

MINUTES OF THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The twentieth annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America opened with a meeting of the board of directors at 2:30 P.M. on Monday, June 21st, 1965, in the headquarters suite at the Brown Palace Hotel, Denver, Colorado. The meeting was opened with prayer by the incumbent President, Father Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J., St. Marys, Kansas. The following members of the board were present: Fathers Van Ackeren, Nugent, Carroll, Schwinn; Monsignors Doherty, Vaughan, Rea; and Brother Luke. Fathers Smith and Ziegler were absent.

The President called for reports from the Secretary and Treasurer. After these were submitted, attention was turned to the formulation of plans for the 1966 convention which will be held at the Hotel Sheraton Biltmore, Providence, Rhode Island.

Registration for the Denver convention began promptly at 6:00 P.M. A new feature was the entrusting of this aspect of the convention to the gracious aides provided by the Denver Convention Bureau. After they had registered, the members were directed to charts containing information relative to facilities which had been made available for celebrating mass in the hotel, at the Cathedral, and in Holy Ghost parish.

His Excellency, the Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, Archbishop of Denver, very kindly granted permission to members of the convention to concelebrate the holy sacrifice of the mass. Through the good offices of Father John Danagher, C.M., Rector of St. Thomas Seminary, Denver, and Father Francis Gaydos, C.M., the Onyx Room of the hotel was prepared for concelebration. Mass vestments were arranged on fifty chairs surrounding a large portable altar which graced the center of the room. Each morning at 7 and 8 o'clock, and again at noon, the members took advantage of this opportunity. A distinct sense of unity prevailed throughout the convention induced, no doubt, by the privilege of concelebration which was enjoyed for the first time at any of our annual conventions.

The first general session of the Denver convention was convened on Tuesday, June 22nd, at 10:00 A.M. and was called to order by Father Van Ackeren. Because Archbishop Vehr and Auxiliary Bishop Maloney were occupied with pressing diocesan business, Father John Danagher, C.M., was asked to invoke the blessing and guidance of the Holy Spirit upon our deliberations. Father Danagher then conveyed to our assembled membership the greetings and good wishes of Archbishop Vehr as well as his hope that we would have a successful convention. The Archbishop granted the faculties of the diocese to all priest members during the time of the convention and expressed his wish that our stay in his see would be an enjoyable one.

Father Van Ackeren thanked Father Danagher and asked him to convey to the Archbishop our gratitude for his great kindness to us and especially for the faculty of concelebration. The President noted that Archbishop Vehr had just celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination and the thirty-fourth anniversary of his episcopal consecration. According to our custom, honorary membership in CTSA was conferred on Archbishop Vehr. Father Danagher thanked the Society on behalf of the Archbishop.

Father Van Ackeren then proceeded to introduce to the general session the first speaker of the convention, the Rev. Kieran Conley, O.S.B., St. Meinrad Archabbey, St. Meinrad, Indiana, whose topic was "Liturgical Dimensions of Scriptural and Theological Studies." Father Conley presented his material within the allotted time of 30 minutes and then subjected himself to a barrage of questions provoked by his presentation.

Father Van Ackeren thanked Father Conley for his capable presentation and declared that the discussion was an indication of the profit derived from his labors. The President then called on the Secretary, Father Nugent, to make announcements pertaining to the convention and the appointment of rooms for the afternoon and evening sessions. The first session was declared adjourned at noon.

On Tuesday from 3:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M., the convention presented five elective seminars as follows:

1. *Methods of Teaching Theology in the Seminary*, conducted by Rev. Terrence Toland, S.J.

2. *Moral Problems of Middle Management*, conducted by Rev. Thomas F. McMahon, C.S.V.
3. *The Modernist Crisis Half a Century Later*, conducted by Rev. John Padberg, S.J.
4. *The Biblical Evidence for the Human Knowledge of Christ*, conducted by Rev. Raymond Brown, S.S.
5. *Christian Poverty*, conducted by Rev. William H. Maguy, O.P.

The seminars were well attended and evoked a great deal of discussion which carried over into the traditional buffet supper. There was general agreement that the first day of the convention was stimulating and profitable from many points of view.

The second day of the convention opened with concelebrated mass at 7:00 A.M. in the Onyx Room of the hotel. The principal celebrant was the Rev. Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J., the President, whose intention was for the repose of the souls of those members who had died during the past year and whose obituaries appeared in the latest issue of the Directory. A second concelebrated mass took place at 8:00 A.M. with Father Vincent Nugent, C.M., the Secretary, as principal celebrant. A third concelebration was scheduled for noon.

The morning sessions concentrated on book discussions and were as follows:

1. *Mary, Mother of the Redemption* by Edward Schillebeeckx, O.P., conducted by Rev. Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm.
2. *Nature and Grace* by Karl Rahner, S.J., conducted by Rev. Carl Peter.
3. *The Wisdom of Evolution* by Raymond J. Nogar, O.P., conducted by Rev. Raymond J. Nogar, O.P.
4. *Contraception and Catholics* by Dr. Louis Dupré, conducted by Rev. Felix Cardegna, S.J.

The membership assembled in the Central City Room for a general session at 11:15 A.M. and heard the presidential message of Father Van Ackeren on "Crises in Contemporary Theology." There was a most enthusiastic response to his address, the text of which is reprinted in this issue of the *Proceedings*.

The morning was concluded with announcements from the Secre-

tary relative to the afternoon symposiums and the plans for the ecumenical exchange in the evening.

The informal symposiums commenced at 3:00 P.M. and were as follows:

1. Fundamental Theology: Rev. Eugene M. Burke, C.S.P.
2. Dogmatic Theology: Rev. Robert E. Hunt
3. Liturgical-Sacramental Theology: Rev. Frank B. Norris, S.S.
4. Moral Theology: Because of illness, Father Richard McCormick, S.J., was unable to preside. Father Felix Cardegna, S.J., graciously agreed to continue his discussions from the morning session.

One of the highlights of the Denver convention was the ecumenical exchange which had been planned as the first open session in our twenty year history. Father Francis Gaydos, C.M., had previously entered into discussion with local ministerial groups and sought out a representative list of ecumenically-minded religious leaders in the Denver area. Invitations were sent to both Catholic and Protestant leaders and arrangements were made to hold the exchange in the ballroom of the Brown Palace Hotel. It was estimated that nearly a thousand persons jammed the facilities of the ballroom and entered into the spirit of the ecumenical exchange.

Father Van Ackeren opened the program by calling upon Dr. Robert McAfee Brown, Professor of Religion, Stanford University, to invoke a prayer upon our common deliberations. He then set the theme for the evening's discussions and introduced the two speakers, Dr. Brown and Father Daniel O'Hanlon, S.J., Professor of Fundamental Theology, Alma College, Los Gatos, California. Each speaker was allotted 30 minutes in which to present his ideas. At the intermission, cards were distributed among the audience so that questions could be asked of the speakers. The questions reflected a deep awareness of the significance of our first attempt to provide a forum for the ventilation of the issues that underlie the union of Christians.

The success of the ecumenical exchange was a source of gratification to the members of the Society and gave rise to the hope that future conventions may find similar outlets for such discussions.

The third day of the convention again commenced with the con-

celebrated masses. The membership assembled at 9:30 A.M. for a general session at which two papers were presented. The first was "Responsible Parenthood: A Philosophical View" by Father Robert O. Johann, S.J. The second was "Responsible Parenthood: Moral and Pastoral Aspects" by Father Damian Blaher, O.F.M.

After the papers had been read, a full hour was given to discussion of the points raised by the speakers. Father Van Ackeren noted that Dr. John Cavanagh, a member of the Papal Commission formed by Pope Paul VI, was present. He asked him to comment briefly on the morning discussion and to offer a few reflections on the problems related to the discussion. Dr. Cavanagh graciously obliged.

Father Nugent reported that his office continues to be a clearing house for the Society and establishes a center of unity. The Secretary reported that one of the fruits of the past year's labor was the issuance of the second edition of the Directory of the Society. The Secretary recommended that a project for the coming year could be the issuance of a cumulative Index of the twenty volumes of the Society's *Proceedings*.

The report on regional meetings was read by Father Alban Maguire, O.F.M.

The report of the Committee on Admissions was read by the Secretary of the Society who noted that all applications for membership were reviewed by the Committee with the following recommendation:

- 68 applications from priests for Active Membership be approved;
- 7 applications for Active Membership from laymen and laywomen be approved, in view of the June, 1964 change in the Constitution;
- 14 applications for Associate Membership from priests be approved.

The Secretary made the motion that these 89 applications be accepted and that the applicants be formally notified of their membership in the Society. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the assemblage.

The newly approved Active Members are:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Rev. Eugene C. Ahner, S.V.D. | Rev. George A. Kanoti, C.R. |
| Rev. Eugene Bianchi, S.J. | Rev. Sabbas J. Kilian, O.F.M. |
| Dr. Petro B. T. Bilaniuk | Rev. Matthew F. Kohmescher,
S.M. |
| Very Rev. Benedict M. Blank,
O.P. | Very Rev. Msgr. Ralph J. Kueh-
ner |
| Rev. Stephen L. Bohrer | Rev. Edgar J. Kurt |
| Rev. Anthony B. Brzoska, S.J. | Rev. Henry Lacerte, O.S.B. |
| Rev. Francis J. Buckley, S.J. | Rev. Thomas G. Langenfeld,
C.S.V. |
| Rev. Frederic M. Cameron | Rev. Robert Ledogar, M.M. |
| Rev. William D. Campbell | Rev. Walter C. McCauley, S.J. |
| Rev. Alfred J. Chiarolanzio,
M.S.Ss.T. | Rev. Conan R. McCreary,
O.F.M.Cap. |
| Brother B. Albert Clark, F.S.C. | Rev. Neal W. McDermott, O.P. |
| Rev. John F. Clarkson, S.J. | Rev. Joseph G. McKeon |
| Rev. Richard J. Cleary, O.S.B. | Rev. Martin J. McNulty |
| Mr. Alfred F. Corbo | Rev. Edward L. Maginniss, S.J. |
| Rev. John W. Cousins, C.P. | Rev. D. Andrew Maloney,
C.S.B. |
| Rev. Thomas B. Coyne | Rev. Cyrin F. Maus, O.F.M. |
| Rev. William J. Dooley | Rev. Boniface J. Meyer, O.S.B. |
| Rev. Augustine Dunnegan,
T.O.R. | Rev. Christopher F. Mooney,
S.J. |
| Rev. Elliott T. Egan, O.Carm. | Brother Gabriel Moran, F.S.C. |
| Miss Elizabeth Jane Farians | Rev. Edward D. Moretti,
P.S.S.C. |
| Rev. Robert T. Ferrick, S.J. | Rev. John P. Murphy, S.J. |
| Rev. Edward J. Fischer, S.J. | Rev. Vincent J. Murphy |
| Rev. Vincent J. Forde, S.J. | Rev. Thomas W. Nuelle, M.S. |
| Rev. James B. Flynn, C.P.S. | Rev. Edmund D. O'Neill, O.C.D. |
| Rev. Thomas F. Gavin, S.J. | Rev. Thomas J. Penn |
| Miss Cathleen M. Going | Rev. Leopold Protomastro,
O.F.M.Cap. |
| Rev. Zachary J. Hayes, O.F.M. | Rev. Denis W. Read, O.C.D. |
| Rev. John W. Healey, S.J. | Rev. George M. Regan, C.M. |
| Rev. William P. Heffernan,
M.M. | |
| Mr. Hamilton Hess | |
| Rev. Roderick R. Hindery,
O.S.B. | |

Rev. Emmanuel Roessler, T.O.R.	Rev. William J. Tobin
Rev. Ivan M. Rohloff, O.F.M. Conv.	Rev. Joseph N. Tylenda, S.J.
Rev. Patrick J. Ryan, S.J.	Rev. Gerard A. Vanderhaar, O.P.
Rev. Michael J. Scanlon, O.S.A.	Rev. William A. Varvaro
Rt. Rev. Abbot Leonard Schwinn, O.S.B.	Rev. Eugene J. Weitzel, C.S.V.
Rev. John R. Sheets, S.J.	Rev. Edward V. Wetterer
Rev. John J. Strykowski	Rev. Robert P. White, S.J.
Rev. John B. Thom	Rev. Harold J. Wilhelm, S.M.

The newly approved Associate Members are:

Rev. Dennis M. Andrews	Rev. Donald K. Lebrun, S.V.D.
Very Rev. John E. Baer	Rev. Daniel B. McMorrow
Rev. Martin F. Dillon	Rev. Peter L. Nolan
Rev. Philip E. Dion, C.M.	Rev. Daniel J. Pakenham
Rev. Lawrence R. Duffy	Rev. Michael R. Stauffer
Rev. Matthew L. Gaskin, O.F.M.	Rev. James H. Stewart
Rev. Thomas P. Kobuszewski	Rev. Anthony J. Vasaturo

The President called for a report of the Committee on the Cardinal Spellman Award. This report, in the form of a citation, was read by Msgr. Richard T. Doherty.

CITATION

The theologian chosen for the Cardinal Spellman Award this year has made memorable contributions in two areas of theology, both of which are of historic significance.

With the permission of the Holy Office he pioneered in intercredal dialogue when he brought eminent Protestant theologians to St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota, where he is professor of theology. In January, 1959, he was the first Catholic to address Minnesota's State Pastors' Conference.

It is in the area of liturgical renewal, however, that he is best known. For 25 years he has given leadership to the Liturgical Movement as editor of *WORSHIP* magazine.

He was one of the founders of the National Liturgical Conference and today is a member of its executive board.

He was one of five Americans asked to prepare the liturgical agenda for the Second Vatican Council.

He is a Council *peritus* and a consultor for the post-conciliar Commission on Sacred Liturgy.

The Catholic Theological Society of America has the honor to announce that Father Godfrey Diekmann, of the Order of St. Benedict, is the 1965 Cardinal Spellman Award winner.

The President called for a report of the Committee on Nominations, headed by Msgr. Lawrence Riley. The report is as follows:

for President: Rev. Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm.

for Vice-President: Rev. Paul E. McKeever

for Secretary: Rev. Vincent J. Nugent, C.M.

for Treasurer: Brother Celestine Luke Salm, F.S.C.

Board of Directors (for two years):

Rev. Willis J. Egan, S.J.

Rev. Augustine Rock, O.P.

Rev. Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J., *ex officio*

The President asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor; since there were none, he asked that a motion be made and seconded that we accept the slate proposed by the Committee on Nominations, which was duly carried out.

The incoming President, Father Eamon Carroll, O.Carm., was called to the podium and presented to the assembly. Father Carroll thanked the members for their vote of confidence in him and stressed that he would, with God's help, carry out the will of the Society and attempt to lead it along the successful path indicated by his predecessor.

Father Van Ackeren announced changes in the various committees to serve for the following year:

Committee on Admissions:

Chairman, Rev. Edward R. Callahan, S.J.

Rev. Laurence S. Vaughan, M.M.

Rev. Stanley J. Adamczyk

Rev. Bernard L. Marthaler, O.F.M.Conv.

Rev. Thomas G. Dailey
Rev. Philip A. Farley
Rev. Clifford J. Laube, S.M.M.
Rev. Roger E. Mazerath, S.A.
Rev. Vincent J. Nugent, C.M., *ex officio*

Committee on Research and Publications:

Editor of the *Proceedings*: Very Rev. Msgr. Daniel V. Flynn
Assistant Editor: Brother Celestine Luke Salm, F.S.C.

Committee on Current Problems:

Rev. Carl Peter, *Chairman*
Rev. John P. Whalen

Father Van Ackeren noted that, because of pressure of other duties, Father James Brennan, C.M., would no longer be able to be the Director of Public Relations for the Society. His resignation was accepted reluctantly. His successor will be Rev. Anthony M. McDonnell, Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington, N.Y.

Father Van Ackeren then noted that the Society is indebted to many individuals for the success of its ventures and especially for the annual conventions. He expressed the thanks of the Society to the following for their particular contributions to the success of the 1965 Denver convention:

His Excellency, Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, Archbishop of Denver,
our host,
Very Rev. John Danagher, C.M., Rector of St. Thomas Seminary,
Denver,
Rev. Francis Gaydos, C.M., Professor of Dogmatic Theology,
St. Thomas Seminary, Denver,
The various speakers and participants in the convention program,
Rev. James A. Brennan, C.M., Director of Public Relations,
The management of the Brown Palace Hotel,
The press, radio and television,
Members of the board of directors, and the members of the Society who came from far and near to participate in this convention.

Father Van Ackeren said that many comments had been made which indicated that the members considered the meeting eminently worthwhile. He asked God's blessing upon the Society and hoped that we would assemble one year hence in Providence, Rhode Island for the 1966 convention. He asked for a motion for adjournment and declared the 1965 convention formally adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
VINCENT J. NUGENT, C.M., *Secretary*