

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

The twenty-first annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America opened with a meeting of the board of directors at 2:00 P.M. on Monday, June 20, 1966, in the headquarters suite at the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel, Providence, Rhode Island. The meeting was opened with a prayer by the incumbent President, Father Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm. The following members of the board were present: Fathers Carroll, Nugent, McKeever, Rock, Egan; Monsignors Doherty and Vaughan; Brother Stephen Sullivan (in the place of Brother Luke Salm); also present were Fathers Carl Peter and Warren Reich.

The President called for reports from the Secretary and Treasurer. After these were submitted, discussion centered on the report of the Committee on Current Problems (explained by Father Carl Peter) and the format of the 1967 convention which will be held at the Pick Congress Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

Registration for the convention began promptly at 7:00 P.M. 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 St. Francis Chapel.

His Excellency, the Most Rev. Russell J. McVinney, Bishop of Providence, kindly granted permission to members of the convention to concelebrate the holy sacrifice of the Mass. Through the courtesy of Father Damian Myett, O.P., altars were set up in the hotel. The holy sacrifice was concelebrated at 8:00 o'clock Tuesday, at 7:00, 8:00 and 12:30 Wednesday, and at 7:00 and 8:00 o'clock Thursday.

The first general session of the Providence convention was convened on Tuesday, June 21, at 10:00 A.M., and was called to order by Father Carroll, who then presented His Excellency, the Most Rev. Russell J. McVinney, Bishop of Providence, who addressed the assemblage. Bishop McVinney extended greetings to members of the CTSA. He noted that this annual meeting was significant in that

it occurred so soon after the close of Vatican Council II. He likened the members of the CTSA to the *periti* of the Council. The theologians of the Church in America are the "experts" of the Church and profit the Church by their discussions and solutions to various problems which are of great moment today.

Father Carroll then thanked His Excellency and proposed him for honorary membership in the CTSA. There was unanimous approval by the membership present.

Father Frederick E. Crowe, S.J., was introduced by Father Carroll to the general session as the first speaker of the convention. Father Crowe's paper, on "Development of Doctrine: Aid or Barrier to Christian Unity?" was commented on by Father Martin Healy, Discussion Leader, who proposed several areas which he wanted to have clarified and developed more at length. (A new feature at this convention was the function of formal discussion leaders, whose twofold purpose was to initiate discussion on the papers and to keep a record of the discussion, for incorporation in the *Proceedings*.)

Father Healy thanked Father Crowe for his capable presentation. Father Carroll 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 2:30 P.M. until 3:45 P.M., the convention offered four elective seminars as follows:

1. *Separated Christian Churches and Communities in the Mystery of Salvation*, by Rev. Robert E. Hunt; discussion conducted by Rev. Roger E. Mazerath, S.A.
2. *The One Fruit or the Many Fruits of the Mass*, by Rev. Edward J. Kilmartin, S.J.; discussion conducted by Rev. Joseph R. Nearon.
3. *The Status of Scholastic Philosophy in Theology Today*, by Rev. Gerard A. Vanderhaar, O.P.; discussion conducted by Rev. Gerard Owens, C.S.S.R.
4. *Masturbation and Objectively Grave Matter: An Exploratory Discussion*, by Rev. Charles E. Curran; discussion conducted by Rev. Joseph J. Farragher, S.J.

From 4:00 P.M. until 5:15 P.M. the convention offered an additional three elective seminars as follows:

1. *Atheism*, by Rev. Anthony T. Padovano; discussion conducted by Rev. Carl J. Peter.
2. *Catholic Pacifism*, by Rev. Peter J. Riga; discussion conducted by Msgr. John E. Murphy.
3. *Biblical and Systematic Theology: The Basic Issues*, by Rev. David A. Dillon; discussion conducted by Rev. Richard Kugelman, C.P.

The seminars were well attended and evoked a great deal of discussion which carried over into the traditional buffet supper.

The second day of the convention opened with concelebrated Mass for the intention of the repose of the souls of those members who had died during the past year. The morning sessions offered the following elective seminars between 9:30 A.M. and 10:45 A.M.:

1. *Primacy in Collegiality*, by Rev. Eugene I. Van Antwerp, S.S.; discussion conducted by Rev. John P. Whalen.
2. *What is Christian Secularity?*, by Rev. Thomas E. Clarke, S.J.; discussion conducted by Rev. Eugene M. Burke, C.S.P.
3. *Theology and Natural Law*, by Rev. Paul E. McKeever; discussion conducted by Rev. Warren Reich, M.S.S.S.T.
4. *Moral Aspects of Problems of Inner City*, by Rev. Henry J. Browne; discussion conducted by Rev. Joseph T. Leonard, S.S.J.

The membership assembled in the Ballroom for a general session at 11:00 A.M. and heard the presidential address of Father Eamon Carroll, O. Carm. on "The Mother of Jesus in the Communion of Saints—Challenge to the Churches."

The business meeting followed immediately, presided over by the President, Father Carroll. Rev. Vincent J. Nugent, C.M. gave the Secretary's report, announcing at that time that he would not be able to continue in office as secretary. He noted that he was pleased to have served the Society in this role for the past eight years; the assembled membership acknowledged his service by a generous round

of applause. The Treasurer's report was made by Brother Stephen Sullivan, F.S.C., substituting for Brother Luke Salm, F.S.C..

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 recommendations:

- 57 applications for Active Membership be approved;
- 8 applications for Associate Membership be approved.

The Secretary made the motion that these 65 applications be accepted and that the applicants be formally notified of their membership in the Society. The motion was seconded and passed un-animously by the assemblage.

The newly approved Active Members are:

Active Members

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| Rev. Thomas E. Ambrogì, S. J. | Rev. Daniel F. Hickey, C.S.S.R. |
| Normand R. Beaudoin, M.S. | Rev. Ronald M. Ketteler, |
| Rev. Raymond P. Bertrand, S.J. | Rev. G. Jerome Knies, O.S.A. |
| Rev. Lionel A. Blain | Rev. Augustine M. |
| Rev. William C. Cenkner, O.P. | Kulbis, O.S.M. |
| Rev. Alcuin F. Coyle, O.F.M. | Rev. Aidan A. Licari, O.F.M. |
| Rev. John Delaney, S.S.S. | Rev. John E. Linnan, C.S.V. |
| Rev. Richard P. | Rev. J. Patrick Logan |
| Desharnais, C.S.C. | Rev. Edward J. Martin, C.M. |
| Joseph J. DeVault, S.J. | Rev. James J. McCann, S.J. |
| Rev. Richard J. Devine, C.M. | Mr. James F. McCue |
| Rev. Bernard N. DeVrees, C.M. | Rev. John E. McMurray |
| Rev. Dennis J. Doherty, O.S.B. | Rev. Harry J. McSorley, C.S.P. |
| Rev. Francis W. Dorff, O.Praem. | Rev. Edward J. Mally, S.J. |
| Rev. James J. Doyle, C.S.C. | Rev. Michael D. |
| Rev. Robert L. Faricy, S.J. | Meilach, O.F.M. |
| Rev. Peter D. | Rev. Charles R. Meyer |
| Fehlner, O.F.M. Conv. | Rev. Luke A. Miranda |
| Rev. James J. Flood | Rev. Joseph F. Mitros, S.J. |
| Dr. J. Massingberd Ford | Rev. James A. Mohler, S.J. |
| Rev. Arthur E. Hewitt, S.P. | Rev. Philip D. Morris |

Rev. David M. Murphy	Rev. Thomas P. Swift, S.J.
Rev. Charles W. Neumann, S.M.	Msgr. Ralph J. Tapia
Rev. James J. Neville, S.J.	Rev. John M. Toomey
Rev. John C. Opalek, M.S.C.	Rev. Joseph A. Travers, O.S.F.S.
Rev. William J. O'Shea	Rev. Kevin A. Wall, O.P.
Rev. Maurice A. Roche, C.M.	Rev. Emil C. Wcela
Rev. Nicholas Rosal	Rev. Mel M. Wesolowski, S.D.S.
Rev. Joseph G. Ryan, O.S.A.	Rev. Joseph M. Wyss, O.P.
Rev. Benedict V. Scarfia, O.F.M.	

The newly approved Associate Members are:

Associate Members

Rev. John P. Boles	Rev. Edward J. Hennessy, C.S.C.
Rev. Richard J. Butler	Rev. Francis A.
Mr. John C. Corrigan, Jr.	Lonsway, O.F.M. Conv.
Rev. John J. Geoghan	Rev. James T. McHugh
Rev. James F. Hawker	

The President gave the report of the Committee on Nominations. The report is as follows.

- for President: Rev. Paul E. McKeever
- for Vice-President: Rev. Walter J. Burghardt, S.J.
- for Secretary: Rev. Warren Reich, M.S.S.S.T.
- for Treasurer: Brother Celestine Luke Salm, F.S.C.

Board of Directors (for two years):

- Rev. Robert E. Hunt
- Rev. Maurice Duchaine, S.S.
- Rev. Eamon R. Carroll, O.Carm., *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 President then acknowledged as guest of the convention Professor Paul Ramsey of Princeton University, who was representing the American Society of Christian Ethics. A report was made by

Rev. James Coriden, representing the Canon Law Society. Father asked for the theologians' co-operation in a seminar to be sponsored by the Canon Law Society this fall on "Law and the Church." The report on regional meetings was read by Rev. Maurice Zeller, C.S.S.R., substituting for Father Alban Maguire, O.F.M.

Father John P. Whalen was called upon to make a report on the state of the New Catholic Encyclopedia, which should soon appear in print, and a new publishing venture entitled *Corpus Instrumentorum*.

Father Gerard Sloyan proposed that a resolution be adopted by the assembled members. The resolution reads:

Resolved that: The officers of this society, in conjunction with its Committee on Current Problems, be empowered to frame a resolution, which they will bring to the bishops of this country before their annual meeting in November, to the effect that the bishops corporately forego the process of previous censorship of books and articles in the interest of a more effective exercise of their pastoral office.

Father Thomas E. Clarke, S.J. asked that the Canon Law Society be urged to adopt the same resolution. Msgr. Joseph A. Spitzig moved that the discussion be closed; this motion was seconded and approved by the assemblage. The assembled members then approved, although not unanimously, the motion made by Father Sloyan.

Father Carroll announced changes in the *Committee on Admissions* to serve for the following year:

- Rev. William G. Topmoeller, S.J., *chairman*
- Rev. Warren Reich, M.S.S.S.T., *ex officio*
- Rev. Cyrin F. Maus, O.F.M.
- Rev. Elliot T. Egan, O. Carm.
- Rev. James Doyle, S.J.
- Rev. Maurice S. Zeller, C.S.S.R.
- Rev. George F. Kirwin, O.M.I.
- Rev. David A. Dillon
- Rev. Augustine McDevitt, O.F.M.

Father Carroll encouraged attendance at next year's convention

in Chicago, Illinois, and asked for a motion of adjournment. The annual business meeting adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

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

1. *Fundamental Theology*: Rev. Francis M. Tyrrell
2. *Dogmatic Theology*: Rev. William J. Hill, O.P.
3. *Liturgical-Sacramental Theology*: Rev. Gerard S. Sloyan
4. *Spiritual Theology*: Rev. Augustine P. Hennessy, C.P.
5. *Moral Problems in Business*: Rev. Thomas F. McMahon, C.S.V. and Rev. Richard Athey, O.P. (with the assistance of the National Conference of Christian Employers).

At 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, June 22, for the second time in the history of the Society, an open session was conducted in the form of an ecumenical exchange, under the title: "A Protestant Evaluation of Karl Rahner's Theory of the Sacramental Character of Holy Orders." Principal speaker was Dr. George A. Lindbeck, Professor of Theology at Yale University Divinity School. Because of illness, Father Paul F. Palmer, S.J., of Fordham University, was unable to address the gathering along with Dr. Lindbeck. Substituting for Father Palmer, Father Maurice Duchaine, S.S., made comments on Dr. Lindbeck's talk and entered into dialogue with him on the theology of orders. A goodly number of ecumenically-minded religious leaders from ministerial groups in the Providence area attended this open session in the ballroom of the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel.

The third and final day of the convention, Thursday, June 23, again commenced with the concelebrated Masses. The membership assembled at 9:30 A.M. for a general session, which was begun when 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 Father Eamon Carroll.

The Cardinal Spellman Award

The recipient of the Cardinal Spellman award this year is a theologian of great personal creativity who has made significant contributions in moral theology and spiritual theology, and who has also exercised his creativity vicariously by assist-

ing others in their theological work, often at the expense of his own time and work.

Ordained in 1931, and a Master of Sacred Theology, he has occupied high administrative positions in the Western Province of his Order and after what many would consider a significant contribution deserving of rest and leisure he then requested transfer to the English Province to continue scholarly activities free of the pressure of other duties.

He is the Associate Editor-in-Chief, with Thomas Gilby, O.P., of the English translation of the works of St. Thomas and worked in collaboration with his close friend, the late Gerald Vann, O.P. on a number of projects, including the book, *The Temptations of Christ*.

He has made a major contribution to the American Catholic theological enterprise by his outstanding work as the Editor for Moral Theology of the New Catholic Encyclopedia to be published later this year. In this capacity he has come in contact with most of the theologians of the world working in this and related areas. His own articles in the Encyclopedia are sound and often original insights into current problems.

He is presently a member of the editing team of *Corpus Instrumentorum* and will be Editor-in-Chief of an extensive one-volume theological dictionary scheduled to appear in 1969.

He has been a long-time member of the CTSA, and it is with great pleasure that we present the Cardinal Spellman award this year to the Reverend Paul Kevin Meagher of the Order of Preachers.

The first speaker at the general session was Brother Gabriel Moran, F.S.C., who read a paper entitled "Crisis of Faith and Youth," Rev. Conan Gallagher, M.S.S.S.T., Discussion Leader, made comments on Brother Moran's presentation and led the discussion which followed.

At 11:00 A.M. an additional inter-faith exchange took place when Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, National Director of the Interreligious Affairs Department of the American Jewish Committee, presented "A Jewish Reaction to Catholic Positions in Vatican II." Rev. Edward H. Flannery, Editor of *The Providence Visitor*, served as co-panelist and gave an address entitled: "The Church, The Synagogue, and the Ecumenical Movement." The questions and discus-

sion which followed manifested the success of an ecumenical exchange which was a source of gratification to the members of the Society.

Father Carroll thanked the speakers and all those who had contributed to make this convention a success. He asked for a motion for adjournment and declared the 1966 convention formally adjourned.