

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The twenty-seventh annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America was held in conjunction with the International Congress of Learned Societies in the Field of Religion, 1-5 September, 1972, at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, California.

On Friday evening, 1 September, at 7:00 P.M., an orientation session was held for CTSA members. President Carl J. Peter welcomed those present and introduced the Most Reverend Timothy Manning, Archbishop of Los Angeles. In his brief address, Archbishop Manning stressed the need for faith in the work of theology, basing his admonition on the duties attributed to a bishop in the letter of Paul to Titus. Following Archbishop Manning, Raymond E. Brown, S.S., president of the Catholic Biblical Association, addressed a few words to the assembly. President Carl J. Peter and Treasurer Philip D. Morris then communicated points of helpful and necessary information regarding the Congress to CTSA members.

CTSA CONVENTION PROGRAM

CTSA participation in the 1972 CSR Congress included the following sessions:

Saturday, 2 September, 9:00—10:00 A.M.: Congress General Session. Carl J. Peter, President, CTSA, presiding.

Plenary Address: *Christian Humanism*, Walter Kasper, University of Tübingen.

10:45—12:00 Noon: *Grace, Theologizing, and the Humanizing of Man*, Piet Fransen, Catholic University of Louvain. Reactors were Harry J. McSorley, St. Michael's College, Toronto and Francis R. Colburn, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo.

3:00—4:30 P.M.: (Co-sponsored with College Theology Society) Carl J. Peter, Catholic University, presiding. *The Revolution in Catholic Theology*, by Bernard J. F. Lonergan.

- gan, Regis College, Toronto. Reactors were Austin B. Vaughan, St. Joseph Seminary (CTSA) and William E. Murnion, Newton College of the Sacred Heart (CTS).
- Sunday, 3 September, 7:30 A.M.: CTSA Convention Mass.
- 10:45—12:00 Noon: Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M., Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary, presiding. *The Unity of the Gospel and the Variety of the Canon*, Richard J. Dillon, St. Joseph Seminary. Reactors were J. Warren Holleran, St. Patrick's Seminary (absent, due to illness) and Raymond E. Brown, S.S., Union Theological Seminary and Woodstock College.
- 2:00—3:30 P.M.: *Christian Prayer and the Humanizing Experiences*, J. Massingberd Ford, University of Notre Dame. Reactors were Jerome Theisen, O.S.B., St. John's University, Collegeville and Thomas Clarke, S.J., Woodstock College.
- 3:45—5:15 P.M. (Co-sponsored with CTS) Francis J. Buckley, University of San Francisco, presiding. *Church Law and the Humanizing of Man*, John T. Noonan, Jr., University of California at Berkeley. Commentators were Frederick R. McManus, Catholic University (CTSA) and Daniel C. Maguire, Marquette University (CTS).

BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the CTSA was held at 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, 2 September, 1972. President Carl J. Peter called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report

Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M., reported briefly on the activities of the past year. The 1972 *Directory* has recently been mailed to all members. Because of the delayed publication of this directory, a corrected supplement is being seriously considered before a new directory is planned.

Members were urged to follow CTSA entries in the *CSR Bulletin*, now appearing five times annually.

Associate members who complete their doctoral degree are asked to send this information, with application for active membership, to the Secretary's Office.

Correspondence in default, due to the summer activities, should be followed through, if not regulated within the next few weeks.

The report from the Admissions Committee included three recommendations: 1) the election to active membership of thirty-one candidates; 2) the election to associate membership of fifteen candidates; 3) that the Board of Directors, through the President, consult CTSA members regarding an amendment to the Constitution in what concerns norms for the admission of candidates to associate membership. Recent changes in curriculum and degree title in schools of theology suggest the need for a recognition of equivalence of degree at the level of the pontifical licentiate.

The following applicants were admitted to active membership:

José A. Amo, C.M.
William W. Bassett
Anne E. Carr, B.V.M.
John J. Carey
Joseph W. Devlin
Benoît Drapeau, C.J.M.
Daniel O. Dugan
Francis P. Fiorenza
John P. Galvin
Edward Glynn, S.J.
Nicholas Halligan, O.P.
Richard A. Hill, S.J.
Wilma C. von Jess
Mary Margaret Johanning,
S.S.N.D.
David P. Killen
William D. Lynn, S.J.
Raymond A. Lucker
Theodore J. Mackin, S.J.
Stephen J. Mangan
Thomas P. Mallaghan, S.M.

John H. McKenna, C.M.
Eric C. Meyer, C.P.
Ronald E. Modras
Michael M. Montague, S.J.
Donald C. Mouton, F.S.C.
John T. Pawlikowski, O.S.M.
Victor J. Pospishil
Bernard Donald Quinn, G.M.
John Radano
Antoninus A. Wall, O.P.

The following applicants were admitted to associate membership:

Raymond A. Balta
Robert J. Daly, S.J.
Daniel E. Danielson
William P. Dillon, S.A.
Margaret A. Farley, R.S.M.
Juan J. Garcia, C.R.
Donald L. Jones
Geffrey B. Kelly, F.S.C.
Thomas L. Knoebel
Patrick J. O'Brien, C.S.S.R.
Donald E. Pelotte, S.S.S.
Mary T. Rattigan, C.S.J.
John F. Russell, O. Carm.
Sandra M. Schneiders, I.H.M.
Arthur Serratelli

Report of the Nominating Committee

Brother C. Luke Salm, F.S.C., Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented to the Board of Directors a recommendation that the procedure for the nomination of candidates be studied in view of revision, to promote a more effective fulfillment of the mandate assigned to the Nominating Committee.

The following candidates were presented in nomination to the members: *For Vice-President*: Richard McBrien; Harry McSorley;

For Secretary: Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M.; *For Treasurer:* Philip D. Morris; *For Board Members:* Thomas Dailey; Thomas O'Meara, O.P.; Kenan Osborne; Jerome Theisen, O.S.B. Candidates elected were: *Vice President:* Richard McBrien; *Board members:* Thomas Dailey and Thomas F. O'Meara, O.P.; *Secretary:* Agnes Cunningham, S.S.C.M.; *Treasurer:* Philip D. Morris. (John H. Wright, S.J., automatically succeeds to the office of President.)

Treasurer's Report

Philip D. Morris, Treasurer, reminded members that, according to CTSA Constitutions, Article II, no. 5, failure to pay annual dues during three consecutive years effects disassociation from the society.

The 1973 Convention will be held in mid-June at the Commodore Hotel in New York City.

The 1974 Convention site, to be located in the mid-West, is still to be determined.

CSR Report

Dr. Warren T. Reich who, together with Rev. Gerald Van Ackeren, S.J., is CTSA delegate to the CSR as well as Secretary to that Council, reported on the state of the CSR and on CTSA affiliation with it.

The newly-located CSR Service Center has been opened at Waterloo Lutheran University in Waterloo, Ontario. Norman E. Wagner is Executive Director.

Support for CSR comes from each constituent member society, based on a *per capita* tax.

Activities and services of CSR include:

1. The 1972 International Congress, organized under the auspices of CSR and sponsored by the American Council of Learned Societies and Claremont College;
2. The Welch Report;
3. The Task Force Report on Research and Scholarly Publications in Religion;
4. The *Bulletin*, reaching 10,000 members of constituent societies, five times each year;

5. The Academic Referral Office, maintained by the Cooperative College Registry, Washington, D.C.

Robert Wright is Director of Religious Studies for CSR.

Questions for future exploration include the possibility of joint membership in member societies and that of joint subscription to journals of several member societies.

Actions of Officers and Board of Directors

President Carl J. Peter reported the activities of the officers and board members since the June, 1971 convention:

1. Research Committees:

Three research committees were established to deal with the theological and pastoral aspects of certain current critical questions:

- a. Committee on Bilateral Conversations—Chairman, Avery Dulles, S.J.
- b. Committee for Pastoral Ministry for Divorce and Remarriage—Chairman, John R. Connery, S.J.
- c. Commission on Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Hospitals—Chairman, Warren T. Reich.

A progress report was submitted by each chairman at the time of the November 1971 Board of Directors' meeting. The final report from each committee was presented to the Board this summer.

President Carl J. Peter communicated the following resolution to the members:

At the business meeting of September 1st, the Board of Directors of the Catholic Theological Society of America voted unanimously to:

- a) accept the reports of the Dulles, Connery, and Reich Committees without expressing agreement or disagreement with the contents;
- b) express gratitude to the chairmen and committee members for the work they have performed for the Society;
- c) publish the three reports in the *Proceedings* for 1972, with the approval of the chairmen;
- d) encourage independent publication as well for a wider audience in view of the purpose of the studies;

- e) welcome and encourage reactions from the members of the CTSA on these reports;
- f) provide a forum for these reactions at the 1973 Convention of the Society in New York;
- g) publish this resolution for the information of the members—this in the *Proceedings* of 1972.

2. Goals of Society:

The on-going work of the society is understood as an effort to present a scholarly, theological voice, expressing the Roman Catholic position, reflection and/or evaluation on questions in the public forum. In keeping with this objective, two new committees will be established this year: one will deal with renewal of the sacrament of penance; the other, with the question of human sexuality. Discussion is under way toward a possible third committee. Suggestions and names of volunteers are to be addressed to Reverend John H. Wright, S.J., President of the CTSA.

3. The Connolly Proposal:

In keeping with the proposal submitted at the June, 1971 convention regarding racism in Catholic life and thought, consultation with Father Connolly and Brother Davis of the National Black Center in Washington was pursued. The objectives of a CTSA committee on this question remain unsure and are still under consideration.

4. Official CTSA Representation at USCC and NCCB Meetings:

No official response has been received to the communications sent by CTSA President, Carl J. Peter, on this question. However, requests for consultation with individual CTSA members have increased this past year. Also, members of CTSA have been appointed to the Faith and Order Commission.

5. New Award for Theological Achievement:

President Carl J. Peter read the following resolution, adopted by the Board of Directors at their 1972 meeting:

Reminding the Society that in the past few years we have made concerted efforts to emphasize the peculiar American contribution to theology, the Board voted unanimously for the establishment of the John Courtney Murray Award for

distinguished achievement in theology. This title will in the future designate what was previously the Cardinal Spellman Award. The change of name implies no lack of recognition or gratitude on the part of the Society for the support and encouragement which it received from Cardinal Spellman. It aims, rather, at bringing the award closer in name to the ideals which the Cardinal sought to foster and which he honored and recognized in John Courtney Murray. For Father Murray, as a North American theologian and loyal churchman, represented in his work things for which this Society stands, particularly in the contribution he made to the universal Church in the Second Vatican Council.

After having entertained several questions regarding the establishment of research committees in theology, the president called for a motion that the meeting be adjourned.

Final Business

On Monday, 4 September, 1972, members of CTSA assembled for the closing session of the Society's convention. After opening the meeting with prayer, Carl J. Peter introduced the new CTSA President, John H. Wright, S.J. Father Wright introduced Carl J. Peter who spoke on the question, *Why Catholic Theology Needs Future-Talk Today*.

Before adjourning the 1972 Convention, the new president introduced Richard A. McCormick, S.J., who read the citation in honor of the first recipient of the new award, Charles E. Curran, honored as the outstanding theologian of the year.

Citation for the John Courtney Murray Award

The person the Catholic Theological Society of America honors today is one whose theological work and personal qualities have developed apace with and in response to very unsettling times and very challenging situations. The Church in America, it can be argued, has for some years been experiencing the pains of growth and has been manifesting all the vigor, yet self-conscious anxiety and clumsiness of the adolescent on the brink of adulthood, uncertain and even reluctant about taking the step. Our honoree, through his writings, lectures and example, has during these times challenged this reluctance and prodded the American Catholic community

into facing the risks, discomforts and moral ambiguities of religious adulthood. His theological work has comforted the afflicted and just as importantly afflicted the comfortable, and he has been both branded and blessed in the process.

Like any genuine teacher he has preferred principle to plaudit and has resolutely rejected the enticing security of the non-controversial. As a writer he has been ranging yet probing; as priest uncompromising yet compassionate; as churchman critical yet obviously and deeply loyal to the Catholic idea; as academician rigorous yet eminently humane.

His name is associated with many causes: academic freedom, the legitimacy of responsible dissent, ecumenism and pluralism in theology, and not least with the Catholic Theological Society of America, of which he is a past president and in which he remains a valued consultant. The contacts of this genial and gentlemanly scholar in the non-Catholic theological world have been broad and productive, a fact made clear by his election two years ago as the first Catholic president of the American Society of Christian Ethics.

It is with very special joy and understandable pride that the Catholic Theological Society presents the 1972 John Courtney Murray Award (formerly the Cardinal Spellman Award) to one as undeniably American and thoroughly Catholic as moral theologian Charles E. Curran of the Catholic University of America.

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