

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The twenty-ninth annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America was held June 10-13, 1974 at the O'Hare Inn, Des Plaines, Illinois. The theme of the convention was, "Is There a Catholic Theology?" John Patrick Cardinal Cody was principal celebrant at the celebration of the annual convention eucharistic liturgy on Tuesday, June 11, at noon. Bishop Remi de Roo of Victoria, B.C., Canada, and Bishop Designate Thomas Hickey, of Cleveland, Ohio, were concelebrants. Cardinal Cody welcomed the convention to the Archdiocese of Chicago and encouraged the theologians to continue their important work for ecclesial renewal in fidelity to the authentic tradition of the Church, reaffirmed in the Second Council of the Vatican.

The annual buffet supper was held on Tuesday evening, June 11.

### CONVENTION PROGRAM

The 1974 convention included the presentation of major papers, reactions to these papers and seminars devoted to reflection on and discussion of specific aspects of the central convention theme:

Tuesday, June 11

9:30-11:30 A.M. — OPENING SESSION

*The Task of Theology*, John J. Connelly, St. John Seminary, Brighton, Massachusetts. Reactors: Schubert Ogden, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas; David Tracy, Chicago Divinity School, University of Chicago.

2:25-3:45 P.M. — SEMINARS

*Ethics*, Raymond Collins, American College, University of Louvain, Belgium. Reactors: John Dedek, Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois; Valentine Peter, Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska.

*Eschatology*, Carl Peter, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Reactors: Carl E. Braaten, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago; Schuyler Brown, S.J., Woodstock College, New York City.

*Anthropology*, Michael Scanlon, O.S.A., Augustinian College, Washington, D.C. Reactors: Charles Meyer, Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Illinois; Zachary Hayes, O.F.M., Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, Illinois.

*Faith*, Eugene Kennedy, M.M., Loyola University, Chicago. Reactors: Langdon Gilkey, The Divinity School, University of Chicago; William J. Hill, O.P., Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C.

*Sacraments*, Godfrey Diekmann, O.S.B., St. John's Abbey and University, Collegeville, Minnesota. Reactors: Joseph M. Powers, S.J., Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley, California; Edward Kilmartin, S.J., Weston College, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

*Church*, George Tavard, A.A., Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Delaware, Ohio. Reactors: Michael Fahey, S.J., Weston College School of Theology, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Joseph Komonchak, St. Joseph's Seminary, Dunwoodie, Yonkers, New York.

4:00-6:00 P.M. — GENERAL SESSION

*The Problem of Revelation*, Avery Dulles, S.J., The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Reactors: Myles Bourke, Corpus Christi Church, New York City; Gabriel Moran, F.S.C., New York Theological Seminary, New York City.

Wednesday, June 12

9:30-11:30 A.M. — GENERAL SESSION

*Is There a Catholic and/or Christian Ethic?* Charles Curran, The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. Reactors: James Gustafson, Chicago Divinity School, University of Chicago; Richard McCormick, S.J., Kennedy Center for Bioethics, Washington, D.C.

2:15-3:45 P.M. — SEMINARS (continued from previous afternoon)

4:00-6:00 P.M. — GENERAL SESSION

*The Papacy*, Harry McSorley, Institution of Christian Thought, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, Canada. Reactors: Warren Quanbeck, Luther Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minnesota; Francis Sullivan, S.J., Gregorian University, Rome.

Thursday, June 13

9:30-12:00 noon — GENERAL SESSION

Report on Work of Task Force on *Penance*, Kenan Osborne, O.F.M., Franciscan School of Theology, Berkeley, California.

Report on Work of Task Force on *Sexuality*, Anthony Kosnik, SS. Cyril & Methodius Seminary, Orchard Lake, Michigan.

Report on Work of Task Force on *Black Theology*, Joseph Nearon, S.S.S., Department of Religious Studies, John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio.

*Presidential Address*, Richard P. McBrien, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

#### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting of the Society took place on Wednesday, June 12, at 11:45 A.M. The meeting was called to order by Richard McBrien. Joseph Nearon was parliamentarian. The report of the Committee on Admissions was read by Agnes Cunningham, who noted that the committee had reviewed and recommended:

41 applications for active membership;

19 applications for associate membership.

Sister Cunningham made the motion that these applications be accepted and that the applicants be admitted to membership in the Society. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by the active members present.

The newly approved active members are:

- |                                 |                                    |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| David Ashbeck, Ph.D., 1972      | Thomas Kramlinger, Ph.D., 1972     |
| Donald Beechler, S.T.D., 1973   | Jean-Marc Laporte, D.Sc.Rel., 1971 |
| Maura Campbell, Ph.D., 1955     | Bernard Lee, Th.D., 1972           |
| Patrick Collins, Ph.D., 1972    | Robert Ludwig, Ph.D., 1972         |
| Walter Conn, Ph.D., 1973        | Brian McDermott, Th.D., 1973       |
| Donald Conroy, Ph.D., 1974      | John Meyer, Ph.D., 1968            |
| Edward Davis, Ph.D., 1970       | Mary Minella, S.T.D., 1974         |
| Frederick Deters, S.T.D., 1973  | Michael Mulhall, S.T.D., 1973      |
| Richard Dillon, S.T.L.; S.S.L.* | Thomas Murphy, S.T.D., 1962        |
| Robert Donovan, Ph.D., 1974     | Warren Murrman, S.T.D., 1968       |
| William Dych, Th.D., 1971       | Timothy O'Connell, Ph.D., 1974     |
| Margaret Farley, Ph.D., 1973    | Robert O'Donnell, S.T.D., 1973     |
| James Gaffney, S.T.D., 1968     | William Rademacher, Ph.D., 1973    |
| Dolores Greeley, Ph.D., 1971    | James Reach, Ph.D., 1972           |
| Joseph Hallman, Ph.D., 1970     | William Ruhl, S.T.D., 1972         |
| James Hanigan, Ph.D., 1973      | Vincent Rush, Ph.D., 1962          |
| Richard Hauser, Ph.D., 1973     | Nancy Swift, Ph.D., 1968           |
| Charles Healey, S.T.D., 1970    | William Thompson, Ph.D., 1973      |
| Josef Hofbeck, S.T.D., 1968     | Thomas Thottumkal, Th.D., 1971     |

Martin Tripole, S.T.D., 1972

Donald Wimmer, Ph.D., 1973

William VanderMarck, Ph.D., 1958

\*Completing dissertation for S.S.D. Elected to membership, in light of scholarly research and publications.

The newly approved associate members are:

John Abraham

Robert MacDonald

Patout Burns

Edward Malloy

James Dallen

Bruno Manno

Francis DeLorenzo

Benedict Mawn

Lewis Fiorelli

Jon Nilson

Ralph Glaser

Stephen Palmer

Vernon Gregson

Louis Rogge

Ronald Hamel

Michael Spillane

Kevin Kelly

Oliver Williams

Arthur Kennedy

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by Charles E. Curran, chairman of the committee. Agnes Cunningham was nominated for the office of Secretary of the Society. Philip Morris was nominated for the office of Treasurer. Since there were no other nominations, the Secretary and the Treasurer were elected by acclaim for a one-year term.

The Nominating Committee presented to the assembly a brief writ-

ten *curriculum vitae* for each of the nominees.

*For Vice-President:* John F. Dedek, S.T.D., Saint Mary of the Lake Seminary (1958); Avery Dulles, S.J., S.T.D., Gregorian University (1960). (Avery Dulles, S.J., was elected Vice-President for 1974-1975.)

*For Board of Directors:* John R. Connery, S.J., S.T.D., Gregorian University (1948); William J. Hill, S.T.D., Angelicum (1953); Anthony R. Kosnik, J.C.B., Gregorian University (1961), S.T.D., Angelicum (1960); Harry J. McSorley, S.T.D., Munich (1966); Suzanne Noffke, O.P., Ph.D., University of Wisconsin (1963); David Tracy, S.T.D., Gregorian University (1969). (Harry McSorley and David Tracy were elected to the Board of Directors for a two-year term 1974-1976.)

Father Philip Morris presented the Treasurer's Report (see below). As of 11:00 A.M., 248 persons had registered at the 1974 convention. The 1975 convention will be held June 9, 10, 11, 12, at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans.

Sister Agnes Cunningham briefly presented the Secretary's Report. The compilation of a directory of CTSA personnel for resource/research consultation, based on information submitted by members this year, is in its initial stages. Copies of the directory, in finalized form, will be held by the President and the Secretary.

As announced in the April, 1974 *CSR Bulletin*, the following amendments to the Constitution were proposed and, following discussion, were unanimously accepted: (upper case letters indicate amendments)

#### Article II – Members

b) Associate membership is open to those who HAVE COMPLETED AT LEAST THE COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR A DOCTORAL DEGREE IN THEOLOGY OR RELIGIOUS STUDIES.

#### Article V – Committees

2. The President shall appoint a Committee on Admissions to consist of FIVE (5) members of the Society who are not members of the Board of Directors, except the Secretary of the Society, who shall be *ex officio* MEMBER of this committee. This committee shall examine the credentials of those applying for active and associate membership and recommend those who qualify to the vote of the membership at the

annual business meeting.

3. The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, shall appoint annually a special Award Committee to select the recipient of the JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN THEOLOGY.

Gratitude was expressed to Reverend Edward Konerman, S.J., who acted as Chairman of the Admissions Committee during the two-year period devoted to research regarding the first two amendments.

In his presidential report, Richard P. McBrien discussed the following points:

1. *Annual CTSA Appeal to U.S. Bishops.* During the past year, forty bishops contributed a total of \$5,450 for theological research projects sponsored by the Society.

2. *CTSA Collaboration in the National Catechetical Directory.* The Board of Directors has decided to name a standing CTSA committee of three to five members, to insure regular and systematic input into the construction of the National Catechetical Directory.

3. *1976 Conference on "Justice in the World."* Charles Curran, Avery Dulles and Joseph Komonchak have been appointed as a special committee to prepare a major paper for this conference, outlining the ecclesiological and ethical foundations of the Church's activity in pursuit of justice.

4. *CTSA Committee on the Study of Human Sexuality.* The Board of Directors has approved the request of the chairman of this committee, Anthony Kosnik, for a one-year, fully funded extension of his committee's work. (See progress report below.)

5. *Permanent Diaconate.* The Bishops' Committee on the Permanent Diaconate hopes to secure the services of members of the CTSA for the preparation of curricula and the teaching of courses for the deacon program. CTSA members will be contacted, individually and personally.

6. *World Hunger Action Coalition.* The Board of Directors has approved a request that attention of the members of the Society be drawn to the critical shortage of food in parts of Africa and India today. Copies of a petition were circulated, so that members might indicate their support of a resolution to be presented to the Secretary of State.

7. *Communication from College Theology Society.* The CTS seeks CTSA collaboration and support in a resolution concerning the status of priests who have received laicization. John H. Wright, S.J., immediate past-president of CTSA, read the following resolution, formulated by the Board of Directors and presented to the membership attending for consideration and approval:

*Whereas* it seems to us contrary to the spirit of the Gospel to require a person leaving the active ministry of the Church to promise as a condition of laicization that he will not teach theological disciplines in Catholic institutions, since this deprives the Catholic community of his theological competence, since this unfairly deprives him of his livelihood in his chosen field, since the process of laicization should not be penal in character, and since laicization is fundamentally irrelevant to a person's theological ability,

BE IT RESOLVED: that the CTSA judges that laicization in itself should not be a barrier to functioning as a Catholic theologian in teaching or administration in Catholic schools, colleges, or universities, nor should it prevent him from acting as an official *peritus* at any level: diocesan, regional, national or international.

This motion was seconded from the floor. Cletus Wessels, O.P., introduced an amendment to insert the word "ordained" in the phrase, "active ministry" and to add the word "seminaries" to the institutions listed in the resolution proper. The amendment was defeated by a vote of 34 to 58. A recommendation was made to allow for non-substantial changes that would be of a grammatical nature, before the resolution be forwarded to the Apostolic Delegate, the President and the Executive Secretary of the NCCB and the Chairman of the Bishops' Commission on Priestly Life. The motion was moved to a vote by Charles Curran. The resolution passed.

The following motion was introduced by Richard A. McCormick, S.J.:

SINCE BISHOP PETER GERETY HAS, IN SUCH ABUNDANT FASHION, SUPPORTED THE WORK OF THE CTSA, BE IT RESOLVED THAT BISHOP GERETY BE MADE AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THE CTSA AND THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEND A SPECIAL NOTE OF GRATITUDE, SIGNED BY ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

- Reasons:*
- 1) Annual contribution of \$1,000 over four years;
  - 2) Assignment to Newark, where we are not likely to meet as a Society and thus have occasion to bestow honorary membership on the Bishop.

This motion was unanimously passed.

Monsieur Austin Vaughan asked if an invitation could be extended to the entire Society to suggest names which the Nomination Committee would consider for the elected offices in the CTSA. This request has been inscribed in the records of the Society.

Before the adjournment of the business meeting, at 1:15 P.M., Richard P. McBrien read the following citation, announcing the 1974 recipient of the John Courtney Murray award for distinguished achievement in theology: George H. Tavard, A.A.