

REPORT ON REGIONAL MEETINGS

Report of the Committee on Regional Meetings of the Catholic Theological Society of America, presented to the Annual Convention, Pittsburgh, June 27, 1962.

Since the last general meeting of the Society, five regional meetings have been held. They are as follows:

1. The New England region met on the 24th of November 1961, with the Rt. Rev. Lawrence J. Reilly presiding. A two section meeting, the late afternoon was highlighted by a paper by the Very Rev. Kevin O'Dougherty, S.S.C., on "The Institution of the Sacraments." St. John's Seminary at Brighton provided dinner for the members and shortly thereafter Rev. Raymond Baumhart, S.J., presented a paper on "Priestly Help for the Catholic Businessmen." The 85 members present joined in the lively discussion following each presentation.

2. The Fall meeting of the Baltimore-Washington area was held at Woodstock College, and featured the role of preaching in the modern world. The first paper was presented by Father John McGinn, C.S.P., on "Pastoral Renewal and the Ministry of the Word"; the second paper by Father John F. Dede, S.S., was entitled "What a Priest Must Preach About." Attendance was figured at 57, and the meeting was followed by a dinner provided by the College.

3. The Chicago region also held a Fall meeting, on 11 November 1961, under the chairmanship of Rev. Thomas W. Coyle, C.S.S.R. An effective joint meeting with the Chicago region of the Mariological Society of America was arranged. The session of the Theological Society was held in the morning and featured two papers: "The Humiliation-Exaltation of Christ on the Cross" by the Rev. Joseph Fichtner, C.S.C., and "Virtue and Mental Health" by Rev. Raymond Runde. This session, held in the Pick Congress Hotel in Chicago, was attended by about 50 members.

4. In the Cleveland area, the annual meeting was held in the Spring, on the 19th of March, and attracted about 40 members and again two papers were presented. At two o'clock in the afternoon

the meeting at St. Joseph's Seminary in Cleveland was addressed by the Rev. Frederick Hunnefeld on "A New Approach to Moral Questions." The second paper on "Current Biblical Studies: A Report and Criticism," was presented by Rev. William L. Newton, S.S.D.

5. The Spring meeting of the Baltimore-Washington area was held on the 4th of April at Holy Cross College in Washington. The papers were on the theme "New Points in Mater et Magistra," and were given by Father Patrick Gearty of the Catholic University and Dom Gregory Stevens, O.S.B., of St. Anselm's College. After the coffee break, discussion groups were formed in the area of fundamental, dogmatic and moral theology. Forty-five members were in attendance.

The Quebec-Ontario area did not hold a specific meeting since similar meetings are held under the jurisdiction of the Deans of the Faculties of Theology. It is hoped that soon they will hold the joint sessions with the Society. The Detroit area and the New York area did not think it feasible this year to conduct regional meetings.

By far the most successful of the regional meetings was that held in Boston. Msgr. Reilly seemed to achieve this result by arranging not only good speakers, but by choosing a time which is good for the members of the region. It would seem that the late afternoon and evening provide the best time for these sessions.

In each area we would hope the members would be active in expressing their desires regarding the selection of topics and speakers as well as for the time and place best suited for the majority of the members. For all those planning meetings in the coming year, I would recommend the topics suggested by the Committee on Current Problems, and would suggest the utilization of theologians who have not as yet made public contributions to the work of the Society. I extend my personal thanks for the excellent cooperation I have received from all of the regional chairmen.

Respectfully submitted,

EUGENE I. VAN ANTWERP, S.S.

Chairman

- Boston — Riley, Rt. Rev. Lawrence J.
- Chicago — Coyle, Thomas W., C.S.S.R.
- Cleveland — Costa, Francis D., S.S.S.
- Detroit — Hogan, Very Rev. Edward J., S.S.
- Montreal-Quebec — Brosseau, Richard P., S.S.
- New York — Rea, Very Rev. Msgr. James E.
- Washington-Baltimore — Van Antwerp, Very Rev. Eugene I., S.S.