Spellman. The text of the letter, then unavailable, is herewith embodied:

SACRA CONGREGATIO Romae, die XXX m. maii a.D. MCMLIII
DE SEMINARIIS
ET STUDIORUM UNIVERSITATIBUS

Prot. Num. 720/48/8

Em.me ac Rev.me Domine Mi Obs.me,

gratias Tibi
rependimus plurimas ob folia typis impressa de coetu quem "The Catholic Theological Society of America" diebus XXII-XXIV proximi mensis iunii Baltimorae habebit, ab Eminentia Tua Reverendissima ad hanc Sacram Congregationem humanissime missa.

Vota precesque in Deum fundimus ut nuntiatum "Annual Meeting" optimae "Catholicae Theologicae Societatis Americae" uberimos fructus afferat tum ad fidem augendam tum ad mores secundum catholicam doctrinam restaurandos, praeunte studio et diligentia insignium Theologorum qui quattuor themata summi momenti illustrabunt, Seminariorum institutionem presse pertinentia.

"Statuta" ("The Constitution of the Society") laudatae Societatis, prout schemate proponuntur, prudenter sapienterque parata nobis videntur, vehementerque optamus ut, postquam ad ultimam perfectionem perducta fuerint, theologico studio universi Cleri Foederatarum Statuum Americae Septentrionalis summopere prosint.

Summa qua par est veneratione, Manus Eminentiae Tuae humillime osculor, prospera quaeque Tibi iterumque ardentissime adprecatus.

Eminentiae Tuae Reverendissimae

hum.mus ac dev.mus servus verus

J. CARD. PIZZARDO

Em.mo ac Rev.mo Domino

D. CARD. FRANCISCO SPELLMAN

Archiepiscopo

Neo Eboracensi

† C. CONFALONIERI, *a secr.*

The President submitted, for discussion and approval, the report of the special committee which had been set up to revise the Constitution and By-Laws of the Society. A revised text had been sent to each member, for his mature consideration, a month prior to the convention. The report was accepted without dissent. Since each member has received a mimeographed copy, the printing of the revised text will be reserved for the tenth volume of the PROCEEDINGS. For the sake of the record, however, the introductory section of the committee's report is published in this volume, and will be found on page 194.

The motion was made, seconded and carried that His Excellency, Archbishop Keough, be elected an honorary member of the Society. The President then requested the chairman of the Committee on Nominations to submit to the House the names of the officers and the new Board members to be nominated for 1953-1954. The follow-

ing slate was presented and, after due ratification by the assembled members, received into office:

President: The Reverend Gerard Yelle, S.S.

Vice-President: The Very Rev. Michael Murphy.

Secretary: The Reverend Aloysius McDonough, C.P.

Treasurer: The Reverend James E. Rea.

Members of the Board: The Right Reverend John M. A. Fearn, P.A.

The Reverend John F. Sweeney, S.J.

The Reverend Augustine P. Hennessy, C.P.

Monsignor Fearn invited the new President to adjourn the eighth annual convention of the CTSA, with the customary prayers of thanksgiving.

As an indication of the gratifying representation from the United States and Canada, we have listed (page 197) the names of all members in attendance. Without inflation, it can be stated that the 1953 convention was gratifyingly memorable.

ALOYSIUS McDONOUGH, C.P.,
Secretary, C.T.S.A.