

SECRETARY'S REPORT

THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The theme of the convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America, held June 15-18, 1970, was *The Church*. John Cardinal Dearden, Archbishop of Detroit, welcomed the convention to the city. He emphasized the important work of the theologian in the Church during a turbulent period when new currents of thought, a new philosophical context, new instruments of interpretation, deeper insights into Sacred Scripture, and a deepening of scholarship challenge the theologian to perform well his function of plumbing the depths of the meaning of revelation for the Church of our times. The advances and retreats required in this theological era should not cause apprehension but confidence, if the hesitant probings of theology are seen for what they are, if the theological community works together with mutual critical appraisal, and if theologians and the faithful are prepared to pause and test ideas. Cardinal Dearden expressed confidence in the theologians' ability to let the process of scholarship advance patiently, that the deposit of truth which has come to us in Christ might flourish in our times.

Charles Curran acknowledged these words of welcome. Honorary membership in the society was conferred on Cardinal Dearden by acclamation, after the motion by Curran. Father Curran then introduced Alexander M. Zaleski, Bishop of Lansing and Chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Doctrine, with remarks on what he has done to promote dialogue between theologians and bishops. Bishop Zaleski's talk was titled, *How Can Theologians Best Serve the Ministry of the Church?* The remainder of the convention's first day was spent in celebration of the Eucharist, three meetings of each elective group and the traditional buffet supper.

The elective groups offered Tuesday afternoon were concerned with the following topics:

ELECTIVE GROUP ONE:

The Petrine Office in the New Testament, by Myles M. Bourke, Fordham University.

Conciliarism and the Petrine Office, by Robert E. McNally, Fordham University.

Collegiality of the Episcopacy and the Petrine Office in the Pastoral Mission of the Church, by Remi J. De Roo, Bishop of Victoria.

ELECTIVE GROUP TWO:

Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy in the New Testament, by Neil J. McEleney, St. Paul's College, Washington, D.C.

Why Orthodoxy in a Personalist Age? by David W. Tracy, Divinity School, University of Chicago.

Contemporary Understanding of the Irreformability of Dogma, by Avery Dulles, Woodstock College.

ELECTIVE GROUP THREE:

Does Morality Call for the Church? by Gregory Baum, St. Michael's College, Toronto.

Does Liturgy Call for the Church? by Kilian McDonnell, Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, Collegeville, Minnesota.

Does Faith Call for the Church? by Carl J. Peter, Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

Wednesday, the second day of the convention, began with a celebrated Eucharist. In the general session which followed, the entire convention heard prepared critiques of the three papers which had been delivered in each group the day before. The critiques were:

The Petrine Office in the Church Today, George Malone, Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois.

Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy in the Church Today: Need and Criteria, Gerard S. Sloyan, Temple University.

The Church Today: Its Necessity and Role, Richard P. McBrien, Pope John XXIII National Seminary.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the society took place at 11:45 a.m. Wednesday, June 17. The meeting was called to order by Charles Curran. Joseph Nearon was parliamentarian. The report of the Committee on Admissions was read by Warren Reich, who noted that all applications for membership were reviewed by the Committee with the following recommendations:

97 applications for active membership approved;

19 applications for associate membership approved.

Father Reich made the motion that these 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. Paul W. Alandt	Rev. Frederick J. Cwiekowski, S.S.
Rev. Stephen Babos, S.J.	Rev. Francis T. Danielsen, C.S.S.R.
Rev. Thomas V. Banick	Rev. Francis A. DeDomenico
Rev. Peter Beer, S.J.	Prof. Joanne E. M. Dewart
Rev. Schuyler Brown, S.J.	Rev. Daniel G. DiDomizio, O. Carm.
Rev. Alex J. Brunett	Rev. Jay P. Dolan
Sr. Elisabeth Bruyere, S.C.C.	Rev. Mark B. Dosh
Rev. Donald Wm. Buggert, O. Carm.	Sr. Marie C. Egan, I.H.M.
Rev. John E. Burkhart	Rev. Francis A. Eigo, O.S.A.
Rev. Thomas W. Charbeneau, S.J.	Rev. Stephen S. Feehan
Rev. Mark J. Ciganovich, O. Carm.	Rev. Hugh B. Feiss, O.S.B.
Rev. Francis R. Colborn	Rev. David T. Fisher, S.J.
Rev. Gerard W. Conway	Rev. Martin T. Geraghty
James A. Coriden	Lowell M. Glendon
Rev. Raymond C. Corriveau, C.S.S.R.	Rev. Thomas J. Green
Rev. Frank V. Courneen, S.J.	Rev. Charles W. Gusmer
Rev. Thomas E. Crane	Rev. Stephen P. Happel
	Rev. Robert P. Hart, S.J.

- Rev. Julius Hejja, S.J.
 Rev. Alfred T. Hennelly, S.J.
 Rev. John S. Hooper
 Rev. Jan J. de Jong, S.C.J.
 Rev. Norman F. Josaitis
 Rev. Philip S. Keane
 Rev. Donald J. Keefe, S.J.
 Rev. Joseph T. Keely, O.F.M.
 Rev. Bernard L. Keitz, O.P.
 Rev. Francis D. Kelly
 Rev. Nathan R. Kollar,
 O. Carm.
 Rev. Joseph Komonchak
 Rev. James E. Kraus
 Rev. Frederick J. Krause,
 O.F.M. Cap.
 Rev. Joseph M. Kuntz, S.J.
 Mr. Robert E. Larkin
 Bro. Robert T. Laube, F.S.C.
 Rev. Joseph E. Lazur, C.P.P.S.
 Dr. Noel Lazure
 Rev. Robert F. Leavitt
 Rev. Thomas G. Lenhard
 Rev. William J. Levada
 Dr. Eleanor V. Lewis
 Rev. Kevin E. Mackin, O.F.M.
 Rev. Donald L. Magnetti, S.J.
 Rev. Paul J. Maher, S.J.
 Rev. Richard E. Mandeville
 Rev. Michael R. Maras
 Msgr. Anthony A. Milia
 Rev. Giovanni A. Montanari
 Sr. Mary J. Mullins, O.P.
 Bro. Timothy G. McCarthy,
 F.S.C.
 Bro. Thomas McGowan, F.S.C.
- Rev. Robert E. McLaughlin
 Rev. Martin J. McManus
 Dr. Francis W. Nichols
 Rev. John J. Nijenhuis,
 O. Carm.
 Rev. Christian R. Oravec,
 T.O.R.
 Rev. Kenan B. Osborne, O.F.M.
 Rev. Frederick W. O'Brien
 Sr. Joan V. O'Brien
 Thomas G. O'Callaghan, S.J.
 Rev. Thomas M. O'Leary
 Rev. John E. Pattantyus,
 Sch. P.
 Rev. Anthony Petani
 Rev. William W. Philbin
 Mr. John E. Price
 Rev. Brendan C. Rosendall,
 O.F.M. Conv.
 Rev. Theodore Rutkowski
 Bro. Thomas J. McK. Ryan,
 F.S.C.
 Rev. Eugene Matthew Rzezkowski,
 O.P.
 Rev. John Stuart Sandberg
 Rev. Thomas L. Schubeck, S.J.
 Rev. Donald P. Senior, C.P.
 Rev. Daniel F. Sinisi, T.O.R.
 Rev. Paul K. K. Tong
 Rev. William R. Tuyn
 Rev. Arthur A. Vogel
 Rev. John G. Vrana
 Rev. John A. Walsh
 Rev. Robert J. Werenski
 Rev. John R. Wright

The newly approved associate members are

Rev. Tod D. Brown	Rev. Daniel A. Pokornowski
Rev. Ronald Demski, T.O.R.	Rev. Frank Ponce
Rev. Henry J. Doherty	Rev. Lawrence P. Purcell
Rev. Timothy K. Johnson	Rev. Julio Rivero, T.O.R.
Rev. Charles J. Kelley	Rev. Edward H. Schott, T.O.R.
Rev. Camillus Kleuber, T.O.R.	Rev. Gary Schouborg, S.J.
Rev. David Kraeger, T.O.R.	Rev. Paul R. Vassar
Rev. Robert E. Lauder	Rev. Cletus M. S. Watson, T.O.R.
Rev. Richard B. Ling	
Rev. Louis McIntyre, T.O.R.	Rev. Fidelis Weber, T.O.R.

Brother Luke Salm chaired that portion of the meeting in which the proposed amendment of the Constitution and By-Laws of the society, as reported by the Committee on the Constitution, was approved, following a motion to this effect by John L. Kelly, a second by Joseph Farraher and unanimous voice approval. The amended Constitution and By-Laws were unanimously approved.

Father Charles Curran announced that, according to the new Constitution, Reverend Richard A. McCormick, S.J. is the new president. No further nominations being made, after the announcement of nominations for vice-president by the Committee, nominations were closed. Carl J. Peter was elected by 72 ballots. Father Curran expressed the gratitude of the society to Warren Reich for four years of service as secretary. Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M., was unanimously elected by a voice vote to succeed Father Reich. No further nominations being made, the nominations for treasurer were declared closed and Philip D. Morris was elected by a unanimous voice vote. Father Curran paid tribute to the outgoing board members: Walter J. Burkhardt, George Dyer and Thomas E. Clarke. Avery Dulles, S.J. was elected to the board by 71 ballots on the first balloting; Richard P. McBrien was elected a board member by 54 votes on the third ballot. In a final statement from the nominating committee, Brother Luke Salm was unanimously elected to complete one year of the unexpired two-year term of Agnes Cunningham as member of the board.

Brother Luke Salm gave the annual Treasurer's Report (see below). Warren Reich, as *ex officio* member of the executive committee of the CSR, reported on the activities and plans of the Council on the Study of Religion. During the past year, the 1972 Congress in Los Angeles has been the subject of discussion and programming. Warren Reich reported his election as secretary of the CSR. He also acted as contributing editor to the CSR BULLETIN from the CTSA while he served as its secretary. Efforts will be made by the CSR to improve reviews of scholarly works in the study of religion. Our own Society will soon benefit from the computerized membership lists of the member societies of the CSR, with policies made by the CSR to govern the selling of joint mailing lists.

Charles Curran reported on the CTSA Committee on Liaison with the Bishops' Committee on Doctrine. The newly-constituted Committee consists of Richard A. McCormick (President), Carl J. Peter (Vice-President), Agnes Cunningham (Secretary) and Philip D. Morris (Treasurer), along with any other members chosen at the discretion of the president. Reports were also given by the out-going president on several important task forces operating in the society: 1) *Metropolis: Christian Presence and Responsibility*, a symposium sponsored by the CTSA in May 1970; 2) The CTSA study project on shared responsibility in the local Church, requested by the National Federation of Priests' Councils; 3) A study project on the permanent diaconate, requested by the Bishops' committee on that subject.

A report was made on the activities of the Baltimore-Washington regional meetings during 1969-70. The assembled members gave a vote of thanks to Father Leonard Foisy, S.S., liaison man for the Detroit convention, and to Father Alfred C. Rush, C.S.S.R., for arranging and preserving the important documents of the Society in his capacity as its archivist.

A report from Kilian McDonnell, O.S.B., informed the members about the Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research at Collegeville, Minnesota. Although no courses or degrees are offered at this center, scholars are invited to engage in dialogue and research according to their projects and interests.

David J. Bowman, S.J., special assistant to the general secretary for ecumenical services, gave a report on the National Council of Churches and proposed activities which may call for participation of the CTSA. Father Bowman announced the Second North American Conference on Faith and Order, to be held in 1972. Announcement was also made of the Irish School of Ecumenics, beginning this year in Dublin, under the direction of Father Michael Hurley, S.J.

Father Charles Amico submitted a motion concerning the problem of English translation of theological works from other languages, commending or discouraging, appropriately, the practice of publishing houses regarding disclosure of the date of the original publication. The proposal was seconded by Earl Weis and unanimously approved.

The business meeting was adjourned.

CONVENTION PROGRAM CONTINUED

During the afternoon of Wednesday, June 17, eight discussion seminars were held on the following topics: *Original Sin*, led by Joseph A. Komonchak of St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie, N.Y.; *The Black Manifesto*, Vincent M. Burns of Fairfield University, Connecticut; *Theology of the Vows in Religious Life Today*, Carol Frances Jegen, Mundelein College, Chicago; *Ecumenical Opportunity for American Theologians Today*, David J. Bowman, National Council of the Churches of Christ; *Presence or Absence of the Risen Lord in the World*, Charles H. Henkey, Loyola College of Montreal; *Pastoral Practice and Divorce*, John R. Connery, Bellarmine School of Theology, Illinois; *Gilkey's "Naming the Whirlwind"* led by William J. Hill, Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C.; *Virginity*, J. Massingberd Ford, University of Notre Dame.

The evening session consisted of group meetings in which discussion took place among group participants led by panels of speakers and respondents, based on Tuesday's program.

Following the concelebrated Eucharist on Thursday morning, further discussion seminars were held following the Wednesday afternoon pattern: *An Interpretation of Rahner on Grace: Shepherd's "Man's Condition: God and the World Process"*, Michael J. Scanlon,

Washington Theological Coalition; *The Problem of the Origin of the Church in Hans Küng*, Arthur C. Cochrane, Dubuque Theological Seminary; *Dewart's "Foundations of Belief"* led by Maurice C. Duchaine, St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore; *Violence in American Society*, Daniel C. Maguire, Catholic University of America; *Con's "Black Theology and Black Power"* directed by Joseph R. Nearon, John Carroll University, Cleveland; *Theology of Prayer Today*, Mark Dosh, St. Paul Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota; *Moltmann's "Theology of Hope"* by John H. Wright, Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley; *A Theological Critique of the new Eucharistic Canons*, Thomas G. Lenhard, St. Bernard Seminary, Rochester.

At 11:30 a.m., Richard A. McCormick introduced President Charles Curran, paying tribute to the out-going president's leadership in stimulating progress, in being in the middle of things, in being typically American, a devoted and competent scholar, a devoted priest.

In his presidential address, Father Curran spoke of the future of Roman Catholic theology as a discipline and pointed out the way in which this theology can best serve the Church in the future.

It was then announced that next year's convention will be held in Baltimore and will focus on the theological dimensions of the American experience.

Before adjourning the 1970 convention, Father Curran announced that the Committee on the Cardinal Spellman Award had selected Rev. Avery Dulles, S.J., of Woodstock College, New York City, to be honored as the outstanding theologian of the year.

Citation for the Cardinal Spellman Award

The man we honor today is a theologian's theologian. For the past decade he has been teaching, lecturing and writing with a rare excellence, a tribute to the fact that his theological thought has been fashioned out of many more years and much more experience than a mere decade of academic service. The sheer volume of his work frightens and discourages his professional colleagues. But when combined with his selfless and charming modesty, his productivity has the effect of a delightful challenge and inspiration.

But it is the quality of his achievement which is uncom-

mon. Our awardee has wedded a profound knowledge of biblical and patristic sources with a wide range of systematic subjects in a way that both informs theologians and attracts and comforts the modern mind.

Seven books and countless articles later, the Christian world now realizes that the qualities of this work are the qualities of the man himself. His work is stamped with the same courage that gained him the *Croix de Guerre* in 1945; with the same openness that makes him a prized member in ecumenical discussions across the country and an obvious choice as consultant to the Papal Secretariate for Dialogue with Non-Believers; with the same perspective and foresight in human affairs that finds him on the Board of Trustees at Fordham University; with the same prudence, clarity, and pastoral concern that invites him to state his theological insights and syntheses in journals of opinion such as *America* and to a whole variety of non-professional audiences; with the same breadth that suggests his membership on the Advisory Council of the United States Catholic Conference; with the creativity and thoughtfulness of the man himself. It is these qualities in combination which one sees in *Apologetics and the Biblical Christ* and *The Dimensions of the Church*, and which one anticipates eagerly in the forthcoming *The Survival of Dogma* and *A History of Apologetics*. It is these qualities of the man and his work which render him a prime prospect for honorary degrees, a process that has already begun.

And it is the constant experience of these qualities that leads the Catholic Theological Society of America proudly to regard it as a "testimonial to grace" to select as the outstanding theologian of the year and the recipient of the Cardinal Spellman Award, Avery Dulles, S.J.

AGNES CUNNINGAM, S.S.C.M., *Secretary*
St. Mary of the Lake Seminary
Mundelein, Ill.