MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

For the third time, the Catholic Theological Society of America convened in New York City for the purpose of its annual convention. This year was of special significance to the Society since we were meeting under the auspices of our benevolent friend and patron, His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, who was celebrating his 75th birthday and 25th anniversary as archbishop. Moreover, the New York World's Fair was an additional attraction.

The 19th Convention was formally inaugurated on Monday, June 22nd, at 2:00 P.M. with the meeting of the board of directors in the headquarters suite, Hotel Henry Hudson, New York City. The meeting was opened with prayer by the incumbent President, Msgr. Richard T. Doherty of St. Paul. The members of the board took up the business pertinent to the Society and plunged into the work of making arrangements for the 1965 Convention to be held in Denver, Colorado.

In the evening, registration began and the flow of members and guests to the New York Convention soon gave evidence that this would be the largest gathering of theologians in the two decades of our existence. Mass arrangements were set up in two rooms of the hotel and various meeting rooms were set aside for our convenience.

A new feature of the convention was the communal Mass celebrated by the President, Msgr. Doherty, in the Church of St. Paul the Apostle—the Paulist Fathers' Church—and an enthusiastic group of members joined in the prayers and hymns. Each morning at 8:00 A.M., this group assembled for the communal Mass and it became evident that each day's participants were steadily increasing in number.

At 10:00 A.M., the members assembled in the ballroom and the first general session of the convention was called to order by the President, Msgr. Doherty. It was announced that we would be de-

prived of the presence of His Eminence at this convention because of other commitments. His Eminence had asked Bishop John M. A. Fearns, one of his auxiliary bishops and a former president of the Society, to represent him. Bishop Fearns opened the convention with prayer and then addressed himself to the members.

His Excellency said that His Eminence asked him to convey the good wishes of the Archdiocese to the Catholic Theological Society of America and to bid them welcome in his name. Bishop Fearns then recounted Cardinal Spellman's interest in the Society from the early days of its formation and his awareness of every step in its development. More than this, he has manifested interest by offering material support and encouragement in our endeavors.

Bishop Fearns, speaking as a member of the Society and its onetime leader, reminisced on his own associations and confessed that he looked forward to the annual conventions as "the most pleasant

event of the year."

"The Society," His Excellency said, "contributes to the well-being of the entire Church. The bishops are the teachers in the Church, but they look to the theologians for help in problems that beset the contemporary world. . . . The bishops distill the ideas of the theologians in outlining the authoritative teaching of the Church."

His Excellency urged the members to participate in the discussions, since "debate, discussion, frankness and openness are signs of health within the Society; never has there been any indication of rancor or lack of charity." Such discussions, Bishop Fearns said, are part of the development of doctrine which lead to new insights into the truth.

Bishop Fearns concluded his remarks by renewing the welcome of His Eminence to our Society and asking God to bless our deliberations and keep alive the noble traditions of the founding fathers of our organization.

Msgr. Doherty thanked Bishop Fearns for his warm and personal message and asked him to convey to His Eminence our grateful thanks for his paternal interest in our endeavors.

The Vice-President, Father Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J., then introduced Msgr. Doherty who delivered the presidential address to the

assembled membership. The full text of this address is reproduced in the Proceedings.

Fr. Van Ackeren thanked the President for his message and then introduced the first speaker, Father Thomas F. Stransky, C.S.P., a member of the Secretariat for the Promotion of Christian Unity, whose paper was entitled "Theological Survey of Vatican II." The paper was well received and evoked an enthusiastic discussion afterwards.

The President called upon the Secretary, Father Vincent Nugent, C.M., to make some important announcements relative to convention plans. Fr. Nugent asked the delegates to watch the bulletin boards for important announcements and called their attention to the book exhibits presented by Sheed & Ward, Prentice-Hall, Priory Press, Herder & Herder, The New American Library, Desclée Co., Harper & Row Publishers, and Benziger Brothers, Inc. These exhibitors were invited by the Society. The Secretary then called attention to the following members of the Society who were called to their eternal reward during the past year:

Rev. Aloysius C. Kemper, S.J., West Baden Springs, Indiana

Rev. Francis L. B. Cunningham, O.P., Dubuque, Iowa

Rev. Vincent J. Keating, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

Rev. Gregory P. Stevens, O.S.B., Washington, D.C.

Very Rev. Msgr. Francis B. Concannon, Rockville Centre, N.Y.

Right Rev. Wladislaus J. Stanczak, Erie, Penna.

Rev. Gustave Weigel, S.J., Woodstock, Maryland

Right Rev. Msgr. Walter J. Furlong, Newton, Mass.

Right Rev. Msgr. Bernard T. Rattigan, Brighton, Mass.

Rev. Edward Wuenschel, C.Ss.R., Rome, Italy

Rev. Valentine Leitsch, C.P., Detroit, Michigan

According to our custom, Msgr. Doherty, our President, offered the communal Mass on the second morning of the convention for the happy repose of the souls of these departed members.

Fr. Nugent announced that the board of directors had set July 15th as the deadline for the submission of manuscripts of papers delivered at the convention for publication in the annual *Proceedings*.

Accordingly, Fr. Nugent asked for all manuscripts either before the convention concluded or as close to the deadline as possible.

At the conclusion of the morning session, Msgr. Doherty announced that the following guests of the Society were present at this convention:

Dr. Cyril C. Richardson, Dean of Graduate Studies, Union Theological Seminary

Dr. Roger L. Shinn, Dean of Instruction, Union Theological Seminary

Dr. Paul S. Minear, Yale Divinity School

Dr. John M. Krumm, Chaplain, Columbia University

Msgr. Doherty extended a warm welcome to these guests and the members gave them a spirited round of applause. The first general session then adjourned with prayer.

The members assembled on Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 P.M. for the panel discussion on "Freedom and Obedience" which was conducted by the Very Rev. Richard J. Murphy, O.M.I., of Washington, D.C., and the Rev. Donald Caul, S.A., of Brockton, Mass. The topic was expertly handled by the panelists and an animated discussion period was terminated only because of the time schedule set beforehand. Msgr. Doherty introduced Rev. John Whalen who made a report on the progress of the *New Catholic Encyclopedia*—a project which involves many members of CTSA.

After a brief intermission, the members separated into various groups to attend the six elective seminars outlined in the convention program:

- 1. The Meaning of Tradition, conducted by Rev. Wilfrid F. Dewan, C.S.P., Washington, D.C.
- Atonement and Scripture, conducted by Rev. Kenneth F. Dougherty, S.A., Graymoor, N.Y.
- Communicatio in Sacris, conducted by Rev. John A. Prah, O.C.D., Hubertus, Wisconsin
- 4. Directing the Lay Apostolate, conducted by Msgr. Joseph Spitzig, Cleveland, Ohio

- 5. Descent Into Hell, conducted by Rev. Bertin Farrell, C.P., Union City, N.J.
- Race Relations, conducted by Rev. Joseph T. Leonard, S.S.J., Washington, D.C.

At the termination of the seminars, the members joined together for a general session in the foyer of the Grand Ballroom for that most articulate part of the annual convention—the buffet supper. From observation and comments, it was evident that the members were pleased with the events of the first day of the New York Convention.

The second day of the convention commenced with the communal Mass celebrated at 8:00 A.M. in the Church of St. Paul the Apostle by the President, Msgr. Doherty, in memory of the deceased members of the Society. A large number of members were present and participated in the offering of the holy sacrifice; a great many others preferred to use the Mass facilities provided in the hotel as well as at the side altars of the Paulist Fathers' Church.

The entire day was devoted to a series of eight book discussions, thus enabling the members to attend any three such discussions of their own choice.

- Rabbi Abraham J. Heschel, Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, discussed, in the morning and afternoon sessions, his own book The Prophets.
- 2. Rev. John Meyendorff, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, New York, discussed, in the morning and afternoon sessions, his own book *The Orthodox Church, Its Past and Its Role in the World Today*.
- Rev. Avery Dulles, S.J., Woodstock College, Woodstock, Maryland discussed, in the morning and evening sessions, his own book Apologetics and the Biblical Christ.
- Rev. William A. Van Roo, S.J., Gregorian University, Rome, discussed, in the morning and afternoon sessions, Karl Rahner's work The Church and the Sacraments.
- The Very Rev. William J. Hill, O.P., Dominican House of Studies, Washington, discussed the work of Edward Schille-

beeckx, O.P., Christ, the Sacrament of the Encounter with God.

 Rev. Charles H. Henkey, Loyola College, Montreal, discussed Karl Rahner's book *Episcopate and Primacy*, in the afternoon and evening sessions.

 Rev. Maurice B. Schepers, O.P., Dominican House of Studies, Washington, discussed the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy

in the afternoon and evening sessions.

8. Rev. John B. Endres, O.P., St. Rose Priory, Dubuque, Iowa, discussed Yves M.-J. Congar's book *The Wide World My Parish: Salvation and Its Problems*, at the afternoon and evening sessions.

The final day of the convention, Thursday, June 25, commenced with a communal Mass celebrated at 8:00 A.M. in the Church of St. Paul the Apostle, by the Vice-President, Father Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J.

The members assembled for the general session at 10:00 A.M. which was opened with prayer by the President, Msgr. Doherty. The President then introduced the first speaker of the day, Rev. William G. Topmoeller, S.J., St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois, whose paper was entitled "World Council, Faith and Order on Unity of Doctrine." Considerable interest centered upon Fr. Topmoeller's theme and produced a spirited series of queries and observations.

The second paper of the morning was delivered by Rev. Owen W. Garrigan, Seton Hall University, South Orange, N.J., on the intriguing topic "Moral Problems Arising from Man's Intervention in Nature." The interest evoked by this study was evident in the endless number of members who desired to comment or ask questions.

Msgr. Doherty thanked both speakers of the morning and then announced that the business meeting of the convention would be streamlined as much as possible in order to contain it within the shortest period of time.

The President first called upon the Secretary for his report. Fr. Nugent told the members that his office had kept the members in-

formed of Society activities and especially in regard to the plans for the national convention. He mentioned that the volume of work involved in this office moved him to predict that, shortly, the Society would have to give serious thought to the possibility of maintaining a full-time secretary. The Secretary made a plea for the prompt filing of manuscripts for publication in the *Proceedings*. Fr. Nugent stated that he hoped to issue a revised edition of the *Directory of American Catholic Theologians* in the spring. In order that it provide the latest information, the members were asked to notify the Secretary of any significant changes in status, works, or addresses.

Bro. Luke, the Treasurer, then submitted a financial report of the Society which will appear in detail in the Directory. Msgr. Doherty asked that both reports be approved as read. The motion was carried unanimously.

The report of the Committee on Admissions was made by the Secretary, Fr. Nugent, in the absence of the Chairman, Msgr. Oesterreicher. The committee met during the convention and reviewed the applications for membership. The members of the committee recommended the acceptance of the following as Associate Members:

Rev. John J. Bonner

Rt. Rev. Francis X. Broschart

Rev. Richard Cassidy

Rev. Joseph M. Coyne

Rev. James J. D'Amato

Rev. Donald F. Diedrich

Rev. Louis J. Facchino

Rev. John M. Flynn

Rev. John J. Griffin

Rev. John M. Hamrock

Rev. John Gurski

Rev. Timothy M. Howard

Rev. John C. Kaseta

Rev. Joseph J. Mirandi

Rev. Charles R. O'Brien

Rev. Anthony F. Pease

Rev. Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P.

Rev. George J. Ryan

Rev. Heinrick M. Schulzki

Rev. Stanley A. Slawinski

Rev. Joseph F. Steliga

Rev. Eugene F. Marcone

Rev. Charles F. Kelly

The following applications for Active Membership were approved:

Rev	Elliott	B	Allen
Treat.	THUCK	v.	ANIICII

Rev. Florent R. Dumont, S.M.M.

Rev. Francis Dvornik

Rev. James P. Grace

Bro. Cosmas John, F.S.C.

Rev. John L. Hart, O.P.

Rev. Bernard Head

Rev. Walter W. Hiland

Rev. Victor J. Hoagland, C.P.

Rev. Rudolph J. Hrascanec

Rev. Raymond J. Kelly

Rev. William J. Kelly

Rev. William F. King, S.J.

Rev. Anthony R. Kosnik

Rev. Raymond Laflamme

Rev. Clifford J. Laube, S.M.M.

Rev. Anthony D. Lee, O.P.

Vy. Rev. Msgr. Paul Lenz

Rev. Paul J. Loeffler, C.M.

Vy. Rev. Msgr. Edgar McCarren

Rev. Marcellus A. McCartney, O.F.M.

Rev. Thomas M. McFadden

Rev. William C. McFadden, S.I.

Rev. Benjamin T. Mackin, O.Praem.

Rev. Anthony T. Massimini

Rev. James F. Meara, S.J.

Rev. Matthew M. Miceli, C.S.C.

Rev. Bernard Morisset

Rev. Francis J. Muller, O.F.M.

Rev. Thomas J. Naughton

Rev. Francis K. Nemeck, O.M.I.

Rev. Francis M. O'Connor, S.J.

Rev. Donald A. Panella

Rev. Augustine T. Patrick,

O.F.M., Conv.

Rev. Edward J. Penonzek

Rev. Robert Pfisterer, O.F.M.

Vy. Rev. Charles Pickar, O.A.S.

Rev. Owen Pollard, O.F.M.,

Conv.

Rev. Jerome D. Quinn

Rev. Robert K. Rice

Rev. Bernard Riegert, O.F.M., Conv.

Rt. Rev. Msgr. James T. Rogers Rev. Bernard Rooney, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Lorenzo Roy

Bro. Thomas J. Ryan, F.S.C.

Rev. Anthony J. Ryder

Rev. James R. Schaefer

Rev. John Sharvary

Rev. Joseph J. Shea, S.J.

Bro. Felix M. Shurkus, F.M.S.

Rev. Thomas G. Smith

Rev. Anthony Soklich, C.M.

Rev. Robert Stenger, O.P.

Rev. John Sullivan, O.P.

Rev. Robert S. Sweeny

Rev. Theodore Taheny, S.J.

Rev. Joseph J. Tennant

Rev. Hector Tessier

Rev. John V. Thomas, O.P.

Vy. Rev. Martin Tooker, C.P.

Rev. Joseph B. Wall, S.J.

Rev. John A. Weaver

Rev. George B. Wilson, S.J.

Msgr. Doherty asked that the motion of the Committee on Admissions be accepted; the motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

The Secretary noted that, during the past year, two members of CTSA were raised to new offices within the Church and that he had communicated the good wishes of the Society to the following:

Very Rev. Theodore Foley, C.P., newly elected Superior General of the Passionist Fathers in Rome, Italy.

Most Rev. William J. McDonald, Rector of Catholic University, newly consecrated Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, D.C.

In the absence of Fr. Alban Maguire, O.F.M., the President postponed the report of the Committee on Regional Meetings until a later convention.

Msgr. Doherty then announced the report of the Cardinal Spellman Award Committee which consisted of two former presidents, Fr. Ferrer Smith, O.P., Fr. Aloysius McDonough, C.P., and the incumbent President, Msgr. Doherty. With a great roar of approval,

the members acclaimed the 1964 recipient of the famed award, the Rev. Barnabas Mary Ahern, C.P., Professor of Sacred Scripture at the Passionist Fathers Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky. The citation, which was read by Msgr. Doherty, was composed for the occasion by Father Richard Kugelman, C.P., Union City, N.J. The citation reads as follows:

Father Barnabas Mary Ahern, C.P., has brought great honor to American Catholic biblical and theological scholarship. A peritus of the II Vatican Council and a member of the Secretariat for Christian Unity, he has addressed the hierarchies of the United States and of several other regions on some of the very crucial problems facing the Council. The clarity of his presentation, the profundity of his scholarship, the facility of his expression, the sincerity, apostolic warmth and humility of this truly dedicated priest and scholar have made a signal contribution to that renewal and aggiornamento for which Pope John XXIII of blessed memory convoked the Council.

Ordained in 1941, Father Barnabas did graduate study in theology and Sacred Scripture at the Catholic University of America. Upon receiving the Licentiate in Sacred Theology in 1943, he was assigned to teach Sacred Scripture in the Passionist Seminary in Chicago. Four years later he went to Jerusalem where he spent a year pursuing courses at the celebrated Dominican Ecole biblique. In 1948, the Pontifical Biblical Commission awarded him the Licentiate in Sacred Scripture and announced that he was the first candidate for the degree who had ever received a perfect score from all the examiners appointed by the Commission. Upon his return to the U.S., Father Barnabas, in spite of frail health, gave himself with amazing energy to teaching, writing, lecturing and preaching clergy retreats. In 1956, Father Barnabas returned to Rome to pursue courses at the Pontifical Biblical Institute. Two years later, after a brilliant defense of his thesis, Christian Participation in the Passion and Resurrection of Christ, he was awarded the Doctorate in Sacred Scripture summa cum laude.

Keenly interested in the ecumenical movement, Father Barnabas has participated actively in dialogues with non-Catholic scholars. He has won their admiration, affection and friendship. Father Barnabas has contributed many articles to journals of biblical and theological studies. For some years he was the biblical editor of Worship. It was owing chiefly to his inspiration, zeal and perseverence that the Liturgical Press launched the popular periodical, The Bible Today, which presents the positive meaning of God's inspired word and its relevance for the Christian life today. Father Barnabas' book, New Horizons, published last year, is already in its second printing. This collection of Father Barnabas' articles on Pauline theology has been acclaimed by reviewers, Catholic and non-Catholic, as an outstanding contribution to Christian theology.

The Catholic Theological Society of America is honored to name as the 1964 winner of the Cardinal Spellman Award Rev. Barnabas Ahern, C.P.

The time and place of the awarding of this honor upon Fr. Barnabas will be contingent upon the return to this country of Cardinal Spellman and Fr. Ahern after the third session of Vatican II.

Msgr. Doherty announced that the Board of Directors had authorized the drawing up of a scroll in honor of Cardinal Spellman who recently celebrated his 75th birthday and is observing this year the 25th anniversary of his appointment as Archbishop of New York. The scroll reads as follows:

THE CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA salutes

HIS EMINENCE, FRANCIS CARDINAL SPELLMAN

on the occasion of his 75th year of life and his 25th as Archbishop of New York. The Society desires to record its everlasting thanks to a generous and benevolent patron through the offering of fifty Holy Masses for his intentions.

signed: Right Rev. Msgr. Richard T. Doherty, President Rev. Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J., Vice-President Rev. Vincent J. Nugent, C.M., Secretary Bro. Celestine Luke Salm, F.S.C., Treasurer

Given at the 19th Annual Convention, The City of New York June 22-25, 1964 Because of the absence of His Eminence from New York due to the annual clergy retreat, Msgr. Doherty presented the scroll privately to the Cardinal at St. Joseph's Seminary, Yonkers, N.Y., on the final afternoon of the convention.

The President then called attention to the fact that the Secretary had notified the membership of two proposed amendments to the Constitution in his Spring newsletter. He called attention also to the fact that only active members may participate in the voting of these amendments.

Article II, Section 1, on Members read as follows in the Constitution:

Active membership is open to all priests who are or have been actively engaged in the promotion of studies and research in Sacred Theology, and to religious brothers who have attained at least the Licentiate in Sacred Theology from a Pontifical University; associate membership, to all priests who wish to identify themselves with the aims and purposes of the Society.

Article II, Section I, on Members shall read:

Active membership is open to all who are professionally competent in Sacred Theology and who are or have been actively engaged in the promotion and research in the sacred sciences. Professional competence, in this instance, is understood to mean the possession of at least the Licentiate degree in any of the sacred sciences from a Pontifical University or a Doctorate in any of the sacred sciences from a non-Pontifical institution of higher learning.

Msgr. Doherty allowed full and ample discussion of the proposed amendment in regard to active membership. Fr. Van Ackeren, S.J., explained the purpose of the amendment and asked for a vote. The amendment was duly seconded and accepted without any dissenting vote.

The second proposed amendment read as follows:

"It is proposed that, as far as the future is concerned, the Society abandon the designation of associate membership."

The President asked for discussion and comments on the merits of this amendment. It became evident that there was a general consensus that this amendment should be defeated, in view of the fact that many priests, working in parishes, regard their affiliation with the Society as a profitable contact with the best developments in the theological field which produces a healthy influence on their pastoral ministry. After much animated discussion, Msgr. Doherty asked for a vote on the amendment. The amendment was roundly defeated and declared so by the President.

Msgr. Doherty announced the resignation of the long-time editor of the *Proceedings*, Msgr. John H. Harrington, a member of the faculty of St. Joseph's Seminary, Yonkers, N.Y. The President expressed the thanks of the Society to Msgr. Harrington for his years of labor and interest in our endeavors. It was then announced that Msgr. James F. Rigney, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Research and Publications, and the Managing Editor of the *Proceedings* for the past five years, would assume the editorship of the CTSA's annual publication.

The President expressed the thanks of the Society to the following for their kindness and gracious help during the days of the 19th annual Convention:

His Eminence, Francis Cardinal Spellman, our host

His Excellency, Bishop John M. A. Fearns,

The various speakers and our invited guests,

The management of the Henry Hudson Hotel,

Msgr. George W. Shea, Rector of Immaculate Conception Seminary, Darlington, New Jersey, for his gracious loan of Mass facilities,

The Paulist Fathers, for the use of the facilities of their Church for the communal Masses and also private Masses,

Rev. James A. Brennan, C.M., for his masterful handling of publicity releases,

and finally to all the members of CTSA who had journeyed from far and near, and participated so intelligently in the discussions and other deliberations of the New York Convention.

The President then announced the Committee on Admissions for 1965, which consists of the following:

Rev. George F. Bardes, Chairman

Rev. Garrett F. Barry, .M.I.

Rev. Titus Cranny, S.A.

Rev. Jude Meade, C.P.

Very Rev. Francis P. Sweeney, C.Ss.R.

Rev. Joseph Cahill, S.J.

Rev. John Gallagher, C.M.

Rev. Louis-Albert Vachon

Rev. Charles M. Hughes

Rev. Vincent J. Nugent, C.M., Secretary, ex officio

Msgr. Doherty announced that the Committee on Nominations appointed by him and consisting of Msgr. George W. Shea as Chairman, Msgr. Joseph Spitzig and Very Rev. Augustine P. Hennessy, C.P., would make their report through Msgr. Shea. The Report was as follows:

President: Rev. Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J.

Vice-President: Rev. Eamon R. Carroll, O. Carm.

Secretary: Rev. Vincent J. Nugent, C.M. Treasurer: Bro. Celestine Luke Salm, F.S.C.

New Members of the Board of Directors: Right Rev. Msgr. Richard T. Doherty Rev. Bonaventure H. Schwinn, O.S.B. Very Rev. Msgr. Austin B. Vaughan

The President asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor; since there were no additions, he asked that a motion be made that the assembly accept the report of the Committee on Nominations. The motion was made, duly seconded and passed by acclamation.

Msgr. Doherty then presented the newly elected President, Fr. Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J., of St. Mary's College, St. Mary's, Kansas, who expressed his thanks for the election and promised to uphold the traditions established by his predecessors. He thanked all for attending the New York Convention and invited their attendance at the 1965 Denver meeting. Fr. Van Ackeren asked the retiring President, Msgr. Doherty, to recite the concluding prayer, and thus ended the 19th Convention of CTSA, the largest meeting to date, and one which established many precedents.

Respectfully submitted, VINCENT J. NUGENT, C.M., Secretary